

# MECHANICS OF MATERIALS

CHAPTER

# 6

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## Shearing Stresses in Beams and Thin- Walled Members

# Shearing Stresses in Beams and Thin-Walled Members

[Introduction](#)

[Shear on the Horizontal Face of a Beam Element](#)

[Example 6.01](#)

[Determination of the Shearing Stress in a Beam](#)

[Shearing Stresses  \$\tau\_{xy}\$  in Common Types of Beams](#)

[Further Discussion of the Distribution of Stresses in a ...](#)

[Sample Problem 6.2](#)

[Longitudinal Shear on a Beam Element of Arbitrary Shape](#)

[Example 6.04](#)

[Shearing Stresses in Thin-Walled Members](#)

[Plastic Deformations](#)

[Sample Problem 6.3](#)

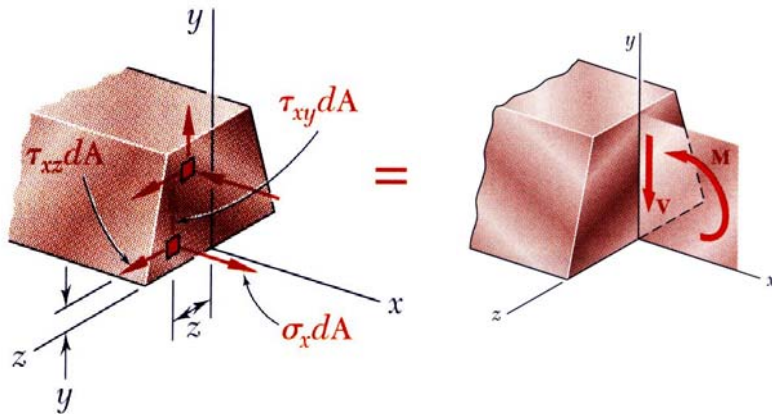
[Unsymmetric Loading of Thin-Walled Members](#)

[Example 6.05](#)

[Example 6.06](#)



## Introduction



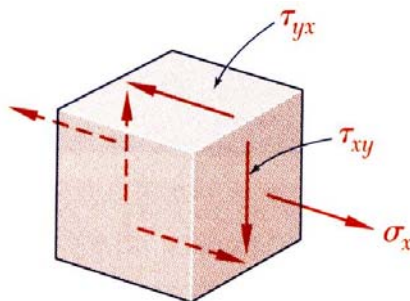
- Transverse loading applied to a beam results in normal and shearing stresses in transverse sections.

- Distribution of normal and shearing stresses satisfies

$$F_x = \int \sigma_x dA = 0 \quad M_x = \int (y \tau_{xz} - z \tau_{xy}) dA = 0$$

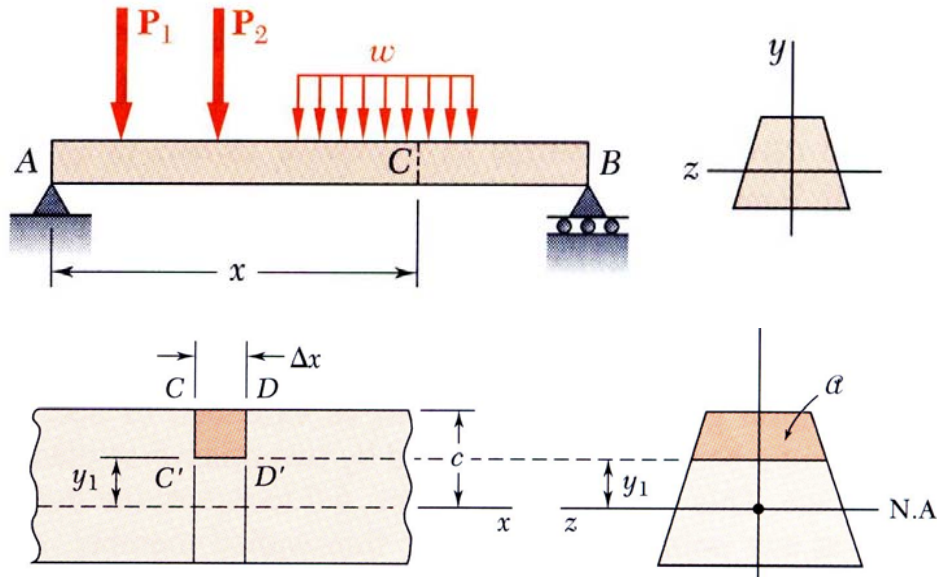
$$F_y = \int \tau_{xy} dA = -V \quad M_y = \int z \sigma_x dA = 0$$

$$F_z = \int \tau_{xz} dA = 0 \quad M_z = \int (-y \sigma_x) dA = 0$$



- When shearing stresses are exerted on the vertical faces of an element, equal stresses must be exerted on the horizontal faces
- Longitudinal shearing stresses must exist in any member subjected to transverse loading.

