

## Sec.1

### EGM 3520 Mechanics of Materials (MoM)

Motivation 1: Important historical case,  
RMS Titanic: Why the disaster happen

Curriculum roadmap: The big picture

→ Motivation 2: Simpler cases for MoM course

Important course information

Motivation 3: Important historical case,  
Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapse

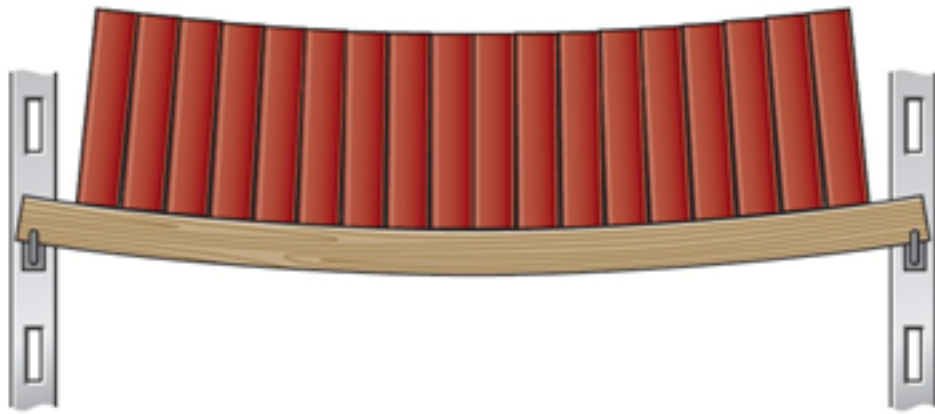
Beer et al. 2012, Mechanics of Materials, McGraw-Hill.

Steif 2012, Mechanics of Materials, Pearson.

## Motivation 2: Simpler cases for MoM course

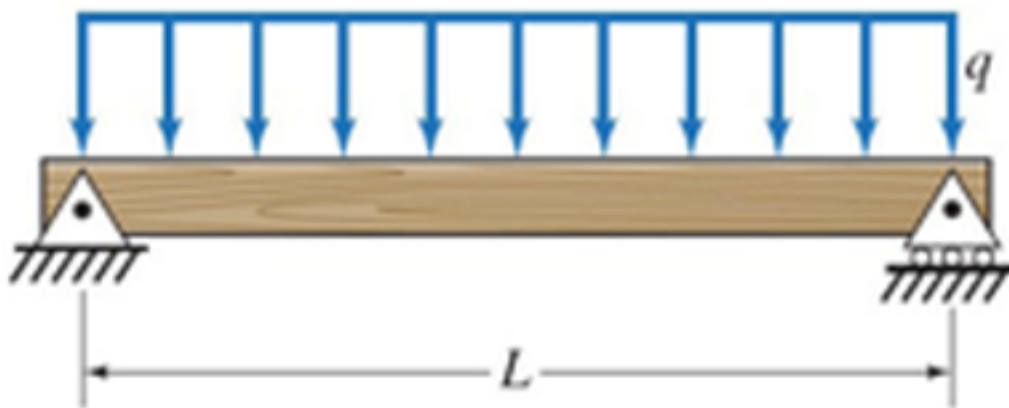
Design a good bookshelf:

Avoid sagging under book weight

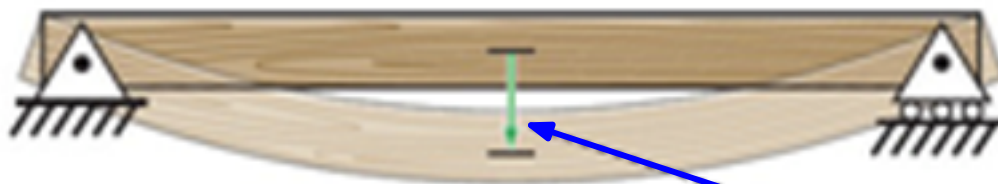


Model book shelf as a simply-supported beam of length  $L$  under a uniform dead load  $q$ :

Hinge, fixed displacements



Hinge on roller  
(free horizontal disp, fixed vertical disp)



Mid-span deflection  $v$

How to estimate the deflection  $v$  in terms of the beam length  $L$  and the distributed load  $q$ , and the properties of the material used for the shelf ?

