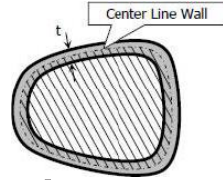


# **FEEG 2005**

## **Structures: Lecture 5**

Buckling 1: Instability in structures, Euler buckling theory

# Summary of last lecture



Closed Sections:

1) Stress:

$$\tau_{max} = \frac{T_{max}}{2A_m t_{min}}$$

2) Deformation:

$$\phi = \frac{TL}{GJ}$$

Torsional  
Constant:

$$J = \frac{4A_m^2}{\oint \frac{ds}{t}}$$



Open Sections:

$$\tau_{i,max} = \pm \frac{T t_i}{J}$$

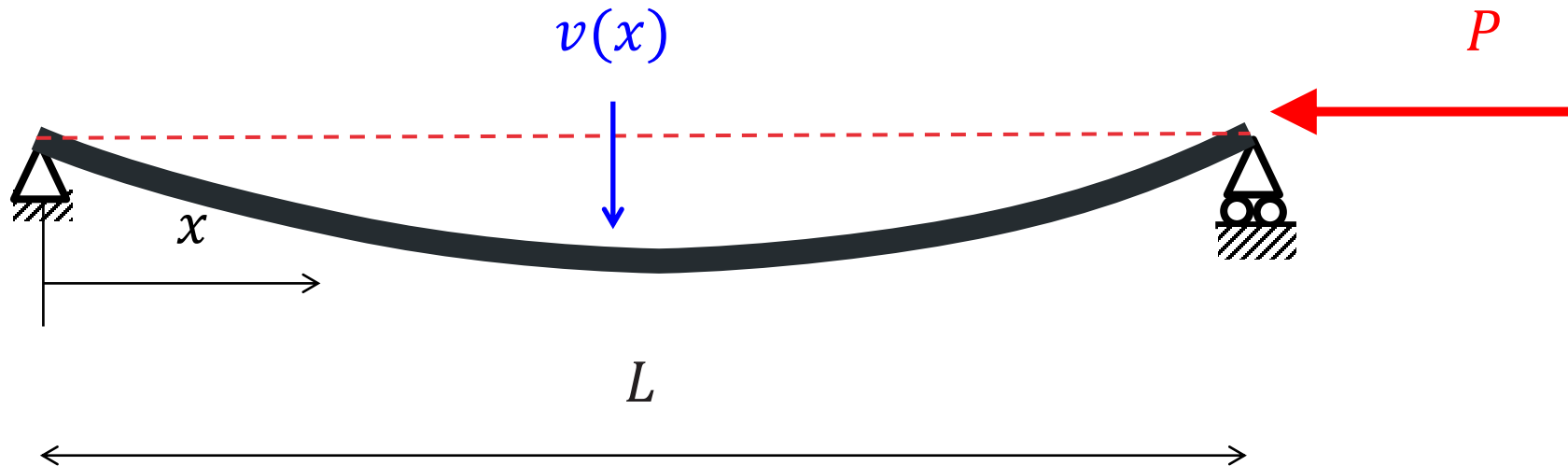
$$\phi = \frac{TL}{GJ}$$

$$J \approx \sum_i^N \frac{b_i t_i^3}{3}$$

- Closed sections are much better at supporting torsion!

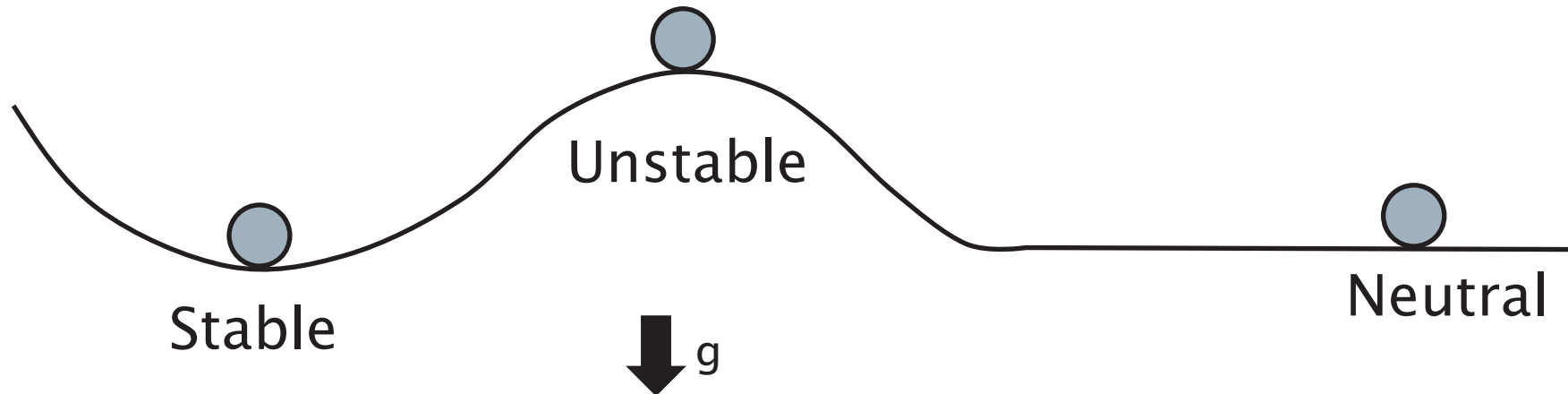
# This lecture

- Instability and buckling of structures



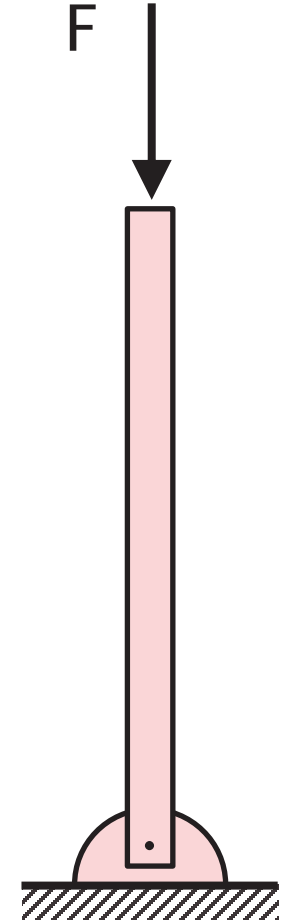
# Stability of equilibrium

- So far, we discussed the equilibrium of internal and external forces.
- Applying a small disturbance to a system of forces in equilibrium can show if that system is (i) stable (ii) unstable, or (iii) Neutral. Note: all balls are in equilibrium.



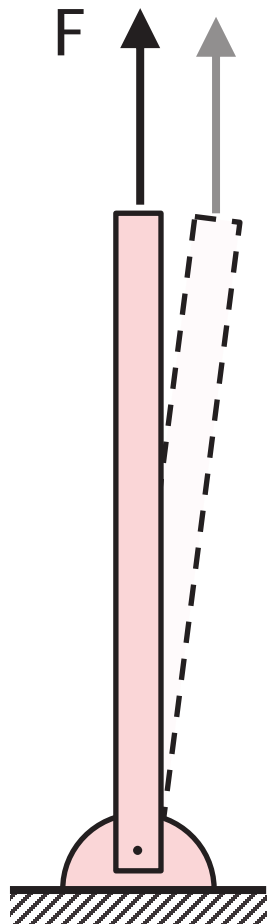
## Question

- Which statement is correct for the vertical end-pinned bar under compression?
  1. The system is in equilibrium and stable.
  2. The system is in equilibrium and unstable. ]
  3. The system is not in equilibrium and is stable.
  4. The system is not in equilibrium and is unstable.



