

# Hands-on Demonstrations (and other visual aids)

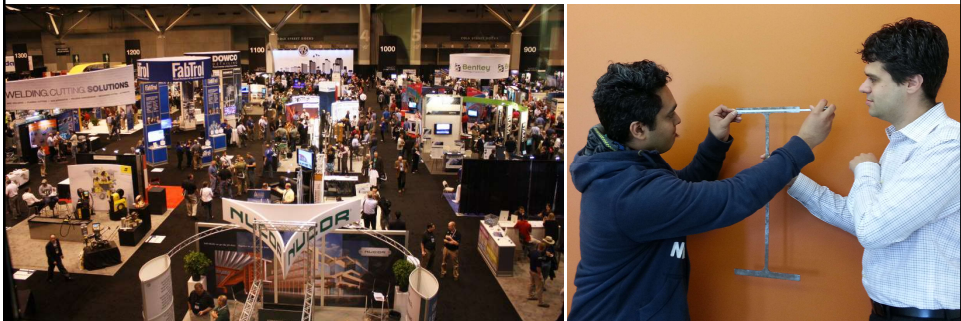
Low or no budget ways to help your  
students to understand behavior



Judy Liu, Ron Ziemian

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## First ... collect steel “bits” from the NASCC Exhibit Hall



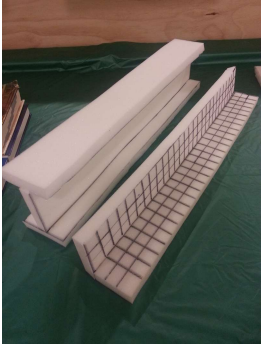
Slices of W-shapes, angles, channels ...  
... bolts (including TC bolts, DTIs), etc.  
These don’t demonstrate behavior, but they  
are always good pass-arounds!

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### Some demos


- Foam ‘beams’\* / buckling models\*
- Effective net area
- Block shear, connections
- Paper columns\*
- Buildings in earthquakes
- Built-up compression members
- Stress-strain
- Residual stresses
- Shear lag
- Leaning columns, P-delta
- Live Loads

*\*Instructions can be found on the AISC Educator Forum.*



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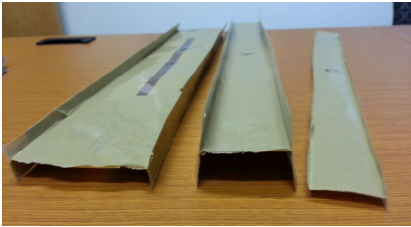
### Foam Beams / Columns



*Instructions include dimensions for a channel, angle, and “W-shape”. The “W-shape” can be used to demonstrate lateral torsional buckling.*

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# Beam Buckling Models

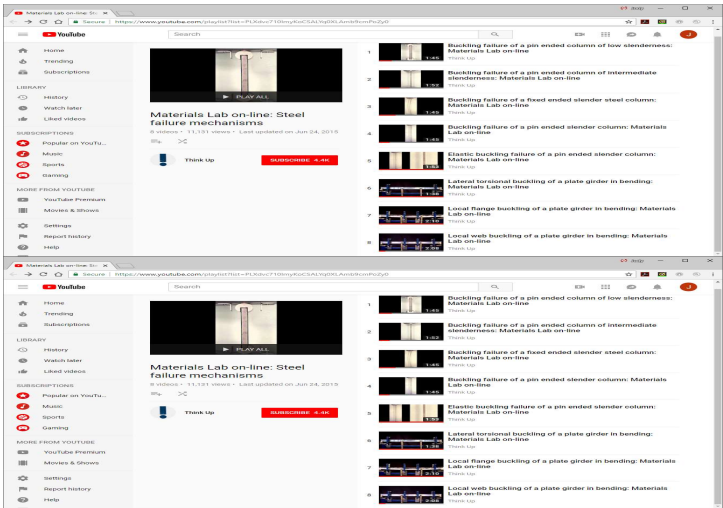


Instructions provide dimensions for beams that demonstrate local or lateral torsional buckling. Materials: overhead transparency film and packing tape.



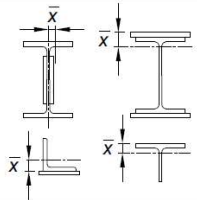
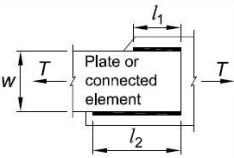
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# Materials Lab on-line: Steel failure mechanisms



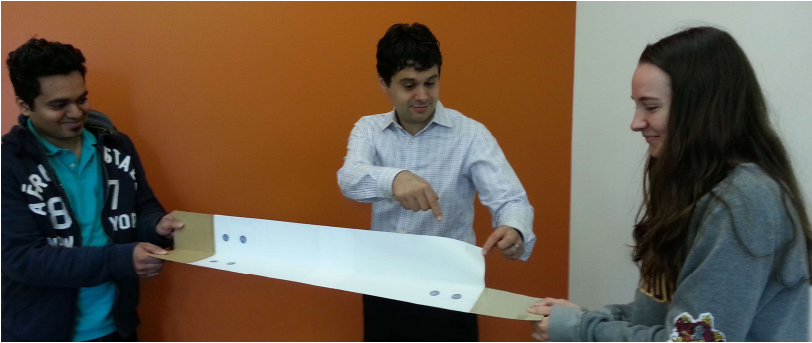
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXdvc710lmyKoCSALYq0XLamb9cmPoZy0>

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TABLE D3.1 Shear Lag Factors for Connections to Tension Members			
Case	Description of Element	Shear Lag Factor, $U$	Example
1	All tension members where the tension load is transmitted directly to each of the cross-sectional elements by fasteners or welds (except as in Cases 4, 5 and 6).	$U = 1.0$	—
2	All tension members, except HSS, where the tension load is transmitted to some but not all of the cross-sectional elements by fasteners or by longitudinal welds in combination with transverse welds. Alternatively, Case 7 is permitted for W, M, S and HP shapes. (For angles, Case 8 is permitted to be used.)	$U = 1 - \frac{\bar{x}}{l}$	
3	All tension members where the tension load is transmitted only by transverse welds to some but not all of the cross-sectional elements.	$U = 1.0$ and $A_n$ = area of the directly connected elements	—
4[a]	Plates, angles, channels with welds at heels, tees, and W-shapes with connected elements, where the tension load is transmitted by longitudinal welds only. See Case 2 for definition of $\bar{x}$ .	$U = \frac{3l^2}{3l^2 + w^2} \left(1 - \frac{\bar{x}}{l}\right)$	

