

# Chapter 9 Torsion of Thin-Walled Tubes

## Summary of Saint-Venant Torsion Theory

### Warping function, $\Psi$

shear stress  $\tau_{xy} = G\beta\left(\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial y} - z\right), \quad \tau_{xz} = G\beta\left(\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial z} + y\right)$

compatibility relationship automatic

equilibrium equations  $\nabla^2\Psi = 0$

boundary conditions  $\tau_{xy} \frac{dz}{ds} - \tau_{xz} \frac{dy}{ds} = 0$

$$\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial y} \frac{dz}{ds} - \frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial z} \frac{dy}{ds} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{ds}(y^2 + z^2)$$

torque  $T = \iint_A (\tau_{xz} y - \tau_{xy} z) dA$

$$T = G\beta \iint_A \left( \frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial z} y - \frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial y} z \right) dA + G\beta J$$

### Prandtl stress function, $\phi$

shear stress  $\tau_{xy} = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}, \quad \tau_{xz} = -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y}$

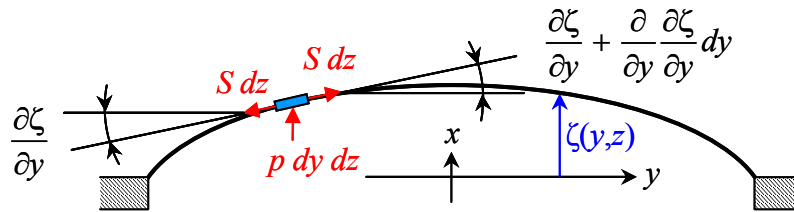
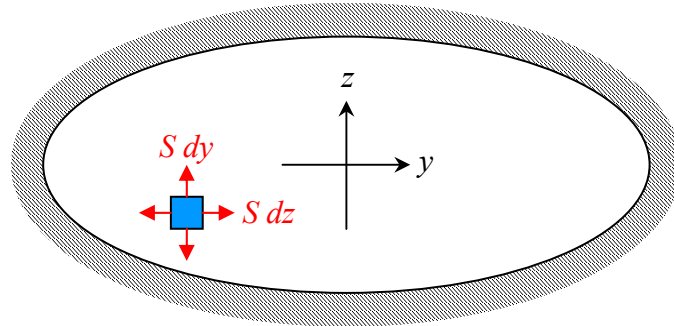
compatibility relationship  $\nabla^2\phi = -2G\beta$

equilibrium equations automatic

boundary conditions  $d\phi = 0$

torque  $T = 2 \iint_A \phi dA$

# Membrane Analogy



$$dF_x = -S dz \sin\left(\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y}\right) + S dz \sin\left(\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} dy\right)$$

$$- S dy \sin\left(\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z}\right) + S dy \sin\left(\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z} dz\right) + p dy dz = 0$$

$$S dz \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial y^2} dy + S dy \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial z^2} dz + p dy dz = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \zeta = \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial z^2} = -\frac{p}{S}$$

compatibility relationship:

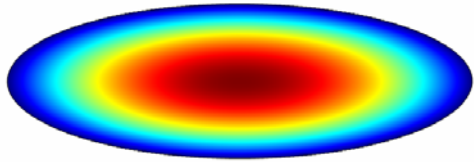
$$\nabla^2 \phi = -2G\beta$$

boundary condition:

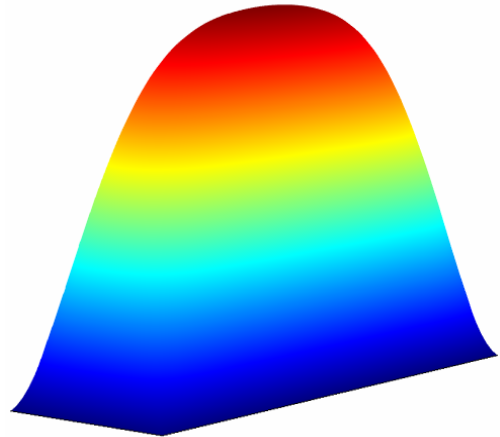
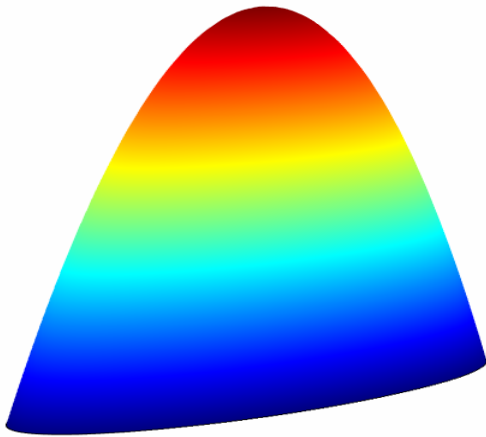
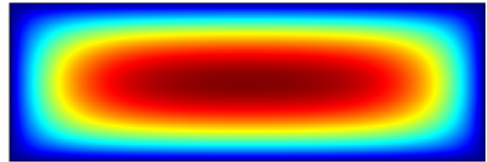
$$d\phi = 0$$

# Examples of Solid Cross Sections

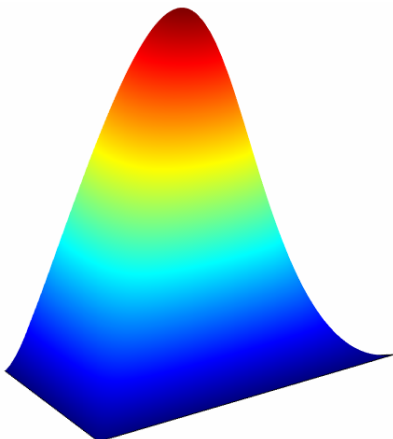
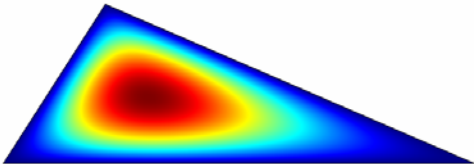
elliptical cross section



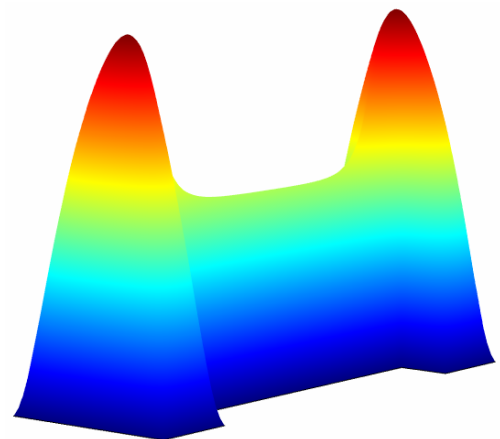
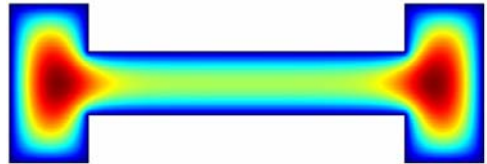
rectangular cross section



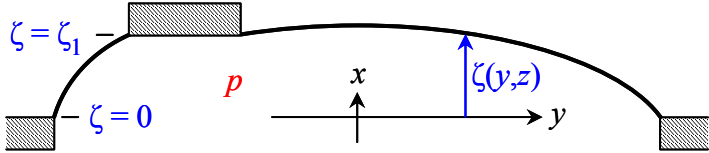
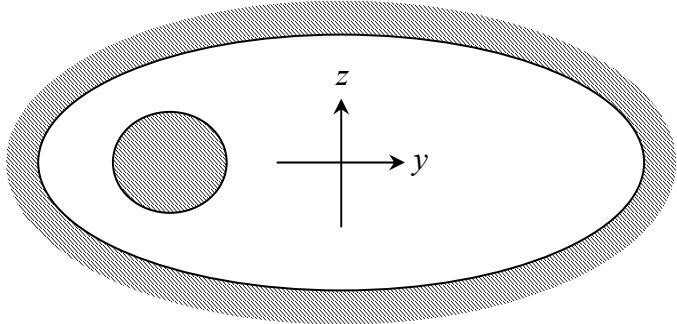
triangular cross section



