

# Lecture 36 Introduction to Stability

## Definition (Webster's Dictionary)

*Stability of a (mechanical) system is the capacity of the system to develop forces, and moments to maintain, or to restore, the system's original equilibrium state when it is disturbed.*

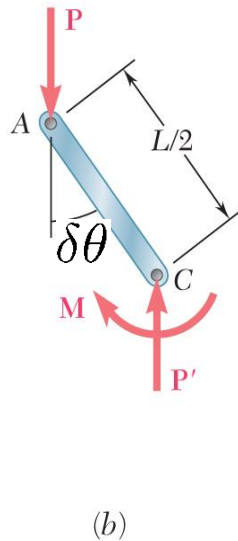
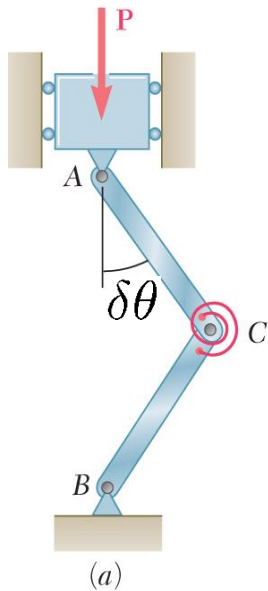
There are several elements in this definition:

- **Equilibrium State** Stability is referred to a system's capacity to maintain an equilibrium state.  
(**Stability of equilibrium**)
- **Disturbance** Stability is measured by a system's ability to resist disturbance;
- **Force and Moments** The system's response to disturbance;
- **Assessment of stability** Whether or not the original equilibrium is being restored.

## Types of equilibrium states



**Marble Analogy**



- Consider two rods and a torsional spring. After a small perturbation,

$$K(2\delta\theta) = \text{restoring moment}$$

$$P \frac{L}{2} \sin \delta\theta = P \frac{L}{2} \delta\theta = \text{destabilizing moment}$$

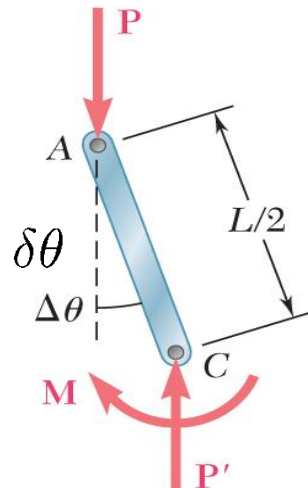
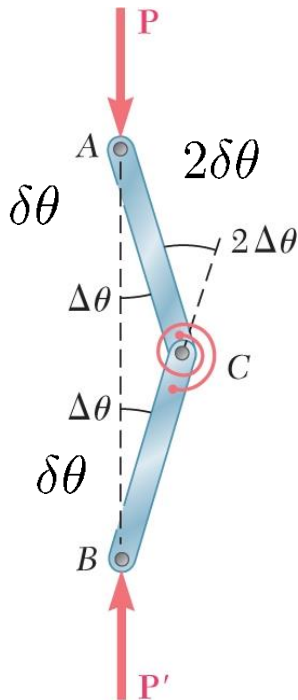
- If the restoring moment is greater than the destabilizing moment, the column is stable (tends to return to original equilibrium)

$$P \frac{L}{2} \delta\theta < K(2\delta\theta) \Rightarrow P < P_{cr} = \frac{4K}{L}$$

- Column is unstable (tends to deviate from the original equilibrium) if

$$P \frac{L}{2} \delta\theta > K(2\delta\theta) \Rightarrow P > P_{cr} = \frac{4K}{L}$$

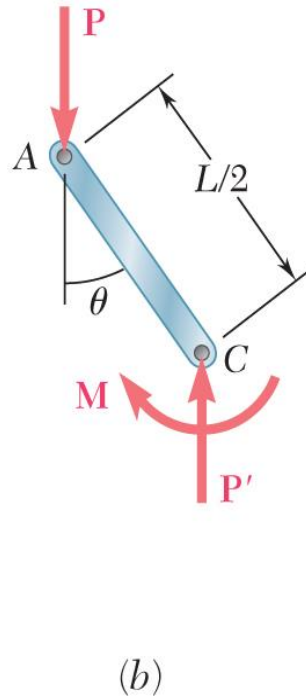
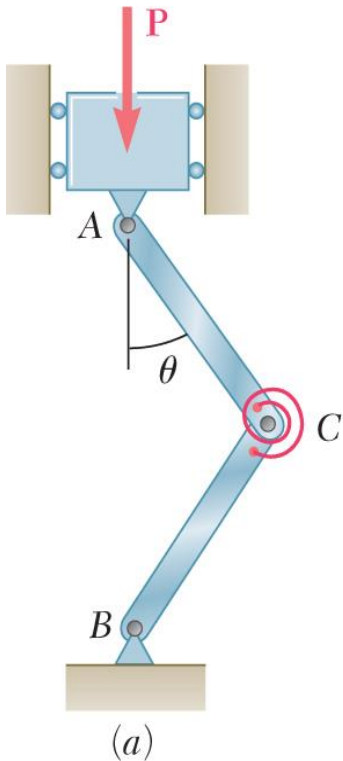
- If the restoring moment equals the destabilizing moment, this is the critical point



For the equilibrium position  $\theta = 0$ .

$$P = \frac{4K}{L} = P_{cr}$$

Other equilibrium position at finite  $\theta$  but Not  $\theta = 0$ .



- Assume that a load  $P$  is applied. After a perturbation, the system settles to a new equilibrium configuration at a finite deflection angle.

$$P \frac{L}{2} \sin \theta = K(2\theta)$$

$$\frac{PL}{4K} = \frac{P}{P_{cr}} = \frac{\theta}{\sin \theta}$$

- Noting that  $\sin \theta < \theta$ , the assumed configuration is only possible if  $P > P_{cr}$ .