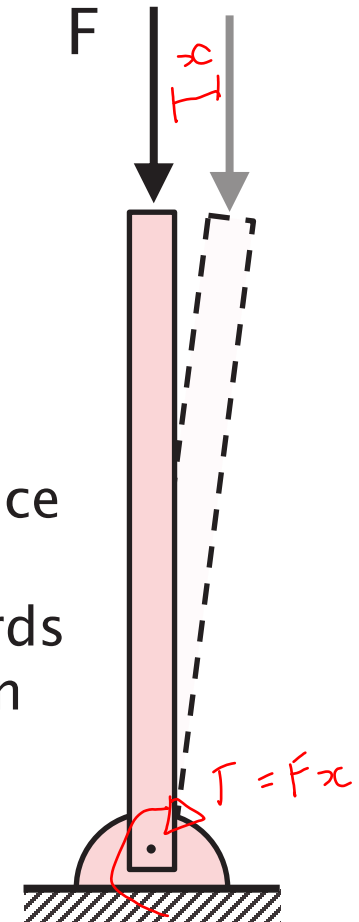
<https://vevox.app/#/m/185411783>

# Vertical end-pinned bar, stable loading vs unstable loading



The force  $F$  restores the original equilibrium even after a small disturbance

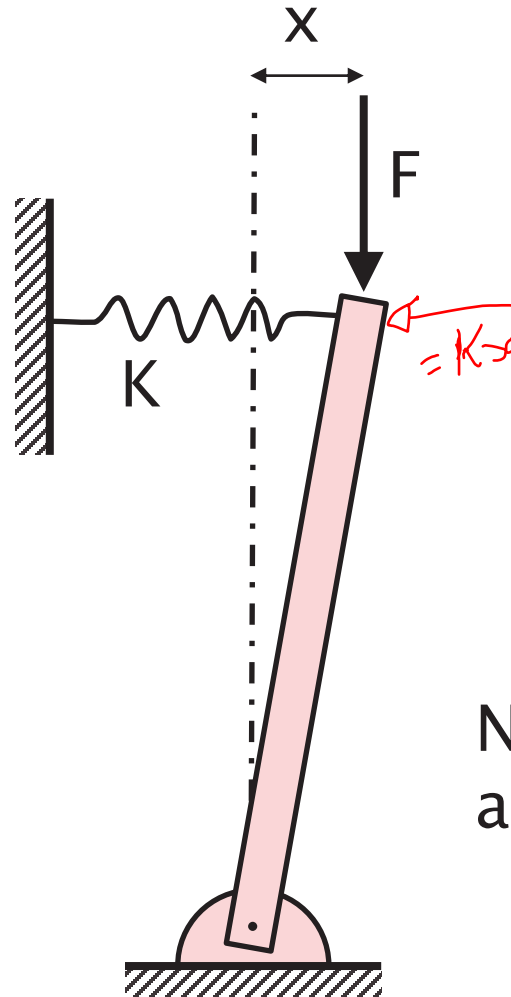
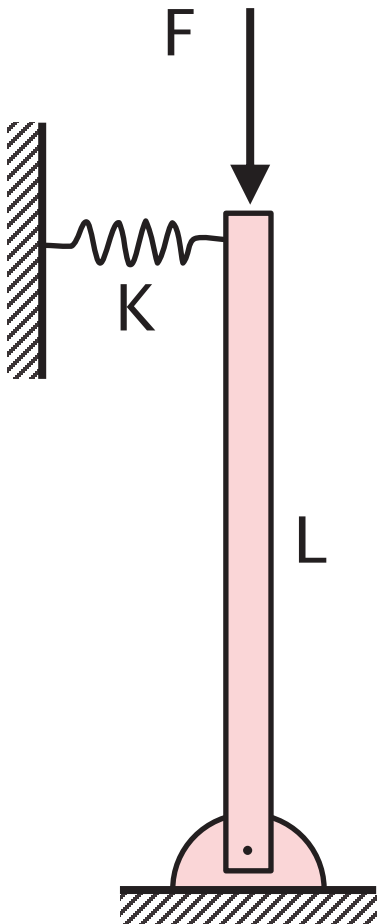
Stable



A small disturbance causes the bar accelerating towards horizontal position

Unstable

# Vertical end-pinned bar with spring



1. Stable if  $Fx < KxL \rightarrow F < KL$
2. Unstable if  $Fx > KxL$
3. Neutral if  $Fx = KxL$

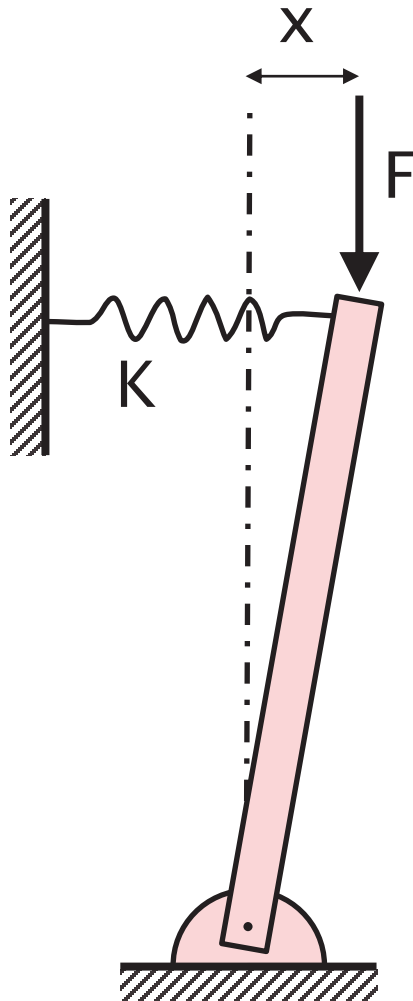
Note:  $x$  and rotation angle are assumed to be small.

It depends ...

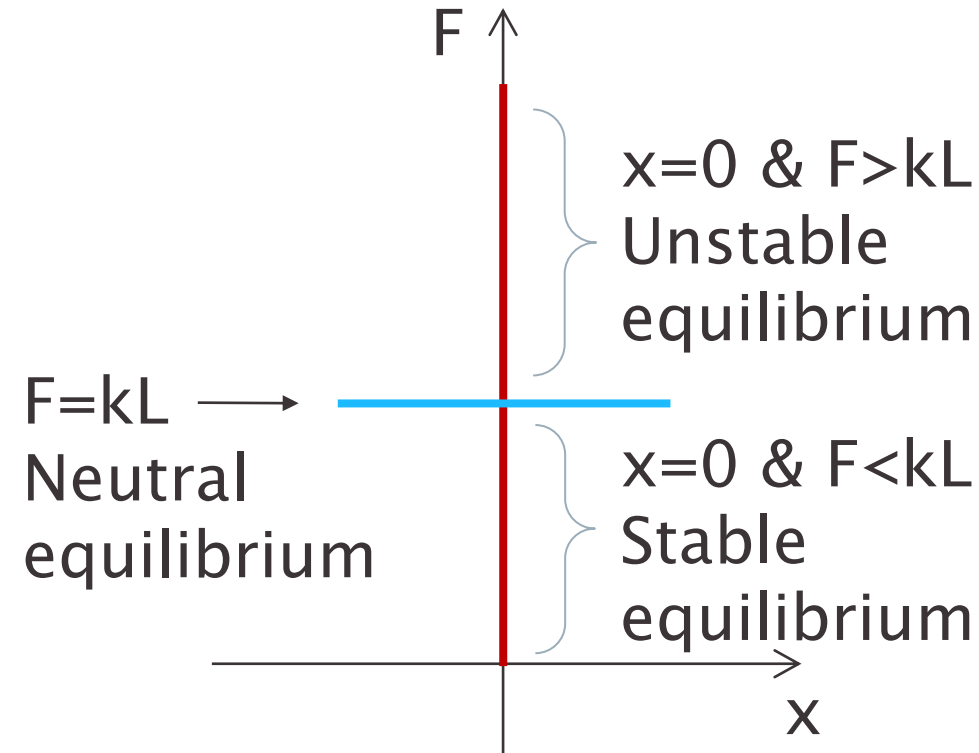
# Solving for the equilibrium

equilibrium it balanced  
spring n force

Please contact  
me if interested  
to manufacture  
this system!



