



UNIMORE
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI
MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA



Dipartimento di Ingegneria
“Enzo Ferrari”

Progettazione Assistita di Organi di Macchine

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Agenda

Castigliano's Theorem analysis of a ladder frame (Case E) by Maxima

- Problem definition and nomenclature
- Reaction forces evaluation
- Skew-symmetry BCs
- Castigliano's theorem general formulation
- Deflection of the structure
- Torsional stiffness of a space frame
- Further considerations
- References

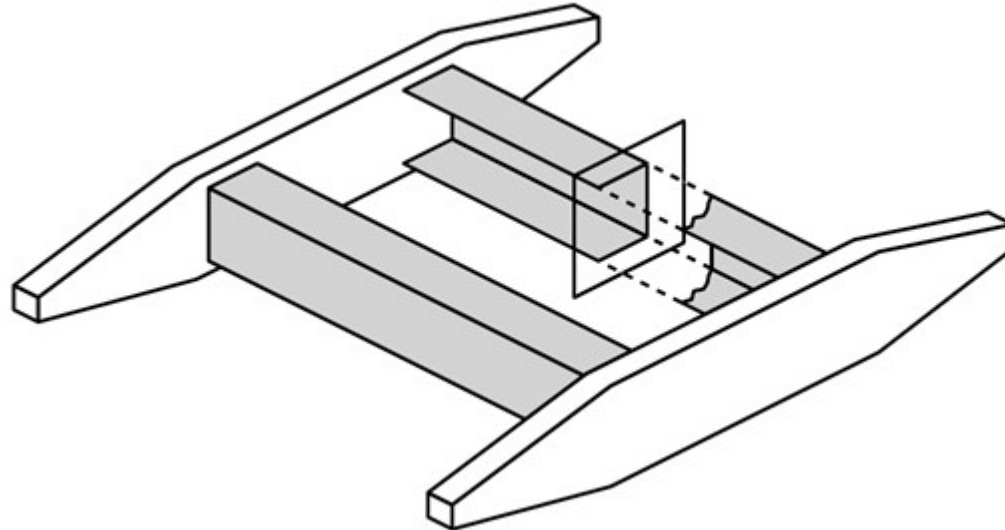
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Castigliano's Theorem

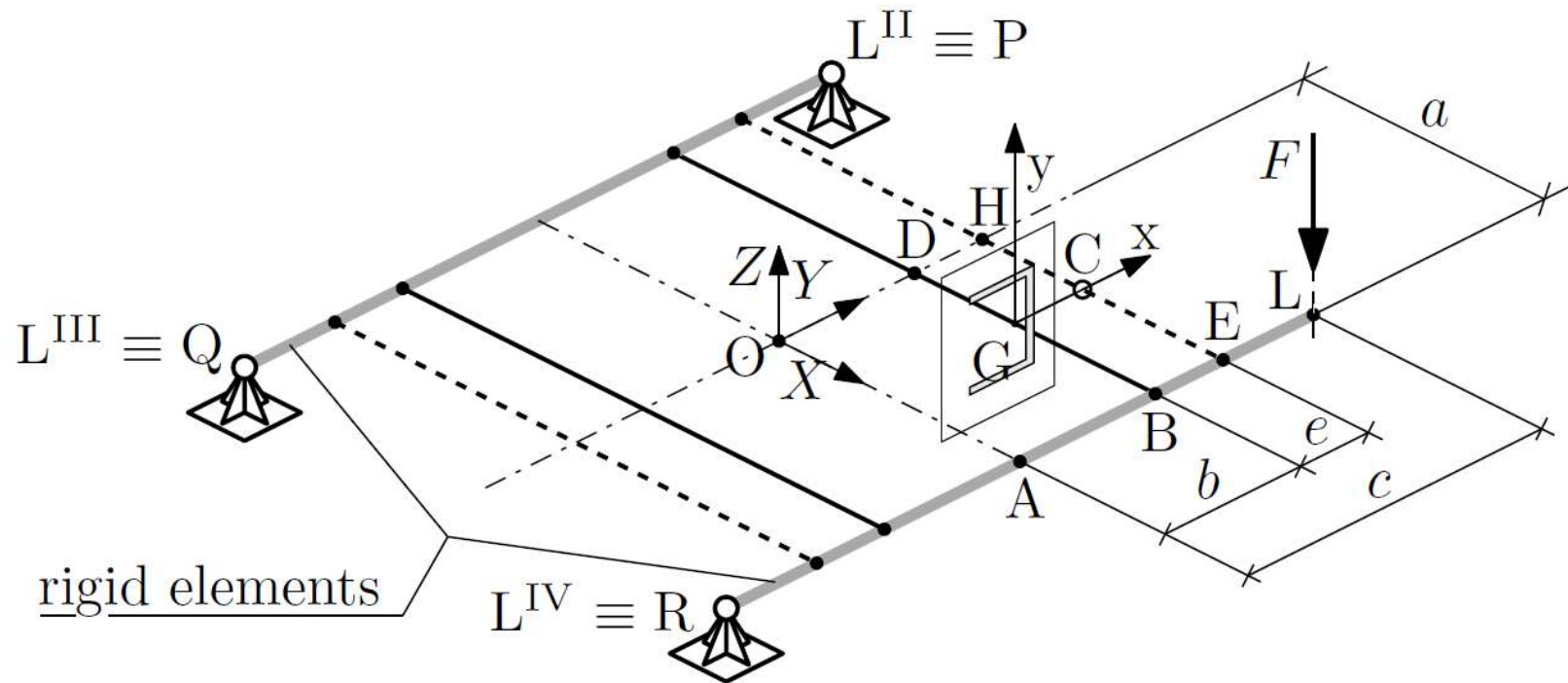
CASE E: Ladder Frame – Problem Introduction



Evaluate the torsional stiffness (t_s) of the chassis supported at three wheel centers and loaded at the fourth adopting Castigliano's theorem.

