

Aircraft Structures

CHAPTER 7. Torsion

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❖ Example of structural component which are designed to carry torsional loads

- Power of drive shaft
 - Solid or thin-walled circular cross-section
- Aircraft Wing
 - Needs to carry the bending and torsional moments generated by the aerodynamic forces
- 'bar' rather than 'beam'

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

❖ Fig.1

- Infinitely long, homogeneous, solid or hollow circular cylinder subjected to end torques Q_1

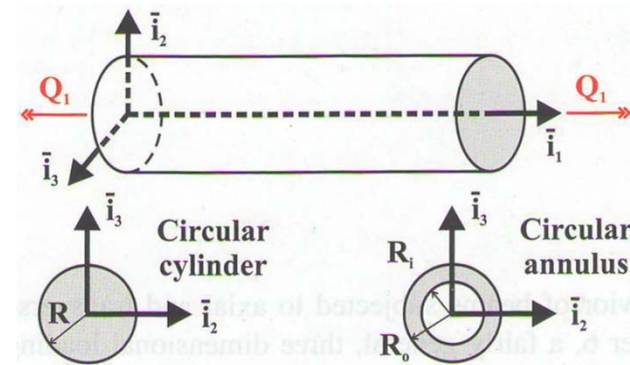


Fig. 7.1. Circular cylinder subjected to end torques.

❖ 2 types of symmetries

- ① Cylindrical symmetry about i_1 (Fig. 7.2)
 - ② Symmetric with regard to any plane, P , passing through axis i_1
 - Shear stress due to Q , must be of constant magnitude along circle C , and tangent to it
- loading is anti-symmetric with regard to P

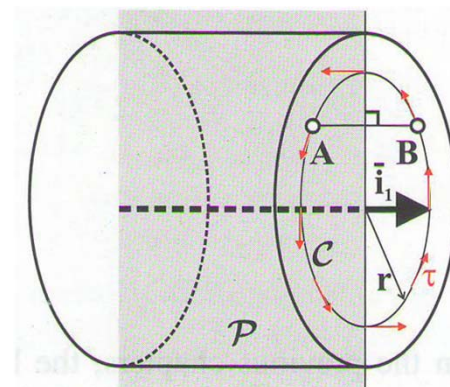


Fig. 7.2. A plane of symmetry, P , of the circular cylinder.

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

❖ Axial displacement at A and B, u_1^A and u_1^B

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \quad u_1^A &= u_1^B \\ \textcircled{2} \quad u_1^A &= -u_1^B \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \quad u_1^A &= u_1^B \\ \textcircled{2} \quad u_1^A &= -u_1^B \end{aligned}} \right\} u_1^A = u_1^B = 0$$

→ axial displacement must vanish

“the cross-section does not warp out-of plane”

❖ Each axis “rotate about its own center like a rigid disk”

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.1 Kinematic Description

❖ Rotation angle Φ_1

- Rigid body rotation of each axis (Fig. 7.3)

❖ Sectional in-plane displacement field

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u_2(x_1, r, \alpha) &= -r\Phi_1(x_1)\sin\alpha \\ u_3(x_1, r, \alpha) &= r\Phi_1(x_1)\cos\alpha \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (7.1)$$

❖ Out-of-plane displacement field

- $u_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 0 \quad (7.2)$
 - $u_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) = -x_3\Phi_1(x_1)$
 - $u_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_2\Phi_1(x_1)$
- (7.3) from Eq.(7.1)

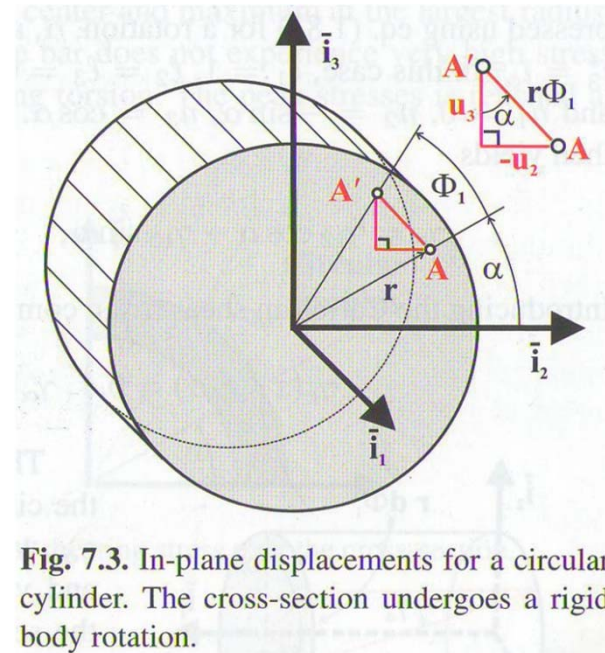


Fig. 7.3. In-plane displacements for a circular cylinder. The cross-section undergoes a rigid body rotation.

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

❖ Strain field

$$\varepsilon_1 = 0, \varepsilon_2 = 0, \varepsilon_3 = 0 \quad (7.4)$$

$$\gamma_{23} = 0 \quad (7.5)$$

$$\gamma_{12} = \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x_1} = -x_3 \kappa_1(x_1), \gamma_{13} = x_2 \kappa_1(x_1) \quad (7.6)$$

$$\kappa_1(x_1) = \frac{\partial \Phi_1}{\partial x_1} \quad (7.7) \quad \text{"section twist rate"}$$

- To visualize the strain field, describe them in the polar coordinate (r, α)
→ γ_{r1} and $\gamma_{\alpha 1}$, or simply γ_r and γ_α

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

❖ Transformation between the Cartesian and the Polar strain component

$$\gamma_\alpha = \gamma_{12} \cos \alpha + \gamma_{13} \sin \alpha, \quad \gamma_r = -\gamma_{12} \sin \alpha + \gamma_{13} \cos \alpha \quad (7.8) \quad \text{from Eq.(7.6)}$$

$$\gamma_r(x_1, r, \alpha) = 0, \quad \gamma_\alpha(x_1, r, \alpha) = r\kappa_1(x_1) \quad (7.9)$$

↳ circumferential shearing strain (Fig. 7.4)

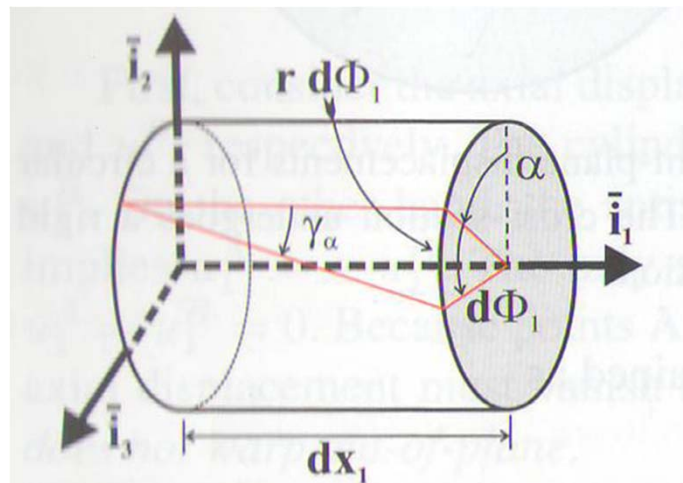


Fig. 7.4. Visualization of out-of-plane shear strain in polar coordinates.