- $Fx = kxL \rightarrow \begin{cases} F=kL \\ \text{or} \\ x=0 \end{cases}$  — equilibrium it centred regardless of force



Plot shows equilibrium states at  $F$  and  $x$

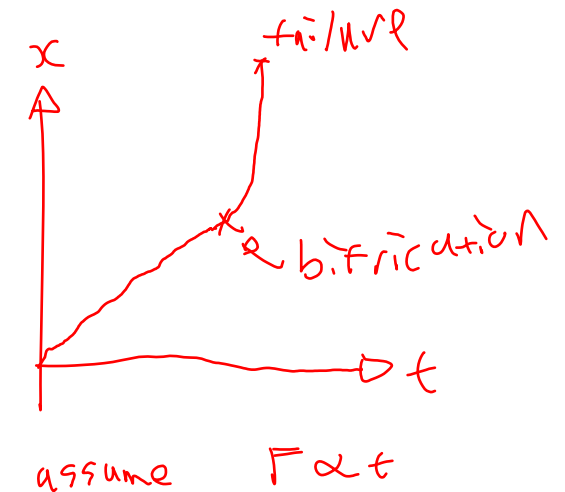
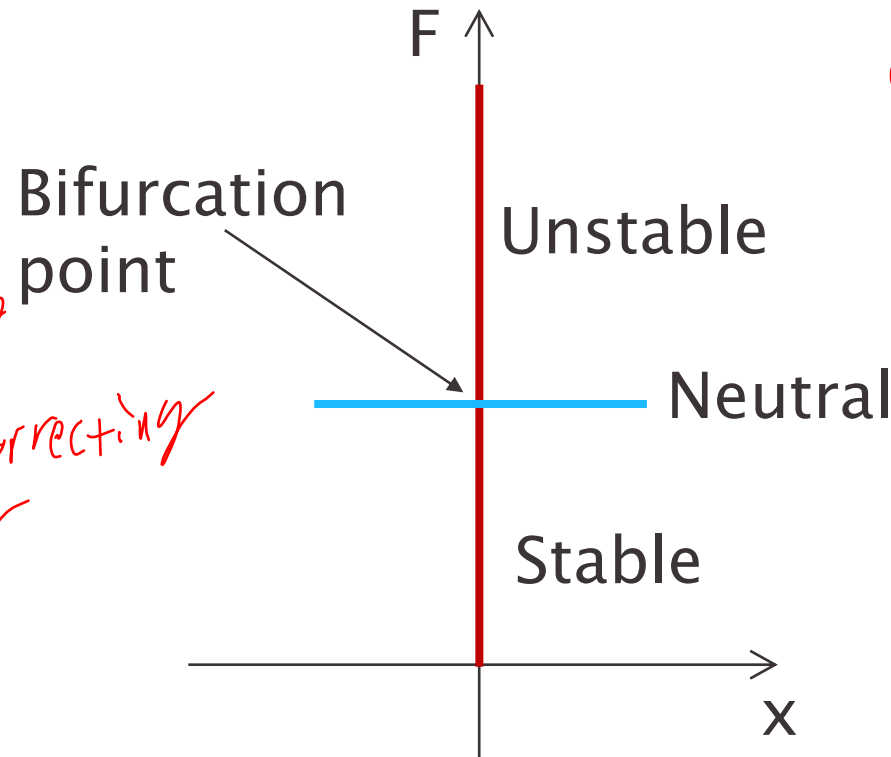


# Bifurcation point

- Changes in stability (buckling), occur at bifurcation points.

deflection time chart

This is where suddenly the beam fails as it goes from self correcting (stable) to accelerating deflection (unstable)



# Buckling categories

# Classical or bifurcation buckling

- As the load passes through its critical stage, the structure passes from its unbuckled equilibrium configuration to an infinitesimally close buckled equilibrium configuration.

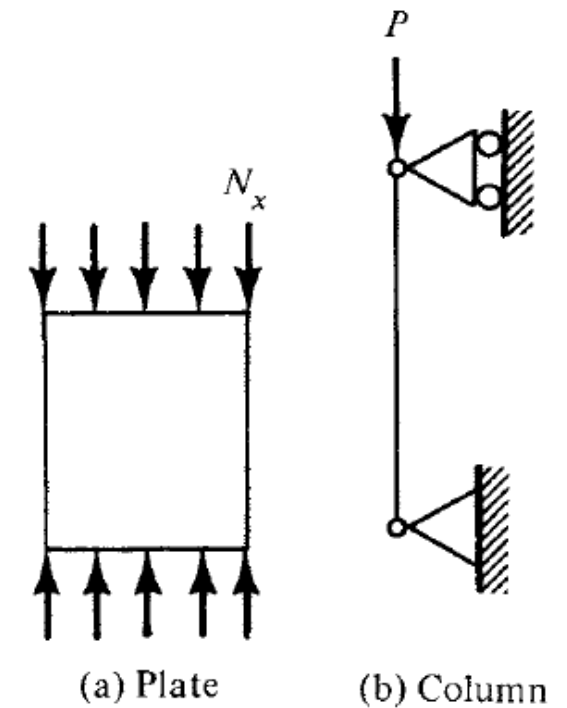
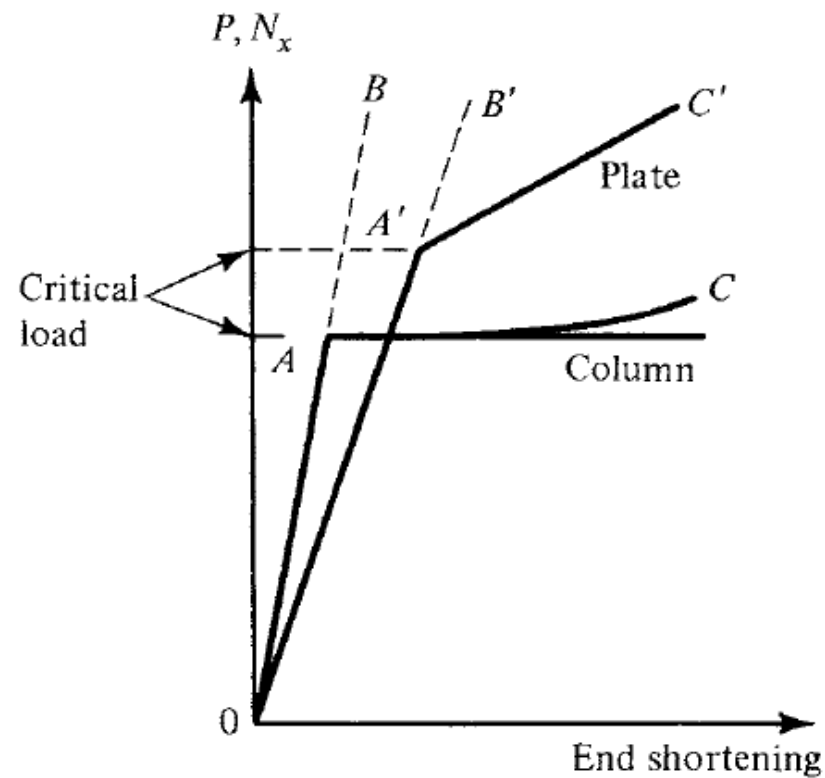


Figure from Fundamentals of Structural Stability by George J. Simitses and Dewey H. Hodges, available [online](#)

# Finite-disturbance or snap-back buckling

- For some structures, the loss of stiffness after buckling is so great that the buckled equilibrium configuration can only be maintained by returning to an earlier level of loading.

