

## Chapter 2: Flexural Analysis and Flexural Strength

### Flexural Analysis

In developing elastic equations for flexural stress, the effects of (a) prestress force, (b) self-weight moment, and (c) dead and live load moments are calculated separately, and the separate stresses are superimposed.

$P_i$  = initial prestress force

$e$  = eccentricity below the centroid of the cross section.

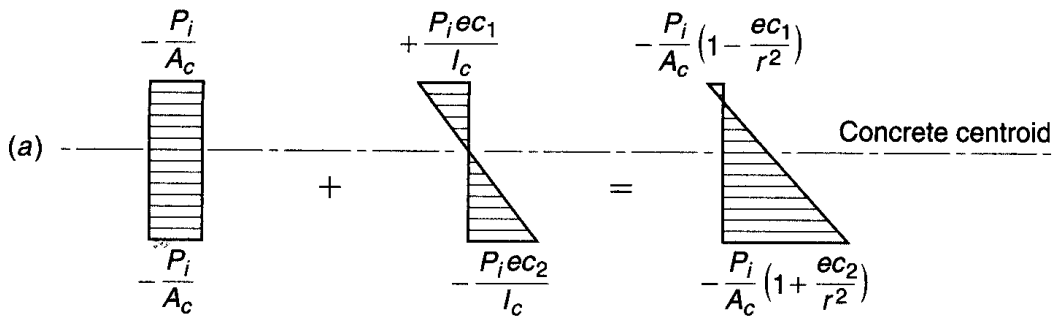
$A_c$  = area of the cross section

$c_1$  and  $c_2$  = top and bot fiber distances, respectively.

$f_1$  and  $f_2$  = top and bot fiber stresses, respectively.

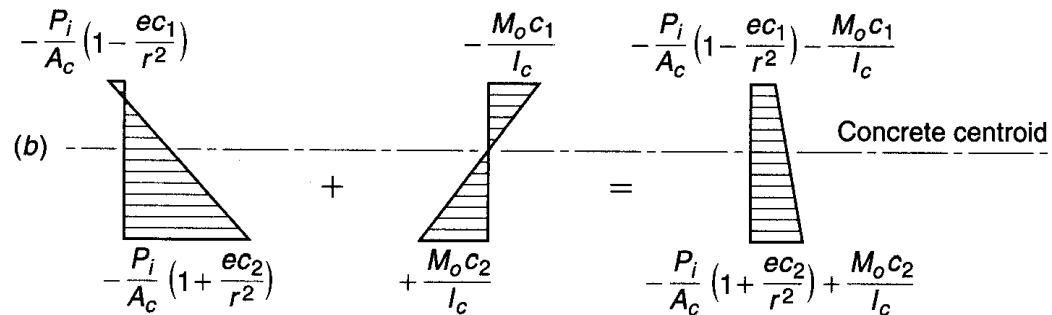
#### a. initial prestress alone

*Sign convention: Tension (+) Compression (-)*



$$f_1 = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} + \frac{P_i ec_1}{I_c} = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left( 1 - \frac{ec_1}{r^2} \right) \quad f_2 = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} - \frac{P_i ec_2}{I_c} = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left( 1 + \frac{ec_2}{r^2} \right)$$

#### b. initial prestress + self-weight



$$f_1 = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left( 1 - \frac{ec_1}{r^2} \right) - \frac{M_o c_1}{I_c} \quad f_2 = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left( 1 + \frac{ec_2}{r^2} \right) + \frac{M_o c_2}{I_c}$$

c. final prestress + full service load

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left(1 - \frac{ec_1}{r^2}\right) - \frac{M_o c_1}{I_c} \quad + \quad -\frac{(M_d + M_l) c_1}{I_c} \quad = \quad -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left(1 - \frac{ec_1}{r^2}\right) - \frac{c_1}{I_c} (M_o + M_d + M_l) \\
 & -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left(1 + \frac{ec_2}{r^2}\right) + \frac{M_o c_2}{I_c} \quad + \quad \frac{(M_d + M_l) c_2}{I_c} \quad = \quad -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left(1 + \frac{ec_2}{r^2}\right) + \frac{c_2}{I_c} (M_o + M_d + M_l)
 \end{aligned}$$

