1 An introductory example of potential energy in elastic structures and virtual work

Consider the two bar truss shown below. With the horizontal load $F$ acting to the right, bar 1 is in tension, $T_1 > 0$ and bar 2 is in compression, $T_2 < 0$. Suppose the loaded node moves to the right $D_x$ and also upward $D_y$. If the truss is made of a linear elastic material and if the displacements are small compared to the overall size of the truss, then the displacements $D_x$ and $D_y$ increase linearly with the force $F$. The work of the external force $F$ increasing in proportion to its collocated displacement $D_x$ is the area under the $F - D$ line. This external work is simply

$$W = \frac{1}{2} F D_x$$

Since the truss is made from elastic materials and there are no other energy dissipation mechanisms involved (e.g., friction), the external work of pushing the truss node to the right by a displacement $D_x$ is entirely stored within the bars of the truss. Knowing the bar tensions, the elastic modulus of the truss bars ($E_1$ and $E_2$), their cross section areas ($A_1$ and $A_2$), and their lengths ($L_1$ and $L_2$), the stretch of each bar, i.e., the change in length of the bar, is proportional to its tension and its length.

$$d_1 = \frac{T_1 L_1}{E_1 A_1} \quad d_2 = \frac{T_2 L_2}{E_2 A_2}.$$  

The internal potential energy stored within the truss is the sum of the potential energies in each bar,

$$U = \frac{1}{2} T_1 d_1 + \frac{1}{2} T_2 d_2$$

Since the work of pushing the truss node to the right is entirely stored as potential energy within the truss,

$$U = W$$

$$\frac{1}{2} T_1 d_1 + \frac{1}{2} T_2 d_2 = \frac{1}{2} F D_x \quad (1)$$

This is called the principle of real work.

Given numerical values for $F$, $L_1$, $E_1$, $A_1$, $L_2$, $E_2$, and $A_2$ the principle of real work could be used to compute the displacement $D_x$, collocated with the single applied force, $F$. 


Figure 1. A two bar truss loaded first with a horizontal force $F$ and subsequently with combined horizontal force $F$ and vertical force $\delta F$. The force $F$ is held constant while the force $\delta F$ is added.

Now, with the force $F$ held constant (and the related bar tensions $T_1$ and $T_2$ held constant), suppose a vertical force $\delta F$ is applied, resulting in additional displacements $\delta D_x$ and $\delta D_y$, and additional bar forces $\delta T_1$ and $\delta T_2$. The displacements $D_y$ and $\delta D_y$ are collocated with the applied force $\delta F$, and so the work of $\delta F$ increasing proportionally through its collocated displacement $\delta D_y$ is $\frac{1}{2} \delta F \delta D_y$. This work is stored as potential energy within the bars of the truss with tensions $\delta T_1$ and $\delta T_2$ proportional and bar stretches, $\delta d_1$ and $\delta d_2$.

$$\frac{1}{2} \delta T_1 \delta d_1 + \frac{1}{2} \delta T_2 \delta d_2 = \frac{1}{2} \delta F \delta D_y$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

Additionally, as $\delta F$ increases, the constant force $F$ moves through a displacement $\delta D_x$, and the constant bar tensions $T_1$ and $T_2$ move through displacements $\delta d_1$ and $\delta d_2$. The work of the constant force $F$ moving through displacement $\delta D_x$, $(F \delta D_x)$, is called the virtual work of the external force. And the work of the constant bar forces $T_1$ and $T_2$ moving through displacement $\delta d_1$ and $\delta d_2$, $(T_1 \delta d_1 + T_2 \delta d_2)$, is called the virtual work of internal forces.

With the total combined forces applied to the truss, the combined external work is

$$W = \frac{1}{2} FD_x + \frac{1}{2} \delta F \delta D_y + F \delta D_x$$

and the combined internal potential energy is

$$U = \frac{1}{2} T_1 d_1 + \frac{1}{2} T_2 d_2 + \frac{1}{2} \delta T_1 \delta d_1 + \frac{1}{2} \delta T_2 \delta d_2 + T_1 \delta d_1 + T_2 \delta d_2.$$
Virtual Displacements in Structural Dynamics

Setting the external work of the combined forces equal to the internal potential energy of the combined forces, and substituting (1) and (2) into this equality results in

$$T_1 \delta d_1 + T_2 \delta d_2 = F \delta D_x .$$

(3)

This is called the principle of virtual work, or in this specific example, the principle of virtual displacements. In words, the principle of virtual displacements states that: For a “real” external force (e.g., \( F \)) in equilibrium with a set of “real” internal forces (e.g., \( T_1 \) and \( T_2 \)), and a “virtual” external displacement (e.g., \( \delta D_x \)) collocated with the external force (e.g., \( F \)) and kinematically compatible with “virtual” internal displacements (e.g., \( \delta d_1 \) and \( \delta d_2 \)) collocated with internal forces (e.g, \( T_1 \) and \( T_2 \)), the external work of the “real” external force moving through a collocated “virtual” displacement equals the internal work of the “real” internal forces moving through collocated “virtual” internal displacements.

Given numerical values for \( \delta F \), \( L_1 \), \( E_1 \), \( A_1 \), \( L_2 \), \( E_2 \), and \( A_2 \) the principle of virtual displacements could be used to compute the horizontal displacement \( \delta D_x \) caused by the vertical force, \( \delta F \). To do so, one would solve for the bar forces \( T_1 \) and \( T_2 \) in equilibrium with \( F \), then solve for the bar forces \( \delta T_1 \) and \( \delta T_2 \) in equilibrium with \( \delta F \), compute \( \delta d_1 \) and \( \delta d_2 \) from \( \delta T_1 \) and \( \delta T_2 \), and, finally solve equation (3) for \( \delta D_x \), the horizontal displacement due to the vertical force \( \delta F \).

- What would be the approach to find the vertical displacement \( D_y \) due to the horizontal force, \( F \)?
- If \( F = \delta F \), how are \( D_y \) and \( \delta D_x \) related? Are you surprised by this result?
- If \( F = \delta F \) and \( D_y < 0 \), re-draw Figure 1.
2 Strain Energy in Elastic Solids

Consider an elastic solid object with external forces $F$ and $f$ in equilibrium with internal stresses $\sigma$ and $\tau$.