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Effective Net Area  
Case 2

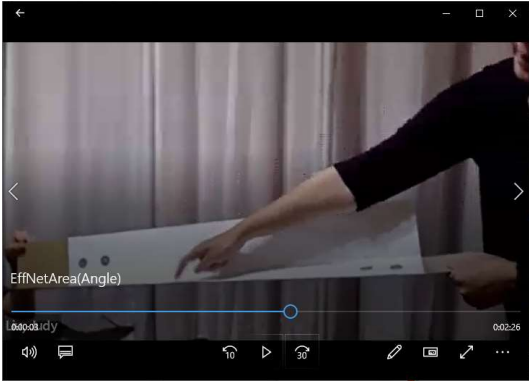


Supplies: paper, cardboard, scotch tape, scissors, marker (optional)

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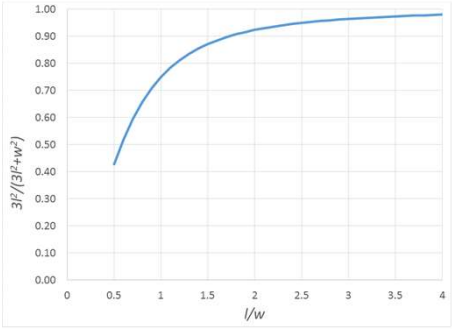
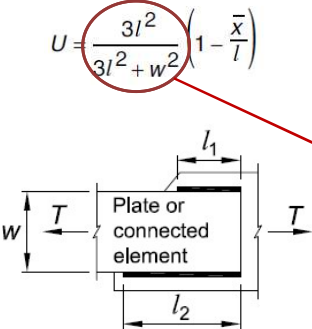
Effective Net Area  
Case 2



Supplies: paper, cardboard, scotch tape, scissors, marker (optional)  
[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM\\_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD)

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Effective Net Area  
Case 4



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# Effective Net Area

## Case 4



Supplies: patchwork quilting fabric (or similar)

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# Effective Net Area

## Case 4



Supplies: patchwork quilting fabric or similar, mixing spoon  
[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM\\_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD)

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Block Shear

Supplies: craft foam sheets, paper fasteners, scissors, hole punch, marker (optional)

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Paper Columns

24 lb is better!

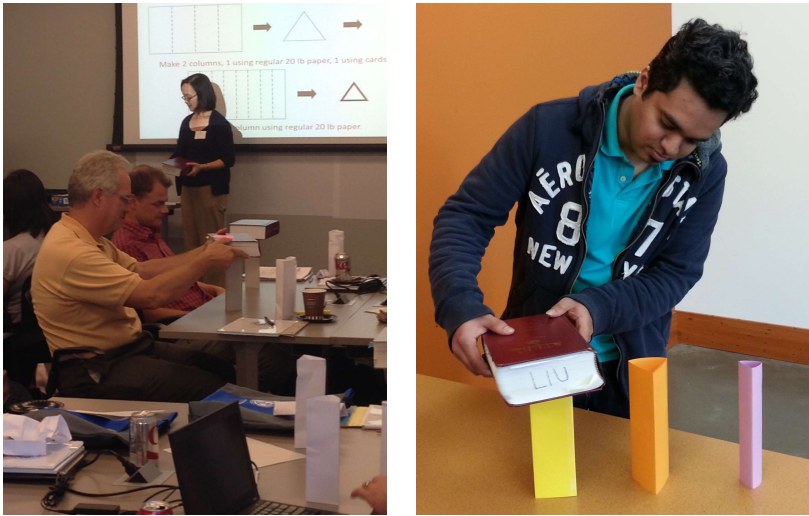
Make 2 columns, 1 using regular 20 lb paper, 1 using cardstock.

24 lb is better!

Make 1 column using regular 20 lb paper.

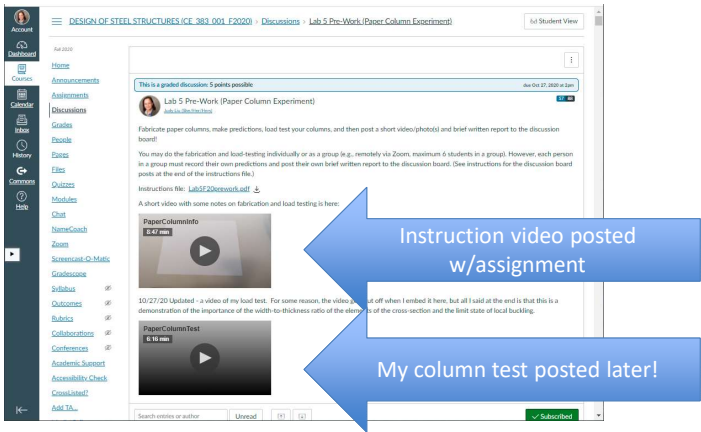
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Paper Columns



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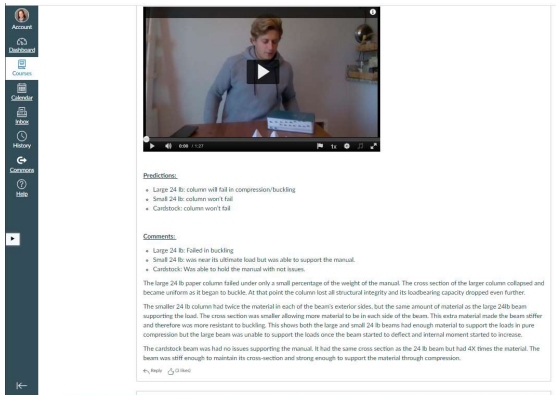
Paper Columns



[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM\\_cCE6BGLckUzp3GCBxD](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM_cCE6BGLckUzp3GCBxD)

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# Paper Columns



Each student posted their prediction and load test photo(s)/short video to a discussion board. The one with the most “likes” from other students was shared and discussed in class.

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# Building Fundamental Period “Demo” (on a tabletop – shake table or volunteer)



Building on the right is similar to our case study building.

Note responses of these 2 buildings to different frequencies of “ground motions” and with different mass.  
(e.g., higher mode response for tall building?)

