3-Moment Theorem

- Continuity in Beams
- Three-Moment Theorem
- 2-Hinged Frames
- 3-Hinged Frames
- 3-Hinged Arches

Salginatobel Bridge Switzerland, 1930 300 ft span 42 ft rise Robert Maillart

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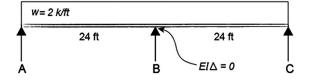
Structures II

Slide 1 of 19

Continuous Beam Analysis

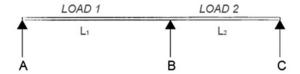
Deflection Method

- Two continuous, symmetric spans
- · Symmetric Load



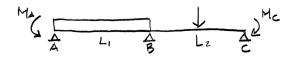
Slope Method

- Two continuous spans
- Non-symmetric loads and spans



3-Moment Theorem

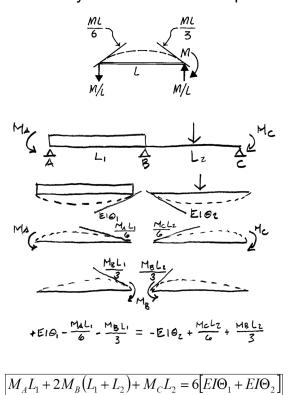
- · Any number of continuous spans
- Non-Symmetric Load and Spans

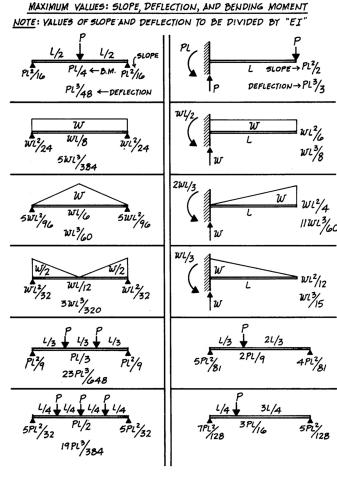


$$M_A L_1 + 2M_B (L_1 + L_2) + M_C L_2 = 6[EI\Theta_1 + EI\Theta_2]$$



- Any number of continuous spans
- · Non-Symmetric Load and Spans





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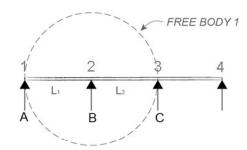
Slide 3 of 19

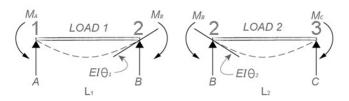
Three-Moment Theorem

- Any number of spans
- Symmetric or non-symmetric

Procedure:

- 1. Draw a free body diagram of the first two spans.
- Label the spans L1 and L2 and the supports (or free end) A, B and C as show.
- 3. Use the Three-Moment equation to solve for each unknown moment, either as a value or as an equation.



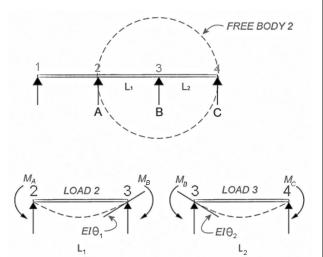


$$M_A L_1 + 2M_B (L_1 + L_2) + M_C L_2 = 6[EI\Theta_1 + EI\Theta_2]$$

Three-Moment Theorem

Procedure (continued):

- Move one span further and repeat the procedure.
- 5. In a 3 span beam, the mid-moment from step 3 above (B), can now be solved using the two equations from step 4 and 3 together, by writing 2 equations with 2 unknowns.
- 6. Repeat as needed, always moving one span to the right and writing a new set of moment equations.
- 7. Solve 2 simultaneous equations for 3 spans, or 3 equations for more than 3 spans, to get the interior moments.
- 8. Once all interior moments are known, solve for reactions using free body diagrams of individual spans.
- 9. Draw shear and moment diagrams as usual. This will also serve as a check for the moment values.



$$M_A L_1 + 2M_B (L_1 + L_2) + M_C L_2 = 6[EI\Theta_1 + EI\Theta_2]$$

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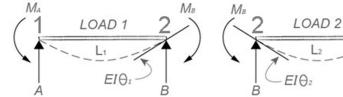
Structures II

Slide 5 of 19

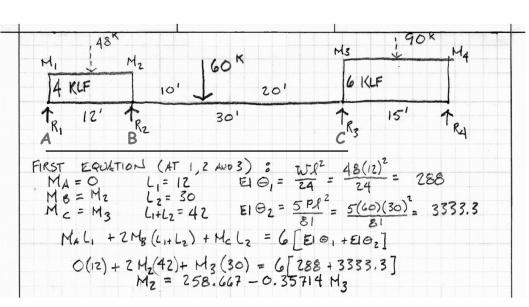
Three-Moment Theorem Example

Given: Three non-symmetric spans with loading as shown.

