

Lecture 42: Failure analysis – Buckling of columns

failure from axial load
if $|\sigma| = |P|/A \geq \sigma_y$

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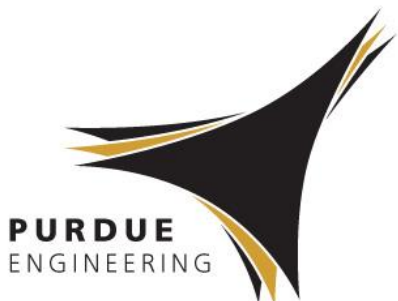
Lecture Book: Ch. 18

Final Exam

Monday, Dec. 9

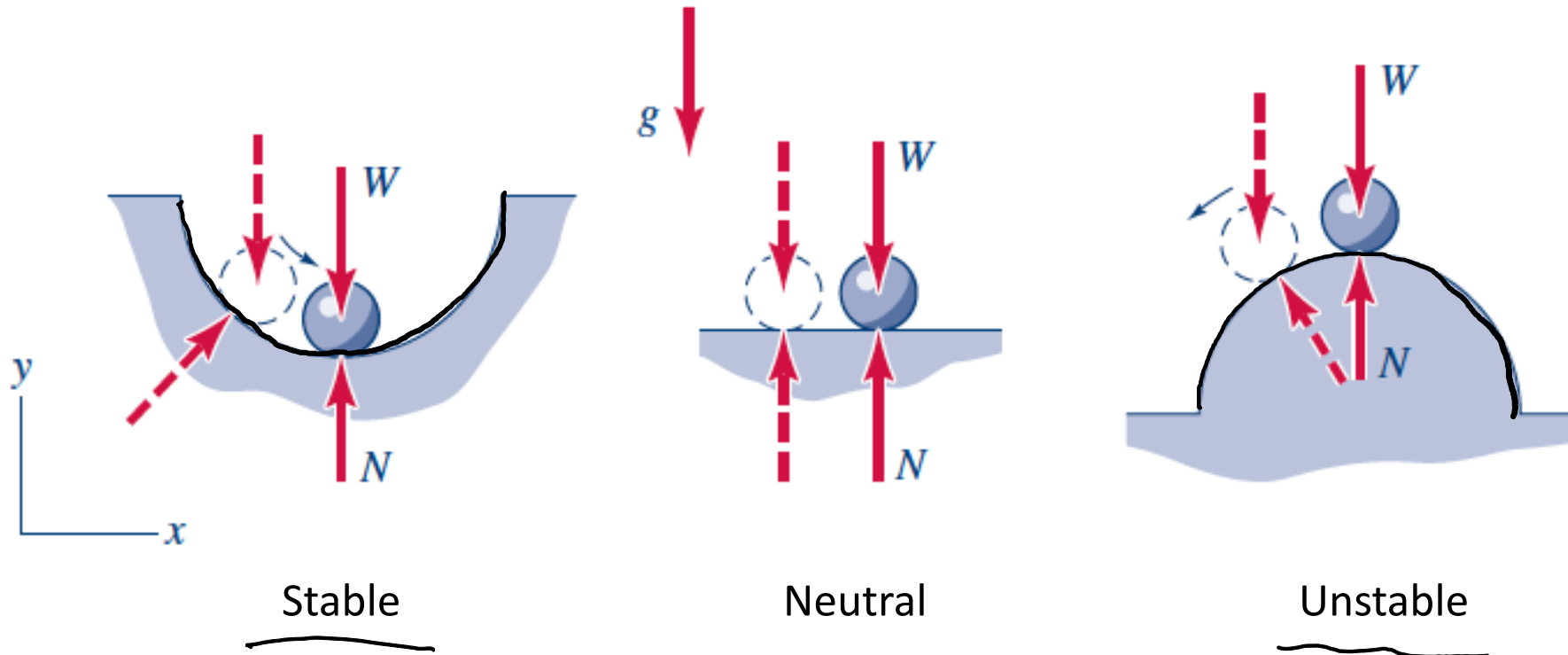
3:30 - 5:30 PM

WTHR 172



Stability and equilibrium

What happens if we are in a state of unstable equilibrium?



