




Principle of Virtual Work

- The principle of virtual work was developed by John Bernoulli in 1717 and is sometimes referred to as the unit-load method.
- Johann Bernoulli (1667–1748; also known as Jean or John) was a Swiss mathematician and was one of the many prominent mathematicians in the Bernoulli family.
- He is known for his contributions to infinitesimal calculus and educated Leonhard Euler in his youth.





Principle of Virtual Work

- In 1738, Johann and his son Daniel nearly simultaneously published separate works on hydrodynamics.
- Daniel is said to have had a bad relationship with his father
- Upon both of them entering and tying for first place in a scientific contest at the University of Paris, Johann, unable to bear the "shame" of being compared Daniel's equal, banned Daniel from his house.

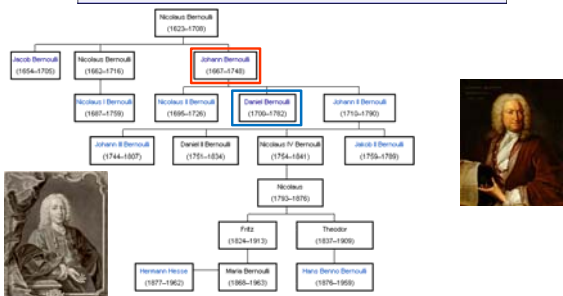





Principle of Virtual Work

- In 1738, Johann and his son Daniel nearly simultaneously published separate works on hydrodynamics.
- Daniel is said to have had a bad relationship with his father
- Johann Bernoulli also plagiarized some key ideas from Daniel's book *Hydrodynamica* in his own book *Hydraulica* which he backdated to before *Hydrodynamica*.
- Despite Daniel's attempts at reconciliation, his father carried the grudge until his death.

Principle of Virtual Work

Truss – Virtual Work

- Virtual work is a procedure for computing a single component of deflection at any point on a structure.
- To compute a component of deflection by the method of virtual work, the designer applies a force to structure at the point and in the direction of the desired displacement.
- The force is called the **dummy load** or the **virtual load**.
- The force system created by the virtual loads is called the **Q-system**.

Truss – Virtual Work

- The force system created by the **actual loads** is called the **P-system**.
- As the structure deforms under the actual loads, **external virtual work** W_Q is done by the virtual loads as they move through real displacements.
- Due to the conservation of energy an equivalent quantity of **virtual strain energy** U_Q is stored in the structure.

$$W_Q = U_Q$$

Truss – Virtual Work

Consider the method of virtual work applied to one-bar truss, as shown below.

load P

deflection δ_P

W_P - real work done by P

bar force F_P

elongation ΔL_P

U_P - real strain energy stored in AB due to P

$W_P = U_P$

Truss – Virtual Work

Now consider the forces and displacements produced by the virtual load, as shown below.

load Q

deflection δ_Q

W_D - real work done by Q

bar force F_Q

elongation ΔL_Q

U_D - real strain energy stored in AB due to Q

$W_D = U_D$

Truss – Virtual Work

Now consider the forces and displacements produced by the virtual load and actual loads acting together.

load $P+Q$

deflection δ_T

W_T - total work done by Q and P

bar force F_T

elongation ΔL_T

U_T - total strain energy due to Q and P

$W_T = U_T$

$W_Q = U_Q$

Truss – Virtual Work

By the principle of conservation of energy, it follows that $W_Q = U_Q$.

load $P+Q$

deflection δ_T

W_T - total work done by Q and P

bar force F_T

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$W_Q = U_Q$

Truss – Virtual Work

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load $P+Q$

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U_T - total strain energy due to Q and P

$U_Q = F_Q \Delta L_P$

Truss – Virtual Work

By the principle of conservation of energy, it follows that $W_Q = U_Q$.

load $P+Q$

deflection δ_T

W_T - total work done by Q and P

bar force F_T

elongation ΔL_T

U_T - total strain energy due to Q and P

$Q \delta_P = F_Q \Delta L_P$

Truss – Virtual Work

- By summing the energy expression for each member in a truss, we get:

$$\sum Q\delta_P = \sum F_Q\Delta L_P$$

- The bar elongation ΔL_P can be compute is terms of the actual load P and the properties of the section.

$$\sum Q\delta_P = \sum F_Q\Delta L_P = \sum F_Q\left(\frac{F_P L}{AE}\right) = \sum\left(\frac{nNL}{AE}\right)$$

Where n is the force in each member of the truss due to the virtual load and N is the force in each member of the truss due to the real loads.

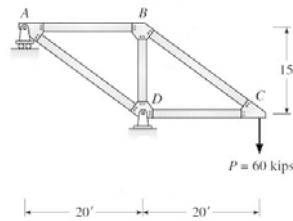
Truss – Virtual Work

- Typically, the virtual load Q is assumed to be 1 and dimensionless.
- Therefore, the virtual work expression for the a single displacement component in the direction of the applied virtual load Q is:

$$\delta_P = \sum\left(\frac{nNL}{AE}\right)$$

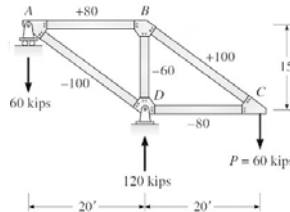
Truss – Virtual Work Example 1

Example: Compute the horizontal displacement at joint B in the truss shown below. Assume the $E = 30,000 \text{ kip/in}^2$, the area of bars AD and BC = 5 in^2 ; the area of all other bars = 4 in^2 .