## Stability Phase Diagram

$$\frac{P}{P_{cr}} = \frac{\theta}{\sin \theta}$$

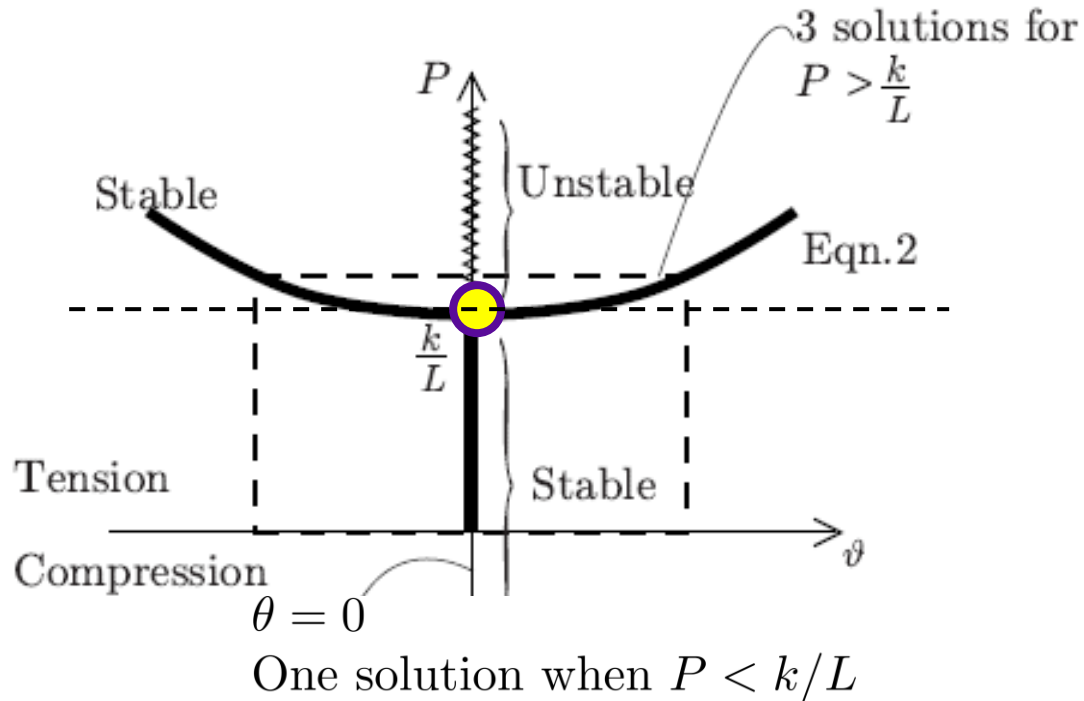
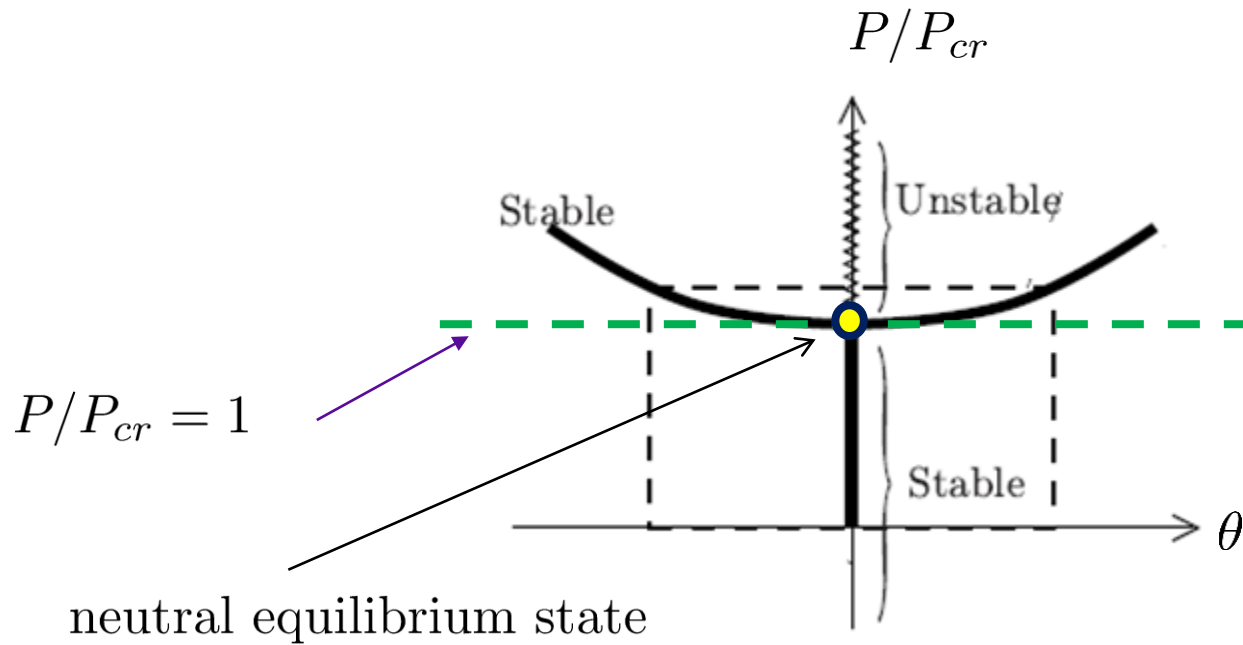


Figure 2: Solutions  $\theta$  for varying loads  $P$

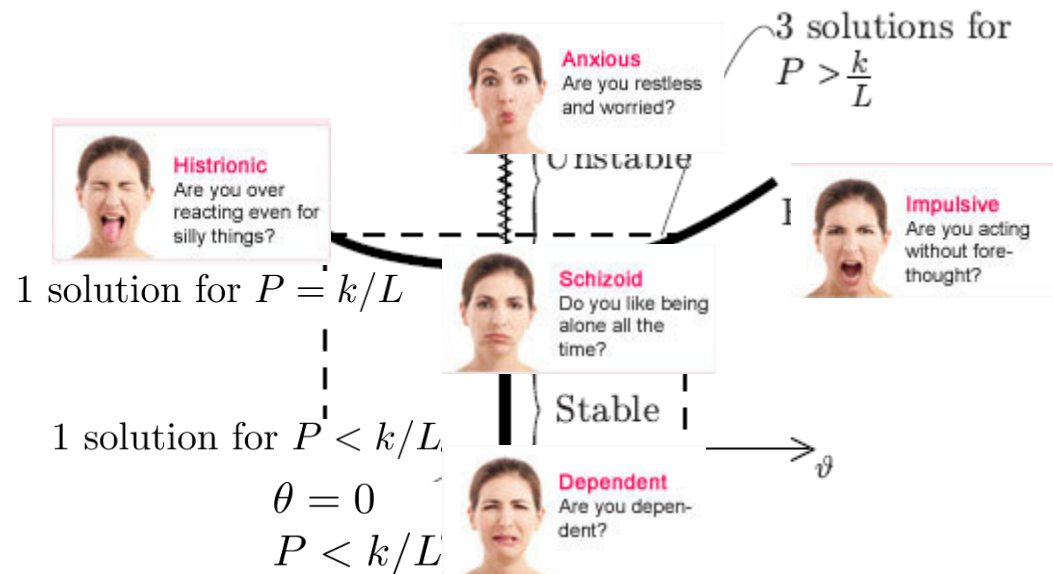
Neutral equilibrium is the boundary between the stable and unstable equilibrium.



