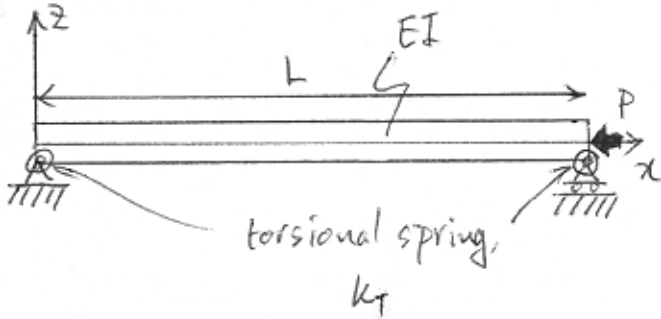


Solutions to Home Assignment #10

Warm-up Exercises



Governing differential equation for a column (unit #16, p 9)

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left(EI \frac{d^2 w}{dx^2} \right) - \frac{d}{dx} \left(F \frac{dw}{dx} \right) = 0$$

1. The general solution to equation ① is

$$w(x) = A \sin \lambda x + B \cos \lambda x + Cx + D \quad \text{--- ②}$$

where $\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}}$

The boundary conditions need to be found to solve for the constants A, B, C, D and P or k_T . At both ends the displacement is zero due to the pin supports. Thus,

$$w(0) = w(L) = 0 \quad \text{--- ③}$$

Also, due to the torsional springs, the moment at both ends are equal to the torsional spring constant k_T times the angle of rotation. $\theta = \frac{dw}{dx}$. Thus,

* Note: B.C.'s in equation ③ are formally derived from $\Sigma M = 0$.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} M(0) &= EI \frac{d^2 w(0)}{dx^2} = k_T \frac{dw(0)}{dx} \\ M(L) &= EI \frac{d^2 w(L)}{dx^2} = -k_T \frac{dw(L)}{dx} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{--- ④}$$

Applying the boundary conditions at $x=0$, we get

$$\textcircled{3} \rightarrow w(0) = A \sin(0) + B \cos(0) + C \cdot 0 + D = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow w(0) = B + D = 0 \text{ ————— } \textcircled{5}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \rightarrow EI(-\lambda^2 A \sin \lambda \cdot 0 - \lambda^2 B \cos \lambda \cdot 0)$$

$$= k_T(\lambda A \cos \lambda 0 - \lambda B \sin \lambda \cdot 0 + C)$$

$$\Rightarrow -EI\lambda^2 B = k_T \lambda A + k_T C$$

$$\Rightarrow C = -\lambda A - EI\lambda^2 B \frac{1}{k_T} \text{ ————— } \textcircled{6}$$

\downarrow
 $= -D \text{ (from } \textcircled{5})$

Thus, we get

$$w(x) = A \sin \lambda x - D \cos \lambda x - (\lambda A - \frac{EI}{k_T} \lambda^2 D)x + D$$

$$\Rightarrow w(x) = A(\sin \lambda x - \lambda x) + D(1 + \frac{EI}{k_T} \lambda^2 x - \cos \lambda x) \text{ —}$$

Next, we apply the boundary conditions at $x=L$.

$$\textcircled{3} \rightarrow w(L) = A(\sin \lambda L - \lambda) + D(1 + \frac{EI}{k_T} \lambda^2 L - \cos \lambda L) = 0 \text{ —}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \rightarrow EI[A(-\lambda^2 \sin \lambda L) + D(\lambda^2 \cos \lambda L)]$$

$$= -k_T[A(\lambda \cos \lambda L - \lambda) + D(\frac{EI}{k_T} \lambda^2 + \lambda \sin \lambda L)]$$

$$\Rightarrow A[k_T(\lambda \cos \lambda L - \lambda) - EI\lambda^2 \sin \lambda L] + D[k_T(\frac{EI}{k_T} \lambda^2 + \lambda \sin \lambda L) + EI\lambda^2 \cos \lambda L]$$

$$\Rightarrow A \left[\frac{k_T L^2}{EI} (\lambda \cos \lambda L - \lambda) - \lambda^2 L^2 \sin \lambda L \right] + D \left[\lambda^2 L^2 + \frac{k_T L^2}{EI} \lambda \sin \lambda L + \lambda^2 L^2 \cos \lambda L \right] \quad \text{--- (9)}$$

