

















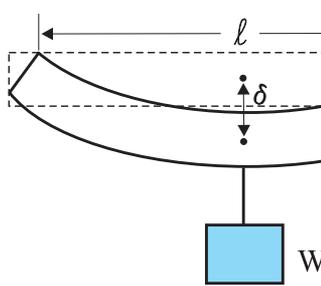




like in pigtails, for ease in manufacture, flexibility and strength.

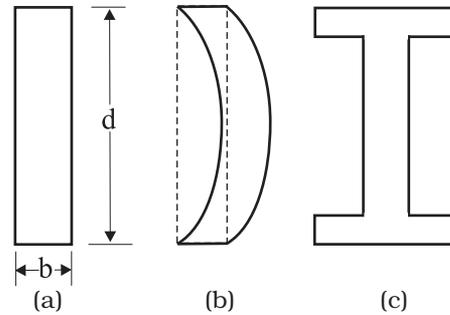
A bridge has to be designed such that it can withstand the load of the flowing traffic, the force of winds and its own weight. Similarly, in the design of buildings the use of beams and columns is very common. In both the cases, the overcoming of the problem of bending of beam under a load is of prime importance. The beam should not bend too much or break. Let us consider the case of a beam loaded at the centre and supported near its ends as shown in Fig. 9.8. A bar of length  $l$ , breadth  $b$ , and depth  $d$  when loaded at the centre by a load  $W$  sags by an amount given by

$$\delta = W l^3 / (4bd^3Y) \tag{9.17}$$



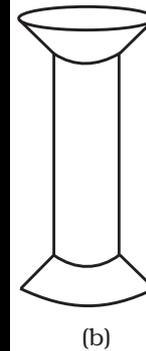
**Fig. 9.8** A beam supported at two points and loaded at the centre.

This relation can be derived from the principles of mechanics that you have already learnt and a little algebra. From Eq. (9.16), we see that to reduce the deflection  $\delta$  for a given load, one should use a material with a large Young's modulus  $Y$ . From Eq. (9.17), we see that increasing the depth  $d$  rather than the breadth  $b$  is more effective in reducing the deflection.  $\delta$  is proportional to  $d^{-3}$  and only to  $b^{-1}$  (of course the length  $l$  of the span should be as small as possible). But on increasing the depth, unless the load is exactly at the right place (difficult to arrange in a bridge with moving traffic), the deep bar may bend as shown in Fig. 9.9(b). This is called buckling. To avoid this, a common compromise is the cross-sectional shape shown in Fig. 9.9(c). This section provides a large load-bearing surface and enough depth to prevent bending. This shape reduces the weight of the beam without sacrificing the strength and hence reduces the cost.



**Fig. 9.9** Different cross-sectional shapes of a beam. (a) Rectangular section of a bar; (b) A thin bar and how it can buckle; (c) Commonly used section for a load bearing bar.

The use of pillars or columns is also very common in buildings and bridges. A pillar with rounded ends as shown in Fig. 9.10(a) supports a distributed shape at the top. The precise design of a pillar has to take into account the material it will function with, the height, and the reliability of usable material.



**Fig. 9.10** Pillars: (a) a pillar with rounded ends, (b) Pillar with distributed ends.

The answer to the question why the maximum height of a mountain on earth is  $\sim 10$  km can also be provided by considering the elastic properties of rocks. A mountain base is not under uniform compression and this provides some shearing stress to the rocks under which they can flow. The stress due to all the material on the top should be less than the critical shearing stress at which the rocks flow.

At the bottom of a mountain of height  $h$ , the force per unit area due to the weight of the mountain is  $h\rho g$  where  $\rho$  is the density of the material of the mountain and  $g$  is the acceleration

due to gravity. The material at the bottom experiences this force in the vertical direction, and the sides of the mountain are free. Therefore, this is not a case of pressure or bulk compression. There is a shear component, approximately  $h\rho g$  itself. Now the elastic limit for a typical rock is

$30 \times 10^7 \text{ N m}^{-2}$ . Equating this to  $h\rho g$ , with  $\rho = 3 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  gives

$$h\rho g = 30 \times 10^7 \text{ N m}^{-2}.$$

$$h = 30 \times 10^7 \text{ N m}^{-2} / (3 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3} \times 10 \text{ m s}^{-2}) = 10 \text{ km}$$

which is more than the height of Mt. Everest!