Castigliano's Theorem

CASE E: Ladder Frame – Nomenclature



O, X, Y, Z : global coordinate system

x, y, z : local system applied at the beam cross-section centre of gravity (G)

a, b, c, e : dimensions of the frame

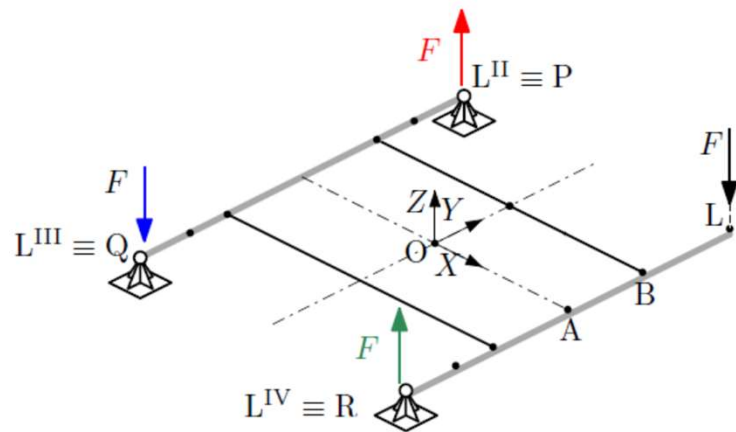
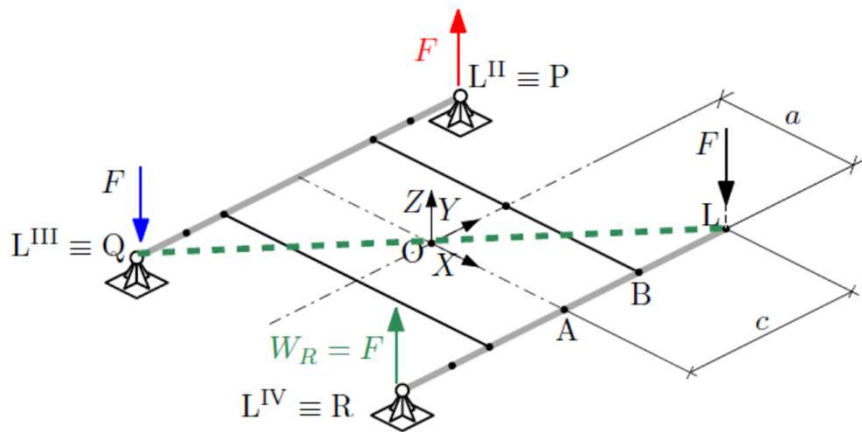
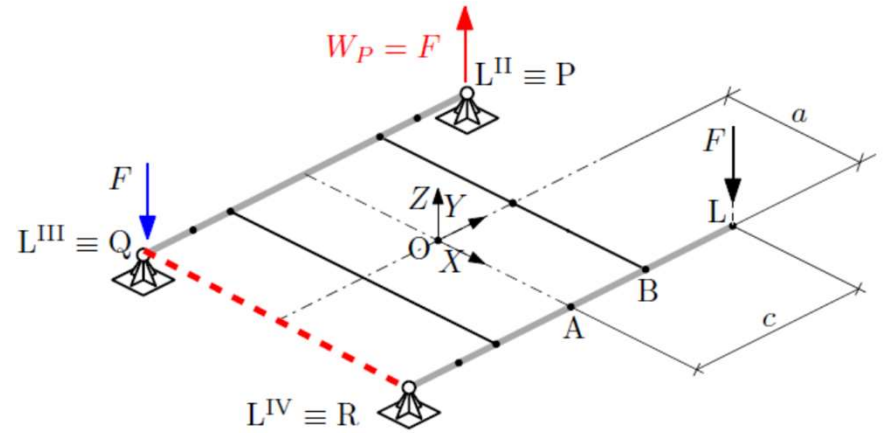
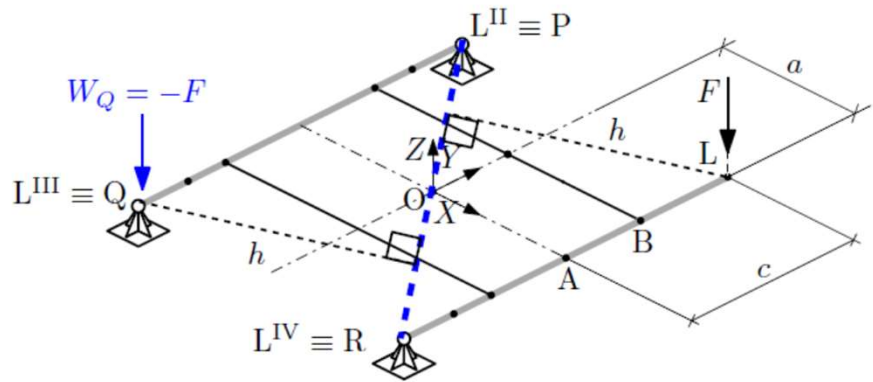
F : external force