$$v = \frac{5qL^4}{384EI}$$

(1)

$$v = \frac{5qL^4}{384EI}$$

$v$  vertical mid-span deflection of beam

$q$  uniform distributed load per unit beam length

$L$  beam span length between supports

$E$  Young's modulus in relation of stress  $\sigma$  versus strain  $\epsilon$

$$\sigma = E\epsilon$$

(2)

$$\sigma = E\epsilon$$

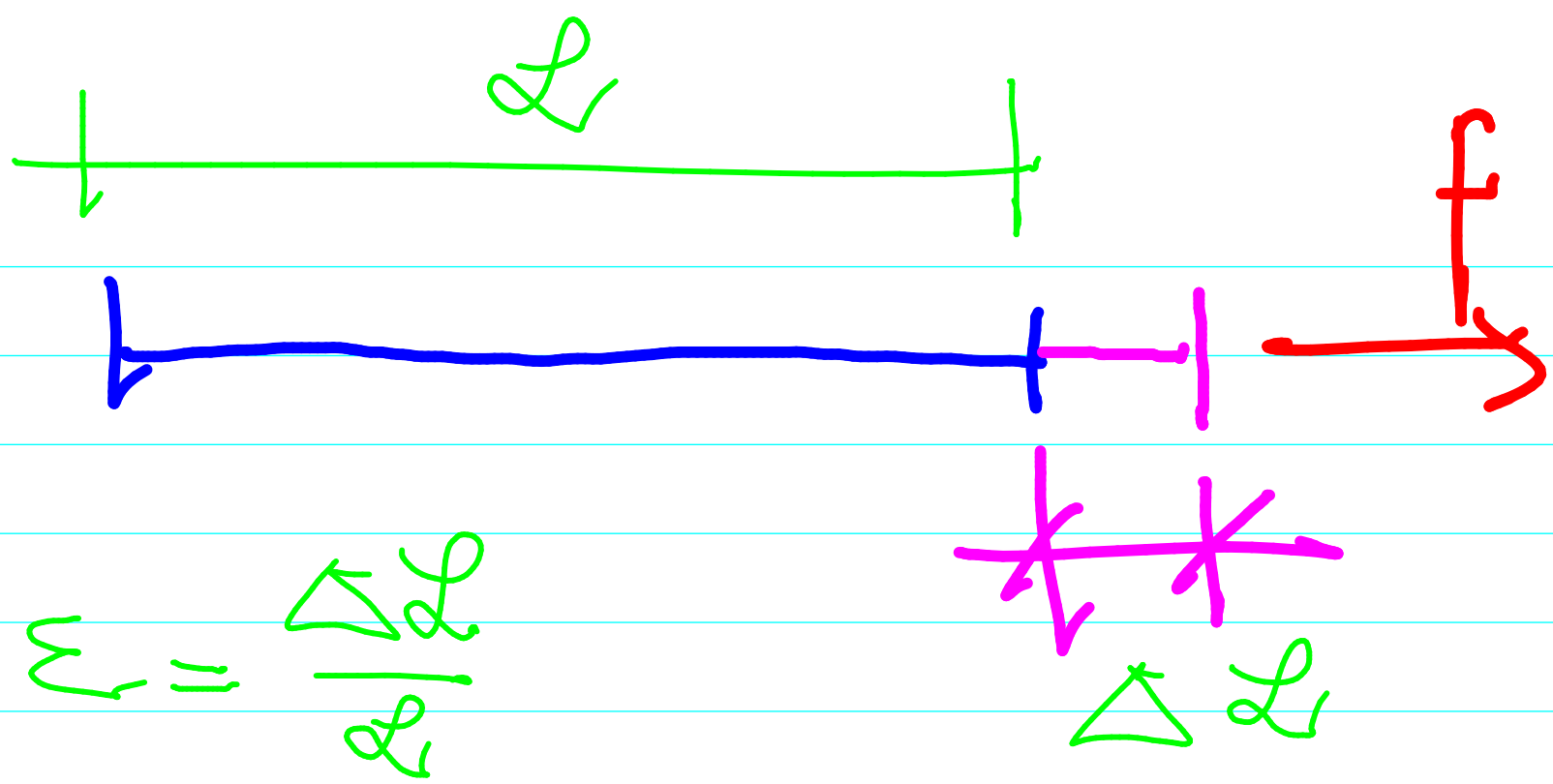
$I$  Second moment of inertia of cross section

$$I_z = \int_A y^2 dA$$

(3)

$$I_z = \int_A y^2 dA$$

Demo of latex codecogs online equation editor



$$\epsilon = \frac{\Delta L}{L}$$

$$[\epsilon] = \frac{[\Delta L]}{[L]} = \frac{L}{L} = 1$$

dimension of  $f$

$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A} \Rightarrow [\sigma] = \frac{[F]}{[A]} = \frac{F}{L^2}$$

