



**FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND  
TECHNOLOGY**

**Department of Mechanical Engineering**



# MEPS102:Strength of Material

## Lecture 25

**Topic:25. Introduction,  
Differential equation of the  
deflection curve**

Instructor:

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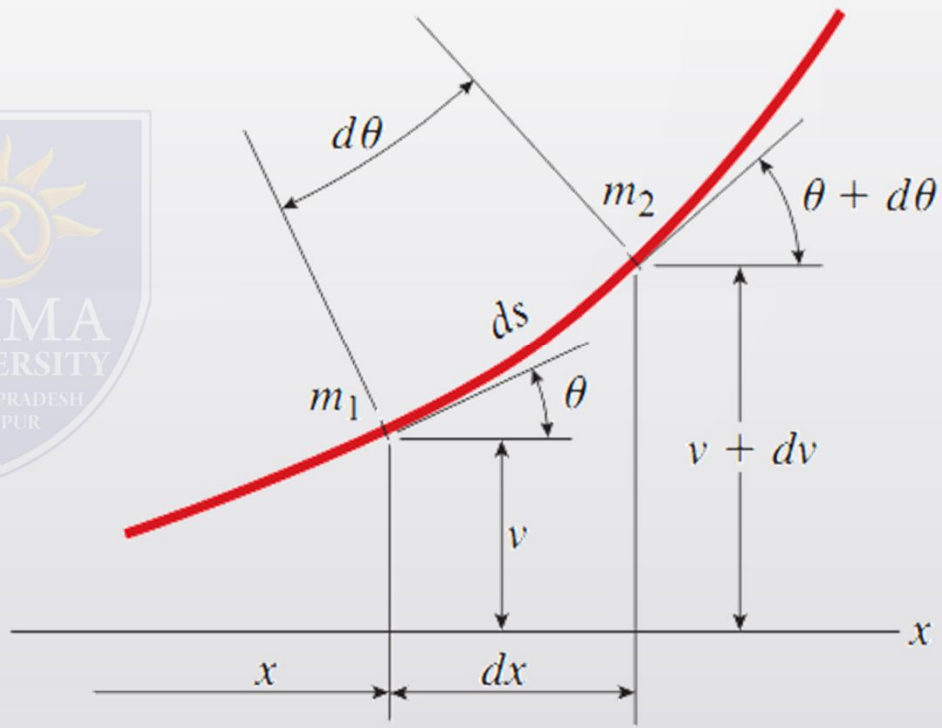
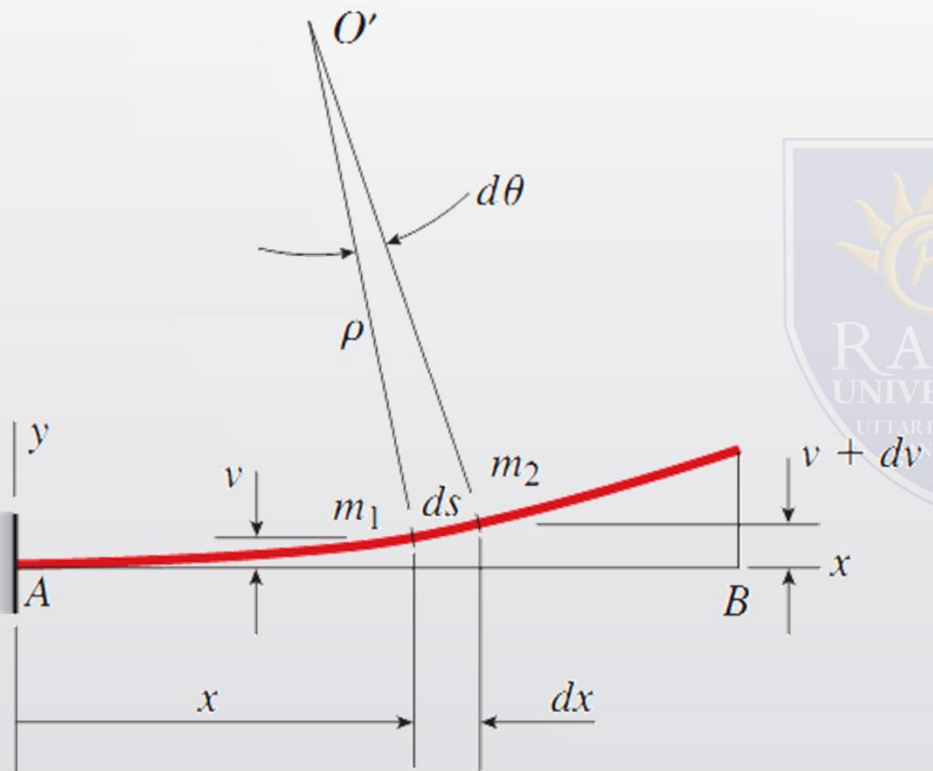
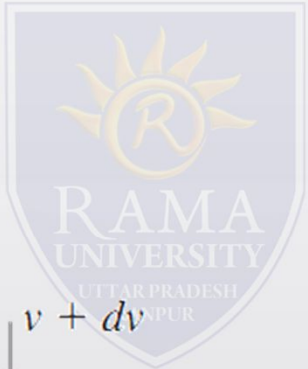
# Introduction