C : shear centre of the beam cross-section

$A, B, D, E, H, L, P, Q, R$: crucial points of the frame

Ladder Frame

Reaction forces evaluation



Agenda

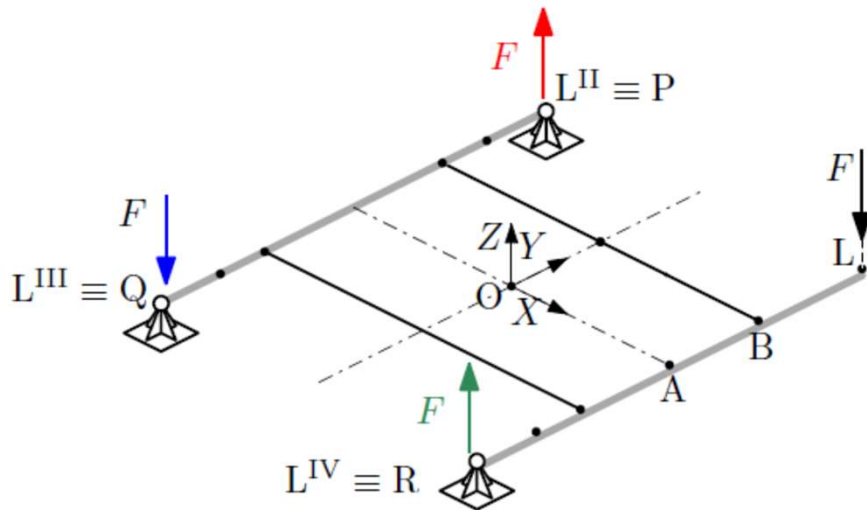
Castigliano's Theorem analysis of a ladder frame (Case E) by Maxima

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Ladder Frame

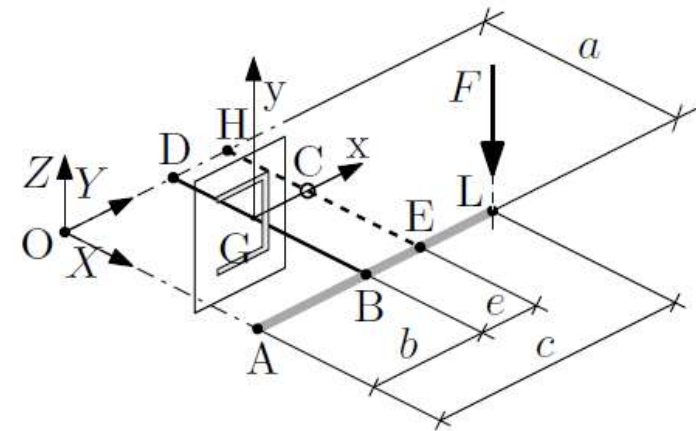
Skew-symmetry definition

Complete – ladder structure



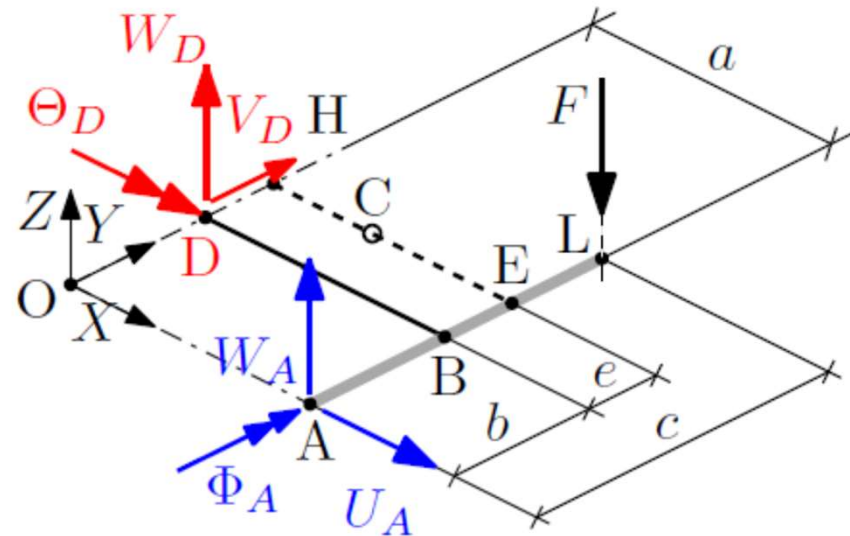
Quarter – ladder structure

We decide to neglect the XY skew-symm plane to reduce the problem complexity.



Ladder Frame

Skew-symmetry definition



Quarter – ladder structure
Skew-symmetry BCs

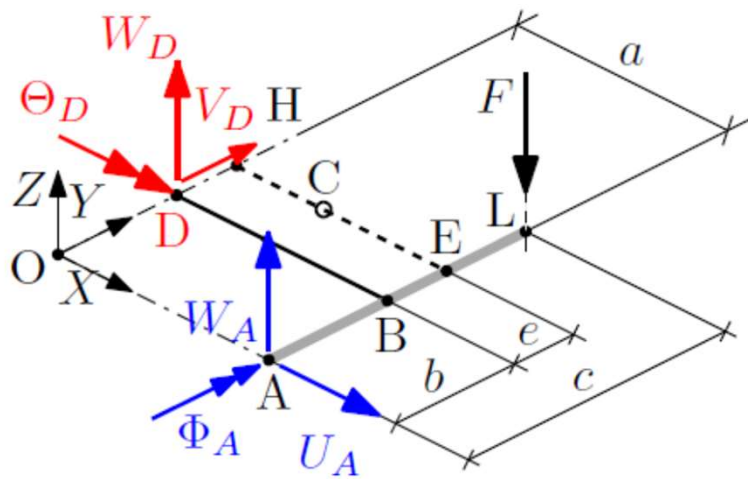
Nomenclature:

U_i, V_i, W_i : Reaction forces related to x, y, z local axes respectively.