### SUMMARY

1. Stress is the restoring force per unit area and strain is the fractional change in dimension. In general there are three types of stresses (a) tensile stress — longitudinal stress (associated with stretching) or compressive stress (associated with compression), (b) shearing stress, and (c) hydraulic stress.
2. For small deformations, stress is directly proportional to the strain for many materials. This is known as Hooke's law. The constant of proportionality is called modulus of elasticity. Three elastic moduli *viz.*, Young's modulus, shear modulus and bulk modulus are used to describe the elastic behaviour of objects as they respond to deforming forces that act on them.

A class of solids called elastomers does not obey Hooke's law.

3. When an object is under tension or compression, the Hooke's law takes the form

$$F/A = Y\Delta L/L$$

where  $\Delta L/L$  is the tensile or compressive strain of the object,  $F$  is the magnitude of the applied force causing the strain,  $A$  is the cross-sectional area over which  $F$  is applied (perpendicular to  $A$ ) and  $Y$  is the Young's modulus for the object. The stress is  $F/A$ .

4. A pair of forces when applied parallel to the upper and lower faces, the solid deforms so that the upper face moves sideways with respect to the lower. The horizontal displacement  $\Delta L$  of the upper face is perpendicular to the vertical height  $L$ . This type of deformation is called shear and the corresponding stress is the shearing stress. This type of stress is possible only in solids.

In this kind of deformation the Hooke's law takes the form

$$F/A = G \times \Delta L/L$$

where  $\Delta L$  is the displacement of one end of object in the direction of the applied force  $F$ , and  $G$  is the shear modulus.

5. When an object undergoes hydraulic compression due to a stress exerted by a surrounding fluid, the Hooke's law takes the form

$$p = B (\Delta V/V),$$

where  $p$  is the pressure (hydraulic stress) on the object due to the fluid,  $\Delta V/V$  (the volume strain) is the absolute fractional change in the object's volume due to that pressure and  $B$  is the bulk modulus of the object.

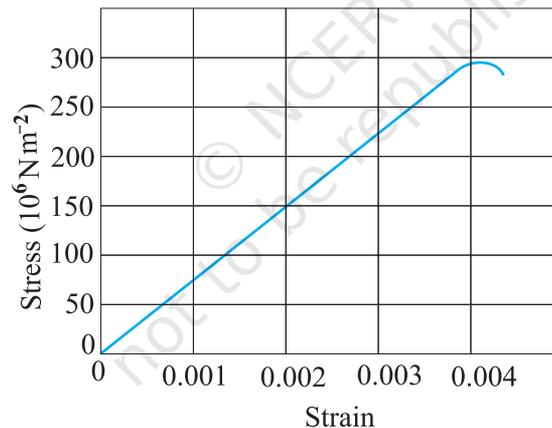
### POINTS TO PONDER

1. In the case of a wire, suspended from ceiling and stretched under the action of a weight ( $F$ ) suspended from its other end, the force exerted by the ceiling on it is equal and opposite to the weight. However, the tension at any cross-section  $A$  of the wire is just  $F$  and not  $2F$ . Hence, tensile stress which is equal to the tension per unit area is equal to  $F/A$ .
2. Hooke's law is valid only in the linear part of stress-strain curve.
3. The Young's modulus and shear modulus are relevant only for solids since only solids have lengths and shapes.
4. Bulk modulus is relevant for solids, liquid and gases. It refers to the change in volume when every part of the body is under the uniform stress so that the shape of the body remains unchanged.