I-beam cross section

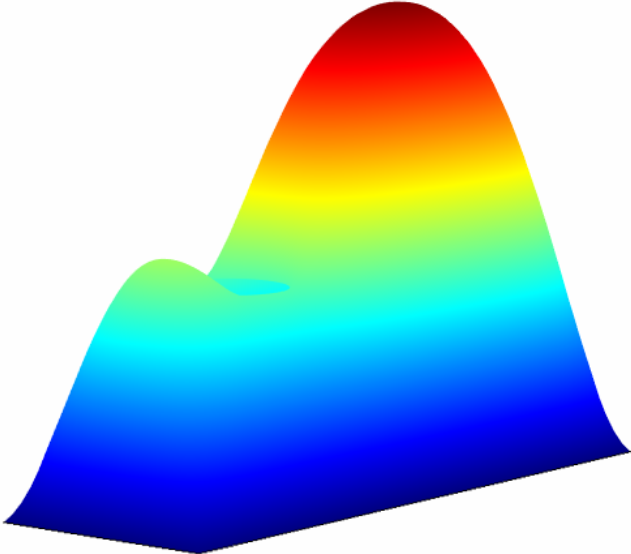
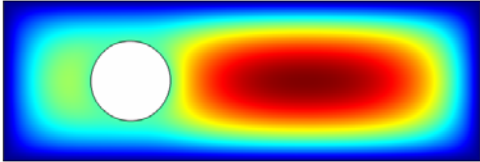
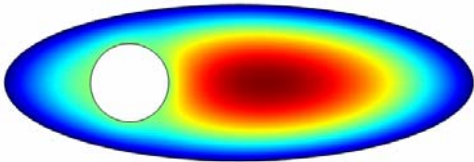


# Discontinuous Boundary



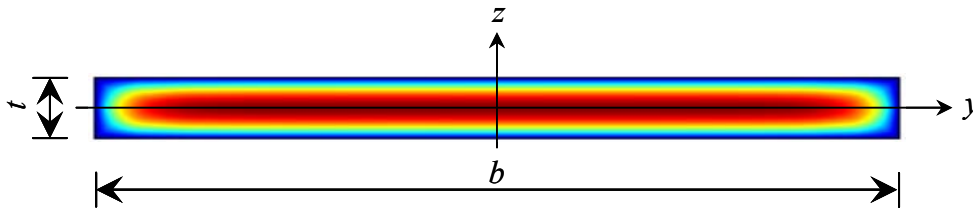
elliptical cross section with hole

rectangular cross section with hole



# Narrow Rectangular Cross Section

$$b \gg t$$



equilibrium in  $x$ -direction

$$dF_x = S dy \frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial z^2} dz + p dy dz = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \zeta}{\partial z^2} = -\frac{p}{S}$$

$$\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial z} = -\frac{p}{S} z + 0$$

$$\zeta = -\frac{p}{2S} z^2 + C$$

$$\zeta(z = \pm \frac{t}{2}) = -\frac{p}{8S} t^2 + C = 0$$

$$C = \frac{p}{8S} t^2$$

$$\zeta = \frac{p}{2S} \left( \frac{t^2}{4} - z^2 \right)$$

$$\phi = G\beta \left( \frac{t^2}{4} - z^2 \right)$$

torque

$$T = 2 \iint_A \phi dA = 2G\beta b \int_{z=-t/2}^{t/2} \left( \frac{t^2}{4} - z^2 \right) dz$$

$$T = 2G\beta b \left[ \frac{t^2 z}{4} - \frac{z^3}{3} \right]_{-t/2}^{t/2}$$

$$T = \frac{1}{3} G\beta b t^3$$

shear stress

$$\tau_{xy} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} = -2G\beta z, \quad \tau_{xz} = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \approx 0$$