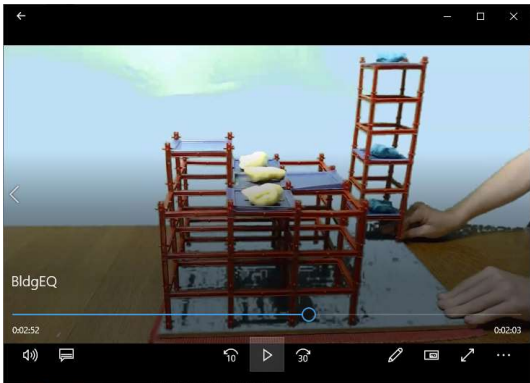


What changes when we add mass to each building?

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Building Fundamental Period “Demo”  
(on a tabletop – shake table or volunteer)



[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM\\_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD)

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Active Learning from <https://casce.princeton.edu/>

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

CASCE

CREATIVE ART OF STRUCTURAL AND CIVIL ENGINEERING

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Demonstration of Shear Walls and Moment Frames

C

Braced Frames

Watch later

Share

Watch on

YouTube

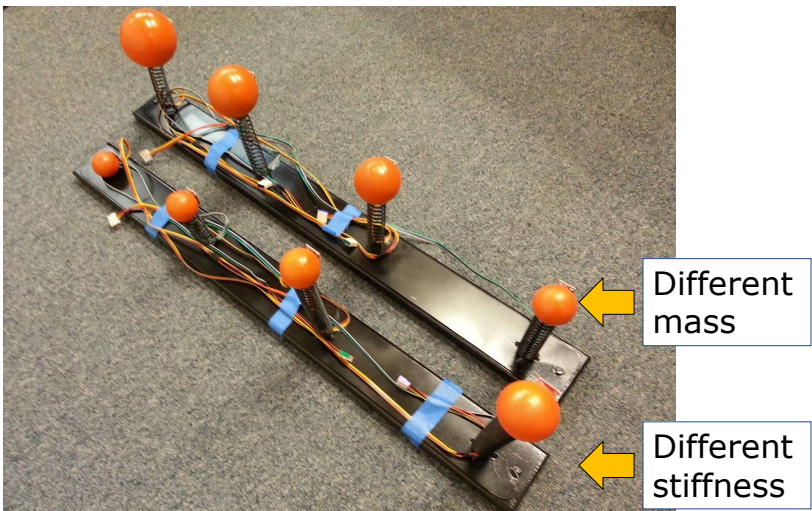
Abstract

This is a demonstration to the class on how shear walls and moment frames can be used to stabilize buildings subject to lateral loads.

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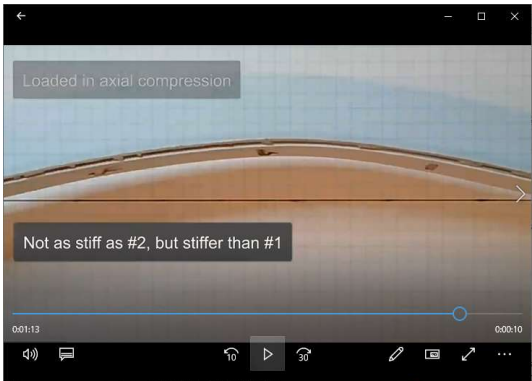


Another tabletop shake table demo



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Built-Up Compression Member Demo



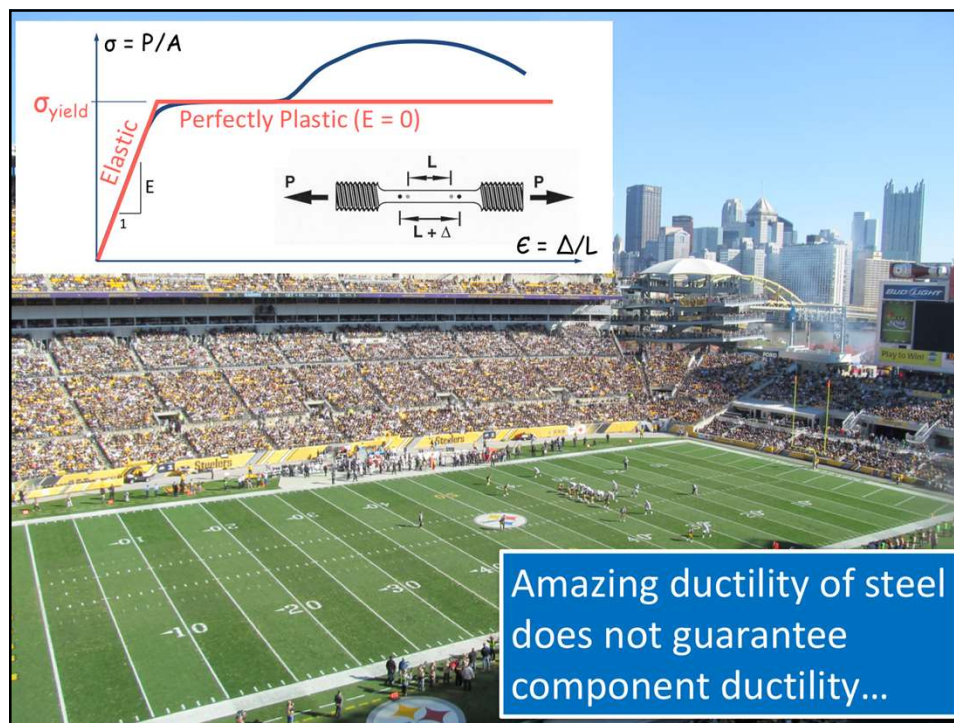
[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM\\_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL76luzqU9URxM_cCE6BGLckcUzp3GCBxD)

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## The fundamentals...stability

