

# Theory of Structures - I

## Chapter 7. Suspension Cable Systems [Part II of II]

Lecturer: Dr. Sanjeema Bajracharya

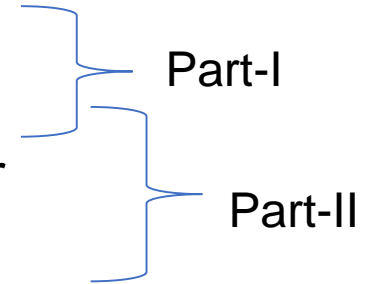
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7.1 Catenary and Parabolic Cables

7.2 Elements of a simple suspension bridge

7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

7.4 Influence line diagrams



## 7.2 Elements of a simple suspension bridge

### [B] Support

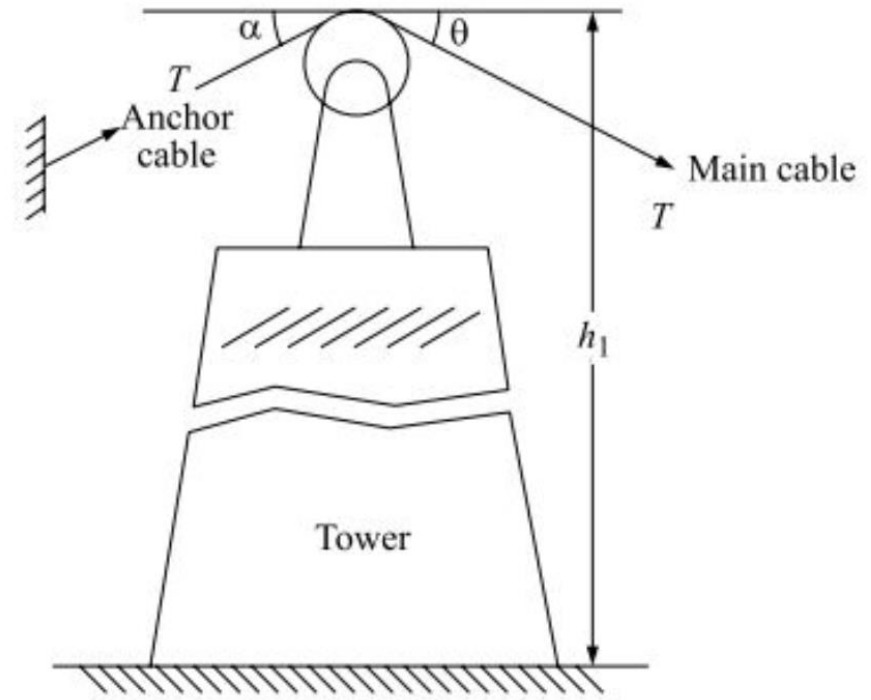
The forces on the anchor cables and trusses depend upon the type of support given to the cables.

#### [B.1] Guided pulley support

Let the inclination of the main cable to the horizontal be  $\theta$ , and that of anchor cable be  $\alpha$ .

Assuming the pulley as frictionless,

**Tension in the anchor cable**  
**= Tension in the main cable**  
**= T**



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis – I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.2 Elements of a simple suspension bridge

### [B] Support

The forces on the anchor cables and trusses depend upon the type of support given to the cables.

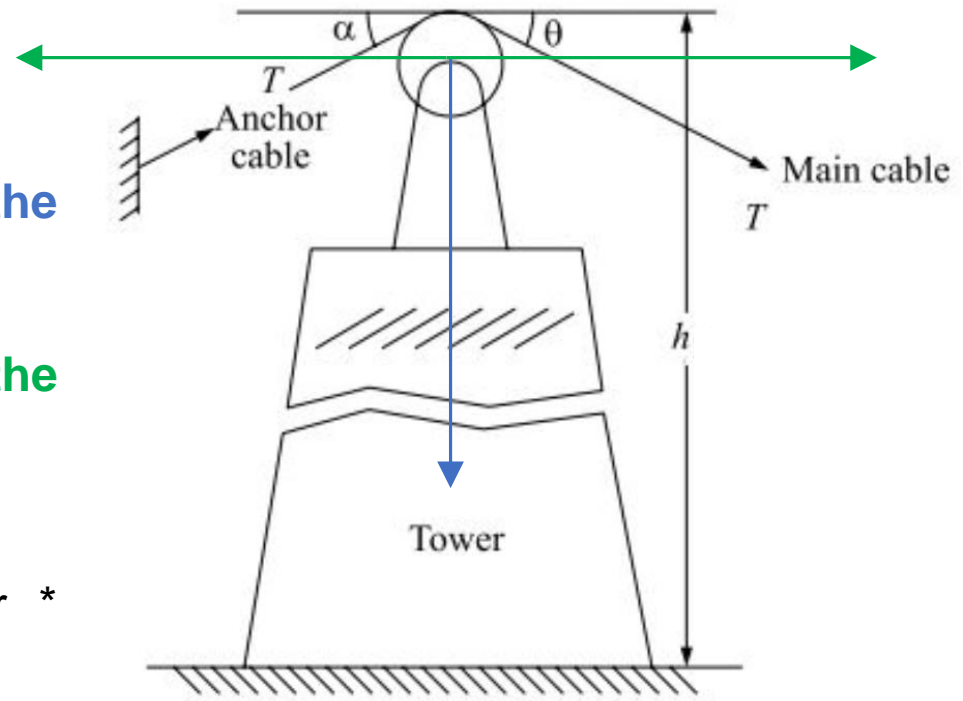
#### [B.1] Guided pulley support

Then,

**Vertical load transmitted to the tower** =  $T \sin \theta + T \sin \alpha$

**Horizontal load transmitted to the tower** =  $T \cos \theta - T \cos \alpha$

**Bending moment on the tower**  
 = Horizontal force on the tower \*  
 height of the tower  
 =  $(T \cos \theta - T \cos \alpha) * h$



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis – I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.2 Elements of a simple suspension bridge

### [B] Support

#### [B.2] Roller support

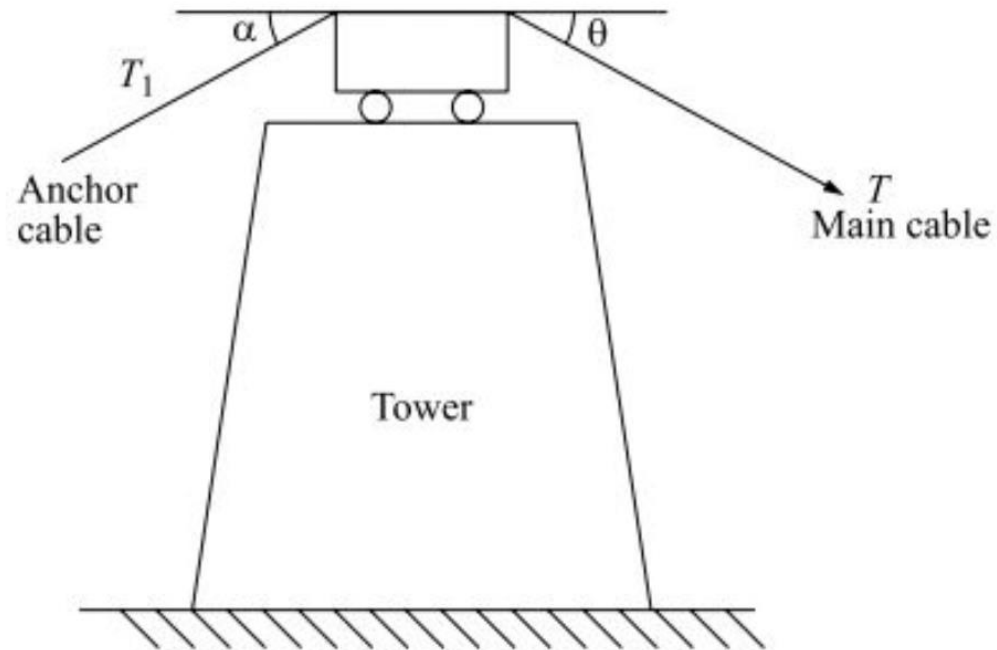
In this case, the anchor cable and main cable don't have the same tension.

Let  $T$  be the tension in the main cable and  $T_1$  be the tension in the anchor cable.

Assuming the saddle to have frictionless rollers,

$$T_1 \cos \alpha = T \cos \theta$$

$$T_1 = T \left( \frac{\cos \theta}{\cos \alpha} \right)$$



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis – I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.2 Elements of a simple suspension bridge

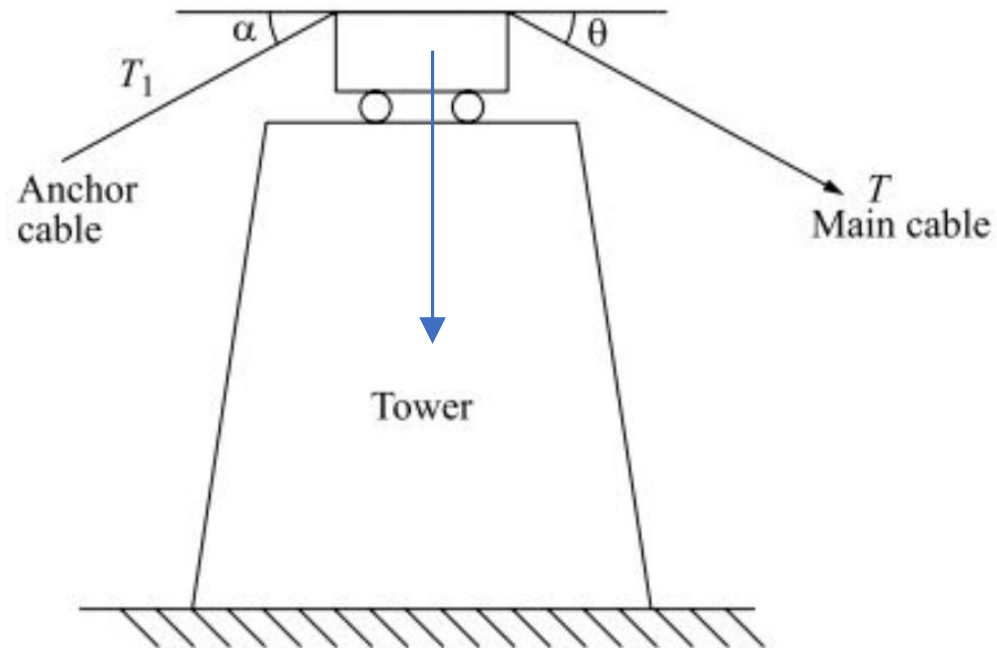
### [B] Support

#### [B.2] Roller support

Then,

Since the saddle has frictionless rollers, there is **no horizontal force**, and hence, **no bending moment** on the tower.