Buckling experiment

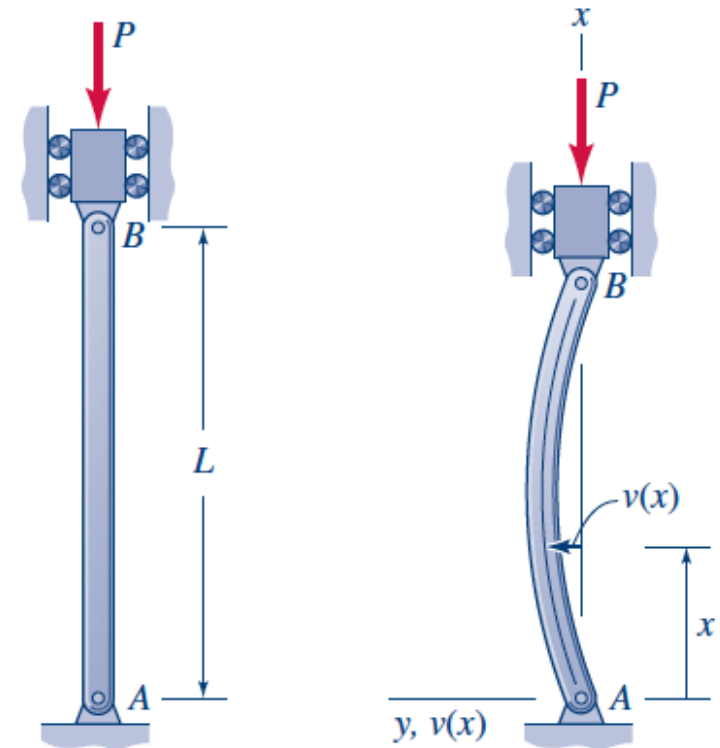
There is a critical stress at which *buckling* occurs depending on the material and the geometry

How do the material properties and geometric parameters influence the buckling stress?

Decrease $L \rightarrow$ higher critical buckling stress

Larger $E \rightarrow$ " " " "
(stiffer material)

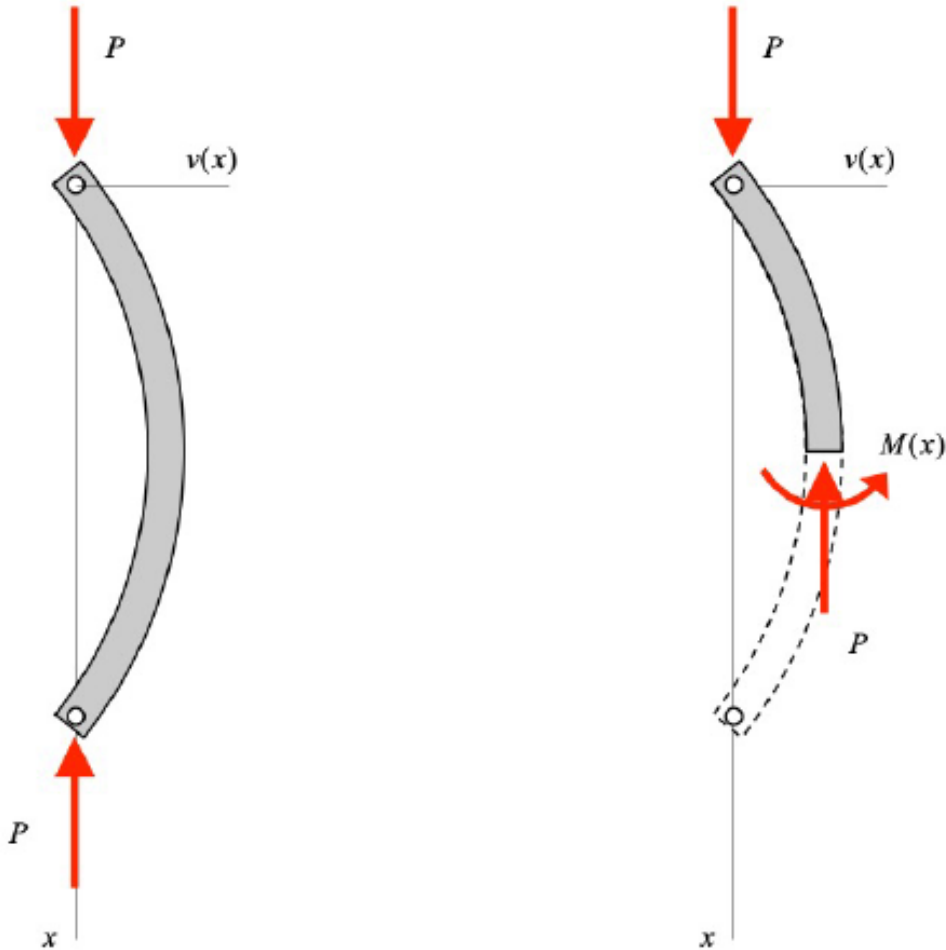
BCs are important



Euler buckling equation

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Consider static equilibrium of the *buckled* pinned-pinned column



$$\underline{\text{Equil: } \sum M_{\text{cut}} = M(x) + Pv(x) = 0}$$

$$\underline{\text{Moment-curvature: } M(x) = EI \frac{d^2v}{dx^2}}$$

$$\underline{\Rightarrow EI \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} + Pv(x) = 0}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} v(0) = 0 \\ v(L) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \text{BCs}$$

Euler buckling equation

We have a differential equation for the deflection with BCs at the pins:

$$EI \frac{d^2 v}{dx^2} + Pv(x) = 0$$

$$v(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad v(L) = 0$$

$$n=1 \rightarrow$$

The solution is:

$$v(x) = A \cos\left(x\sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}}\right) + B \sin\left(x\sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}}\right)$$

with

$$B \sin\left(L\sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}}\right) = 0 \Rightarrow L\sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}} = n\pi, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$A = 0$$