## Shear on the Horizontal Face of a Beam Element



- Consider prismatic beam
- For equilibrium of beam element

$$\sum F_x = 0 = \Delta H + \int_A (\sigma_D - \sigma_C) dA$$

$$\Delta H = \frac{M_D - M_C}{I} \int_A y dA$$

- Note,

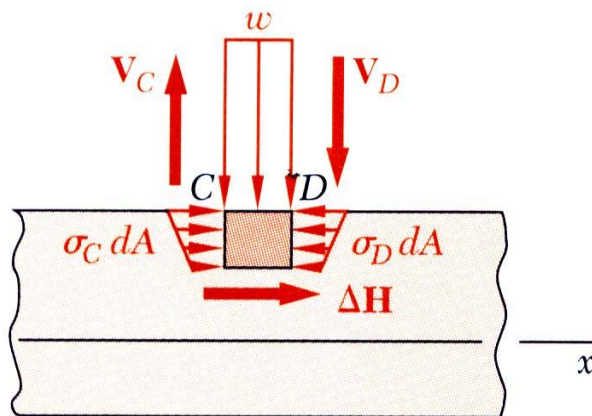
$$Q = \int_A y dA$$

$$M_D - M_C = \frac{dM}{dx} \Delta x = V \Delta x$$

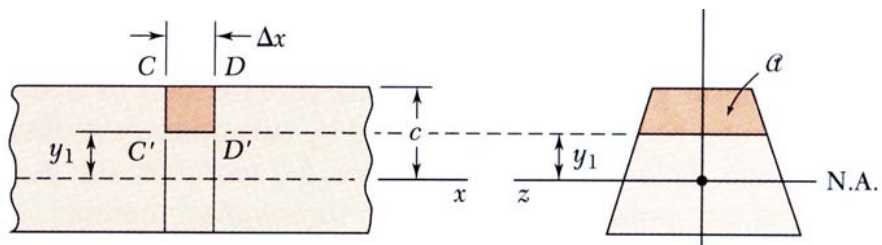
- Substituting,

$$\Delta H = \frac{VQ}{I} \Delta x$$

$$q = \frac{\Delta H}{\Delta x} = \frac{VQ}{I} = \text{shear flow}$$



## Shear on the Horizontal Face of a Beam Element



- Shear flow,

$$q = \frac{\Delta H}{\Delta x} = \frac{VQ}{I} = \text{shear flow}$$

- where

$$Q = \int_A y dA$$

= first moment of area above  $y_1$

$$I = \int_{A+A'} y^2 dA$$

= second moment of full cross section

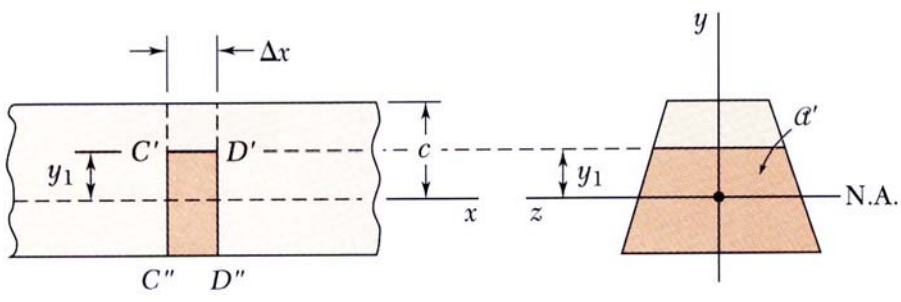
- Same result found for lower area

$$q' = \frac{\Delta H'}{\Delta x} = \frac{VQ'}{I} = -q'$$

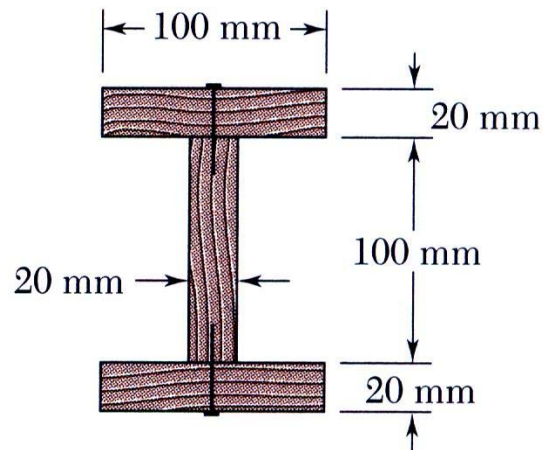
$$Q + Q' = 0$$

= first moment with respect to neutral axis

$$\Delta H' = -\Delta H$$



## Example 6.01

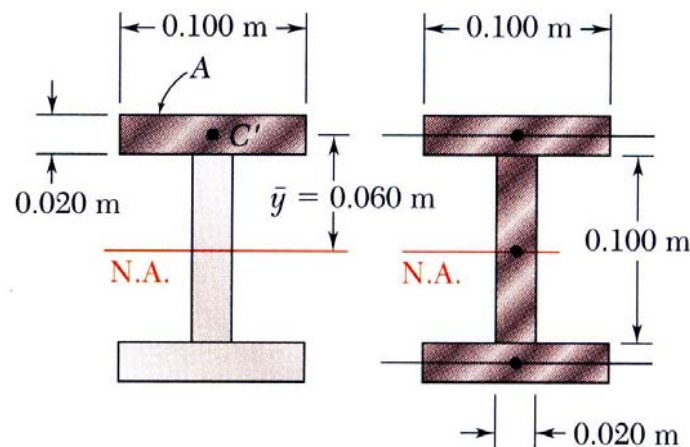


## SOLUTION:

- Determine the horizontal force per unit length or shear flow  $q$  on the lower surface of the upper plank.
- Calculate the corresponding shear force in each nail.

A beam is made of three planks, nailed together. Knowing that the spacing between nails is 25 mm and that the vertical shear in the beam is  $V = 500$  N, determine the shear force in each nail.

## Example 6.01



$$\begin{aligned}
 Q &= A\bar{y} \\
 &= (0.020 \text{ m} \times 0.100 \text{ m})(0.060 \text{ m}) \\
 &= 120 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 \\
 I &= \frac{1}{12}(0.020 \text{ m})(0.100 \text{ m})^3 \\
 &\quad + 2\left[\frac{1}{12}(0.100 \text{ m})(0.020 \text{ m})^3\right. \\
 &\quad \left.+ (0.020 \text{ m} \times 0.100 \text{ m})(0.060 \text{ m})^2\right] \\
 &= 16.20 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^4
 \end{aligned}$$

SOLUTION:

- Determine the horizontal force per unit length or shear flow  $q$  on the lower surface of the upper plank.

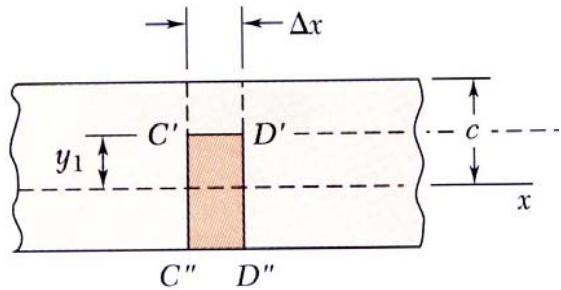
$$\begin{aligned}
 q &= \frac{VQ}{I} = \frac{(500 \text{ N})(120 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3)}{16.20 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^4} \\
 &= 3704 \text{ N/m}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Calculate the corresponding shear force in each nail for a nail spacing of 25 mm.

$$F = (0.025 \text{ m})q = (0.025 \text{ m})(3704 \text{ N/m})$$

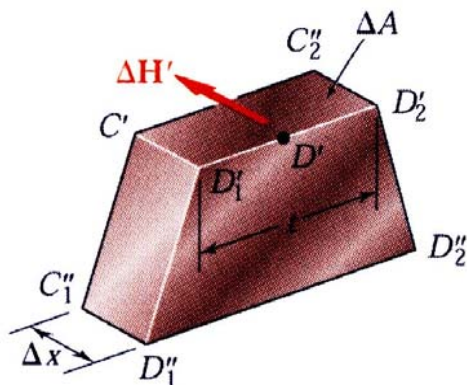
$$F = 92.6 \text{ N}$$

## Determination of the Shearing Stress in a Beam

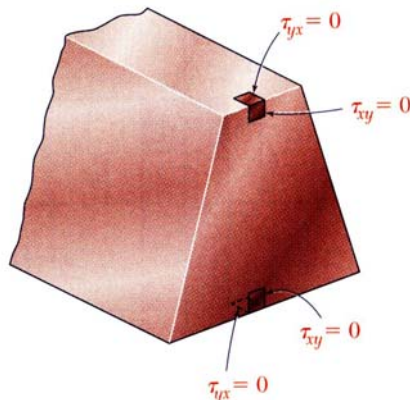


- The *average* shearing stress on the horizontal face of the element is obtained by dividing the shearing force on the element by the area of the face.

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{ave} &= \frac{\Delta H}{\Delta A} = \frac{q \Delta x}{\Delta A} = \frac{VQ}{I} \frac{\Delta x}{t \Delta x} \\ &= \frac{VQ}{It} \end{aligned}$$



- On the upper and lower surfaces of the beam,  $\tau_{yx} = 0$ . It follows that  $\tau_{xy} = 0$  on the upper and lower edges of the transverse sections.