For the initial equilibrium state

{	Stable	$P < P_{cr}$
	Neutral	$P = P_{cr}$
	Unstable	$P > P_{cr}$

Since the neutral equilibrium state separated the stable and unstable equilibrium states, the objective of the stability analysis is to find  $P = P_{cr}$ , i.e. the condition for neutral equilibrium state.



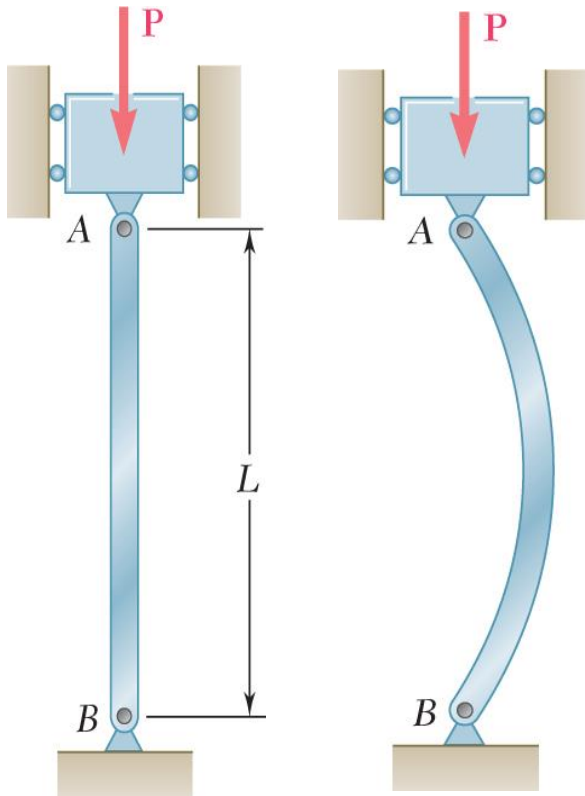
Solution is not unique when  $P = k/L$  !

## Remarks

1.  $\delta\theta$  is an imaginary perturbation, so it is called **“The Virtual Displacement”**.
2. For a fixed structure, when load parameter, or load value, changes, the structure can change its status from a stable structure to a neutral equilibrium structure, and then to an unstable structure.
3. The load parameter corresponding to the neutral equilibrium state is called **“The Critical Load”**;
4. The objective of the structural stability analysis is to find the critical load for designated original equilibrium configuration.



# Stability (Buckling) of Structures



- In the design of columns, cross-sectional area is selected such that

- allowable stress is not exceeded

$$\sigma = \frac{P}{A} \leq \sigma_{all}$$

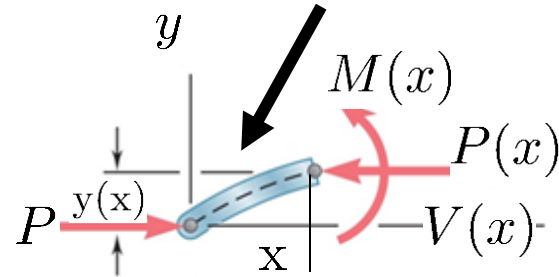
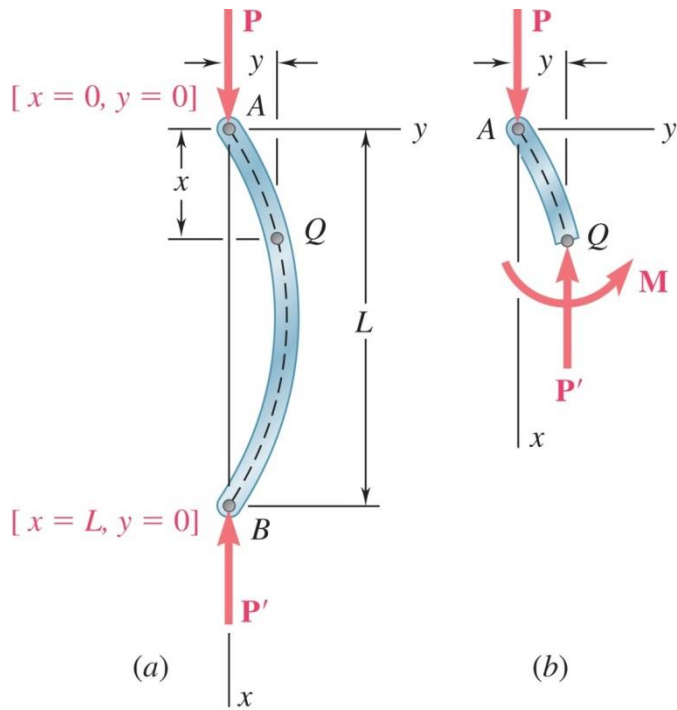
- deformation falls within specifications

$$\delta = \frac{PL}{AE} \leq \delta_{spec}$$

- After these design calculations, may discover that the column is unstable under loading and that it suddenly becomes sharply curved or buckles.