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.2 The Strain Field

❖ The only non-vanishing stress components

$$\tau_{12} = -Gx_3\kappa_1(x_1), \quad \tau_{13} = Gx_2\kappa_1(x_1) \quad (7.10)$$

using polar coordinate,

$$\tau_r(x_1, r, \alpha) = 0, \quad \tau_\alpha(x_1, r, \alpha) = Gr\kappa_1(x_1) \quad (7.11)$$

↳ radial

↳ circumferential stress component

❖ Distribution of the circumferential shear stress (Fig. 7.5)

- ① Circumferential direction exists only, radial direction vanishes
- ② Varies linearly along the radial direction

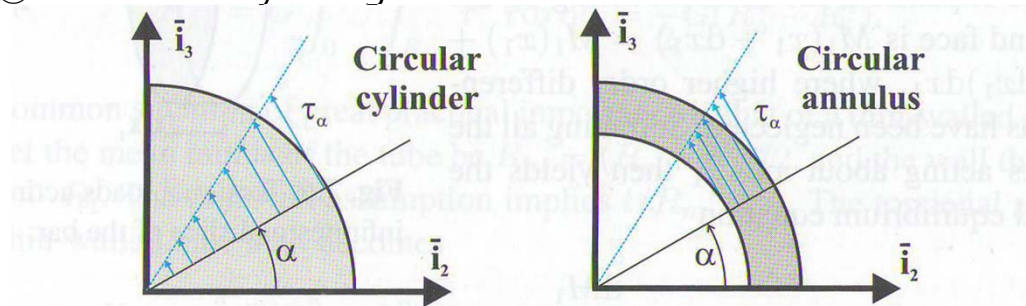


Fig. 7.5. Distribution of circumferential shearing stress over the cross-section.

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.3 Sectional Constitutive Law

- ❖ Torque acting on the axis at a given span-wise location

$$M_1(x_1) = \int_A \tau_\alpha r dA \quad (7.12)$$

$$M_1(x_1) = \int_A Gr^2 \kappa_1(x_1) dA = \left[\int_A Gr^2 dA \right] \kappa_1(x_1) = H_{11} \kappa_1(x_1) \quad (7.13) \quad \text{from Eq. (7.11)}$$

↳ torsional stiffness

$$H_{11} = \int_A Gr^2 dA \quad (7.14) \quad \text{for circular axis only}$$

- Constitutive for the torsional behavior of the beam

- ❖ If homogeneous material

$$H_{11} = GJ, \quad \text{where} \quad J = \int_A r^2 dA : \text{“area polar moment” for circular axis only}$$

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.4 Equilibrium Equations

- ❖ Infinitesimal slice of the cylinder of length dx_1

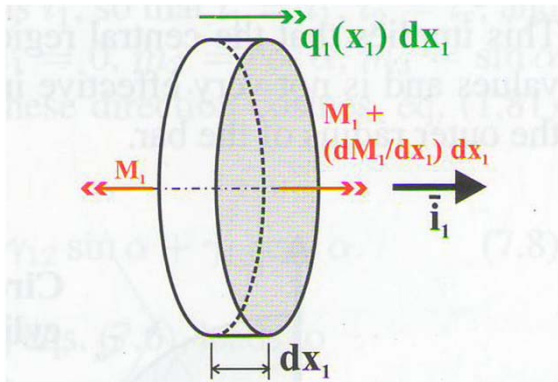


Fig. 7.6. Torsional loads acting on an infinitesimal slice of the bar.

- ❖ Torsional equilibrium equation

$$\frac{dM_1}{dx_1} = -q_1 \quad (7.15)$$

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.5 Governing Equations

❖ Eq. (7.13) \rightarrow (7.15) and recalling Eq. (7.7)

$$\frac{d}{dx_1} \left[H_{11} \frac{d\Phi_1}{dx_1} \right] = -q_1 \quad (7.16)$$

❖ **Boundary Condition**

① Fixed(clamped): $\Phi_1 = 0$

② Free(unloaded): $M_1 = 0 \rightarrow \kappa_1 = \frac{d\Phi_1}{dx_1} = 0$

③ subjected to a concentrated torque Q_1 : $M_1 = Q_1 \rightarrow H_{11} \frac{d\Phi_1}{dx_1} = Q_1$

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.6 Torsional Stiffness

❖ If Homogeneous material

$$H_{11} = G \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{R_i}^{R_0} r^2 r dr d\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2} G R^4 \quad (7.17)$$

❖ For a circular tube

$$H_{11} = G \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{R_i}^{R_0} r^2 r dr d\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2} G (R_0^4 - R_i^4) \quad (7.18)$$

❖ For a thin-walled circular tube, mean radius

$$H_{11} = \frac{\pi}{2} G (R_0^2 + R_i^2) (R_0 + R_i) (R_0 - R_i) \approx 2\pi G R_m^3 t \quad (7.19)$$

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

- ❖ Thin-walled circular tube consisting of N concentric layer

$$\begin{aligned} H_{11} &= \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N G^{[i]} \left[\left(R^{[i+1]} \right)^4 - \left(R^{[i]} \right)^4 \right] \\ &= 2\pi \sum_{i=1}^N G^{[i]} t^{[i]} \left(\frac{R^{[i+1]} + R^{[i]}}{2} \right)^3 \quad (7.20) \end{aligned}$$

- “weighted average” of the shear moduli of the various layer

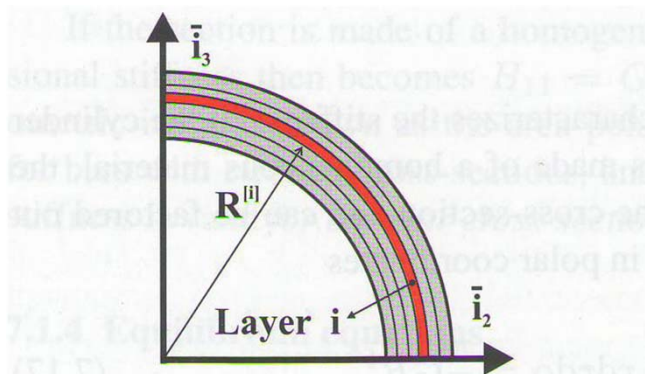


Fig. 7.7. Thin-walled tube made of layered materials.