- $F$ and $f$ are real external forces in equilibrium, acting at points, or over a portion of a surface $S$,
- $R$ and $r$ are real displacements, admissible with respect to the support conditions, collocated with $F$ and $f$,
- $\sigma$ are real internal stresses, distributed within the solid volume $V$, in equilibrium with $F$ & $f$,
- $\epsilon$ are real internal strains, distributed within the solid volume $V$, compatible with $R$ and $r$.

2.1 External Work

The work of external forces increasing from 0 to $F$ and $f$ and pushing through displacements from 0 to $R$ and $r$ is

$$W = \int_0^R F(\bar{R}) \, d\bar{R} + \int_S \int_0^{\bar{r}} f(\bar{r}) \, d\bar{r} \, dS$$  \hspace{1cm} (4)

where

- the forces $F$ and $f$ depend on displacements $R$ and $r$
- $\bar{R}$ and $\bar{r}$ are dummy variables of integration
2.2 Internal Strain Energy

Strain energy is a kind of potential energy arising from stress and deformation of elastic solids. In nonlinear elastic solids, the strain energy of stresses increasing from 0 to \( \sigma(x, y, z) \) and working through strains from 0 to \( \epsilon(x, y, z) \) is

\[
U = \int_V \int_0^\epsilon \sigma(\bar{\epsilon}) \cdot d\bar{\epsilon} \ dV 
\]  

where

- \( V \) is the volume of the solid
- \( \sigma(\epsilon) = \{ \sigma_{xx} \ \sigma_{yy} \ \sigma_{zz} \ \tau_{xy} \ \tau_{yz} \ \tau_{xz} \} \)
- \( \epsilon = \{ \epsilon_{xx} \ \epsilon_{yy} \ \epsilon_{zz} \ \gamma_{xy} \ \gamma_{yz} \ \gamma_{xz} \} \)
- \( \bar{\epsilon} \) is a dummy variable of integration ...

\[
U = \int_V \int_0^\epsilon \sigma(\bar{\epsilon}) \cdot d\bar{\epsilon} \ dV
\]

\[
= \int_V \int_0^\epsilon (\sigma_{xx}(\bar{\epsilon})d\epsilon_{xx} + \sigma_{yy}(\bar{\epsilon})d\epsilon_{yy} + \sigma_{zz}(\bar{\epsilon})d\epsilon_{zz} + \sigma_{xy}(\bar{\epsilon})d\epsilon_{xy} + \sigma_{yz}(\bar{\epsilon})d\epsilon_{yz} + \sigma_{xz}(\bar{\epsilon})d\epsilon_{xz}) \ dV
\]

2.3 The Principle of Real Work

In an elastic solid, the work of external forces, \( W \), is stored entirely as elastic strain energy, \( U \), within the solid.

\[
U = W
\]

In linear elastic solids:

- Stresses \( \sigma \) increase linearly with strains \( \epsilon \),

\[
\sigma = E\epsilon \quad \text{... and} \quad \tau = G\gamma
\]

- Displacements \( D \) and rotations \( \Theta \) increase linearly with forces \( F \) and moments \( M \),

\[
F = kD \quad \text{... and} \quad M = \kappa\Theta
\]

- The work of an external force \( F \) acting through a displacement \( D \) on the solid is

\[
W = \frac{1}{2}FD = \frac{1}{2}kD^2 = \frac{1}{2}F^2/k
\]

- The work of an external moment \( M \) acting through a rotation \( \Theta \) on the solid is

\[
W = \frac{1}{2}M\Theta = \frac{1}{2}\kappa\Theta^2 = \frac{1}{2}M^2/\kappa
\]
2.4 Strain energy in slender structural elements

In slender structural elements (bars, beams, or shafts) the internal forces, moments, shears, and torques can vary along the length of each element; so do the displacements and rotations.

The strain energy of spatially-varying internal forces $F(x)$ acting through spatially-varying internal displacements $D(x)$ along a linear elastic prismatic solids is

$$ U = \frac{1}{2} \int F(x) \cdot \frac{dD(x)}{dx} \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int F(x) D'(x) \, dx \quad (7) $$

The strain energy of spatially-varying internal moments $M(x)$ acting through spatially-varying internal rotations $\Theta(x)$ along linear elastic prismatic solids is

$$ U = \frac{1}{2} \int M(x) \cdot \frac{d\Theta(x)}{dx} \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int M(x) \Theta'(x) \, dx \quad (8) $$

In slender structural elements, the relation between internal forces and moments and internal displacements and rotations depend on the kind of loading.

- **Axial** $N_x(x) = E(x)A(x)u'(x)$
- **Bending** $M_z(x) = E(x)I(x)v''(x)$ ... assuming $v''(x) \approx \Theta'(x)$
- **Shear** $V_y(x) = G(x)A_y(x)v'_y(x)$
- **Torsion** $T_x(x) = G(x)J(x)\phi'(x)$
Inserting these expressions into the general expressions for internal strain energy above,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“force” deformation</th>
<th>strain energy ($U$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Axial $N_x(x)$ $u'(x)$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l N_x(x)u'(x)dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l \frac{N_x(x)^2}{E(x)A(x)}dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l E(x)A(x)(u'(x))^2dx$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bending $M_z(x)$ $v''(x)$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l M_z(x)v''(x)dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l \frac{M_z(x)^2}{E(x)I(x)}dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l E(x)I(x)(v''(x))^2dx$</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shear $V_y(x)$ $v'_s(x)$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l V_y(x)v'_s(x)dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l \frac{V_y(x)^2}{G(x)A_s(x)}dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l G(x)A_s(x)(v'_s(x))^2dx$</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Torsion $T_x(x)$ $\phi'(x)$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l T_x(x)\phi'(x)dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l \frac{T_x(x)^2}{G(x)J(x)}dx$ $\frac{1}{2}\int l G(x)J(x)(\phi'(x))^2dx$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$E(x)$ is Young’s modulus
$G(x)$ is the shear modulus

$A(x)$ is the cross sectional area of a bar
$I(x)$ is the bending moment of inertia of a beam

$A(x)/\alpha$ is the effective shear area of a beam
$J(x)$ is the torsional moment of inertia of a shaft

$N_x(x)$ is the axial force within a bar
$M_z(x)$ is the bending moment within a beam
$V_y(x)$ is the shear force within a beam
$T_x(x)$ is the torque within a shaft

$u(x)$ is the axial displacement along the bar
$u'(x)$ is the axial displacement per unit length, $du(x)/dx$, the axial strain

