

Splice or Hinge

- Can add one hinge for each redundant reaction
- Reduces length for transport
- Moment = 0 at hinge
- Can be used to balance and + moments for optimization





University of Michigan, TCAUP

Structures II

3 of 23

Gottfried Heinrich Gerber (1832-1912)

Developed a cantilever bridge spanning system used in many bridges worldwide. The system became know as the "Gerber Beam" and uses cantilever segments to support a simple span.



Haßfurter Brücke, 1864. Span of 38 m over the Main River.



Examples of the Gerber system

Firth of Fourth Bridge, 1890

- total length 8094 ft.
- central span 1700 ft.
- Design Fowler & Baker
- Construction 1882 1889

Static modeling of the Firth of Forth Bridge



University of Michigan, TCAUP

by Fowler & Baker

Structures II

5 of 23

<section-header><image><image>

Final successful completion 1917



Gerber system in building frames







Example Problem cont.

FBD 2 Reactions





Structural Optimization

Optimization procedure: Find the "best" solution for a given problem.

- Describe the goal objectives (single vs. multiple)
- Determine limitations constraints
- Describe the parameters variables

Optimization type: What to optimize

- Material
- Member (section)
- Geometry
- Topology





Optimization

- Material
 - Composites
 - Steel vs. Aluminum
- Member and Geometry
 - Variable Depth or Width
 - Holes and Cut-outs



Biesenbach Viaduct, Blumberg Wutachtal Railroad, 1890 Eng. von Würthenau, Kräuter, Gebhard & Gernet





German Pavillion at Expo 1967, Montreal Eng. Frei Otto Arch. Rolf Gutbrot

University of Michigan, TCAUP

Structures II

17 of 23

Section Optimization



Reichenbach Valley Bridge, 2003 Eng. Büro Peter + Lochner





New Bangkok International Airport, 2003 Eng. Werner Sobek Arch. Murphy Jahn



Geometry Optimization



New Bangkok International Airport, 2003 Eng. Werner Sobek Arch. Murphy Jahn

University of Michigan, TCAUP

Structures II

21 of 23

Geometry Optimization - Bridges



