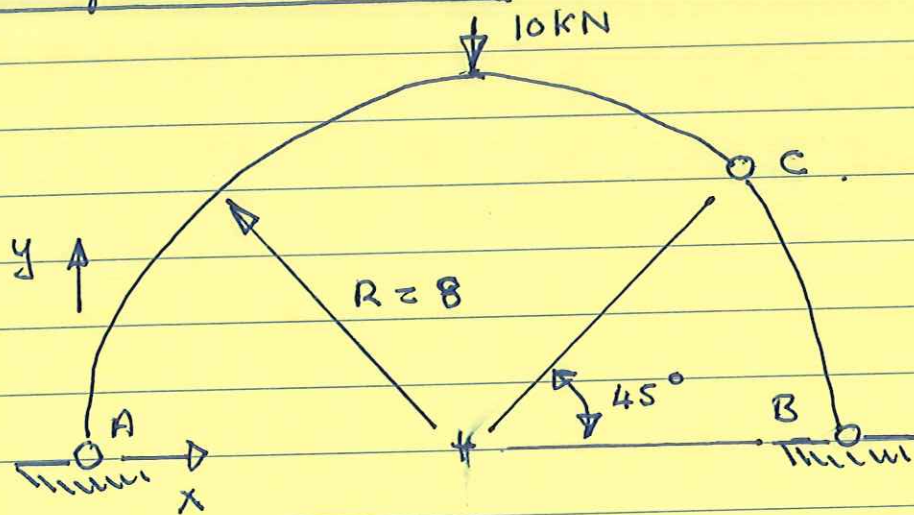


(14)

Analysis of Circular & Parabolic Arches

Analysis of a Circular Arch.



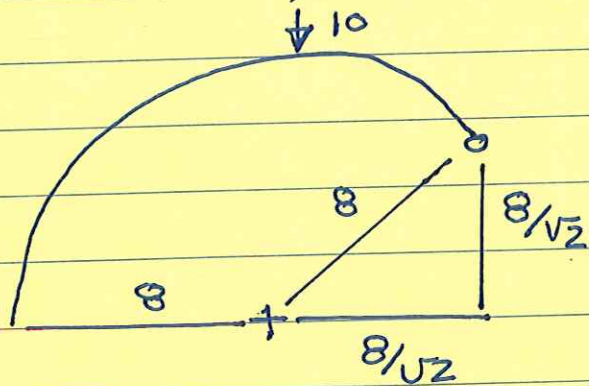
$$\sum F_y = 0 \rightarrow V_A + V_B = 10$$

$$\sum M_A = 0 \Rightarrow 10R - V_B \cdot (2R) = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} V_A = 5\text{ kN} \\ V_B = 5\text{ kN} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sum F_x = 0 \Rightarrow H_A = H_B \text{ (doesn't help).}$$