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.7 Measuring the Torsional Stiffness

❖ Deformation of the test section

- Measured by the chevron strain gauge

$$\gamma_{12} = e_{+45} - e_{-45} \quad (\text{Fig. 7.8})$$

$$\kappa_1 = (e_{+45} - e_{-45}) / R \quad (@ r=R)$$

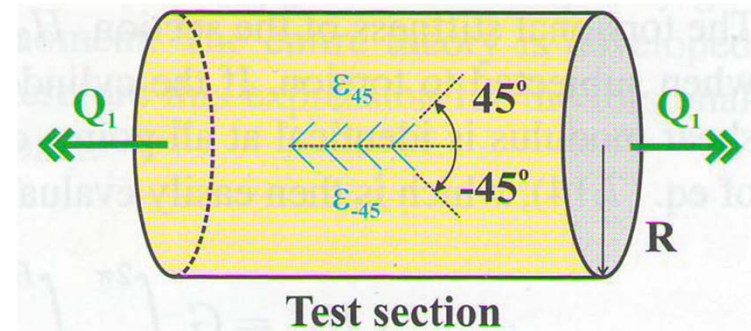


Fig. 7.8. Configuration of the test to determine the torsional stiffness.

❖ Slope of θ_{3i} vs. κ_{1i} Curve → torsional stiffness

- Valid as long as the cylindrical symmetry is maintained

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.8 The Shear Stress Distribution

❖ Local circumferential stress

- Eq. (7.11) \rightarrow (7.13)

$$\tau_{\alpha} = G \frac{M_1(x_1)}{H_{11}} r \quad (7.21)$$

- increases linearly from zero at the center to a max. value at the outer radius

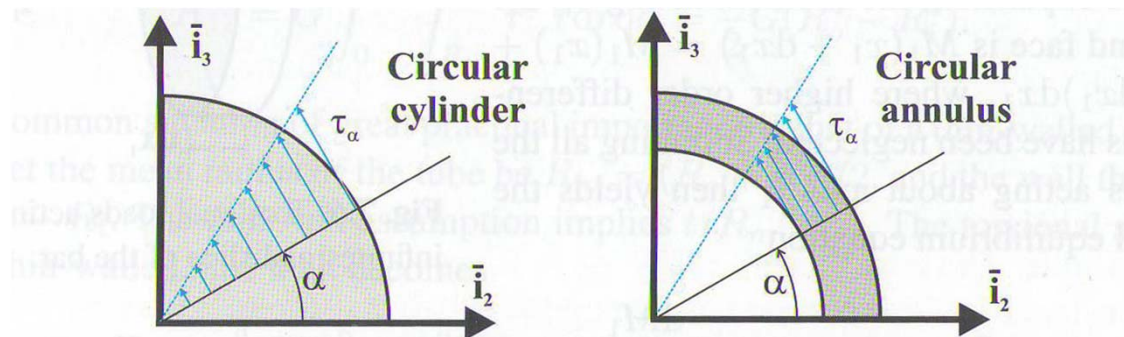


Fig. 7.5. Distribution of circumferential shearing stress over the cross-section.

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

❖ Concentric layers of distinct material

$$\tau_{\alpha}^{(i)} = G^{[i]} \frac{M_1}{H_{11}} r$$

- which each layer, still linear distribution, but discontinuities at the interface

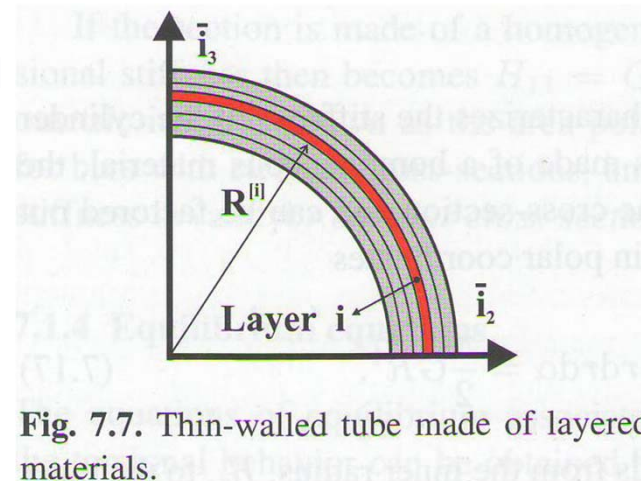


Fig. 7.7. Thin-walled tube made of layered materials.

❖ Maximum shear stress for homogeneous material

$$\tau_{\alpha}^{\max} = \frac{2M_1(x_1)}{\pi R^3} \quad (7.22)$$

❖ Strength criterion

$$\frac{GR}{H_{11}} |M_1^{\max}| \leq \tau_{allow} \quad (7.26)$$

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

7.1.9 Rational Design of Cylinders under Torsion

- ❖ Material near the center of the cylinder is not used efficiently since the shear stress becomes small

- Thin-walled tube is a far more efficient design

- ❖ 2 thin-walled tube of the same material, mass per unit span, but different mean radii R_m and R'_m

- ① torsional stiffness:
$$\frac{H_{11}}{H'_{11}} = \frac{(\mu / \rho) G R_m^2}{(\mu / \rho) G R_m'^2} = \left(\frac{R_m}{R'_m} \right)^2 \quad (7.28)$$

- ② shear stress under the same torque

$$\frac{\tau_\alpha}{\tau'_\alpha} = \frac{G M_1 R_m / H_{11}}{G M_1 R'_m / H'_{11}} = \frac{R_m / H'_{11}}{R'_m / H_{11}} = \frac{R'_m}{R_m} \quad (7.29)$$

- inversely proportional to the mean radius

7.1 Torsion of circular cylinders

❖ Large mean radius

- High H_{11} , lower $\max \tau$
- but in practice, limits “torsional buckling”

7.2 Torsion combined with axial forces and bending moments

- ❖ What is the proper strength criterion to be used when both axial and shear stresses are acting simultaneously?

