

13. $2x - 4x^2$ if $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}$, 0 if $\frac{1}{2} < x < 1$
14. **Nonzero initial velocity.** Find the deflection $u(x, t)$ of the string of length $L = \pi$ and $c^2 = 1$ for zero initial displacement and "triangular" initial velocity $u_t(x, 0) = 0.01x$ if $0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}\pi$, $u_t(x, 0) = 0.01(\pi - x)$ if $\frac{1}{2}\pi \leq x \leq \pi$. (Initial conditions with $u_t(x, 0) \neq 0$ are hard to realize experimentally.)

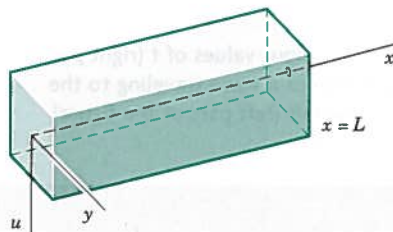


Fig. 292. Elastic beam

15-20 SEPARATION OF A FOURTH-ORDER PDE. VIBRATING BEAM

By the principles used in modeling the string it can be shown that small free vertical vibrations of a uniform elastic beam (Fig. 292) are modeled by the fourth-order PDE

$$(21) \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = -c^2 \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} \quad (\text{Ref. [C11]})$$

where $c^2 = EI/\rho A$ (E = Young's modulus of elasticity, I = moment of inertia of the cross section with respect to the

y -axis in the figure, ρ = density, A = cross-sectional area). (Bending of a beam under a load is discussed in Sec. 3.3.)

15. Substituting $u = F(x)G(t)$ into (21), show that

$$F^{(4)}/F = -\ddot{G}/c^2 G = \beta^4 = \text{const},$$

$$F(x) = A \cos \beta x + B \sin \beta x + C \cosh \beta x + D \sinh \beta x,$$

$$G(t) = a \cos c\beta^2 t + b \sin c\beta^2 t.$$

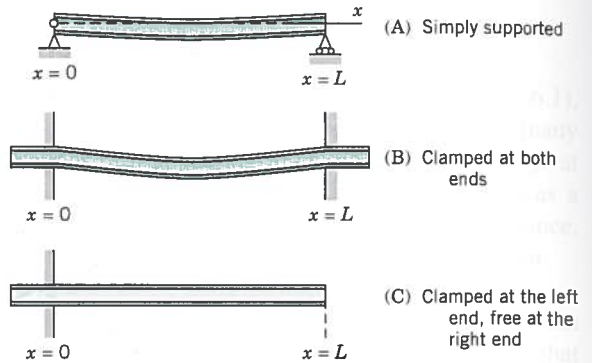


Fig. 293. Supports of a beam

16. **Simply supported beam in Fig. 293A.** Find solutions $u_n = F_n(x)G_n(t)$ of (21) corresponding to zero initial velocity and satisfying the boundary conditions (see Fig. 293A)

$$u(0, t) = 0, u(L, t) = 0$$

(ends simply supported for all times t),

$$u_{xx}(0, t) = 0, u_{xx}(L, t) = 0$$

(zero moments, hence zero curvature, at the ends).

17. Find the solution of (21) that satisfies the conditions in Prob. 16 as well as the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) = x(L - x).$$

18. Compare the results of Probs. 17 and 7. What is the basic difference between the frequencies of the normal modes of the vibrating string and the vibrating beam?

19. **Clamped beam in Fig. 293B.** What are the boundary conditions for the clamped beam in Fig. 293B? Show that F in Prob. 15 satisfies these conditions if βL is a solution of the equation

$$(22) \quad \cosh \beta L \cos \beta L = 1.$$

Determine approximate solutions of (22), for instance, graphically from the intersections of the curves of $\cos \beta L$ and $1/\cosh \beta L$.