$v(x)$ is the transverse bending displacement of the beam
$v'(x)$ is the slope of the displacement of the beam
$v''(x)$ is the rotation per unit length, the curvature, approximately $d^2v(x)/dx^2$

$v'_s(x)$ is the transverse shear displacement of the beam
$v''_s(x)$ is the transverse shear displacement per unit length, $dv_s(x)/dx$

$\phi(x)$ is the torsional rotation (twist) of the shaft
$\phi'(x)$ is the torsional rotation per unit length, $d\phi(x)/dx$
3 Virtual Work in Elastic Solids — The Principle of Virtual Displacements

Now consider a second set of loads, \( \delta F, \delta f \), in equilibrium and applied \( \textit{subsequently} \) to the loads \( F \) and \( f \). The loads \( \delta F \) and \( \delta f \) give rise to displacements \( \delta R \) and \( \delta r \) collocated with forces \( F \) and \( f \), and internal stresses \( \delta \sigma \) and strains \( \delta \epsilon \). In other words, the displacements \( \delta R \) and \( \delta r \) are \textit{admissible} to the kinematic constraints.

Call \( \delta F \) and \( \delta f \) a set of any arbitrary \textit{“virtual” \ forces in equilibrium.}

Call \( \delta R \) and \( \delta r \) a set of \textit{“virtual” \ displacements, collocated with forces \( F \) and \( f \), and resulting from forces \( \delta F \) and \( \delta f \) (and therefore kinematically admissible). \ The displacements \( \delta R \) and \( \delta r \) may also be called \textit{variations of displacements, \ admissible to the constraints.}

Forces \( F \) and \( f \) are held constant as loads \( \delta F \) and \( \delta f \) are applied. Stresses \( \sigma \), in equilibrium with forces \( F \) and \( f \), are therefore also held constant as loads \( \delta F \) and \( \delta f \) are applied. Forces \( F \) and \( f \) do not increase with displacements \( \delta R \) and \( \delta r \). Strains \( \delta \epsilon \) increase as loads \( \delta F \) and \( \delta f \) are applied.

![Diagram of virtual work in elastic solids](image_url)

The \textit{principle of virtual displacements} states that the virtual external work of real external forces (\( f \) and \( F \)) moving through collocated admissible virtual displacements (\( \delta r \) and \( \delta R \)) equals the internal virtual work of real stresses (\( \sigma \)) in equilibrium with real forces (\( f \) and \( F \)) with the virtual strains (\( \delta \epsilon \)) compatible with the virtual displacements (\( \delta r \) and \( \delta R \)), integrated over the volume of the solid.

\[
\delta W_I = \delta W_E
\]

\[
\int_V \sigma \cdot \delta \epsilon \, dV = \int_S f \cdot \delta r \, dS + \sum_i F_i \cdot \delta R_i
\]  

(9)
3.1 Work of axial loads and transverse displacements in slender structural elements

In slender solid elements, nonuniform transverse displacements \((dv(x) \neq 0)\) induce longitudinal shortening, \(de(x)\).

A relation between \(dv\) and \(de\) can be derived from the Pythagorean theorem and is quadratic in \(dv\) and \(de\).

\[
(dx - de)^2 + (dv)^2 = (dx)^2 \\
2(de)(dx) - (de)^2 = (dv)^2
\]

\[
\frac{de}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{dv}{dx} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} (v')^2
\]

With additional virtual displacements \(\delta v(x)\) a relation for the incremental virtual shortening \(d\delta e\) may also be derived from the Pythagorean theorem.

\[
(dx - de - d\delta e)^2 + (dv + d\delta v)^2 = (dx)^2 \\
2(de)(dx) - 2(de)(d\delta e) + 2(d\delta e)(dx) - (de)^2 - (d\delta e)^2 = (dv)^2 + 2(dv)(d\delta v) + (d\delta v)^2
\]

Subtracting \(2(de)(dx) - (de)^2 = (dv)^2\) and dividing by \((dx)^2\) leaves

\[
-2 \frac{de}{dx} \frac{d\delta e}{dx} + 2 \frac{d\delta e}{dx} - \left( \frac{d\delta e}{dx} \right)^2 = 2(v')(\delta v') + (\delta v')^2
\]

Neglecting higher order terms (assuming virtual displacements are infinitesimal), leaves

\[
\frac{d\delta e}{dx} \approx (v')(\delta v') \tag{10}
\]

The virtual work of a distributed axial compression \(P(x)\) (applied externally, for example, by gravitational acceleration) acting through virtual shortening displacements \(\delta e(x)\) integrated along a slender element is, then,

\[
\delta W_G = \int l P(x) \frac{d\delta e}{dx} dx = \int l P(x) v'(x) \delta v'(x) dx \tag{11}
\]

This result can also be obtained by integrating along the arc-length of the deformed element as is done in Tedesco, McDougal, and Ross’s textbook, *Structural Dynamics: Theory and Applications.*
4 The Principle of Virtual Displacements for Dynamic Loading

The principle of virtual displacements applies to both static and dynamic forces. Elastic forces \( k(x)r(x,t) \) are present in structural systems responding to static or dynamic loads. Forces arising from dynamic effects only include viscous damping forces \( c(x)\dot{r}(x,t) \) and inertial forces \( m(x)\ddot{r}(x,t) \). Elastic forces, viscous damping forces, and inertial forces can be developed within slender structural elements in response to axial, bending, shear, and torsional deformations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>real</th>
<th>virtual</th>
<th>internal virtual work (( \delta W_1 ))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Axial</td>
<td>( N_x(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \delta u'(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \int N_x(x,t) \delta u'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int EA(x) u'(x,t) \delta u'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \eta_A(x) \dot{u}'(x,t) \delta u'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \rho A(x) \dot{u}(x,t) \delta u(x,t) , dx )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bending</td>
<td>( M_z(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v''(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \int M_z(x,t) \delta v''(x,t) , dx ) ( \int EI(x) v''(x,t) \delta v''(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \eta_I(x) \dot{v}''(x,t) \delta v''(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \rho A(x) \dot{v}(x,t) \delta v(x,t) , dx )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shear</td>
<td>( V_y(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v'(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \int V_y(x,t) \delta v'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int GA_s(x) v'(x,t) \delta v'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \eta_s A_s(x) \dot{v}'(x,t) \delta v'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \rho A(x) \dot{v}(x,t) \delta v(x,t) , dx )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torsion</td>
<td>( T_x(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \delta \phi'(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \int T_x(x,t) \delta \phi'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int GJ(x) \phi'(x,t) \delta \phi'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \eta_s J(x) \dot{\phi}'(x,t) \delta \phi'(x,t) , dx ) ( \int \rho J(x) \dot{\phi}(x,t) \delta \phi(x,t) , dx )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geometric</td>
<td>( P(x) )</td>
<td>( \delta e(x,t) )</td>
<td>( \int P(x) \delta e(x,t) , dx ) ( \int P(x) \dot{v}'(x,t) \delta v'(x,t) , dx )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this table:

- The internal virtual work of viscous effects is derived assuming linear viscous stress - strain-rate relations: \( \sigma = \eta_A \dot{\epsilon} \) and \( \tau = \eta_s \dot{\gamma} \). As will be seen later in the course, the damping properties of real structural materials are actually more complicated.
- Rotatory inertia effects are neglected in the virtual work of inertial forces in bending beams.
5 Generalized Coordinates

A dynamic response \( r(x,t) \) may be represented as an expansion of products of spatially dependent quantities and time dependent quantities

\[
r(x,t) = \sum_k \psi_k(x) q_k(t)
\]

The functions \( \psi_k(x) \) are called shape-functions, and the functions \( q(t) \) may be called generalized coordinates. In order for the above expansion to yield realistic and accurate solutions, the shape functions must at least satisfy the essential boundary conditions. (The shape functions must be kinematically-admissible.) Shape functions which also satisfy the natural boundary conditions will yield more accurate solutions. Also, if the shape functions are dimensionless, the generalized coordinates have the same units as the response, which permits a useful interpretation of the generalized coordinates. Further, if the shape functions are kinematically admissible, and the expansion (12) for \( r \) is expressed in terms of \( q \), but not \( \dot{q} \), then virtual displacements defined as variations in \( r(x,t) \) with respect to the set of coordinates \( q_k(t) \) are also kinematically admissible

\[
\delta r(x,t) = \sum_j \frac{\partial r(x,t)}{\partial q_j(t)} \delta q_j(t) = \sum_j \psi_j(x) \delta q_j(t)
\]

and the derivatives of \( r \) with respect to \( x \) and \( t \) are

\[
\begin{align*}
r(x,t) &= \sum_k q_k(t) \psi_k(x) & \dot{r}(x,t) &= \sum_k \dot{q}_k(t) \psi_k(x) & \ddot{r}(x,t) &= \sum_k \ddot{q}_k(t) \psi_k(x) \\
r'(x,t) &= \sum_k q_k(t) \psi'_k(x) & \dot{r}'(x,t) &= \sum_k \dot{q}_k(t) \psi'_k(x) & \ddot{r}'(x,t) &= \sum_k \ddot{q}_k(t) \psi'_k(x) \\
r''(x,t) &= \sum_k q_k(t) \psi''_k(x) & \dot{r}''(x,t) &= \sum_k \dot{q}_k(t) \psi''_k(x) & \ddot{r}''(x,t) &= \sum_k \ddot{q}_k(t) \psi''_k(x)
\end{align*}
\]

Internal virtual work can also be expressed in terms of generalized virtual displacements. For example in the elastic bending of a beam, the work of moments \( (EI\nu''(x,t)) \) moving through virtual rotations \( (\delta \nu''(x,t) \, dx) \) in terms of generalized coordinate displacements \( q_k(t) \) and virtual displacements \( \delta q_j(t) \) is

\[
\delta W_1 = \int_l EI(x) \, \nu''(x,t) \, \delta \nu''(x,t) \, dx
\]

\[
= \int_l EI(x) \sum_k \psi''_k(x) \, q_k(t) \sum_j \psi''_j(x) \delta q_j(t) \, dx
\]

\[
= \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l EI(x) \, \psi''_j(x) \, \psi''_k(x) \, dx \right] \, q_k(t) \, \delta q_j(t)
\]

(13)

The work of transverse inertial forces \( (\rho A \ddot{\nu}(x,t) \, dx) \) moving through virtual displacements \( (\delta \nu(x,t)) \) in terms of generalized coordinate accelerations \( \ddot{q}_k(t) \) and virtual displacements \( \delta q_j(t) \) is

\[
\delta W_1 = \int_l \rho A(x) \, \ddot{\nu}(x,t) \, \delta \nu(x,t) \, dx
\]

\[
= \int_l \rho A(x) \sum_k \psi_k(x) \ddot{q}_k(t) \sum_j \psi_j(x) \delta q_j(t) \, dx
\]

\[
= \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l \rho A(x) \, \psi_j(x) \, \psi_k(x) \, dx \right] \ddot{q}_k(t) \, \delta q_j(t)
\]

(14)
The work of external forces $f(x, t)$ and $F(t)$ moving through collocated virtual displacements $\delta v(x, t)$ can be expressed in terms of virtual displacements of generalized coordinates, $\delta q_j(t)$.

$$\delta W_E = \int f(x, t) \cdot \delta v(x, t) \, dx + \sum_i F_i \cdot \delta v(x, t_i)$$

$$= \int f(x, t) \cdot \sum_j \psi_j(x) \, \delta q_j(t) \, dx + \sum_i F_i \cdot \sum_j \psi_j(x_i) \, \delta q_j(t)$$

$$= \sum_j \left[ \int f(x, t) \cdot \psi_j(x) \, dx \right] \delta q_j(t) + \sum_j \left[ \sum_i F_i \cdot \psi_j(x_i) \right] \delta q_j(t) \quad (15)$$

The external virtual work of axial compression $P(x)$ moving through virtual end shortening $(v'(x, t) \delta v'(x, t) \, dx)$ in terms of generalized coordinate displacements $q_k(t)$ and virtual displacements $\delta q_j(t)$ is

$$\delta W_E = \int P(x) \cdot v'(x, t) \, \delta v'(x, t) \, dx$$

$$= \int P(x) \cdot \sum_k \psi_k'(x) \, q_k(t) \sum_j \psi_j'(x) \, \delta q_j(t) \, dx$$

$$= \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int P(x) \cdot \psi_j'(x) \psi_k'(x) \, dx \right] q_k(t) \, \delta q_j(t) \quad (16)$$

By setting the internal virtual work equal to the external virtual work, and factoring out the independent and arbitrary variations $\delta q_j$, equations (13), (14), (15), and (16), result in

$$\left( [M] \ddot{q}(t) + [K_E] q(t) - [K_G] q(t) - f(t) \right) : (\delta q(t)) = 0$$