1) Propeller shaft under torsion and thrust

- Torque M_1 and thrust N_1

$$\tau = \frac{2M_1}{\pi R^3}, \quad \sigma = \frac{N_1}{\pi R^2} \quad (7.30)$$

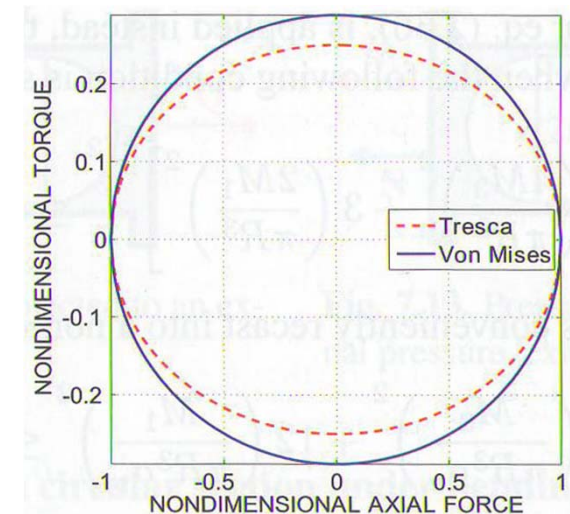
- Tresca's criterion, Eq. (2.31)
most stringent condition among 3

$$\left(\frac{N_1}{\pi R^2 \sigma_y} \right)^2 + 16 \left(\frac{M_1}{\pi R^3 \sigma_y} \right)^2 = 1 \quad \text{ellipse in Fig. 7.10}$$

- von Mises' criterion, Eq.(2.36)

$$\left(\frac{N_1}{\pi R^2 \sigma_y} \right)^2 + 12 \left(\frac{M_1}{\pi R^3 \sigma_y} \right)^2 \leq 1 \quad \text{ellipse in Fig. 7.10}$$

Fig. 7.10



7.2 Torsion combined with axial forces and bending moments

2) Shaft under torsion and bending

- Bending moment M_3 and torque M_1

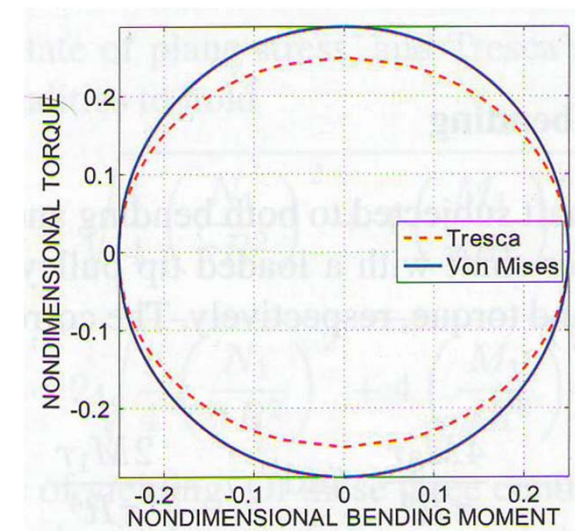
$$\sigma = \frac{4M_3 r}{\pi R^4}, \quad \tau = \frac{2M_1 r}{\pi R^4} \quad (7.31)$$

- Tresca's criterion

$$16 \left(\frac{M_3}{\pi R^3 \sigma_y} \right)^2 + 16 \left(\frac{M_1}{\pi R^3 \sigma_y} \right)^2 = 1 \quad \text{Fig. 7.11}$$

- von Mises' criterion

$$16 \left(\frac{M_3}{\pi R^3 \sigma_y} \right)^2 + 12 \left(\frac{M_1}{\pi R^3 \sigma_y} \right)^2 \leq 1 \quad \text{Fig. 7.11}$$



7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

7.3.1 Introduction

- Circular symmetry of the problem is not maintained any more
- At any point along the edge of the bar's section, the shear stress must be tangent to the edge $\rightarrow \tau_{13} = 0$ but, non-zero τ_{13} is required from the circular symmetry
- Fewer symmetries than the circular cross section has.

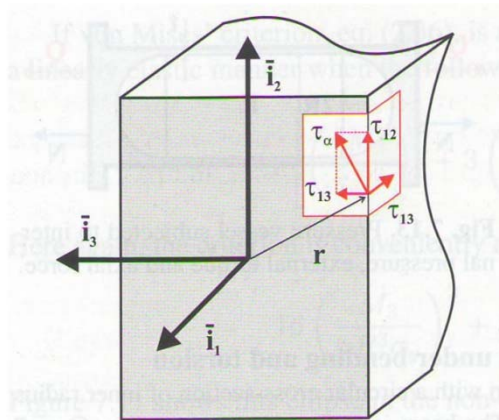


Fig. 7.14. Shearing stresses along the edge of a rectangular section.

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

- Symmetry built planes (\vec{i}_1, \vec{i}_2) and (\vec{i}_1, \vec{i}_3) but, no circular symmetry
- Torsional loading and the resulting solution : anti-symmetry
with regard to $(\vec{i}_1, \vec{i}_2) \rightarrow u_1^A = -u_1^B, u_1^C = -u_1^D$
with regard to $(\vec{i}_1, \vec{i}_3) \rightarrow u_1^A = -u_1^D, u_1^B = -u_1^C$ } Cross section will warp out-of-plane

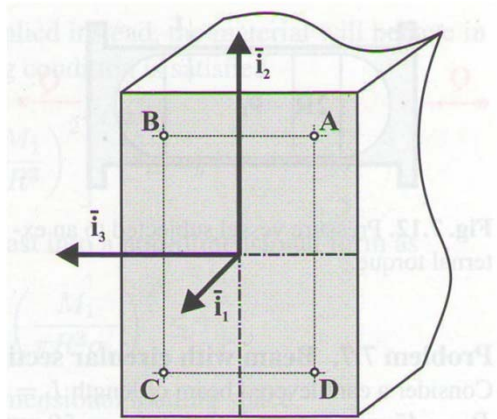


Fig. 7.15. Four points on a rectangular cross-section.