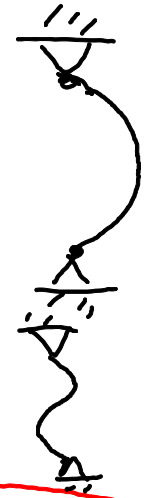
$$B = 0 \rightarrow v(x) = 0$$

$$\sin\left(L\sqrt{\frac{P}{EI}}\right) = 0$$

$$P = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

Critical load for buckling:
$$P_{cr} = \pi^2 \frac{EI}{L_e^2}$$

Replace "L" with an effective length "L_e" for different BCs



n=2

Effect of boundary conditions

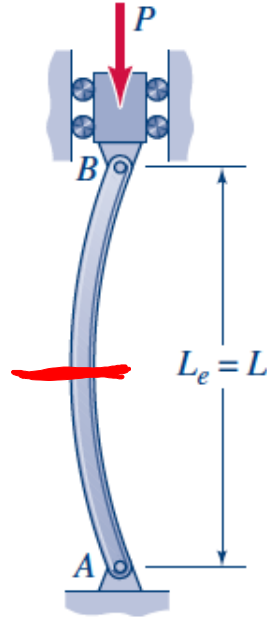
Critical load and critical stress for buckling:

$$P_{cr} = \pi^2 \frac{EI}{L_e^2} = \pi^2 \frac{EA}{\left(L_e/r_g\right)^2}$$

$$\sigma_{cr} = \pi^2 \frac{E}{\left(L_e/r_g\right)^2}$$

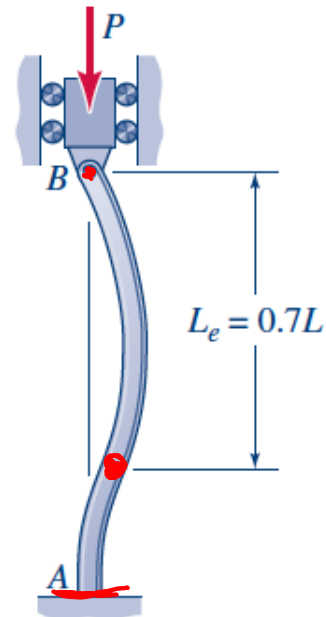
where $r_g = \sqrt{\frac{I}{A}}$ → units of length
is the "radius of gyration"

Think of σ_{cr} as a strength



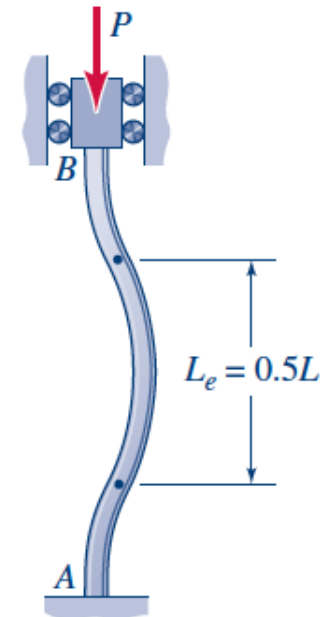
Pinned-pinned

$$L_e = L$$



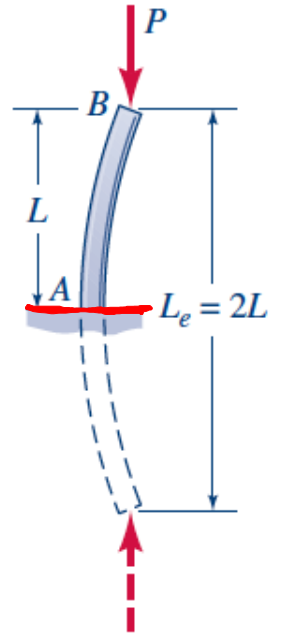
Pinned-fixed

$$L_e = 0.7L$$



Fixed-fixed

$$L_e = 0.5L$$



Fixed-free

$$L_e = 2L$$

Modifications to Euler buckling theory

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Euler buckling equation: works well for slender rods