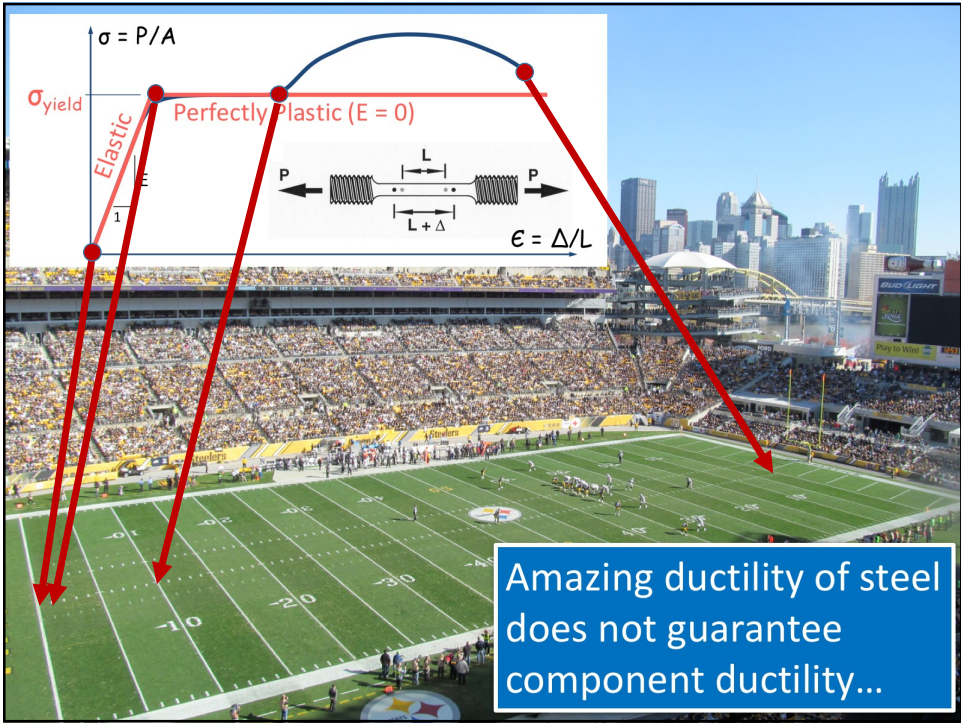
- Force follows stiffness (wet spaghetti test!)
- Basis for every structural analysis
  - Equilibrium (“forces” must be in agreement!)
  - Compatibility (“displacements” must be in agreement)
  - Constitutive Relationship (“forces” -to- “displacements”)
- Superposition – always so tempting!
  - Linear response (geometric and material)
  - Serviceability (yeah!) vs. ultimate strength (instability?!)
- Behavior of steel structures
  - Material level
  - Cross-section, Member, System level

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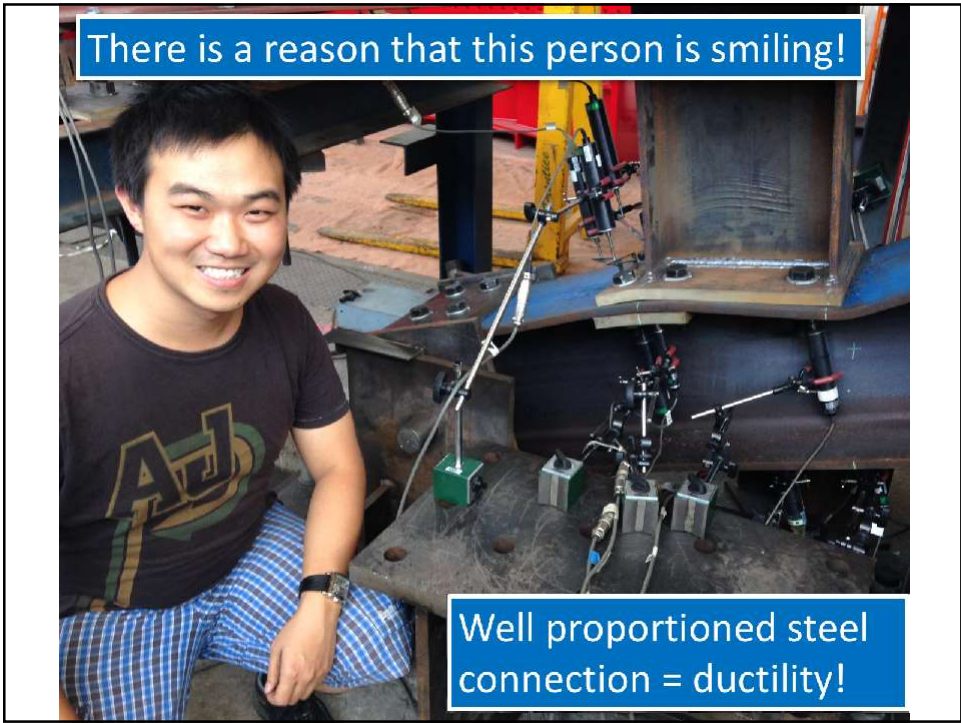


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### Residual Stresses

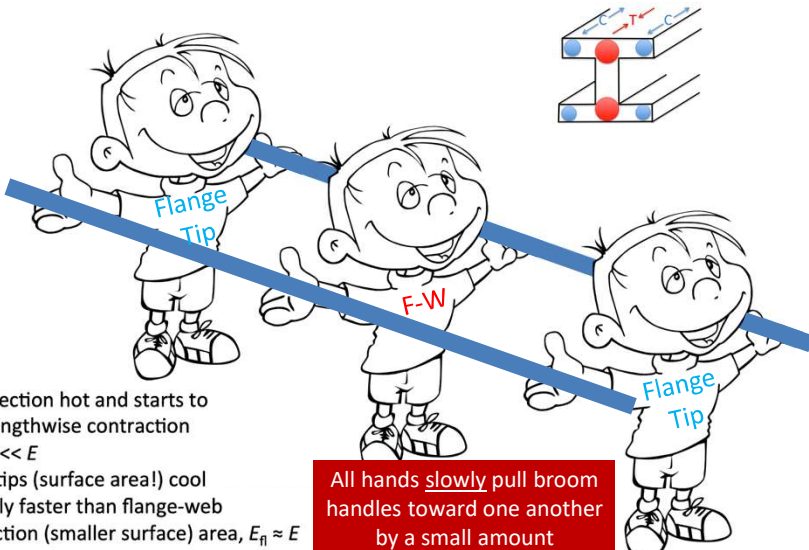
1. Entire section hot and starts to cool...lengthwise contraction with  $E_o \ll E$
2. Flange tips (surface area!) cool relatively faster than flange-web intersection (smaller surface) area,  $E_{fl} \approx E$
3. Flange-web intersection (smaller surface area) now cools and wants to contract, but flange tips are already set and do not want to contract.
4. Result – locations to cool last end up in tension and equilibrium requires locations that cooled first to end up in compression.