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

7.3.2 Saint-Venant's solution

1) Kinematic description

- Each cross section rotates like a rigid body, and warp out-of-plane
→ assumed displacement field

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) &= \Psi(x_2, x_3) \kappa_1(x_1) \\ u_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) &= -x_3 \Phi_1(x_1) \\ u_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) &= x_2 \Phi_1(x_1) \end{aligned} \right\} (7.32)$$

$\Psi(x_2, x_3)$: unknown warping function, will be determined by enforcing equilibrium equations for the resulting stress field

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

2) The Strain field

➤ Eq.(7.32) → Eq. (1.63) and (7.71)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \varepsilon_1 &= \Psi(x_2, x_3) \frac{d\kappa_1}{dx_1} = 0 \text{ due to "uniform torsion"} \\ \varepsilon_2 &= 0, \quad \varepsilon_3 = 0, \quad \gamma_{23} = 0 \\ \gamma_{12} &= \left(\frac{d\Psi}{dx_2} - x_3 \right) \kappa_1, \quad \gamma_{13} = \left(\frac{d\Psi}{dx_3} + x_2 \right) \kappa_1 \end{aligned} \right\} (7.33)$$

3) The Stress field

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sigma_1 &= 0, \quad \sigma_2 = 0, \quad \sigma_3 = 0, \quad \tau_{23} = 0 \\ \tau_{12} &= G\kappa_1 \left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_2} - x_3 \right), \quad \tau_{13} = G\kappa_1 \left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_3} + x_2 \right) \end{aligned} \right\} (7.34)$$

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

4) Equilibrium equations

- Stress field must satisfy the general equilibrium equations.
Eq.(1.4) at all point of the section.

Neglecting body forces, the remaining equation is

$$\frac{\partial \tau_{12}}{\partial x_2} + \frac{\partial \tau_{13}}{\partial x_3} = 0 \quad (7.35)$$

- Eq.(7.34c) \rightarrow (7.35)

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x_3^2} = 0 \quad (7.36)$$

the warping function must satisfy the PDE at all points of the cross section

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

- Boundary condition: satisfaction of the equilibrium equations along the outer contour of the section (Fig. 7.16)
- Along the C , according to Fig. 7.14, $\tau_n = 0$ (7.37)

τ_s does not necessarily vanish

in terms of Cartesian components,

$$\tau_n = \tau_{12} \sin \beta + \tau_{13} \cos \beta = \tau_{12} \left(\frac{dx_3}{ds} \right) + \tau_{13} \left(-\frac{dx_2}{ds} \right) = 0 \quad (7.38)$$

- Eq.(7.34c) \rightarrow (7.38): $\left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_2} - x_3 \right) \frac{dx_3}{ds} - \left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_3} + x_2 \right) \frac{dx_2}{ds} = 0$ (7.39)

Eq.(7.36): Laplace's equations

Eq.(7.39): rather complicated boundary condition

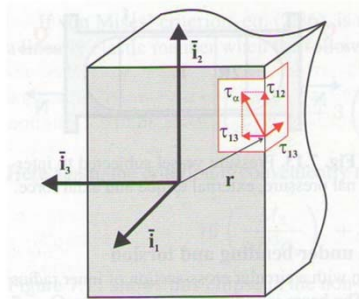


Fig. 7.14. Shearing stresses along the edge of a rectangular section.

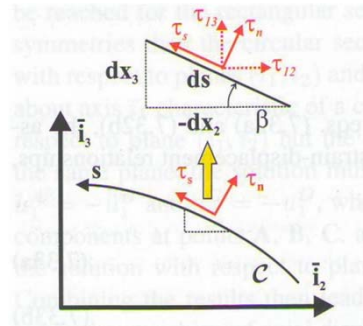


Fig. 7.16. Equilibrium condition along the outer contour C .

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

5) Prandtl's stress function

- Alternative formulation leading to simple boundary condition
: stress function, $\phi(x_2, x_3)$

$$\tau_{12} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3}, \tau_{13} = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_2} \quad (7.41)$$

automatically satisfies the load equilibrium equation, Eq.(7.35)

- By comparing Eq.(7.34c) and (7.41)

$$\tau_{12} = G\kappa_1 \left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_2} - x_3 \right) = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3}, \tau_{13} = G\kappa_1 \left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_3} + x_2 \right) = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_2} \quad (7.42)$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \left[\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_2} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \left[\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} \right]}_{(-)}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x_3^2} = -2G\kappa_1 \quad (7.43)$$

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

❖ Boundary condition

- from Eq.(7.38), (7.41)

$$\tau_n = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} \frac{dx_3}{ds} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_2} \frac{dx_2}{ds} = \frac{d\phi}{ds} = 0 \quad (7.44)$$

↳ constant value may be chosen to vanish
: constant ϕ along C

- Eq.(7.43): Poisson's equation
- Eq.(7.44): much simpler boundary condition

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

5) Sectional equilibrium

➤ Global equilibrium of the section

- Resultant Shear force

$$V_2 = \int_A \tau_{12} dA = \int_{x_2} \int_{x_3} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} dx_2 dx_3 = \int_{x_2} \left[\int_{x_3} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} \right] dx_2 = 0$$

$$V_3 = 0$$

: no shear forces are applied

- Total torque acting on the section

$$M_1 = \int_A (x_2 \tau_{13} - x_3 \tau_{12}) dA = \int_A \left(-x_2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_2} - x_3 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} \right) dA \quad (7.46)$$

Integrating by parts

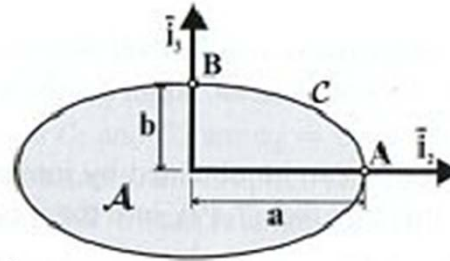
$$M_1 = 2 \int_A \phi dA - \int_{x_3} \left[x_2 \phi \right]_{x_2} dx_3 - \int_{x_2} \left[x_3 \phi \right]_{x_3} dx_2 \quad (7.47)$$

$$M_1 = 2 \int_A \phi dA \quad (7.48)$$

applied torque = 2 x “volume” under the stress function,
only valid for solid cross section bounded by a single curve
otherwise, use Eq.(7.46)

Example 7.1

❖ Torsion of an elliptical bar



- Curve $C: \left(\frac{x_2}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{x_3}{b}\right)^2 = 1$, A stress function of the following form is assumed

$$\phi = C_0 \left[\left(\frac{x_2}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{x_3}{b}\right)^2 - 1 \right], \quad C_0: \text{Unknown const.}$$

