

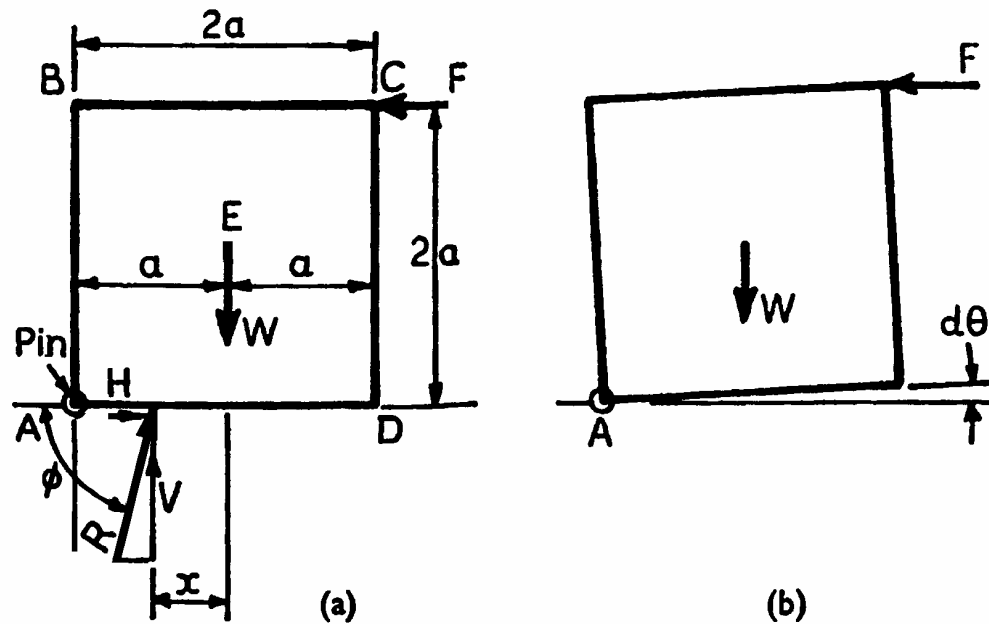
# **C h a p t e r 1**

# **Introduction**

# 1.1 Notions of Instability

## The Stability of a Rigid Block Resting on a Table

### *Equilibrium Method*



*Equilibrium of Block on Table*

Statical equilibrium of a system:

$$\Sigma H = 0; \quad H - F = 0; \quad H = R \cos \theta$$

$$\Sigma V = 0; \quad V - W = 0; \quad V = R \sin \theta$$

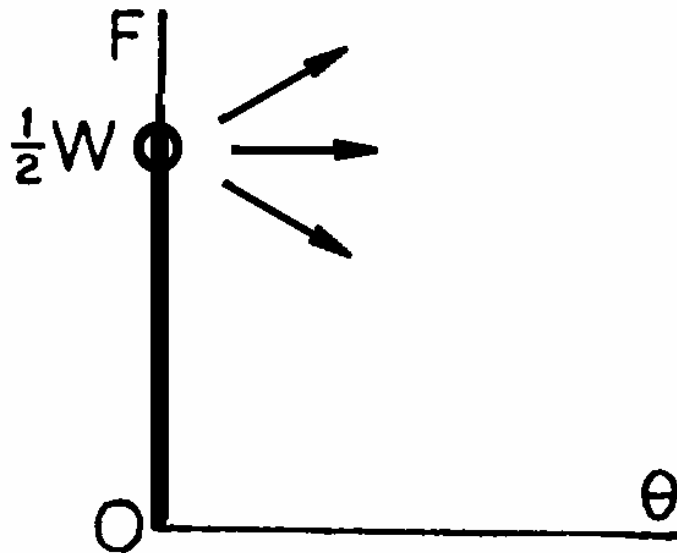
$$\Sigma M_E = 0; \quad -Vx + Ha + Fa = 0; \quad x = \frac{Ha + Fa}{V} = \frac{2Fa}{W}$$

When  $x=a$ ,  $R$  passes through the hinge  $A$ . The system does not remain in equilibrium, and the block tilts – it becomes unstable:

$$F_{cr} = \frac{1}{2}W$$

Let us now imagine the block to be just tilting – a rotation  $d\theta$  has occurred.