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To demonstrate this, we will need to 3 students and 2 broom handles (or equivalent)

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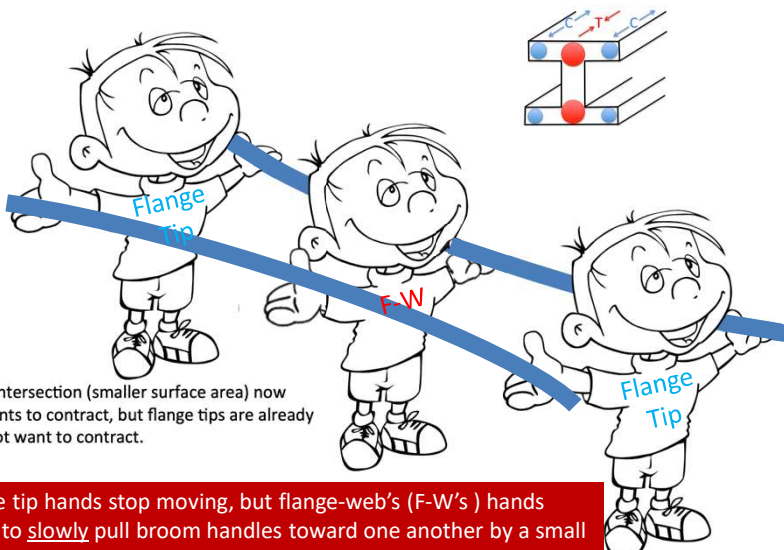


1. Entire section hot and starts to cool...lengthwise contraction with  $E_o \ll E$

2. Flange tips (surface area!) cool relatively faster than flange-web intersection (smaller surface) area,  $E_f \approx E$

All hands slowly pull broom handles toward one another by a small amount

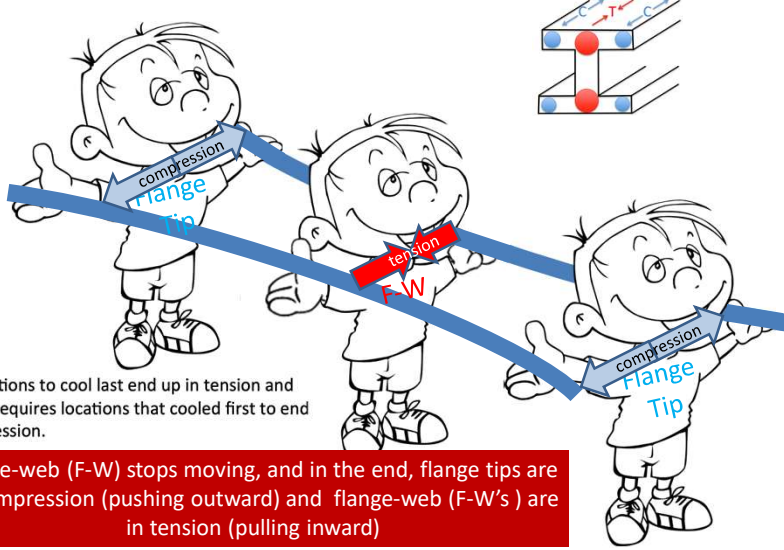
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3. Flange-web intersection (smaller surface area) now cools and wants to contract, but flange tips are already set and do not want to contract.

Flange tip hands stop moving, but flange-web's (F-W's) hands continues to slowly pull broom handles toward one another by a small amount

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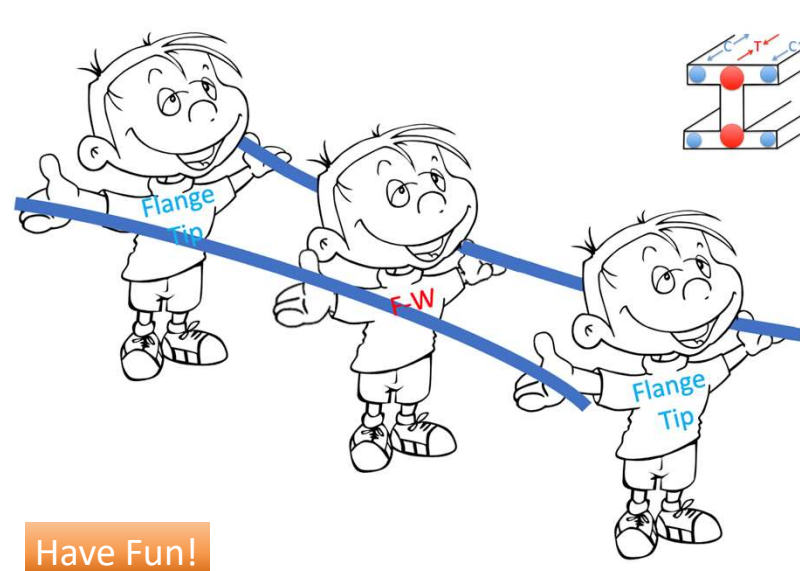


The diagram shows three cartoon children holding a long blue beam. The child on the left is labeled 'compression Flange Tip' with a blue arrow pointing left. The child in the middle is labeled 'tension F-W' with a red arrow pointing right. The child on the right is labeled 'compression Flange Tip' with a blue arrow pointing right. Above them is a small diagram of an I-beam with red dots on the flanges and blue dots on the web, with arrows indicating tension and compression.

4. Result – locations to cool last end up in tension and equilibrium requires locations that cooled first to end up in compression.

Flange-web (F-W) stops moving, and in the end, flange tips are in compression (pushing outward) and flange-web (F-W's) are in tension (pulling inward)

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The diagram shows three cartoon children holding a long blue beam. The child on the left is labeled 'Flange Tip' with a blue arrow pointing left. The child in the middle is labeled 'F-W' with a red arrow pointing right. The child on the right is labeled 'Flange Tip' with a blue arrow pointing right. Above them is a small diagram of an I-beam with red dots on the flanges and blue dots on the web, with arrows indicating tension and compression.

Have Fun!

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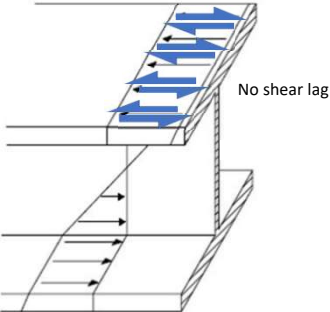
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Shear lag – normal stresses are not uniformly distributed over the width of an element (e.g. flange) due to the shear flexibility of that element

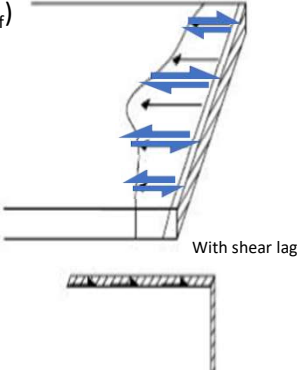
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To demonstrate this within the flange of an I-shape, we will need 6 students

Case #1  
Little to no shear flexibility of the flange  
(e.g. small  $b_f/t_f$ )