- Boundary condition, Eq.(7.45b) is clearly satisfied since $\phi = 0$ along C .
- Substituting into the governing eqn., Eq.(7.45)

$$C_0 \left(\frac{2}{a^2} + \frac{2}{b^2} \right) = -2G_{\kappa_1}$$

$$C_0 = \frac{-a^2 b^2 G_{\kappa_1}}{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$\phi = -\frac{a^2 b^2}{a^2 + b^2} \left[\left(\frac{x_2}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{x_3}{b}\right)^2 - 1 \right] G_{\kappa_1} \quad (7.49)$$

Example 7.1

❖ Torsion of an elliptical bar

- Torque: Eq.(7.48)

$$M_1 = -\frac{2a^2b^2}{a^2+b^2} G_{\kappa_1} \int_A \left[\left(\frac{x_2}{a} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{x_3}{b} \right)^2 - 1 \right] dA = G \frac{\pi a^3 b^3}{a^2+b^2} \kappa_1 = H_{11} \kappa_1$$

- Torsional stiffness of the elliptical section

$$H_{11} = G \frac{\pi a^3 b^3}{a^2+b^2} \quad (7.50)$$

- Stress fn. In terms of the applied torque

$$\phi = -\frac{M_1}{\pi ab} \left[\left(\frac{x_2}{a} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{x_3}{b} \right)^2 - 1 \right]$$

- Stress distribution: Eq.(7.41)

$$\tau_{12} = -\frac{2x_3}{\pi ab^3} M_1, \quad \tau_{13} = \frac{2x_2}{\pi a^3 b} M_1$$

- Shear stress vector ... Fig.7.18b, tangent to curve C.

$$|\tau_{\max}| = \frac{2M_1}{\pi ab^2} \quad (\text{Fig. 7.18a})$$

Example 7.1

❖ Torsion of an elliptical bar

- Shear stress vector ... Fig. 7.18b, tangent to curve C.
- Warping function ... by integrating Eq.(7.42)

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_2} = -\frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2} x_3, \quad \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_3} = -\frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2} x_2$$

$x_2 \downarrow$ Integrating w.r.t. $\downarrow x_3$

$$\Psi = -x_2 x_3 \frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2} + f(x_3) \quad \Psi = -x_2 x_3 \frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2} + g(x_2)$$

Equal only if $f(x_3) = g(x_2) = 0$

$$\rightarrow \Psi = -\frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2} x_2 x_3$$

$$\text{Eq.(7.32a)} \rightarrow u_1(x_2, x_3) = -x_1 \frac{a^2 - b^2}{a^2 + b^2} x_2 x_3$$

Example 7.1

❖ Torsion of an elliptical bar

... 2 planes of symmetry, warping displacement antisymmetric w.r.t Z planes (Fig. 7.19)

➤ Circular section ... $a=b=R$, warping fn.=0

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

❖ Summary

- Bar of arbitrary cross section subjected to uniform torsion
- Stress distribution: Warping function Eq.(7.40)
Stress function Eq.(7.45)
- Stress field: Eq.(7.34c) or Eq.(7.41)
→ exact solution although the displacement field is assumed as in Eq.(7.32)

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

7.3.2 Saint-Venant's solution for a Rectangular X-S

- 2 Solution – approximation solution based on the co-location approach
 - exact solution based on the co-location approach

1) Approximate solution

- Rectangular cross section of width a , height b (Fig. 7.21)

- Assumed stress function

$$\phi(\eta, \zeta) = C_0 \left(\eta^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \left(\zeta^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right), \quad \eta = \frac{x_2}{a}, \quad \zeta = \frac{x_3}{b}$$

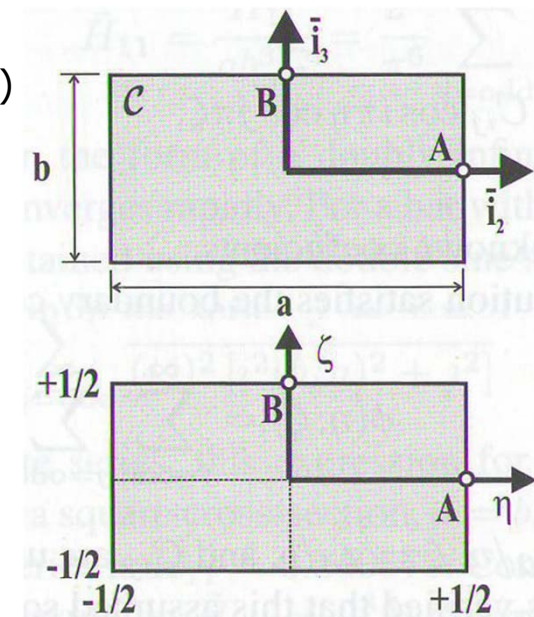
$$\phi(\eta = \pm 1/2, \zeta) = 0, \phi(\eta, \zeta = \pm 1/2) = 0$$

→ $\phi = 0$ along the curve C

→ PDE, Eq(7.43):

$$2C_0 \left(\zeta^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \frac{1}{a^2} + 2C_0 \left(\eta^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \frac{1}{b^2} = -2G\kappa_1$$

assumed solution does not satisfy PDE.



(Fig. 7.21)

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

- Approximate solution: “co-location method”, satisfy PDE only at a specific part of points of the cross section

- PDE will be satisfied at the center, $(\eta, \zeta) = (0, 0)$

$$-\frac{C_0}{2a^2} - \frac{C_0}{2b^2} = -2G\kappa_1, \quad C_0 = \frac{4G\kappa_1 a^2 b^2}{a^2 + b^2}$$

- Then, $\phi = \frac{4a^2 b^2 G\kappa_1}{a^2 + b^2} \left(\eta^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \left(\zeta^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)$

$$M_1 = 2 \int_A \phi dA, \text{ torsional stiffness } H_{11}$$

shear stress field τ_{12}, τ_{13}

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

2) Open form exact solution using a Fourier series

- Fourier series expansion of the stress function

$$\phi(\eta, \zeta) = \sum_{i=odd}^{\infty} \sum_{j=odd}^{\infty} C_{ij} \cos i\pi\eta \cos j\pi\zeta$$

- Satisfaction of B.C. Eq.(7.45b): when $i, j = odd$, $\phi = 0$
thus only odd values of i, j are included