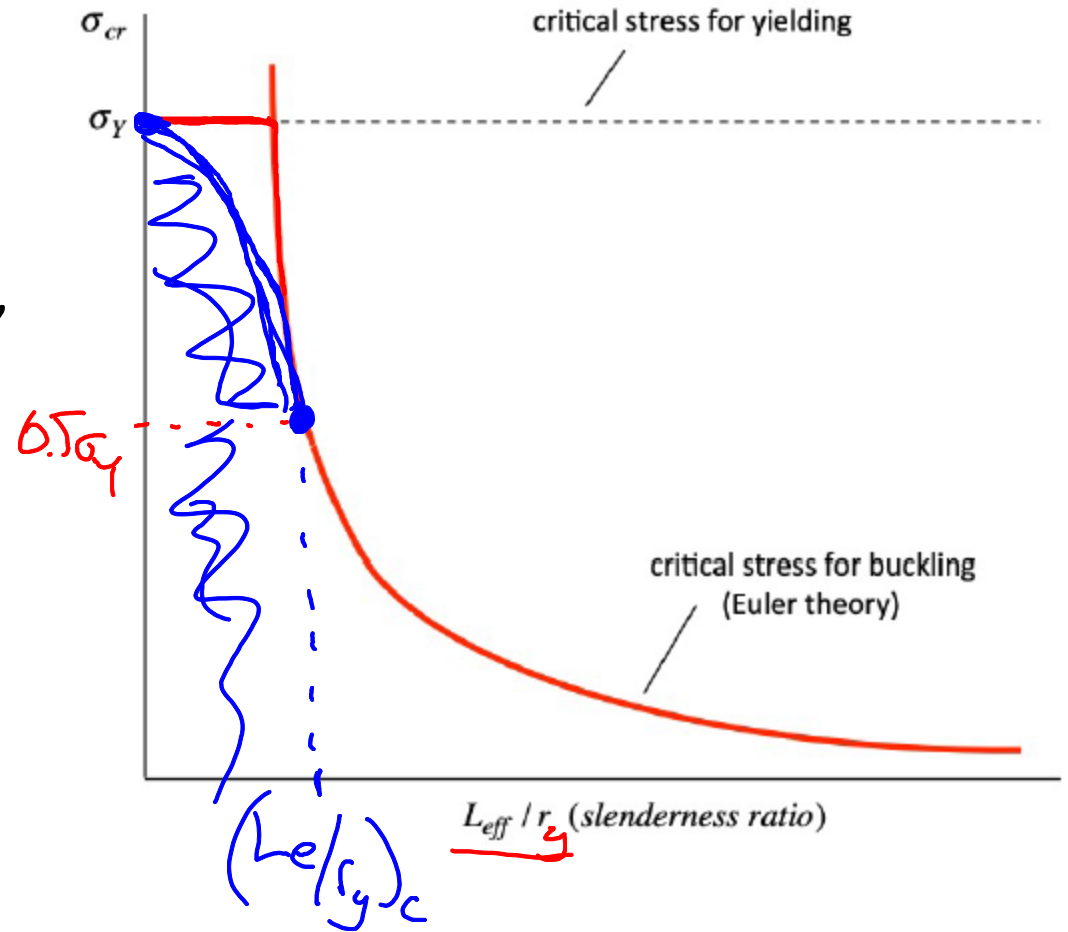
long & thin

L_e/r_g

Needs to be modified for smaller "slenderness ratios" (where the critical stress for Euler buckling is at least half the yield strength)

$$(L_e/r_g)_c = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2 E}{0.5 \sigma_Y}}$$

If $(L_e/r_g) < (L_e/r_g)_c$, then use "Johnson's buckling equation"



Summary

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Critical slenderness ratio: $\left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right)_c = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2 E}{0.5\sigma_Y}}$

Euler buckling (high slenderness ratio):

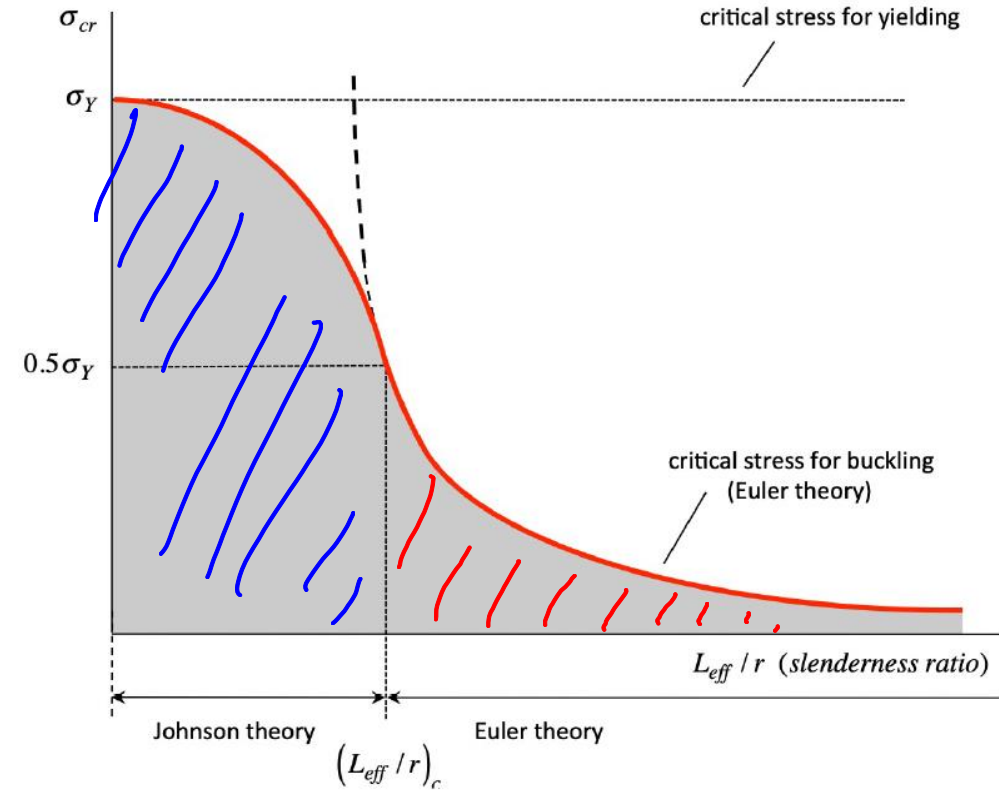
If $\left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right) > \left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right)_c$: $\sigma_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 E}{\left(L_e/r_g\right)^2}$ or $P_{cr} = \pi^2 \frac{EI}{L_e^2}$

