

Deflection formulae for beams and properties for equivalent beam models for parallel chord trusses and vierendeel frames



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1. General formula

Beam deflection $\Delta = \Delta_b + \Delta_s = \frac{C_b WL^3}{EI} + \frac{C_s WL}{K_s}$

Deflection due to bending deformation Δ_b
 Deflection due to shear deformation Δ_s
 C_b and C_s from Table 3
 W - total load
 L - span
 EI - bending stiffness parameter
 K_s - shear stiffness
 Expressions for I see Table 1
 Expressions for K_s see Table 1

2. Beam

Table 1 Expressions for I and K_s

Structure	I	K_s
Beam	I	$A_s G$ - Table 2
Parallel chord truss	I_q	K_{st} - Eq (A)
Vierendeel frame	I_q	K_{sv} - Eq(B)

$$I_g = \frac{A_c b^2}{2}$$

Table 2 Values for shear area A_s

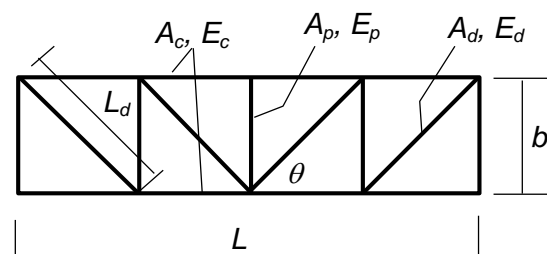
Section	A_s	$G = \frac{E}{2(1+\nu)}$
Rectangle $b \times d$	$\frac{5}{6} bd$	
I section bent about major axis	Area of web	
I section bent about minor axis	5/6 Area of flanges	

3. Parallel chord truss

$$K_{st} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{f E_d A_d \sin^2 \theta \cos \theta} + \frac{1}{E_p A_p \cot \theta}} \quad (A)$$

$f = 1.0$ for singly braced truss
 $= 2.0$ with compressive cross bracing
 $= 0.5$ for K bracing

With tensile only cross bracing treat as singly braced
 With compressive cross bracing ignore flexibility of posts

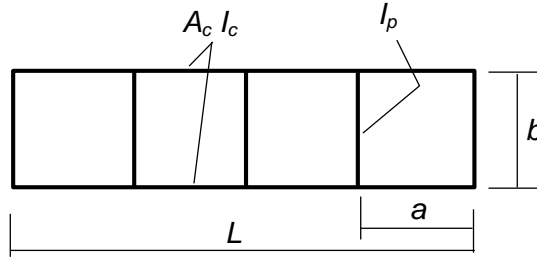


Parameters for parallel chord truss

4. Vierendeel frame

$$K_{sv} = \frac{24EI_c}{a^2[1 + 2\psi]} \quad (B)$$

$$\psi = \frac{I_c/a}{I_p/b}$$



Parameters for vierendeel frame

Table 3 Beam deflection coefficients

Structure	Load	C _b bending	C _s shear
	Point tip	1/3	1.0
	UD	1/8	1/2
	Point central	1/48	1/4
	UD	5/384	1/8

5. Derivation of K_{st}

From the Bar Element Document, Equation (21) is:

$$\Delta = \delta_1 + \delta_2 = \frac{WL_d}{(EA)_d \cos^2 \theta} + \frac{WL_p}{(EA)_p}$$

Governing differential equation for shear deformation:

$$S = K_s \, dv/dx$$

i.e. $K_s = \frac{S}{dv/dx}$

v is the displacement in the y direction

From the diagram: $dv/dx = \Delta/a$

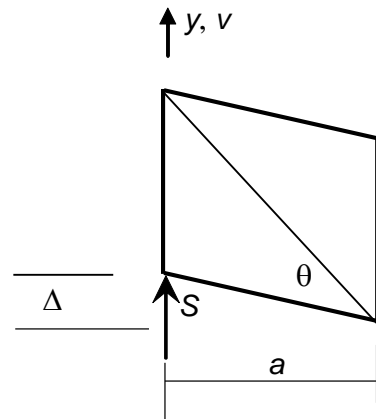
Substituting this and $S = W$ into (21):

$$\frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{SL_d}{a E_d A_d \sin^2 \theta} + \frac{Sb}{a E_p A_p}$$

Note that $\sin^2 \theta$ is used because the θ for the frame is $(90 - \theta)$ for Equation (21)

Using $a/L_d = \cos \theta$ and $a/b = \cot \theta$:

$$K_s = \frac{S}{dv/dx} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{E_d A_d \sin^2 \theta \cos \theta} + \frac{1}{E_p A_p \cot \theta}}$$



6. Derivation of K_{sv}

Figure 1(a) shows a vierendeel frame with points of contraflexure at mid-length of all members. Such positions for the points of contraflexure is the fundamental assumption in developing the shear mode deformation of a vierendeel frame as an equivalent beam.