- Governing PDE, Eq.(7.43)

$$\sum_{i=odd}^{\infty} \sum_{j=odd}^{\infty} C_{i,j} \left[\left(\frac{i\pi}{a} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{j\pi}{b} \right)^2 \right] \cos i\pi\eta \cos j\pi\zeta$$

- By using the orthogonality properties of cosine function

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=odd}^{\infty} \sum_{j=odd}^{\infty} C_{i,j} \left[\left(\frac{i\pi}{a} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{j\pi}{b} \right)^2 \right] \left[\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \cos m\pi\eta \cos i\pi\eta d\eta \right] \left[\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \cos n\pi\zeta \cos j\pi\zeta d\zeta \right] \\ &= -2G\kappa_1 \left[\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \cos m\pi\eta d\eta \right] \left[\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \cos n\pi\zeta d\zeta \right] \end{aligned}$$

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

- The bracket integrals vanish when $m \neq i$ on $n \neq j$. The remaining terms

$$C_{mn} \left[\left(\frac{m\pi}{a} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{n\pi}{b} \right)^2 \right] \frac{1}{4} = \frac{8}{mn\pi^2} (-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}} (-1)^{\frac{n-1}{2}} G\kappa_1$$

- Then, $\phi(\eta, \zeta) = \frac{32G\kappa_1}{\pi^2} \sum_{i=odd}^{\infty} \sum_{j=odd}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{(i+j-2)/2}}{ij \left[(i\pi/a)^2 + (j\pi/b)^2 \right]} \cos i\pi\eta \cos j\pi\zeta \quad (7.53)$

- Externally applied torque
- Torsional stiffness
- Shear stress field: Although it is a doubly infinite series, it converges rapidly (1, 2 term) → Fig 7.22, 7.23

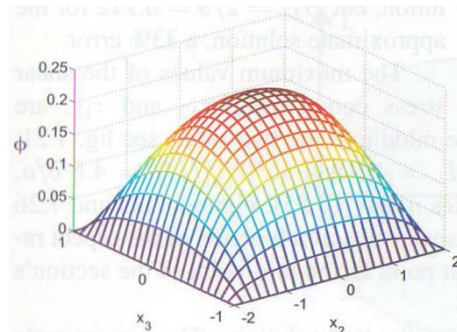


Fig. 7.22. Stress function, ϕ .

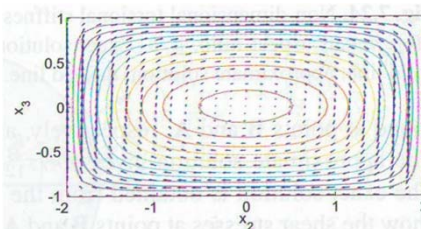


Fig. 7.23. Distribution of shear stress over cross-section. The arrows represent the shear stresses; the contours represent constant values of the stress function ϕ .

7.3 Torsion of Bar with Arbitrary Cross-Sections

3) Comparison of solution

- \bar{H}_{11} : Fig. 7.24
- Non-dimensional shear stress: Fig. 7.25, 7.26
- Large discrepancies, approximate solution is not good enough

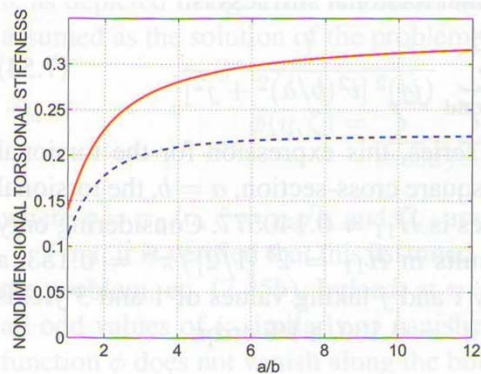


Fig. 7.24. Non-dimensional torsional stiffness, \bar{H}_{11} , versus aspect ratio, a/b . Exact solution: solid line; approximate solution: dashed line.

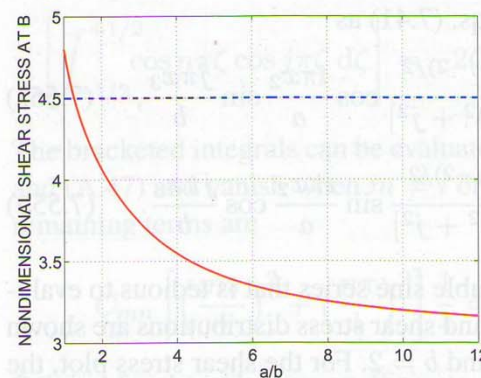


Fig. 7.25. Non-dimensional shear stress at point B versus aspect ratio a/b . Exact solution: solid line; approximate solution: dashed line.

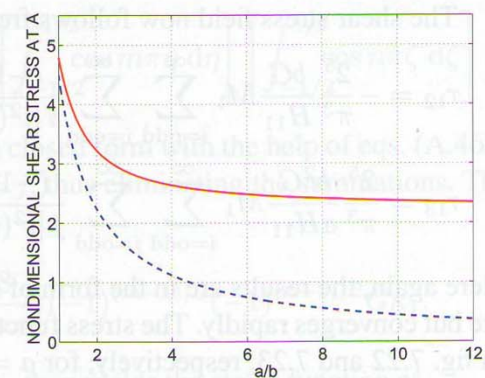


Fig. 7.26. Non-dimensional shear stress at point A versus aspect ratio a/b . Exact solution: solid line; approximate solution: dashed line.

7.4 Torsion of a thin rectangular Cross Section

- Fig. 7.28: $t \ll b$, assume that both stress function and associated shear stress distributions will be nearly constant along \bar{i}_3

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} \approx 0$$

- Governing Equation is from Eq.(7.43)