*Equilibrium:*  $\Sigma M_A = 0; 2aF - Wa = 0; F_{cr} = \frac{1}{2}W$



*Small displacements*

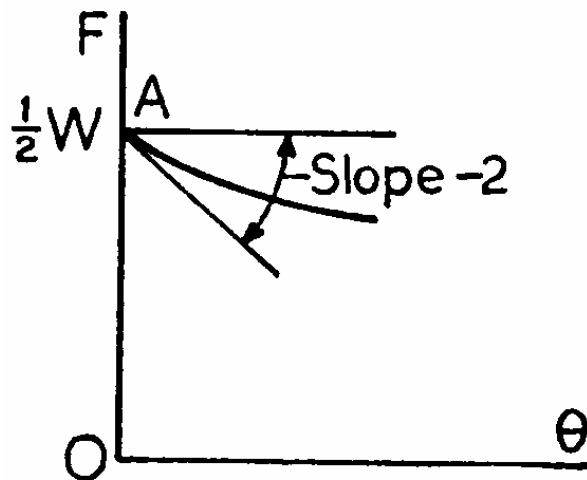
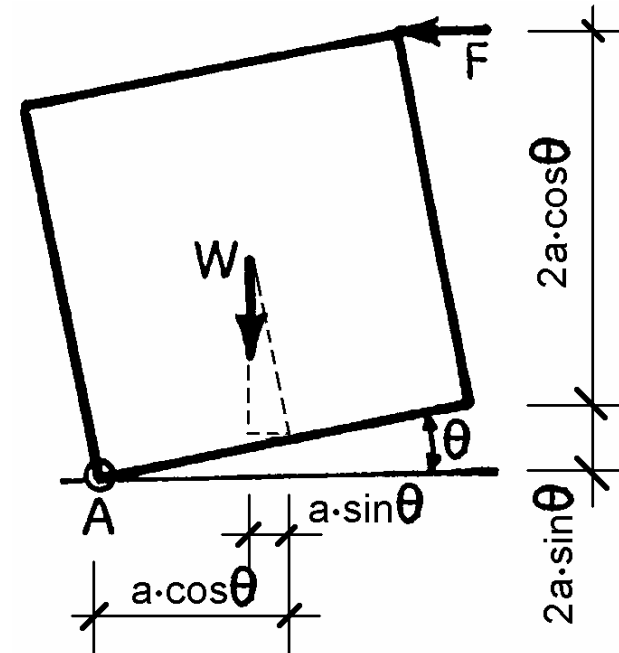
## 1.2 Large Displacements of the Block

Taking moments about the hinge A:

$$\Sigma M_A = 0$$

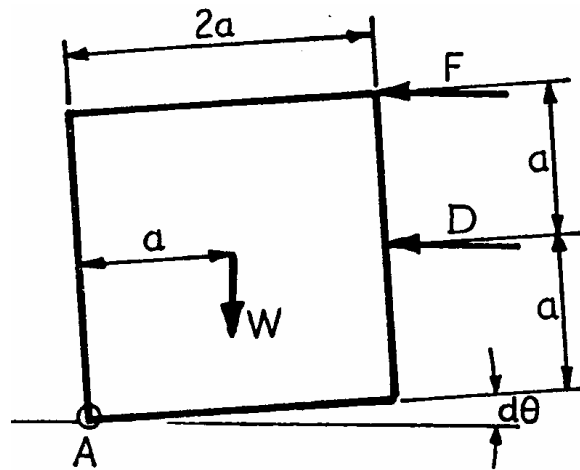
$$F(2a\cos\theta + 2a\sin\theta) - W(a\cos\theta - a\sin\theta) = 0$$

$$F = \frac{1}{2} W \frac{\cos\theta - \sin\theta}{\cos\theta + \sin\theta}$$

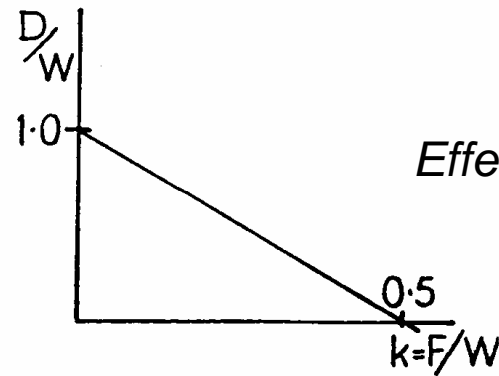


### 1.3 The Effect of a Disturbance of the System

Suppose the block is acted on by the force  $F$ , and put  $F=kW$ .