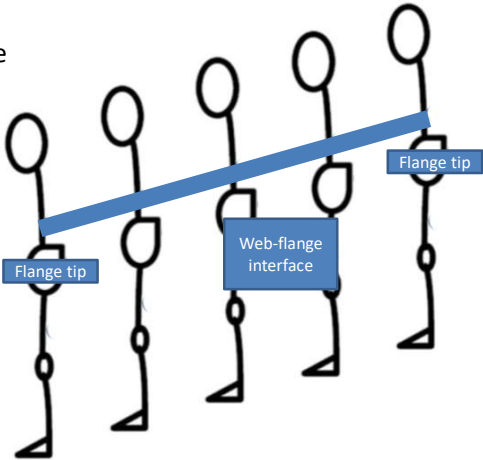


Case #2  
Significant shear flexibility of the flange  
(e.g. large  $b_f/t_f$ )



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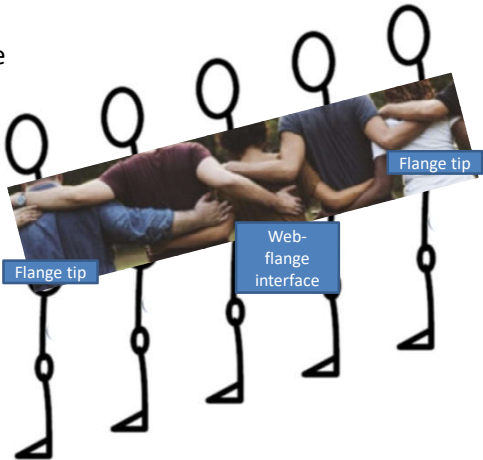
Case #1  
Little to no shear flexibility of the flange  
(e.g. small  $b_f/t_f$ )



5 students stand in line and barely separated such that arms can interlock well with neighbor

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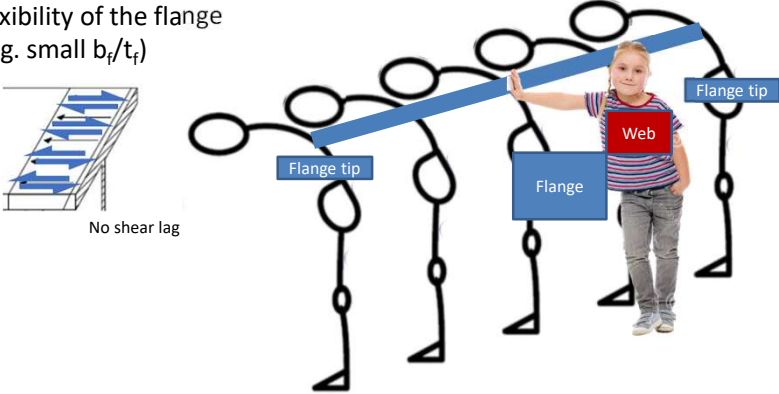
Case #1  
Little to no shear flexibility of the flange  
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37

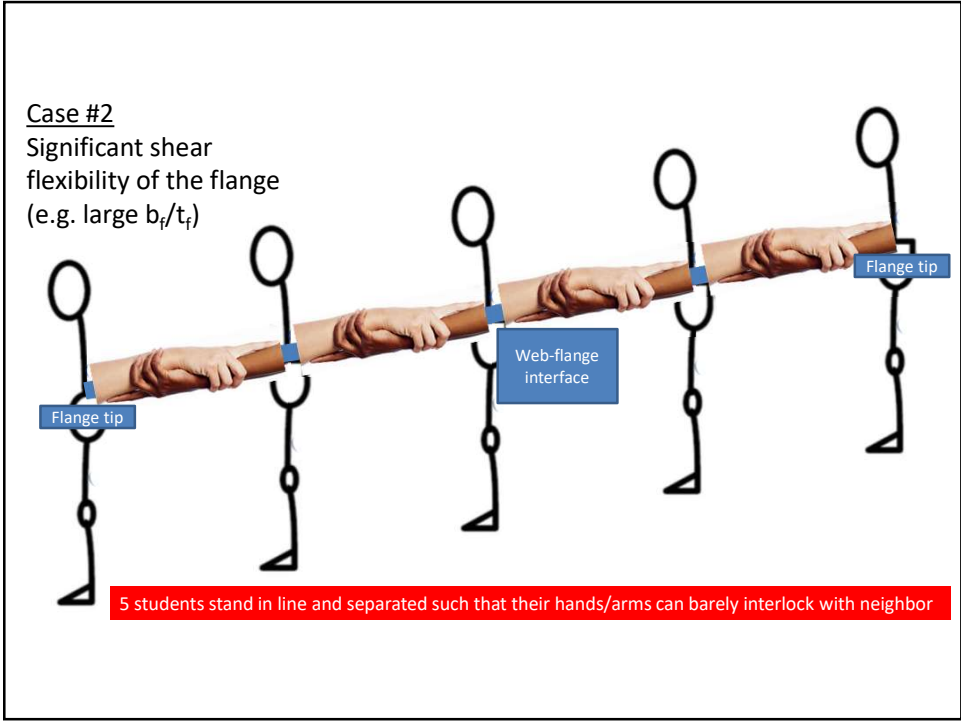
Case #1  
Little to no shear flexibility of the flange  
(e.g. small  $b_f/t_f$ )



