

Unless otherwise mentioned, these problems should be solvable using a basic calculator. Practice clear communication by showing all work (free body diagrams, algebra, etc). This will be required to receive full credit on any graded problems.

1. Book problems:

- (a) 6.5
- (b) 6.51

Additional Practice Problems: 6.11, 6.22, 6.45, 6.61

The quiz problem will not be selected from these additional practice problems. However, these exercises contain important elements of the course and similar problems may appear on the exam.

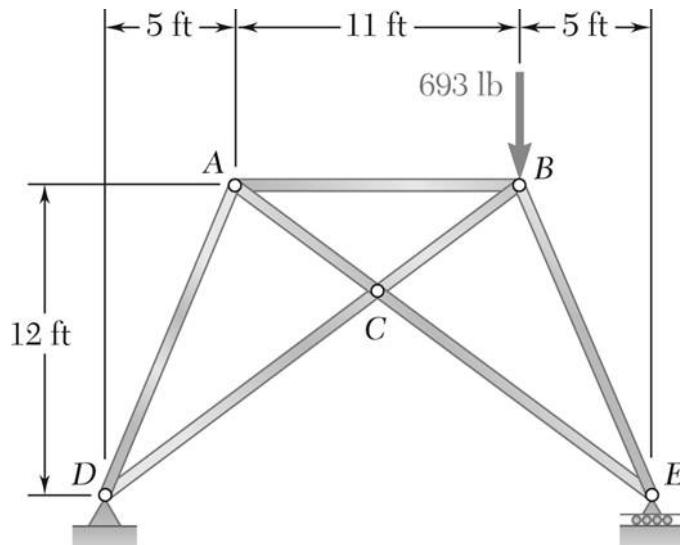
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**Solution:**

6.5  $F_{BD} = 0$ ,  $F_{AC} = 5.00$  kips C,  $F_{AD} = 13.00$  kips T,  $F_{CD} = 30.0$  kips C,  $F_{DF} = 5.00$  kips T,  $F_{CF} = 32.5$  kips T,  $F_{CE} = 17.50$  kips C,  $F_{EF} = 0$

6.51  $F_{DE} = 25.0$  kips T,  $F_{DF} = 13.00$  kips C

2. While constructing the new recreational-center building, the construction company erected a temporary platform as shown in the figure. The equipment kept on the platform at point B weighs 693 lb. The platform can be modeled as a truss. Using the method of joints, determine the force in each member of the truss shown. State whether each member is in tension or compression.



Temporary Platform

**Solution:**

Problem - 2

Reaction

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow D_x = 0$$

$$\sum M_E = 0 \Rightarrow D_y \times 21 - 693 \times 5 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow D_y = 165 \text{ Lb}$$

$$\sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow E_y = 693 - 165 = 528 \text{ Lb}$$

Joint D

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{3} T_{AD} + \frac{4}{5} T_{DC} = 0$$

$$\sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow -\frac{12}{13} T_{AD} + \frac{3}{5} T_{DC} + 165 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{AD} = -260 \text{ Lb} \quad T_{DC} = 125 \text{ Lb}$$

Joint E

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow -\frac{5}{13} T_{BE} - \frac{4}{5} T_{CE} = 0$$

$$\sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{12}{13} T_{BE} + \frac{3}{5} T_{CE} + 528 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{BE} = -832 \text{ Lb} \quad T_{CE} = 400 \text{ Lb}$$

Joint A

$$T_{AC} = T_{BC}$$

$$c = 400 \text{ Lb} \quad T_{BC} = 125 \text{ Lb}$$

Joint B

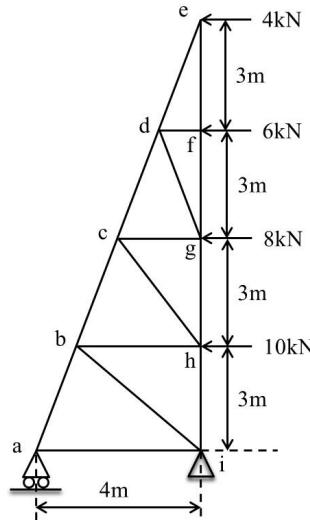
$$\sum F_x = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{5}{13}(260) + \frac{4}{5}(400) + F_{AB} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow F_{AB} = -420 \text{ Lb}$$

3. Considering the truss shown in Fig. 2, answer the following questions:

- Show that the truss is stable (i.e. static).
- Find the forces in members cd, cg, and gh.