(a)



(b)

Taking moments about A:

$$\Sigma M_A = 0$$

$$Da + 2Fa - Wa = 0$$

$$D = W - 2F = W(1 - 2k)$$

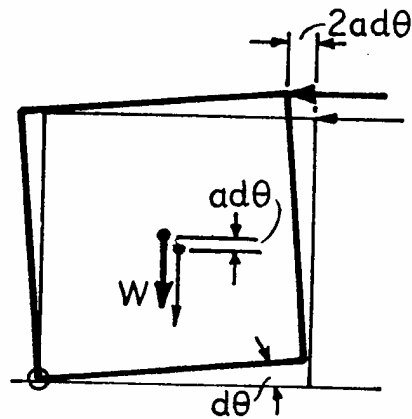
$$\frac{D}{W} \rightarrow 0 ; k = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{F}{W} ; F_{cr} = \frac{1}{2}W$$

The system has zero resistance to disturbance at  $F_{cr}$ .

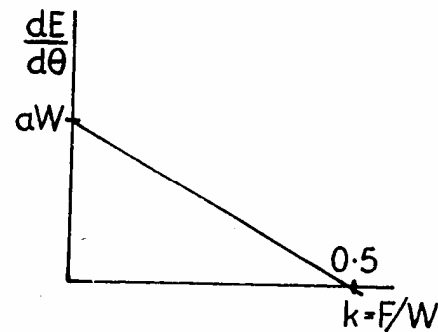


## 1.4 Energy Method

Suppose we now apply an unspecified disturbance to the block, sufficient to rotate it to an angle of inclination  $d\theta$  from the table, and we examine the energy changes involved.



(a)



(b)

*Application of  
Energy Method*

The energy increase involved:

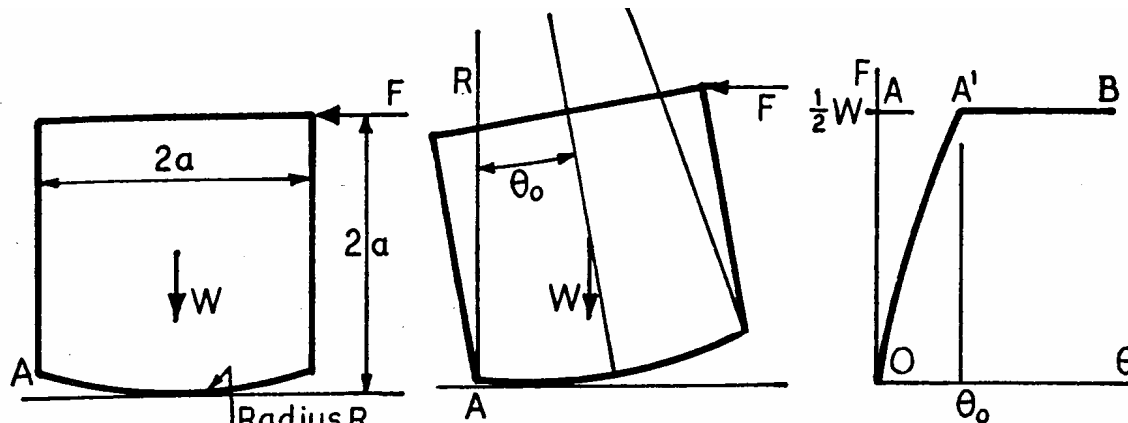
$$dE = -F \cdot 2a \cdot d\theta + W \cdot a \cdot d\theta$$

This quantity of energy must be supplied to cause the movement  $d\theta$ :

$$\frac{dE}{d\theta} = -F \cdot 2a + W \cdot a = Wa(1 - 2k) \qquad \frac{dE}{d\theta} \rightarrow 0 \qquad k = \frac{1}{2}$$

## 1.5 The Stability of a Slightly Imperfect Block

Suppose now that the block has been accidentally manufactured with a small imperfection:

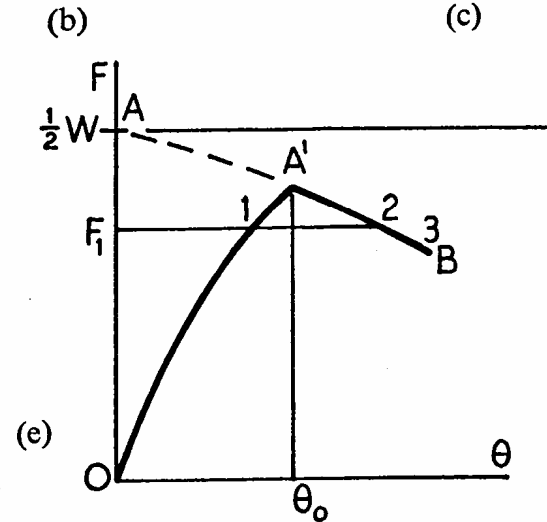
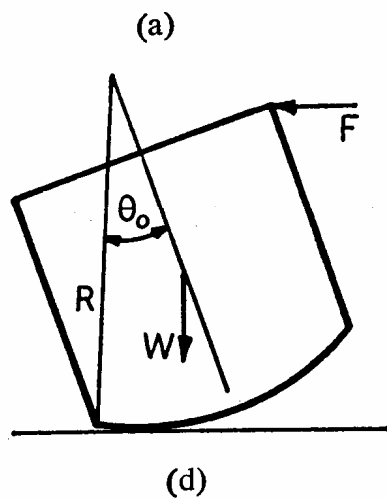


$$\theta_0 \rightarrow \text{small}$$

$$2aF - aW = 0$$

$$F = \frac{1}{2}W$$

$$\theta_0 \rightarrow \text{large}$$

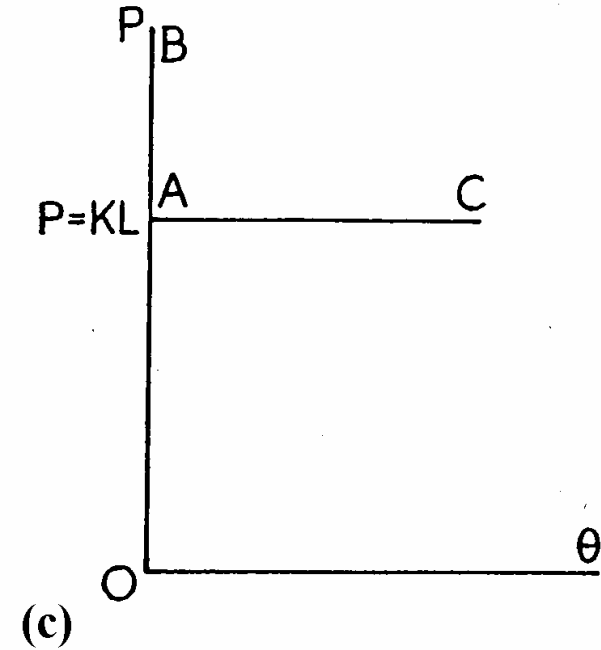
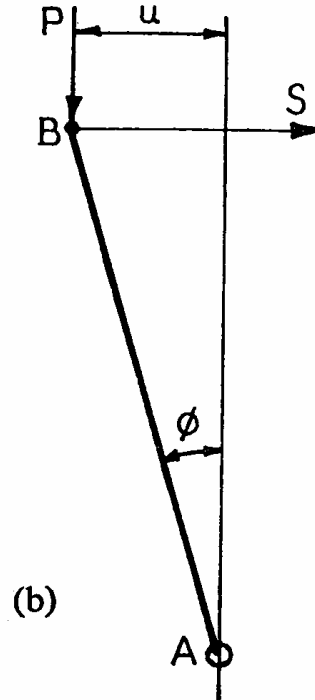
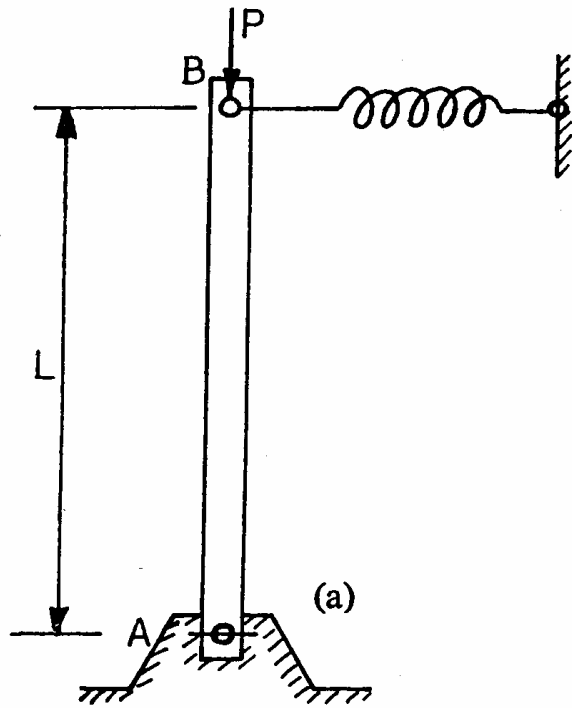