$$\tau_{\max} = G\beta t = \frac{3T}{bt^2}$$

torsional stiffness

$$K (= J_t) = \frac{T}{\beta G}$$

$$K = \frac{1}{3} b t^3$$

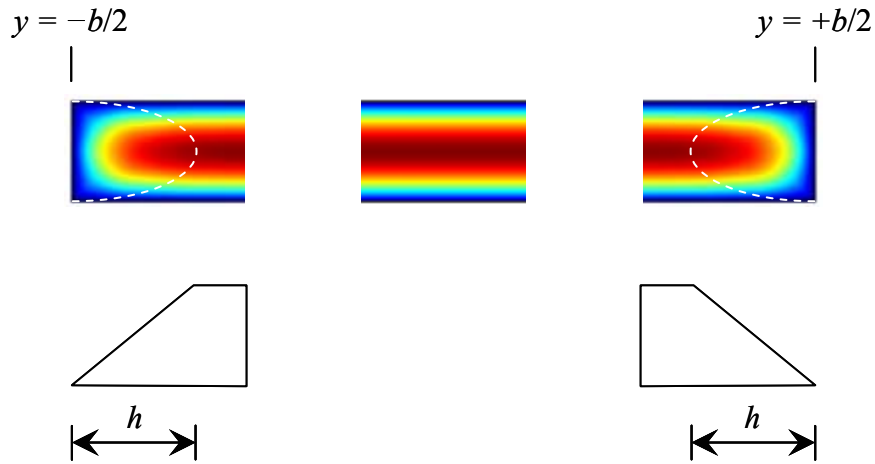
torque contributions

$$T = \iint_A (-\tau_{xy} z + \tau_{xz} y) dA = T_{\text{bulk}} + T_{\text{end}}$$

$$T_{\text{bulk}} = -\iint_A \tau_{xy} z dA = 2G\beta b \int_{z=-t/2}^{t/2} z^2 dz$$

$$T_{\text{bulk}} = \frac{1}{6} G\beta b t^3 = \frac{1}{2} T$$

# End Correction



1D approximation:

$$\phi = G\beta\left(\frac{t^2}{4} - z^2\right) \quad \text{if } -\frac{b}{2} \leq y \leq \frac{b}{2} \quad \text{and } \phi = 0 \quad \text{else}$$

$$\tau_{xz} = -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} = 0 \quad \text{if } -\frac{b}{2} < y < \frac{b}{2} \quad \text{and } \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} = \pm\infty \quad \text{if } y = \mp\frac{b}{2}$$

2D “tapered” approximation:

$$\phi = G\beta\left(\frac{t^2}{4} - z^2\right) \quad \text{if } -\frac{b}{2} + h \leq y \leq \frac{b}{2} - h \quad \text{and } \phi = G\beta\left(\frac{t^2}{4} - z^2\right)\frac{\frac{b}{2} - y}{h} \quad \text{else}$$

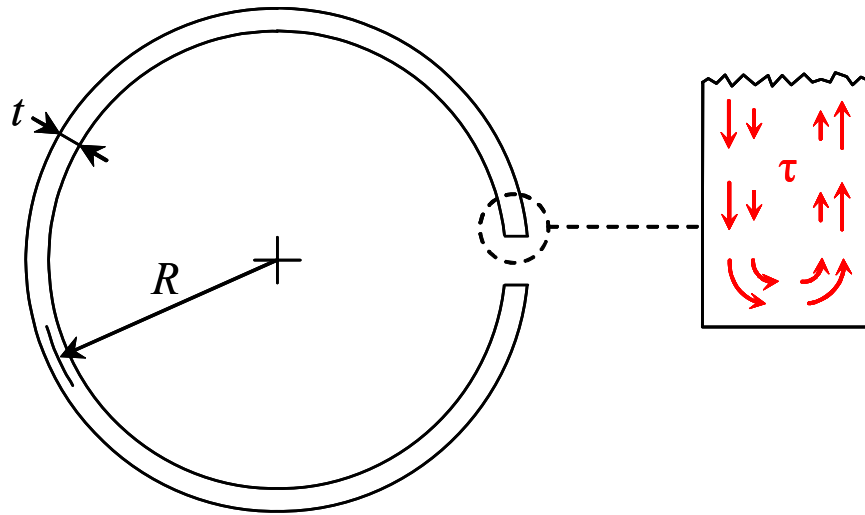
$$dT_{\text{end}} = \tau_{xz} y dA$$

$$T_{\text{end}} = \iint_A \tau_{xz} y dA \approx G\beta \left[ \int_{z=-t/2}^{t/2} \left(\frac{t^2}{4} - z^2\right) dz \right] \left[ \frac{b}{h} \int_{b/2-h}^{b/2} \left(\frac{b}{2} - y\right) dy \right]$$