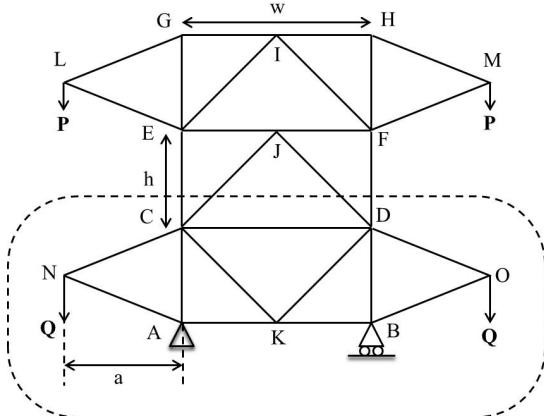
Schematic of Truss

**Solution:**

<p>For equilibrium,  <math>\sum M_c = 0 \quad -R_a(6) + 10(3) + 8(6) + 6(12) = 0</math>  <math>\therefore R_a = 45 \text{ kN}</math></p> <p><math>\sum F_y = 0 \quad \therefore R_a - R_{ix} = 0</math>  <math>\therefore R_{iy} = R_a = 45 \text{ kN}</math></p> <p><math>\sum F_x = 0 \quad R_{ix} - 10 - 8 - 6 = 0</math>  <math>\therefore R_{ix} = 24 \text{ kN}</math></p> <p>Find length cg ?  <math>\frac{l_{cg}}{6} = \frac{4}{12} \Rightarrow l_{cg} = 2 \text{ m}</math></p> <p>Now let us look at the FBD of the lower part of the truss (the cut section)</p> <p><math>\sum M_c = 0 \quad -45(2) + F_{gh}(2) - 10(3) + 22(6) - 45(2) = 0</math>  <math>\therefore F_{gh} = 21 \text{ kN (C)}</math></p> <p><math>\sum F_y = 0 \quad \therefore 45 - \frac{12}{12} F_{cd} + F_{gh} - 45 = 0</math>  <math>\therefore F_{cd} = 22.1 \text{ kN (C)}</math></p> <p><math>\sum F_x = 0 \quad \therefore \frac{4}{12} F_{cd} - F_{gh} - 10 + 24 = 0</math>  <math>\therefore F_{gh} = 11 \text{ kN (C)}</math></p>	
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4. Electrical transmission towers can be modeled as trusses, as shown in the figure. Although they are actually three-dimensional space trusses, in this problem, they can be approximated as the standard two-dimensional truss. Consider a simplified section of the transmission tower, as shown, with the following dimensions and forces:  $w = 1m$ ,  $h = 0.5m$ ,  $a = 0.8m$ ,  $P = 800N$ , and  $Q = 1200N$ . Assume that sections AC, CE, and EG all have the same height  $h$ . You may also make use of the fact that the truss is symmetric about a vertical axis passing through points I, J, and K. Compute the following:

- The reaction forces at supports A and B.
- The forces in all members enclosed by the dashed region shown in the figure.



Electrical Transmission Tower

### Solution:

**PROBLEM 4** An electrical transmission tower is shown in the figure. The truss is symmetric about a vertical axis passing through points I, J, and K. The dimensions are  $w = 1m$ ,  $h = 0.5m$ ,  $a = 0.8m$ ,  $P = 800N$ , and  $Q = 1200N$ . The truss is supported by a roller at A and a pin at B. Compute the reaction forces at supports A and B, and the forces in all members enclosed by the dashed region shown in the figure.

**SOLUTION**

First, we need to establish that this truss is statically determinate and stable.

No. of members =  $27 - m$   
No. of joints =  $15 - n$   
 $m = 2n - 3$  is satisfied!

