Analysis of Structures

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## Introduction



- For the equilibrium of structures made of several connected parts, the internal forces as well the external forces are considered.
- In the interaction between connected parts, Newton's 3 rd Law states that the forces of action and reaction between bodies in contact have the same magnitude, same line of action, and opposite sense.
- Three categories of engineering structures are considered:
a) Frames: contain at least one one multi-force member, i.e., member acted upon by 3 or more forces.
b) Trusses: formed from two-force members, i.e., straight members with end point connections
c) Machines: structures containing moving parts designed to transmit and modify forces.


## Definition of a Truss



- A truss consists of straight members connected at joints. No member is continuous through a joint.
- Most structures are made of several trusses joined together to form a space framework. Each truss carries those loads which act in its plane and may be treated as a two-dimensional structure.
- Bolted or welded connections are assumed to be pinned together. Forces acting at the member ends reduce to a single force and no couple. Only twoforce members are considered.
- When forces tend to pull the member apart, it is in tension. When the forces tend to compress the member, it is in compression.


## Simple Trusses



- A rigid truss will not collapse under the application of a load.
- A simple truss is constructed by successively adding two members and one connection to the basic triangular truss.
- In a simple truss, $m=2 n-3$ where $m$ is the total number of members and $n$ is the number of joints.


## Analysis of Trusses by the Method of Joints

- Dismember the truss and create a freebody
 diagram for each member and pin.
- The two forces exerted on each member are equal, have the same line of action, and opposite sense.
- Forces exerted by a member on the pins or joints at its ends are directed along the member and equal and opposite.
- Conditions of equilibrium on the pins provide $2 n$ equations for $2 n$ unknowns. For a simple truss, $2 n=m+3$. May solve for $m$ member forces and 3 reaction forces at the supports.
- Conditions for equilibrium for the entire truss provide 3 additional equations which are not independent of the pin equations.


## Zero-force Members



- Forces in opposite members intersecting in two straight lines at a joint are equal.
- The forces in two opposite members are equal when a load is aligned with a third member. The third member force is equal to the load (including zero load).
- The forces in two members connected at a joint are equal if the members are aligned and zero otherwise.
- Recognition of joints under special loading conditions simplifies a truss analysis.



## Sample Problem



Using the method of joints, determine the force in each member of the truss.

## SOLUTION:

- Based on a free-body diagram of the entire truss, solve the 3 equilibrium equations for the reactions at $E$ and $C$.
- Joint $A$ is subjected to only two unknown member forces. Determine these from the joint equilibrium requirements.
- In succession, determine unknown member forces at joints $D, B$, and $E$ from joint equilibrium requirements.
- All member forces and support reactions are known at joint $C$. However, the joint equilibrium requirements may be applied to check the results.



## SOLUTION:

- Based on a free-body diagram of the entire truss, solve the 3 equilibrium equations for the reactions at $E$ and $C$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sum M_{C}=0 \\
&=(2000 \mathrm{lb})(24 \mathrm{ft})+(1000 \mathrm{lb})(12 \mathrm{ft})-E(6 \mathrm{ft}) \\
& E=10,000 \mathrm{lb} \uparrow
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\sum F_{x}=0=C_{x}
$$

$$
C_{x}=0
$$

$$
\sum F_{y}=0=-2000 \mathrm{lb}-1000 \mathrm{lb}+10,000 \mathrm{lb}+C_{y}
$$

$$
C_{y}=7000 \mathrm{lb} \downarrow
$$



- Joint $A$ is subjected to only two unknown member forces. Determine these from the joint equilibrium requirements.

$$
\frac{2000 \mathrm{lb}}{4}=\frac{F_{A B}}{3}=\frac{F_{A D}}{5} \quad \begin{aligned}
& F_{A B}=1500 \mathrm{lb} T \\
& F_{A D}=2500 \mathrm{lb} C
\end{aligned}
$$

- There are now only two unknown member forces at joint D.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
F_{D B}=F_{D A} & F_{D B}=2500 \mathrm{lb} T \\
F_{D E}=2\left(\frac{3}{5}\right) F_{D A} & F_{D E}=3000 \mathrm{lb} C
\end{array}
$$



- There are now only two unknown member forces at joint B. Assume both are in tension.