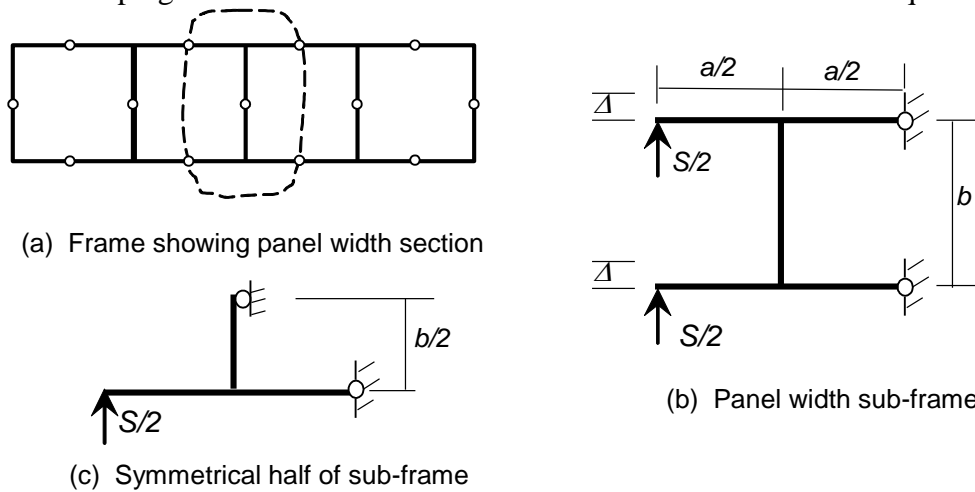


Figure 1 Vierendeel frame

Also shown on Figure 1(a) is a section of the frame bounded by points of contraflexure. This is extracted to Figure 1(b) where the shear at the points of contraflexure $S/2$. S is the total shear at the section and half is taken by each chord (assuming them to have the same I value). The final trick is to work on a symmetrical half of this sub-frame as in Figure 1(c). The deflection under the $S/2$ load of the frame of Figure 1(c) is calculated (using the principle of virtual work) to be:

$$\Delta = \frac{S a^3}{24 E I_c} [1 + 2\psi] \quad \text{where } \psi = \frac{I_c / a}{I_p / b}$$

$$\text{hence } dv/dx = \Delta/a \quad \text{and} \quad K_{sv} = S/(dv/dx)$$

$$\text{hence } K_{sv} = \frac{24 E I_c}{a^2 [1 + 2\psi]}$$

Note $G = E/(2(1+\nu))$ where ν is Poisson's Ratio

7. Constitutive relationships for bending and shear:

Bending

$$M = EI d^2v/dx^2 \quad \text{i.e. } d^2v/dx^2 = M/EI$$

Shear

$$S = K_s \text{ i.e. } dv/dx = S/K_s$$

where K_s is the shear stiffness.

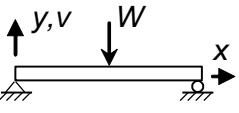
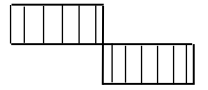
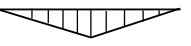
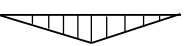

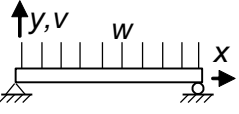
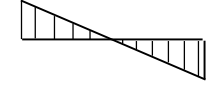
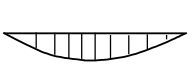
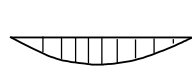
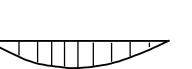
For a beam $K_s = A_s G$ where A_s is the shear area and G is the shear modulus.

Table 3 shows shapes of shear force and bending moment diagrams and corresponding displacement diagrams.

For bending, the basic relationship needs to be integrated twice to get the displacement. therefore the function for the displaced shape is two orders higher than that for the bending moment e.g. from Table 3 with UD load, the bending moment is parabolic whereas the displacement is quartic (fourth order).

For shear, the basic relationship needs to be integrated once to get the displacement and therefore, for example, with a point load, the shear is constant and the displacement is linear.

Table 4 Diagram shapes

Loading	Shear		Bending	
	Shear force	Displacement	Bending Mom	Displacement
Point 	Constant 	linear 	linear 	cubic 
UD 	linear 	parabolic 	parabolic 	quartic 

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