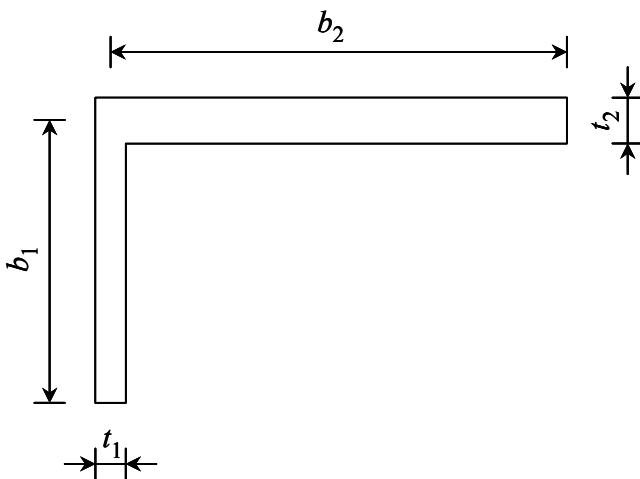
$$T_{\text{end}} = \frac{1}{6}G\beta b t^3 = \frac{1}{2}T$$

# General Thin-Walled Shapes

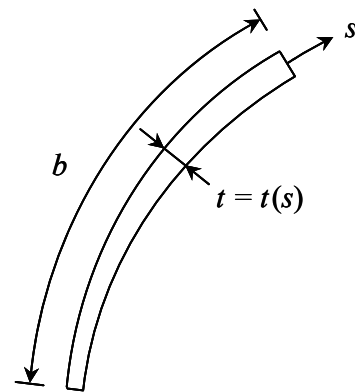
$$K = \frac{T}{\beta G}$$



$$K = \frac{1}{3} b t^3 \leq \frac{2\pi}{3} R t^3$$



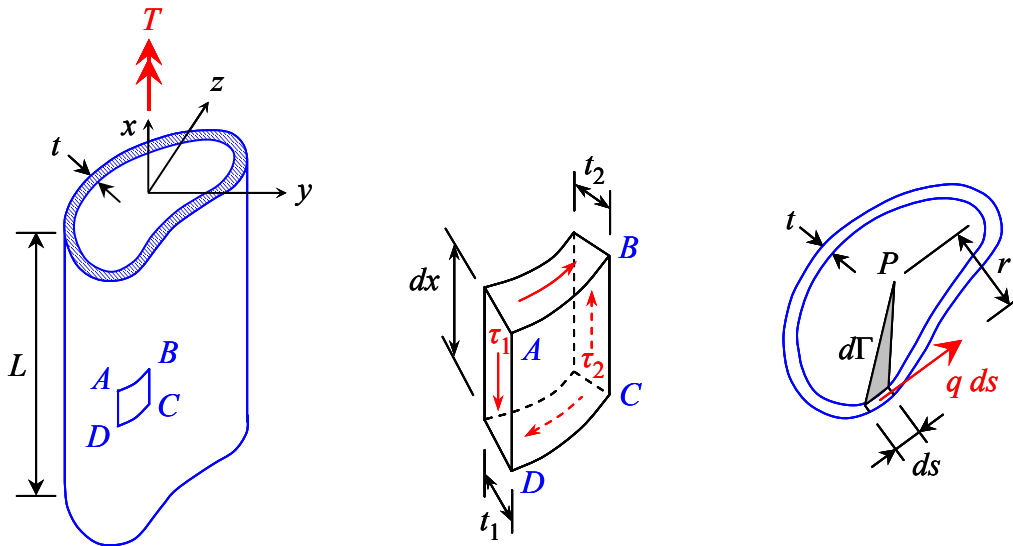
$$K = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^n b_i t_i^3$$



$$K = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^b t^3(s) ds$$



# Single-Cell Thin-Walled Tube



$$dF_x = -\tau_1 t_1 dx + \tau_2 t_2 dx = 0$$

constant shear flow  $q$

$$q = \tau_1 t_1 = \tau_2 t_2$$

twisting moment  $T$

$$dT = dF r = \tau t ds r = q ds r$$

$$d\Gamma = \frac{1}{2} ds r$$

$$dT = 2q d\Gamma$$

$$T = 2q\Gamma$$

$$q = \frac{T}{2\Gamma}$$

$$\tau (= \tau_{\text{surf}}) = \frac{T}{2\Gamma t}$$

# Rate of Twist, Torsional Stiffness

total strain energy over length  $L$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} T \beta L = U = \iiint_V U_0 dV = \oint \frac{\tau^2}{2G} L t ds$$