$\sigma_{cr} = \frac{P_{cr}}{A}$

Johnson buckling (low slenderness ratio):

If $\left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right) < \left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right)_c$: $\sigma_{cr} = \left[1 - \frac{\left(L_e/r_g\right)^2}{2\left(L_e/r_g\right)_c^2}\right] \sigma_Y$

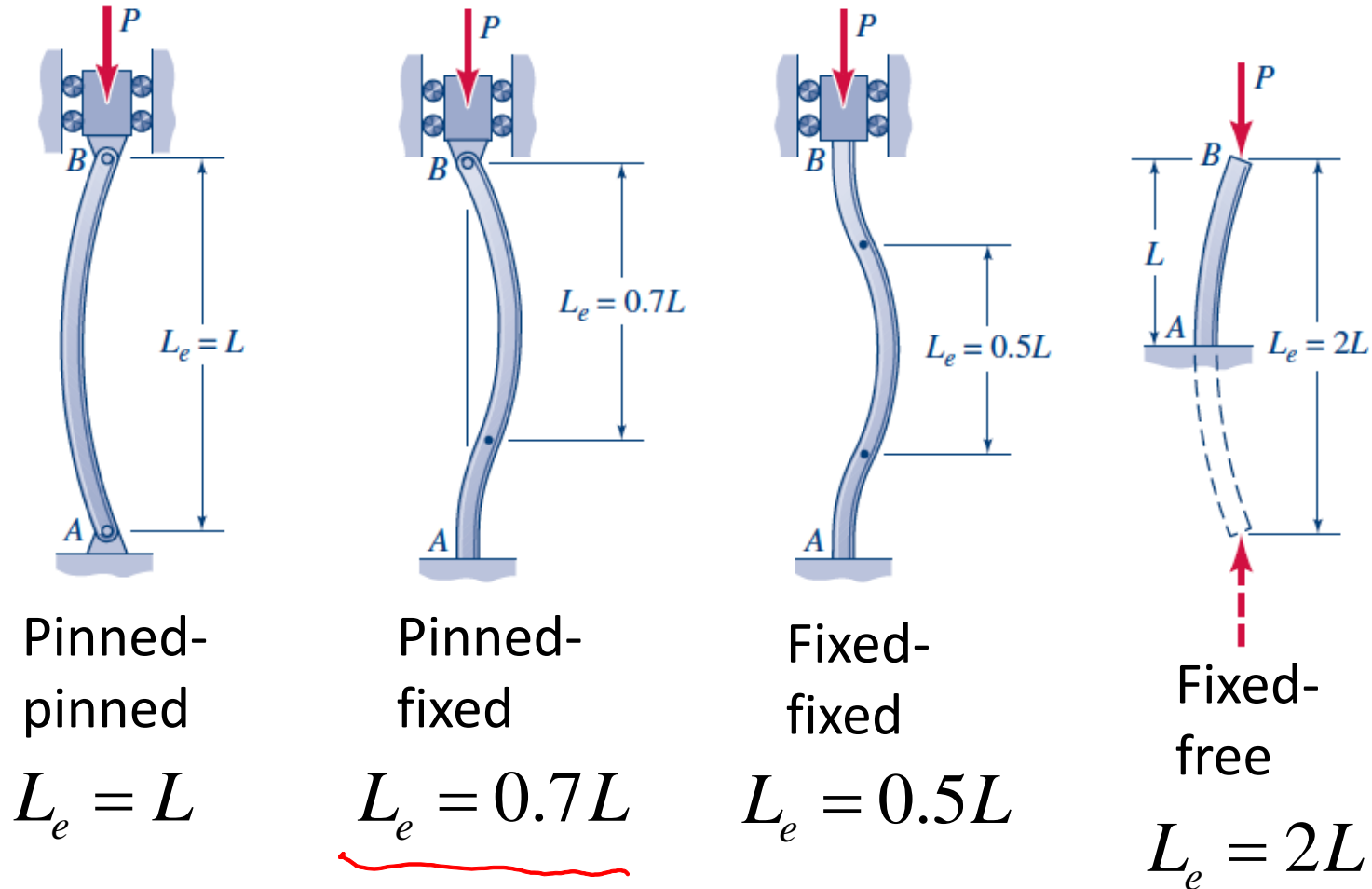
with radius of gyration $r_g = \sqrt{\frac{I}{A}}$



Summary

Buckling only occurs in Compression

Effective length from the boundary conditions:



Example 18.1

Determine the critical buckling load P_{cr} of a steel pipe column that has a length of L with a tubular cross section of inner radius r_i and thickness t . The material has Young's modulus E and yield strength σ_y . Use pinned-fixed boundary conditions.