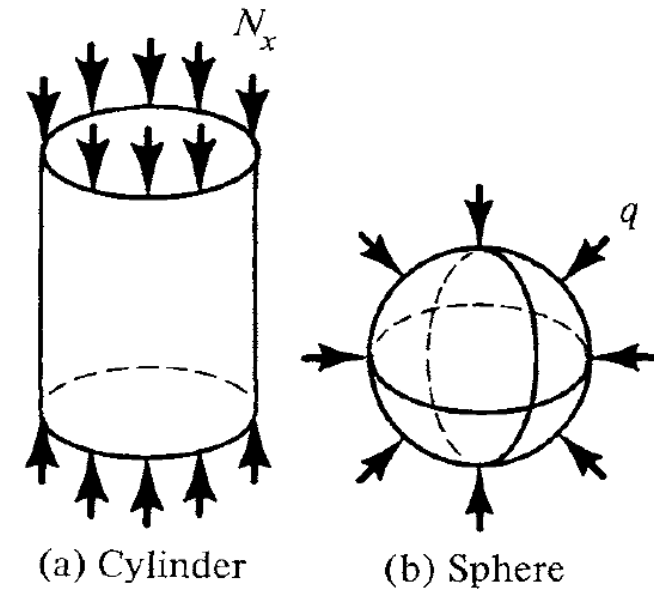
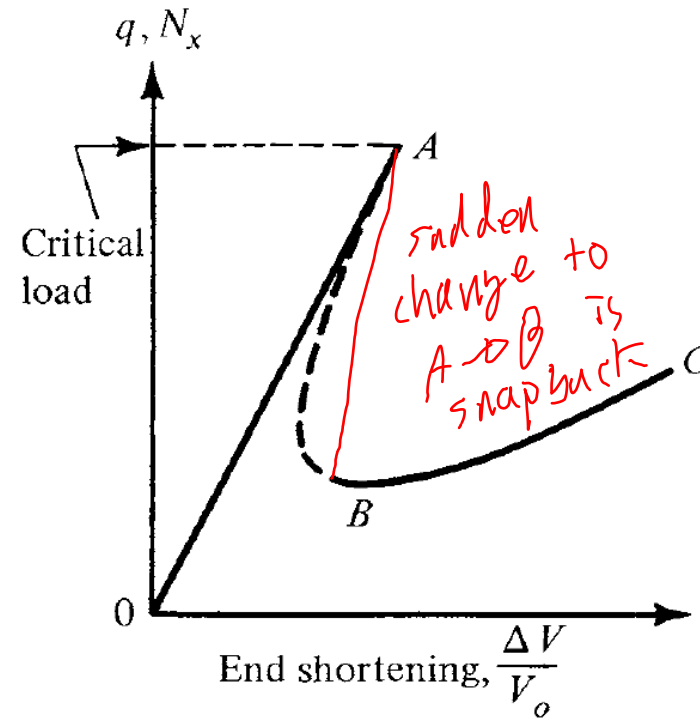


Figure from Fundamentals of Structural Stability by George J. Simitses and Dewey H. Hodges, available [online](#)

# Oil-canning or snap-through buckling

- This phenomenon is characterized by a visible and sudden jump from one equilibrium configuration to another equilibrium configuration for which displacements are larger than in the first (nonadjacent equilibrium states).

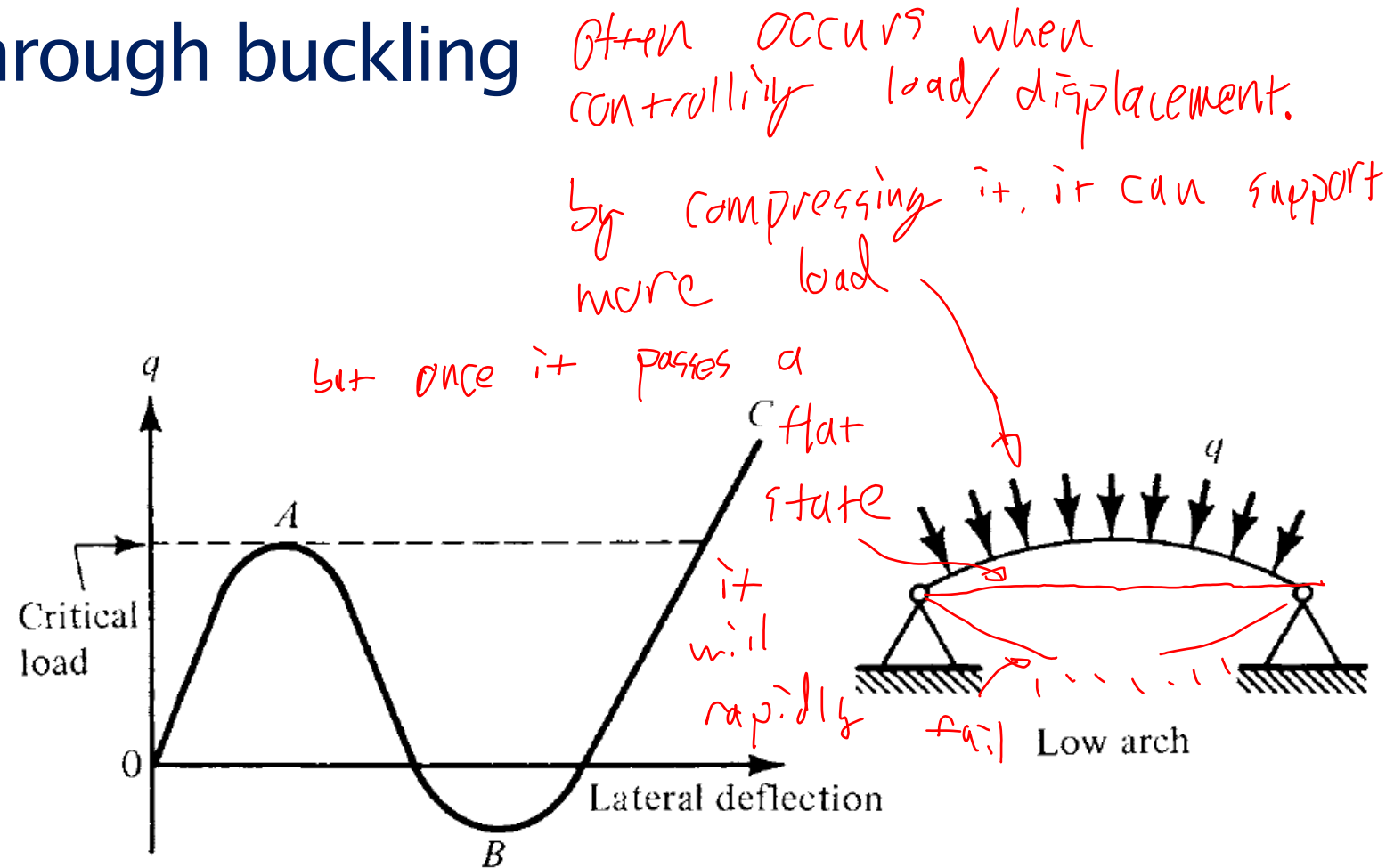


Figure from Fundamentals of Structural Stability by George J. Simitses and Dewey H. Hodges, available [online](#)