But we know, $M_C = 0$ $10 \times 8/\sqrt{2} + H_A (8/\sqrt{2})$

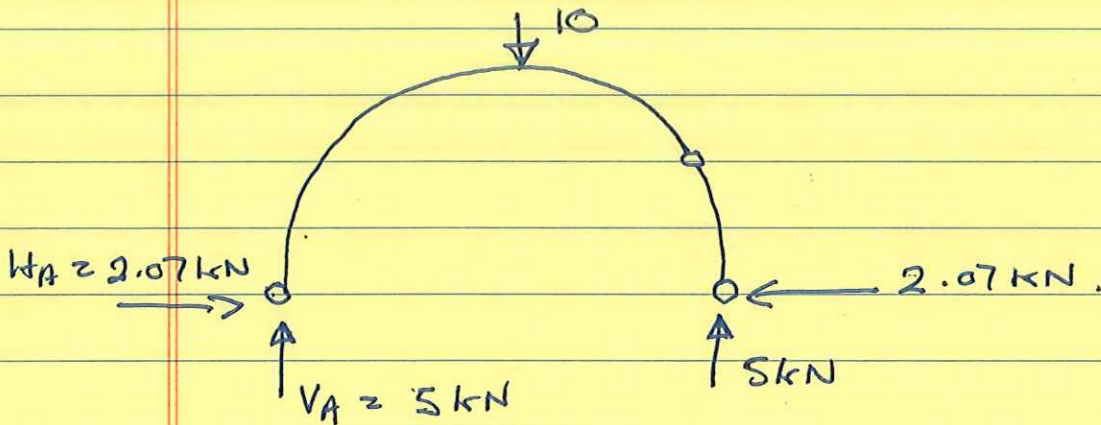


$$= V_A (8 + 8/\sqrt{2})$$

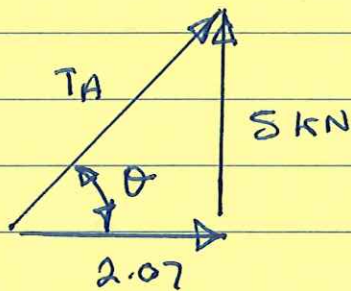
$$\Rightarrow H_A = 2.07\text{ kN.}$$

Note: We could have also looked at B-C $\Rightarrow H_B = 2.07\text{ kN}$

(B) Total Reaction at A.



Total Reaction at A $T_A = \sqrt{H_A^2 + V_A^2} = 5.41 \text{ kN.}$

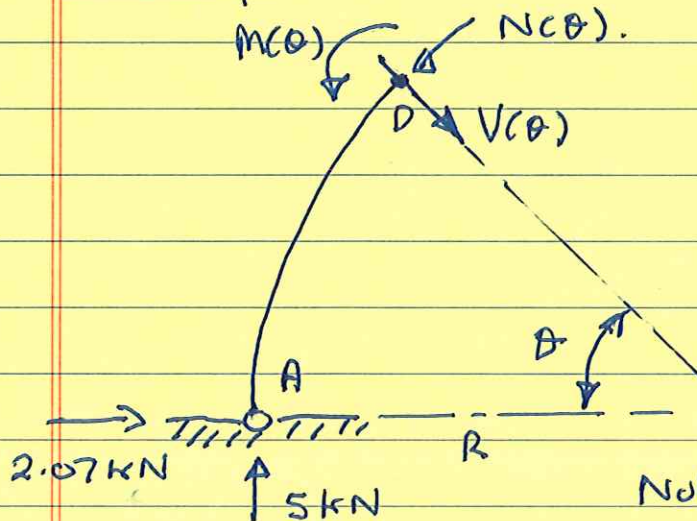


$\tan \theta = 5/2.07$

$\Rightarrow \theta_A = \tan^{-1} [5/2.07] = 67.5^\circ$

Note: At supports A & B, the arch is vertical. But θ_A is not vertical \Rightarrow need to support moments internally.

Bending Moments & Shear Forces $\sum M_D = 0$



$M(\theta) = 5R(1 - \cos(\theta)) - 2.07R \sin(\theta)$

$V(\theta) = 5 \sin(\theta) - 2.07 \cos(\theta)$

$N(\theta) = -(5 \cos(\theta) + 2.07 \sin(\theta))$

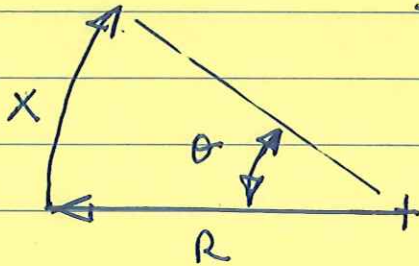
Note $N(\theta=0) = -5 \text{ kN} \checkmark$

©

Does $U(x) = \frac{dM}{dx}$ still work?

Let's transform (x, y) coordinates to polar coordinates (R, θ) .

In polar coordinates $x = \theta R$.



$$\Rightarrow \frac{dx}{d\theta} = R$$

$$V(\theta) = \frac{dM}{dx} = \frac{dM}{dx} \cdot \frac{d\theta}{d\theta} = \frac{dM}{d\theta} \cdot \frac{d\theta}{dx} = \frac{dM}{d\theta} \cdot \frac{1}{R}$$

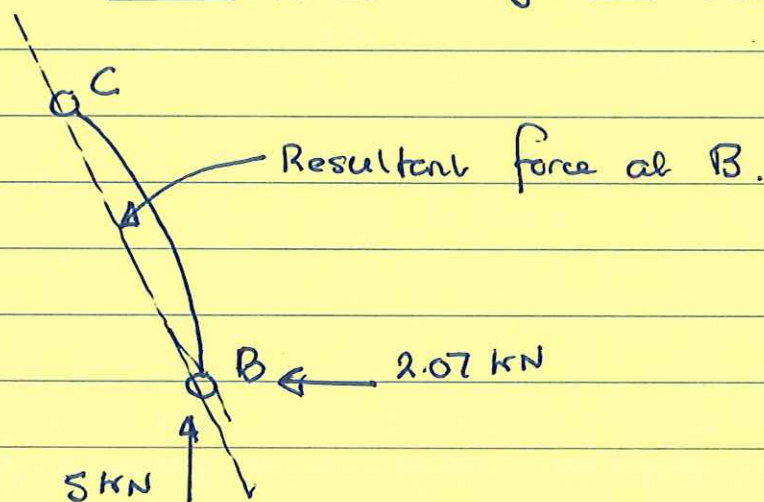
Thus, we need to check $U(\theta) = \frac{1}{R} \cdot \frac{dM}{d\theta}$.