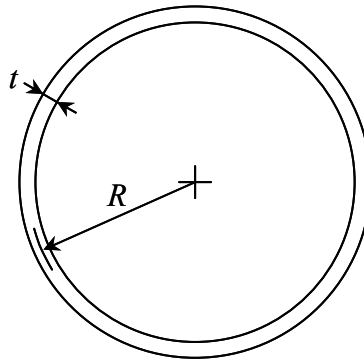
$$\frac{1}{2} T \beta L = \frac{T^2 L}{8 G \Gamma^2} \oint \frac{ds}{t}$$

Bredt's formula

$$\beta = \frac{T}{4 G \Gamma^2} \oint \frac{ds}{t}$$

$$\beta = \frac{q}{2 G \Gamma} \oint \frac{ds}{t}$$

Example: closed tube of circular cross section:

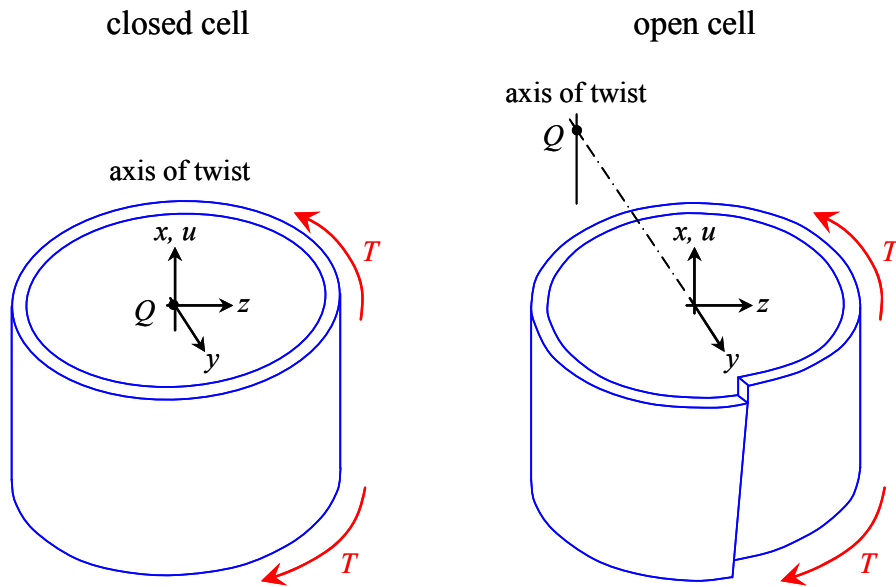


$$\beta^{\text{closed}} = \frac{T \ell}{4 G \Gamma^2 t}, \quad \ell = 2 \pi R, \quad \Gamma = \pi R^2$$