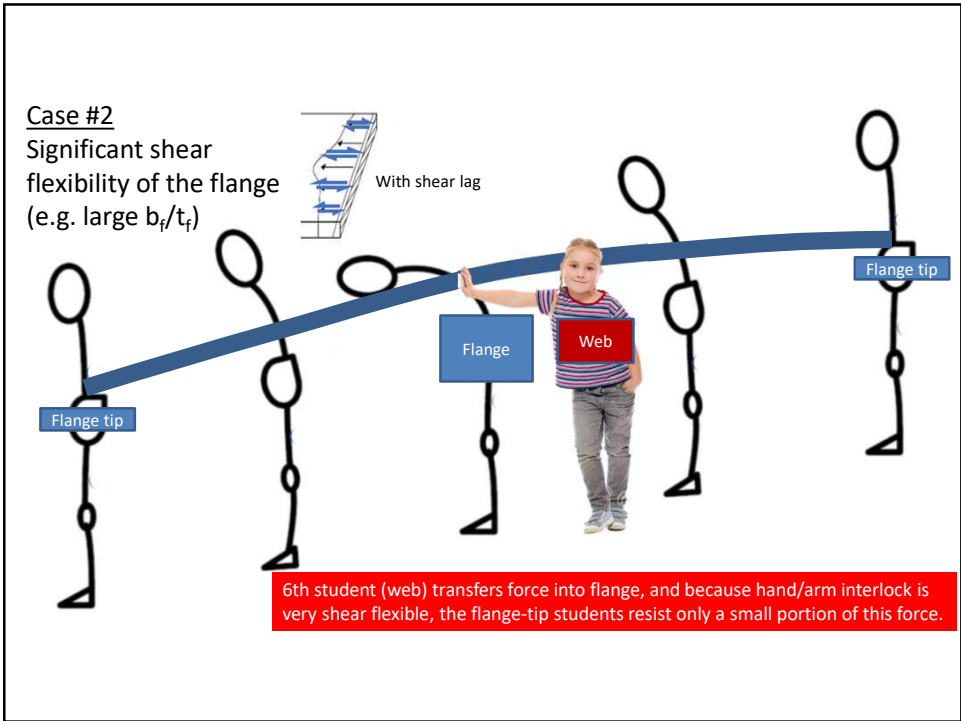
6th student (web) transfers force into flange, and because hand/arm interlock has little to no shear flexibility, the flange-tip students resist an equal portion of this force.

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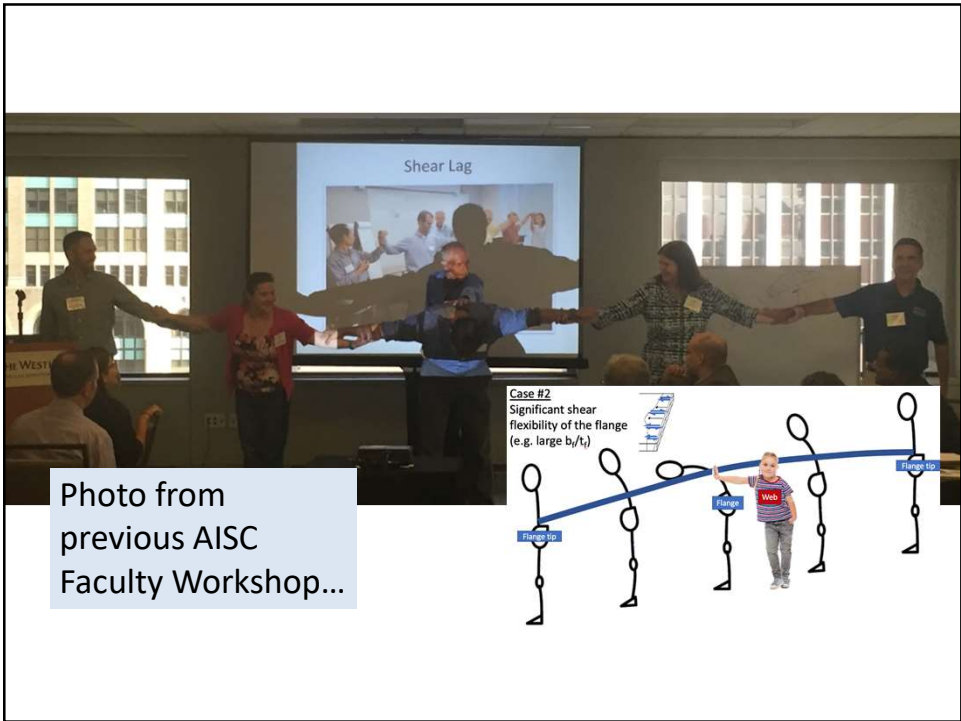
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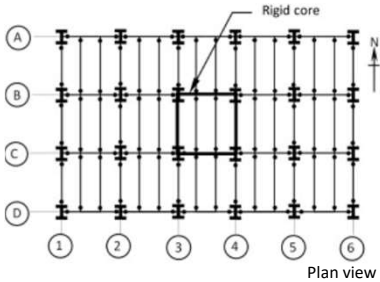
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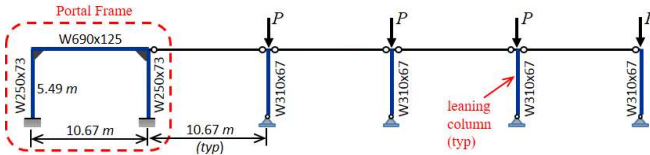
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Leaning columns and the P-Δ effect

With exception of 4 columns within rigid core, the 20 gravity-only columns remain stable by “leaning” on the rigid core...of course, floor diaphragm plays an important role in this behavior.



Simplified version of this concept – portal frame with 4 leaning columns



Let’s demonstrate that the P-Δ effect from the leaning columns produces lateral load on the portal frame

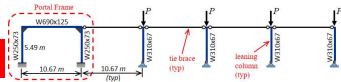
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Time for class participation...we need 4 students and a bathroom scale

Record value on scale with one leaning student (column!)



Very important – only standing on one foot



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### Simple demonstration of loss of stability due to the P-Δ effect

Without backpack ( $P=0$ ), the backpacker can resist lateral load



With backpack ( $P \gg 0$ ), the backpacker will struggle to resist lateral load

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## Live Loads

SIMPSON GUMPERTZ & HEGER

Engineering of Structures and Building Enclosures

SGH LIVE LOAD EVALUATION

Photo 1

28.82 pounds per square foot.

12 people in 64 sq ft.

5.33 sq ft per person.


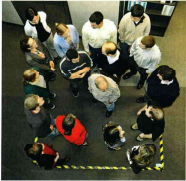


Photo 2

44.61 pounds per square foot (approximate design load; design live load = 50 psf).

17 people in 64 sq ft.

3.78 sq ft per person.






Photo 3

59.85 pounds per square foot (approximate design load; design live load = 50 psf).

23 people in 64 sq ft.

2.78 sq ft per person.




Photo 4

76.10 pounds per square foot.

30 people in 64 sq ft.

2.13 sq ft per person.




Photo 5

93.13 pounds per square foot.

36 people in 64 sq ft.

1.64 sq ft per person.

SGH Project Live Load Test / February 2015

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American Institute of Steel Construction

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# Questions?

Note: on the following slides are visual aids/demonstrations suggested by 2018 Educator Workshop participants!

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# Block Shear

Block shear failure is difficult to explain using plan (2D) drawings.

