

Degree of BEng/MEng in Chemical Engineering
CP218 Applied Mechanics

Date: Thursday, 29/04/2021 Time: 09:30 am
Duration: 02:40 (hrs:mins)

Answer 2 Questions from 2

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ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

Q1. 50 marks

Consider the two-bar truss shown in Fig. 1 below. The truss is composed of two bars, one made of steel, the other of aluminium, which meet together at junction point O . The length of each bar in their unloaded state is L . Both bars have constant cut-areas, which are A_a and A_s for aluminium and steel bars correspondingly. Similarly, the bars have constant Young moduli, which are E_a and E_s correspondingly. The two bars together with the distance between their two ends that are not associated with the junction, form an equilateral triangle. A force P is applied on the junction point O along the horizontal direction, and to the right (Fig. 1). After a transient, the system reaches a static equilibrium, and O has been displaced along the direction of force P by amount Δ_H . You can assume that linear elasticity theory is valid for all processes.

- (a) Write an equation describing the energy conservation during the loading process. Discuss the meaning of each term in this equation.
[2 marks]
- (b) Write an equation for the mechanical work performed by the force load P on the truss.
[2 marks]
- (c) Write a formula for the work performed by a constant force in particle mechanics, and explain the physical origin of any differences between the work performed by a constant force and the work performed by a force load P on the truss.
[6 marks]
- (d) If, after the transient, the forces acting *along* the bars (i.e., the axial loads) are P_a and P_s for aluminium and steel bars correspondingly, write expressions for total bar displacements Δ_a and Δ_s .
[2 marks]
- (e) Write expressions for the elastic energy stored in each bar after the transient associated with the application of load P has ceased.
[4 mark]
- (f) Write equations for the mechanical work performed on each bar by their corresponding axial loads P_a and P_s .
[4 mark]
- (g) By employing free body analysis, compute the axial loads P_a and P_s in terms of load P .
[8 marks]
- (h) Is the aluminium bar under compression or extension?
[2 marks]
- (i) Discuss the reasoning supporting your answer to the question above, by indicating the two major hypotheses that justify your conclusion.
[3 marks]

- (j) Is the steel bar under compression or extension?
[2 marks]
- (k) Discuss the reasoning supporting your answer to the question above, by indicating the major hypothesis that justifies your conclusion.
[1 marks]
- (l) Derive an expression for the horizontal displacement Δ_H of junction point O .
[4 marks]
- (m) Assume both bars are made of the same material. Compute the ratio Δ_H/Δ for each bar, where Δ is the total displacement of a bar.
[5 marks]
- (n) Assume both bars are made of the same material. Compute the length of each bar after the transient associated with the application of load P has ceased.
[4 marks]
- (o) Assume both bars are made of the same material. Calculate the ratio of the sum of the bar lengths before the application of load P over the sum of the bar lengths after the transient associated with the application of load P has ceased.
[1 marks]