**Vertical load transmitted to the tower** =  $T \sin \theta + T_1 \sin \alpha$



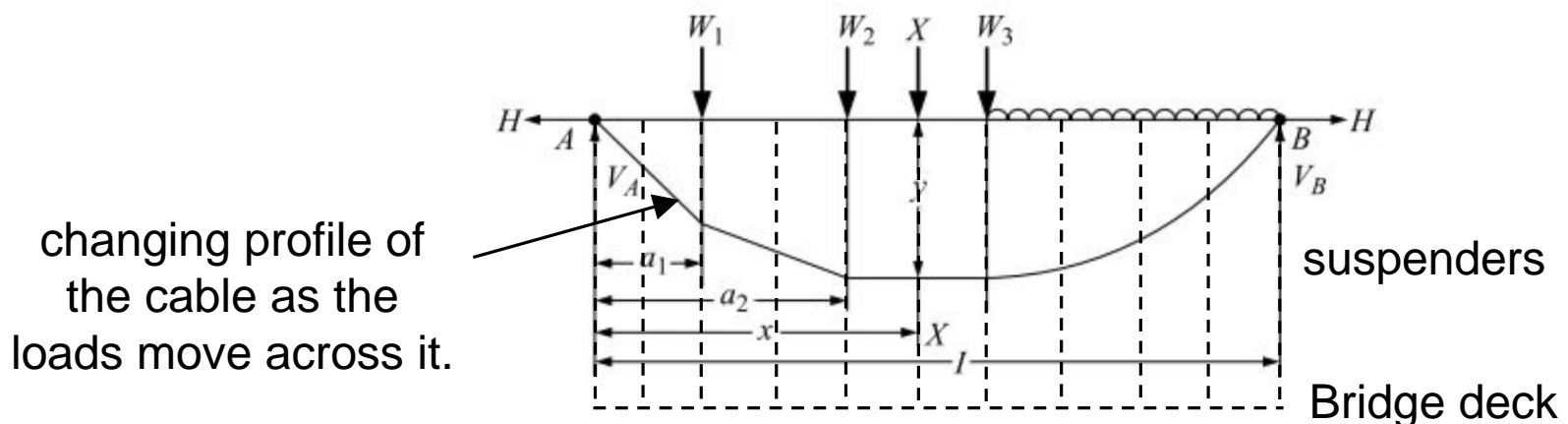
Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis – I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

### Stiffening girder:

As we discussed in the week 11 lecture, under a system of loads, the cable takes the shape of a bending moment diagram in a simply supported beam. Now, when rolling loads pass across the bridge, the BMD changes with the position of loads, and hence, the *profile of the cable changes*.

As a result, the *bridge deck suspended from such cables will swing up and down* and thus, *will not be useful*.





## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

### Stiffening girder:

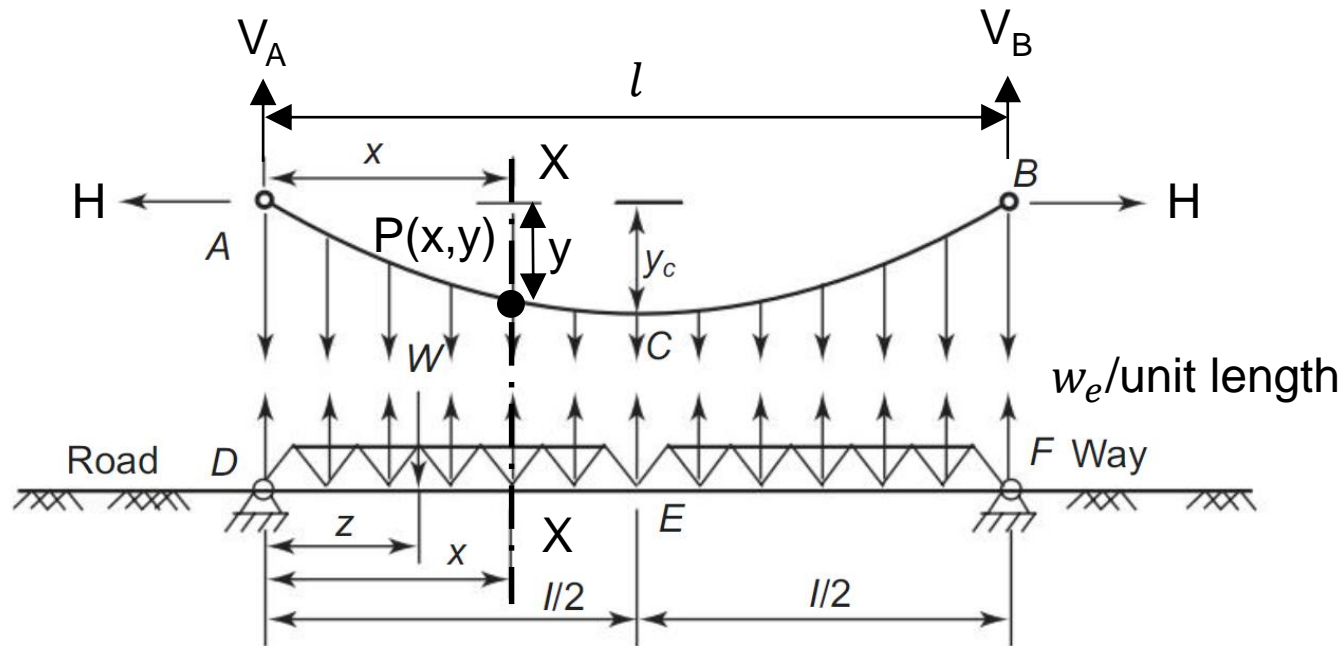
#### Dead load:

The uniformly distributed dead load of the roadway and stiffening girders is transmitted to the cables through the hanger cables and is taken up entirely by *tension in the cables*. The *stiffening girder*, which is being held all along by the suspenders *will not be subjected to any SF or BM at any section due to the UDL dead load*.

#### Live load:

Any rolling load that crosses the bridge will be transmitted to the cables through the girders and hanger cables as UDL so that the *cables will retain their parabolic shape*, while the *girder will have to resist a certain amount of SF and BM due to rolling loads*.

## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder



Source: Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)*. New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.

Let us consider a concentrated load  $W$  moving from left to right across the suspension bridge with the stiffening girder. Here, **ACB** is the suspension cable and **DEF** is the 3-hinged stiffening girder.

Let the load  $W$  be at a distance  $z$  from support  $D$  at any instant of time, and considering a section  $X-X$  at a distance  $x$  from  $A$  or  $D$ .

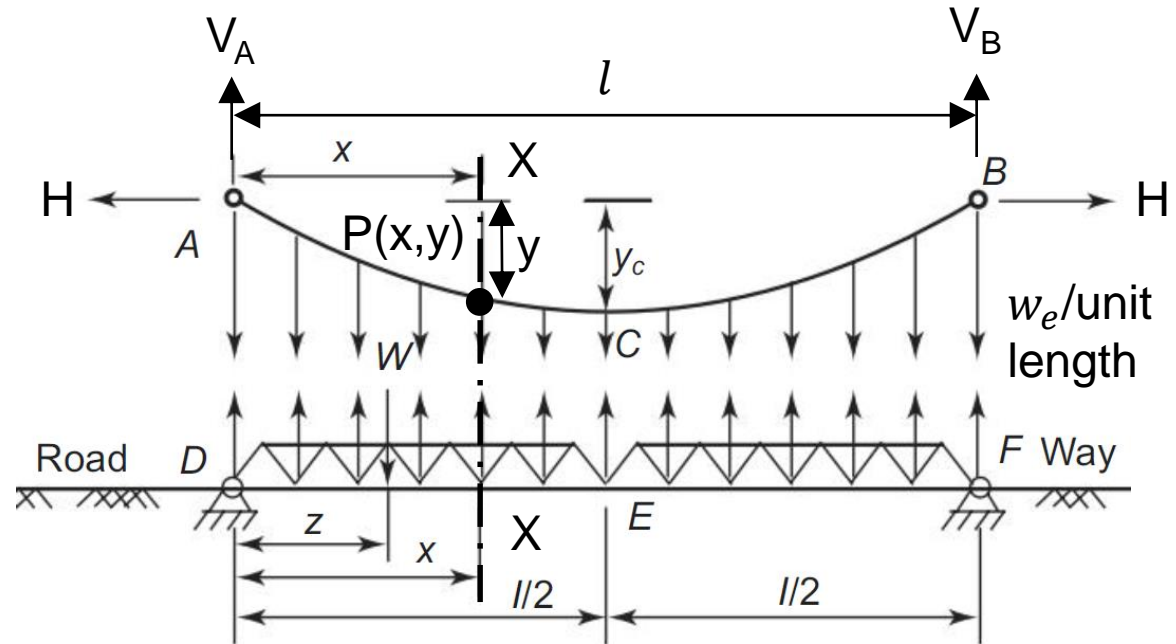
## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

**For the cable,**

Taking A as the origin, the equation of the cable profile may be written as:

$$y = \frac{4hx(L-x)}{L^2}$$

Let  $w_e$  be the equivalent UDL on the cable.



Source: Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.

The vertical reaction at A or B will be:

$$V_A = V_B = \frac{w_e l}{2}$$

The horizontal reaction will be:

$$H = \frac{w_e l^2}{8h}$$

## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

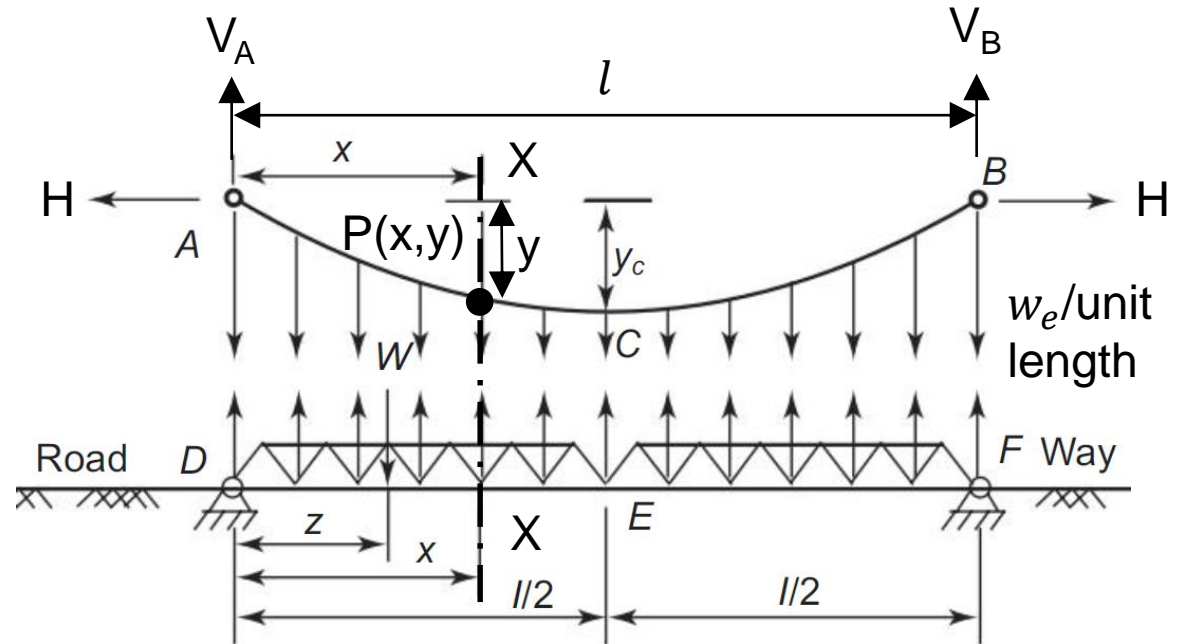
For the cable,

$$V_A = V_B = \frac{w_e l}{2}$$

$$H = \frac{w_e l^2}{8h}$$

The maximum tension in the cable occurs at A or B:

$$T_{max} = \sqrt{V^2 + H^2}$$



Source: Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.

## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

For the cable,

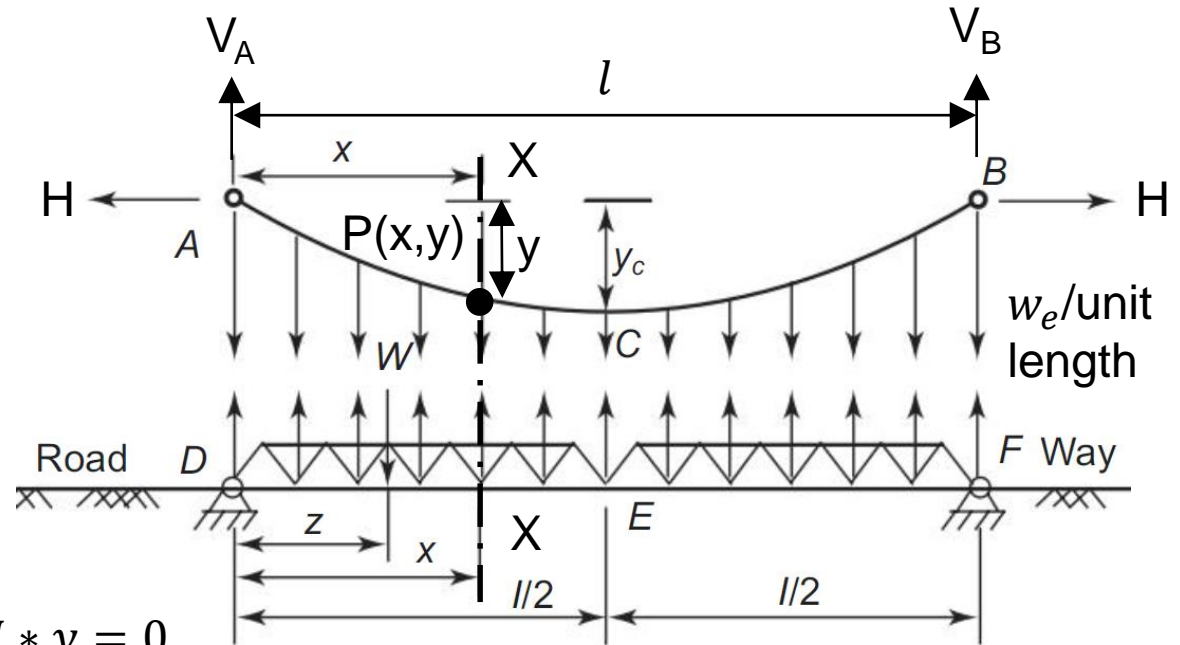
Now, consider a point  $P(x, y)$  on the cable and taking moments about  $P$ ,

$$\Sigma M_P = 0$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{w_e l}{2} * x - w_e * x * \frac{x}{2} - H * y = 0$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{w_e l}{2} * x - \frac{w_e x^2}{2} = H * y$$

$$\therefore Hy = \frac{w_e l x}{2} - \frac{w_e x^2}{2} \text{ --- (1)}$$



Source: Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.

## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

For the stiffening girder,

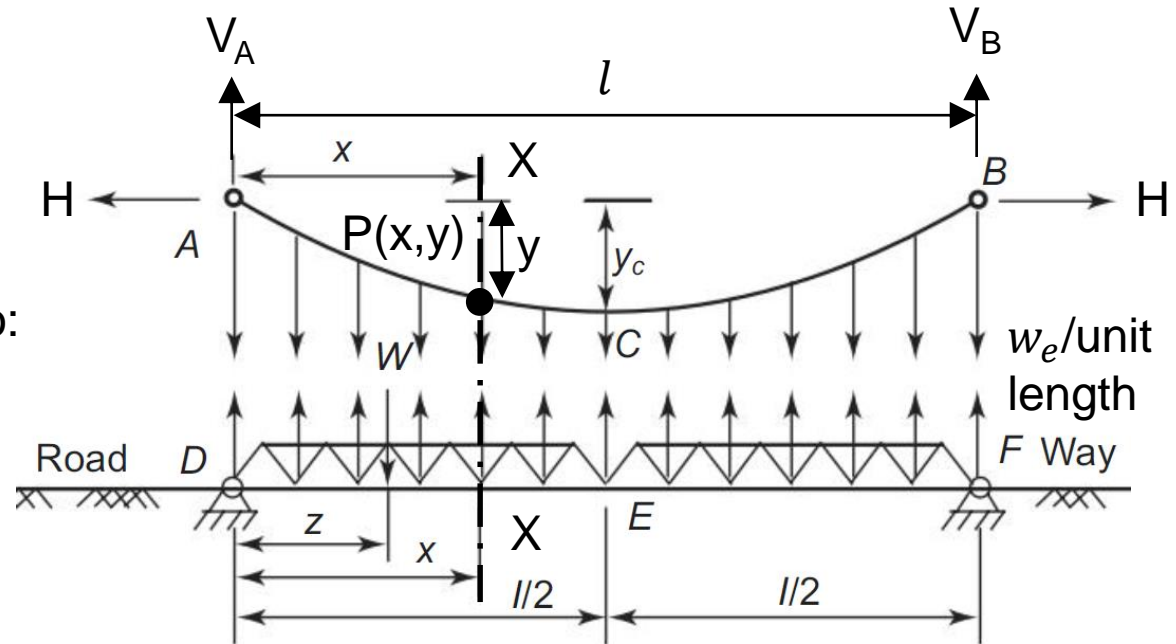
Vertical reaction at D due to:

Load,  $W$

Upward  $w_e$

$$V'_D = \frac{W(l-z)}{l}$$

$$V''_D = \frac{w_e l}{2}$$



Source: Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.

Vertical reaction at F due to:

Load,  $W$

$$V'_F = \frac{Wz}{l}$$

Upward  $w_e$

$$V''_F = \frac{w_e l}{2}$$

# 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

For the stiffening girder,

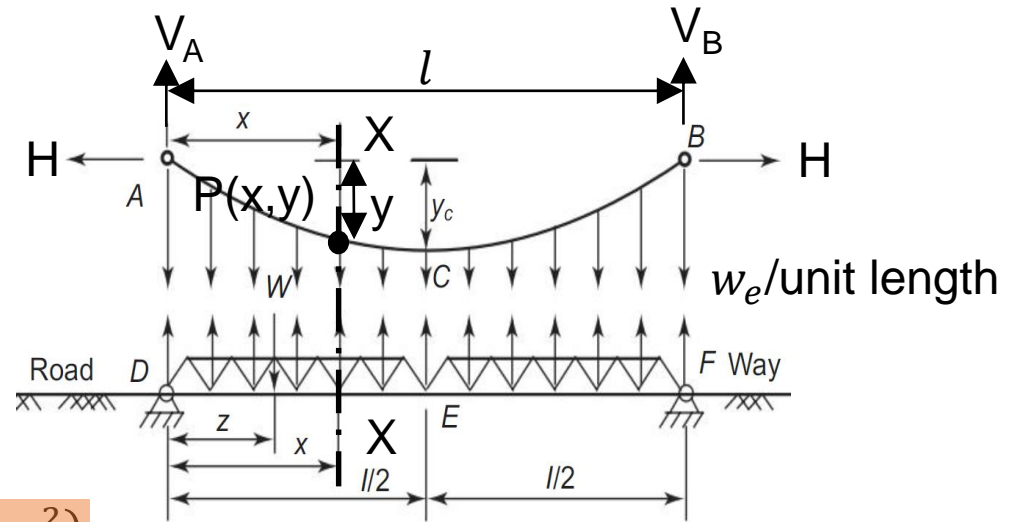
Then, moment at section X-X is:

For  $z \leq x$ ,

$$M_x = V'_D x - W(x - z) - \left\{ \frac{w_e l}{2} x - \frac{w_e x^2}{2} \right\} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

For  $z \geq x$ ,

$$M_x = V'_D x - \left\{ \frac{w_e l}{2} x - \frac{w_e x^2}{2} \right\} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$



Source: Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)*. New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.

Equation for BM at a section in a SSB due to load, W

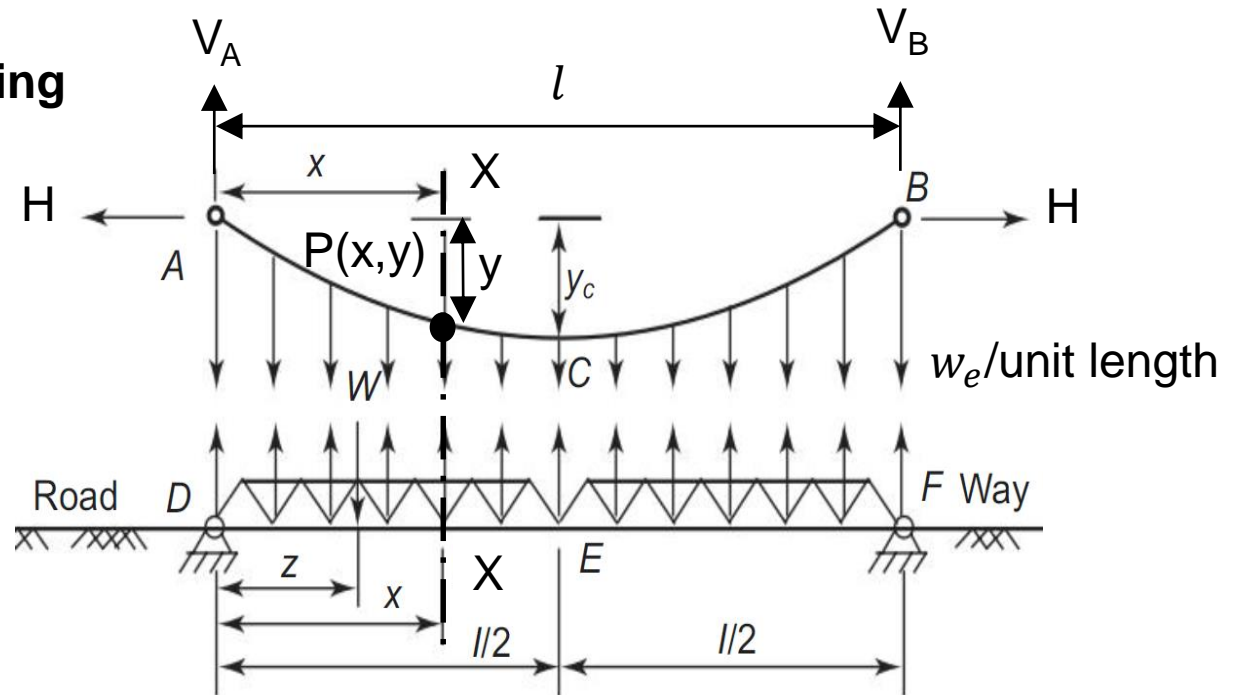
BM due to  $w_e$  only



=  $H * y$  [From equation (1)]

## 7.3 Suspension bridge with three-hinged stiffening girder

For the stiffening girder,



Hence,

$$\therefore M_x = \mu_x - Hy$$

Source: Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)*. New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.