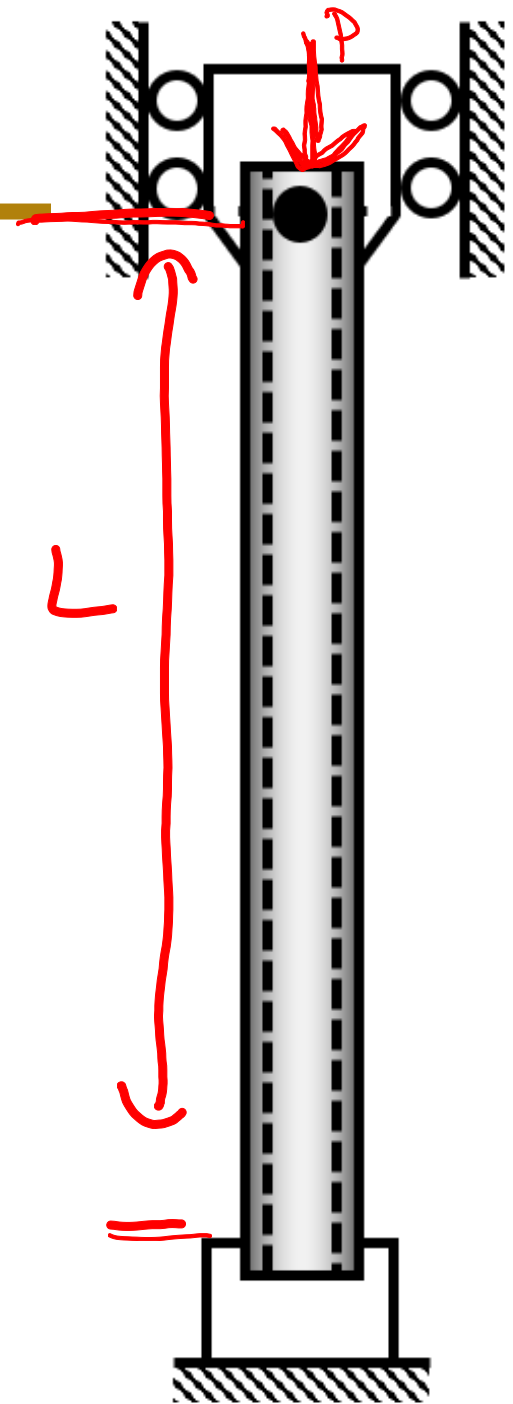
Use Euler's buckling theory

$$P_{cr} = \pi^2 \frac{EI}{L_e^2}$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{4} [(r_i + t)^4 - r_i^4]$$

$$L_e = 0.7L \text{ (pinned-fixed)}$$

$$P_{cr} = \pi^2 \frac{E \left\{ \frac{\pi}{4} [(r_i + t)^4 - r_i^4] \right\}}{(0.7L)^2}$$



What happens to P_{cr} if we...

* Switch to pinned-pinned BC? $\rightarrow L_e = L \Rightarrow P_{cr}$ decreases

* Switch to fixed-fixed BC? $\rightarrow L_e = 0.5L < 0.7L \Rightarrow P_{cr}$ increases

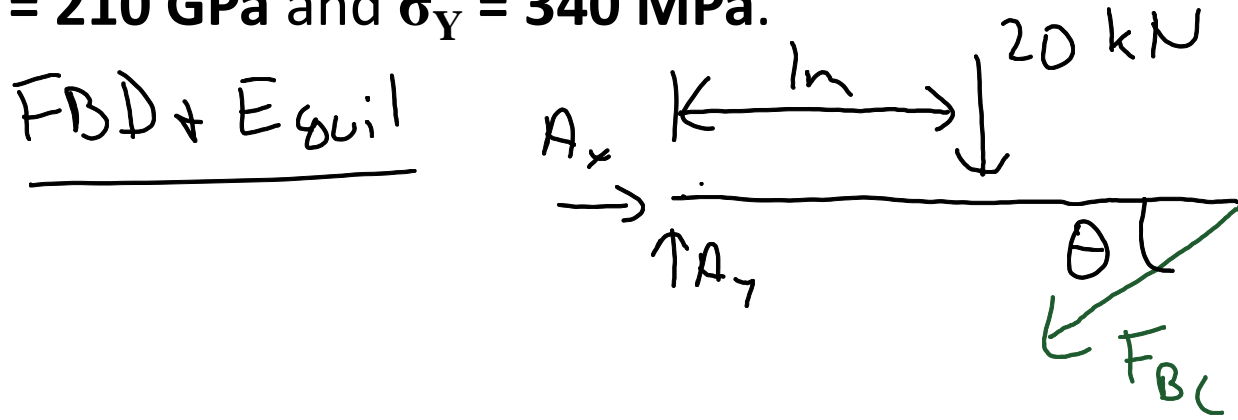
* Increase the thickness t ? $\rightarrow I$ increases $\Rightarrow P_{cr}$ increases