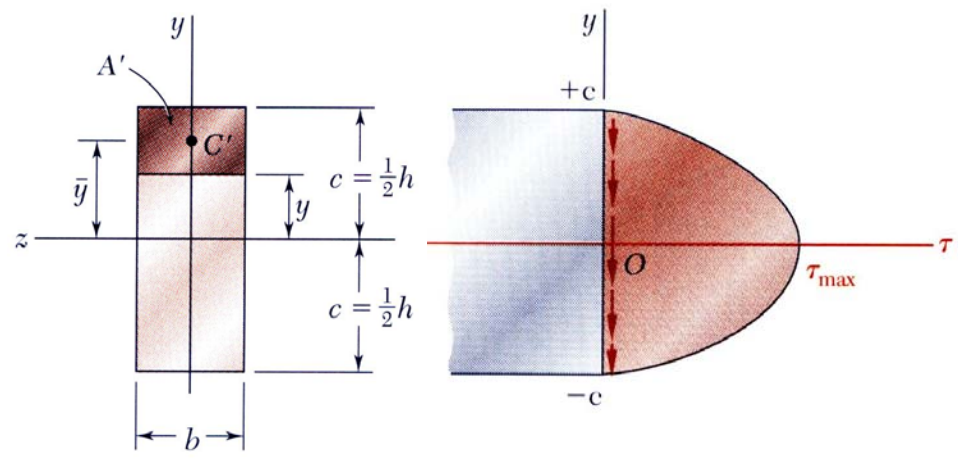


- If the width of the beam is comparable or large relative to its depth, the shearing stresses at  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are significantly higher than at  $D$ .





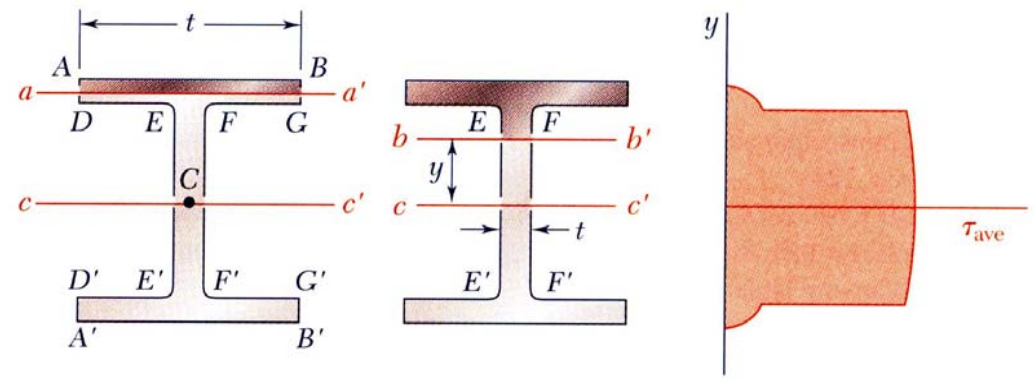
## Shearing Stresses $\tau_{xy}$ in Common Types of Beams



- For a narrow rectangular beam,

$$\tau_{xy} = \frac{VQ}{Ib} = \frac{3V}{2A} \left( 1 - \frac{y^2}{c^2} \right)$$

$$\tau_{max} = \frac{3V}{2A}$$

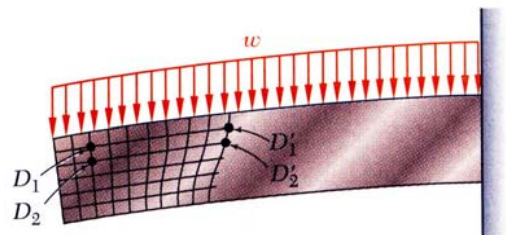
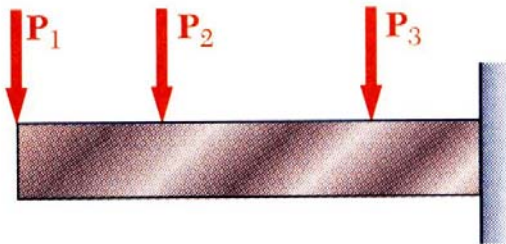
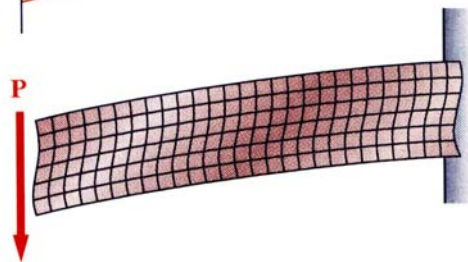
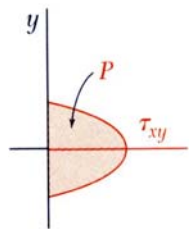


- For American Standard (S-beam) and wide-flange (W-beam) beams

$$\tau_{ave} = \frac{VQ}{It}$$

$$\tau_{max} = \frac{V}{A_{web}}$$

## Further Discussion of the Distribution of Stresses in a Narrow Rectangular Beam



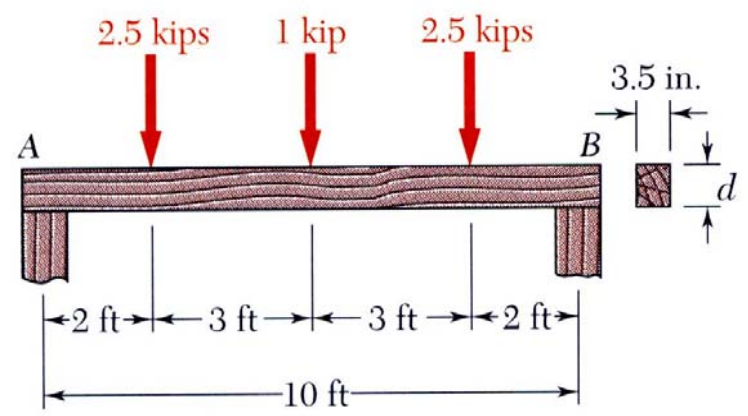
- Consider a narrow rectangular cantilever beam subjected to load  $P$  at its free end:

$$\tau_{xy} = \frac{3P}{2A} \left( 1 - \frac{y^2}{c^2} \right) \qquad \sigma_x = + \frac{Pxy}{I}$$

- Shearing stresses are independent of the distance from the point of application of the load.
- Normal strains and normal stresses are unaffected by the shearing stresses.
- From Saint-Venant's principle, effects of the load application mode are negligible except in immediate vicinity of load application points.
- Stress/strain deviations for distributed loads are negligible for typical beam sections of interest.



## Sample Problem 6.2



A timber beam is to support the three concentrated loads shown. Knowing that for the grade of timber used,

$$\sigma_{all} = 1800 \text{ psi} \quad \tau_{all} = 120 \text{ psi}$$

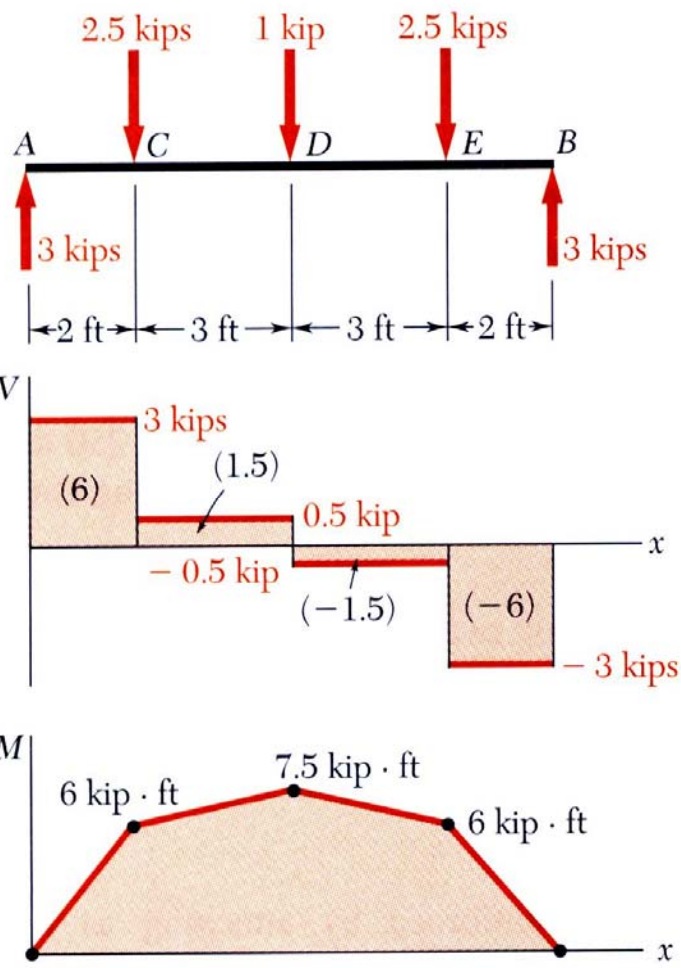
determine the minimum required depth  $d$  of the beam.