$$W(R - a)\sin\theta_0 = 2Fa(\sin\theta_0 + \cos\theta_0)$$

Therefore, at tilting, where  $\theta = \theta_0$  and  $P$  reaches its maximum value:

$$F_{\max} = \frac{W(R - a)\sin\theta_0}{2a(\sin\theta_0 + \cos\theta_0)}$$

## 1.6 The Stability of a Compressed Rigid Bar, Elastically restrained Against Rotation



$$\Sigma M_A = 0$$

$$Pu - KuL = 0$$

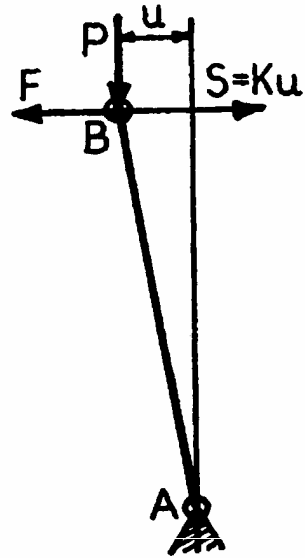
$$P_{cr} = K \cdot L$$

Spring:  $S = K \cdot u$

$K$ : linear spring of stiffness

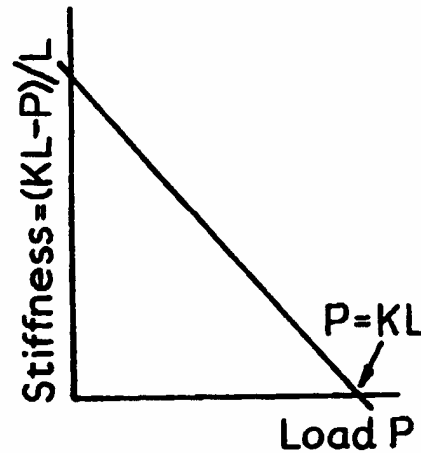


## 1.7 Methodology



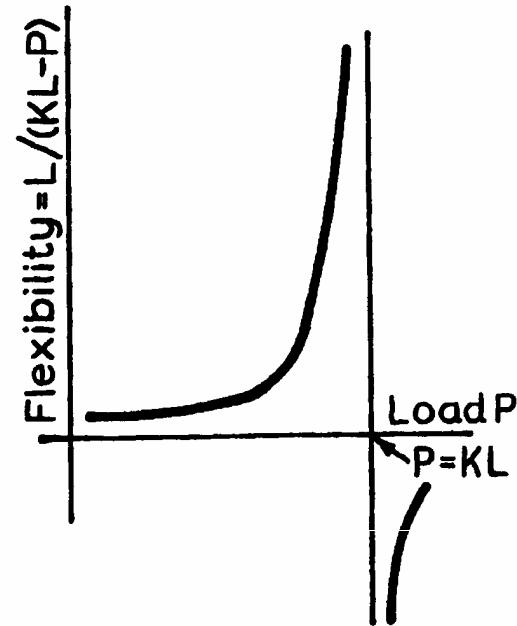
(a)

Disturbing force  $F$   
applied to bar



(b)

Graph of Stiffness  
against load



(c)

Graph of Flexibility  
against Load

(a) Consider the stiffness of the rod and spring system against a disturbance force  $F$  applied at  $B$  in the direction normal to  $P$ .

*Equilibrium:*

$$Pu - KuL + FL = 0$$

(b) The stiffness of the system against the force  $F$  required to impose a given displacement at  $B$  equal to  $u$  is:

$$\frac{F}{u} = \frac{KL - P}{L} = K \left( 1 - \frac{P}{KL} \right) = K \left( 1 - \frac{P}{P_{cr}} \right)$$

As  $P$  approaches the critical value  $KL$ , the stiffness  $F/u$  tends to zero.