Find: All four reactions



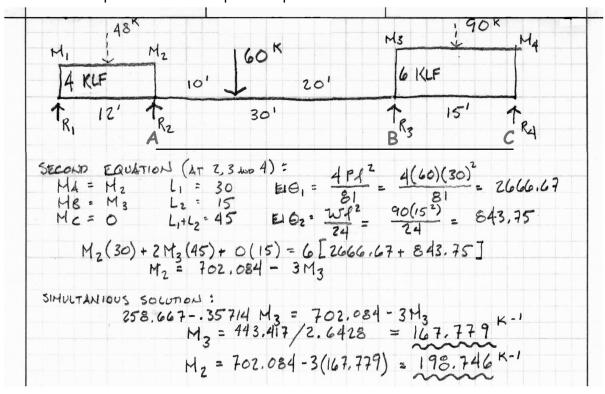
- 1. Draw FBD
- 2. Label
- 3. Solve 3-moment equation



Three-Moment Theorem Example (cont.)

$$M_A L_1 + 2M_B (L_1 + L_2) + M_C L_2 = 6[EI\Theta_1 + EI\Theta_2]$$

4. Move one span further and repeat the procedure.

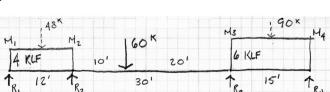


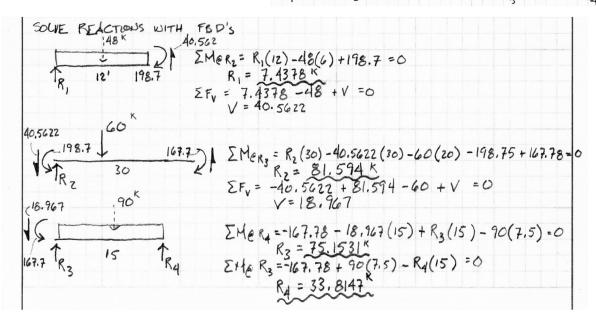
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Three-Moment Theorem Example (cont.)

Sign convention

8. Once all interior moments are known, solve for reactions using free body diagrams of individual spans.





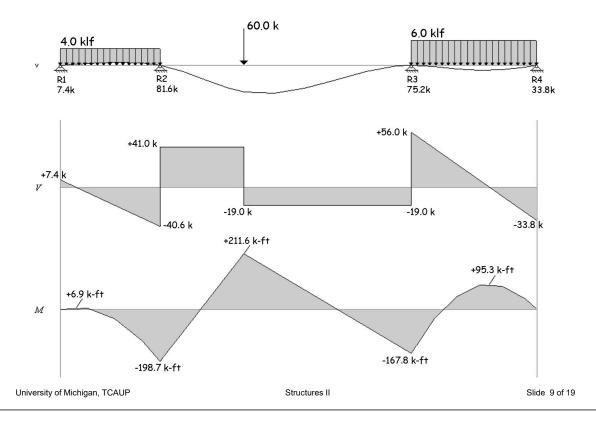
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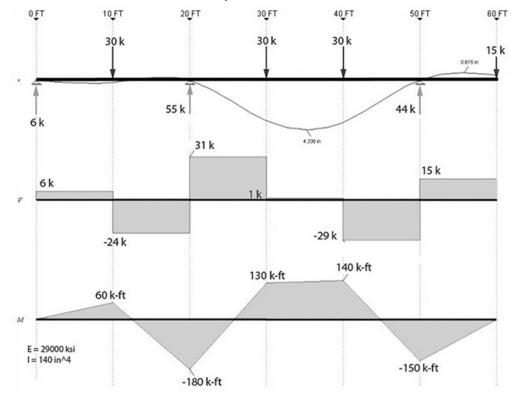
Slide 8 of 19

Three-Moment Theorem Example (cont.)

9. Draw shear and moment diagrams as usual. This will also serve as a check for the moment values.



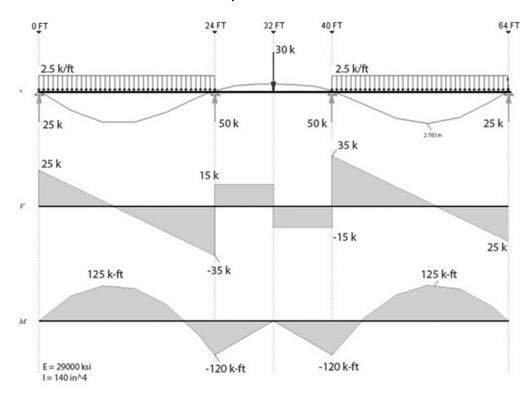
Three-Moment Theorem – 2 Spans



$$M_A L_1 + 2M_B (L_1 + L_2) + M_C L_2 = 6[EI\Theta_1 + EI\Theta_2]$$

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Three-Moment Theorem – 3 Spans