5. Metals have larger values of Young's modulus than alloys and elastomers. A material with large value of Young's modulus requires a large force to produce small changes in its length.
6. In daily life, we feel that a material which stretches more is more elastic, but it is a misnomer. In fact material which stretches to a lesser extent for a given load is considered to be more elastic.
7. In general, a deforming force in one direction can produce strains in other directions also. The proportionality between stress and strain in such situations cannot be described by just one elastic constant. For example, for a wire under longitudinal strain, the lateral dimensions (radius of cross section) will undergo a small change, which is described by another elastic constant of the material (called *Poisson ratio*).
8. Stress is not a vector quantity since, unlike a force, the stress cannot be assigned a specific direction. Force acting on the portion of a body on a specified side of a section has a definite direction.

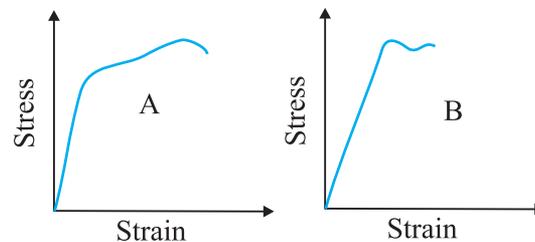
### EXERCISES

- 9.1 A steel wire of length 4.7 m and cross-sectional area  $3.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2$  stretches by the same amount as a copper wire of length 3.5 m and cross-sectional area of  $4.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2$  under a given load. What is the ratio of the Young's modulus of steel to that of copper?
- 9.2 Figure 9.11 shows the strain-stress curve for a given material. What are (a) Young's modulus and (b) approximate yield strength for this material?



**Fig. 9.11**

- 9.3 The stress-strain graphs for materials A and B are shown in Fig. 9.12.

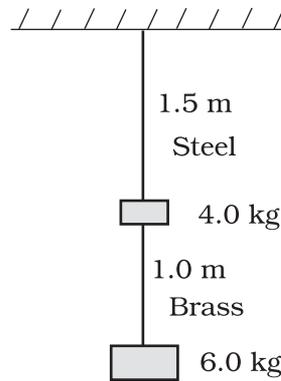


**Fig. 9.12**

The graphs are drawn to the same scale.

- Which of the materials has the greater Young's modulus?
- Which of the two is the stronger material?

- 9.4** Read the following two statements below carefully and state, with reasons, if it is true or false.
- The Young's modulus of rubber is greater than that of steel;
  - The stretching of a coil is determined by its shear modulus.
- 9.5** Two wires of diameter 0.25 cm, one made of steel and the other made of brass are loaded as shown in Fig. 9.13. The unloaded length of steel wire is 1.5 m and that of brass wire is 1.0 m. Compute the elongations of the steel and the brass wires.