Where,

$\mu_x$  = Moment due to  $W$  at section  $X$  in a SSB

$H$  = Horizontal tension in the cable

$y$  = Ordinate of the cable profile at section  $X$

## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

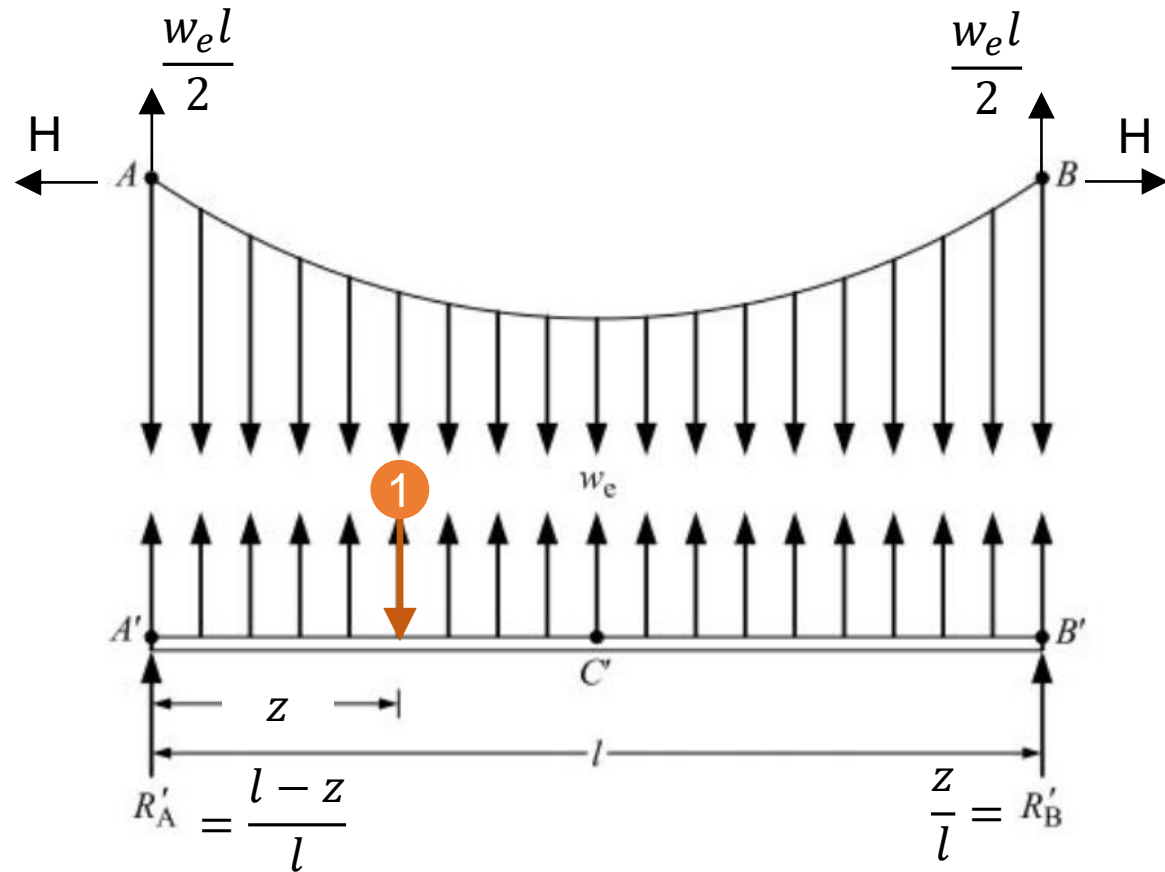
[A] ILD for  $w_e$ :

Let unit load be at a distance  $z$  from end  $A'$ . Reaction at  $B'$  due to this load is given by:

$$R'_A = \frac{l - z}{l}$$

$$R'_B = \frac{z}{l}$$

Let  $w_e$  be the equivalent load exerted by suspenders.



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[A] ILD for  $w_e$ :

Load in portion A'C'

$$\Sigma M'_C = 0$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{l-z}{l} * \frac{l}{2} - 1 * \left(\frac{l}{2} - z\right) - \left\{ \frac{w_e l}{2} * \frac{l}{2} - w_e * \frac{l}{2} * \frac{l}{4} \right\} = 0$$

$R'_A$

Unit load

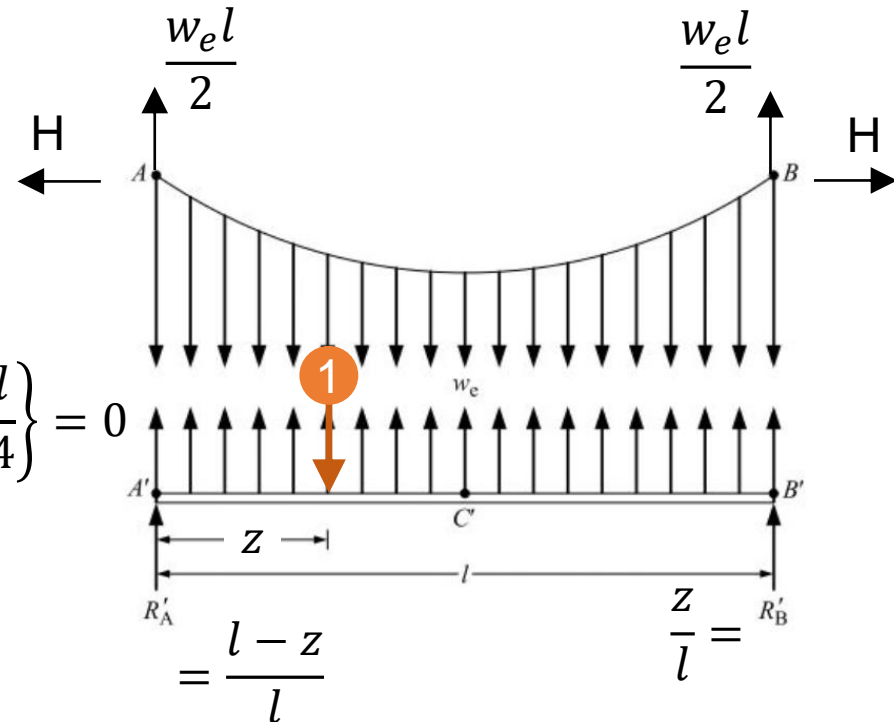
$V_A$

Due to  
UDL  $w_e$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{l-z}{2} - \frac{l-2z}{2} = \frac{w_e l^2}{8}$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{l-z-l+2z}{2} = \frac{w_e l^2}{8}$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{z}{2} = \frac{w_e l^2}{8}$$



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

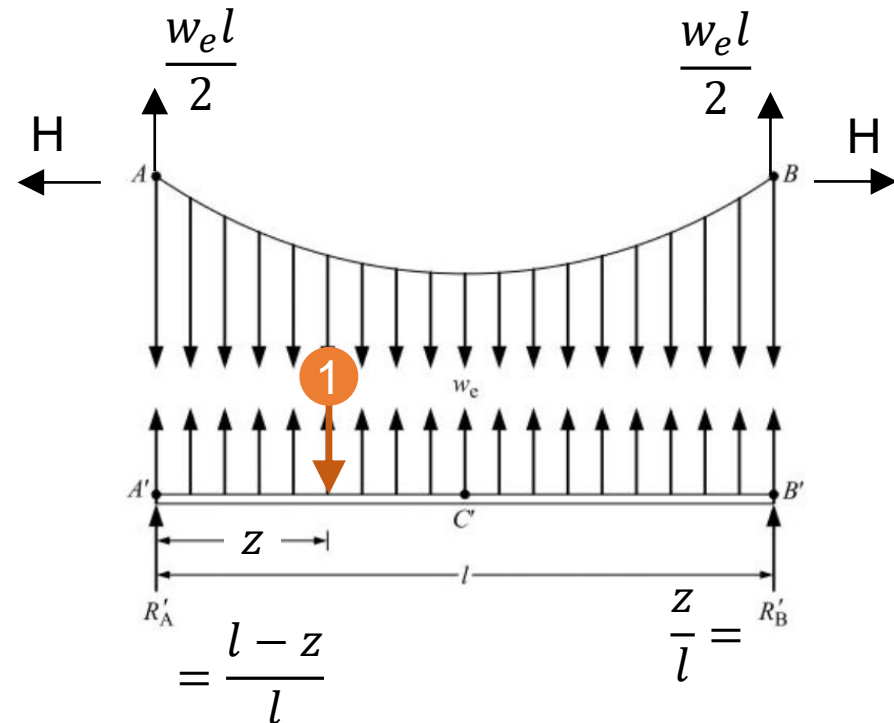
[A] ILD for  $w_e$ :

Load in portion A'C'

$$\Rightarrow w_e = \frac{4z}{l^2}, \text{ linear variation}$$

$$\text{At } z=0, w_e = 0$$

$$\text{At } z=\frac{l}{2}, w_e = \frac{2}{l}$$



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[A] ILD for  $w_e$ :

Load in portion C'B'

$$\Sigma M'_C = 0$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{l-z}{l} * \frac{l}{2} - \left\{ \frac{w_e l}{2} * \frac{l}{2} - w_e * \frac{l}{2} * \frac{l}{4} \right\} = 0$$