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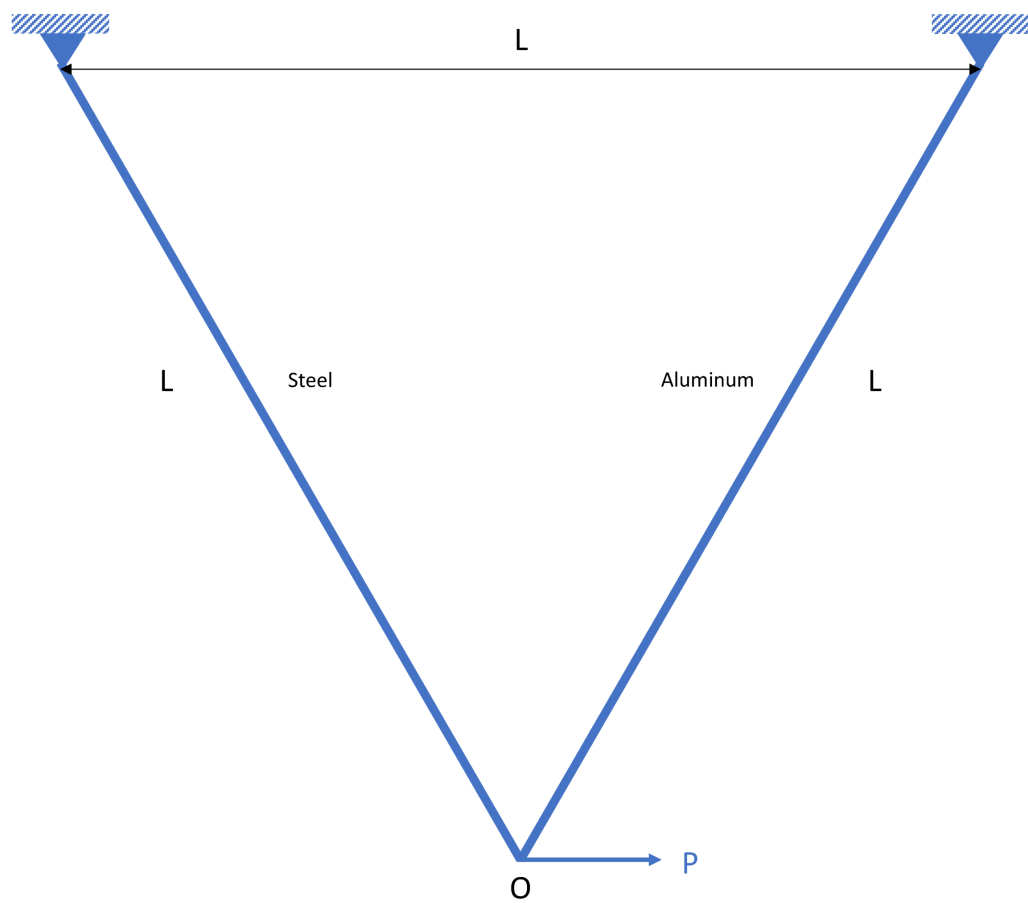


Figure 1: Two-bar truss loaded by a horizontal force P acting on junction O .

Q2. 50 marks

An axial-flow fan operates in sea level air at 1200 r/min. At sea level, the air mass density is $\rho = 1.205 \text{ kg/m}^3$. The blade-tip diameter is 1 m, and the blade-root diameter is 80 cm. The flow-blade angles in the exit velocity diagram of the stator cascade are $\alpha_1 = 55^\circ$ and $\beta_1 = 30^\circ$, while in the exit velocity diagram of the rotor cascade, it is $\beta_2 = 60^\circ$.

- (a) Define and compute the available area A for the flow entering the turbomachine.
[2 marks]
- (b) Explain your definition of available area A by comparing it with the corresponding definition for centrifugal turbomachines.
[4 marks]
- (c) Define the specific radius r to be employed in your analysis.
[2 marks]
- (d) Indicate the approximations that the choice of a specific radius introduces in your analysis.
[5 marks]
- (e) If you apply the same (as above) criterion for choosing a specific radius r for the analysis of a similar axial-flow fan with a *larger* ratio of blade-tip radius to blade-root radius, do you improve or worsen the quality of your approximations?
[2 marks]
- (f) Justify your answer to the previous question.
[5 marks]
- (g) Compute the axial flow velocity in the stator.
[6 marks]
- (h) Compute the theoretical volumetric flow rate in the rotor.
[2 marks]
- (i) Indicate the main assumption of Euler turbomachinery theory for the flow exiting the stator cascade.
[5 marks]
- (j) Indicate the main assumption of Euler turbomachinery theory for the flow exiting the rotor cascade.
[5 marks]
- (k) Compute the theoretical angle α_2 in the exit velocity diagram of the rotor cascade.
[5 marks]
- (l) Compute the fan theoretical head H .
[5 marks]
- (m) Compute the theoretical power P (in both watts and horsepower units) that the fan extracts from the flow.
[2 marks]

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