ENCE353: Introduction to Structural Analysis

Homework #2 Solution

Problem 1: Find the zero force members in the following truss structure.



Draw a free body diagram at joint D (assume all members are in compression):



If there is a force in member DC (i.e. $F_{DC} \neq 0$), the $\sum F_y=0$ can NOT be accomplished because there are no other forces to balance the vertical component of F_{DC} . Therefore, the F_{DC} must be zero.

Similar logic can be applied in joint E.

Thus, members with zero force in the structure are CD and CE.

Problem 2: If the maximum force that any member can support is 12 kips in tension and 8 kips in compression, determine the maximum force F_P can be applied on the following structure (all the angles are $\pi/3$).



Use *method of superposition* for this linear elastic structure and assume $F_p=1$ kips, the vertical reaction forces at A and B are:

$$\sum M_{A}=0, F_{p}*10=V_{B}*10, V_{B}=F_{p}=1 \text{ kips } (\downarrow)$$

 $\sum F_{y}=0, -F_{P}+V_{A}-V_{B}=0, V_{A}=2 \text{ kips } (\uparrow)$

use *method of joint* to calculate the force in each member starting from joint E:



Thus, the maximum compression force will result in member AD, AC with a value of $2\sqrt{3}/3$; The maximum tension force will result in member ED, CB with a value of $2\sqrt{3}/3$.

So, the compression controls, and the maximum $F_P = \frac{8 \text{ kips}}{2\sqrt{3}/3 \text{ kips}} \cdot 1 \text{ kips} = 6.93 \text{ kips}$.

Problem 3: Use *method of section* to solve for the forces in members 1, 2 and 3.



(1) the structure is symmetric about the center line; thus, the vertical reaction forces are equal with a value of 9/2 kN and there will be no horizontal reaction force due to equilibrium.

(2) Use *method of section*; draw free body diagram as following assuming forces in member 1, 2 and 3 are in tension:



Problem 4: Plot the moment diagram for the following structures. Please include essential calculation details.



(a) Shear Force Diagram (SFD):



Bending Moment Diagram (BMD):



(b) Shear Force Diagram (SFD):

Bending Moment Diagram (BMD):







(d) Shear Force Diagram (SFD):





Bending Moment Diagram (BMD):



Bending Moment Diagram (BMD):