It works!!

Note: There are no external loads acting on segment

B-C of the arch. Therefore, resultant force at

B must pass through the hinge at C.

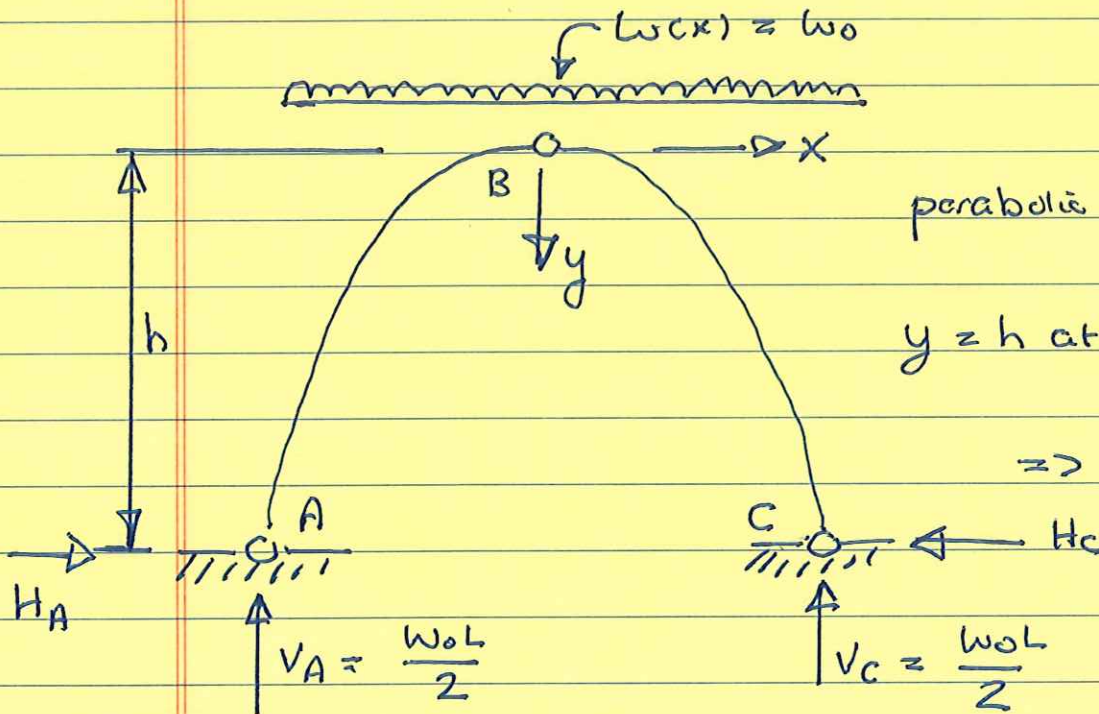


(D)

Analysis of a Parabolic Arch

Basic Question: Can we do better than a circular arch shape?

Analysis of a Parabolic Arch



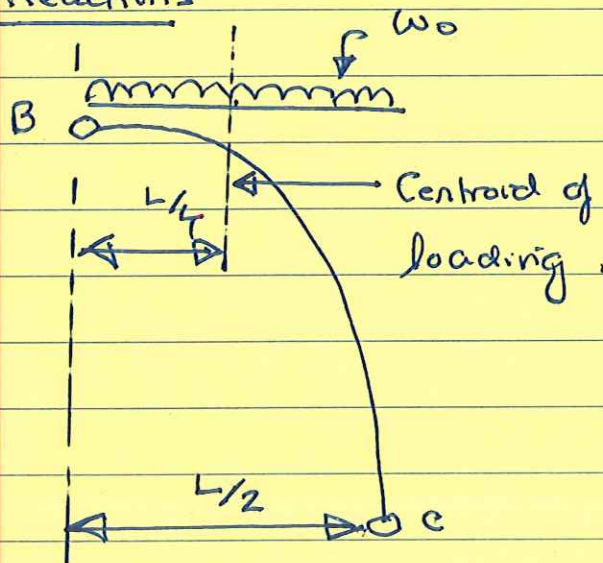
parabolic shape $y = kx^2$

$$y = h \text{ at } x = \pm \frac{L}{2} \Rightarrow k = \frac{4h}{L^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow y(x) = \left(\frac{4h}{L^2} \right) x^2$$