(c) Alternatively, we may investigate the response of the system to a given applied disturbance force  $F$ , in which case the flexibility of the system, as measured by the ratio of the resulting deflection to applied force is:

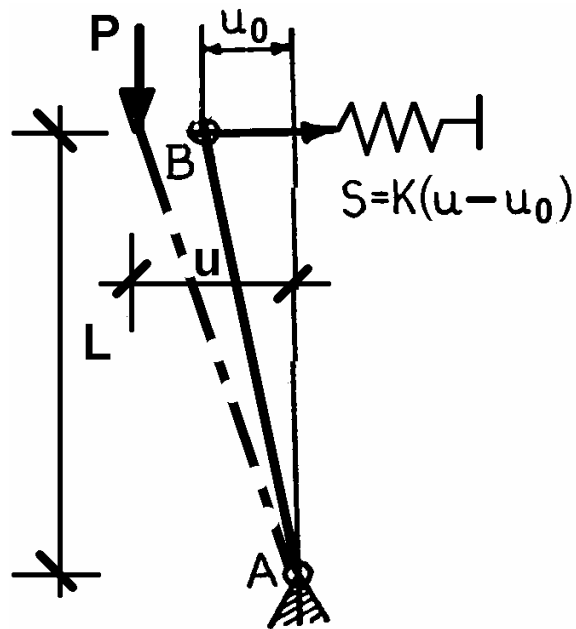
$$\frac{u}{F} = \frac{L}{KL - P} = \frac{1}{K} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{P}{KL}} \right) = \frac{1}{K} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{P}{P_{cr}}} \right)$$

As  $P$  approaches the critical value  $KL$ , the flexibility  $u/F$  tends to infinity.

## 1.8 Southwell-plot

Consider the effect of the rod being initially out of line with the direction of  $P$  (imperfection).

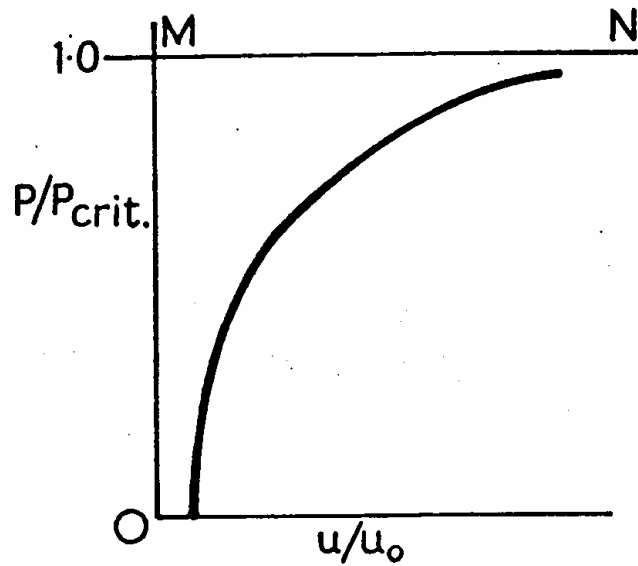
That is, when  $P$  is zero,  $u$  has the value  $u_0$ .



*Equilibrium:*

$$Pu - K(u - u_0)L = 0$$

$$u = \frac{Ku_0L}{KL - P} = \frac{u_0}{1 - \frac{P}{KL}} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{P}{P_{cr}}} u_0$$

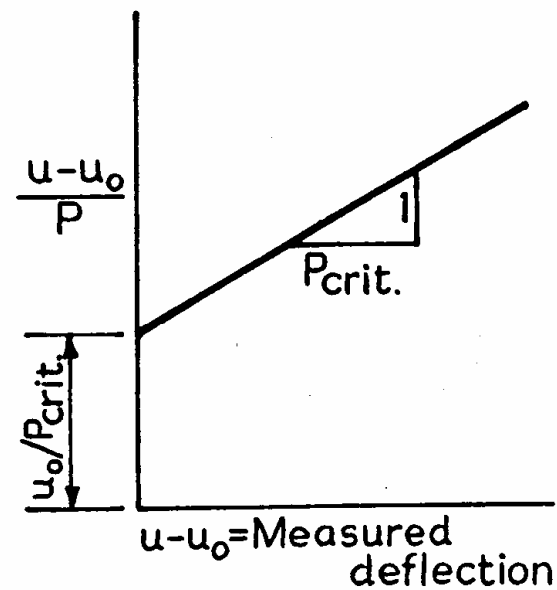


(a)

$$u \left( 1 - \frac{P}{P_{cr}} \right) = u_0$$

$$u(P_{cr} - P) = u_0 P_{cr}$$

$$(u - u_0)P_{cr} = uP$$



(b)

$$\frac{u - u_0}{P} = \frac{u}{P_{cr}} - \frac{u_0}{P_{cr}} + \frac{u_0}{P_{cr}}$$

$$\frac{u - u_0}{P} = \frac{u - u_0}{P_{cr}} + \frac{u_0}{P_{cr}}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\delta}{P} = \frac{\delta}{P_{cr}} + \frac{u_0}{P_{cr}}}$$