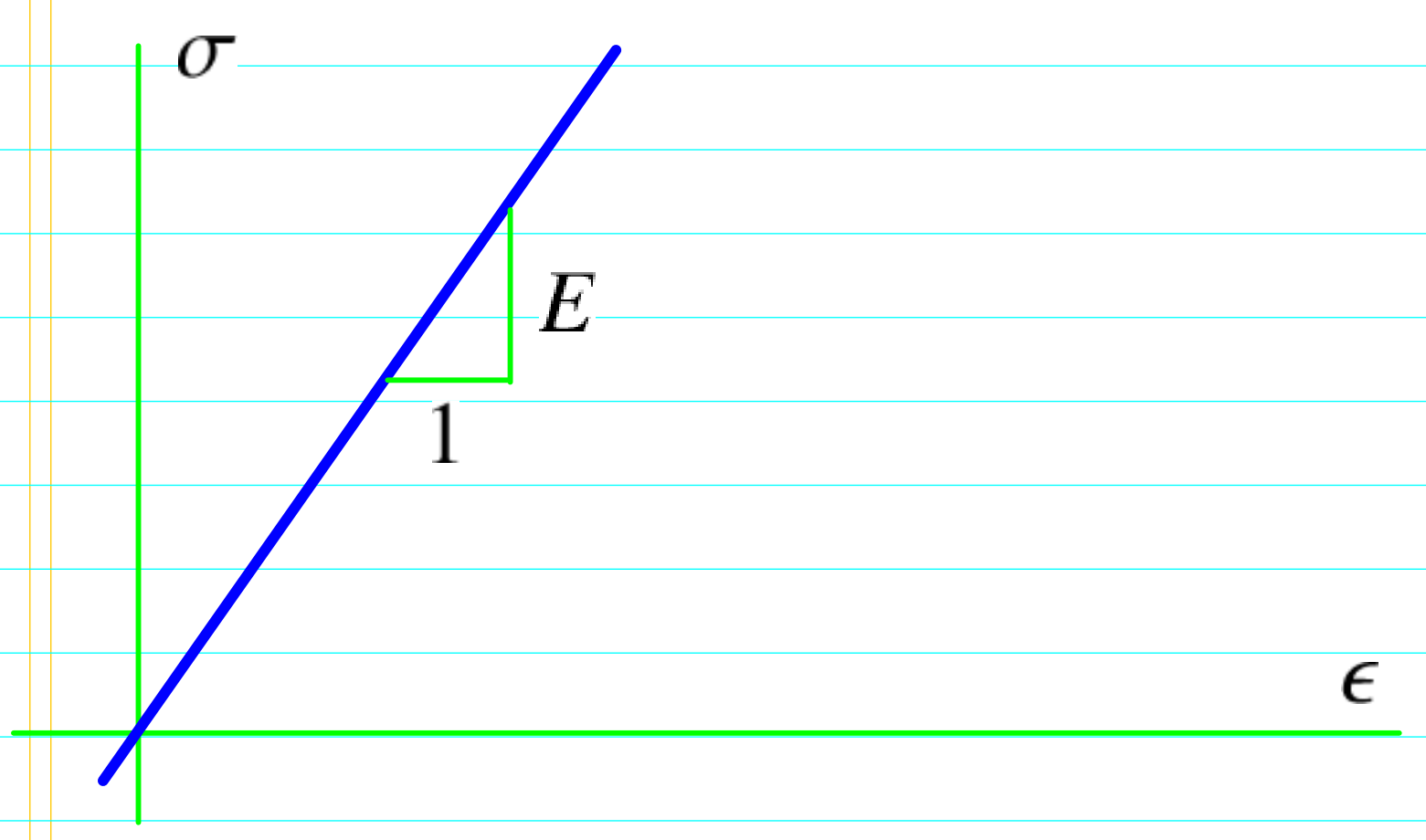
$$\sigma = E \epsilon \Rightarrow [\sigma] = [E] [\epsilon]$$

$$\Rightarrow [E] = [\sigma] = \frac{F}{L^2} = 1$$

$$[I] = \underbrace{[y^2]}_{L^2} \underbrace{[dA]}_{L^2} = L^4$$

$$[dy dz] = \underbrace{[dy]}_L \underbrace{[dz]}_L$$

$$[V] = \left[ \frac{59 L^4}{384 EI} \right] = L$$



## Dimensional analysis



Strain: 
$$\epsilon = \frac{\Delta\mathcal{L}}{\mathcal{L}} \quad (1)$$

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Dimension of strain:

$$[\epsilon] = \frac{[\Delta\mathcal{L}]}{[\mathcal{L}]} = \frac{L}{L} = 1 \quad (2)$$

$[\epsilon] = \frac{[\Delta\mathcal{L}]}{[\mathcal{L}]} = \frac{L}{L} = 1$

$L$  here means "length dimension", **not** the length of the beam as in (1) p.1-2; just the same notation for a different meaning.

