

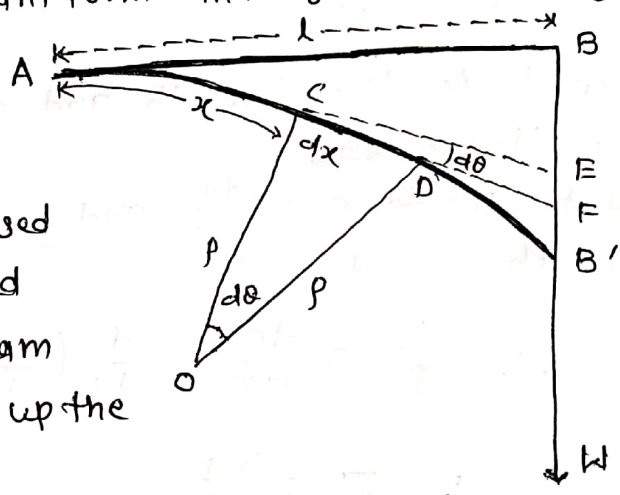
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 B.Sc(CH) PART-I
 PAPER-I

* PHYSICS *
ELASTICITY

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Depression at the loaded (Free) end of a beam

Let us consider a thin uniform and light beam AB of length l , clamped horizontally at the end A (Fig. 1). When its free end B is loaded with a weight W , the end B is depressed downwards compared to fixed end A, and therefore, the beam undergoes bending and takes up the position AB'.



Consider a section of the beam at C distance x from the fixed end A of the cantilever.

Moment of the external couple acting over this section at C due to the load Mg , will be $= W \times CB'$
 $= W(1-x)$

For equilibrium of the beam, moment of the external couple acting at the section at C should be balanced by the restoring couple (or the bending moment) $\frac{\gamma I}{\rho}$ developed as a result of the elastic reaction in the filaments i.e.

$$W(1-x) = \frac{\gamma I}{\rho} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where ρ is the radius of curvature of the neutral axis at C.

If we consider another point D at very small distance dx from C, then we have

$$CD = \rho \cdot d\theta$$

because radius of curvature of the beam at D is practically the same as at C.

$$\text{or } dx = p \cdot d\theta$$

$$\therefore p = dx/d\theta$$

Substituting this value of p in (1), we get

$$W(1-x) = \frac{\gamma I \cdot d\theta}{dx}$$

$$\text{or } d\theta = \frac{W(1-x)}{\gamma I} \cdot dx \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Let CE and DF be the tangents drawn to the beam at the points C and D respectively. These tangents meet the vertical line through BB' at E and F and they also subtend the same angle $d\theta$ between them.

Let Z be the depression of D below C (= EF)

$$\text{Then } Z = (1-x) d\theta$$

$$= \frac{W(1-x)^2}{\gamma I} \cdot dx \quad (\text{From eqn (2)})$$

At B (where $x=1$), the depression Z of the beam is maximum. Let it be equal to S . Hence the total depression $BB' = S$ of the loaded end B below the fixed end A, will be given by

$$S = \int_0^1 \frac{W(1-x)^2}{\gamma I} dx \quad \text{or } S = \frac{Wl^3}{3\gamma I} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

This is the required expression for depression.

(i) Beam of rectangular cross-section: If the beam is of rectangular cross-section $I = bd^3/12$, Hence from eqn (3) $S = 4Wl^3/\gamma bd^3$

(ii) Beam of circular cross-section: If the beam is of circular cross section $I = \pi r^4/4$, where r is the radius of the beam.

Hence from eqn (3) we get

$$S = \frac{4Wl^3}{3\gamma\pi r^4}$$

Teacher's Signature: _____

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