(a) Reactions at A, B

Since none of the external forces are in the horizontal direction, the support at A only exerts a vertical force.

$$A_x + B_x = A_y + B_y - 2(P+Q) = 0$$

Due to Symmetric loading,  $A_y = B_y = 2kN$

$$A_y = B_y = 2kN \uparrow$$

(b) The dashed region encloses the following members: AN, NC, AC, AK, CK, CD, CE, CJ and their symmetric counterparts. In the following analysis, we will assume that all members are in tension. (Compression will prevent itself with a negative sign on the force.)

Bolt A

$$\sum F_x: -T_{AN} \sin \theta + T_{AC} = 0 \quad T_{AN} = T_{AC}$$

$$\sum F_y: T_{AC} + A_y + T_{AN} \cos \theta = 0 \quad A_y = 2kN$$

$$T_{AC} = -A_y - T_{AN} \cos \theta = -1400N$$

$$T_{AN} = \frac{1400}{\sin(20^\circ)} = 72.65kN$$

Bolt N

$$\sum F_x: T_{NC} \sin \theta + T_{AN} \cos \theta = 0 \quad T_{NC} = -T_{AN}$$

$$\sum F_y: T_{NC} \cos \theta - T_{AN} \sin \theta - Q = 0 \quad \Rightarrow T_{AN} = \frac{Q}{\sin(20^\circ)} = -2012N$$

$$T_{AN} = 2012N$$

$$T_{NC} = T_{AN} \sin \theta = -1920.45N$$

Bolt K

$$\sum F_x: -T_{AK} + T_{CK} = 0 \quad T_{AK} = T_{CK}$$

$$\sum F_y: T_{CK} + T_{AK} \cos \alpha = 0 \quad \text{From symmetry, } T_{CK} = T_{AK} = 0$$

$$\sum F_y: (T_{CE} + T_{CD}) \cos \alpha = 0 \quad \text{By the same argument, } T_{CE} = T_{CD} = 0$$

Bolt C

$$\sum F_x: -T_{NC} \sin \theta + T_{CD} = 0 \quad T_{CD} = T_{NC}$$

$$\sum F_y: T_{CD} + T_{CE} + T_{AC} = 0 \quad T_{AC} = -T_{CD} - T_{CE}$$

$$T_{AC} = -1920.45N$$

$$T_{CD} = 1920.45N$$

$$T_{CE} = -1920.45N$$

$$T_{AC} = -1920.45N - 800N$$

**Summary:**

$T_{AN} = -2012N$	$\Rightarrow$ compression
$T_{NC} = 2012N$	$\Rightarrow$ tension
$T_{AC} = -1920.45N$	$\Rightarrow$ compression
$T_{AK} = -1920.45N$	$\Rightarrow$ compression
$T_{CK} = 0$	
$T_{CD} = 1920.45N$	$\Rightarrow$ tension
$T_{CE} = -1920.45N$	$\Rightarrow$ compression
$T_{CJ} = 0$	

**Follow up question?**

If the members  $CJ$ ,  $DK$ ,  $EI$ ,  $FI$ ,  $CK$ ,  $AK$  have zero force, why do you think they are present on the transmission tower?

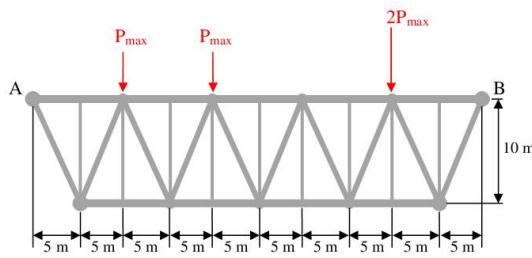
**Hint:** Think redundancy. What if member  $AC$  fails? Do you think the truss will be stable? What changes would now make the truss to ensure that

...the truss remains stable? After AC has failed, would the forces in CK and DK still remain zero? Why or why not?