Noting that each variation $\psi_j \delta q_j$ is be arbitrary, and the set of variations $j = 1, 2, ...$ must be independent, not only must the dot product equal zero, but each term within the inner product must be zero. Therefore, the term on the left of the inner product must evaluate to the zero-vector. This is an important concept in the principle of virtual work and in the calculus of variations. It’s application results in the matrix equations of motion,

$$[M] \ddot{q}(t) + [K_E] q(t) - [K_G] q(t) = f(t)$$

where the $j, k$ term of the mass matrix is,

$$M_{jk} = \int \rho A(x) \, \psi_j(x) \psi_k(x) \, dx$$

the $j, k$ term of the elastic stiffness matrix is,

$$K_{Ejk} = \int EI(x) \, \psi_j''(x) \psi_k''(x) \, dx$$

the $j, k$ term of the geometric stiffness matrix is,

$$K_{Gjk} = \int P(x) \, \psi_j'(x) \psi_k'(x) \, dx$$

and the $j$-th element of the forcing vector is the inner product of the forcing with the $j$-th shape function,

$$f_j = \int f(x) \cdot \psi_j(x) \, dx + \sum_i F_i \cdot \psi_j(x_i)$$

From the above relations, it is clear that $M_{ij} = M_{ji}$ (the mass matrix is symmetric), $K_{ij} = K_{ji}$ (the stiffness matrices is symmetric), and that $[M]$ and $[K]$ are positive definite, provided that the set of shape functions are linearly independent.
6 Choice of Shape Function

In the set of shape functions described by

\[ \psi_j(x) = \sin \left( \frac{2j - 1}{2} \pi x \right) \]

\( \psi_j(0) = 0 \) and \( \psi'(1) = 0 \). The figure below shows a set of the first four shape functions \( (j \in (1, 2, 3, 4)) \) on the left and the set of the first seven shape functions on the right \( (j \in (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)) \).

The curves in black show examples of weighted sums of the basis functions.

\[ v(x, t) = q_1(t) \psi_1(x) + q_2(t) \psi_2(x) + \ldots + q_N(t) \psi_N(x) \]

in which the “weights” correspond to the time-dependent generalized coordinates \( q_j(t) \). So one may think of the black curves as snapshots of vibrational shapes taken at various instances in time.

Note that since all the shape functions satisfy \( \psi_j(0) = 0 \) and \( \psi'(1) = 0 \), then so must the weighted sum of those shape functions.

Note also that the use of a larger set of shape functions permits more complicated vibrational shapes.
It is essential that selected shape functions is kinematically admissible with respect to the essential boundary conditions (the structural supports). The analytically “correct” shape function is both kinematically admissible and satisfies equilibrium. Equations of motion resulting from the use of kinematically admissible shape functions that do not satisfy equilibrium will provide approximate solutions, which, in many cases are within the errors implied by other fundamental assumptions.

The true equations of motion for a particular system are unique. The principle of virtual displacements provides a means to derive approximate equations of motion. The accuracy of the PVD approximation depends on the set of shape functions used, \( [\psi_1(x), ..., \psi_N(x)] \).

Since \( v(x,t) \) has units of length, if \( \psi(x) \) is unitless, then the coordinate \( q(t) \) must have a unit of length, and if \( \psi(x) \) has units of length, then \( q(t) \) is unitless (like a rotation).

### 7 Examples

#### 7.1 Example 1: a single generalized coordinate, choice of two shape functions

Consider the vibration of a cantilever beam with a point end-mass (assuming that the rotatory inertia of the end mass is negligible). And consider the choice between two similar shape functions,

\[
\psi(x) = \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^3 \quad \text{or} \quad \psi(x) = 1 - \cos \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{x}{L} \right)
\]

The cubic shape function is the static displacement of a cantilever beam with a concentrated tip load, which would seem like a reasonable guess for the deformed shape in this problem. Note that the static displacements satisfy equilibrium for a static load; they do not necessarily satisfy equilibrium for a dynamic load.

The (1-cosine) shape function is a reasonable guess, since it is smooth and satisfies the essential boundary conditions. But the (1-cosine) does not satisfy internal equilibrium for static or dynamic loads.

Regardless of the choice of shape function, the internal virtual work is the work of inertial forces moving through collocated virtual displacements plus the work of internal bending moments moving through virtual rotations.

\[
\delta W_{\text{INT}} = \int_0^L m \ddot{v}(x,t) \, \delta v(x,t) \, dx + M \ddot{v}(L,t) \, \delta v(L,t) + \int_0^L EI \dddot{v}''(x,t) \, \delta v''(x,t) \, dx
\]

\[
= m \int_0^L (\psi(x))^2 dx \, \ddot{q}(t) \, \delta q(t) + M(\psi(L))^2 \, \ddot{q}(t) \, \delta q(t) + EI \int_0^L (\psi''(x))^2 dx \, q(t) \, \delta q(t)
\]

and the work of the external force moving through its collocated virtual rotation is

\[
\delta W_{\text{EXT}} = F(t) \delta v(L,t) = F(t) \, \psi(L) \, \delta q(t)
\]
Figure 3. Two similar shape functions assumed for the displaced shape of a vibrating cantilever beam with an end mass. Differences are clearer in the curvature $\psi''(x)$ (bending moments $M(x) = EI\psi''(x)$) of the system. The cubic shape function corresponds to the triangular-shaped bending moment of a cantilever beam with a static end-load. Note that neither the cubic shape function nor the 1-cosine shape function are exactly correct for this problem. The true shape function would depend on the ratio $mL/M$. 
Setting $\delta W_{\text{INT}} = \delta W_{\text{EXT}}$, factoring out the arbitrary virtual coordinate $\delta q(t)$, and solving the integrals gives for each of the candidate shape functions gives, for the cubic shape function,

$$
\left(\frac{33}{140} mL + M\right) \ddot{q}(t) + \frac{3EI}{L^3} q(t) = F(t)
$$

and for the (1-cosine) shape function

$$
\left(\frac{3\pi - 8}{2\pi} mL + M\right) \ddot{q}(t) + \frac{\pi^4EI}{32L^3} q(t) = F(t)
$$

with natural frequency for the cubic shape function

$$
\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{3EI/L^3}{3mL/140 + M}}
$$

and for the (1-cosine) shape function

$$
\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^4EI/(32L^3)}{(3\pi - 8)mL/(2\pi) + M}}
$$

The shape function giving the lower natural frequency is more accurate.