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
\sum F_{y} & =0=-1000-\frac{4}{5}(2500)-\frac{4}{5} F_{B E} \\
F_{B E} & =-3750 \mathrm{lb} & F_{B E}=3750 \mathrm{lb} C \\
\sum F_{x} & =0=F_{B C}-1500-\frac{3}{5}(2500)-\frac{3}{5}(3750) \\
F_{B C} & =+5250 \mathrm{lb} & F_{B C}=5250 \mathrm{lb} \mathrm{~T}
\end{array}
$$

- There is one unknown member force at joint $E$. Assume the member is in tension.

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
\sum F_{x} & =0=\frac{3}{5} F_{E C}+3000+\frac{3}{5}(3750) \\
F_{E C} & =-8750 \mathrm{lb} & F_{E C}=8750 \mathrm{lb} C
\end{array}
$$



- All member forces and support reactions are known at joint $C$. However, the joint equilibrium requirements may be applied to check the results.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\sum F_{x}=-5250+\frac{3}{5}(8750)=0 & (\text { checks }) \\
\sum F_{y}=-7000+\frac{4}{5}(8750)=0 & (\text { checks })
\end{array}
$$

## Analysis of Trusses by the Method of Sections



- When the force in only one member or the forces in a very few members are desired, the method of sections works well.
- To determine the force in member BD, pass a section through the truss as shown and create a free body diagram for the left side.
- With only three members cut by the section, the equations for static equilibrium may be applied to determine the unknown member forces, including $F_{B D}$.


## Sample Problem



## SOLUTION:

- Take the entire truss as a free body. Apply the conditions for static equilibrium to solve for the reactions at $A$ and $L$.
- Pass a section through members $F H$, $G H$, and $G I$ and take the right-hand section as a free body.
- Apply the conditions for static equilibrium to determine the desired member forces.

Determine the force in members $F H$, $G H$, and GI.


## SOLUTION:

- Take the entire truss as a free body. Apply the conditions for static equilibrium to solve for the reactions at $A$ and $L$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum M_{A}=0=- & (5 \mathrm{~m})(6 \mathrm{kN})-(10 \mathrm{~m})(6 \mathrm{kN})-(15 \mathrm{~m})(6 \mathrm{kN}) \\
& \quad-(20 \mathrm{~m})(1 \mathrm{kN})-(25 \mathrm{~m})(1 \mathrm{kN})+(30 \mathrm{~m}) L \\
L= & 7.5 \mathrm{kN} \uparrow \\
\sum F_{y}= & 0=-20 \mathrm{kN}+L+A \\
A= & 12.5 \mathrm{kN} \uparrow
\end{aligned}
$$



- Pass a section through members $F H, G H$, and $G I$ and take the right-hand section as a free body.
- Apply the conditions for static equilibrium to determine the desired member forces.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{H} M_{H}=0 \\
& (7.50 \mathrm{kN})(10 \mathrm{~m})-(1 \mathrm{kN})(5 \mathrm{~m})-F_{G I}(5.33 \mathrm{~m})=0 \\
& \quad F_{G I}=+13.13 \mathrm{kN} \\
& \\
& \quad F_{G I}=13.13 \mathrm{kN} \mathrm{~T}
\end{aligned}
$$



$$
\tan \alpha=\frac{F G}{G L}=\frac{8 \mathrm{~m}}{15 \mathrm{~m}}=0.5333 \quad \alpha=28.07^{\circ}
$$

$$
\sum M_{G}=0
$$

$$
(7.5 \mathrm{kN})(15 \mathrm{~m})-(1 \mathrm{kN})(10 \mathrm{~m})-(1 \mathrm{kN})(5 \mathrm{~m})
$$

$$
+\left(F_{F H} \cos \alpha\right)(8 \mathrm{~m})=0
$$

$$
F_{F H}=-13.82 \mathrm{kN}
$$

$$
F_{F H}=13.82 \mathrm{kN} \mathrm{C}
$$



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \tan \beta=\frac{G I}{H I}=\frac{5 \mathrm{~m}}{\frac{2}{3}(8 \mathrm{~m})}=0.9375 \quad \beta=43.15^{\circ} \\
& \sum M_{L}=0 \\
& (1 \mathrm{kN})(10 \mathrm{~m})+(1 \mathrm{kN})(5 \mathrm{~m})+\left(F_{G H} \cos \beta\right)(15 \mathrm{~m})=0 \\
& F_{G H}=-1.371 \mathrm{kN}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
F_{G H}=1.371 \mathrm{kN} C
$$