- ✓ When a beam with a straight longitudinal axis is loaded by lateral forces, the axis is deformed into a curve, called the deflection curve of the beam.
- ✓ Most procedures for finding beam deflections are based on the differential equations of the deflection curve and their associated relationships.
- ✓ The calculation of deflections is an important part of structural analysis and design. For example, finding deflections is an essential ingredient in the analysis of statically indeterminate structures.
- ✓ Deflections are also important in dynamic analyses, as when investigating the vibrations of aircraft or the response of buildings to earthquakes.
- ✓ Deflections are sometimes calculated in order to verify that they are within tolerable limits.

# Differential Equation

- ✓ Consider a cantilever beam with a concentrated load acting upward at the free end.
- ✓ Due to this load, the axis of the beam deforms into a curve
- ✓ The reference axes have their origin at the fixed end of the beam
  - ✓ **x axis** directed to the right and the **y axis** directed upward.
  - ✓ **z axis** is directed outward from the figure (toward the viewer).
  - ✓ **xy plane** is a plane of symmetry of the beam
  - ✓ all loads act in this plane (the plane of bending)
- ✓ The deflection **v** is the displacement in the **y direction** of any point on the axis of the beam

# Differential Equation



# Differential Equation

- ✓ To obtain the equation of the deflection curve, we must express the deflection as a function of the coordinate  $x$ .
- ✓ When the beam is bent, there is not only a deflection at each point along the axis but also a rotation
- ✓ The angle of rotation  $\theta$  (angle of inclination or angle of slope) of the axis of the beam is the angle between the  $x$  axis and the tangent to the deflection curve.  $\rho$  is radius of curvature and  $\kappa$  is curvature. Sign convention of **curvature is positive** when the **angle of rotation increases** as we move along the beam in the positive  $x$  direction. Since  $ds \approx dx$

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{\rho} = \frac{d\theta}{ds} = \frac{d\theta}{dx}$$

- ✓ From above diagram on the right side we can see that. Also  $\theta$  is very small so  $\tan \theta \approx \theta$

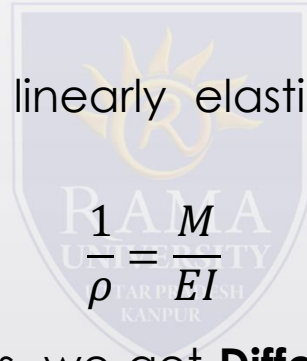
$$\theta \approx \tan \theta = \frac{dv}{dx}$$

# Differential Equation

- ✓ From above two equations we get

$$\frac{1}{\rho} = \frac{d\theta}{dx} = \frac{d^2v}{dx^2}$$

- ✓ This equation is valid for a beam of any material, provided the rotations are small quantities.
- ✓ If the material of a beam is linearly elastic and follows Hooke's law, the curvature then



- ✓ Therefore, combining equations, we get **Differential equation of the deflection curve**

$$\frac{d^2v}{dx^2} = \frac{M}{EI}$$

- ✓ We know that  $\frac{dM}{dx} = V$  and  $\frac{dV}{dx} = -q$  so we can write above equation in other forms