As shown in the figure below, the cubic shape function gives a slightly more accurate dynamic model as compared to the (1-cosine) function, by about one percent for mass ratios from 0 to 5, which could be close to the difference of including or neglecting the rotational inertia of the end-mass.

![Figure 4. Natural frequencies of a beam with an end mass as a function of the ratio of the beam mass to the end mass, using two choices for the shape function.](image-url)
7.2 Example 2: a single generalized coordinate

In this example, the essential boundary conditions are \( v(t, 0) = 0 \) and \( v'(t, 0) = 0 \), so any shape function used in this problem must also satisfy \( \psi_k(0) = 0 \) and \( \psi'_k(0) = 0 \). In this first example, we will consider a single (dimensionless) shape function, such as, \( \psi(x) = (x/L)^2 \), \( \psi(x) = (x/L)^3 \), or \( \psi(x) = 1 - \cos(\pi x/(2L)) \). Just to keep this simple for now, we choose \( \psi(x) = (x/L)^3 \). Forces and associated virtual displacements are tabulated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Real Internal Force</th>
<th>Virtual Internal Displacement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( M )</td>
<td>( M \ddot{v}(L, t) = M\psi(L)\ddot{q}(t) = M\ddot{q}(t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v(L, t) = \psi(L)\delta q(t) = \delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( c )</td>
<td>( c\ddot{v}(a, t) = c\psi(a)\ddot{q}(t) = c(a/L)^3\ddot{q}(t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v(a, t) = \psi(a)\delta q(t) = (a/L)^3\delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( k )</td>
<td>( kv(b, t) = k\psi(b)q(t) = k(b/L)^3q(t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v(b, t) = \psi(b)\delta q(t) = (b/L)^3\delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( EI, m )</td>
<td>( EI\ddot{v}'(x, t) = EI\psi''(x)q(t) = EI\cdot 6x/L^3\cdot q(t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v''(x, t) = \psi''(x)\delta q(t) = 6x/L^3\cdot \delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( EI, m )</td>
<td>( m\ddot{v}(x, t) = m\psi(x)\ddot{q}(t) = m(x/L)^3\ddot{q}(t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v(x, t) = \psi(x)\delta q(t) = (x/L)^3\delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Real External Force</th>
<th>Virtual Displacement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( F(t) )</td>
<td>( \delta v(a, t) = \psi(a)\delta q(t) = (a/L)^3\delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( f(t, x) )</td>
<td>( \delta v(x, t) = \psi(x)\delta q(t) = (x/L)^3\delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( P )</td>
<td>( \delta v'(x, t) = 9x^4/L^6\ q(t) \cdot \delta q(t) )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Equating the work of real internal forces moving through internal virtual displacements, with real
external forces moving through collocated virtual displacements,

\[ M \ddot{q} \delta q + c((a/L)^3)^2 \dot{q} \delta q + k((b/L)^3)^2 q \delta q + \int_0^L EI((6x/L)^3)^2 \, dx \, q \delta q + \int_0^L m((x/L)^3)^2 \, dx \, \ddot{q} \delta q = F(t)(a/L)^3 \delta q + \int_b^L f(x,t)(x/L)^3 \, dx \, \delta q + \int_0^L P(9x^4/L^6) \, dx \, \delta q \]

Evaluating the definite integrals, factoring out the (arbitrary) virtual coordinate \( \delta q \), specifying that the distributed dynamic force is uniform with intensity \( f_o \), and grouping terms, the equation of motion for this system is

\[
\left( M + \frac{1}{6} mL \right) \ddot{q}(t) + c \left( \frac{a}{L} \right)^6 \dot{q}(t) + \left( k \left( \frac{b}{L} \right)^6 + 12 \frac{EI}{L^3} - \frac{9}{5L} P \right) q(t) = \left( \frac{a}{L} \right)^3 F(t) + \frac{1}{4} \frac{L^4 - b^4}{L^3} f_o(t)
\]

Note that this equation of motion is dimensionally homogeneous (as it should be).

The natural frequency of this system is

\[
\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k \left( \frac{b}{L} \right)^6 + 12 \frac{EI}{L^3} - \frac{9}{5L} P}{M + \frac{1}{6} mL}}
\]

In this equation the term \((9Pq(t))/(5L)\) is moved to the left hand side of the equation, as it is a function of position \( q(t) \). The coefficient \((9P)/(5L)\) is called the geometric stiffness of this system. The negative sign on this term shows that the axial compressive force \( P \) is destabilizing for this system. Under the condition

\[
k \left( \frac{b}{L} \right)^6 + 12 \frac{EI}{L^3} - \frac{9}{5L} P = 0
\]

the natural frequency would go to zero, and the system would buckle. So the critical axial buckling load for the system is

\[
P_{cr} = \left( k \left( \frac{b}{L} \right)^6 + 12 \frac{EI}{L^3} \right) \left( \frac{5L}{9} \right)
\]

Dynamical responses of complex systems require complex mathematical descriptions. The simple approximation \( v(x, t) = (x/L)^3 q(t) \) used here could be passable for a simple cantilever beam. But in this example if the spring stiffness \( k \) were much higher than \( EI/L^3 \) the dynamic response at \( x = b \) would have a very small amplitude compared to responses the domains \( x < b \) and \( x > b \). This kind of response is not captured by the approximation \( \psi(x) = (x/L)^3 \). In fact, the nature of the free dynamic response in systems such as the one in this example depends on the relative values of the physical parameters, \( EI/L^3, Mg/L, mg, P/L, k, \) etc. More complex mathematical models for \( v(x, t) \) are required to describe the dynamic responses of complex systems such as this. The next example shows an extension in this direction, in which \( v(x, t) \) is modeled by the superposition of two shape functions, and two generalized coordinates.
7.3 Example 3: the same example with two shape functions and two generalized coordinates

In this example, the displaced shape is expressed as the sum of two (independent and kinematically admissible) shape functions, $\psi_1(x)$ and $\psi_2(x)$

$$v(x,t) = \left[ \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^3 \right] q_1(t) + \left[ 8 \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^3 - 7 \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^2 \right] q_2(t)$$

Generalized coordinates associated with dimensionless shape functions have the same physical dimensions as the response variables, which is generally desirable. Shape functions that resemble the actual dynamic responses correspond to more realistic dynamic models. Actual dynamic responses must adhere to essential and natural boundary conditions. So as a first requirement, shape function approximations must adhere to the essential boundary conditions. Shape functions that also adhere to the natural boundary conditions correspond to more realistic models. Mass, and stiffness matrices derived from sets of linearly independent shape functions are positive definite (assuming the system has no rigid body modes). Mass and/or stiffness matrices derived from sets of mutually orthogonal shape functions are numerically well conditioned. Because of this, models derived from sets of mutually orthogonal shape functions are more precise over a broader frequency range.