# Examples of buckling

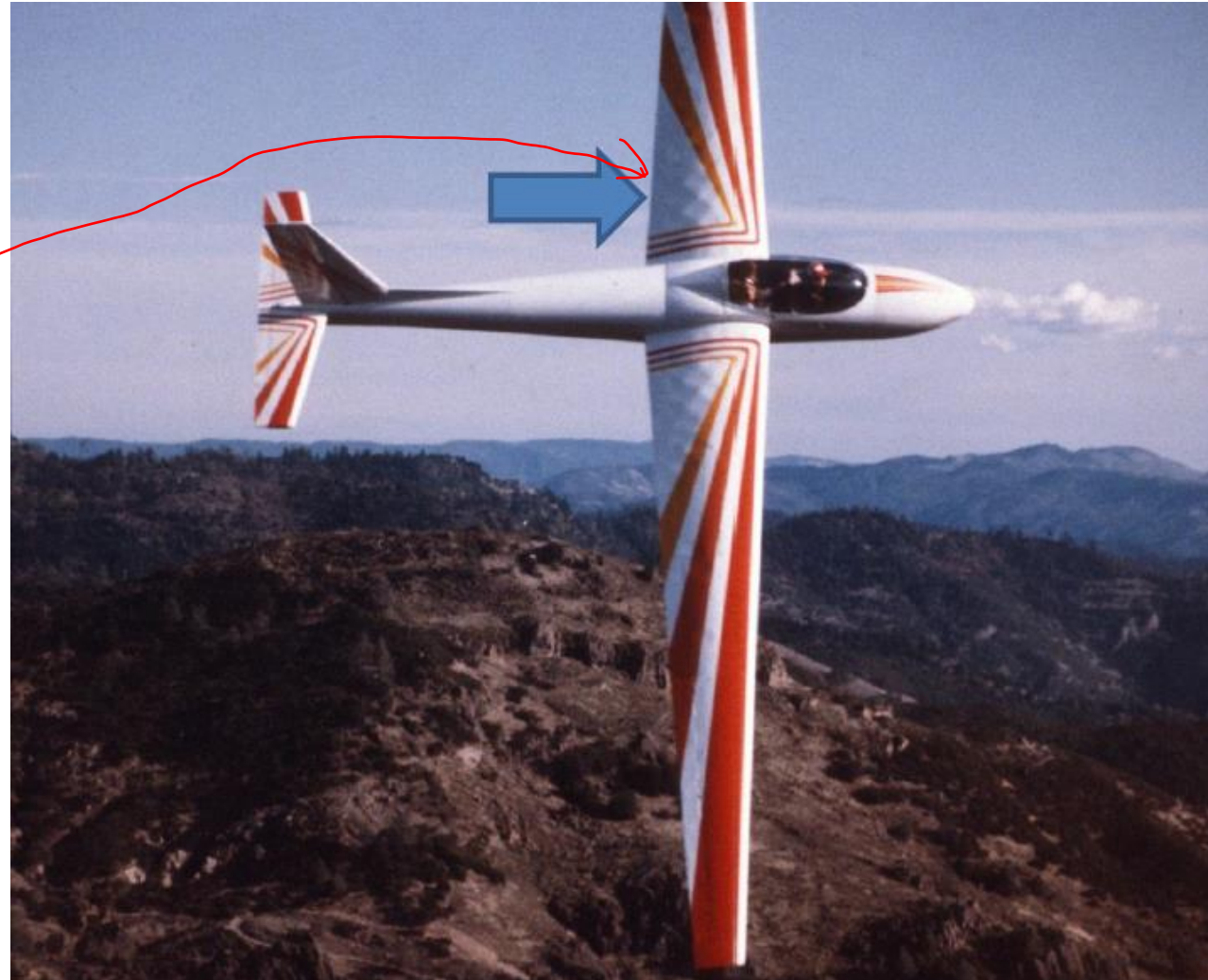
# The containership "MOL Comfort" breaks in two

- On June 17 2008 Mitsui O.S.K. Lines' "MOL Comfort" experienced severe hogging and broke in two.



# Local buckling of the top surfaces of the wings of a glider

Secondary  
structures  
can buckle  
without issues  
eg: skin  
but primary  
eg: frame  
can't without  
issues



<http://shellbuckling.com/index.php>



# Buckled wine tank following earthquake

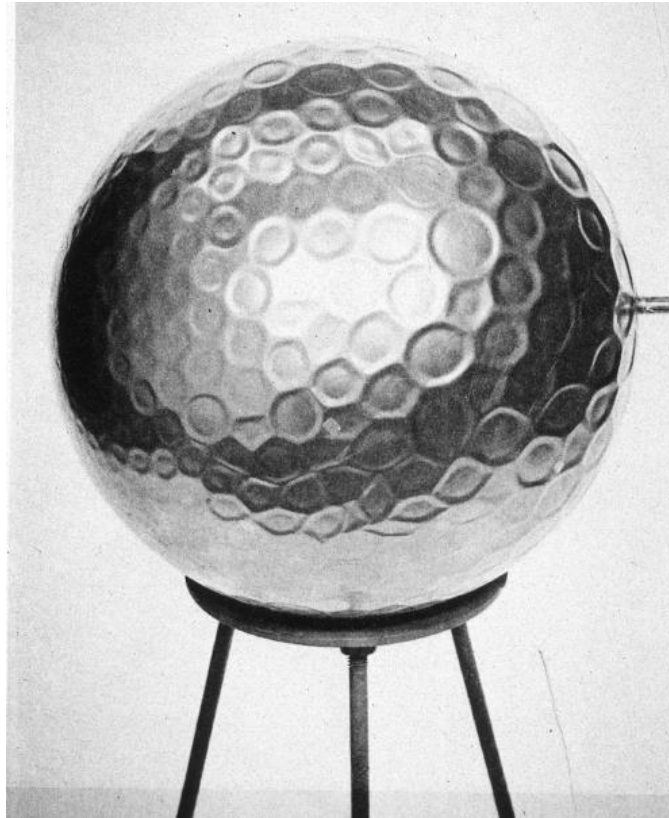
- The thin stainless steel wine tanks buckled in an earthquake near Livermore, California at the Wente Brothers winery in 1979.