### SOLUTION:

- Develop shear and bending moment diagrams. Identify the maximums.
- Determine the beam depth based on allowable normal stress.
- Determine the beam depth based on allowable shear stress.
- Required beam depth is equal to the larger of the two depths found.



## Sample Problem 6.2



**SOLUTION:**

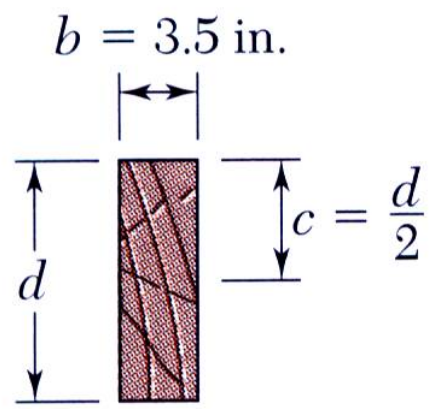
Develop shear and bending moment diagrams. Identify the maximums.

$$V_{\max} = 3 \text{ kips}$$

$$M_{\max} = 7.5 \text{ kip} \cdot \text{ft} = 90 \text{ kip} \cdot \text{in}$$



## Sample Problem 6.2



- Determine the beam depth based on allowable normal stress.

$$\sigma_{all} = \frac{M_{max}}{S}$$

$$1800 \text{ psi} = \frac{90 \times 10^3 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{in.}}{(0.5833 \text{ in.})d^2}$$

$$d = 9.26 \text{ in.}$$

- Determine the beam depth based on allowable shear stress.

$$\tau_{all} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{V_{max}}{A}$$

$$120 \text{ psi} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{3000 \text{ lb}}{(3.5 \text{ in.})d}$$

$$d = 10.71 \text{ in.}$$

- Required beam depth is equal to the larger of the two.

$$d = 10.71 \text{ in.}$$

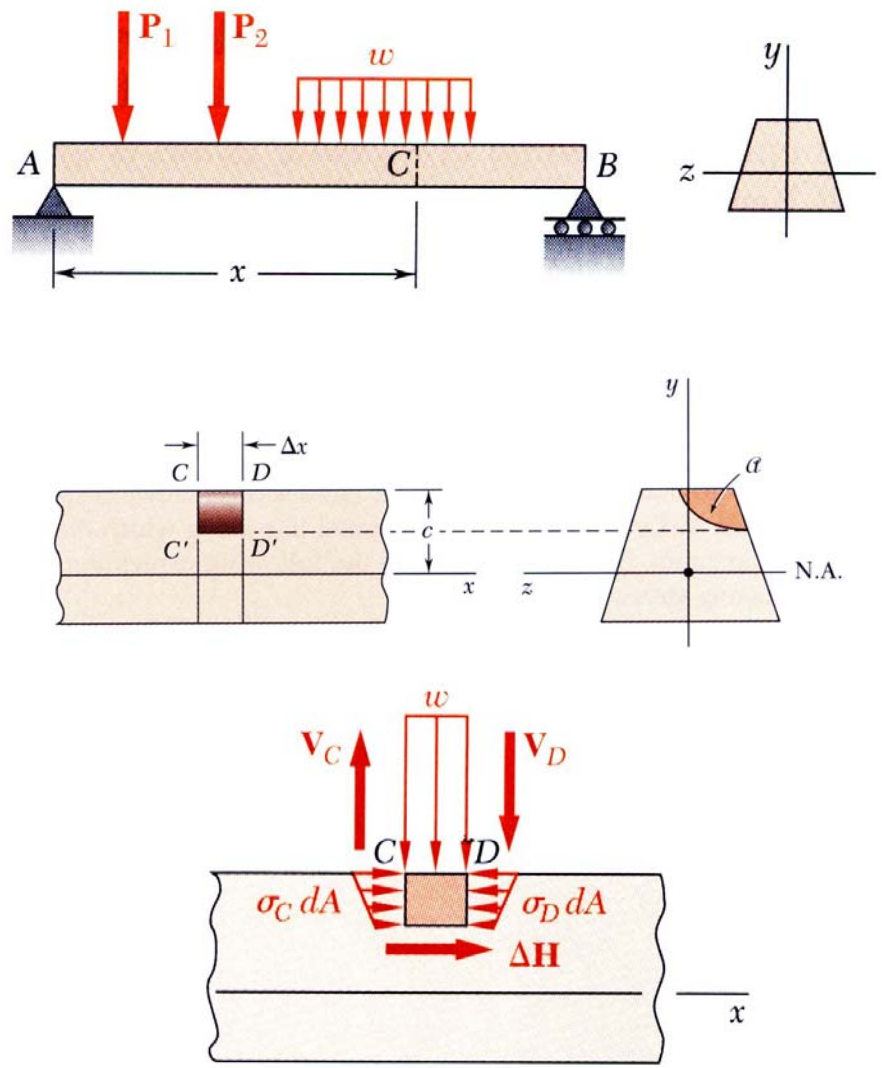
$$I = \frac{1}{12} b d^3$$

$$S = \frac{I}{c} = \frac{1}{6} b d^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} (3.5 \text{ in.}) d^2$$

$$= (0.5833 \text{ in.}) d^2$$

## Longitudinal Shear on a Beam Element of Arbitrary Shape



- We have examined the distribution of the vertical components  $\tau_{xy}$  on a transverse section of a beam. We now wish to consider the horizontal components  $\tau_{xz}$  of the stresses.
- Consider prismatic beam with an element defined by the curved surface CDD'C'.