Truss – Virtual Work Example 1

Example: Compute the horizontal displacement at joint B

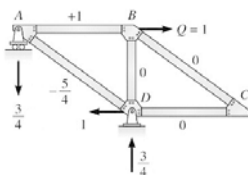


- The value and direction of each real force is indicated on the truss.
- A (+) sign is tension and (-) sign is compression.

Real Force System

Truss – Virtual Work Example 1

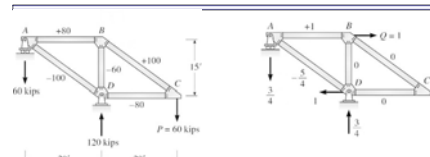
Example: Compute the horizontal displacement at joint B



- The value and direction of each virtual force is indicated on the truss.
- A (+) sign is tension and (-) sign is compression.

Virtual Force System

Truss – Virtual Work Example 1



Member	N (kips)	n	L (in)	A (in ²)	NnL/A (kip in/in ²)
AB	80	1	240	4	4,800
BC	100	0	300	5	0
CD	-80	0	240	4	0
AD	-100	-1.25	300	5	7,500
BD	-60	0	180	4	0

12,300 (kip/in)

Truss – Virtual Work Example 1

Therefore the horizontal displacement a joint B may be computed as:

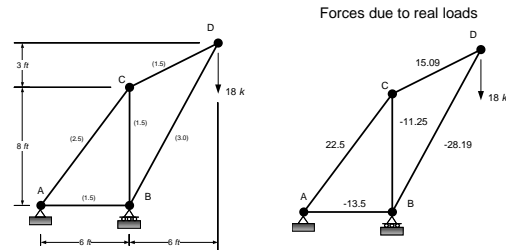
$$\delta_{Bx} = \frac{12,300 \text{ kip} / \text{in}}{30,000 \text{ kip} / \text{in}^2} = 0.41 \text{ in} \rightarrow$$

Member	N (kips)	n	L (in)	A (in ²)	NnL/A (kip in/in ²)
AB	80	1	240	4	4,800
BC	100	0	300	5	0
CD	-80	0	240	4	0
AD	-100	-1.25	300	5	7,500
BD	-60	0	180	4	0

12,300 (kip/in)

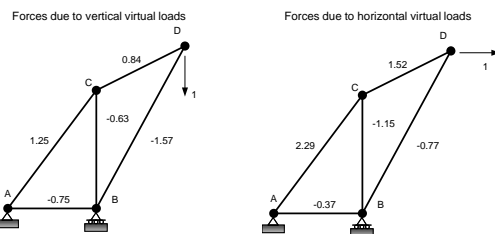
Truss – Virtual Work Example 2

Example: Compute the magnitude and direction of the displacement at joint D in the truss shown below. Assume the $E = 29,000 \text{ kip/in}^2$ and that the area of each bars is given in parenthesis (in²).



Truss – Virtual Work Example 2

Example: Compute the magnitude and direction of the displacement at joint D in the truss shown below. Assume the $E = 29,000 \text{ kip/in}^2$ and that the area of each bars is given in parenthesis (in²).



Truss – Virtual Work Example 2

Example: Compute the magnitude and direction of the displacement at joint D in the truss shown below. Assume the $E = 29,000 \text{ kip/in}^2$ and that the area of each bars is given in parenthesis (in²).

Member	N (kips)	n _v	n _h	L (in)	A (in ²)	Nn _v L/A (kip/in)	Nn _h L/A (kip/in)
AB	-13.5	-0.75	-0.37	72	1.5	486.0	239.76
AC	22.5	1.25	2.29	120	2.5	1,350.0	2,473.20
BC	-11.25	-0.63	-1.15	96	1.5	453.6	828.0
BD	-28.19	-1.57	-0.77	150.35	3.0	2,218.08	1,087.92
CD	15.09	0.84	1.52	84.49	1.5	713.97	1,231.2

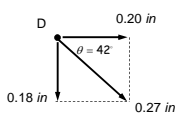
5,188.2 (kip/in) 5,860.08 (kip/in)

Truss – Virtual Work Example 2

Therefore the total displacement a joint D may be computed as:

$$\delta_{Dh} = \frac{5,860.08 \text{ kip} / \text{in}}{29,000 \text{ kip} / \text{in}^2} = 0.20 \text{ in} \rightarrow$$

$$\delta_{Dv} = \frac{5,188.2 \text{ kip} / \text{in}}{29,000 \text{ kip} / \text{in}^2} = 0.18 \text{ in} \downarrow$$



$$\delta_D = \sqrt{(0.18 \text{ in})^2 + (0.20 \text{ in})^2} = 0.27 \text{ in}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{0.18 \text{ in}}{0.20 \text{ in}}\right) = 42^\circ$$

End of Virtual Work - Trusses

Any questions?