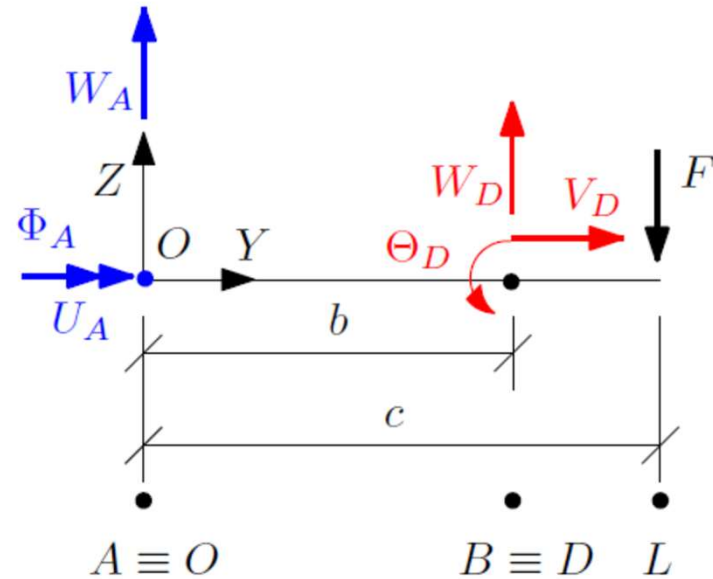
Θ_i, Φ_i, Ψ_i : Reaction moments related to x, y, z local axes respectively.

Ladder Frame

Skew-symmetry definition



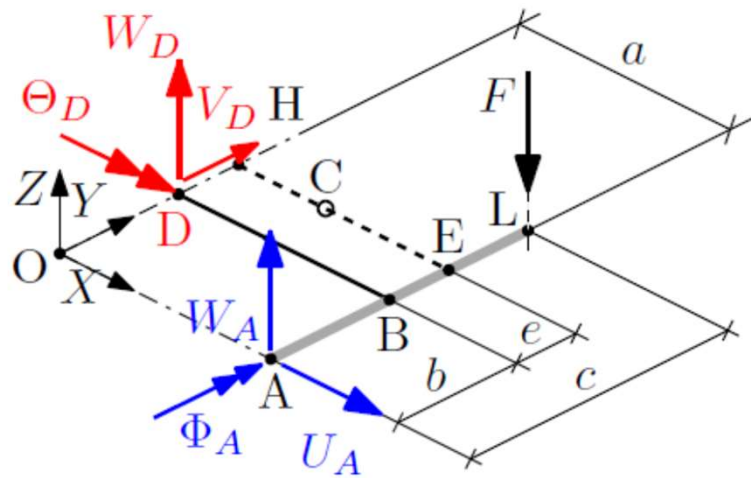
Quarter – ladder structure
Skew-symmetry BCs



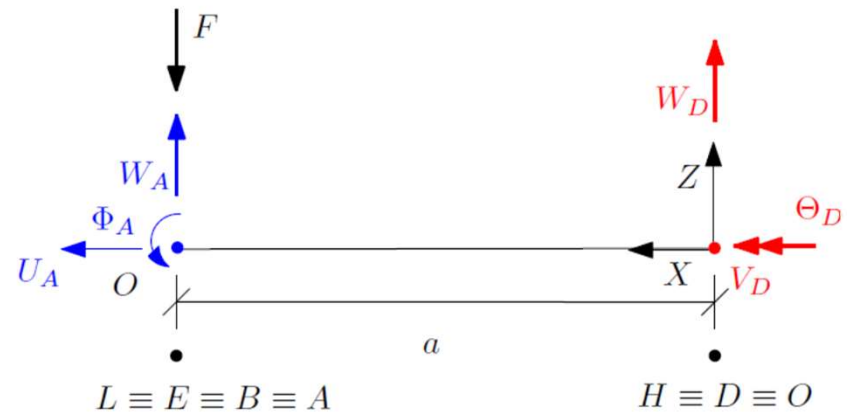
YZ plane
X: outward

Ladder Frame

Skew-symmetry definition



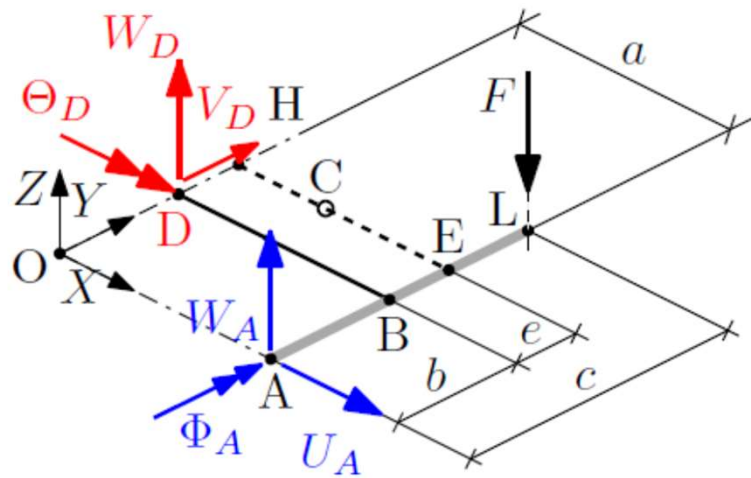
Quarter – ladder structure
Skew-symmetry BCs