Parabolic shape $y(x) = \left[\frac{4h}{L^2} \right] x^2$; $\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{8h}{L^2} \right) x$

Reactions



$$\sum V = 0 \Rightarrow V_A = V_C = \frac{w_0 L}{2}$$

$$\sum M_B = 0$$

$$\frac{w_0 L}{2} \cdot \frac{L}{4} + H_C \cdot h - \frac{w_0 L}{2} \cdot \frac{L}{2} = 0$$

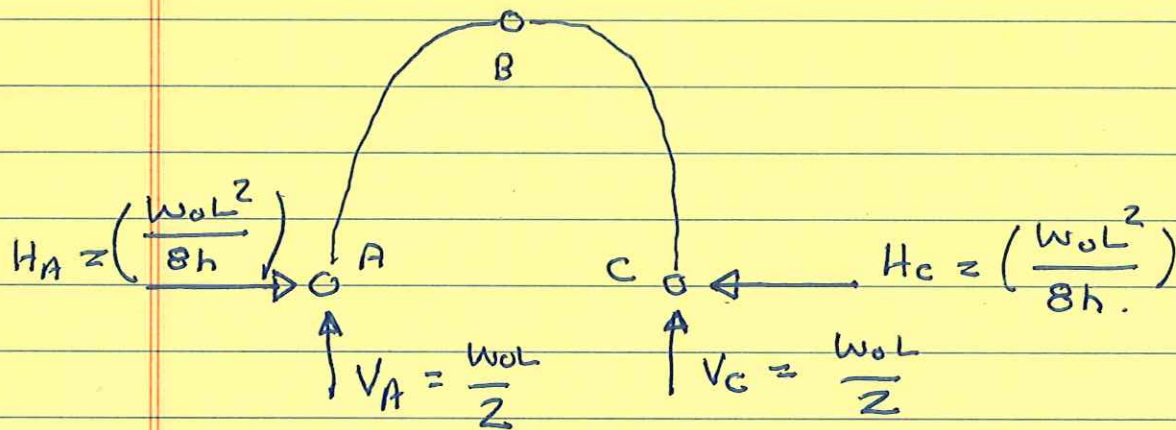
loading ↑ ↑ V_C

(E)

$$\Rightarrow H_c \cdot h = \frac{w_0 L^2}{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow H_c = \left[\frac{w_0 L^2}{8h} \right]$$

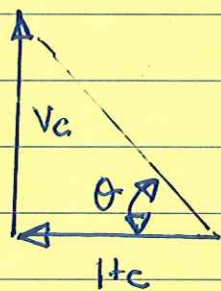
Summary of Reactions



Total Reactions.

$$\text{Magnitude} = \left[V_c^2 + H_c^2 \right]^{1/2} = \frac{w_0 L}{2} \left[1 + \frac{L^2}{16h^2} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\text{Direction. } \tan(\theta) = \left(\frac{V_c}{H_c} \right) = \left(\frac{4h}{L} \right) \quad \text{--- (A)}$$



$$\text{From geometry } y = kx^2 = \left(\frac{4h}{L^2} \right) x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{8h}{L^2} \right) x$$