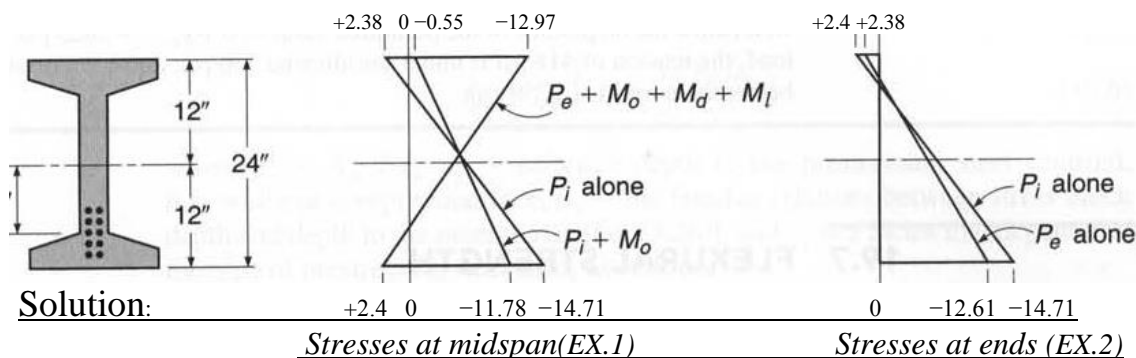
$$f_1 = -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left(1 - \frac{ec_1}{r^2}\right) - \frac{(M_o + M_d + M_l) c_1}{I_c} \quad f_2 = -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left(1 + \frac{ec_2}{r^2}\right) + \frac{(M_o + M_d + M_l) c_2}{I_c}$$

**Example 1:** A simply supported symmetrical I beam of depth = **610 mm (24")** pre-tensioned with multiple 7-wire strands with  $e = 200 \text{ mm}$ , will be used on a **12 m** simple span. Given:  $I_c = 5 \times 10^9 \text{ mm}^4$ ,  $A_c = 113548 \text{ mm}^2$ ,  $r^2 = 44000 \text{ mm}^2$ ,  $S = 1.639 \times 10^7 \text{ mm}^3$ , self-weight  $w_o = 2.67 \text{ kN/m}$ .

Superimposed  $D + L$  'sustained' = **11 kN/m**.

$P_i = 700 \text{ kN}$ ,  $P_e = 600 \text{ kN}$ ,  $f_{ci} = 26 \text{ MPa}$ ,  $f_c = 35 \text{ MPa}$ . Calculate:

1. Concrete flexural stresses at midspan section at time of transfer.
2. Concrete flexural stresses at midspan section after all losses.
3. Compare with ACI allowable stresses for Class U

a) Initial  $P_i$ 

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_1 &= -\frac{P_i}{A_c} + \frac{P_i e c_1}{I_c} = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left(1 - \frac{e c_1}{r^2}\right) \\
 &= (-700,000/113,548) \left(1 - \frac{200 \times 305}{44,000}\right) = +2.38 \text{ MPa (+ tension)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_2 &= -\frac{P_i}{A_c} - \frac{P_i e c_2}{I_c} = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left(1 + \frac{e c_2}{r^2}\right) \\
 &= (-700,000/113,548) \left(1 + \frac{200 \times 305}{44,000}\right) = -14.71 \text{ MPa (- compression)}
 \end{aligned}$$

b) Due to  $P_i$  + self-weight;

$$M_o = 2.67 (12)^2 / 8 = 48.06 \text{ kNm}$$

$$f_1 = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left( 1 - \frac{ec_1}{r^2} \right) - \frac{M_o c_1}{I_c}$$

$$= +2.38 - 48.06 \times 10^6 \times 305 / 5 \times 10^9 = +2.38 - 2.93 = -0.55 \text{ MPa (comp, OK)}$$

$$f_2 = -\frac{P_i}{A_c} \left( 1 + \frac{ec_2}{r^2} \right) + \frac{M_o c_2}{I_c}$$

$$= -14.71 + 2.93 = -11.78 \text{ MPa (11.78 < 15.6 OK)}$$

Check ACI permissible limits: Tension at transfer =  $0.25 \sqrt{f'_{ci}} = 0.25 \sqrt{26} = 1.27 \text{ MPa}$

Check ACI permissible limits: Compr at transfer =  $0.60 f'_{ci} = 0.60 \times 26 = 15.6 \text{ MPa}$

c) Due to  $P_e$  + full service load;

$$M_d + M_l = 11 (12)^2 / 8 = 198 \text{ kNm}$$

$$f_1 = -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left( 1 - \frac{ec_1}{r^2} \right) - \frac{(M_o + M_d + M_l)c_1}{I_c}$$

$$= +2.38(600/700) - 2.93 - 198 \times 10^6 \times 305 / 5 \times 10^9 = 2.04 - 2.93 - 12.08 = -12.97 \text{ MPa}$$