$R'_A$

$V_A$

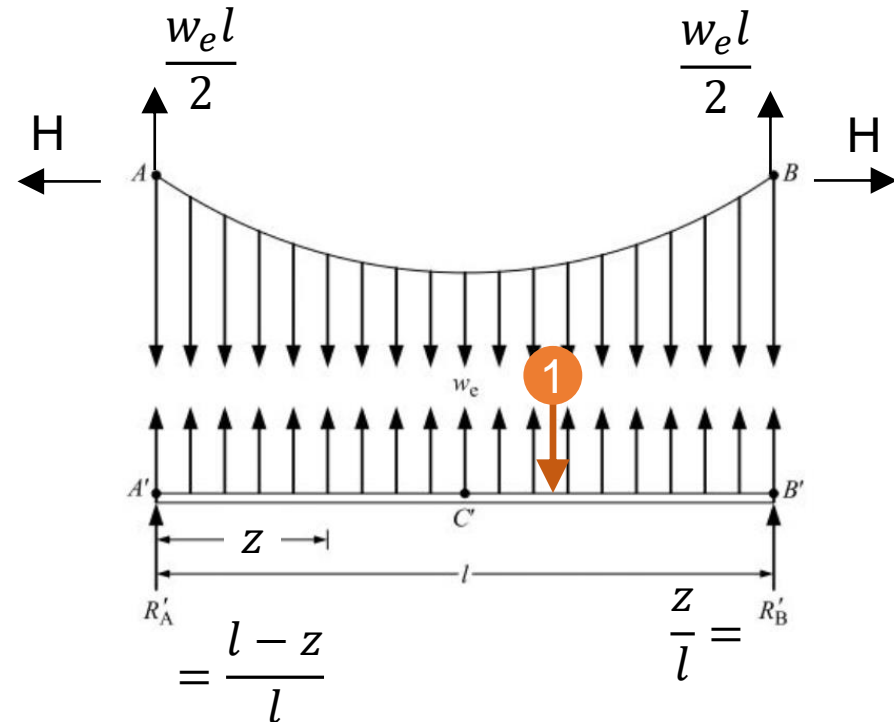
Due to  
UDL  $w_e$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{l-z}{2} = \frac{w_e l^2}{8}$$

$$\text{Or, } w_e = \frac{4(l-z)}{l^2}, \text{ linear variation}$$

$$\text{At } z = \frac{l}{2}, w_e = \frac{2}{l}$$

$$\text{At } z = l, w_e = 0$$



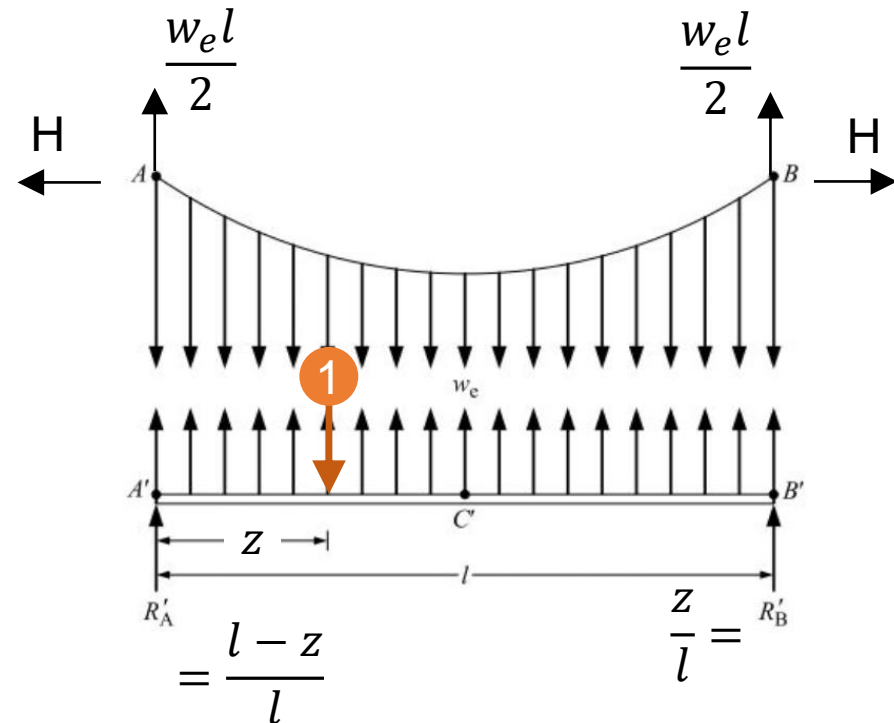
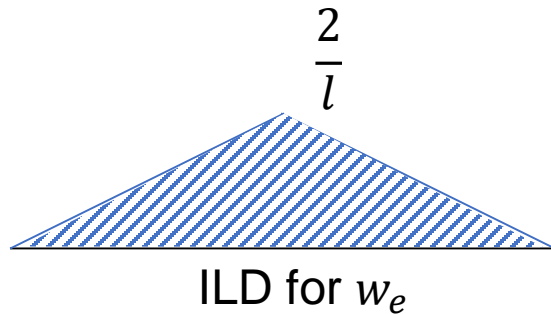
Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[A] ILD for  $w_e$ :

Hence, we get

$z = 0$	$w_e = 0$
$z = \frac{l}{2}$	$w_e = \frac{2}{l}$
$z = l$	$w_e = 0$



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

## [B] ILD for BM in the girder:

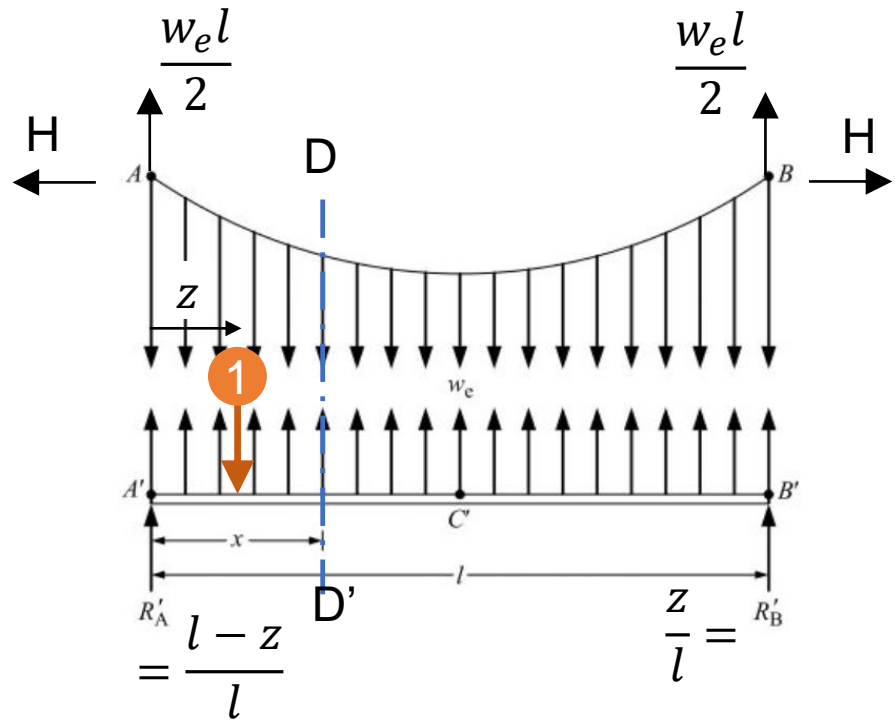
Let BM at D' at a distance x from support A' is required.

### Unit load between A' and D'

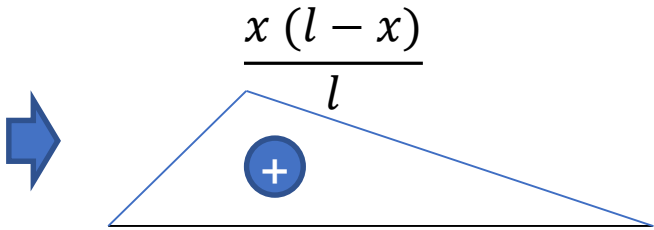
M = Moment due to given unit load + Moment due to  $w_e$  alone

∴ ILD for M = ILD for M due to unit load + ILD for M due to  $w_e$  alone

We know, ILD for M due to unit load is a triangle with maximum ordinate  $\frac{x(l-x)}{l}$  at section D', at a distance x from A'.



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.



## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

**[B] ILD for BM in the girder:**

Unit load between A' and D'

We have,

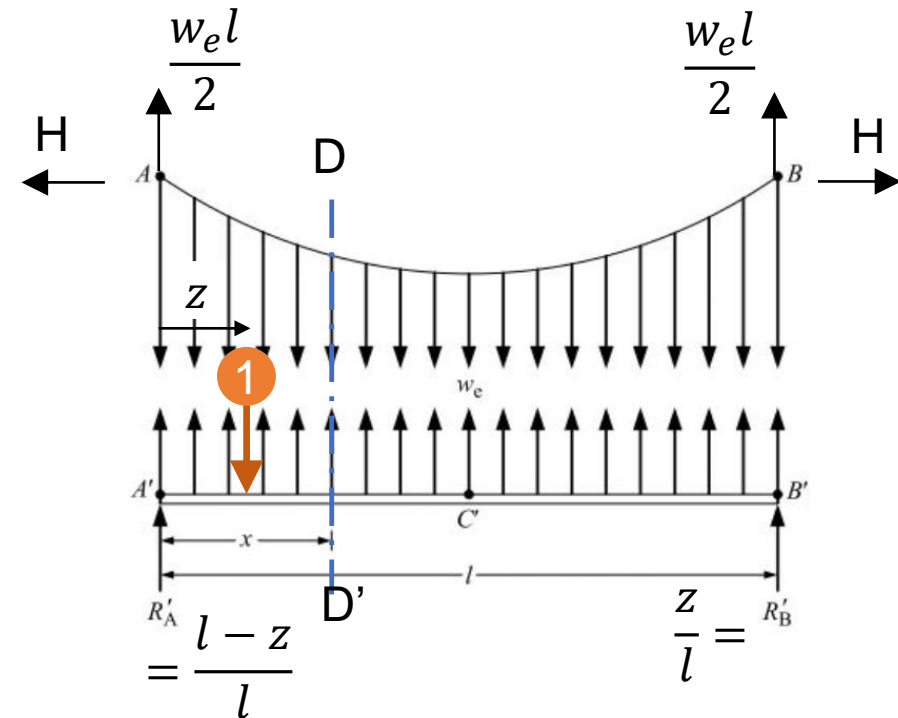
$$M \text{ due to } w_e \text{ alone} = -w_e * \frac{x}{2} * (l - x)$$

And,

$$w_e = \frac{4z}{l^2}$$

$$\therefore M \text{ due to } w_e \text{ alone} = -\frac{4z}{l^2} * \frac{x}{2} * (l - x)$$

$$= -\frac{2xz}{l^2} * (l - x); \text{ varies linearly with } x$$



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

**[B] ILD for BM in the girder:**

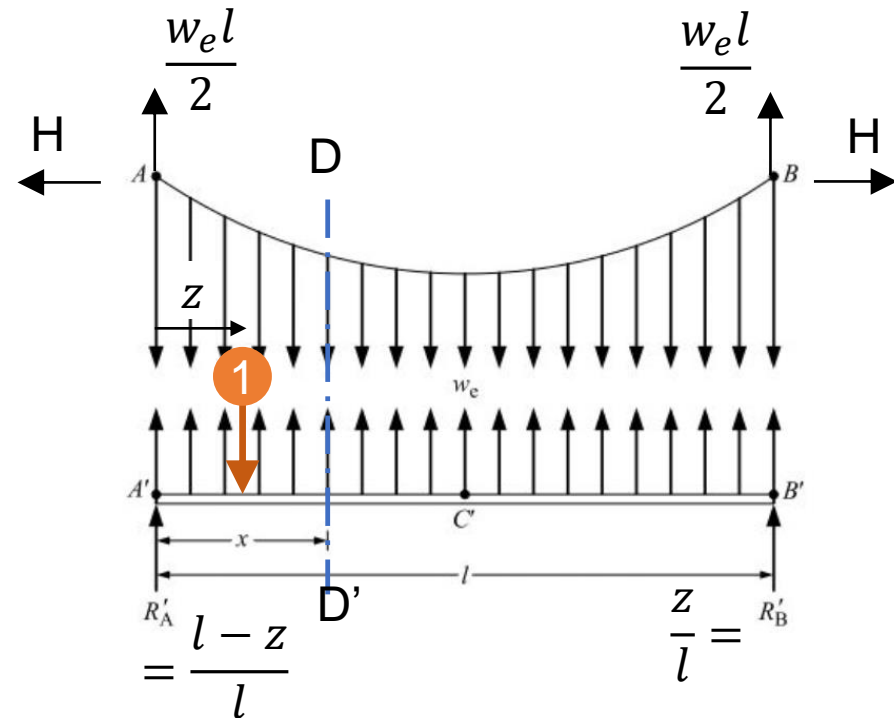
Unit load between A' and D'