Dimension of stress (pressure):

$$\sigma = \frac{P}{A} \Rightarrow [\sigma] = \frac{[P]}{[A]} = \frac{F}{L^2} \quad (3)$$

$\sigma = \frac{P}{A} \Rightarrow [\sigma] = \frac{[P]}{[A]} = \frac{F}{L^2}$

(2) p.1-2:

$$\sigma = E\epsilon \Rightarrow [\sigma] = [E] \underbrace{[\epsilon]}_1 = [E] \cdot 1 \quad (1)$$

$$\sigma = E \epsilon \Rightarrow [\sigma] = [E] \underbrace{[\epsilon]}_1 = [E] \cdot 1$$

$$[E] = [\sigma] = \frac{F}{L^2} \quad (2)$$

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Dimension of 2nd moment of inertia:

$$[I] = [y^2][dA] = L^2[dy][dz] = L^4 \quad (3)$$

$$[I] = [y^2][dA] = L^2 [dy][dz] = L^4$$

**Principle of dimensional homogeneity:** In an equation, the dimension of the lhs must equal that of the rhs.

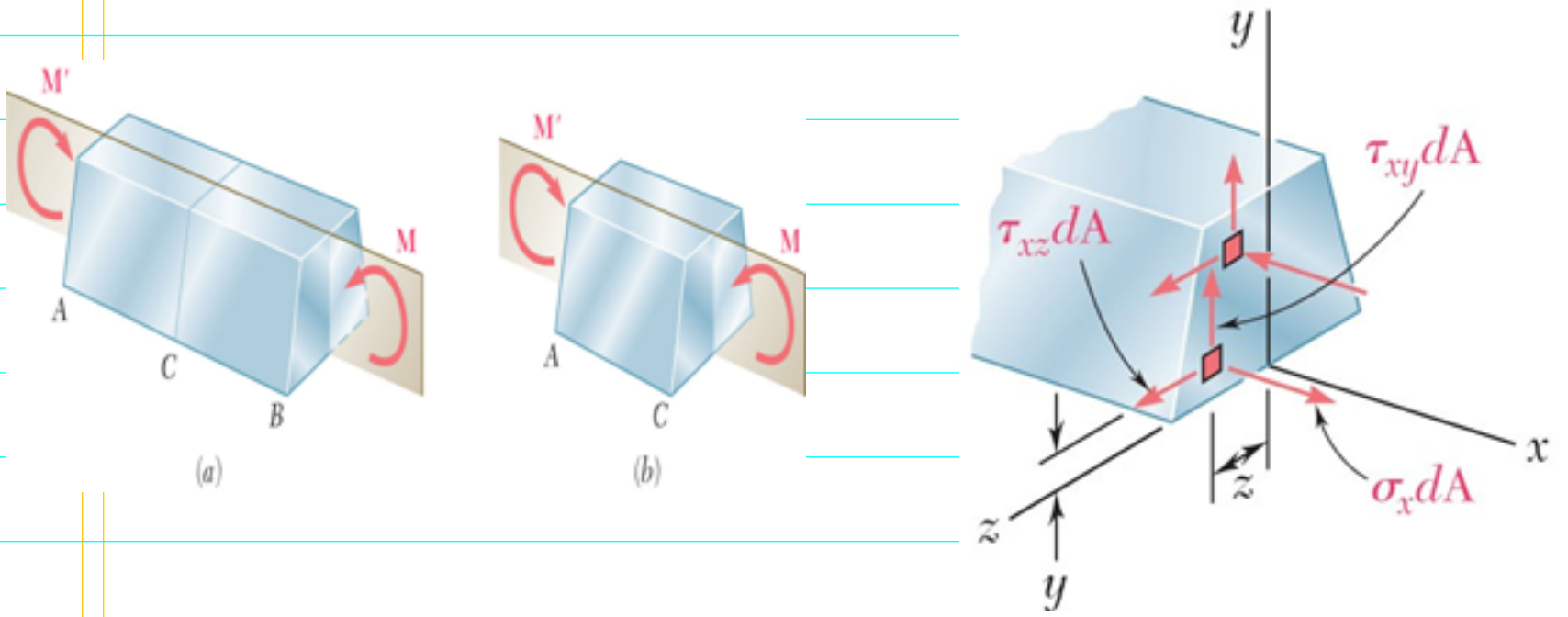
(1) p.1-2:

$$[v] = \left[ \frac{5qL^4}{384 EI} \right] = \frac{[5][q][L^4]}{[384][E][I]} = \frac{1 \cdot (F/L) \cdot L^4}{1 \cdot (F/L^2) \cdot L^4} \quad (4)$$

$$[v] = \left[ \frac{5qL^4}{384 EI} \right] = \frac{[5][q][L^4]}{[384][E][I]} = \frac{1 \cdot (F/L) \cdot L^4}{1 \cdot (F/L^2) \cdot L^4} \quad (4)$$

$$[lhs] = [rhs] = L \quad (5)$$

$$[lhs] = [rhs] = L$$



Beer et al. 2012, p.225





## Methods of reducing mid-span deflection $v$

1. reduce load  $q$

$$(1) \text{ p.1-2: } q \rightarrow q/2 \Rightarrow v \rightarrow v/2 \quad (1)$$