In this example, $\psi_1(x)$ corresponds to the static deflection of a cantilever beam with a point load at $x = L$; $\psi_2(x)$ has an inflection point and a zero-crossing.

The application of the principle of virtual displacements in which the responses are an expansion of $n$ (admissible and linearly independent) shape functions result in $n$ dimensional matrix equations of motion. Examples of mass and stiffness matrices for higher dimensional approximations are given in equations (13), (14), (15), and (16). This problem is slightly more complex as it involves a spring, a damper, and a concentrated mass.
Applying the principle of superposition, expressions for the internal and external virtual work corresponding to each of these various components may be taken individually.

Work of the inertial force of the distributed mass of the beam, \( m\ddot{v}(x,t)dx \), moving through virtual displacements \( \delta v(x,t) \)

\[
\delta W_1 = \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l m(x) \psi_j(x) \psi_k(x) \, dx \right] \dot{q}_k(t) \delta q_j(t)
\]

Work of the inertial force of the point mass of the beam, \( M\ddot{v}(L,t) \) moving through virtual displacements \( \delta v(L,t) \)

\[
\delta W_1 = \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l M \delta(x - L) \psi_j(x) \psi_k(x) \, dx \right] \dot{q}_k(t) \delta q_j(t)
\]

Work of the bending moments distributed along the beam, \( EIv''(x,t) \) moving through virtual rotations distributed along the beam \( \delta v''(x,t) \, dx \)

\[
\delta W_1 = \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l EI(x) \psi_j''(x) \psi_k''(x) \, dx \right] q_k(t) \delta q_j(t)
\]

Work of the spring force, \( kv(b,t) \), moving through virtual displacements \( \delta v(b,t) \)

\[
\delta W_1 = \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l k \delta(x - b) \psi_j(x) \psi_k(x) \, dx \right] q_k(t) \delta q_j(t)
\]

Work of the damper force, \( c\dot{v}(a,t) \), moving through virtual displacements \( \delta v(a,t) \)

\[
\delta W_1 = \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l c \delta(x - a) \psi_j(x) \psi_k(x) \, dx \right] \dot{q}_k(t) \delta q_j(t)
\]

Work of the dynamic point force, \( F(t) \), moving through virtual displacements \( \delta v(a,t) \)

\[
\delta W_E = \sum_j \left[ \int_l F(t) \delta(x - a) \psi_j(x) \, dx \right] \delta q_j(t)
\]

Work of the dynamic distributed Force, \( f(t) \, dx \), moving through virtual displacements \( \delta v(x,t) \)

\[
\delta W_E = \sum_j \left[ \int_b^L f(x,t) \psi_j(x) \, dx \right] \delta q_j(t)
\]

Work of the uniform axial force, \( P \), moving through distributed virtual end shortening \( v'(x,t)\delta v'(x,t)dx \)

\[
\delta W_E = \sum_j \sum_k \left[ \int_l P(x) \psi_j'(x) \psi_k'(x) \, dx \right] q_k(t) \delta q_j(t)
\]
Each \( j, k \) term within the square brackets corresponds to the \( j, k \) term of a mass, damping, or stiffness matrix. In these derivations, \( \delta(x - a) \) is the Dirac delta function, which has the defining property,

\[
\int g(x)\delta(x - a) \, dx = g(a)
\]

The evaluation of the associated derivatives and integrals can be easily carried out using symbolic manipulation software like Mathematica, Maple, or Wolfram-alpha.
> k11 := eval(k*p1*p1,x=b);
> k11 := simplify(k11);
\[
\frac{k \cdot b \cdot (3 \cdot L - b)}{6 \cdot 4 \cdot L}
\]

> k12 := eval(k*p1*p2,x=b);
> k12 := simplify(k12);
\[
\frac{k \cdot b \cdot (3 \cdot L - b) \cdot (8 \cdot b - 7 \cdot L)}{6 \cdot 2 \cdot L}
\]

> k22 := eval(k*p2*p2,x=b);
> k22 := simplify(k22);
\[
\frac{k \cdot b \cdot (7 \cdot L - 8 \cdot b)}{6 \cdot L}
\]

## DAMPING MATRIX TERMS ................................
> c11 := eval(c*p1*p1,x=a);
> c11 := simplify(c11);
\[
\frac{c \cdot a \cdot (3 \cdot L - a)}{6 \cdot 4 \cdot L}
\]

> c12 := eval(c*p1*p2,x=a);
> c12 := simplify(c12);
\[
\frac{c \cdot a \cdot (3 \cdot L - a) \cdot (8 \cdot a - 7 \cdot L)}{6 \cdot 2 \cdot L}
\]

> c22 := eval(c*p2*p2,x=a);
> c22 := simplify(c22);
\[
\frac{c \cdot a \cdot (8 \cdot a - 7 \cdot L)}{6 \cdot L}
\]

## EXTERNAL FORCING TERMS ................................
> F1 := eval(F*p1,x=a);
> F1 := simplify(F1);
\[
\frac{2 \cdot F \cdot a \cdot (3 \cdot L - a)}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot L}
\]

> F2 := eval(F*p2,x=a);
> F2 := simplify(F2);
\[
\frac{2 \cdot F \cdot a \cdot (8 \cdot a - 7 \cdot L)}{3 \cdot L}
\]

> f1 := int(fo*p1,x=b..L);
> f1 := simplify(f1);
\[
\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot \text{fo} \cdot (3 \cdot L - 4 \cdot L \cdot b - b)}{3 \cdot 8 \cdot L}
\]

> f2 := int(fo*p2,x=b..L);
> f2 := simplify(f2);
\[
\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot \text{fo} \cdot (L - 7 \cdot L \cdot b + 6 \cdot b)}{3 \cdot 3 \cdot L}
\]

## GEOMETRIC STIFFNESS TERMS ...............................
> P11 := int(P*dp1*dp1,x=0..L);
\[
\frac{6 \cdot P}{5 \cdot L}
\]