5. The Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis consists of 21 stone arch spans and one steel truss span. The steel truss span replaced two of the original stone arches when the St. Anthony Falls lock and dam system was built. Under maximum loading conditions, the truss experiences the forces shown in the diagram below. Assume:

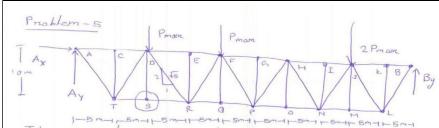
- horizontal members can withstand a maximum of 3600 kN in tension and 1200 kN in compression
- diagonal members can withstand a maximum of 1200 kN in tension and 400 kN in compression
- vertical members can withstand a maximum of 300 kN in tension and 100 kN in compression.

Find the value of  $P_{max}$  such that the forces remain within the specified tension and compression limits. The truss is attached to the bridge with a fixed support at A and a roller support at B.



Stone Arch Bridge (left) and free body diagram of steel truss span (right)

**Solution:**



Considering the entire truss, for equilibrium

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow A_x = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow P_{max} + P_{max} + 2P_{max} = (A_y + B_y) = 0 \Rightarrow A_y + B_y = -4P_{max} \quad (2)$$

$$\sum M_B = 0 \Rightarrow A_y \times 50 = P_{max} \times 40 + P_{max} \times 30$$

$$\Rightarrow A_y = \frac{9}{5} P_{max} \quad (3)$$

Substituting (3) in (2)

$$B_y = \frac{1}{5} P_{max}$$

Now, let's consider joint S.

For equilibrium  $\sum F_y = 0$

$$\Rightarrow T_{DS} = 0$$



And  $\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow T_{DS} = T_{SR}$

Similarly force in all the vertical members = 0  
 $\Rightarrow T_{AT} = T_{BS} = T_{ER} = T_{FO} = T_{GP} = T_{HO} = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow T_{IN} = T_{JM} = T_{KL} = 0$  i.e. we will ignore them now.  
 Now, we will consider a joint one by one

$$\text{Joint B: } T_{BS} = \frac{11}{5} P_{max}, \sum F_x = 0, -T_{KB} - T_{BL} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{KB} = -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{5} T_{BL} \Rightarrow T_{KB} = -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{5} P_{max}$$

$$\sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow B_y - T_{BL} \times \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} = 0 \Rightarrow T_{BL} = \frac{10}{\sqrt{5}} P_{max}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{BL} = -\frac{10}{\sqrt{5}} P_{max} \Rightarrow T_{BL} = -2\sqrt{5} P_{max}$$

$$\text{Joint I: } T_{JK} = T_{KI} = -\frac{1}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\text{Joint L: } T_{ML} = T_{AL} \times \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} + T_{IL} \times \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} = 0 \Rightarrow T_{IL} = -\frac{11}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow T_{ML} = T_{AL} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} - T_{IL} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{ML} = \frac{11}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\text{Joint M: } T_{PM} = T_{ML} = \frac{11}{10} P_{max}$$

Joint J:

$$T_{JX} = 2P_{max}, T_{JY} = 0, \sum F_y = 0, \Rightarrow T_{JN} = \frac{11\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2P_{max} + \frac{11\sqrt{5}}{10} \times \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} P_{max} = T_{JN} \times \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{JN} = \frac{P_{max}}{5}, \Rightarrow T_{JN} = \frac{1}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow T_{JN} + T_{JL} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} - T_{JI} = 0 \Rightarrow T_{JI} = -\frac{11}{10} P_{max} - \frac{1}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{JI} = -\frac{12}{10} P_{max} = -\frac{6}{5} P_{max}$$