$\therefore$  M due to  $w_e$  alone  $= -\frac{2xz}{l^2} * (l - x)$ ;  
varies linearly with x

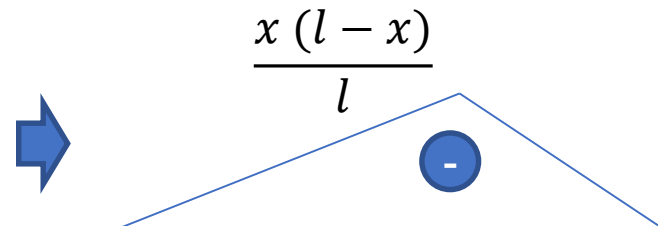
At  $z=0$ , M due to  $w_e = 0$

At  $z=\frac{l}{2}$ , M due to  $w_e = -\frac{2x*\frac{l}{2}}{l^2} * (l - x)$   
 $= -\frac{x(l-x)}{l}$

$\therefore$  ILD for moment due to  $w_e$  alone is also a triangle with maximum ordinate  $-\frac{x(l-x)}{l}$  at mid span of the girder C'



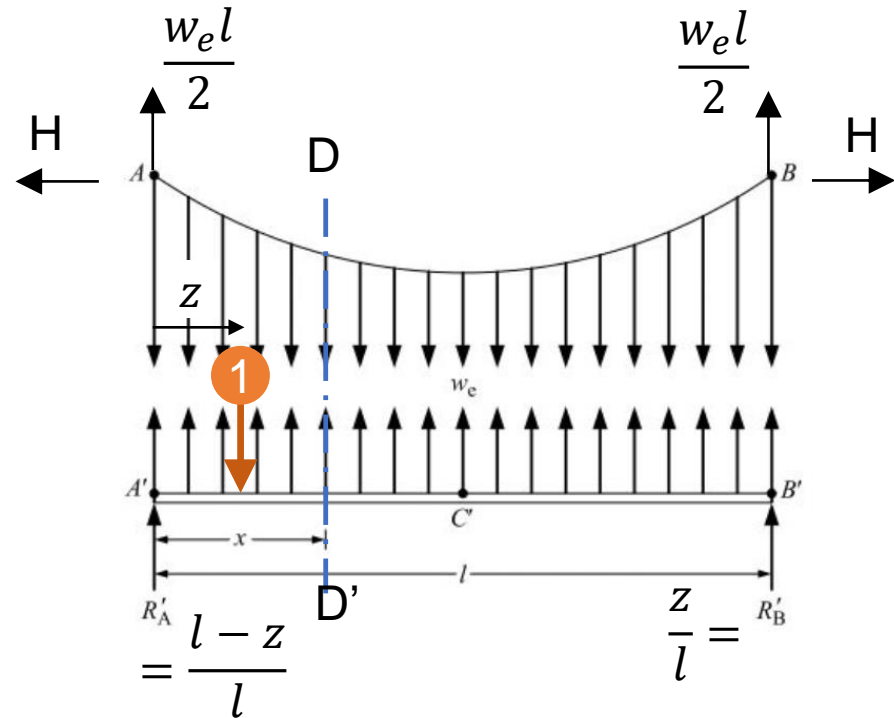
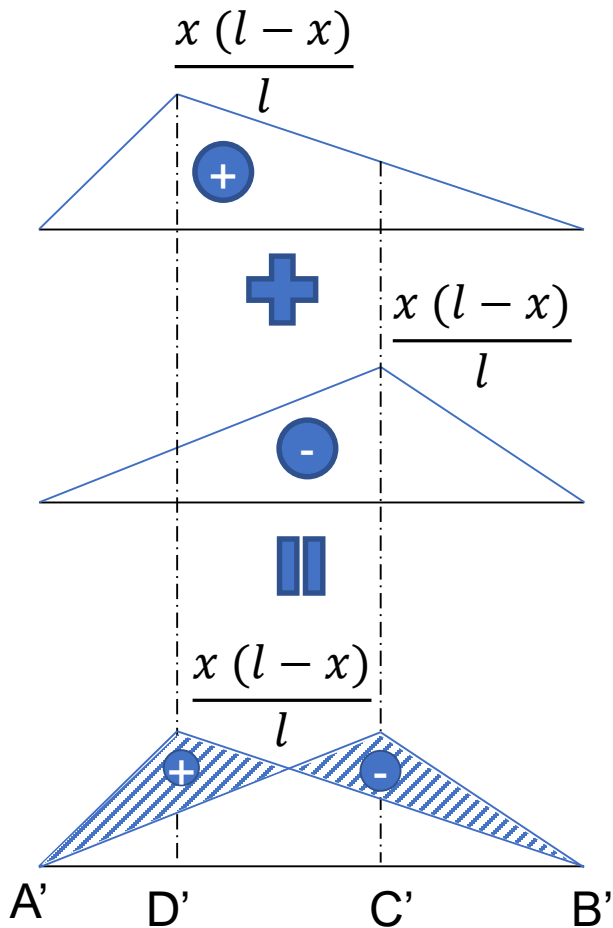
Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.



# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[B] ILD for BM in the girder:

Hence, ILD for M in the girder is:



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

**[C] ILD for SF in the girder:**

SF in the girder at D' at a distance x from A'

=

SF in the girder due to given unit load

+

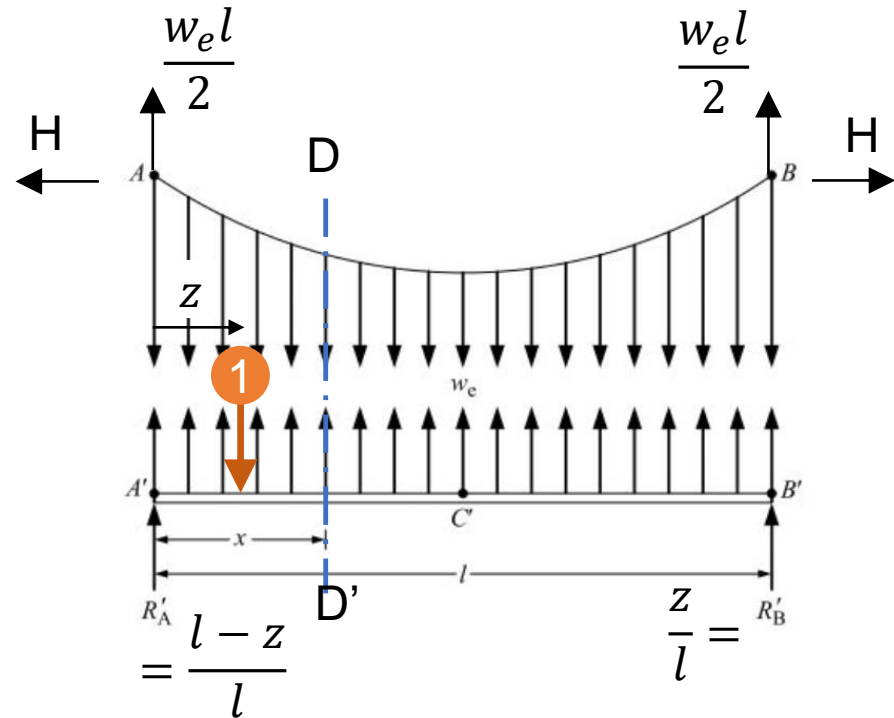
SF due to  $w_e$  alone

∴ ILD for SF in the girder at D'

= ILD for SF in the girder due to unit load

+

ILD for SF in the girder due to  $w_e$  alone

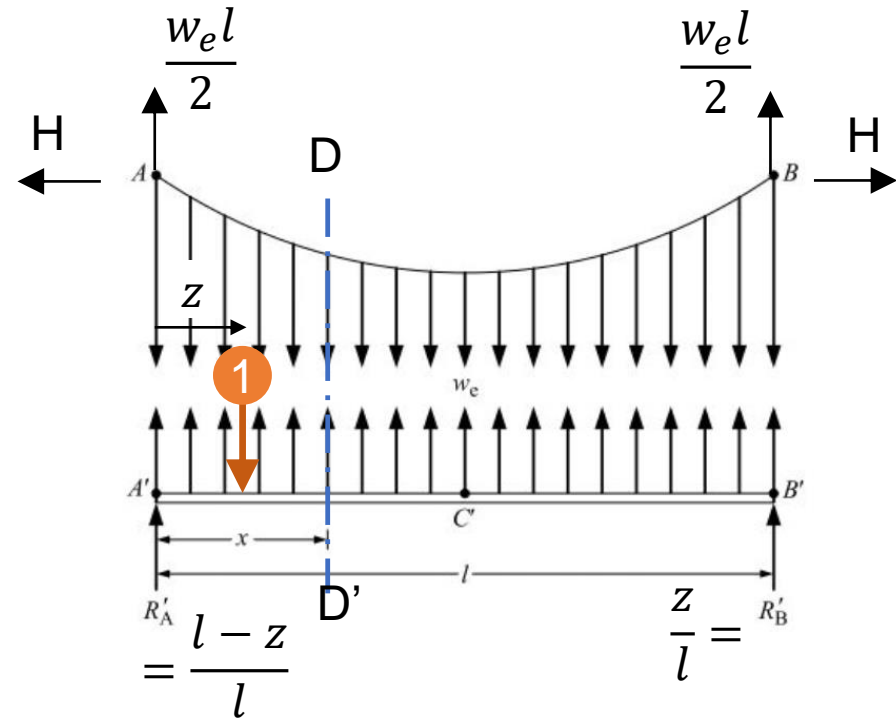
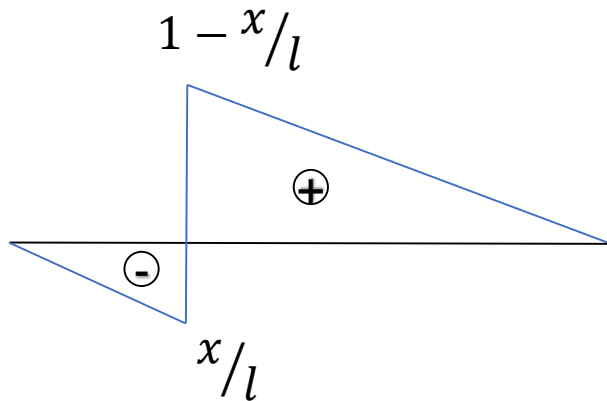


Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[C] ILD for SF in the girder:

We have,  
ILD for SF in the girder due to unit load:



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[C] ILD for SF in the girder:

We have,

$$\text{SF due to } w_e \text{ alone} = -w_e * \left(\frac{l}{2} - x\right)$$

And,

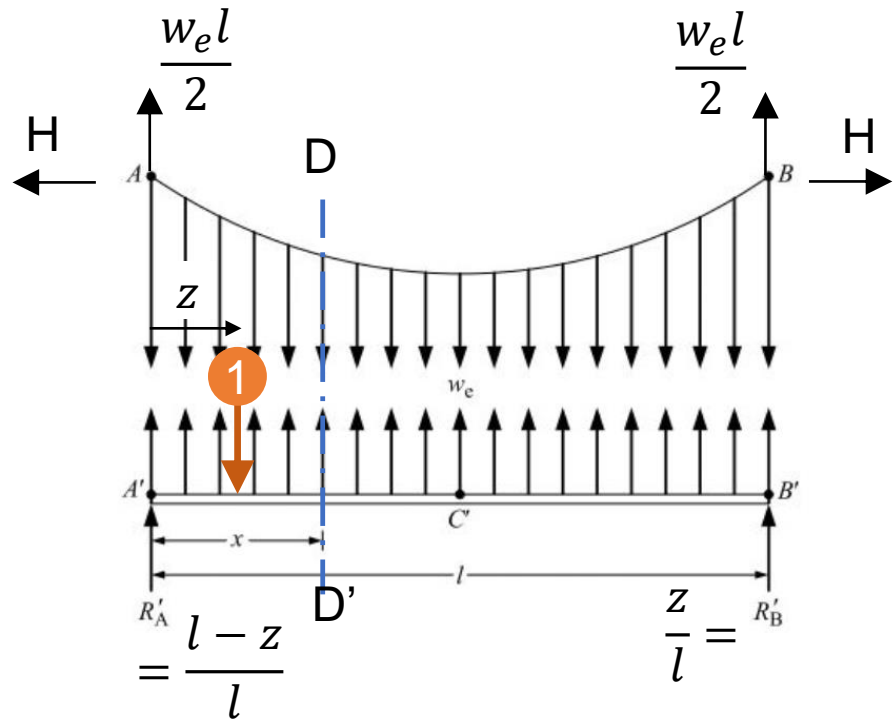
$$w_e = \frac{4z}{l^2}$$

$$\therefore \text{SF due to } w_e \text{ alone} = -\frac{4z}{l^2} * \left(\frac{l}{2} - x\right)$$

varies linearly with x

At z=0, SF due to  $w_e = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{At } z=\frac{l}{2}, \text{ SF due to } w_e &= -\frac{4 * \frac{l}{2}}{l^2} * \left(\frac{l}{2} - x\right) \\ &= -\frac{(l-2x)}{l} \end{aligned}$$

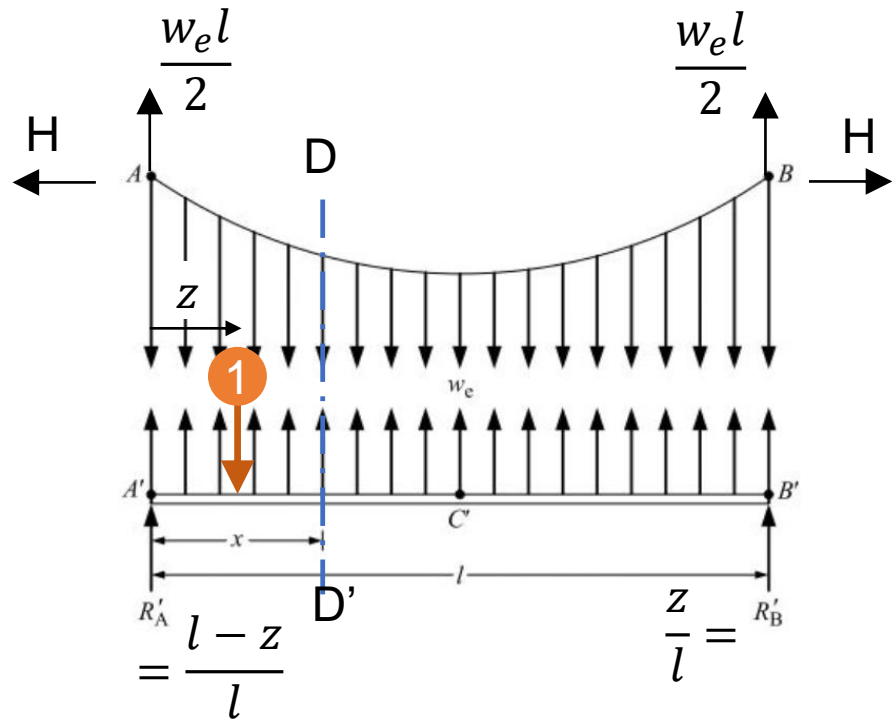
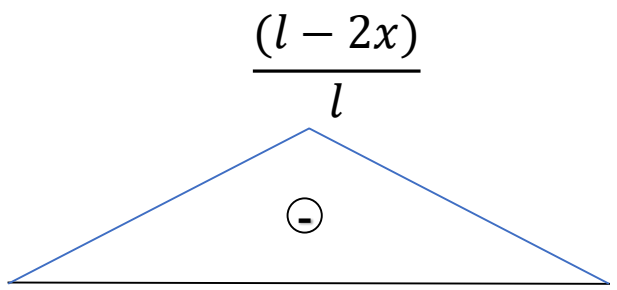


Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

## [C] ILD for SF in the girder:

Hence,  
 ILD for SF due to  $w_e$  alone is a triangle  
 with maximum ordinate  $\frac{(l-2x)}{l}$  at the  
 center.



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis - I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

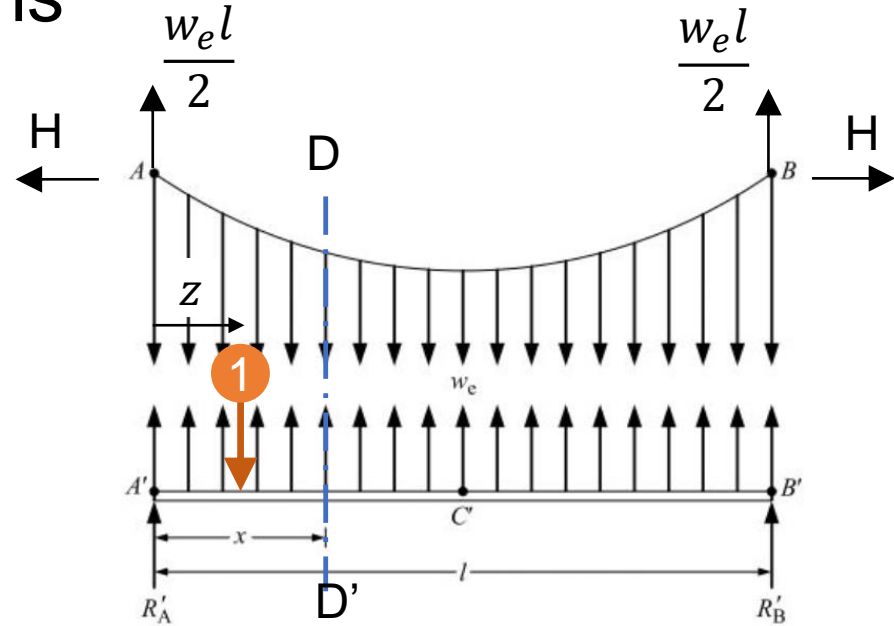
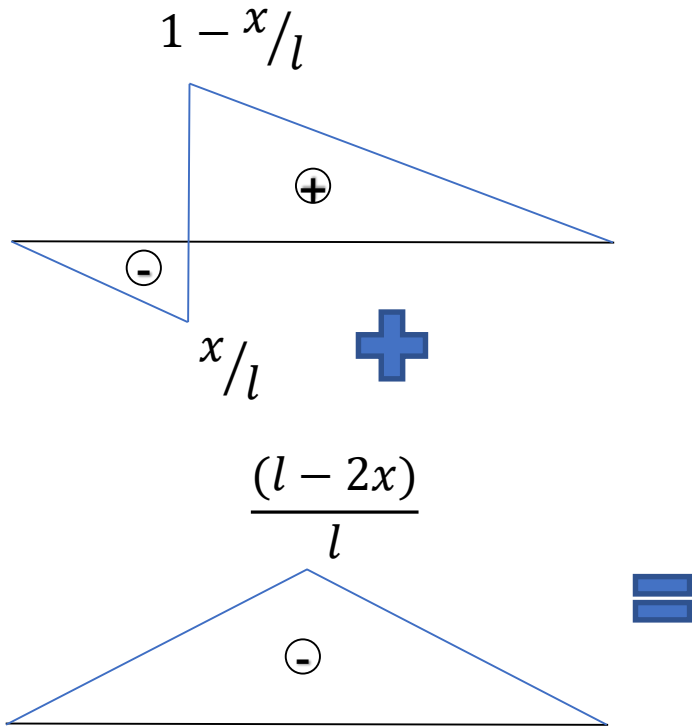
# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[C] ILD for SF in the girder:

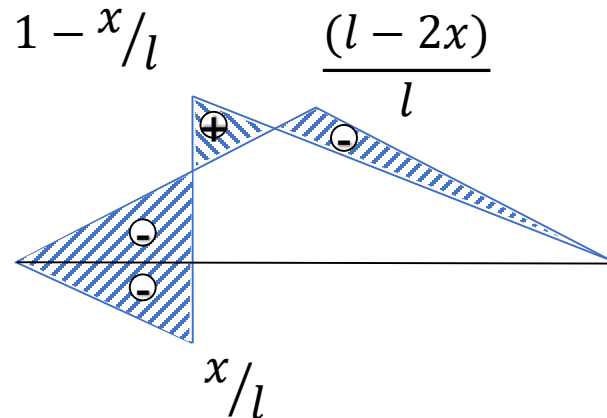
Then,

For  $x < \frac{l}{4}$

ILD for SF at D' in the girder is:



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.