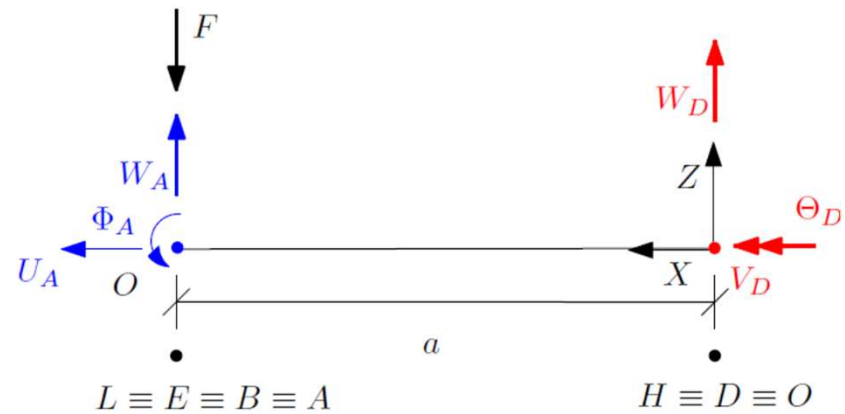
XZ plane
Y: outward

Ladder Frame

Skew-symmetry definition



Quarter – ladder structure
Skew-symmetry BCs



XZ plane
Y: outward

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Ladder Frame

Castigliano's Theorem general formulation

The linear density of the elastic potential (alternatively named internal) energy for the spatial rectilinear beam may be derived as a function of its cross section resultants, namely

$$\frac{dU}{dl} = \frac{J_{\eta\eta}M_{\xi}^2 + J_{\xi\xi}M_{\eta}^2 + 2J_{\xi\eta}M_{\xi}M_{\eta}}{2E \left(J_{\xi\xi}J_{\eta\eta} - J_{\xi\eta}^2 \right)} + \frac{N^2}{2EA} \quad (1.37)$$

$$+ \frac{\chi_{\xi}S_{\xi}^2 + \chi_{\eta}S_{\eta}^2 + \chi_{\xi\eta}S_{\eta}S_{\xi}}{2GA} + \frac{M_t^2}{2GK_t} \quad (1.38)$$

where

- A , $J_{\eta\eta}$, $J_{\xi\xi}$ and $J_{\xi\eta}$ are the section area and moments of inertia, respectively;
- K_t is the section torsional stiffness (**not** generally equivalent to its polar moment of inertia);
- E and G are the material Young Modulus and Shear Modulus, respectively; the material is assumed homogeneous, isotropic and linearly elastic.

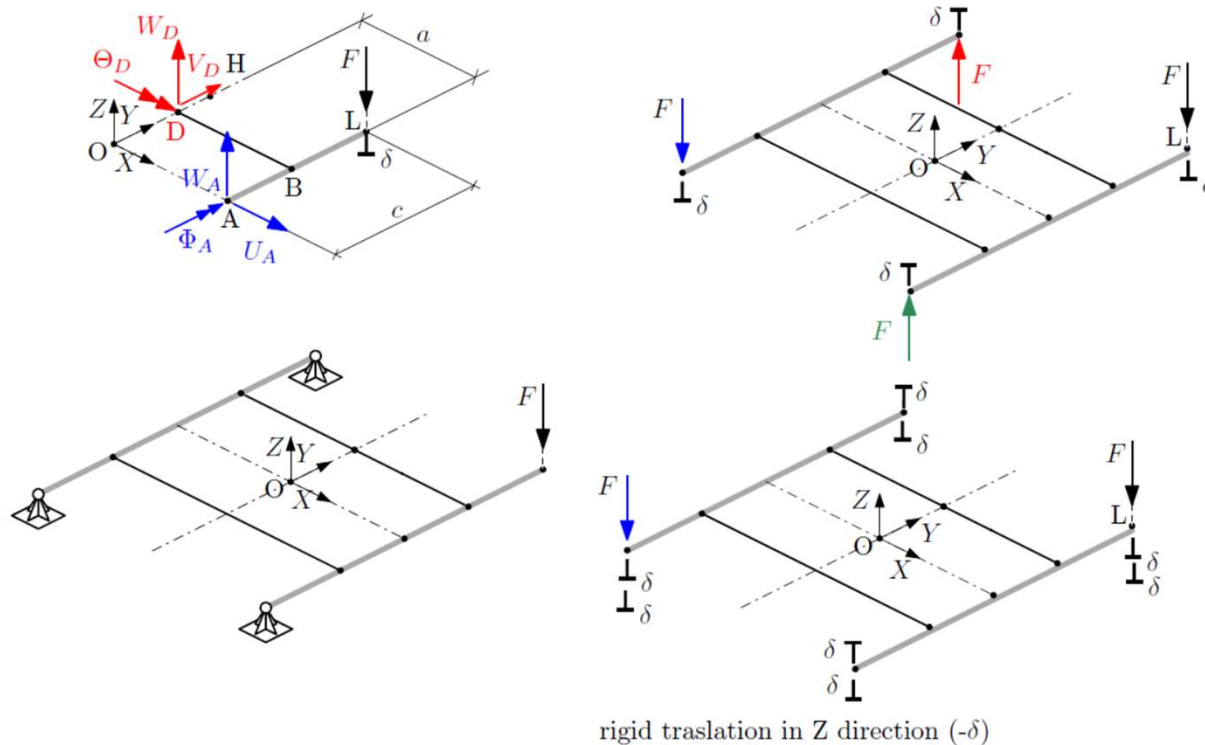
The shear energy normalized coefficients $\chi_{\eta}, \chi_{\xi}, \chi_{\xi\eta}$ are specific to the cross section geometry, and may be collected from the expression of the actual shear strain energy due to concurrent action of the S_{η}, S_{ξ} shear forces.

Ladder Frame

Deflection of the structure

The internal energy U calculated for the quarter-ladder frame allows the evaluation of the deflection of the frame that is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the deflection of the overall structure.

It might be seen this aspect by the congruency guaranteed at the support of the complete structure.