$$\text{Joint I: } T_{II} = T_{JI} = -\frac{12}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Joint N: } & T_{HN} = -\frac{1}{10} P_{max}, T_{MN} = T_{HN} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = -T_{HN} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ & \sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow T_{DN} = T_{MN} + T_{HN} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = -T_{HN} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ & \sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow T_{DN} = \frac{11}{10} P_{max} + \frac{1}{10} P_{max} + \frac{1}{10} P_{max} \\ & \Rightarrow T_{DN} = \frac{24}{10} P_{max} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Joint O: } T_{OP} = T_{DN} = \frac{24}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Joint H: } & T_{AH} = T_{HZ} + T_{HN} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = T_{HZ} - T_{HP} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ & \sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow T_{AH} = -\frac{23}{10} P_{max} - \frac{1}{10} P_{max} - \frac{1}{10} P_{max} \\ & \Rightarrow T_{AH} = -\frac{25}{10} P_{max} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Joint G: } T_{AG} = T_{AH} = -\frac{25}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Joint P: } & T_{AP} = T_{PH} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}, \sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow T_{AP} = -\frac{1}{10} P_{max} \\ & \sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow T_{OP} = T_{AP} + T_{PH} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = -\frac{24}{10} P_{max} + \frac{1}{10} P_{max} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{OP} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\text{Joint Q: } T_{RQ} = T_{PO} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Joint F: } & T_{RF} = T_{PF} \times \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} - T_{PF} \times \frac{3}{\sqrt{5}} = -P_{max} \approx 0 \\ & \sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow T_{RF} = -P_{max} + \frac{2}{10} P_{max} = -\frac{8}{10} P_{max} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{RF} = -\frac{4\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\text{Joint E: } T_{DE} = T_{EF}$$

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow T_{EF} = T_{FE} + T_{PF} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} - T_{RF} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = -2\frac{5}{10} P_{max} - \frac{1}{10} P_{max} + \frac{4}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{EF} = -\frac{2}{10} P_{max}$$

Horizontal elements

$$T_{KB} = \frac{11}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{JH} = \frac{11}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$

$$T_{FL} = \frac{11}{5} P_{max} (\text{T}) \quad T_{NM} = \frac{11}{5} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{IJ} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{HZ} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$

$$T_{ON} = \frac{24}{10} P_{max} (\text{T}) \quad T_{AP} = \frac{24}{10} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{GH} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{FG} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$

$$T_{AP} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max} (\text{T}) \quad T_{RQ} = \frac{23}{10} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{EF} = -\frac{2}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{DE} = \frac{2}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$

$$T_{RS} = \frac{18}{10} P_{max} (\text{T}) \quad T_{TS} = \frac{18}{10} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{CD} = \frac{9}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{AC} = \frac{9}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$

Most critical

$$\frac{23}{10} P_{max} \leq 3600 \text{ kN} \Rightarrow P_{max} \leq 1.38 \times 10^3 \text{ kN}$$

$$\frac{23}{10} P_{max} \leq 1200 \text{ kN} \Rightarrow P_{max} \leq 480 \text{ kN}$$

$$\frac{11\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} \leq 1200 \text{ kN} \Rightarrow P_{max} \leq \frac{487.86}{10} \text{ kN}$$

$$\frac{11\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} \leq 400 \text{ kN} \Rightarrow P_{max} \leq \frac{162.62}{10} \text{ kN}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{max} \leq 162.62 \text{ kN}$$

$$\text{Joint C: } T_{CD} = T_{CD} = -2P_{max}$$

$$\text{Joint T: } T_{TD} = T_{TD} = \frac{9}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\sum F_y = 0 \Rightarrow T_{TA} = \frac{9\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max}$$

We can check our calculations by calculating  $T_{TS}$  and comparing it with previous value.

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow T_{TA} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = T_{TS} + T_{DT} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{9}{10} P_{max} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{18}{10} P_{max} - \frac{9\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{9}{10} P_{max} = \frac{9}{10} P_{max}$$

Our solution is correct.

New Diagonal elements

$$T_{BL} = \frac{11\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} (\text{T}) \quad T_{RD} = \frac{4\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{JL} = \frac{11\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{TD} = \frac{9\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$

$$T_{JN} = \frac{1}{10} P_{max} (\text{T}) \quad T_{TA} = \frac{9}{10} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{NH} = \frac{1}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{HP} = \frac{1}{10} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{RF} = \frac{4\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{PF} = \frac{4\sqrt{5}}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$

$$T_{TS} = \frac{18}{10} P_{max} (\text{T}) \quad T_{TS} = \frac{18}{10} P_{max} (\text{T})$$

$$T_{AC} = \frac{9}{10} P_{max} (\text{C}) \quad T_{AC} = \frac{9}{10} P_{max} (\text{C})$$