$$\beta^{\text{closed}} = \frac{T}{2 \pi G R^3 t}$$

$$K^{\text{closed}} = 2 \pi R^3 t$$

# Warping Displacement



$$K^{\text{closed}} = 2\pi R^3 t$$

$$K^{\text{open}} = \frac{2\pi}{3} R t^3 \ll K^{\text{closed}}$$

$$\frac{K^{\text{closed}}}{K^{\text{open}}} = 3 \frac{R^2}{t^2}$$

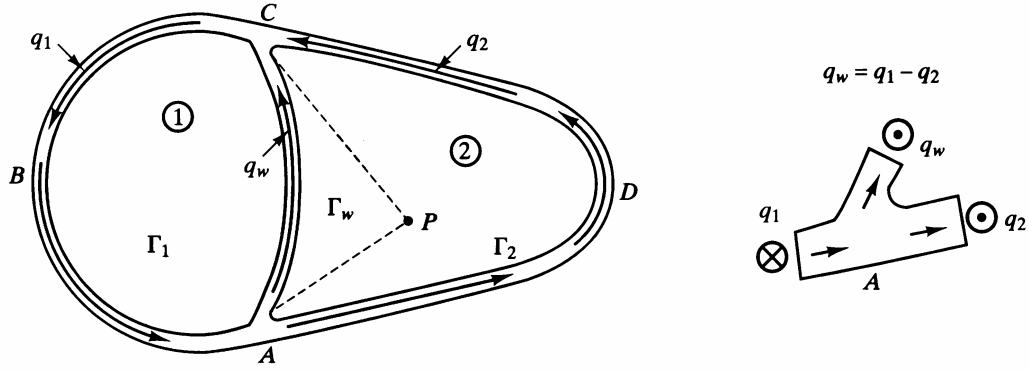
given torque  $T$ :

$$\tau^{\text{closed}} = \frac{T}{2\Gamma t} = \frac{T}{2\pi R^2 t}$$

$$\tau^{\text{open}} (= \tau_{\text{surf}}^{\text{open}}) = \frac{3T}{bt^2} = \frac{3T}{2\pi R t^2}$$

$$\frac{\tau^{\text{open}}}{\tau^{\text{closed}}} = 3 \frac{R}{t}$$

# Multicell Tubes



$$F_{axial} = -q_1 L + q_2 L + q_w L = 0$$

$$q_w = q_1 - q_2$$

$$T = \int_{CBA} q_1 r ds + \int_{ADC} q_2 r ds + \int_{AC} q_w r ds$$

$$T = 2(\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_w)q_1 + 2(\Gamma_2 - \Gamma_w)q_2 - 2\Gamma_w q_w$$

$$T = 2\Gamma_1 q_1 + 2\Gamma_2 q_2$$

For general  $n$ -cell cross section:

$$T = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \Gamma_i q_i$$

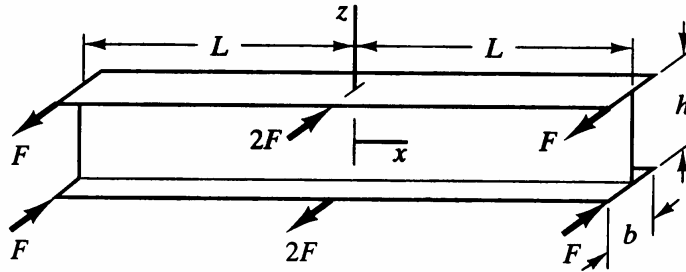
shear flow  $q_i$  in the  $i$ th loop:

$$2G\beta = \frac{1}{\Gamma_i} \oint \frac{q_i}{t_i} ds_i$$

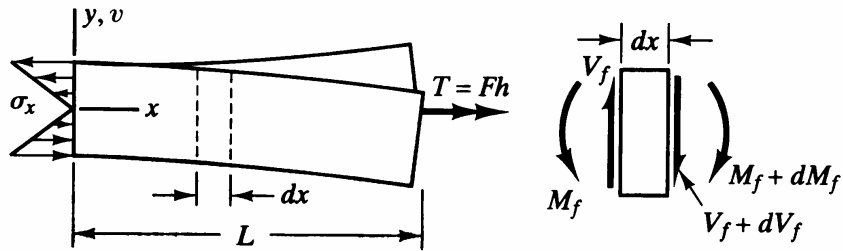
# Restraint of Warping

Example: I Sections

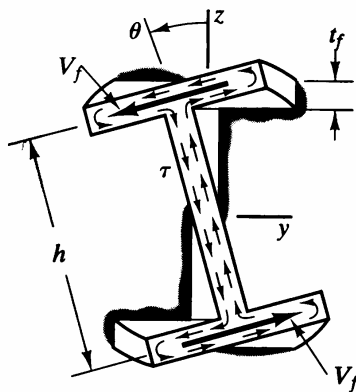
symmetric loading  $u(x=0, y, z) = 0$



top view of the upper flange with differential element



axial view



$$\beta = \beta(x)$$

bending of the upper flange:

$$M_f = -E I_f \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} \quad I_f = \frac{t_f b^3}{12}$$