(12.97 < 15.75 OK)

$$f_2 = -\frac{P_e}{A_c} \left( 1 + \frac{ec_2}{r^2} \right) + \frac{(M_o + M_d + M_l)c_2}{I_c}$$

$$= -14.71 (600/700) + 2.93 + 198 \times 10^6 \times 305 / 5 \times 10^9 = -12.61 + 2.93 + 12.08 = +2.4 \text{ MPa}$$

(2.4 < 3.55 OK)

Check ACI permissible limits: Tension at service load =  $0.6 \sqrt{f'_c} = 0.6 \sqrt{35} = 3.55 \text{ MPa}$

Check ACI permissible limits: Compr at service load =  $0.45 f'_c = 0.45 \times 35 = 15.75 \text{ MPa}$

**Example 2:** For example 1, calculate the same requirement at ends of beam and compare with ACI limits.

Solution

a) Due to  $P_i$

$$f_1 = +2.38 \text{ MPa} < 0.50 \sqrt{f'_{ci}} = 0.50 \sqrt{26} = 2.55 \text{ MPa OK}$$

$$f_2 = -14.71 \text{ MPa} < 0.70 f'_{ci} = 0.70 \times 26 = 18.2 \text{ MPa OK}$$

b) Due to  $P_e$

$$f_1 = +2.4 \text{ MPa} < 0.60 \sqrt{f'_c} = 0.60 \times \sqrt{35} = 3.55 \text{ MPa OK}$$

$$f_2 = -12.61 \text{ MPa} < 0.45 f'_{ci} = 0.45 \times 35 = 15.75 \text{ MPa OK}$$

## Flexural Strength

After cracking, the prestressed beam behaves essentially as an ordinary RC beam. The strength of PC beam can be predicted by the same methods developed for RC beams, with modifications to account for

- The different shape of the stress-strain diagram for prestressing steel
- The tensile strain already presented in prestressing steel before the beam is loaded.

ACI 18.7 includes approximate equations for flexural strength:

### Stress in prestressing steel at failure $f_{ps}$

$f_{ps}$  = Stress in prestressing steel at failure, MPa

$f_{pe}$  = effective prestress =  $P_e / A_{ps}$ , MPa

$f_{pu}$  = tensile strength of prestressing steel, MPa

If  $f_{ps} \geq 0.50 f_{pu}$ , ACI Code 18.7.2 permits use of certain approximate equations for  $f_{ps}$

- For members with *bonded* tendons

$$f_{ps} = f_{pu} \left( 1 - \frac{\gamma_p}{\beta_1} \frac{\rho_p f_{pu}}{f'_c} \right)$$

Where  $\rho_p = A_{sp} / b d_p$ ,  $d_p$  = effective depth to the prestressing steel centroid.

$\beta_1 = a / c$

$\beta_1 = 0.85$  ..... for  $f'_c \leq 28$  MPa

$\beta_1 = 0.85 - 0.05 (f'_c - 28) / 7$  ..... for  $f'_c > 28$  MPa

$0.65 \leq \beta_1 \leq 0.85$

$\gamma_p$  = factor depending on the type of prestressing steel

$$\gamma_p = \begin{cases} 0.55 & \text{for } f_{py}/f_{pu} \geq 0.80 \text{ (typical high-strength bars)} \\ 0.40 & \text{for } f_{py}/f_{pu} \geq 0.85 \text{ (typical ordinary strand)} \\ 0.28 & \text{for } f_{py}/f_{pu} \geq 0.90 \text{ (typical low-relaxation strand)} \end{cases}$$

- For members with *unbonded* tendons, with  $l/h \leq 35$

$$f_{ps} = f_{pe} + 70 + f'_c / 100\rho_p \leq f_{py} \\ \leq f_{pe} + 420$$

- For members with *unbonded* tendons, with  $l/h > 35$

$$f_{ps} = f_{pe} + 70 + f'_c / 300\rho_p \leq f_{py} \\ \leq f_{pe} + 210$$

### Nominal Flexural Strength and Design Strength

- a.** For *rectangular* sections, or *I* sections, or *T* sections in which the stress block depth is  $\leq$  average flange thickness ( $a \leq h_f$ ), the nominal moment:

$$M_n = A_{ps} f_{ps} \left( d_p - \frac{a}{2} \right) \quad a = \frac{A_{ps} f_{ps}}{0.85 f'_c b}$$

These equations can be combined to:

$$M_n = \rho_p f_{ps} b d_p^2 \left( 1 - 0.588 \frac{\rho_p f_{ps}}{f'_c} \right)$$