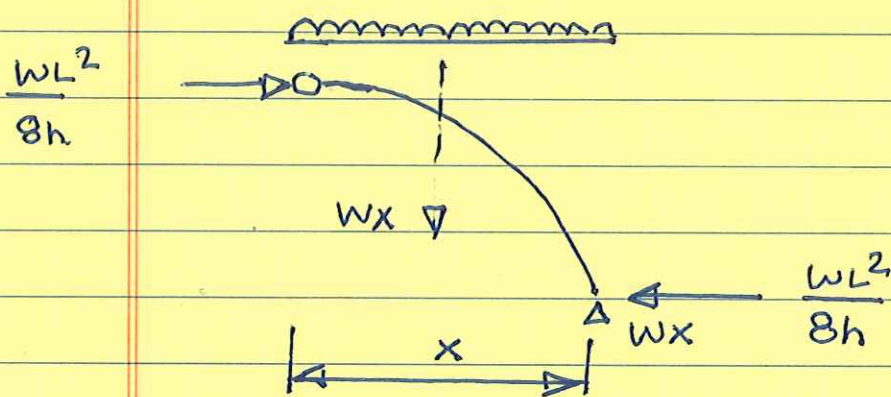
Key Observation. At $x = L/2$, $\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{8h}{L^2} \right) \frac{L}{2} = \left(\frac{4h}{L} \right)$ --- (B)

Equations (A) & (B) are identical \rightarrow Pure compression, no bending, no shear at foundation!

(F) Arbitrary Section.

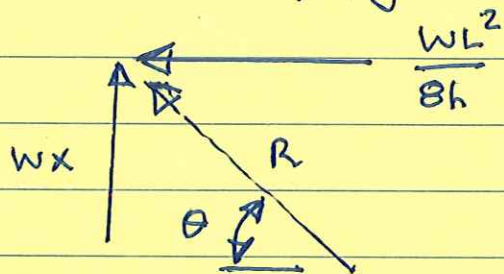
So loads are transferred to the foundation by pure compression -- no bending, no shear! This is perfect!

What about an arbitrary point in the arch?



Bending moment at x .
$$M(x) = (wx)\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) - \frac{WL^2}{8h} \cdot y$$
$$= \frac{wx^2}{2} - \frac{wx^2}{2} = 0$$

Resultant of ground reaction forces.



$$R = w \left[x^2 + \left(\frac{L^2}{8h} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \left(\frac{8xh}{L^2} \right) \quad \text{--- (C)}$$

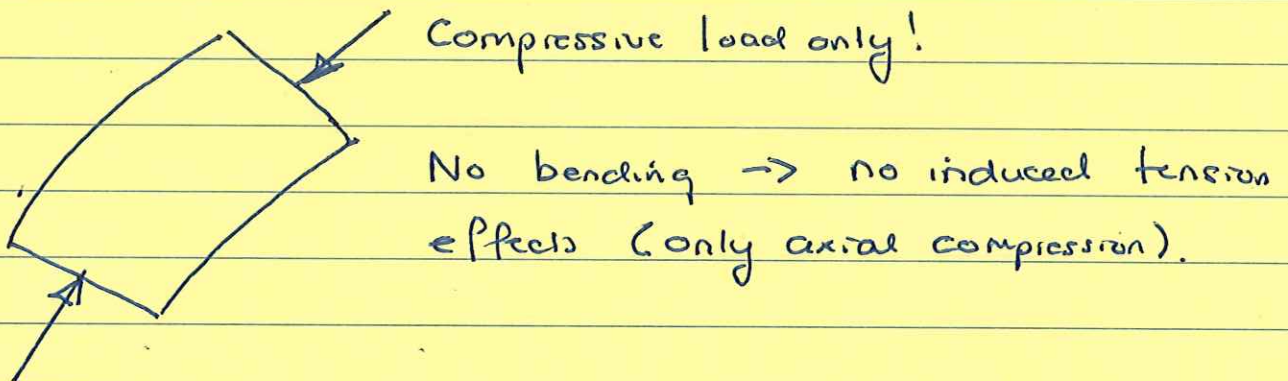
Slope of curve section
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2kx = \left(\frac{8xh}{L^2} \right) \quad \text{--- (D)}$$

Equation (C) equals (D) \rightarrow pure compression throughout!

(G) Note: No bending, no shear throughout a parabolic arch carrying uniform load.

Amazing!

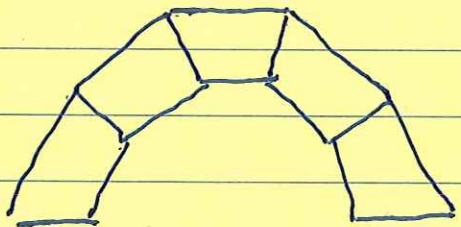
Furthermore, this result is independent of the hinge position.



Hence, use parabolic arches in masonry construction.

Applications: Medieval cathedrals, Roman aqueducts.

Venetian Gothic Architecture



\rightarrow humpbacked bridges.

Most of load is self weight.

Holes left to give }
uniform loading