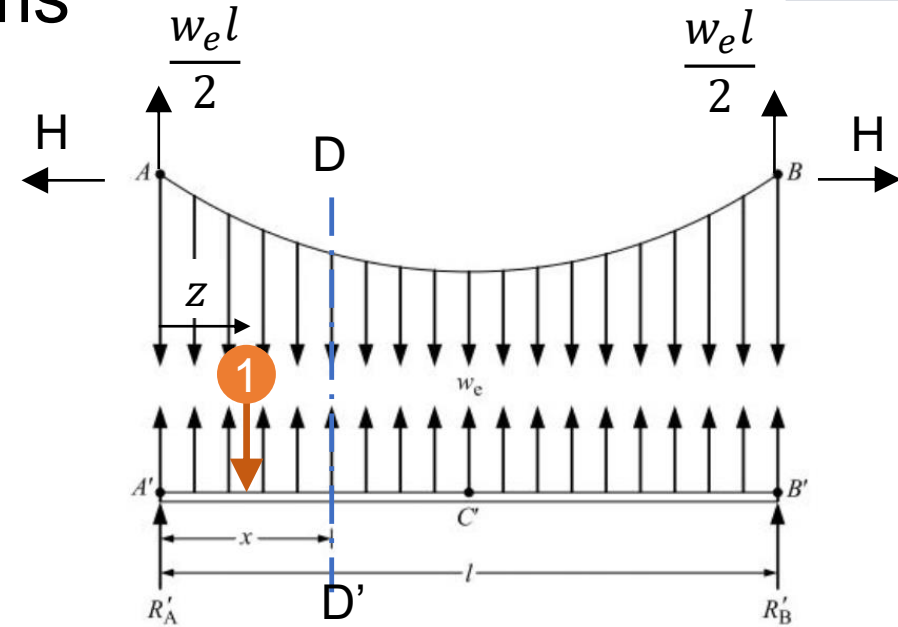
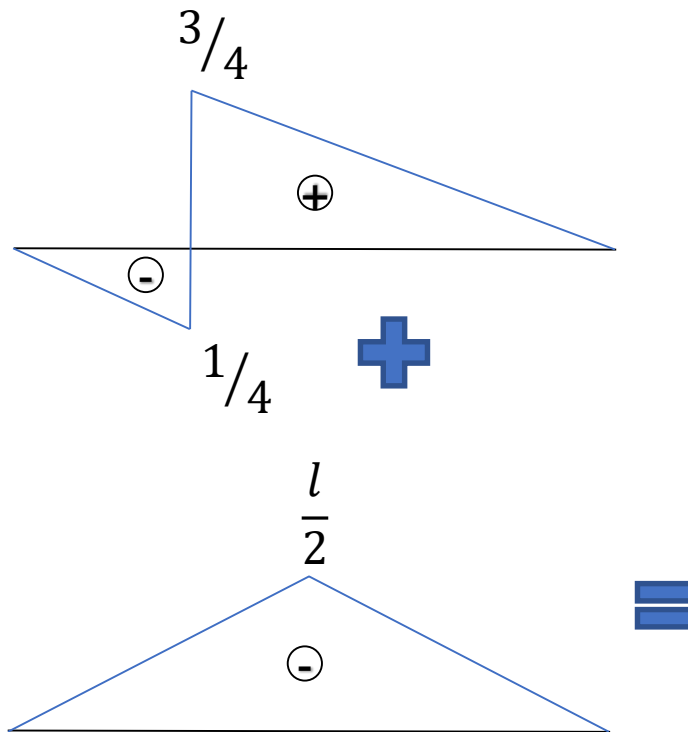
## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[C] ILD for SF in the girder:

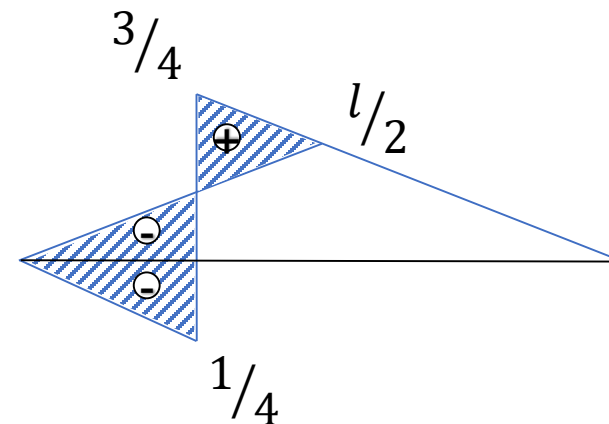
Then,

For  $x = \frac{l}{4}$

ILD for SF at D' in the girder is:



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.



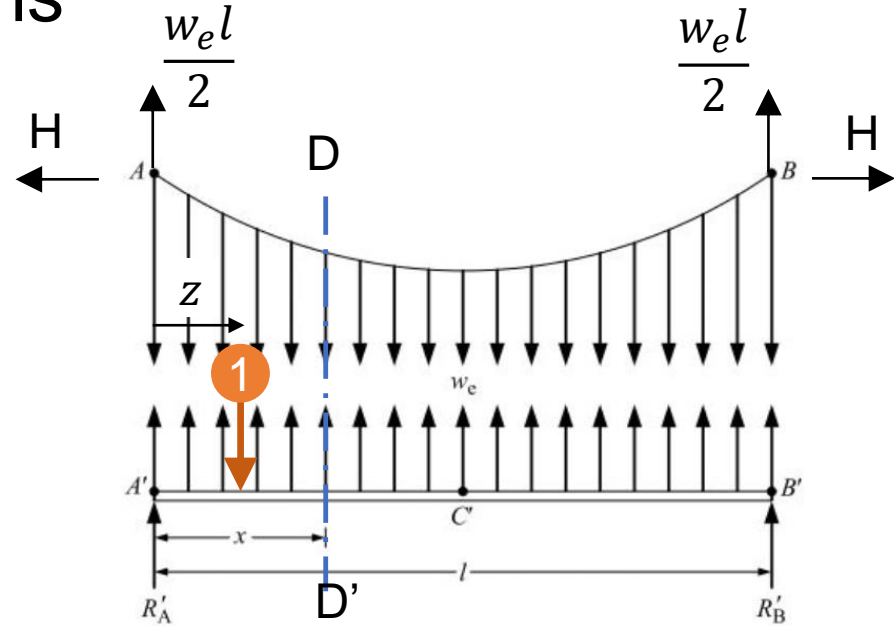
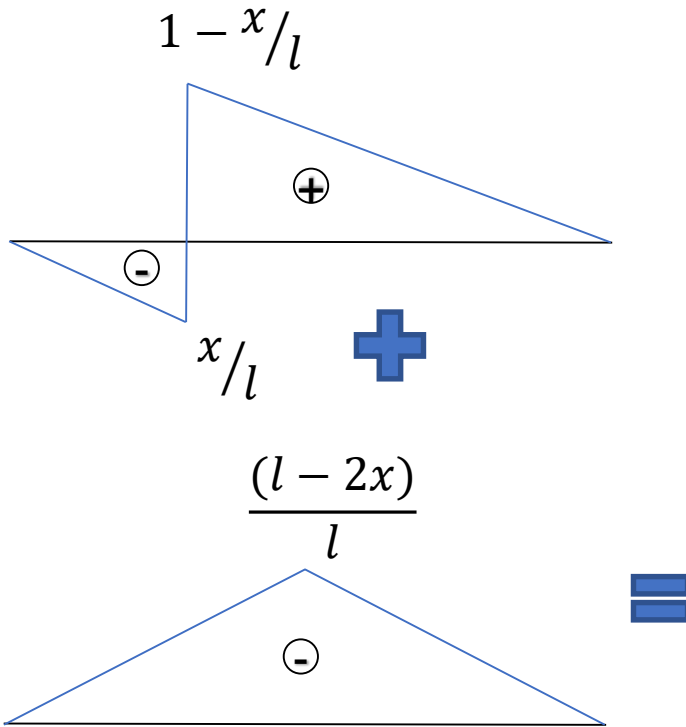
# 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

[C] ILD for SF in the girder:

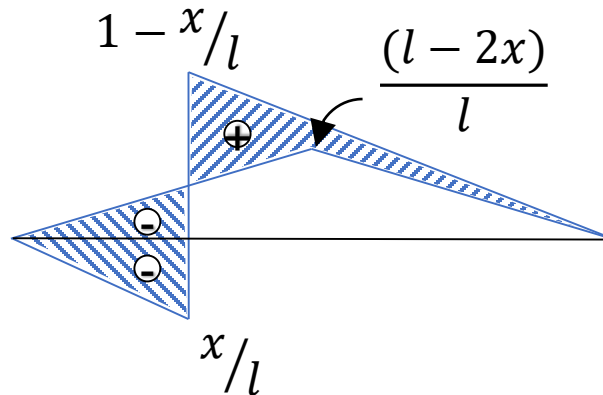
Then,

For  $x > \frac{l}{4}$

ILD for SF at D' in the girder is:



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.



## 7.4 Influence Line Diagrams

### [D] ILD for H

We have,

$$H = \frac{w_e l^2}{8h}$$

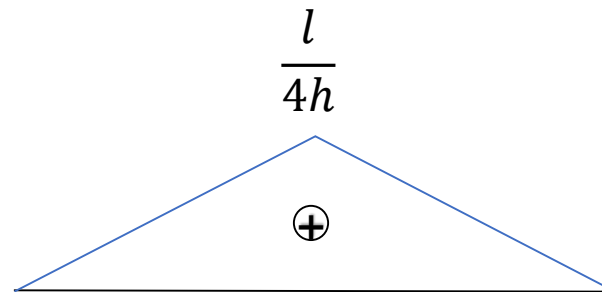
And,

$$w_e = \frac{4z}{l^2}$$

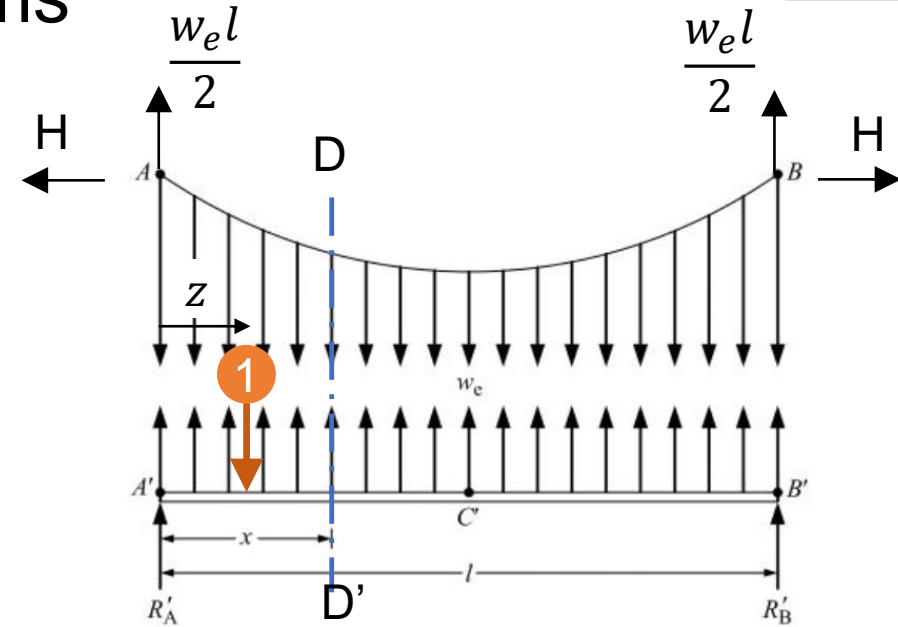
$$\Rightarrow H = \frac{\frac{4z}{l^2} * l^2}{8h} = \frac{z}{2h}$$

At  $z=0$ ,  $H=0$

At  $z=\frac{l}{2}$ ,  $H=\frac{l}{4h}$



ILD for H



Source: Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis -I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.

-----End of Lecture #12-----

-----End of Part II of II for Chapter 7-----

# References

- [1] Bhavikatti, S. S. (2011). *Structural Analysis –I* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.
- [2] Reddy, C.S. (2011). *Basic Structural Analysis* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New Delhi: Tata McGraw Hill.