> P12 := int(P*dp1*dp2,x=0..L);
\[
\frac{41 \cdot P}{20 \cdot L}
\]

> P22 := int(P*dp2*dp2,x=0..L);
\[
\frac{188 \cdot P}{15 \cdot L}
\]
The resulting equations of motion in terms of generalized coordinates, $q_1(t)$ and $q_2(t)$ are

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
\frac{33}{140}mL + M - \frac{37}{420}mL + M \\
- \frac{37}{420}mL + M + \frac{29}{105}mL + M
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
\ddot{q}_1(t) \\
\ddot{q}_2(t)
\end{bmatrix}
+ \frac{ca^4}{L^6}
\begin{bmatrix}
\frac{(3L-a)^2}{4} & \frac{(3L-a)(8a-7L)}{2} \\
\frac{(3L-a)(8a-7L)}{2} & (8a - 7L)^2
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
\dot{q}_1(t) \\
\dot{q}_2(t)
\end{bmatrix}
+ \frac{kb^4}{L^6}
\begin{bmatrix}
\frac{(3L-b)^2}{4} & \frac{(3L-b)(8b-7L)}{2} \\
\frac{(3L-b)(8b-7L)}{2} & (8b - 7L)^2
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
q_1(t) \\
q_2(t)
\end{bmatrix}
+ \frac{EI}{L^3}
\begin{bmatrix}
3 & 3 \\
3 & 292
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
q_1(t) \\
q_2(t)
\end{bmatrix}
- \frac{P}{L}
\begin{bmatrix}
6 & \frac{41}{20} & \frac{188}{15} \\
\frac{41}{20} & \frac{188}{15}
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
q_1(t) \\
q_2(t)
\end{bmatrix}
= \begin{bmatrix}
\frac{a^2(3L-a)}{2L^3} & \frac{3L^4-4Lb^3-b^4}{8L^3} \\
\frac{a^2(8a-7L)}{L^4} & \frac{L^4-7Lb^3+6b^4}{3L^3}
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
F(t) \\
f_o(t)
\end{bmatrix}
$$

(17)

With the scaling of the dimensionless shape functions, $\psi_1(L) = \psi_2(L) = 1$, $q_1(t)$ and $q_2(t)$ are the values of $v(L, t)$ corresponding to $\psi_1(x)$ and $\psi_2(x)$. With the dimensionless formulation of the shape functions, every term in this equation has units of force.

This example is an introduction to methodologies that are invoked later in the course.

For more complex geometries, for example, beams with tapered sections, the derivation can become very complex, and the analysis is more easily carried out numerically.

The same example, computed with matlab, is:

```matlab
%% DEFINE NUMERICAL VALUES FOR CONSTANTS
EI = 1e7; % flexural rigidity N.m^2
k = 1e2; % concentrated stiffness N/m
m = 1e0; % distributed mass kg/m
M = 1e1; % lumped mass kg
c = 0.1; % spring damping rate N/m/s
L = 10; % overall length m
a = 3; % location of damper m
b = 5; % location of spring m
dx = 0.01; % increment of length along the beam
x = [ 0 : dx : L ]; % x-axis
xa = round(a/dx); %
xb = round(b/dx);
```
%% INPUT THE SHAPE FUNCTION EQUATIONS .........................
\[ p_1 = \left( \frac{3}{2} \right) \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^2 - \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^3; \]
\[ p_2 = 8 \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^3 - 7 \left( \frac{x}{L} \right)^2; \]

%% EVALUATE DERIVATIVES ........................................
\[ dp_1 = \text{cdiff}(p_1)/dx; \]
\[ ddp_1 = \text{cdiff}(dp_1)/dx; \]
\[ dp_2 = \text{cdiff}(p_2)/dx; \]
\[ ddp_2 = \text{cdiff}(dp_2)/dx; \]

%% EVALUATE INTEGRALS ...........................................

%% MASS MATRIX TERMS ...........................................
\[ m_{11} = \text{trapz}(m \cdot p_1 \cdot p_1) \cdot dx; \]
\[ m_{12} = \text{trapz}(m \cdot p_1 \cdot p_2) \cdot dx; \]
\[ m_{22} = \text{trapz}(m \cdot p_2 \cdot p_2) \cdot dx; \]
\[ M_{11} = M \cdot p_1(\text{end}) \cdot p_1(\text{end}); \]
\[ M_{12} = M \cdot p_1(\text{end}) \cdot p_2(\text{end}); \]
\[ M_{22} = M \cdot p_2(\text{end}) \cdot p_2(\text{end}); \]

%% STIFFNESS MATRIX TERMS ....................................
\[ EI_{11} = \text{trapz}(EI \cdot ddp_1 \cdot ddp_1) \cdot dx; \]
\[ EI_{12} = \text{trapz}(EI \cdot ddp_1 \cdot ddp_2) \cdot dx; \]
\[ EI_{22} = \text{trapz}(EI \cdot ddp_2 \cdot ddp_2) \cdot dx; \]
\[ k_{11} = k \cdot p_1(xb) \cdot p_1(xb); \]
\[ k_{12} = k \cdot p_1(xb) \cdot p_2(xb); \]
\[ k_{22} = k \cdot p_2(xb) \cdot p_2(xb); \]

%% DAMPING MATRIX TERMS ......................................
\[ c_{11} = c \cdot p_1(xa) \cdot p_1(xa); \]
\[ c_{12} = c \cdot p_1(xa) \cdot p_2(xa); \]
\[ c_{22} = c \cdot p_2(xa) \cdot p_2(xa); \]

%% EXTERNAL FORCING TERMS .................................
\[ F_1 = F \cdot p_1(xa); \]
\[ F_2 = F \cdot p_2(xa); \]
\[ f_1 = \text{trapz}(fo \cdot p_1(xb:L)) \cdot dx; \]
\[ f_2 = \text{trapz}(fo \cdot p_2(xb:L)) \cdot dx; \]

%% GEOMETRIC STIFFNESS TERMS ..............................
\[ P_{11} = \text{trapz}(P \cdot dp_1 \cdot dp_1) \cdot dx; \]
\[ P_{12} = \text{trapz}(P \cdot dp_1 \cdot dp_2) \cdot dx; \]
\[ P_{22} = \text{trapz}(P \cdot dp_2 \cdot dp_2) \cdot dx; \]