

# Aerospace Structural Analysis

Lecture 6

## Virtual Work Method (2)

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# Virtual Work for Deformable Body

virtual work may be applied to any body or structure that is rigid, elastic, or plastic. The principle does require that displacements, whether real or imaginary, must be small, so that we may assume that external and internal forces are unchanged in magnitude and direction during the displacements. In addition, the virtual displacements must be compatible with the geometry of the structure and the constraints that are applied, such as those at a support.

# Work Done by Internal Force Systems

The calculation of the work done by an external force is straightforward in that it is the product of the force and the displacement of its point of application in its own line of action, whereas the calculation of the work done by an internal force system during a displacement is much more complicated. Generally, **no matter how complex a loading system is, it may be simplified to a combination of up to four load types: axial load, shear force, bending moment, and torsion**; these in turn produce corresponding internal force systems.



# Axial Force

The direct stress  $\sigma_x$  at any point in the cross section of the member is given by  $\sigma_x = \frac{N_A}{A}$ . Therefore, the normal force on the element  $\delta A$  at the point  $(z, y)$  is:

$$\delta N_A = \sigma_x \cdot \delta A = \frac{N_A}{A} \delta A$$

Suppose now that the structure is given an arbitrary virtual displacement  $\Delta_x$  which produces a virtual axial strain  $\varepsilon_x$  in the element. The internal virtual work  $\delta W_{i,N}$  done by the axial force on the elemental length of the member is given by

$$\delta W_{i,N} = \int_A dN_A \cdot \Delta_x = \int_A \frac{N_A}{A} dA \cdot \varepsilon_v dx$$

since  $\int_A \delta A = A$

$$\delta W_{i,N} = N_A \varepsilon_v \delta x$$

# Axial Force

For a member of length  $L$

$$W_{i,N} = \int_L dW_{i,N} = \int_L N_A \varepsilon_v dx$$

For a structure comprising a number of members

$$W_{i,N} = \sum \int_L N_A \cdot \varepsilon_x dx \quad \text{Nonelastic as well as elastic materials}$$

For linearly elastic material

$$\varepsilon_v = \frac{\sigma_v}{E} = \frac{N_v}{A \cdot E}$$
$$W_{i,N} = \sum \int_L \frac{N_A \cdot N_v}{A \cdot E} dx$$





# Shear Force

since  $\int_A \delta A = A$

For a member of length  $L$

$$\delta W_{i,S} = \beta \cdot \int_L S_A \cdot \gamma_v \, dx$$

For a structure comprising a number of members

$$W_{i,S} = \sum \beta \cdot \int_L S_A \cdot \gamma_v \, dx \quad \text{Nonelastic as well as elastic materials}$$

For linearly elastic material

$$\gamma_v = \frac{\tau_v}{G} = \frac{S_v}{A \cdot G}$$

$$W_{i,S} = \sum \beta \cdot \int_L \frac{S_A \cdot S_v}{A \cdot G} \, dx$$



# Bending Moment

$$\delta W_{i,M} = \frac{M}{R_A} \cdot \delta x$$

for a member of length  $L$

$$W_{i,M} = \int_L \frac{M}{R_A} dx$$

For a structure comprising a number of members

$$W_{i,M} = \sum \int_L \frac{M}{R_A} dx$$

Nonelastic as well as elastic materials

# Bending Moment

linearly elastic system

virtual curvature  $1/R_v$  may be expressed in terms of an equivalent virtual bending moment,  $M_v$ ,

$$\frac{1}{R_A} = \frac{M_v}{EI}$$

$$W_{i,M} = \sum \int_L \frac{M_A M_v}{EI} dx$$



# Hinges

In some cases, it is convenient to impose a virtual rotation,  $\theta_V$ , at some point in a structural member where, say, the actual bending moment is  $M_A$ . The internal virtual work done by  $M_A$  is then  $M_A \cdot \theta_V$ ; physically this situation is equivalent to inserting a hinge at the point.















# Example 1

$$M_B = \frac{W \cdot a \cdot b}{L}$$