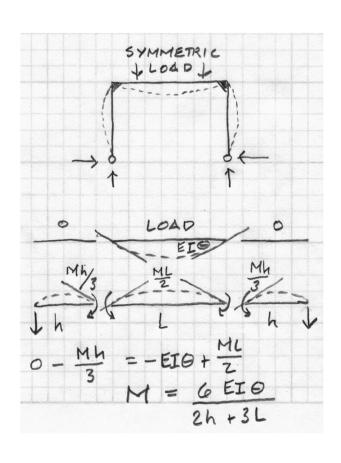
$$M_A L_1 + 2M_B (L_1 + L_2) + M_C L_2 = 6[EI\Theta_1 + EI\Theta_2]$$

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2-Hinge Frame

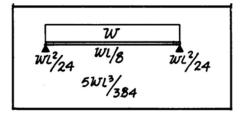
- · Statically indeterminate
- Find negative moment at knee
- Sum of Θ 's left and right of knee are equal
- Symmetric case solution is:

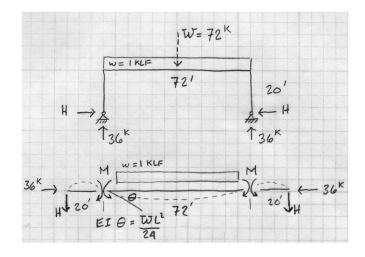
$$M = \frac{6 EI\Theta}{2h + 3L}$$



2-Hinge Frame example

- Symmetric case solution
- Vertical reactions by symmetry
- · Find moment at knee
- · With FBD of one leg find H





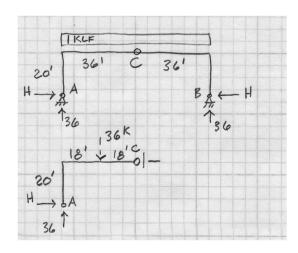
$$M = \frac{6 \text{ EIO}}{2h + 3L} = \frac{6 \frac{72(72)^2}{24}}{2(20) + 3(72)} = \frac{364.5^{K-1}}{20}$$

$$M = H(20), \quad H = \frac{M}{20} = \frac{364.5}{20} = \frac{18.2^{K}}{20}$$

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3-Hinge Frame comparison

- Statically determinate
- · Solve with statics
- FBD of half from hinge
- Solve for H
- Use FBD of leg to solve M

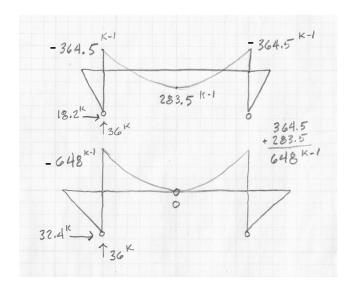


$$\Sigma M_{C} = 0 = -36(18) + 36(36) - H(20)$$

 $H = 32.4^{K}$
 $M = 11(20) = 32.4(20) = 648^{K-1}$

Comparison of moments

- 2-hinge frame
- 3-hinge frame

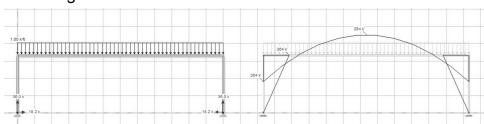


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The effect of shape and hinges

Moment:

knee: -364 ft-lbs center: +284 ft-lbs horz. react. = 18.2 k

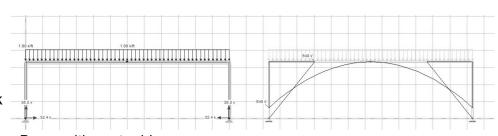


Continuous Beam

Moment:

knee: -648 ft-lbs center: 0 ft-lbs

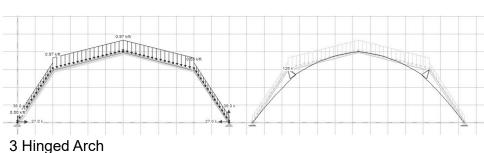
horz. react. = 32.4 k



Beam with center hinge

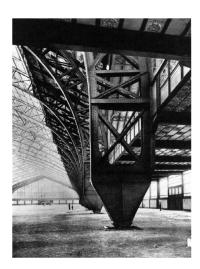
Moment:

knee: -126 ft-lbs center: 0 ft-lbs horz. react. = 27.0 k



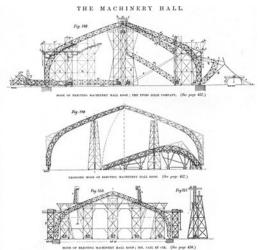
Characteristics of a 3-Hinged Arch

- Statically determinate can be calculated with statics
- Movement or settling of foundations will not alter member stresses
- Small fabrication errors in length do not affect internal stresses
- Hinge placement can reduce internal stresses



Gallery of the Machines, 1889 Paris Architect: Ferdinand Dutert Engineer: Victor Contamin





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Slide 17 of 19

Keystone Wye Bridge

Glulam arches, spanning 160 ft. built 1967-68 in South Dakota



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Examples and Details





Center Hinge

Sydney Harbour Bridge





Hinged Glulam Timbers

The Iron Bridge Telford England

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