Design moment:  $M_u = \phi M_n$        $\phi$  = strength reduction factor for flexure

- b.** If ( $a > h_f$ ), the nominal moment is analogous to that used in ordinary RC T-sections:

For overhanging part:

$$A_{pf} = 0.85 \frac{f'_c}{f_{ps}} (b - b_w) h_f$$

for the remaining part:

$$A_{pw} = A_{ps} - A_{pf}$$

The sum of the both parts contributions:

$$M_n = A_{pw} f_{ps} \left( d_p - \frac{a}{2} \right) + 0.85 f'_c (b - b_w) h_f \left( d_p - \frac{h_f}{2} \right)$$

$$a = \frac{A_{pw} f_{ps}}{0.85 f'_c b_w}$$

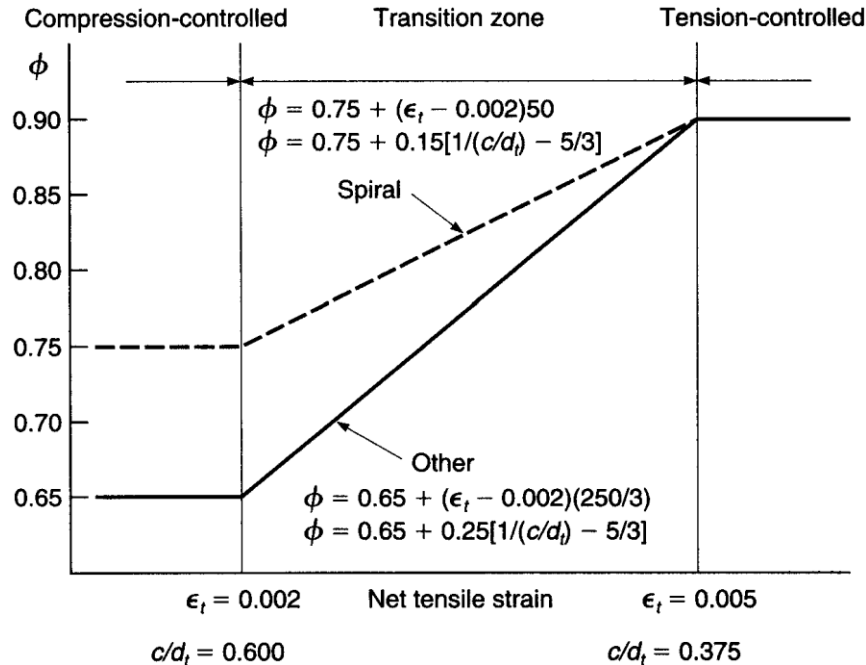
Design moment:  $M_u = \phi M_n$        $\phi = 0.9$

### Limits of Reinforcement

To maintain  $\phi = 0.9$  and ensure a ductile failure:  $\epsilon_{t, net} \geq 0.005$  is required. This is ensured if  $c/d_t \leq 0.375$ . 'Tension-controlled beam'

In PC beams,  $c/d_p \leq 0.375$

If  $c/d_t > 0.375$ , the beam is *compression-controlled* and  $\phi$  must be determined



### Minimum tension reinforcement

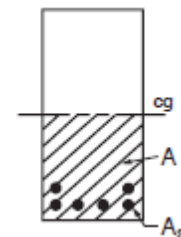
ACI 18.8 requires that, for *bonded prestressed beam*, the total tension reinforcement be adequate to support a **factored load  $\geq 1.2 \times$  cracking load** of the beam, calculated on the basis of  $f_r = 0.62\sqrt{f'_c}$

### Minimum bonded reinforcement

ACI 18.9 requires that, for *unbonded prestressed beam*, some bonded reinforcement must be added in the form of ordinary steel bars to control cracking:

$$A_s = 0.004 A$$

$A$  = area of part of cross section between tension face and the centroid of the section



**Example 3:** The prestressed I beam shown is pretensioned using 5 low relaxation stress-relieved 7- wire, **Grade 1860 MPa, 12.7mm** dia strand, carrying effective prestress  $f_{pe} = 1100$  MPa.  $f'_c = 28$  MPa. Calculate the design strength of the beam.