# Thin shell cylinder and sphere

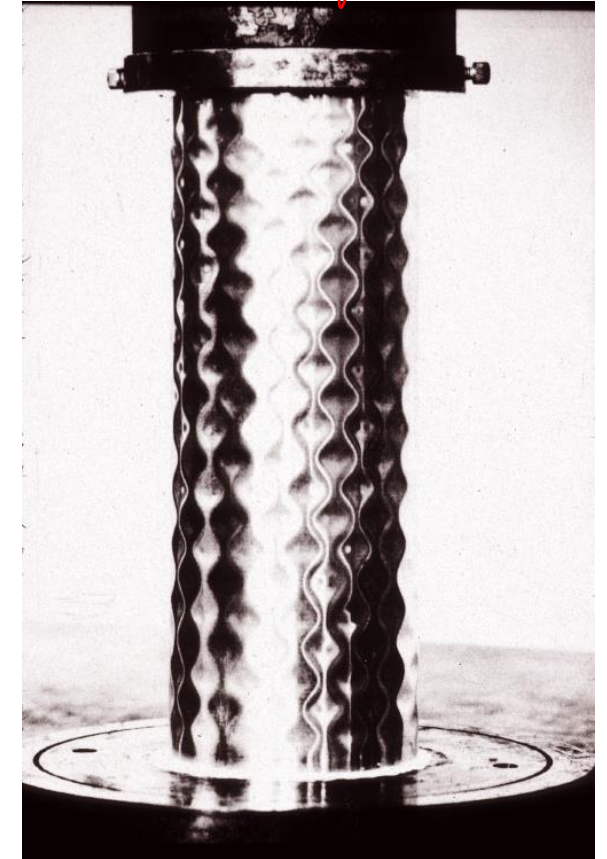
compression often has  
much more complex  
non linear relationships

- The post-buckling pattern (what you see in the pictures) is “artificially” stabilized because there is a solid mandrel inside the shell.



Sphere under external pressure

Pictures from [very thin buckled externally pressurized spherical shell \(shellbuckling.com\)](http://shellbuckling.com)

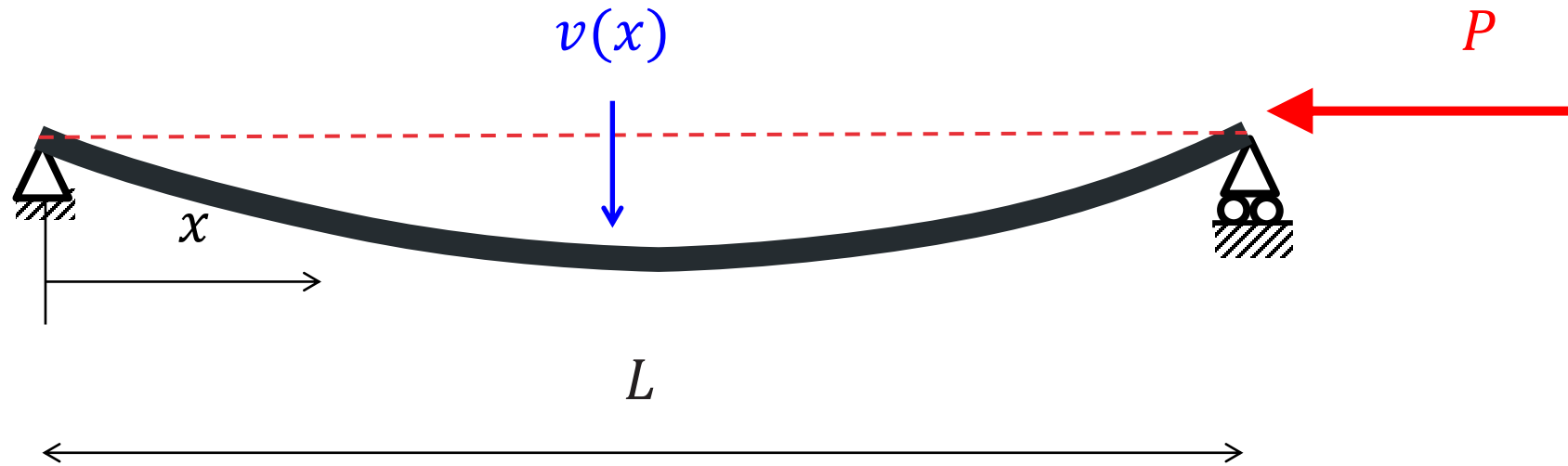


Cylinder under axial compression

# Euler buckling theory for beams

# Euler buckling theory

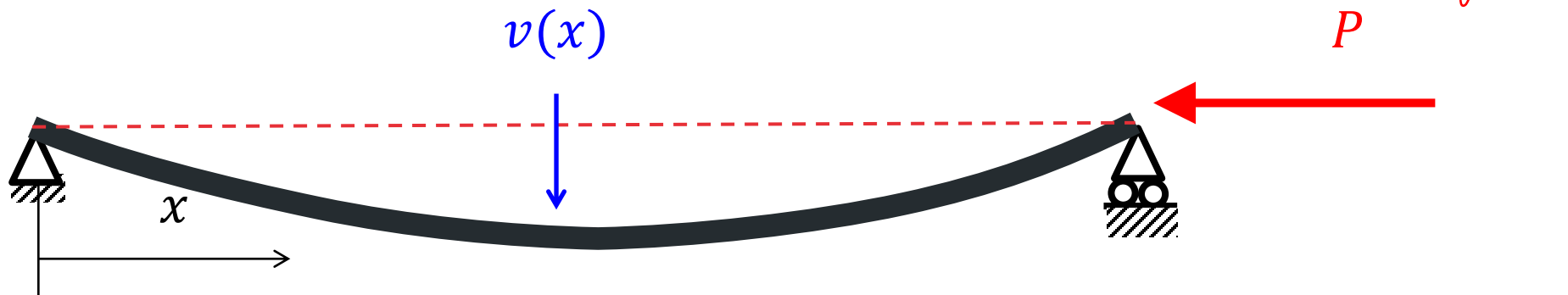
- Motivation: Finding the critical load beyond which the beam becomes unstable.



## Question

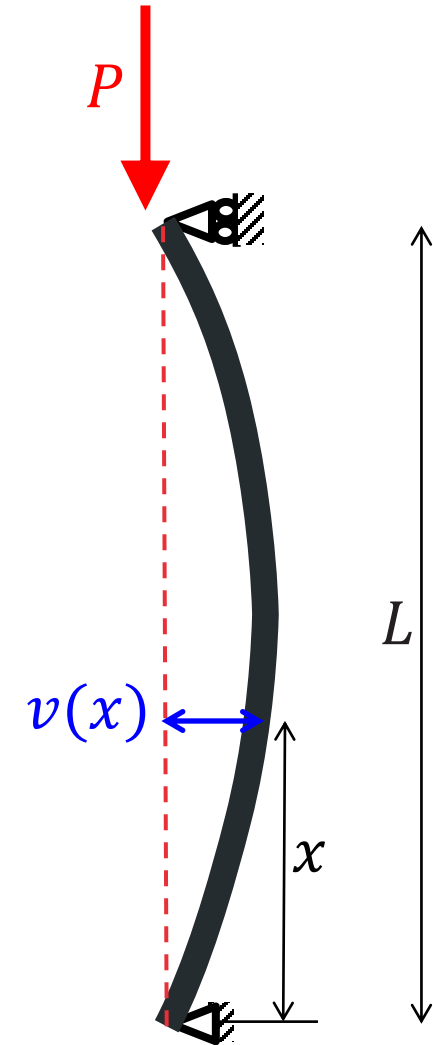
<https://vevox.app/#/m/185411783>

- Which statement is incorrect for an Euler beam under compression?
  1. The stability of the beam is not a function of the disturbance magnitude.
  2. There are infinite number of solutions that can satisfy the BCs.
  3. Materials with higher Yield stress buckle at higher loads.
  4. Sections with lower  $I$  buckle at lower loads.