## Stability Analysis

The perturbed configuration



$$\sum F_x = 0 \rightarrow P - P(x) = 0 \rightarrow P(x) = P$$

$$\sum F_y = 0 \rightarrow -V(x) = 0;$$

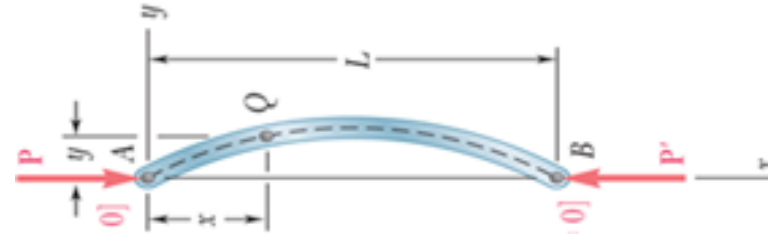
$$\sum M_x = 0; \rightarrow M(x) + Py(x) = 0 \rightarrow EIy''(x) + Py(x) = 0;$$

$$y''(x) + \frac{P}{EI}y(x) = 0 ;$$

$$\text{Let } \frac{P}{EI} = \lambda^2 \rightarrow y''(x) + \lambda^2 y(x) = 0; \rightarrow y(x) = A \sin \lambda x + B \cos \lambda x;$$

$$\text{B.C.: } y(0) = 0, y(L) = 0; \rightarrow y(x) = A \sin \lambda x + B \cos \lambda x$$

$$(1) y(0) = 0 \rightarrow B = 0;$$



$$(2) Y(L) = 0 \rightarrow A \sin \lambda L = 0; \quad A \neq 0 \rightarrow \sin \lambda L = 0;$$

What is  $A = 0$  ?

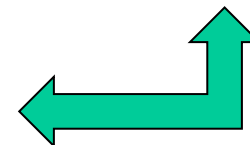
$\sin \lambda L = 0 \quad \lambda L = n\pi, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$        $A$  is arbitrary  $\rightarrow y_{max} \rightarrow \infty$  !

$$\text{Recall } \lambda = \sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}} \rightarrow \sqrt{\frac{P_n}{EI}} \ell = n\pi, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$P_n = \frac{(n\pi)^2 EI}{L^2} \rightarrow (n = 1) \rightarrow$$

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

**Euler's Formula**



## Remarks:

### snap

(1) Buckling is referred to as the “switching” from the initial equilibrium state to another or other equilibrium states;

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{P}{EI}y = 0, \quad 0 < x < L$$



$$P < P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$



$$P_2 = \frac{4\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$



$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$



$$P_3 = \frac{9\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

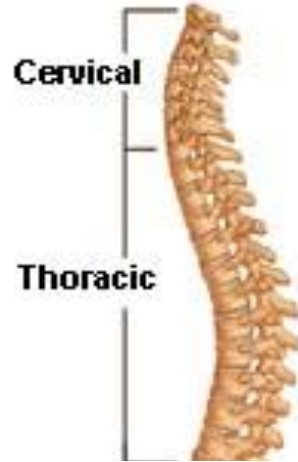
(2) The amplitude of the buckling deflection  $A$  ( $y(x) = A \sin \lambda x$ ) is indeterminate. The objective of the stability analysis is to find the critical load, not the amplitude of the deflection;

(3) When  $P < P_{cr}$ , the boundary condition  $\sin \lambda L = 0$  cannot be satisfied. In order to satisfy the B.C., the only choice is to let  $A = 0$ , which represents the initial equilibrium state.

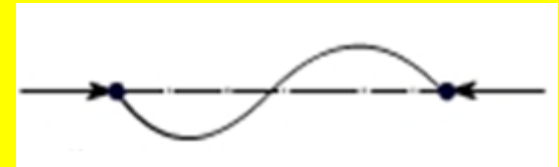
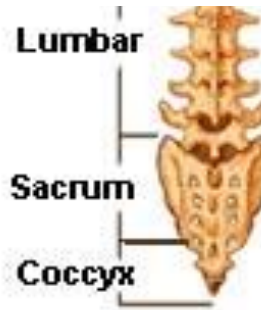
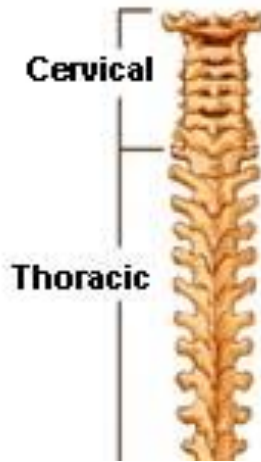


$$P < P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

**Lateral (Side)  
Spinal Column**



**Posterior (Back)  
Spinal Column**



$$P < P_{cr} = \frac{4\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$



$$P_{cr} = \frac{9\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

Why is human spinal column not straight ?

## Human Spinal Column

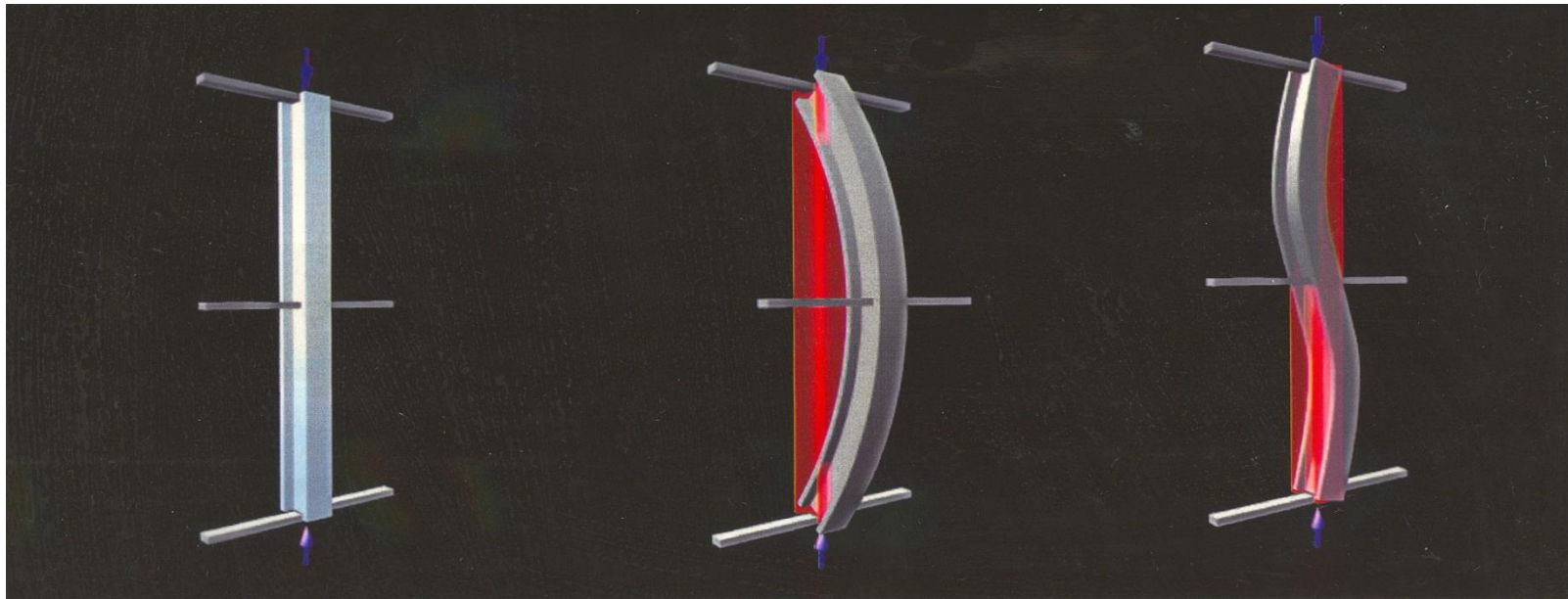
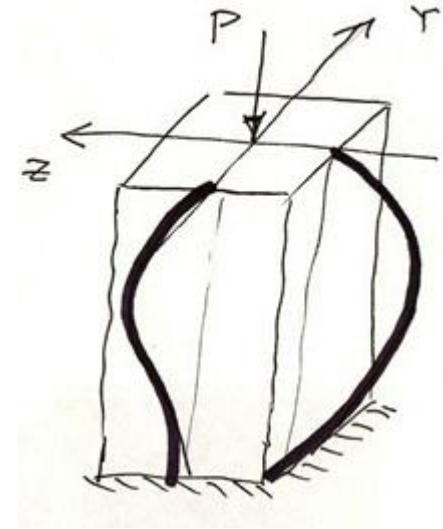
(4) In Euler formula:  $P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$ . What is I ?