Example 18.2

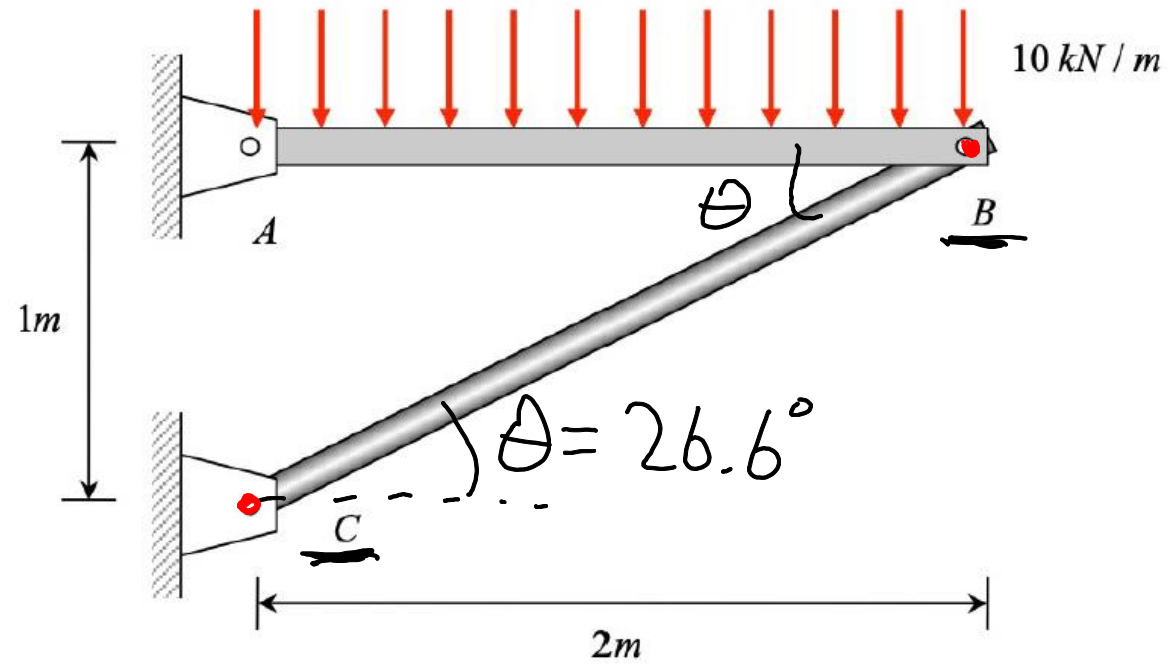
$$d = 48 \text{ mm}$$

$$d_i = d - 2t = 38 \text{ mm}$$

The steel compression strut BC of the frame ABC is a tube with an outer diameter of $d = 48 \text{ mm}$ and a wall thickness of $t = 5 \text{ mm}$. Determine the factor of safety against elastic buckling if a distributed load of 10 kN/m is applied to AB. Let $E = 210 \text{ GPa}$ and $\sigma_Y = 340 \text{ MPa}$.



BC is in compression \rightarrow buckling?



$$+\zeta \sum M_A = 0 = -(20 \text{ kN})(1 \text{ m}) - (F_{BC} \sin \theta)(2 \text{ m})$$

$$\Rightarrow F_{BC} = -22.4 \text{ kN}$$

$$= -22400 \text{ N}$$

1.) Euler or Johnson

$$\left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right)_c = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2 E}{0.5 \sigma_y}} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2 (210 \times 10^3 \text{ MPa})}{0.5 (340 \text{ MPa})}} = \boxed{110.4 = \left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right)_c}$$

$$\left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right) = ?$$

pinned-pinned $\rightarrow L_e = L_{BC} = 2.236 \text{ m} = \boxed{2236 \text{ mm} = L_e}$

$$r_g = \sqrt{I/A} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} I = \frac{\pi}{64} (d^4 - d_i^4) = 1.582 \times 10^5 \text{ mm}^4 \\ A = \frac{\pi}{4} (d^2 - d_i^2) = 675.4 \text{ mm}^2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{r_g = 15.3 \text{ mm}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right) = 146.1 > \left(\frac{L_e}{r_g}\right)_c = 110.4 \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{use Euler}}$$

2.) Find P_{cr} or σ_{cr}

$$\text{Euler} \rightarrow \sigma_{cr} = \frac{P_{cr}}{A} = \frac{\pi^2 E}{(L_e / r_y)^2} = \underline{97.1 \text{ MPa} = \sigma_{cr}}$$