3D isometrics may help


Mohamed Zeidan

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Use of Models to Explain Steel Member Design

Simple Styrofoam models can be used to explain compression buckling modes. Many of the following design concepts can be presented:


- Directionality of buckling and the plane of buckling
- Local (element) buckling and member buckling
- Demonstration of buckling about X-axis and Y-axis
- Relevant properties governing the directionality:  $L_{cx}$ ,  $I_x$ ,  $r_x$  and  $L_{cy}$ ,  $I_y$ ,  $r_y$
- Lateral braces, their effects on member buckling and ideal brace spacing




Weak Axis (Member) Buckling



Strong Axis (Member) Buckling



Local Buckling




Flange Local Buckling  
(Table B4.1a)

Steel1: Anil Patnaik [Patnaik@uakron.edu](mailto:Patnaik@uakron.edu)


The University of Akron

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Physical Aids – Euler Buckling Demonstration Using 3ft Carpenter Ruler



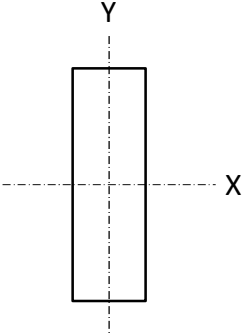
Strong axis before buckling



Weak axis before buckling



Weak axis after buckling



$r_y \ll r_x$   
 $L_c/r_y \gg L_c/r_x$   
 $F_{ey} \ll F_{ex}$

Yongwook Kim, PhD, PE, Manhattan College

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### LTB Demo Using Flex Beam

Source: AISC Teaching Aids

See the compression flange? We need to brace it to avoid LTB (for this case). Let's learn more about LTB and bracing...

*Strong-Axis Bending: Top View*

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### Use of Models to Explain Steel Member Design

A failed test specimen is useful to explain different beam failure modes. Many beam design concepts can be presented from such models.

Effect of LTB

Top View of Compression Flange

FLB

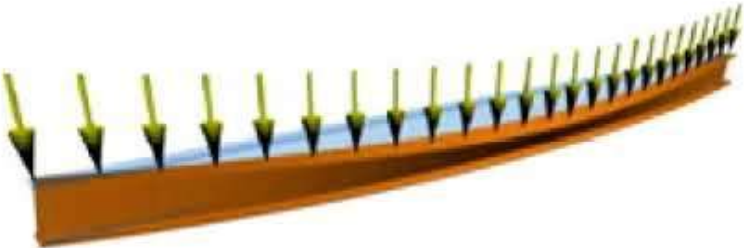
WLB

Tension Flange Yielding

Steel1: Anil Patnaik [Patnaik@uakron.edu](mailto:Patnaik@uakron.edu)

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Visual Aids – Lateral Torsional Buckling Demonstration Using YouTube  
Video Developed by Others


A 3D computer-generated model of a beam undergoing lateral torsional buckling. The beam is shown in a perspective view, with its longitudinal axis along the x-axis. The beam is supported at both ends by vertical supports. A series of green arrows, representing a uniformly distributed load, are applied perpendicular to the top flange of the beam. The beam is shown in a deformed state, with the top flange displaced laterally and the beam twisted, illustrating the phenomenon of lateral torsional buckling.

AISC Teaching Aid: <https://www.aisc.org/education/university-programs/ta-web-enhanced-teaching/>  
AISC Educator Forum: [https://sites.google.com/a/aisc.org/educator\\_forum/videos/](https://sites.google.com/a/aisc.org/educator_forum/videos/)  
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBP2VFHvun4>

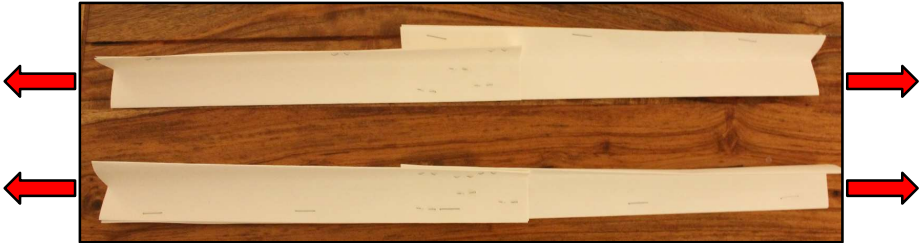
Yongwook Kim, PhD, PE, Manhattan College

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Shear Lag Demo Using Paper Angles

The University of Vermont  
CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENGINEERING

Let's make paper angles: (show how)  
Now, let's try to pull the first paper angle  
How did it fail? Remember what it felt like when it broke.  
Now, try to pull the second paper angle  
Do you feel a difference in the force you applied?  
Which one was easier to break?  
Let's learn what happened at the connection and the stress distribution in both cases...

A photograph of a wooden board with two strips of paper (paper angles) attached to its surface. The top strip is connected to the board at one end, and the bottom strip is connected at both ends. Red arrows indicate the direction of the applied force. The top strip is being pulled away from the board, while the bottom strip is being pulled towards the board.


Paper Angles (copy paper bent 3 times lengthwise and stapled)  
Top: only one leg connected, Bottom: both legs connected

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### Tension Connection Testing

- Specimens designed by instructor and fabricated by campus technicians to fail in variety of modes
- Small groups of students assigned to calculate all failure modes for one specimen
- Specimens broken during class to determine peak strength and ductility
- Differences between nominal and design strength are highlighted and differences in phi-factors are reviewed
- Groups submit hand calculations and a summary memo for a project grade

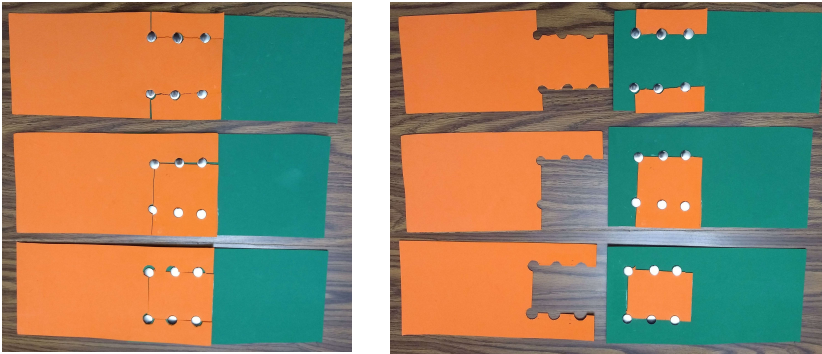


Kerry Hall

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### Block Shear

Using physical objects to show different possible mode of failure is the most efficient



Mohamed Zeidan

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