Delft University of Technology

Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geosciences Structural Mechanics Section

Exam CT4150 Plastic Analysis of Structures Thursday 11 April 2013, 14:00 – 17:00 hours

Write your <u>name</u> and <u>study number</u> at the top right-hand of your work.

Also write whether you were a member of the elastic team, plastic team or no team.



Problem 1

A frame consists of two columns and a beam (Fig.1). The columns have strengths $3M_p$ and M_p . The beam has a strength $2M_p$. The structure is loaded by a horizontal load q, a horizontal point load F and a moment M.

The relation of Figure 2 exists between the plastic moments and the plastic normal forces.

$$N_p = \beta \frac{M_p}{a}$$

The influence of shear on the yield contour is neglected. Buckling and second order effects are not considered.

- **a** Assume $\beta \rightarrow \infty$. Determine the collapse load *q* for all possible mechanisms. Write the collapse loads as functions of M_p and *a*. What is the decisive collapse load? (1.5 point)
- **b** Assume $\beta \rightarrow \infty$. Draw the bending moment diagram and normal force diagram for the structure at the moment of collapse. (1.5 points)
- c Assume β = 12. Choose one of the following problems (You need not do both).
 Determine the largest lower-bound for *q* using Figure 3.
 Determine the smallest upper-bound for *q*.
 You only need to write down the equations and not solve the equations (1.5 points).



Figure 3. Forces and moments on frame members for a lower-bound analysis

Problem 2

A square reinforced concrete plate is simply supported at parts of its edges (Fig. 4). It carries an evenly distributed load *p*. The plate is homogeneous and orthotropic.



Figure 4. Plate dimensions and reinforcement

a Consider the yield line patterns of Figure 5. Which of these patterns give kinematically possible mechanisms? (1 point)



- **b** Consider the yield line pattern of Figure 4. Determine an <u>upper bound</u> for *p* expressed in m_p and *a* (1.5 point).
- **c** Determine the largest <u>lower-bound</u> for *p* using torsion free beams ($m_{XV} = 0$) (1.5 point).

Problem 3

- a The lowerbound theorem is important because ... Choose A, B, C or D (0.5 point).
 - A ... it gives a mathematical proof of the strength of structures.
 - B ... it provides the key to designing safe, economical and sustainable structures.
 - C ... it proves from an energy point of view that good structures can be designed.
 - D ... it gives a method for optimising structural strength.
- **b** Reinforced concrete beams can display arch action and cable action. Steel beams can display cable action only. What causes this? Choose A, B, C or D (0.5 point).
 - A Reinforced concrete does not yield while steel does.
 - B Reinforced concrete beams are less sensitive to temperature than steel beams.
 - C In general, concrete plastic hinges expand while steel plastic hinges do not.
 - D Poisson's ratio of reinforced concrete is much smaller than that of steel.
- **c** Consider a statically indetermined prestressed concrete beam. The prestressing is important for ... Choose from A to E. More than one can be selected (0.5 point).
 - A deflection
 - B crack width
 - C ductile bending failure
 - D brittle shear failure
 - E natural frequencies

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Answer to Problem 1c lower-bound





upper-bound



Answer to Problem 2a A, C, D, F, H

Answer to Problem 2b



Answer to Problem 2c



Answer to Problem 3a A

Answer to Problem 3b C

Answer to Problem 3c

Any answer except C is right. If you included C than you get zero points for this answer.