## Analysis of Frames



- Frames and machines are structures with at least one multiforce member. Frames are designed to support loads and are usually stationary. Machines contain moving parts and are designed to transmit and modify forces.
- A free body diagram of the complete frame is used to determine the external forces acting on the frame.
- Internal forces are determined by dismembering the frame and creating free-body diagrams for each component.
- Forces on two force members have known lines of action but unknown magnitude and sense.
- Forces on multiforce members have unknown magnitude and line of action. They must be represented with two unknown components.
- Forces between connected components are equal, have the same line of action, and opposite sense.


## Sample Problem



Members $A C E$ and $B C D$ are connected by a pin at $C$ and by the link $D E$. For the loading shown, determine the force in link $D E$ and the components of the force exerted at $C$ on member $B C D$.

## SOLUTION:

- Create a free-body diagram for the complete frame and solve for the support reactions.
- Define a free-body diagram for member $B C D$. The force exerted by the link $D E$ has a known line of action but unknown magnitude. It is determined by summing moments about $C$.
- With the force on the link $D E$ known, the sum of forces in the $x$ and $y$ directions may be used to find the force components at $C$.
- With member $A C E$ as a free-body, check the solution by summing moments about $A$.



## SOLUTION:

- Create a free-body diagram for the complete frame and solve for the support reactions.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\sum F_{y}=0=A_{y}-480 \mathrm{~N} & A_{y}=480 \mathrm{~N} \uparrow \\
\sum M_{A}=0=-(480 \mathrm{~N})(100 \mathrm{~mm})+B(160 \mathrm{~mm}) \\
& B=300 \mathrm{~N} \rightarrow \\
\sum F_{x}=0=B+A_{x} & A_{x}=-300 \mathrm{~N} \leftarrow
\end{array}
$$

Note:

$$
\alpha=\tan ^{-1} \frac{80}{150}=28.07^{\circ}
$$

- Define a free-body diagram for member $B C D$. The force exerted by the link $D E$ has a known line of action but unknown magnitude. $60 \stackrel{\underset{\mathrm{~mm}}{ } \mathrm{~A}}{\mathbf{T}}$ It is determined by summing moments about $C$.


$$
\sum M_{C}=0=\left(F_{D E} \sin \alpha\right)(250 \mathrm{~mm})+(300 \mathrm{~N})(60 \mathrm{~mm})+(480 \mathrm{~N})(100 \mathrm{~mm})
$$

$$
F_{D E}=-561 \mathrm{~N} \quad F_{D E}=561 \mathrm{~N} C
$$

- Sum of forces in the $x$ and $y$ directions may be used to find the force components at $C$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum F_{x} & =0=C_{x}-F_{D E} \cos \alpha+300 \mathrm{~N} \\
0 & =C_{x}-(-561 \mathrm{~N}) \cos \alpha+300 \mathrm{~N} \\
\sum F_{y} & =0=C_{y}-F_{D E} \sin \alpha-480 \mathrm{~N} \\
0 & =C_{y}-(-561 \mathrm{~N}) \sin \alpha-480 \mathrm{~N}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
C_{x}=-795 \mathrm{~N}
$$

$$
C_{y}=216 \mathrm{~N}
$$



- With member $A C E$ as a free-body, check the solution by summing moments about $A$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sum M_{A} & =\left(F_{D E} \cos \alpha\right)(300 \mathrm{~mm})+\left(F_{D E} \sin \alpha\right)(100 \mathrm{~mm})-C_{x}(220 \mathrm{~mm}) \\
& =(-561 \cos \alpha)(300 \mathrm{~mm})+(-561 \sin \alpha)(100 \mathrm{~mm})-(-795)(220 \mathrm{~mm}) \\
& =-148440-26423+174900=37 \mathrm{~N} \cdot \mathrm{~mm} \approx 0
\end{aligned}
$$

(checks)

