## EGT2 ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIA

Thursday 2 May 2024 9.30 to 11.10

# **Module 3D4**

## **STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS AND STABILITY**

*Answer not more than three questions.*

*All questions carry the same number of marks.*

*The approximate percentage of marks allocated to each part of a question is indicated in the right margin.*

*Write your candidate number not your name on the cover sheet.*

### **STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

Single-sided script paper

# **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAM**

CUED approved calculator allowed Attachment: Data Sheet for Question 2 (2 pages) Engineering Data Book

**10 minutes reading time is allowed for this paper at the start of the exam.**

**You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.**

**You may not remove any stationery from the Examination Room.**

1 (a) Figure 1(a) shows a thin-walled cross-section consisting of one semicircular part of radius  $a$  and one straight part of length  $a$ . The cross-section has a uniform thickness  $t$ .

(i) Provide an estimate for the St. Venant torsion constant of the cross-section. [15%]

(ii) Calculate the principal second moments of area and the principal axes of the cross-section. [40%]

(b) Figure 1(b) shows a thin-walled cross-section consisting of two semicircular parts each of radius  $a$  and one straight part of length  $a$ . The cross-section has a uniform thickness  $t$ . Calculate the shear centre of the cross-section. [45%]



Fig. 1

2 (a) Figure 2(a) shows a simply supported beam with a moment  $M$  applied at its right end. Determine the deflection at A using the reciprocal theorem together with deflection coefficients taken from the Structures Data Book. [15%]

(b) Figure 2(b) shows a grillage consisting of three beams that is built in to a rigid wall. The grillage is loaded with a distributed load  $w$  and two concentrated loads  $F$ . The distributed load acts orthogonal to the plane of the grillage, whereas the concentrated forces act in the plane of the grillage. The flexural stiffness of all members is  $EI$ , their torsional stiffness is  $GJ = 2EI$  and their axial stiffness EA can be assumed as infinite.

- (i) Compute the bending moment at A due to the distributed loading  $w$ . [40%]
- (ii) Calculate the bending moment at A due to the in-plane forces  $F$ . [45%]





(b)

Fig. 2

 $3$  (a) Figure 3(a.i) shows an unloaded horizontal rigid rod of length,  $L$ , connected to ground at pin-joints by a vertical spring of linear stiffness,  $k$  [Nm<sup>-1</sup>], and by a torsional spring of linear stiffness, c, [Nm rad<sup>-1</sup>]. A horizontal force, P, is applied to the right end, and increased from zero until the rod buckles in-plane, as shown in Fig. 3(a.ii), where the angle of rotation of the rod is  $\theta$ .

(i) Verify that the critical buckling load for *P* is given by 
$$
c/L + kL
$$
. [10%]

(ii) Show that, when  $k = (1/3)(c/L)$ , the initial post-buckling variation of P with  $\theta$  is constant. [15%]

(iii) Sketch the variation of P with  $\theta$  when  $k = 0.4c/L$ , noting salient features. [15%]

(b) A light, horizontal rigid rod, AB, of length,  $a$ , is connected to another light, horizontal rigid rod, BC, of length,  $b$ , by a pin-joint, as shown in Fig. 4(a.i). The pin-jointed end, A, is connected to ground by a torsional spring of linear stiffness, c, [Nm rad<sup>-1</sup>], and the pin-jointed end, C, is connected to ground by horizontal roller supports. A horizontal force,  $P$ , is applied at C, and increased from zero until the arrangement buckles in-plane, as shown in Fig. 4(a.ii). Show that the critical buckling load for P is given by [20%]

$$
\frac{cb}{a(a+b)}
$$

(c) The rod, AB, is now replaced by a light, uniform beam, AB, which has a bending stiffness, EI, [Nm<sup>2</sup>], and length, a. The beam is axially rigid and is built-in at A, as shown in Fig. 4(b.i). A horizontal force,  $P$ , is applied at C and increased from zero until the arrangement buckles in-plane, as shown in Fig. 4(b.ii). Show that the critical buckling load for  $P$  is given by the solution of the equation

$$
\tan(\alpha a) = \alpha(a+b), \text{ where } \alpha^2 = \frac{P}{EI}
$$

Do not solve this equation. [40%]



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

#### Version FC/4

4 Figure 5 shows a uniform beam, AB, of length,  $L$ , and bending stiffness,  $E I$ . The beam is rigidly built-in at end A, where  $x = 0$ , and is simply-supported at end B, where  $x = L$ . The beam is also supported on an elastic foundation of constant stiffness per unit length, k,  $[(Nm^{-1})$  m<sup>-1</sup>], which resists transverse deflections of the beam, w, vertically upwards, when a horizontal compressive force,  $P$  is applied to the end, B.

(a) Show that the strain energy stored in bending, the work performed by  $P$ , and the strain energy stored in the foundation are respectively given by [30%]

$$
\frac{1}{2} \int_0^L EI \left(\frac{d^2 w}{dx^2}\right)^2 dx, \quad \frac{1}{2} P \int_0^L \left(\frac{dw}{dx}\right)^2 dx, \quad \frac{1}{2} k \int_0^L w^2 dx
$$

(b) The in-plane deflected shape of a deformed beam is represented by the polynomial series

$$
w = \sum_{n=0}^{i} a_i \left(\frac{x}{L}\right)^n
$$

(i) Show that the minimum number of terms,  $i$ , required to satisfy the kinematical and statical boundary conditions is  $i = 4$  when allowing for a single arbitrary  $\text{constant.}$  [25%]

(ii) From the result in part b(i), calculate an approximate value for the buckling load of  $P$  by the Rayleigh-Ritz method. [40%]

(iii) Comment on how to improve the accuracy of your answer in part  $b(ii)$ . [5%]



Fig. 5

#### **END OF PAPER**

#### **Notation and sign convention**



#### **Beam type I**



**Beam type II**