Setting $\bar{\lambda} = \lambda L$ and $\bar{k} = \frac{k_T L}{EI}$, and expressing equations (8) and (9) in matrix form, we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} \bar{k} (\sin \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda}) & \bar{\lambda}^2 + \bar{k} (1 - \cos \bar{\lambda}) \\ \bar{k} (\bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda}) - \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} & \bar{k} \bar{\lambda} \sin \bar{\lambda} + \bar{\lambda}^2 (1 + \cos \bar{\lambda}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} A \\ D \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \quad \text{--- (10)}$$

To obtain non-trivial solutions, we set the determinant of the matrix to zero.

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{k} (\sin \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda}) (\bar{k} \bar{\lambda} \sin \bar{\lambda} + \bar{\lambda}^2 (1 + \cos \bar{\lambda})) \\ & - [\bar{k} (\bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda}) - \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda}] [\bar{\lambda}^2 + \bar{k} (1 - \cos \bar{\lambda})] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & \bar{k} (\bar{k} \bar{\lambda} \sin^2 \bar{\lambda} + \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} + \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda} - \bar{k} \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda}^3 - \bar{\lambda}^3 \cos \bar{\lambda}) \\ & - (\bar{k} \bar{\lambda}^3 \cos \bar{\lambda} - \bar{k} \bar{\lambda}^3 - \bar{\lambda}^4 \sin \bar{\lambda} + \bar{k}^2 \bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda} - \bar{k}^2 \bar{\lambda} - \bar{k} \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} \\ & \quad - \bar{k}^2 \bar{\lambda} \cos^2 \bar{\lambda} + \bar{k}^2 \bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda} + \bar{k} \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & \bar{k}^2 \bar{\lambda} (\sin^2 \bar{\lambda} + \cos^2 \bar{\lambda} + 1) + 2\bar{k} \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} - \bar{k}^2 \bar{\lambda}^2 \sin \bar{\lambda} - 2\bar{\lambda}^3 \cos \bar{\lambda} \\ & + \bar{\lambda}^4 \sin \bar{\lambda} - 2\bar{k}^2 \bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\bar{\lambda} \{ \bar{k}^2 (2 - 2 \cos \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda} \sin \bar{\lambda}) + 2\bar{k} \bar{\lambda}^2 (\sin \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda} \cos \bar{\lambda}) + \bar{\lambda}^3 \sin \bar{\lambda} \} = 0}$$

2. If $k_T \rightarrow 0$, we get from equation ⑩

$$\sin \bar{\lambda} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda L = n\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{P}{EI} L^2 = n^2 \pi^2 \quad \left(\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}} \right)$$

$$\therefore P = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{P_{\text{critical}} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}}$$

This critical load is the same as that of a simply-supported column.

This is expected because if $k_T \rightarrow 0$, which means that there is no effective torsional spring constant, the problem simply becomes a simply-supported column.

3. If $k_T \rightarrow \infty$, we get from equation ⑪

$$2 - 2 \cos \bar{\lambda} - \bar{\lambda} \sin \bar{\lambda} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{\lambda} = 2n\pi$$

$$\therefore P = \frac{4n^2 \pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{P_{\text{critical}} = \frac{4 \pi^2 EI}{L^2}}$$

The critical load is same as that of a clamped-clamped column.

If the torsional spring constant is infinitely stiff, the spring will not allow any rotation at the ends. Therefore, this condition should be equivalent to the clamped-clamped case which does not allow the slope to be finite (i.e. $\frac{dw}{dx} = 0$)