For a beam with rectangular cross section, we have two Is i.e. ( $I_z$ , and  $I_y$ ).

The I used in the Euler formula should be

$$I = \min\{I_z, I_y\},$$

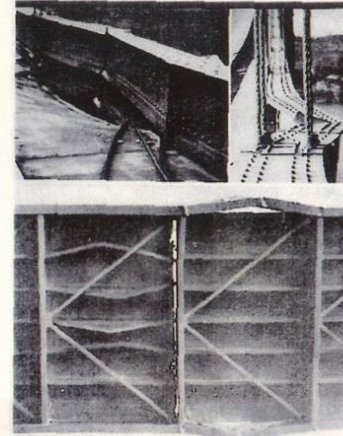
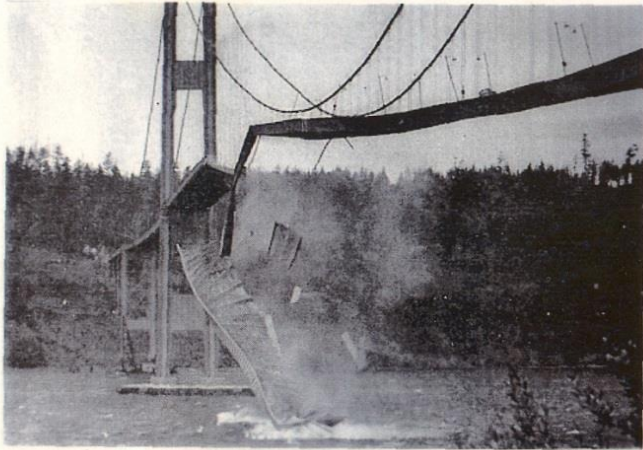
$$\text{i.e. } P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI_{min}}{L^2}.$$



**Beam Buckling with Respect Different Axes**

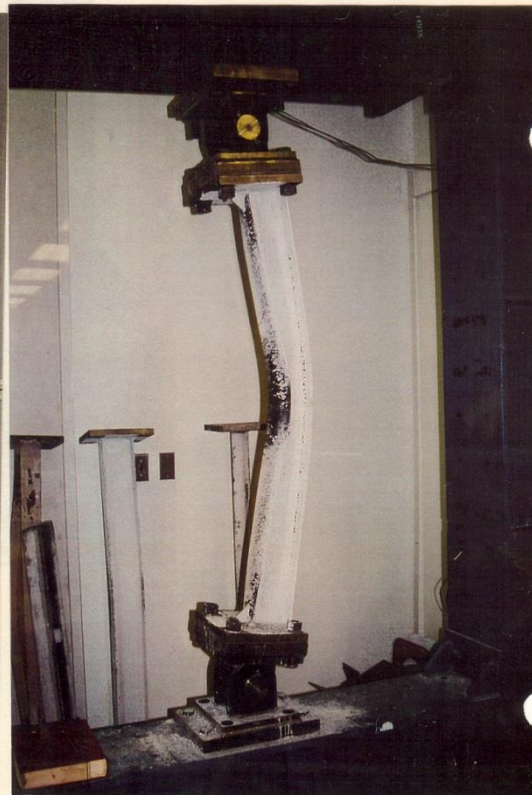
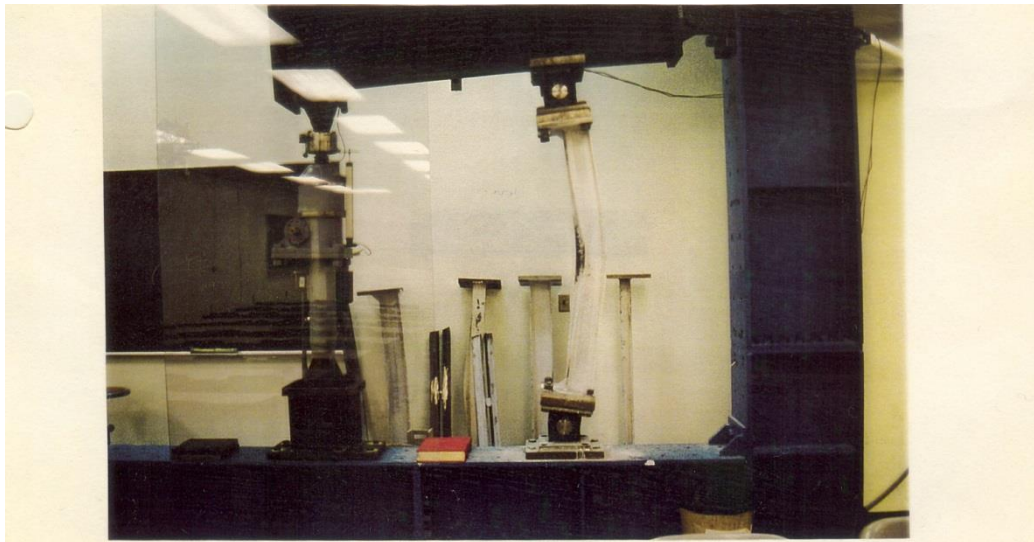