# Assumptions

- The column is initially perfectly straight with a uniform section
- Homogenous, isotropic, linear elastic material behaviour
- The compressive load is applied through the centroid



# Free body diagram of part of the beam

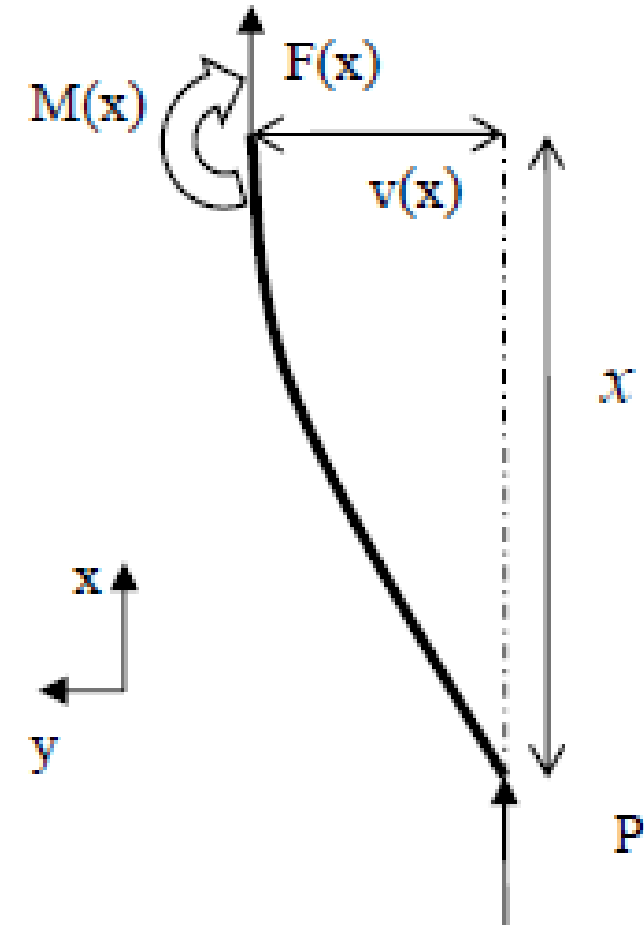
- Draw an FBD of the buckled column, take a cut and apply equilibrium: *moment equilibrium*

$$M(x) - Pv(x) = 0 \Rightarrow M(x) = Pv(x)$$

Whereas  $M(x)$  is the internal moment at  $x$  and  $v(x)$  is the deflection in  $y$  direction.

- From Statics, we know that:

$$M(x) = -EI \frac{d^2v(x)}{dx^2}$$



# Finding the differential equation

- Combine the equations to obtain the second order differential eq. for the buckled column:

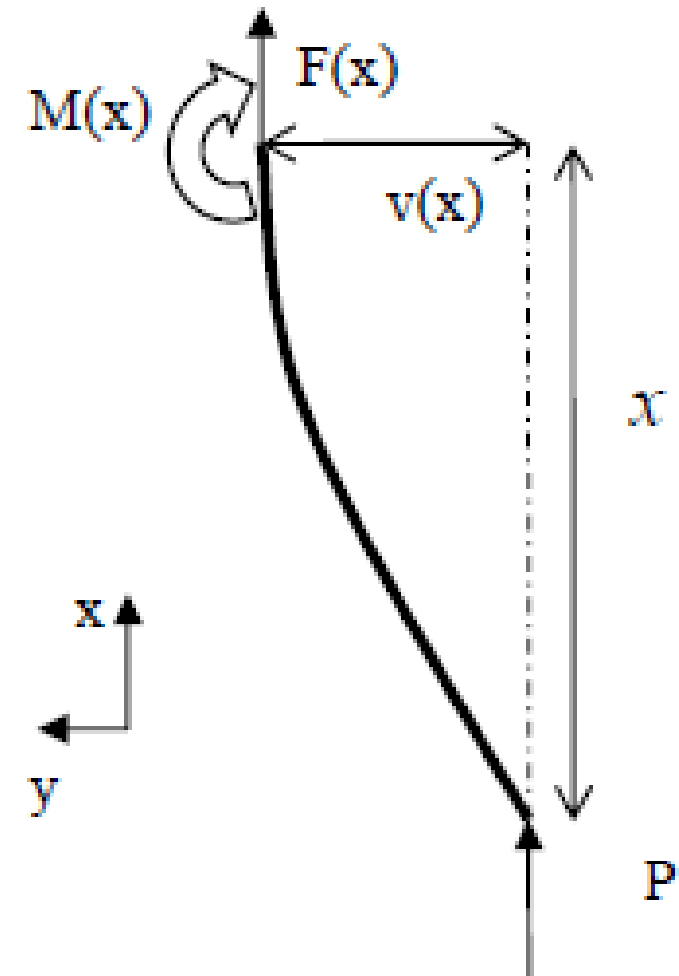
$$\frac{d^2 v(x)}{dx^2} + \frac{P}{EI} v(x) = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2 v(x)}{dx^2} + \mu^2 v(x) = 0 \text{ where } \mu^2 = \frac{P}{EI}$$

- The general solution for this equation is:

$$v(x) = A \sin(\mu x) + B \cos(\mu x)$$

- Check this by differentiating and subbing into the DE!





# Applying boundary conditions and finding P

- Applying the boundary conditions of the column (assume pinned-pinned):

- $v(0) = 0$  , so  $B = 0$

- $v(L) = 0$  , so  $A \sin(\mu L) = 0 \Rightarrow$ 

*two possible solution cases*

*top and bottom have no displacement*

(1)  $A = 0 \Rightarrow v(x) = 0$  *trivial solution*

or

(2)  $\mu = \frac{n\pi}{L} \Rightarrow v(x) = A \sin(\frac{n\pi}{L}x)$  where  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  *n number of solutions*

- Substituting  $v(x)$  into  $\frac{d^2v(x)}{dx^2} + \frac{P}{EI}v(x) = 0$  to find P:

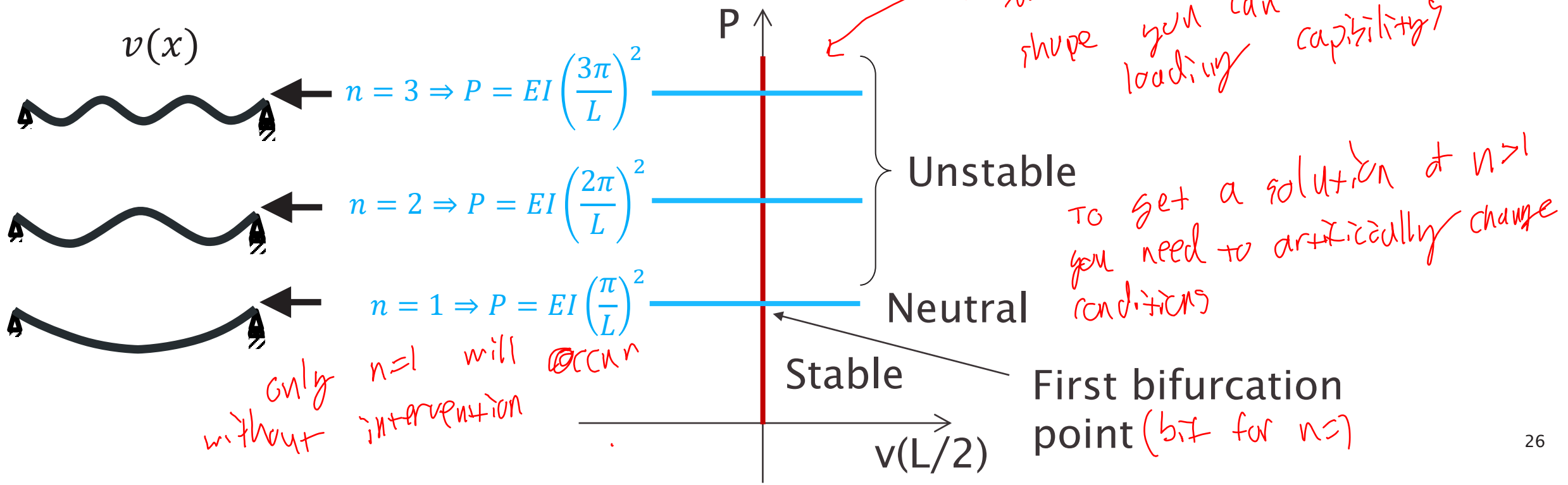
- If  $v(x) = 0 \Rightarrow 0 + \frac{P}{EI}0 = 0 \Rightarrow$  **P can be any number!** *trivial*