OR

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L_e^2} = 6.56 \times 10^4 \text{ N} = 65.6 \text{ kN} = \sigma_{cr} A$$

3.) Compare with the actual axial load or stress carried by the column

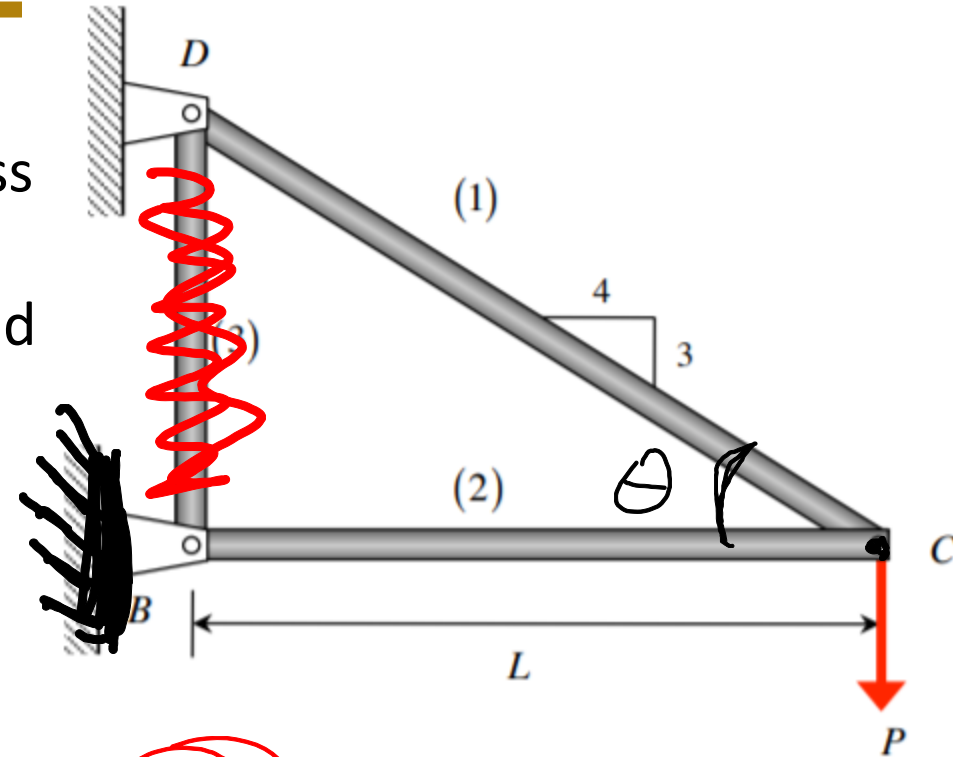
$$|F_{Bc}| = 22400 \text{ N} \quad (\text{compressive})$$

$$\Rightarrow |\sigma_{Bc}| = |F_{Bc}| / A = 33.2 \text{ MPa}$$

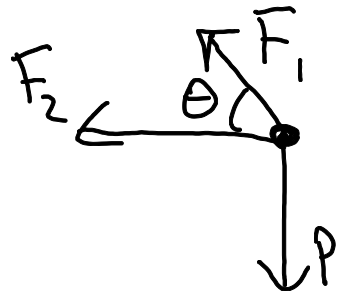
$$FS = \frac{P_{cr}}{|F_{Bc}|} = \frac{\sigma_{cr}}{\sigma_{Bc}} = 2.9$$

Example 18.8 (additional examples)

Members (1), (2), and (3) have Young's modulus $E = 10^7$ psi and $\sigma_Y = 60 \times 10^3$ psi. Each member has a solid circular cross section with diameter $d = 1$ in. A force $P = 10$ kips is applied to joint C. Determine the maximum length L that can be used without buckling based on Euler's theory of buckling.



FBD + Equil



$$\cos \theta = 4/5 \quad \sin \theta = 3/5$$

$$F_1 = +\frac{5}{3} P$$

$$F_2 = -\frac{4}{3} P = -\frac{40}{3} \text{ kips}$$

1.) Euler or Johnson

2.) Find σ_{cr} or P_{cr}

$$\text{Euler} \rightarrow \underline{P_{cr} = \pi^2 \frac{EI}{L_e^2}}$$

$$E = 10^3 \text{ psi}$$

$$I = \frac{\pi}{64} d^4 = \frac{\pi}{64} \text{ in}^4$$

pinned-pinned: $L_e = L$

$$\underline{L = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2 EI}{P_{cr}}}}$$

3.) Compare with actual axial force

$$P_{cr} = |F_{oc}| \Rightarrow$$

$$\underline{L = \sqrt{\frac{\pi^2 EI}{|F_{oc}|}} = 19.1 \text{ in.}}$$

Real-world example: Railroad track buckling

What would cause the railroad track to buckle as shown in the picture?

Example 18.4



G. Yang and M.A. Bradford, *Engineering Failure Analysis* 92 (2018), pp. 107-120.