$q \rightarrow q/2 \rightarrow v \rightarrow v/2$

2. reduce beam length  $L$



$$(1) \text{ p.1-2: } L \rightarrow L/2 \Rightarrow v \rightarrow v/16 \quad (2)$$

$L \rightarrow L/2 \rightarrow v \rightarrow v/16$

3. increase Young's modulus  $E$  (use stronger material)

Timber

Ponderosa Pine,  $1.3 \times 10^6$  psi,  $0.015 \text{ lb/in}^3$

Hickory,  $2.2 \times 10^6$  psi,  $0.026 \text{ lb/in}^3$

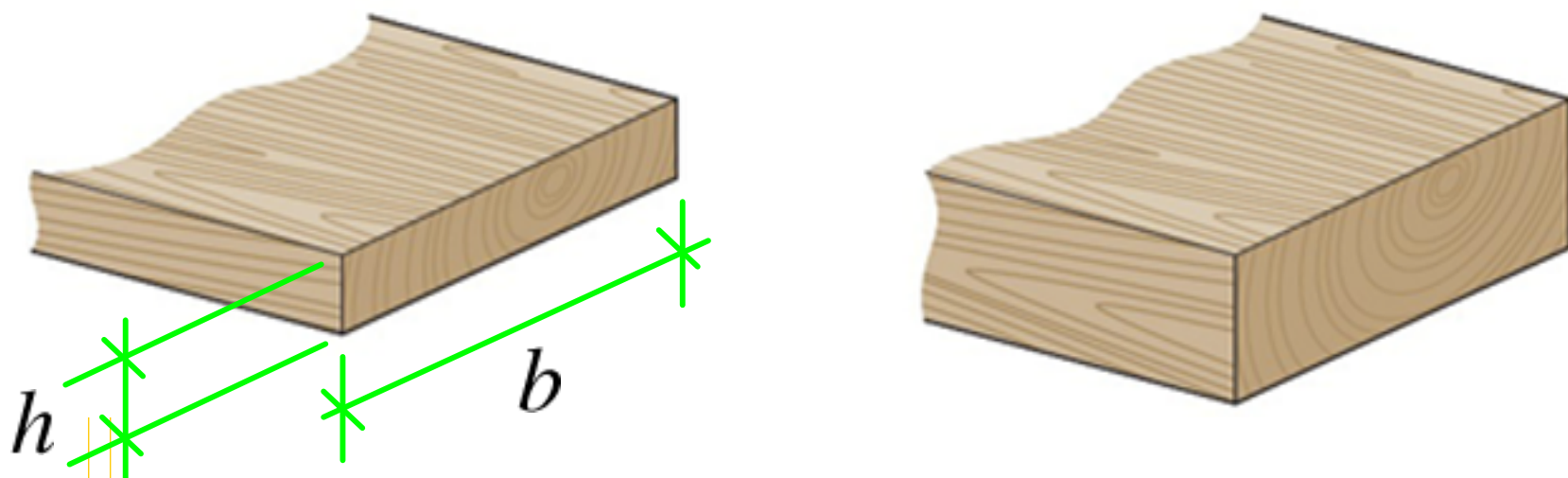
Steel ASTM A36

Structural,  $29 \times 10^6$  psi,  $0.284 \text{ lb/in}^3$

So steel is 18-20 times stronger than timber, but is also 11-18 times heavier than timber.

#### 4. increase the 2nd moment of inertia $I$

4.1. use deeper beam (increase height of cross section)



$$I_z = \frac{bh^3}{12}$$

(1)

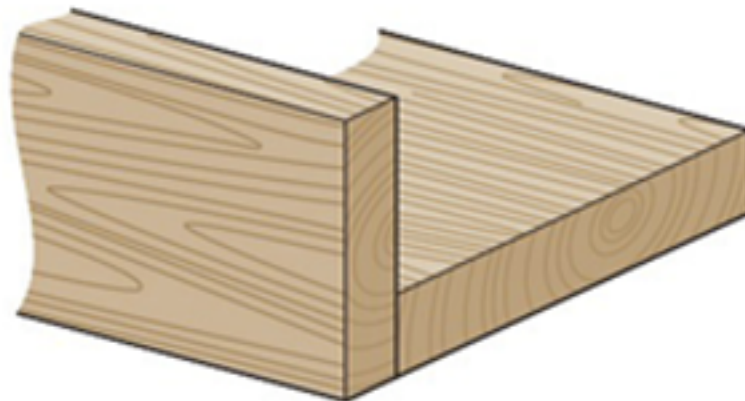
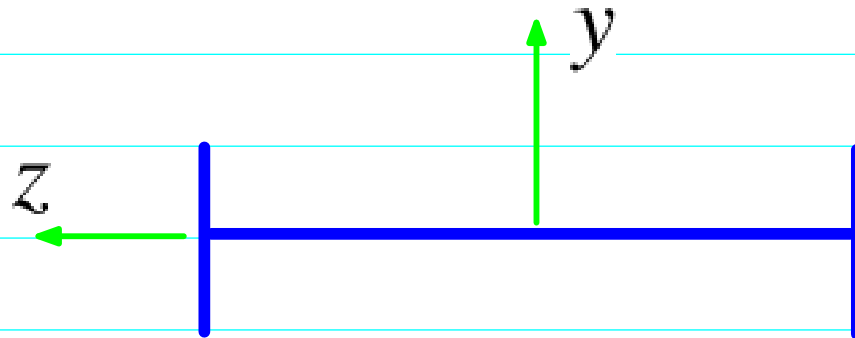
$$I_z = \frac{b h^3}{12}$$