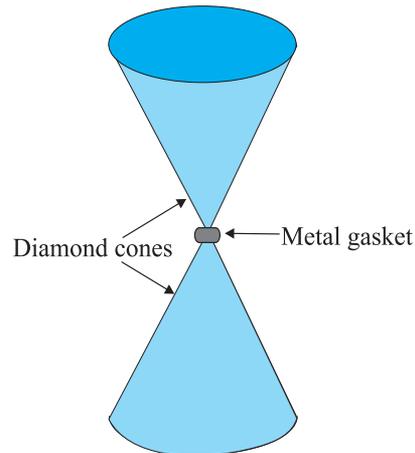


**Fig. 9.13**

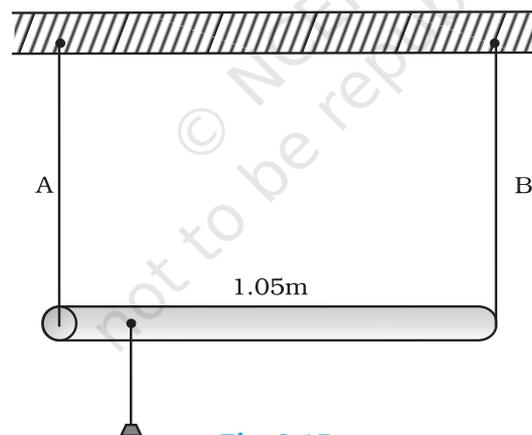
- 9.6** The edge of an aluminium cube is 10 cm long. One face of the cube is firmly fixed to a vertical wall. A mass of 100 kg is then attached to the opposite face of the cube. The shear modulus of aluminium is 25 GPa. What is the vertical deflection of this face?
- 9.7** Four identical hollow cylindrical columns of mild steel support a big structure of mass 50,000 kg. The inner and outer radii of each column are 30 and 60 cm respectively. Assuming the load distribution to be uniform, calculate the compressional strain of each column.
- 9.8** A piece of copper having a rectangular cross-section of  $15.2 \text{ mm} \times 19.1 \text{ mm}$  is pulled in tension with 44,500 N force, producing only elastic deformation. Calculate the resulting strain?
- 9.9** A steel cable with a radius of 1.5 cm supports a chairlift at a ski area. If the maximum stress is not to exceed  $10^8 \text{ N m}^{-2}$ , what is the maximum load the cable can support ?
- 9.10** A rigid bar of mass 15 kg is supported symmetrically by three wires each 2.0 m long. Those at each end are of copper and the middle one is of iron. Determine the ratios of their diameters if each is to have the same tension.
- 9.11** A 14.5 kg mass, fastened to the end of a steel wire of unstretched length 1.0 m, is whirled in a vertical circle with an angular velocity of 2 rev/s at the bottom of the circle. The cross-sectional area of the wire is  $0.065 \text{ cm}^2$ . Calculate the elongation of the wire when the mass is at the lowest point of its path.
- 9.12** Compute the bulk modulus of water from the following data: Initial volume = 100.0 litre, Pressure increase = 100.0 atm ( $1 \text{ atm} = 1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$ ), Final volume = 100.5 litre. Compare the bulk modulus of water with that of air (at constant temperature). Explain in simple terms why the ratio is so large.
- 9.13** What is the density of water at a depth where pressure is 80.0 atm, given that its density at the surface is  $1.03 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ ?
- 9.14** Compute the fractional change in volume of a glass slab, when subjected to a hydraulic pressure of 10 atm.
- 9.15** Determine the volume contraction of a solid copper cube, 10 cm on an edge, when subjected to a hydraulic pressure of  $7.0 \times 10^6 \text{ Pa}$ .
- 9.16** How much should the pressure on a litre of water be changed to compress it by 0.10%?

**Additional Exercises**

- 9.17** Anvils made of single crystals of diamond, with the shape as shown in Fig. 9.14, are used to investigate behaviour of materials under very high pressures. Flat faces at the narrow end of the anvil have a diameter of 0.50 mm, and the wide ends are subjected to a compressional force of 50,000 N. What is the pressure at the tip of the anvil?

**Fig. 9.14**

- 9.18** A rod of length 1.05 m having negligible mass is supported at its ends by two wires of steel (wire A) and aluminium (wire B) of equal lengths as shown in Fig. 9.15. The cross-sectional areas of wires A and B are  $1.0 \text{ mm}^2$  and  $2.0 \text{ mm}^2$ , respectively. At what point along the rod should a mass  $m$  be suspended in order to produce (a) equal stresses and (b) equal strains in both steel and aluminium wires.

**Fig. 9.15**

- 9.19** A mild steel wire of length 1.0 m and cross-sectional area  $0.50 \times 10^{-2} \text{ cm}^2$  is stretched, well within its elastic limit, horizontally between two pillars. A mass of 100 g is suspended from the mid-point of the wire. Calculate the depression at the mid-point.
- 9.20** Two strips of metal are riveted together at their ends by four rivets, each of diameter 6.0 mm. What is the maximum tension that can be exerted by the riveted strip if the shearing stress on the rivet is not to exceed  $6.9 \times 10^7 \text{ Pa}$ ? Assume that each rivet is to carry one quarter of the load.
- 9.21** The Mariana trench is located in the Pacific Ocean, and at one place it is nearly eleven km beneath the surface of water. The water pressure at the bottom of the trench is about  $1.1 \times 10^8 \text{ Pa}$ . A steel ball of initial volume  $0.32 \text{ m}^3$  is dropped into the ocean and falls to the bottom of the trench. What is the change in the volume of the ball when it reaches to the bottom?