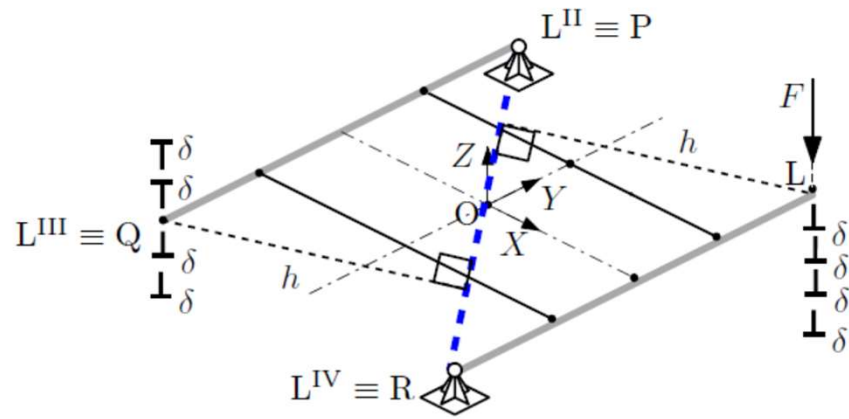


Ladder Frame

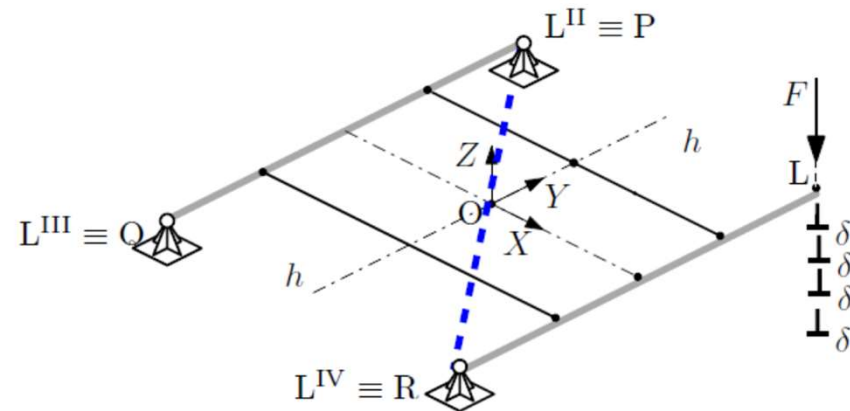
Deflection of the structure

The internal energy U calculated for the quarter-ladder frame allows the evaluation of the deflection of the frame that is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the deflection of the overall structure.

By the kinematic compatibility reinstated (three-supports), the calculation of the overall deflection is evaluated.



eq. rotation along the PR -axis
The Q point must be increased on direction Z of (2δ)



Ladder Frame

Deflection of the structure

t_s : torsional stiffness [Nm/deg]

M_t : torsional moment

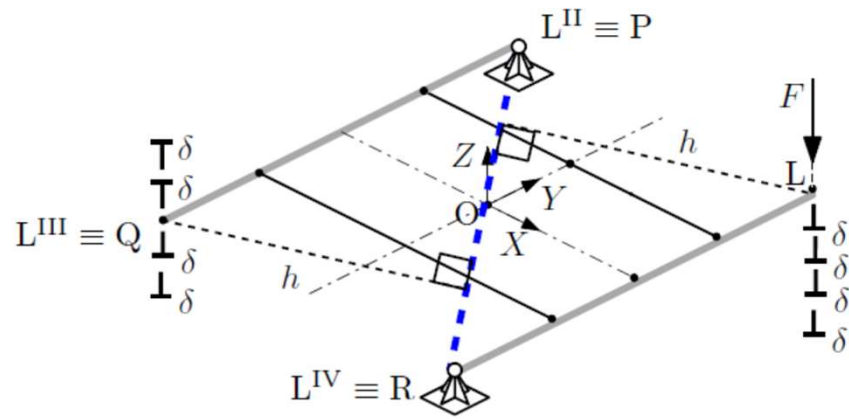
$\Delta\theta$: rotation

$$t_s = \frac{M_t}{\Delta\theta} = \frac{2Fc}{\Delta\theta}$$

$$\Delta\theta = \frac{4\delta}{2c}$$

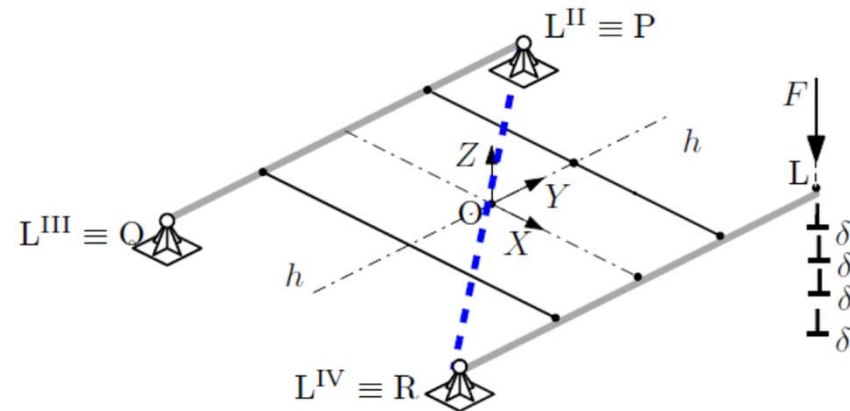
where

$$t_s = \frac{M_t}{\Delta\theta} = \frac{F(2c)^2}{4\delta}$$



eq. rotation along the PR -axis

The Q point must be increased on direction Z of (2δ)



