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OBJECTIVE

To apply strain energy concept to define the deformation of a structure in terms of its horizontal and vertical deflections for the four test structures; quarter circle, semicircle, curved davit and angled davit structures.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this laboratory session the students should be able to

- 1. Apply strain energy method to determine horizontal and vertical deflections of curved beams or structures subjected to concentrated load
- 2. Validate the experimental result based on its theoretical prediction.
- 3. Determine the maximum horizontal and vertical deflections of the test structures.
- 4. Write a clear and well presented laboratory report that describes the deflection behaviour of test structures under applied load.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Energy method is a method of determining the stresses and deformations in structures subjected to both static and impact loadings. For example, a beam such as shown in Figure 1 that subjected to transverse loads, the strain energy associated with the normal stress is given by;

$$U = \int_0^L \frac{M^2}{2EI} dx \tag{1}$$

where,

M =bending moment

EI = flexural rigidity of the beam

L = beam length

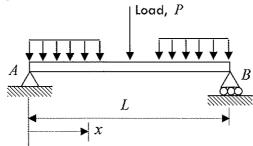


Figure 1 A simply supported beam

Castigliano's theorem states that the deflection x_j , of the point of application of a load P_j measured along the line of action of P_j is equal to the partial derivative of the strain energy of the structure with the respect to the load P_j . It can be show as

$$x_{j} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial P_{j}} \tag{2}$$

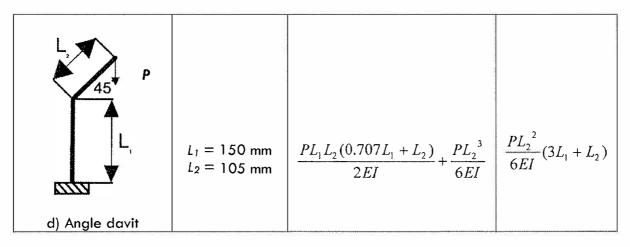
Hence, the theorem can be applied to determine deflections and slopes at various points of a given structure. The use of "dummy" loads enabled us to include points where no actual load was applied. The calculation of a deflection x_j can be simplified if the differentiation with the respect to the load P_j was carried out before the integration. In the case of a beam, referring to equation (1) and (2), the deflection of a beam can be written as

$$x_{j} = \frac{\partial U}{\partial P_{i}} = \int_{0}^{L} \frac{M}{EI} \frac{\partial M}{\partial P_{i}} dx$$
 (3)

Table 1 Shows formula of horizontal and vertical deflection for few types of beam.

Note: For the FORMAL report, students <u>must prove</u> the equations of ΔH and ΔV as part of their theoretical development or explanation.

Shape	Dimensions	Δ Η	Δ٧
P	R = 150 mm	$\frac{2PR^3}{EI}$	$\frac{\pi PR^3}{2EI}$
a) Semi circle			
b) Quarter circle	R = 150 mm	$\frac{PR^3}{2EI}$	$rac{\pi PR^3}{4EI}$
c) Curved davit	R = 75 mm L = 150 mm	$\frac{PRL}{2EI}(2R+L)$	$\frac{PR^{2}}{4EI}(4L + \pi R)$



where, Young's Modulus for aluminium alloy, $E_{\alpha l}=69$ GN/m², P= load, R= radius, l= second moment of area and L= length.

APPARATUS

- a) Test Frame
- b) Back plate
- c) A pair of dial indicators
- d) Four test structures
- e) Weight set
- f) Vernier caliper

TASK

i.The student must design and perform the experiment in order to analyse and compare the experimental and theoretical results

ii.All related data must be recorded