## Buckling and Collapse of Tacoma Bridge



## Buckling of Railroads

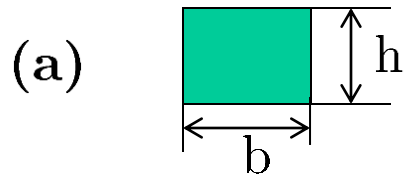




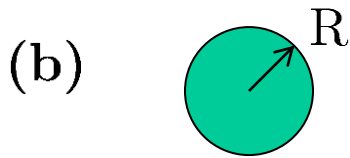


(5) We can write  $I = Ar^2$  where A is the area of the section, and r is the radius of gyration.

## Examples

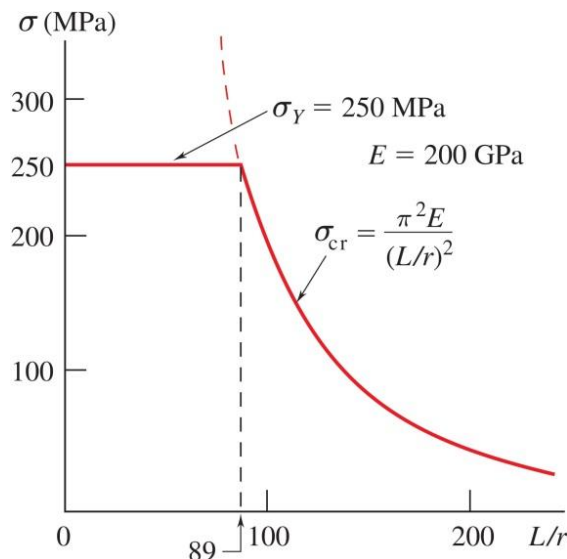


$$I_z = \frac{bh^3}{12} = (bh) \frac{h^2}{12} = Ar^2 \rightarrow r = \frac{h}{\sqrt{12}};$$



$$I_z = \frac{\pi R^4}{4} = \pi R^2 \frac{R^2}{4} = Ar^2 \rightarrow r = \frac{R}{2};$$

We can then find the critical stress as:  $\sigma_{cr} = \frac{P_{cr}}{A} = \frac{\pi^2 E (Ar^2)}{L^2 A} = \frac{\pi^2 E}{(L/r)^2}$ , where  $L/r$  is the slenderness ratio of the column.

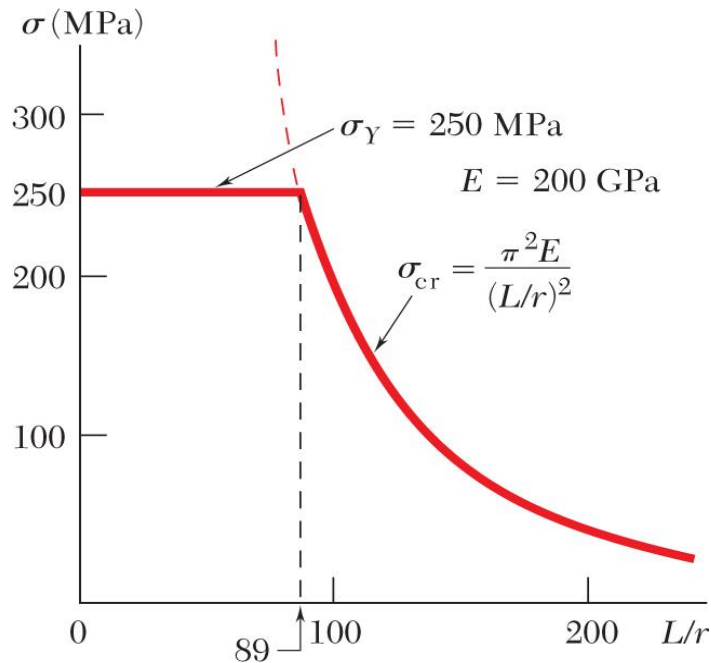


$$\sigma_{cr} \propto E, \frac{1}{(L/r)^2}$$

Therefore:

The shorter the column ( $L/r \rightarrow 1$ ), the larger  $\sigma_{cr}$ ;

The slender the column ( $L/r \gg 1$ ), the smaller  $\sigma_{cr}$ .



- The value of stress corresponding to the critical load,

$$P > P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{P}{A} > \sigma_{cr} = \frac{P_{cr}}{A}$$

$$\sigma_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 E (Ar^2)}{L^2 A}$$

$$= \frac{\pi^2 E}{(L/r)^2} = \text{critical stress}$$

$$\frac{L}{r} = \text{slenderness ratio}$$

- Preceding analysis is limited to centric loadings.

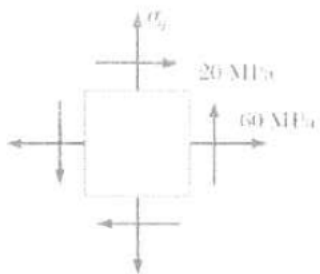


...for a demonstration of Shaolin 'Iron Throat Kung Fu'...

**Do NOT try this at home !**



Throat against spear: Martial art or Mechanics?