Section properties:

$$\text{Ave. } h_f = 115 \text{ mm}$$

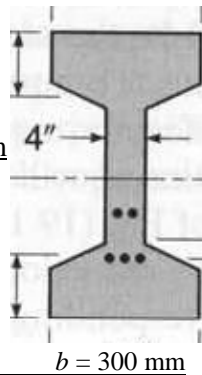
$$\text{Total depth} = 610 \text{ mm}$$

$$e = 130 \text{ mm}$$

$$d_p = 435 \text{ mm}$$

$$d_t = 500 \text{ mm}$$

$$b_w = 100 \text{ mm} \quad (4'')$$



**Solution:**

$$A_{ps} = 5 \times 98.7 = 493 \text{ mm}^2$$

$f_{pe} = 1100 \text{ MPa} > 0.5 f_{pu} = 0.5(1860) = 930 \text{ MPa}$  OK ACI eqs are applicable.

$$\rho_p = A_{ps} / b d_p = 493 / 300 \times 435 = 0.0038$$

$$f_{ps} = f_{pu} \left( 1 - \frac{\gamma_p \rho_p f_{pu}}{\beta_1 f'_c} \right) = 1860 \left( 1 - \frac{0.28 \times 0.0038 \times 1860}{0.85 \times 28} \right) = 1705 \text{ MPa}$$

$$a = \frac{A_p f_{ps}}{0.85 f'_c b}$$

$$a = 493 \times 1705 / 0.85 \times 28 \times 300 = 117.7 \text{ mm} > \text{Ave. } h_f = 115 \text{ mm}$$

Thus, equations of T-section should be used

$$A_{pf} = 0.85 \frac{f'_c}{f_{ps}} (b - b_w) h_f \quad A_{pw} = A_{ps} - A_{pf}$$

$$= 0.85 \times 28 (300 - 100) \times 115 / 1705 = 321 \text{ mm}^2, A_{pw} = 172 \text{ mm}^2$$

$$\text{Actual } a = 172 \times 1705 / 0.85 \times 28 \times 100 = 123.2 \text{ mm}$$

$$c = a / \beta_1 = 145 \text{ mm}$$

Check  $c / d_t = 145 / 500 = 0.290 < 0.375$  OK, tens-controlled,  $\phi = 0.9$

$$M_n = A_{pw} f_{ps} \left( d_p - \frac{a}{2} \right) + 0.85 f'_c (b - b_w) h_f \left( d_p - \frac{h_f}{2} \right)$$

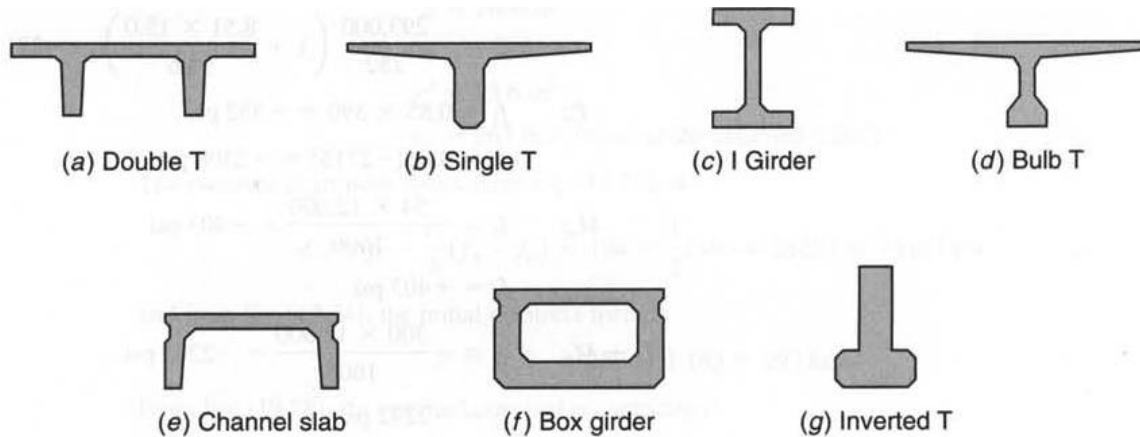
$$= 109.50 \times 106 + 206.64 \times 106 = 316.14 \text{ kNm}$$

$$M_u = 0.9 \times 316.14 = \underline{284.53 \text{ kNm}}$$

## Shape Selection

In PC design there is a freedom to select cross-section proportions and dimensions to suit special requirements. The member depth, the web thickness, and the flange widths and thicknesses can be changed and modified to produce a nearly ideal beam for a given case.

Several common precast shapes are shown below



The *double T* is the most widely used,  $b \sim 1.25 - 3.5$  m, spans up to 18 m.

The *single T* spans up to 36 m and carries heavier loads.

The *I* and *bulb T* are used for bridges and roof girders up to 42m.

The *channel slab* is suitable for floors of intermediate spans.

The *box girder* is used for bridges of intermediate to major spans.

The *inverted T* provides a bearing ledge to carry precast deck members in the perpendicular direction.