# Other Differential Equation

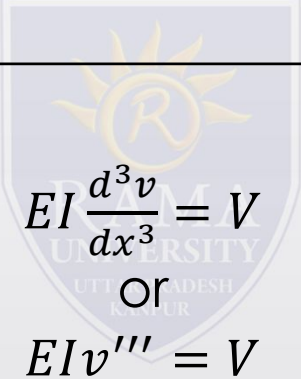
Bending –moment  
equation

$$EI \frac{d^2v}{dx^2} = M$$

or

$$EIv'' = M$$

Shear-force equation


$$EI \frac{d^3v}{dx^3} = V$$

or

$$EIv''' = V$$

Load equation

$$EI \frac{d^4v}{dx^4} = -q$$

or

$$EIv'''' = -q$$

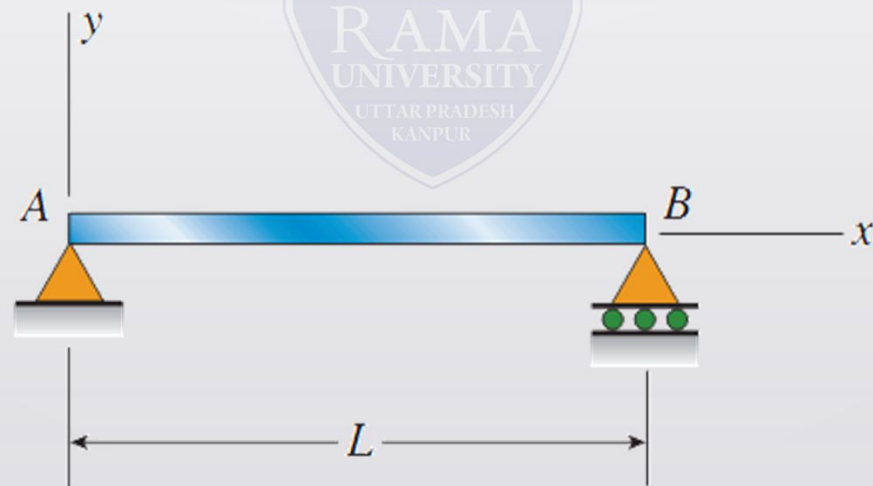


# Question

**9.2-1** The deflection curve for a simple beam  $AB$  (see figure) is given by the following equation:

$$v = -\frac{q_0 x}{360LEI}(7L^4 - 10L^2x^2 + 3x^4)$$

Describe the load acting on the beam.

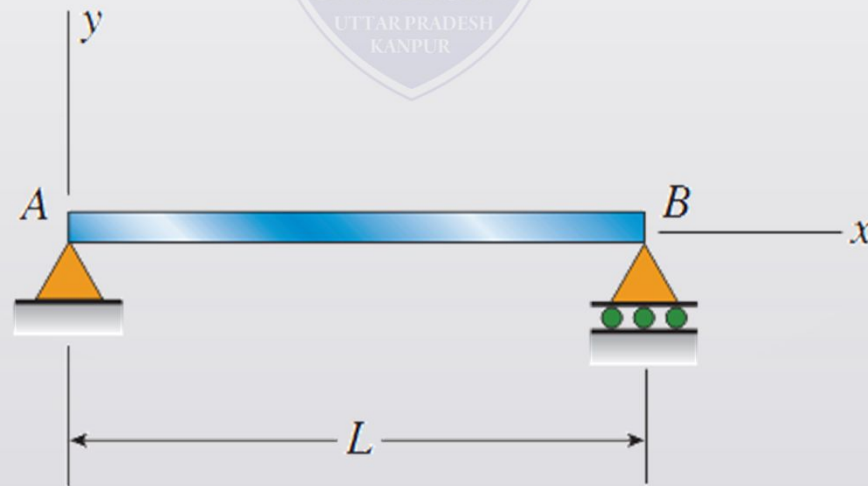


# Question

**9.2-2** The deflection curve for a simple beam  $AB$  (see figure) is given by the following equation:

$$v = -\frac{q_0 L^4}{\pi^4 EI} \sin \frac{\pi x}{L}$$

- Describe the load acting on the beam.
- Determine the reactions  $R_A$  and  $R_B$  at the supports.
- Determine the maximum bending moment  $M_{\max}$ .

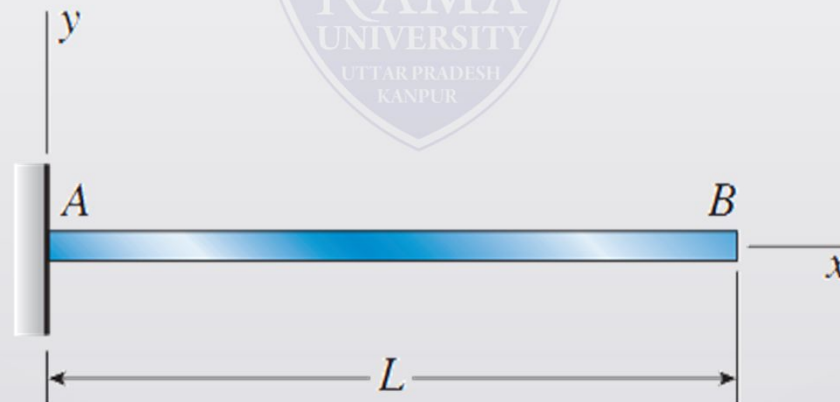


# Question

**9.2-3** The deflection curve for a cantilever beam  $AB$  (see figure) is given by the following equation:

$$v = -\frac{q_0 x^2}{120LEI} (10L^3 - 10L^2x + 5Lx^2 - x^3)$$

Describe the load acting on the beam.



# Question

**9.2-4** The deflection curve for a cantilever beam  $AB$  (see figure) is given by the following equation:

$$v = -\frac{q_0 x^2}{360L^2EI} (45L^4 - 40L^3x + 15L^2x^2 - x^4)$$

- Describe the load acting on the beam.
- Determine the reactions  $R_A$  and  $M_A$  at the support.