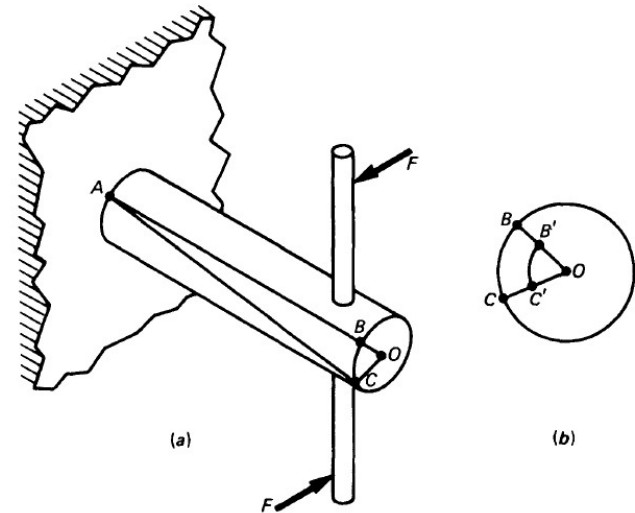
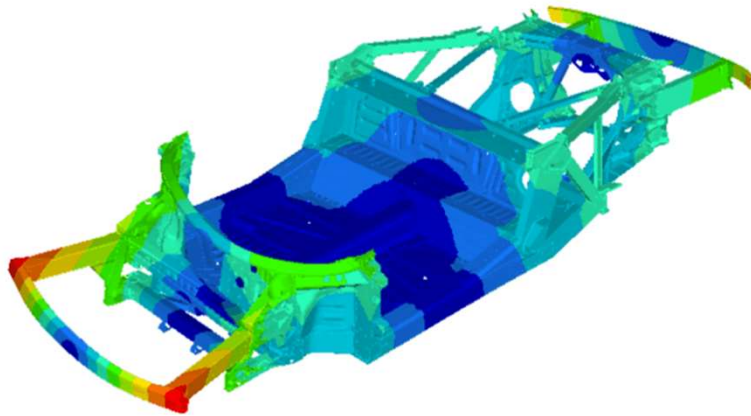
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Torsional stiffness

Space-frame

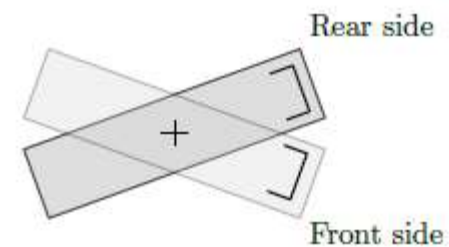


$$E_t = t_s * P * C / (M_{BIW} * 1000)$$

- E_t : torsional efficiency [$m^4/(s^2 \text{ deg})$]
- t_s : torsional stiffness [Nm/deg] = M_t / θ
- P: wheelbase [m]
- C: axle track [m]
- M: weight [kg]

for a *Body in White* frame structure.

Torsional deformation

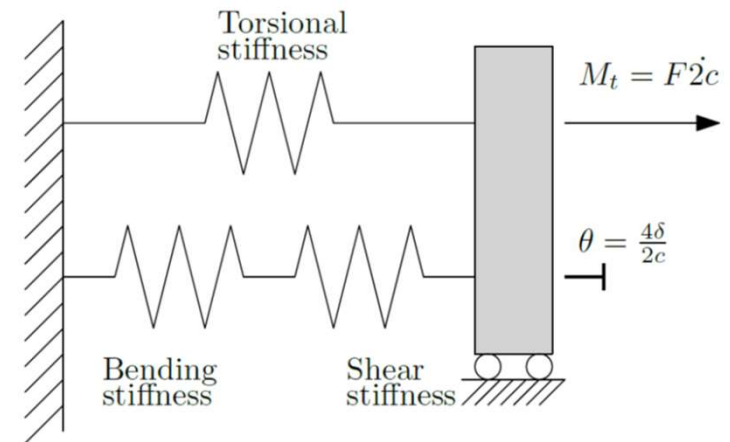


Ladder Frame

Further considerations

summarizing the results, we obtain the following table

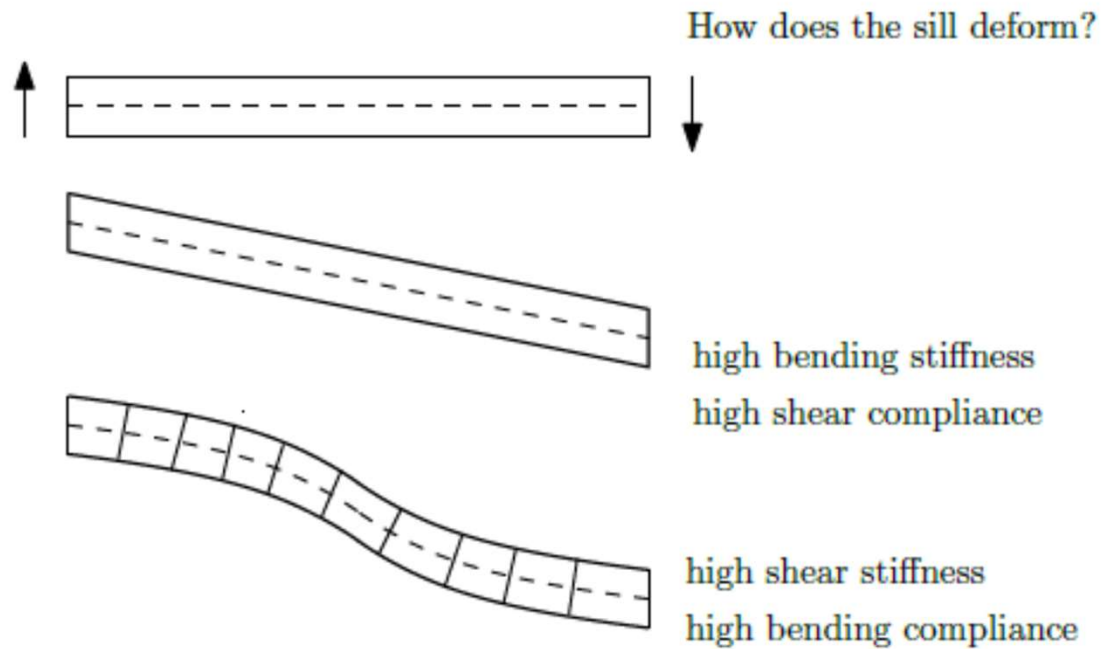
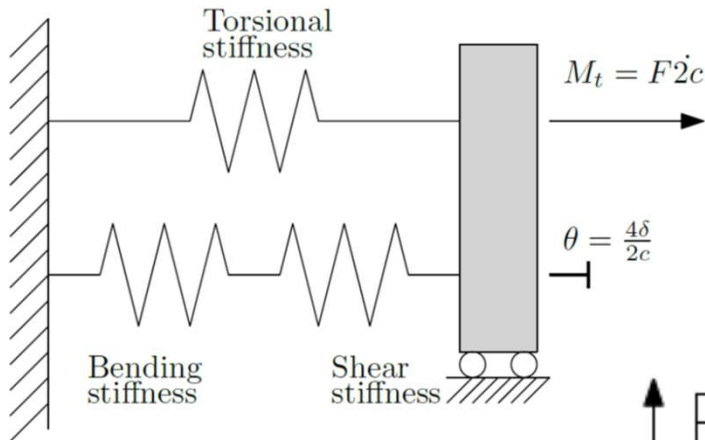
trs	bnd	shr	residual stiffness
1	1	1	100.0%
1	1	0	7.2%
1	0	1	7.2%
1	0	0	7.2%
0	1	1	92.8%
0	1	0	0.0%
0	0	1	0.0%
0	0	0	0.0%