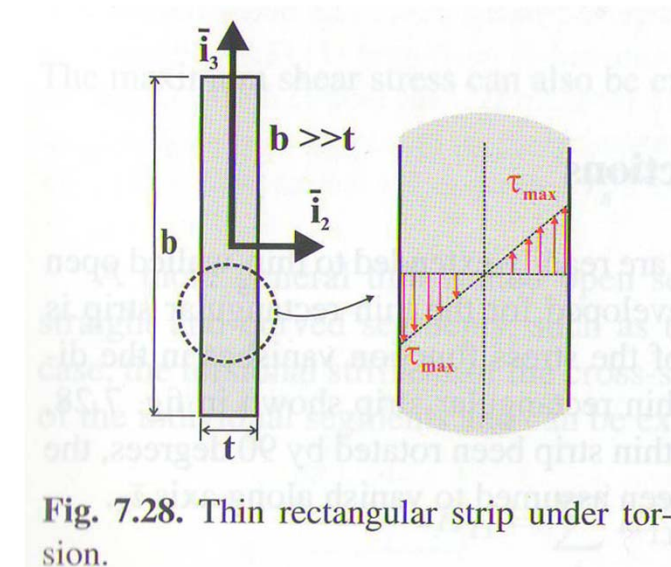
$$\frac{d^2 \phi}{dx_2^2} = -2G\kappa_1 \quad (7.56)$$

$$\phi(x_2) = -G\kappa_1 x_2^2 + C_1 x_2 + C_2$$

- Boundary Condition Eq.(7.45b)

$$\phi(x_2 = \pm t/2) = 0 \rightarrow C_1 = 0, C_2 = G\kappa_1 t^2 / 4$$

$$\rightarrow \phi(x_2) = -G\kappa_1 \left(x_2^2 - \frac{t^2}{4} \right)$$



7.4 Torsion of a thin rectangular Cross Section

- Resulting torque

$$M_1 = 2 \int_A \phi dA = -2G\kappa_1 \int_{-t/2}^{t/2} (x_2^2 - \frac{t^2}{4}) b dx_2 = \frac{1}{3} G\kappa_1 b t^3$$

- Torsional stiffness

$$H_{11} = \frac{M_1}{\kappa_1} = \frac{1}{3} G b t^3 \quad (7.58)$$

- Shear stress distribution

$$\tau_{12} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} = 0, \tau_{13} = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_2} = 2G\kappa_1 x_2 = \frac{6M_1}{b t^3} x_2 \quad (7.59)$$

↳ R.H.S. of Fig. 7.28

7.4 Torsion of a thin rectangular Cross Section

- Warping function: Eq.(7.57) \rightarrow (7.42)

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_2} = \frac{1}{G\kappa_1} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_3} + x_3 = x_3, \quad \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x_3} = -\frac{1}{G\kappa_1} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_2} - x_2 = x_2$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$\Psi = x_2 x_3 + f(x_3) \qquad \qquad \Psi = x_2 x_3 + g(x_2)$$

$$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\Psi = x_2 x_3}$$

- Axial displacement

$$u_1(x_2, x_3) = \Psi(x_2, x_3) \kappa_1 = \kappa_1 x_2 x_3 \quad (7.60)$$

anti-symmetric with regard to \bar{i}_2 and \bar{i}_3

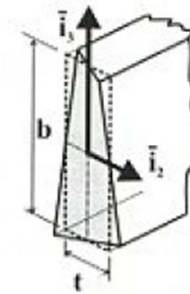


Fig. 7.29. Warping function for a thin rectangular strip.

7.5 Torsion of thin-walled open section

- Gradient of the stress function will vanish along the local tangent to the section's thin wall: corresponding shear stress will be linear through the wall thickness

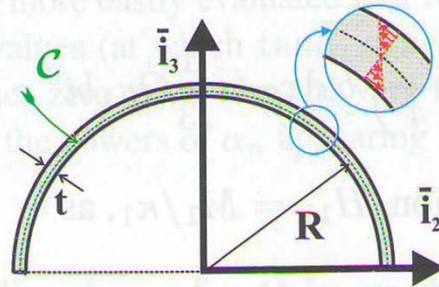


Fig. 7.30. Semi-circular thin-walled open section.

- Torsional stiffness: from Eq.(7.58) $\rightarrow H_{11} = G \frac{lt^3}{3}$ (7.61)
- Shear stress: tangential shear stress, τ_s , only non-vanishing component, vary linearly from 0 at the middle to max.(+) and (-) at edges

$$\tau_s^{\max} = Gt\kappa_1 \quad (7.62)$$

7.5 Torsion of thin-walled open section

- More general thin-walled open section
: multiple curved and straight sections (Fig. 7.31)

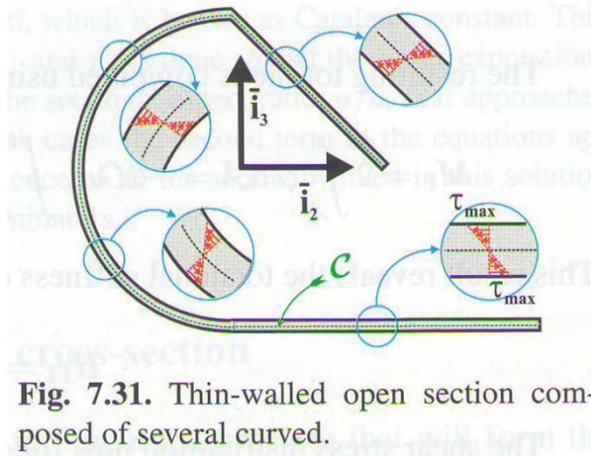


Fig. 7.31. Thin-walled open section composed of several curved.

- Torsional stiffness: sum of those corresponding to the individual segment

$$H_{11} = \sum_i H_{11}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i G_i l_i t_i^3 \quad (7.64)$$

- Max. shear stress

$$\tau_s^{\max} = G t_{\max} \frac{M_1}{H_{11}} \quad (7.65)$$

- Warping: more complex, described in chap.8

Example 7.3

❖ Torsion of thin-walled section

- C-channel: torsional stiffness, by Eq. (7.64)

$$H_{11} = \frac{G}{3} (bt_f^3 + ht_w^3 + bt_f^3) = \frac{G}{3} (ht_w^3 + 2bt_f^3) \quad (7.66)$$

- Tangential stress at the outer edge: by Eq. (7.62)

$$\tau_w = Gt_w \kappa_1 = Gt_w \frac{M_1}{H_{11}}, \tau_f = Gt_f \kappa_1 = Gt_f \frac{M_1}{H_{11}}$$

- Max. shear stress exists in the segment featuring the max. thickness

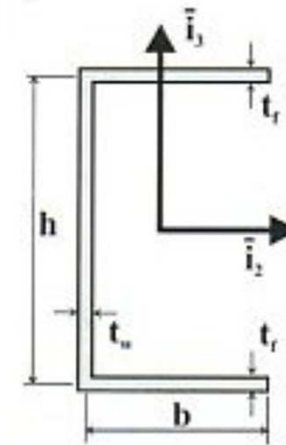


Fig. 7.32. A thin-walled C-channel section

Q & A