

Preface

Objectives

The main objective of a basic mechanics course should be to develop in the engineering student the ability to analyze a given problem in a simple and logical manner and to apply to its solution a few fundamental and well-understood principles. This text is designed for the first course in mechanics of materials—or strength of materials—offered to engineering students in the sophomore or junior year. The authors hope that it will help instructors achieve this goal in that particular course in the same way that their other texts may have helped them in statics and dynamics. To assist in this goal, the seventh edition has undergone a complete edit of the language to make the book easier to read.

General Approach

In this text the study of the mechanics of materials is based on the understanding of a few basic concepts and on the use of simplified models. This approach makes it possible to develop all the necessary formulas in a rational and logical manner, and to indicate clearly the conditions under which they can be safely applied to the analysis and design of actual engineering structures and machine components.

Free-body Diagrams Are Used Extensively. Throughout the text free-body diagrams are used to determine external or internal forces. The use of “picture equations” will also help the students understand the superposition of loadings and the resulting stresses and deformations.

NEW **The SMART Problem-Solving Methodology is Employed.** New to this edition of the text, students are introduced to the SMART approach for solving engineering problems, whose acronym reflects the solution steps of **S**trategy, **M**odeling, **A**nalysis, and **R**eflect & **T**hink. This methodology is used in all Sample Problems, and it is intended that students will apply this approach in the solution of all assigned problems.

Design Concepts Are Discussed Throughout the Text Whenever Appropriate. A discussion of the application of the factor of safety to design can be found in Chap. 1, where the concepts of both allowable stress design and load and resistance factor design are presented.

A Careful Balance Between SI and U.S. Customary Units Is Consistently Maintained. Because it is essential that students be able to handle effectively both SI metric units and U.S. customary units, half the concept applications, sample problems, and problems to be assigned have been stated in SI units and half in U.S. customary units. Since a large number of problems are available, instructors can assign problems using each system of units in whatever proportion they find desirable for their class.

Optional Sections Offer Advanced or Specialty Topics. Topics such as residual stresses, torsion of noncircular and thin-walled members, bending of curved beams, shearing stresses in non-symmetrical members, and failure criteria have been included in optional sections for use in courses of varying emphases. To preserve the integrity of the subject, these topics are presented in the proper sequence, wherever they logically belong. Thus, even when not

covered in the course, these sections are highly visible and can be easily referred to by the students if needed in a later course or in engineering practice. For convenience all optional sections have been indicated by asterisks.

Chapter Organization

It is expected that students using this text will have completed a course in statics. However, Chap. 1 is designed to provide them with an opportunity to review the concepts learned in that course, while shear and bending-moment diagrams are covered in detail in Secs. 5.1 and 5.2. The properties of moments and centroids of areas are described in Appendix A; this material can be used to reinforce the discussion of the determination of normal and shearing stresses in beams (Chaps. 4, 5, and 6).

The first four chapters of the text are devoted to the analysis of the stresses and of the corresponding deformations in various structural members, considering successively axial loading, torsion, and pure bending. Each analysis is based on a few basic concepts: namely, the conditions of equilibrium of the forces exerted on the member, the relations existing between stress and strain in the material, and the conditions imposed by the supports and loading of the member. The study of each type of loading is complemented by a large number of concept applications, sample problems, and problems to be assigned, all designed to strengthen the students' understanding of the subject.

The concept of stress at a point is introduced in Chap. 1, where it is shown that an axial load can produce shearing stresses as well as normal stresses, depending upon the section considered. The fact that stresses depend upon the orientation of the surface on which they are computed is emphasized again in Chaps. 3 and 4 in the cases of torsion and pure bending. However, the discussion of computational techniques—such as Mohr's circle—used for the transformation of stress at a point is delayed until Chap. 7, after students have had the opportunity to solve problems involving a combination of the basic loadings and have discovered for themselves the need for such techniques.

The discussion in Chap. 2 of the relation between stress and strain in various materials includes fiber-reinforced composite materials. Also, the study of beams under transverse loads is covered in two separate chapters. Chapter 5 is devoted to the determination of the normal stresses in a beam and to the design of beams based on the allowable normal stress in the material used (Sec. 5.3). The chapter begins with a discussion of the shear and bending-moment diagrams (Secs. 5.1 and 5.2) and includes an optional section on the use of singularity functions for the determination of the shear and bending moment in a beam (Sec. 5.4). The chapter ends with an optional section on nonprismatic beams (Sec. 5.5).

Chapter 6 is devoted to the determination of shearing stresses in beams and thin-walled members under transverse loadings. The formula for the shear flow, $q = VQ/I$, is derived in the traditional way. More advanced aspects of the design of beams, such as the determination of the principal stresses at the junction of the flange and web of a W-beam, are considered in Chap. 8, an optional chapter that may be covered after the transformations of stresses have been discussed in Chap. 7. The design of transmission shafts is in that chapter for the same reason, as well as the determination of stresses under combined loadings that can now include the determination of the principal stresses, principal planes, and maximum shearing stress at a given point.

Statically indeterminate problems are first discussed in Chap. 2 and considered throughout the text for the various loading conditions encountered. Thus, students are presented at an early stage with a method of solution that combines the analysis of deformations with the conventional analysis of forces used in statics. In this way, they will have become thoroughly familiar with this fundamental method by the end of the course. In addition, this approach helps the students realize that stresses themselves are statically indeterminate and can be computed only by considering the corresponding distribution of strains.

The concept of plastic deformation is introduced in Chap. 2, where it is applied to the analysis of members under axial loading. Problems involving the plastic deformation of circular shafts and of prismatic beams are also considered in optional sections of Chaps. 3, 4, and 6. While some of this material can be omitted at the choice of the instructor, its inclusion in the body of the text will help students realize the limitations of the assumption of a linear stress-strain relation and serve to caution them against the inappropriate use of the elastic torsion and flexure formulas.

The determination of the deflection of beams is discussed in Chap. 9. The first part of the chapter is devoted to the integration method and to the method of superposition, with an optional section (Sec. 9.3) based on the use of singularity functions. (This section should be used only if Sec. 5.4 was covered earlier.) The second part of Chap. 9 is optional. It presents the moment-area method in two lessons.

Chapter 10, which is devoted to columns, contains material on the design of steel, aluminum, and wood columns. Chapter 11 covers energy methods, including Castigliano's theorem.

Supplemental Resources for Instructors

Find the **Companion Website** for Mechanics of Materials at www.mhhe.com/beerjohnston. Included on the website are lecture PowerPoints, an image library, and animations. On the site you'll also find the **Instructor's Solutions Manual** (password-protected and available to instructors only) that accompanies the seventh edition. The manual continues the tradition of exceptional accuracy and normally keeps solutions contained to a single page for easier reference. The manual includes an in-depth review of the material in each chapter and houses tables designed to assist instructors in creating a schedule of assignments for their courses. The various topics covered in the text are listed in Table I, and a suggested number of periods to be spent on each topic is indicated. Table II provides a brief description of all groups of problems and a classification of the problems in each group according to the units used. A Course Organization Guide providing sample assignment schedules is also found on the website.

Via the website, instructors can also request access to **C.O.S.M.O.S.**, the Complete Online Solutions Manual Organization System that allows instructors to create custom homework, quizzes, and tests using end-of-chapter problems from the text.





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John T. DeWolf
David F. Mazurek