$$h \rightarrow 2h \Rightarrow I_z \rightarrow 8I_z$$

(2)

$$h \rightarrow 2h \Rightarrow I_z \rightarrow 8I_z$$

4.2. use reinforcement that distributes material away from the z axis



Steif 2012, p.3

Optimization: Design trade-off

Esthetics: Shelf thin and unimposing.

Reliability, perform intended functions: Shelf as thick and strong as possible.

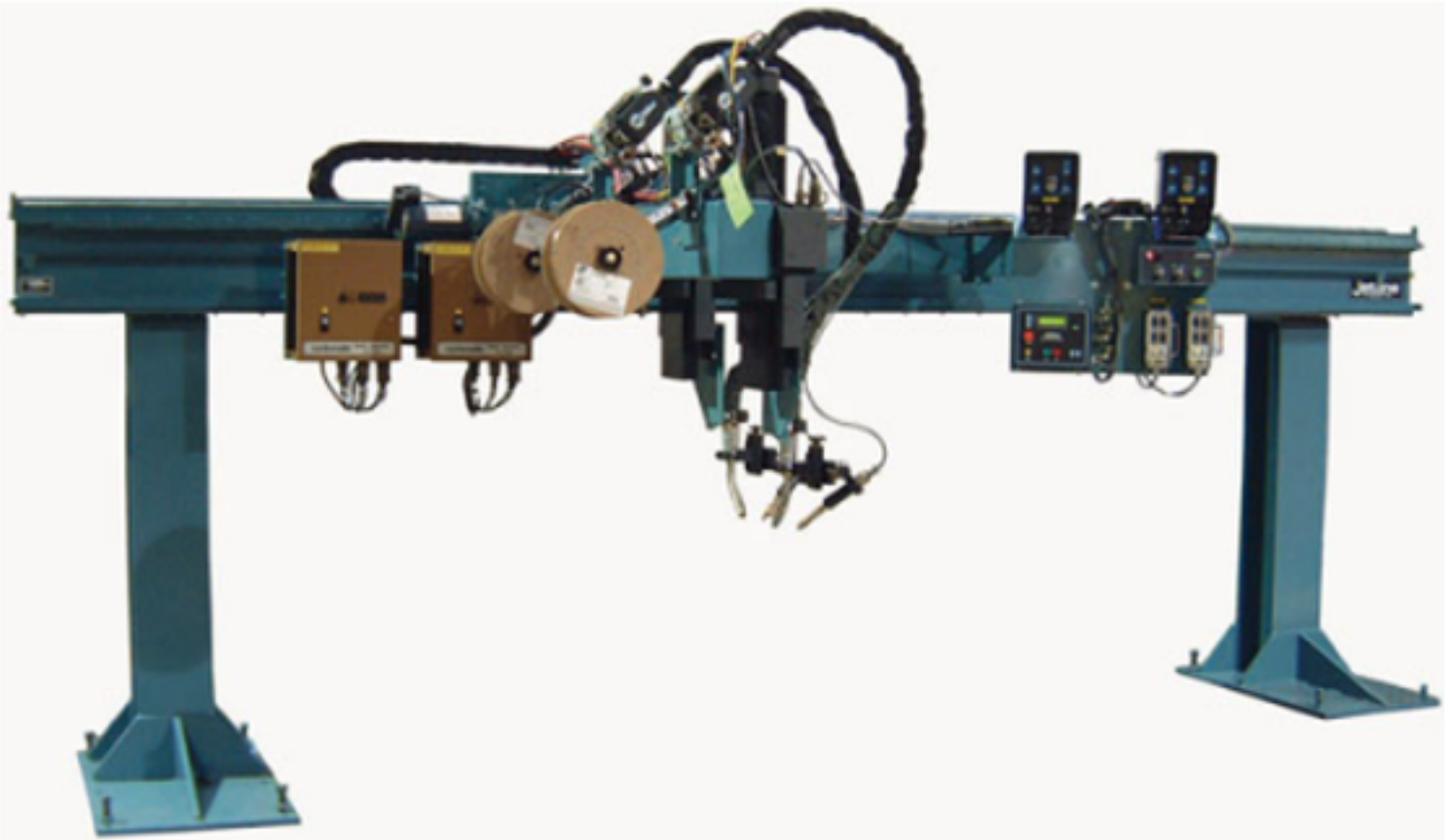
Pushing esthetics to the limit, without considering other (unforeseen) forces, may lead to catastrophic failure: **Tacoma Narrows Bridge collapse, 7 Nov 1940**