# **PROBLEM 14.40**

Find  $\sigma_y$ ?

$$\sigma_x = 60 \text{ MPa}$$

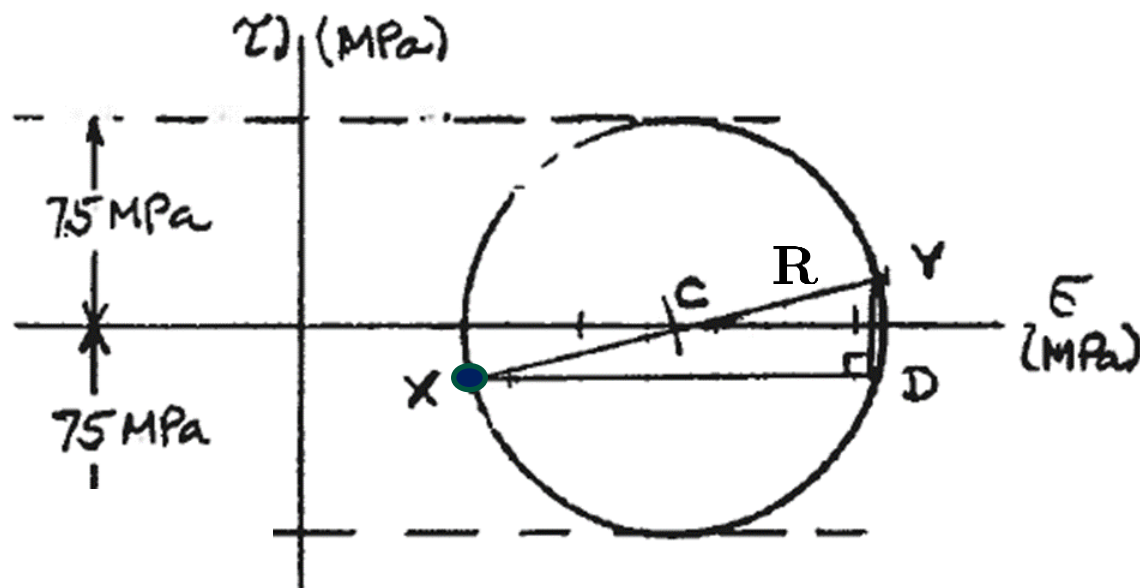
Solve Prob. 14.24, using Mohr's circle.

$$\tau_{xy} = 20 \text{ MPa}$$

**PROBLEM 14.24** For the state of plane stress shown, determine the largest value of  $\sigma_y$  for which the maximum in-plane shearing stress is equal to or less than 75 MPa.

$$\tau_{max} = 75 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\sigma_x = 60 \text{ MPa}, \quad \sigma_y = ?, \quad \tau_{xy} = 20 \text{ MPa}$$



$$\tau_{max} = R = 75 \text{ MPa}$$

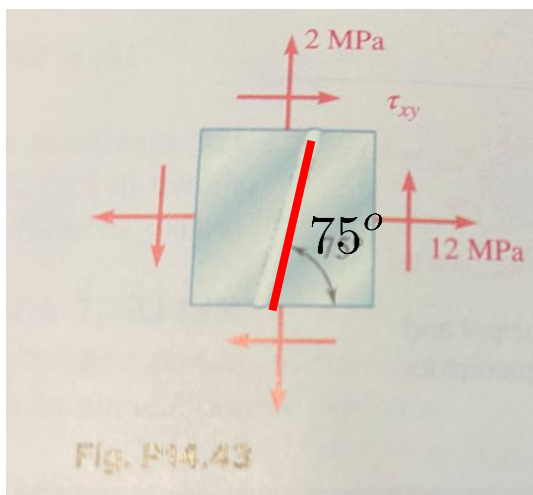
$$\overline{XY} = 2R = 150 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\overline{DY} = (2)(\tau_{xy}) = 40 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\overline{XD} = \sqrt{\overline{XY}^2 - \overline{DY}^2} = \sqrt{150^2 - 40^2} = 144.6 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\sigma_y = \sigma_x + \overline{XD} = 60 + 144.6$$

$$\sigma_y = 205 \text{ MPa} \blacktriangleleft$$



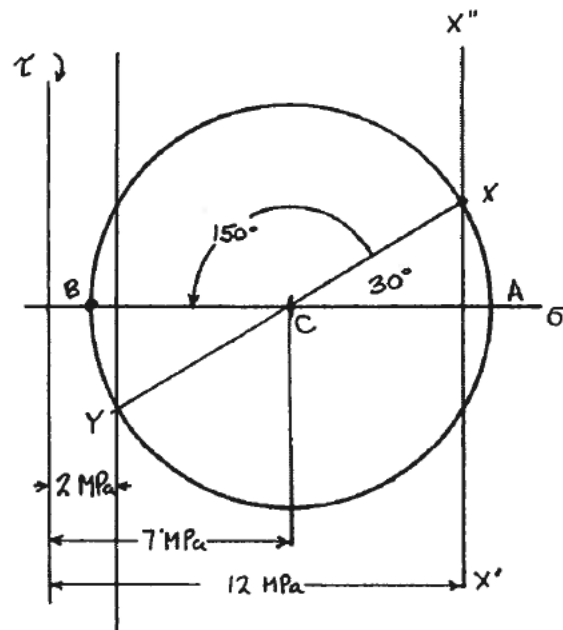
### PROBLEM 14.43

For the state of plane stress shown, use Mohr's circle to determine (a) the value of  $\tau_{xy}$  for which the in-plane shearing stress parallel to the weld is zero, (b) the corresponding principal stresses.

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_x &= 12 \text{ MPa} \\ \sigma_y &= 2 \text{ MPa} \end{aligned} \quad \tau_{xy} = ?$$