- If  $v(x) = A \sin(\frac{n\pi}{L}x) \Rightarrow -A \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) + \frac{P}{EI}A \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) = 0 \Rightarrow P = EI \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$

# Load-deflection graph

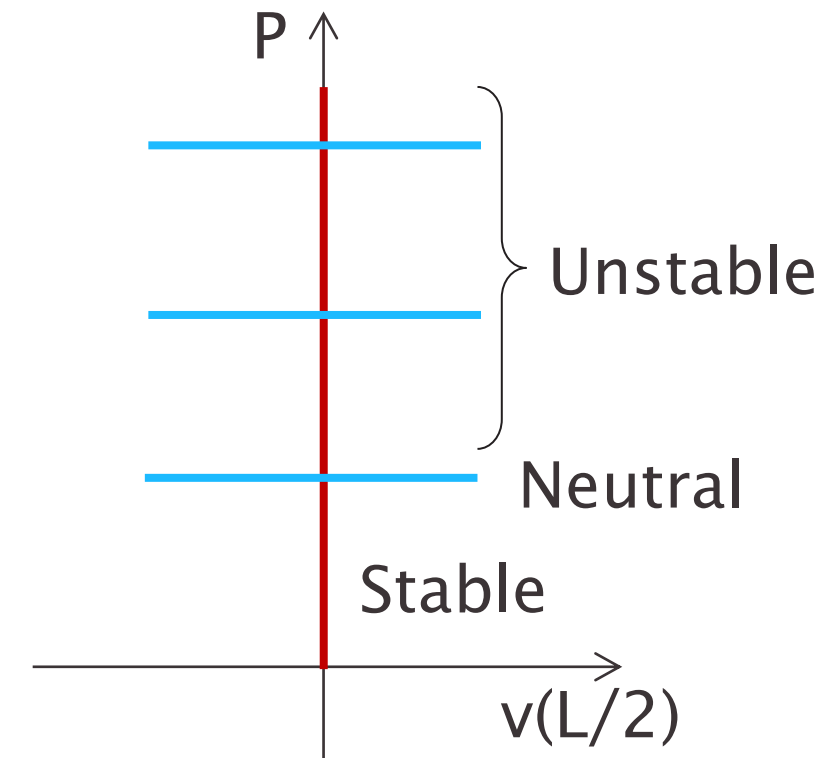
1.  $v(x) = 0$  and  $P$  can be any number.

2.  $v(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right)$  and  $P = EI \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$  with  $n=1,2,3\dots$



# Buckling of an Axially Loaded Column

- The first buckling mode requires the lowest force so this one is 'critical':  $P_{crit} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$  For pinned-pinned BCs
- If  $P$  equals or exceeds ' $P_{crit}$ ' then the column is unstable and will fail by buckling.
- This equation tells us:
  - Stiffer materials (higher  $E$ ) are more resistant to buckling
  - The column will buckle about the axis with lowest  $I$
  - The critical load decreases with  $L^2$

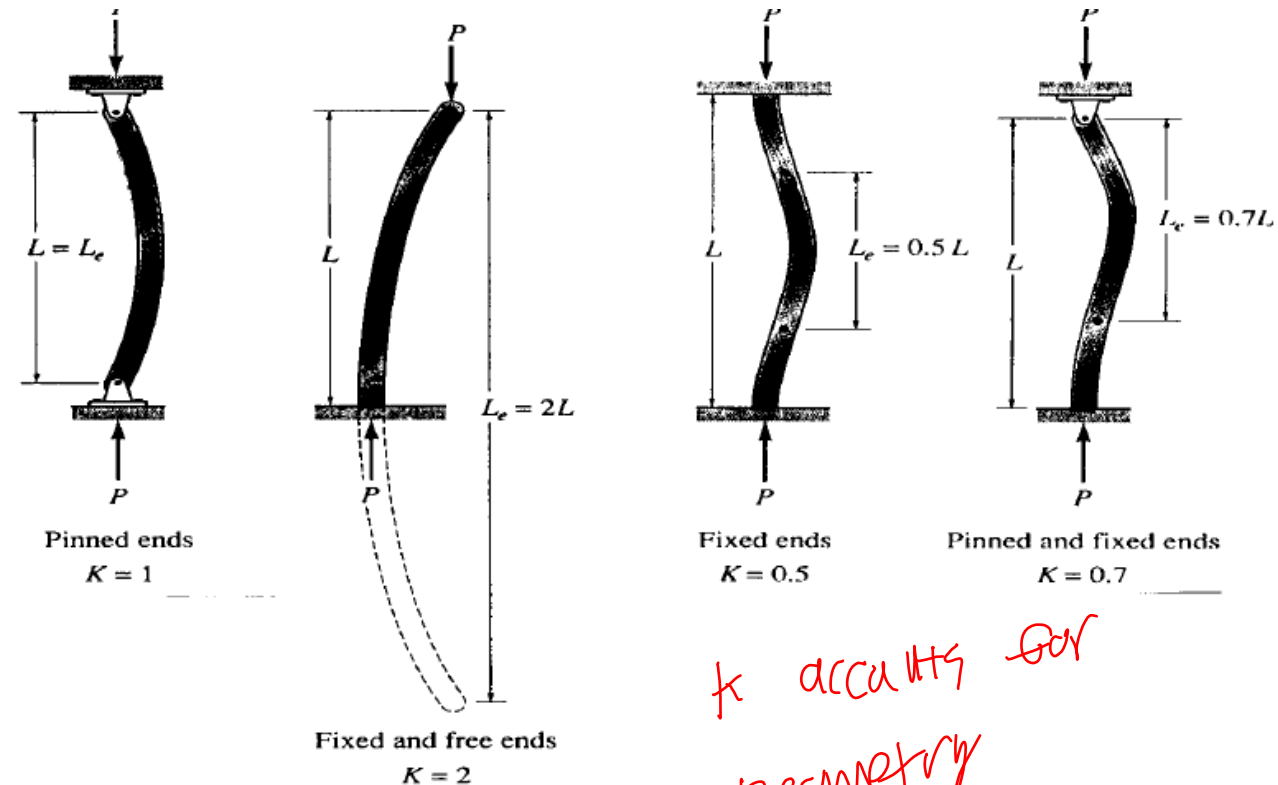


# Effect of Boundary Conditions

- Previously we assumed pinned-pinned boundary conditions, the general form of the critical buckling load equation is:

$$P_{crit} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(KL)^2}$$

- Where 'K' is dependent on the
  - Pinned-pinned:  $K = 1$
  - Fixed-free:  $K = 2$
  - Fixed-fixed:  $K = 0.5$
  - Fixed-pinned:  $K = 0.7$



*K accounts for geometry*

# Next lecture: response of imperfect columns

- We will consider imperfect/realistic columns:
  - Eccentric loading
  - Initially curved columns