<http://startingupanengineer.com/engineering/structural-engineering/epicfails-3-structural-engineering/>

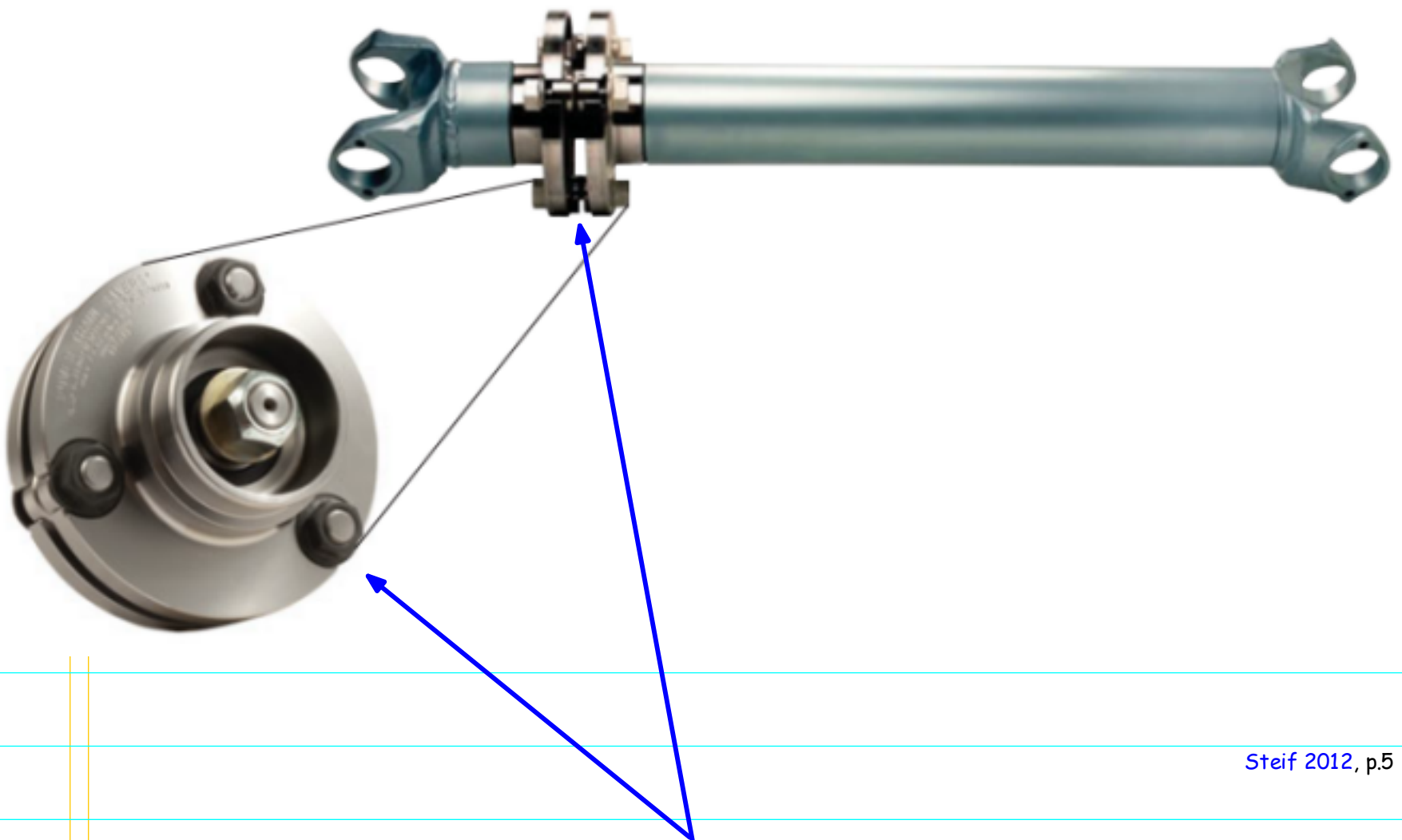
**Unforeseen forces:** Aerodynamic self-excitation  
(negative damping)

High-precision machinery requires very small deformation, e.g., Computerized welding machine



Deliberate, controlled failure is sometimes desired, e.g., similar to an electrical fuse, we want a **mechanical fuse** to break when the load is above an allowable load to protect a more expensive part.

Example: **Torque fuse** to protect the transmission shaft in a drive train:



Steif 2012, p.5

Pins break when torque is above a predetermined value (failure by shear force).