which may be rationalized according to the following scheme

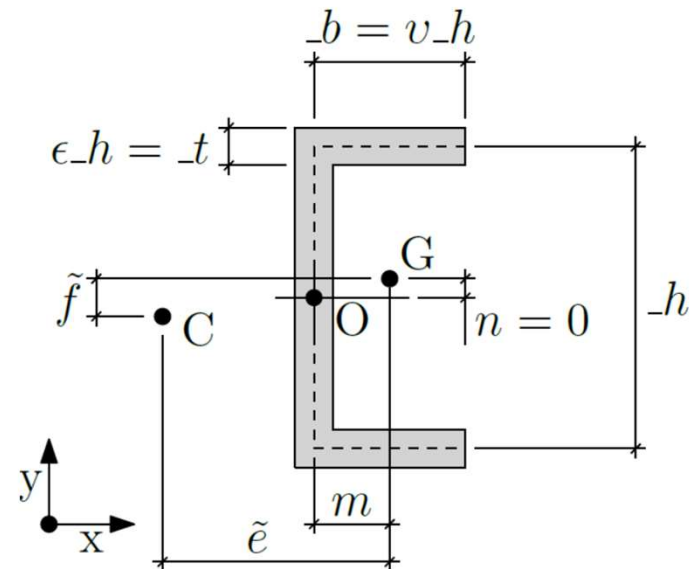
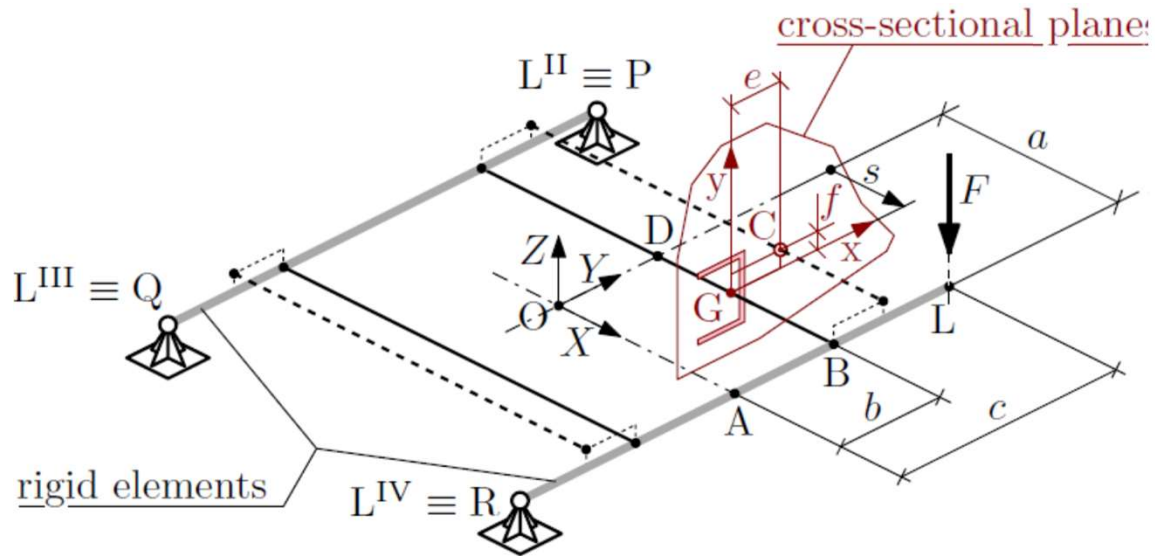
Ladder Frame

Further considerations



Ladder Frame

Further considerations



Generic sections (without plane of symmetry).

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References

LAB Maxima files saved as:

quarter_ladder_frame_v005_BASE2019.wmx

quarter_ladder_frame_v005_BASE2019_rev02.wmx

Torsional stiffness testing:

<http://www.optimumg.com/technical/torsional-stiffness-2/>

of a ladder frame vehicle at 1:30 minutes of the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opNSP59TTcY>

of different panels varying the material under investigation

«Delle cose che leggi qui alcune sono buone, altre mediocri, la maggior parte cattive. Così e non altrimenti, Avito, son fatti i libri».

Marziale, Epigrammi



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