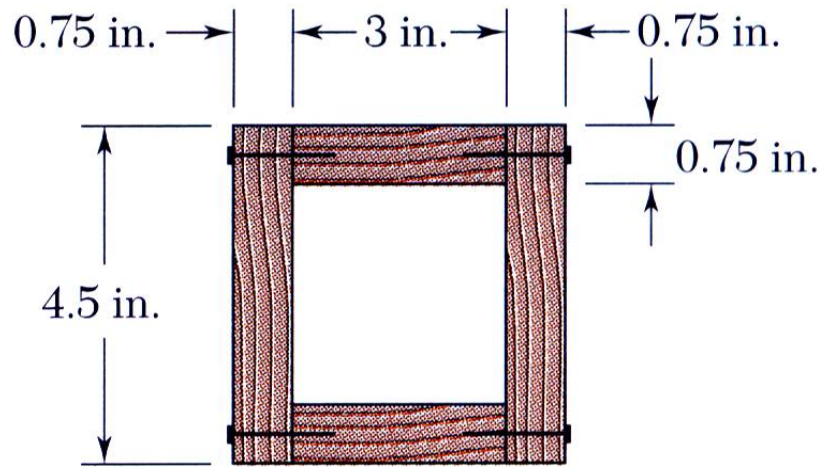
$$\sum F_x = 0 = \Delta H + \int_a (\sigma_D - \sigma_C) dA$$

- Except for the differences in integration areas, this is the same result obtained before which led to

$$\Delta H = \frac{VQ}{I} \Delta x \quad q = \frac{\Delta H}{\Delta x} = \frac{VQ}{I}$$



## Example 6.04

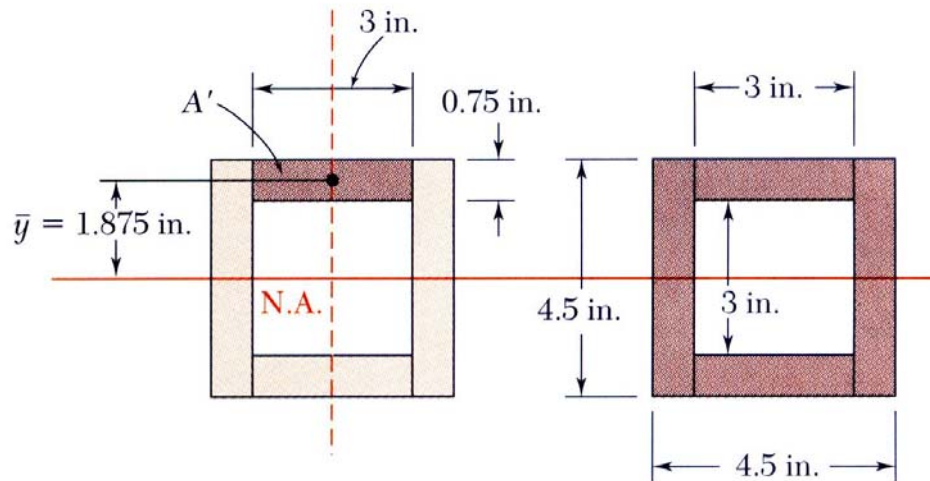


## SOLUTION:

- Determine the shear force per unit length along each edge of the upper plank.
- Based on the spacing between nails, determine the shear force in each nail.

A square box beam is constructed from four planks as shown. Knowing that the spacing between nails is 1.5 in. and the beam is subjected to a vertical shear of magnitude  $V = 600$  lb, determine the shearing force in each nail.

## Example 6.04



For the upper plank,

$$Q = A'y = (0.75\text{in.})(3\text{in.})(1.875\text{in.}) = 4.22\text{in}^3$$

For the overall beam cross-section,

$$I = \frac{1}{12}(4.5\text{in})^3 - \frac{1}{12}(3\text{in})^3 = 27.42\text{in}^4$$

SOLUTION:

- Determine the shear force per unit length along each edge of the upper plank.

$$q = \frac{VQ}{I} = \frac{(600\text{lb})(4.22\text{in}^3)}{27.42\text{in}^4} = 92.3 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{in}}$$

$$f = \frac{q}{2} = 46.15 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{in}}$$

= edge force per unit length

- Based on the spacing between nails, determine the shear force in each nail.

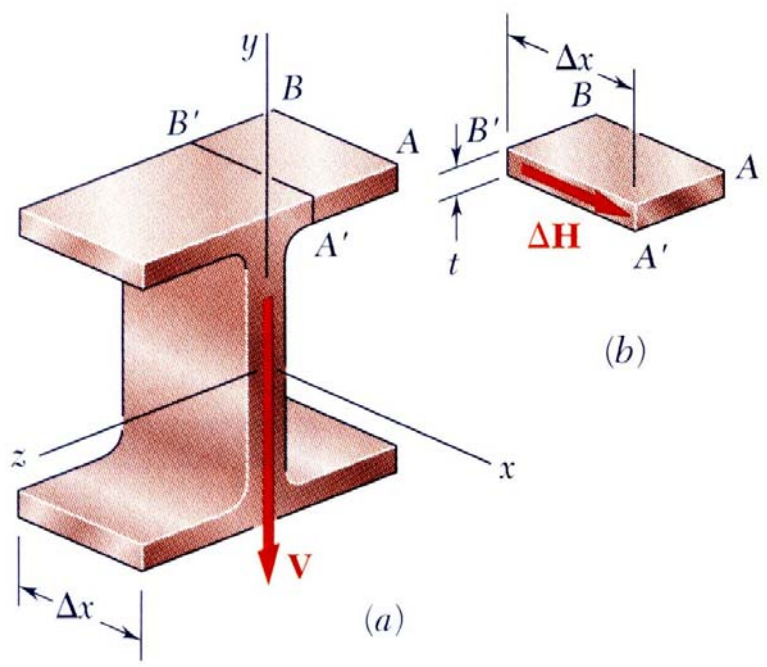
$$F = f \ell = \left(46.15 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{in}}\right)(1.75\text{in})$$

$$F = 80.8\text{lb}$$





## Shearing Stresses in Thin-Walled Members



- Consider a segment of a wide-flange beam subjected to the vertical shear  $V$ .
- The longitudinal shear force on the element is

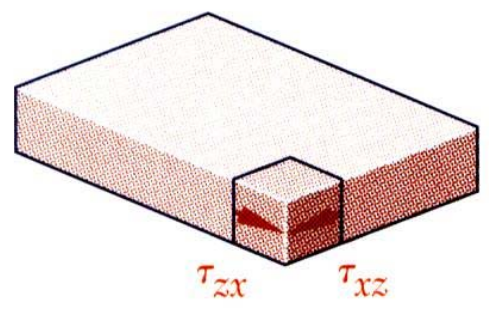
$$\Delta H = \frac{VQ}{I} \Delta x$$

- The corresponding shear stress is

$$\tau_{zx} = \tau_{xz} \approx \frac{\Delta H}{t \Delta x} = \frac{VQ}{It}$$

- Previously found a similar expression for the shearing stress in the web

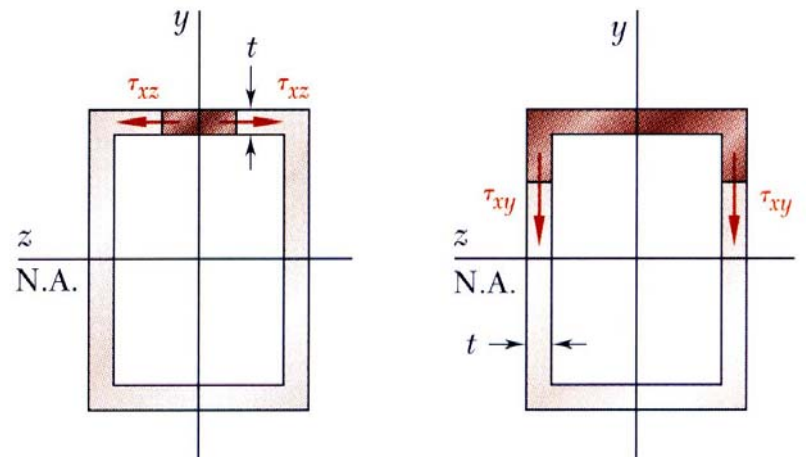
$$\tau_{xy} = \frac{VQ}{It}$$



- NOTE:  $\tau_{xy} \approx 0$  in the flanges  
 $\tau_{xz} \approx 0$  in the web