$$v = -\frac{h}{2}\theta$$

$$M_f = \frac{1}{2} E I_f h \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{2} E I_f h \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x}$$

$$V_f = -\frac{\partial M_f}{\partial x} = -\frac{1}{2} E I_f h \frac{\partial^2 \beta}{\partial x^2}$$

torque due to shear force in the flanges:

$$T_f = V_f h$$

total torque:

$$T = V_f h + K G \beta = -\frac{1}{2} E I_f h^2 \frac{\partial^2 \beta}{\partial x^2} + K G \beta$$

$$J_\omega = I_f \frac{h^2}{2} = \frac{t_f b^3 h^2}{24}$$

(called the sectorial area of inertia)

$$T = -E J_\omega \frac{\partial^2 \beta}{\partial x^2} + K G \beta$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \beta}{\partial x^2} - \frac{K G}{E J_\omega} \beta = -\frac{T}{E J_\omega}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \beta}{\partial x^2} - k^2 \beta = -\frac{k^2 T}{G K} \quad \text{where} \quad k^2 = \frac{K G}{E J_\omega} = \frac{K}{2(1 + \nu) J_\omega}$$

$$\beta(x) = C_1 \sinh kx + C_2 \cosh kx + \frac{T}{G K}$$

boundary conditions:

$$\beta(x=0) = 0 \quad (\text{no warping at the center})$$

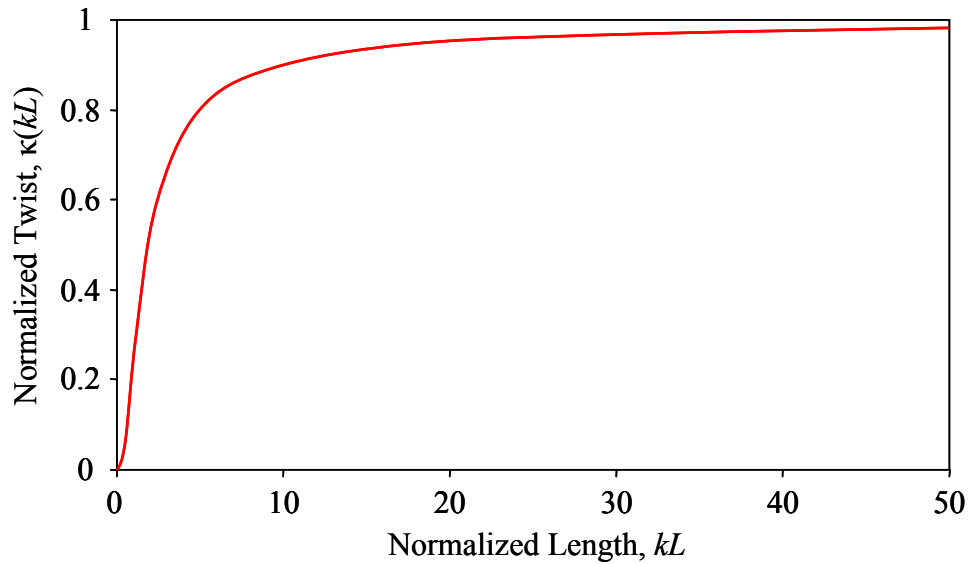
$$\left. \frac{\partial \beta}{\partial x} \right|_{x=L} = 0 \quad (\text{no bending moment at the end})$$

$$C_2 = -\frac{T}{GK} \quad \text{and} \quad C_1 = \frac{T}{GK} \tanh kL$$

$$\beta(x) = \frac{T}{GK} (\tanh kL \sinh kx - \cosh kx + 1)$$

$$\tau (= \tau_{\text{surf}}) = G\beta t$$

$$\theta(L) = \int_0^L \beta(x) dx = \frac{TL}{GK} \left( 1 - \frac{\tanh kL}{kL} \right) = \frac{TL}{GK} \kappa(kL)$$



$$M_f(x) = \frac{EI_f h T k}{2GK} (\tanh kL \cosh kx - \sinh kx)$$

$$V_f(x) = -\frac{EI_f h T k^2}{2GK} (\tanh kL \sinh kx - \cosh kx)$$