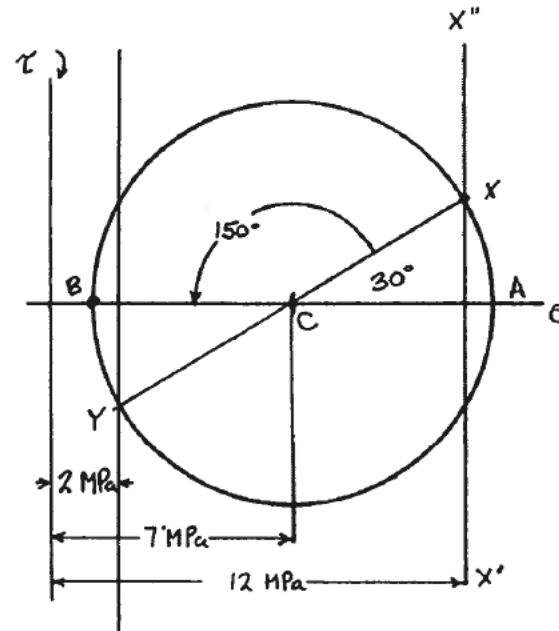
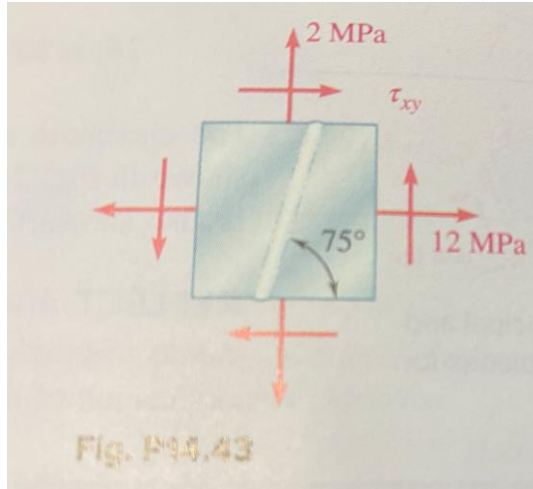
Point  $X$  of Mohr's circle must lie on  $XX''$  so that  $\sigma_x = 12 \text{ MPa}$ . Likewise, point  $Y$  lies on line  $YY''$  so that  $\sigma_y = 2 \text{ MPa}$ . The coordinates of  $C$  are

$$\frac{2+12}{2}, 0 = (7 \text{ MPa}, 0).$$



Point  $X$  of Mohr's circle must lie on  $X'X''$  so that  $\sigma_x = 12$  MPa. Likewise, point  $Y$  lies on line  $YY''$  so that  $\sigma_y = 2$  MPa. The coordinates of  $C$  are

$$\frac{2+12}{2}, 0 = (7 \text{ MPa}, 0).$$



Counterclockwise rotation through  $150^\circ$  brings line  $CX$  to  $CB$ , where  $\tau = 0$ .

$$R = \frac{\sigma_x - \sigma_y}{2} \sec 30^\circ = \frac{12 - 2}{2} \sec 30^\circ = 5.7735 \text{ MPa}$$

$$(a) \quad \tau_{xy} = -\frac{\sigma_x - \sigma_y}{2} \tan 30^\circ$$

$$= -\frac{12 - 2}{2} \tan 30^\circ$$

$$\tau_{xy} = -2.89 \text{ MPa} \blacktriangleleft$$

$$(b) \quad \sigma_a = \sigma_{\text{ave}} + R = 7 + 5.7735$$

$$\sigma_a = 12.77 \text{ MPa} \blacktriangleleft$$

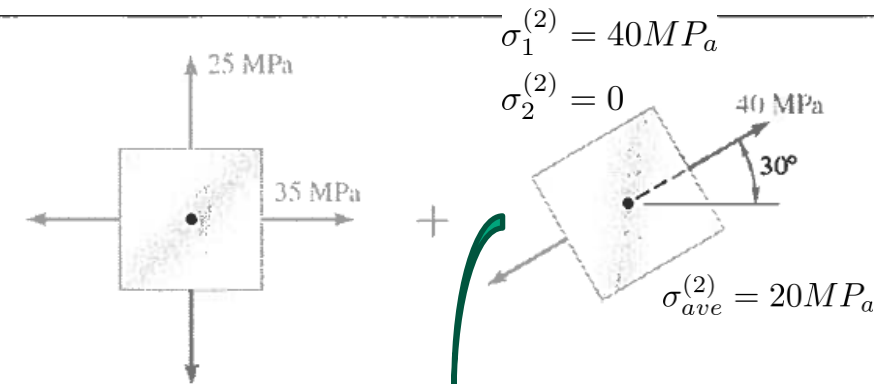
$$\sigma_b = \sigma_{\text{ave}} - R = 7 - 5.7735$$

$$\sigma_b = 1.226 \text{ MPa} \blacktriangleleft$$



## PROBLEM 14.46

Determine the principal planes and the principal stresses for the state of plane stress resulting from the superposition of the two states of stress shown.



$$\sigma_x^{(1)} = 35 MPa$$

$$\sigma_y^{(1)} = 25 MPa$$

$$\tau_{xy}^{(1)} = 0$$

Mohr's circle for 2nd stress state:

$$\sigma_x = 20 + 20 \cos 60^\circ$$

$$= 30 MPa$$

$$\sigma_y = 20 - 20 \cos 60^\circ$$

$$= 10 MPa$$

$$\tau_{xy} = 20 \sin 60^\circ$$

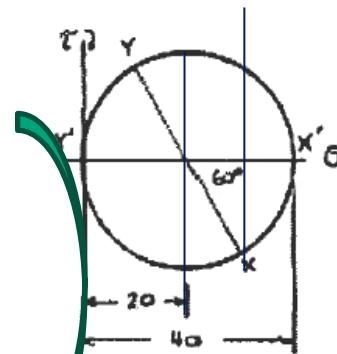
$$= 17.32 MPa$$

Resultant stresses:

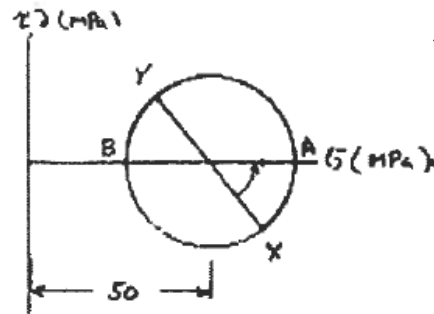
$$\sigma_x = 35 + 30 = 65 MPa$$

$$\sigma_y = 25 + 10 = 35 MPa$$

$$\tau_{xy} = 0 - 17.32 = 17.32 MPa$$



$$R^{(2)} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma_2}{2}\right)^2} = 20 MPa$$



$$\sigma_{ave} = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_x + \sigma_y) = \frac{1}{2}(65 + 35) = 50 MPa$$

$$\tan 2\theta_p = \frac{2\tau_{xy}}{\sigma_x - \sigma_y} = \frac{2 \times 17.32}{65 - 35} = 1.13547$$

$$2\theta_p = 49.11^\circ$$

$$\theta_p = 24.6^\circ, \quad \theta_{p2} = 114.6^\circ$$

$$R = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_x - \sigma_y}{2}\right)^2 + \tau_{xy}^2} = 22.91 MPa$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_{ave} + R$$

$$\sigma_1 = 72.91 MPa$$