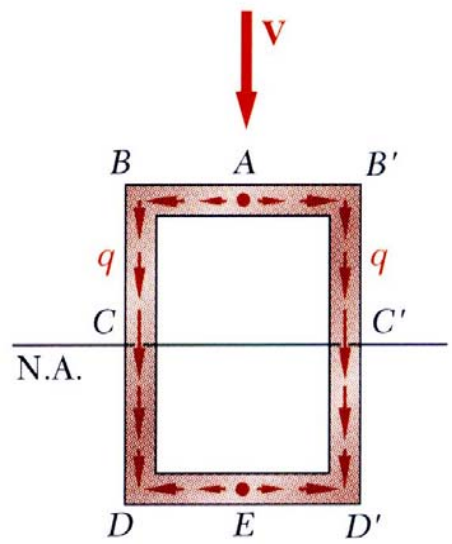
## Shearing Stresses in Thin-Walled Members



- The variation of shear flow across the section depends only on the variation of the first moment.

$$q = \tau t = \frac{VQ}{I}$$

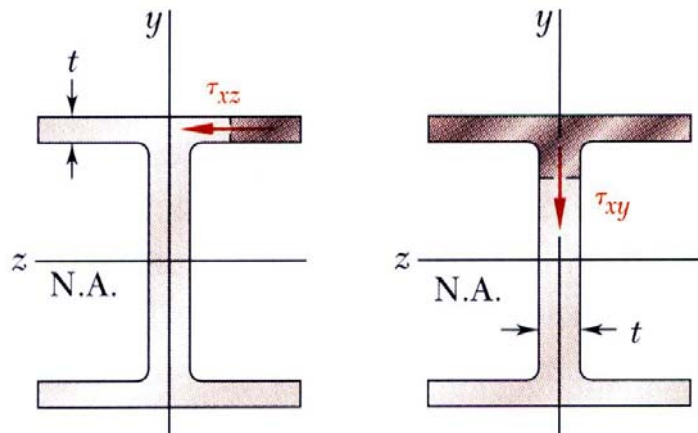
- For a box beam,  $q$  grows smoothly from zero at  $A$  to a maximum at  $C$  and  $C'$  and then decreases back to zero at  $E$ .



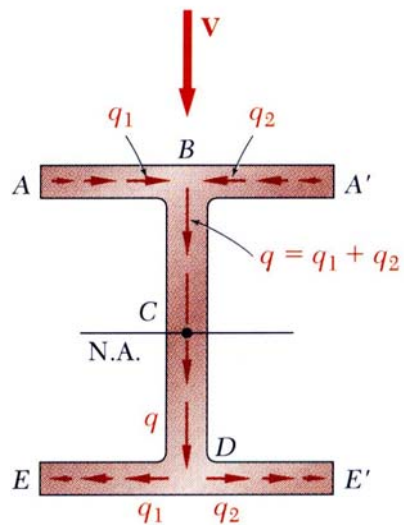
- The sense of  $q$  in the horizontal portions of the section may be deduced from the sense in the vertical portions or the sense of the shear  $V$ .



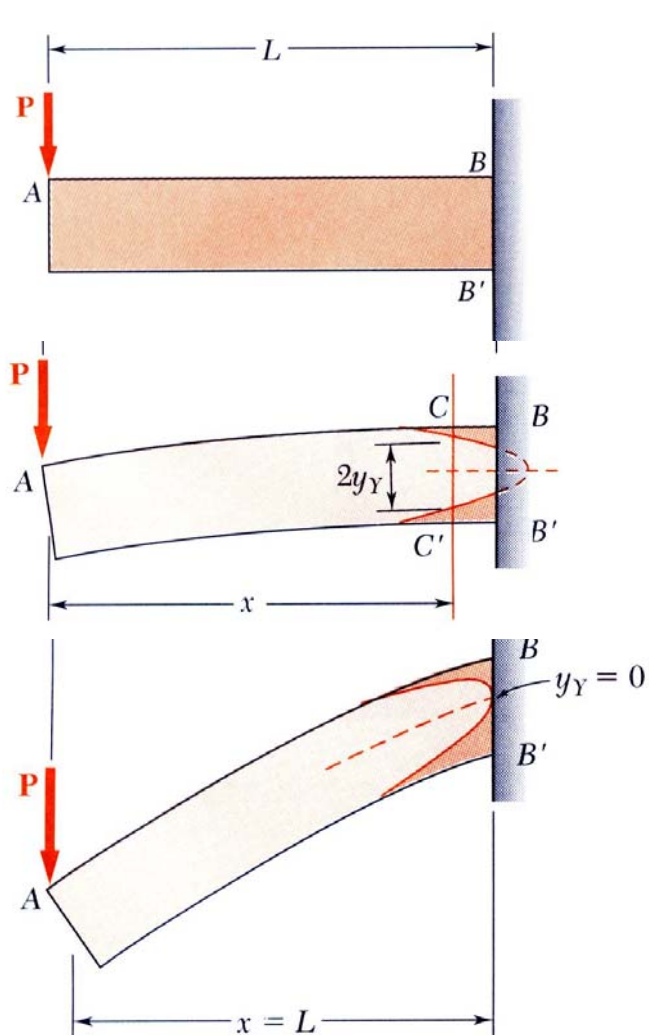
## Shearing Stresses in Thin-Walled Members



- For a wide-flange beam, the shear flow increases symmetrically from zero at  $A$  and  $A'$ , reaches a maximum at  $C$  and the decreases to zero at  $E$  and  $E'$ .
- The continuity of the variation in  $q$  and the merging of  $q$  from section branches suggests an analogy to fluid flow.



## Plastic Deformations



- Recall:  $M_Y = \frac{I}{c} \sigma_Y =$  maximum elastic moment
- For  $M = PL < M_Y$ , the normal stress does not exceed the yield stress anywhere along the beam.
- For  $PL > M_Y$ , yield is initiated at  $B$  and  $B'$ . For an elastoplastic material, the half-thickness of the elastic core is found from

$$Px = \frac{3}{2} M_Y \left( 1 - \frac{1}{3} \frac{y_Y^2}{c^2} \right)$$

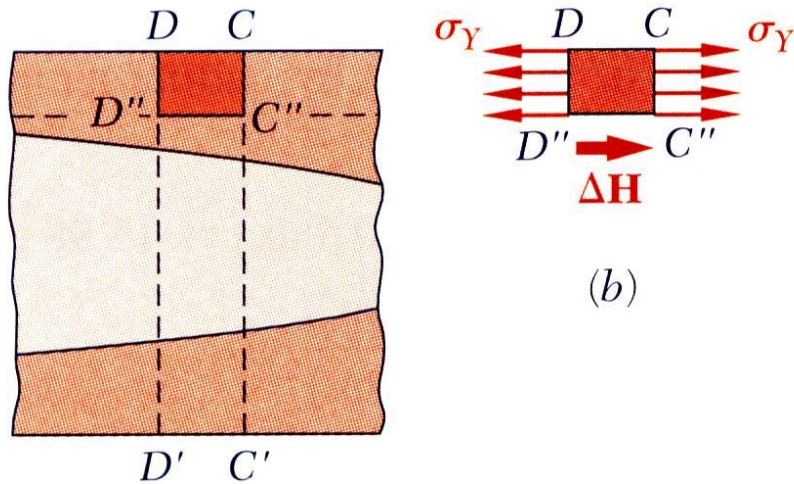
- The section becomes fully plastic ( $y_Y = 0$ ) at the wall when