## Mechanics of materials:

Formulation of structural theories (bars, beams)

Loadings: axial force, torque, transversal force, bending moment

Boundary conditions: simply supported, clamped

Find deflections (deformation, strains), e.g., (1) p.1-2.

Find stresses.

Pb.1-1:

The textbook by Beer et al. 2012 as listed on amazon.com has dimensions 8.2 in x 1.2 in x 9.9 in, and weighs 3.6 lbs.

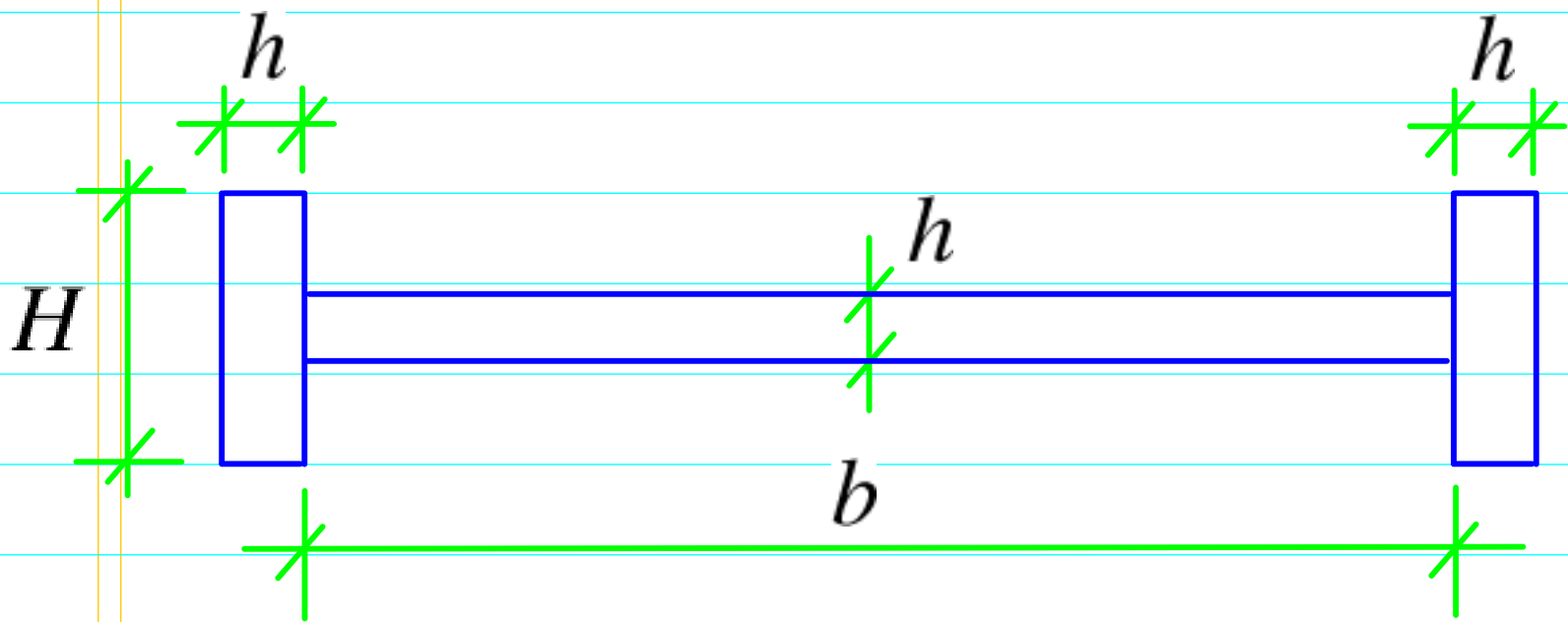
Consider a bookshelf lined up with the above books, from support to support. The bookshelf, made of Ponderosa Pine (p.1-4), has a rectangular cross section (p.1-5):

$$L = 100 \text{ in}, b = 9 \text{ in}, h = 0.5 \text{ in} \quad (1)$$

$$L = 100 \text{ in}, b = 9 \text{ in}, h = 0.5 \text{ in}$$

1. Find the vertical mid-span deflection  $v$  under the weight of the books and the shelf itself.
2. Increase the shelf thickness to 1 in, find the vertical mid-span deflection.
3. Repeat Parts 1 and 2 with the shelf made from structural steel ASTM-A36.
4. Next, consider reinforcing the bookshelf with 2 side strips so to have the H cross section (p.1-6), with the following geometry:





Consider the following values:

$$b = 9 \text{ in}, h = 0.3 \text{ in}, H = 1 \text{ in} \quad (1)$$

$$b = 9 \text{ in}, h = 0.3 \text{ in}, H = 1 \text{ in}$$

Find the vertical mid-span deflection for both materials: Ponderosa Pine and A36 steel.

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