$$PL = \frac{3}{2} M_Y = M_p$$

- Maximum load which the beam can support is

$$P_{\max} = \frac{M_p}{L}$$

## Plastic Deformations

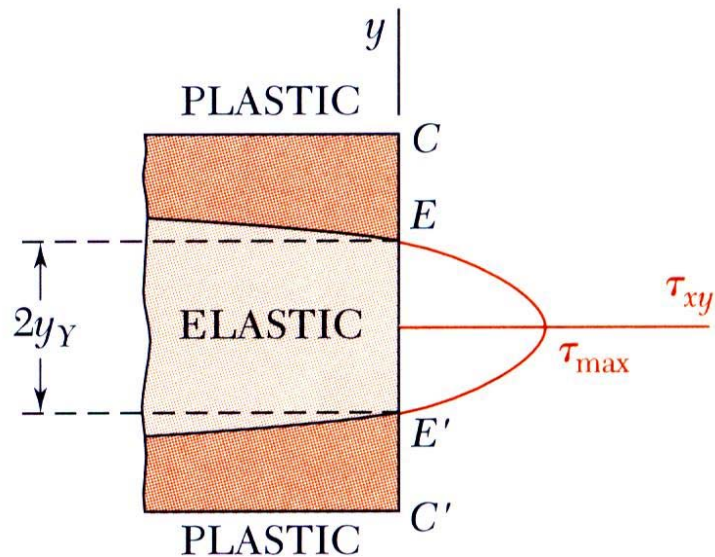


- Preceding discussion was based on normal stresses only

- Consider horizontal shear force on an element within the plastic zone,

$$\Delta H = -(\sigma_C - \sigma_D)dA = -(\sigma_Y - \sigma_Y)dA = 0$$

Therefore, the shear stress is zero in the plastic zone.



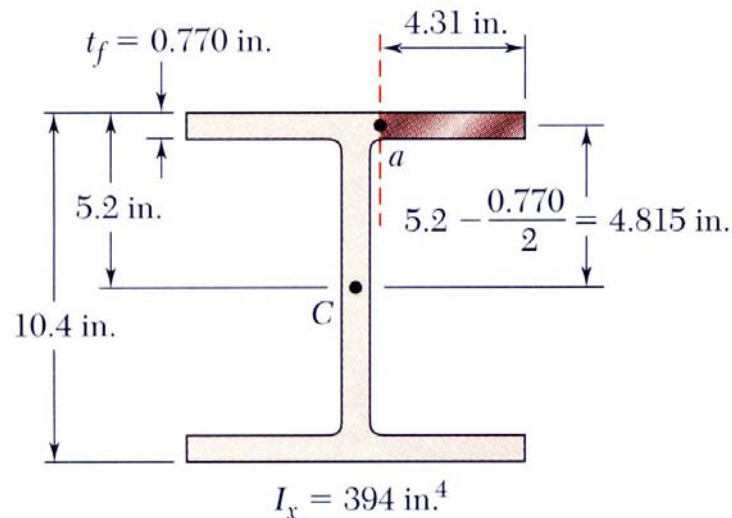
- Shear load is carried by the elastic core,

$$\tau_{xy} = \frac{3P}{2A'} \left( 1 - \frac{y^2}{y_Y^2} \right) \quad \text{where } A' = 2by_Y$$

$$\tau_{\max} = \frac{3P}{2A'}$$

- As  $A'$  decreases,  $\tau_{\max}$  increases and may exceed  $\tau_Y$

## Sample Problem 6.3



Knowing that the vertical shear is 50 kips in a W10x68 rolled-steel beam, determine the horizontal shearing stress in the top flange at the point  $a$ .

## SOLUTION:

- For the shaded area,

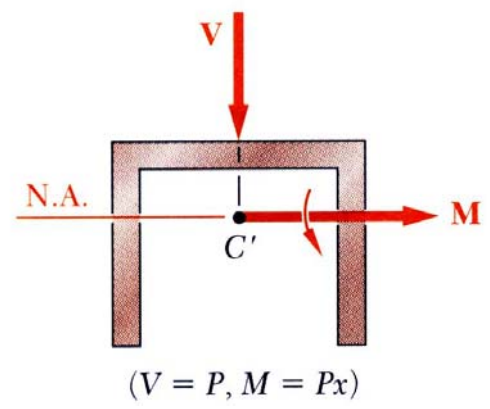
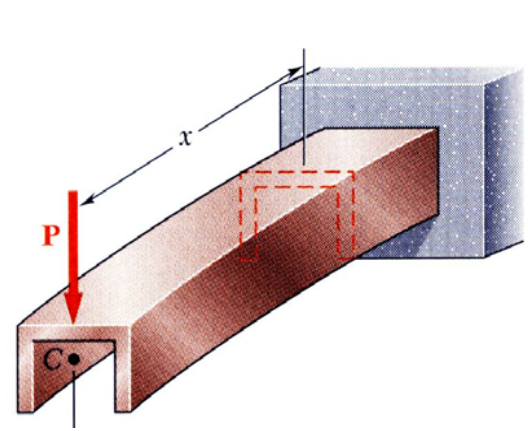
$$Q = (4.31 \text{ in})(0.770 \text{ in})(4.815 \text{ in}) \\ = 15.98 \text{ in}^3$$

- The shear stress at  $a$ ,

$$\tau = \frac{VQ}{It} = \frac{(50 \text{ kips})(15.98 \text{ in}^3)}{(394 \text{ in}^4)(0.770 \text{ in})}$$

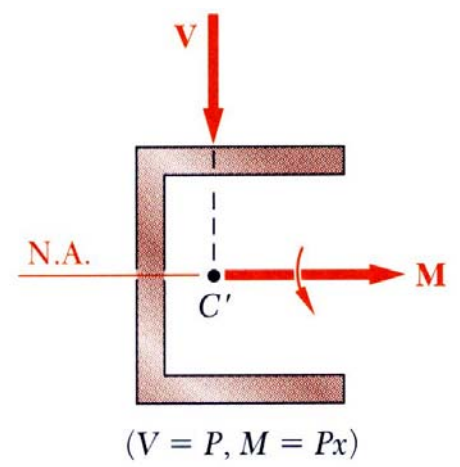
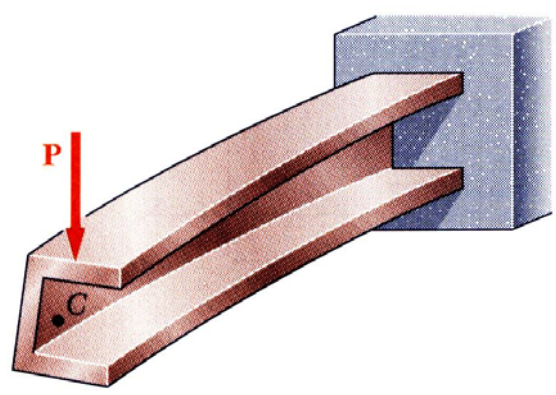
$$\tau = 2.63 \text{ ksi}$$

## Unsymmetric Loading of Thin-Walled Members



- Beam loaded in a vertical plane of symmetry deforms in the symmetry plane without twisting.

$$\sigma_x = -\frac{My}{I} \quad \tau_{ave} = \frac{VQ}{It}$$

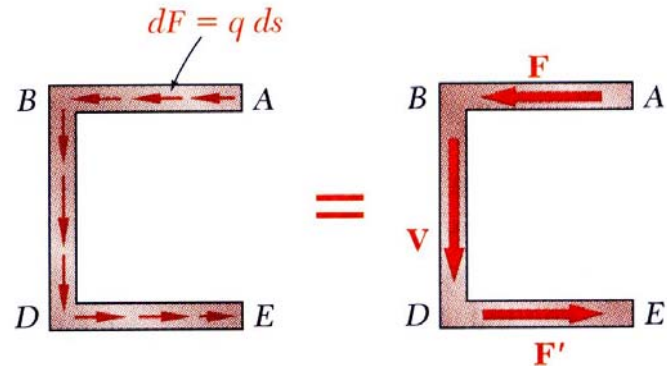


- Beam without a vertical plane of symmetry bends and twists under loading.

$$\sigma_x = -\frac{My}{I} \quad \tau_{ave} \neq \frac{VQ}{It}$$

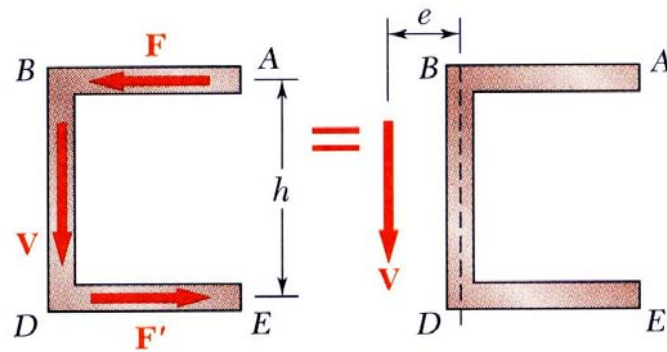


## Unsymymmetric Loading of Thin-Walled Members



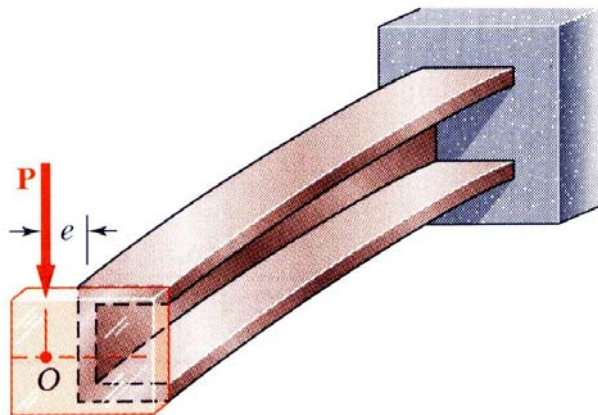
- If the shear load is applied such that the beam does not twist, then the shear stress distribution satisfies

$$\tau_{ave} = \frac{VQ}{It} \quad V = \int_B^D q \, ds \quad F = \int_A^B q \, ds = - \int_D^E q \, ds = -F'$$



- $F$  and  $F'$  indicate a couple  $Fh$  and the need for the application of a torque as well as the shear load.

$$Fh = Ve$$

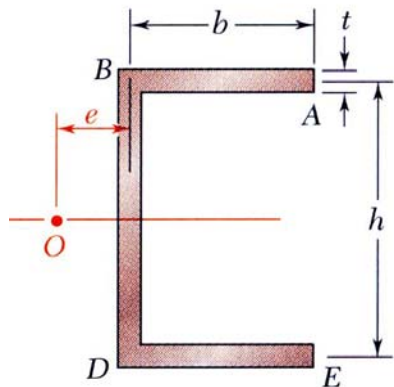


- When the force  $P$  is applied at a distance  $e$  to the left of the web centerline, the member bends in a vertical plane without twisting.





## Example 6.05



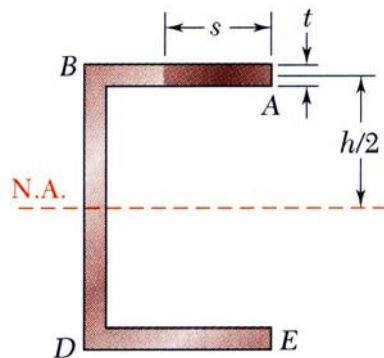
- Determine the location for the shear center of the channel section with  $b = 4$  in.,  $h = 6$  in., and  $t = 0.15$  in.

$$e = \frac{Fh}{I}$$

- where

$$F = \int_0^b q ds = \int_0^b \frac{VQ}{I} ds = \frac{V}{I} \int_0^b st \frac{h}{2} ds$$

$$= \frac{Vthb^2}{4I}$$



$$I = I_{web} + 2I_{flange} = \frac{1}{12}th^3 + 2 \left[ \frac{1}{12}bt^3 + bt \left( \frac{h}{2} \right)^2 \right]$$

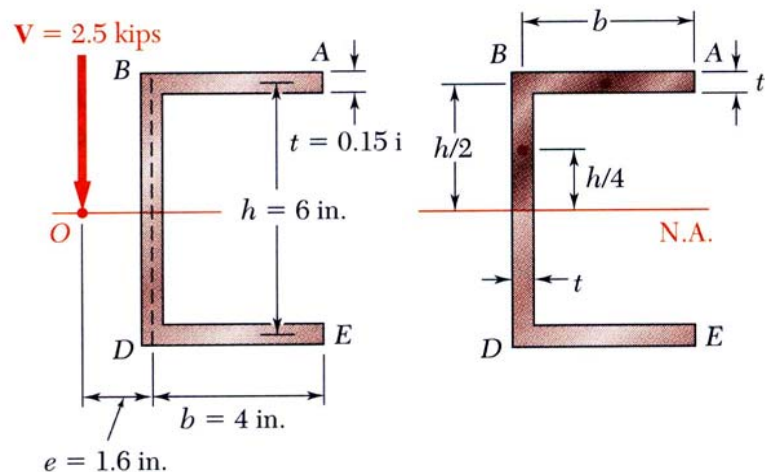
$$\cong \frac{1}{12}th^2(6b + h)$$

- Combining,

$$e = \frac{b}{2 + \frac{h}{3b}} = \frac{4\text{in.}}{2 + \frac{6\text{in.}}{3(4\text{in.})}}$$

$$e = 1.6\text{in.}$$

## Example 6.06



- Determine the shear stress distribution for  $V = 2.5$  kips.

$$\tau = \frac{q}{t} = \frac{VQ}{It}$$

- Shearing stresses in the flanges,

$$\tau = \frac{VQ}{It} = \frac{V}{It} (st) \frac{h}{2} = \frac{Vh}{2I} s$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_B &= \frac{Vhb}{2\left(\frac{1}{12}th^2\right)(6b+h)} = \frac{6Vb}{th(6b+h)} \\ &= \frac{6(2.5 \text{ kips})(4 \text{ in})}{(0.15 \text{ in})(6 \text{ in})(6 \times 4 \text{ in} + 6 \text{ in})} = 2.22 \text{ ksi} \end{aligned}$$

- Shearing stress in the web,

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{\max} &= \frac{VQ}{It} = \frac{V\left(\frac{1}{8}ht\right)(4b+h)}{\frac{1}{12}th^2(6b+h)t} = \frac{3V(4b+h)}{2th(6b+h)} \\ &= \frac{3(2.5 \text{ kips})(4 \times 4 \text{ in} + 6 \text{ in})}{2(0.15 \text{ in})(6 \text{ in})(6 \times 6 \text{ in} + 6 \text{ in})} = 3.06 \text{ ksi} \end{aligned}$$

