# Equation for Deflection in a Hollow Bar with Continuously Varying Rectangular Cross Section: Validation Using Ansys 13.0

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*Abstract* — In this paper an equation for deflection in a hollow bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section has been developed. The developed equation is a new equation and can be reduced to the equation of deflection for solid tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section. The developed equation has been validated using the ANSYS solution. The validation is done by assuming the values for the variables and obtaining deflection value for the bar using both developed equation and ANSYS. The obtained values are compared and the developed equation is validated. The equation is found to be correct and can be used directly to obtain the deflection in the hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross sections.

Index Terms — Bar, Beam, Deflection, Finite Element Model (FEM) and ANSYS.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The deflection distance of a member under a load is directly related to the slope of the deflected shape of the member under that load, and can be calculated by integrating the function that mathematically describes the slope of the member under that load. Deflection can be calculated by standard formula by methods such as virtual work, direct integration, Castigliano's method, Macaulay's method or the direct stiffness method, etc [1-6]. The deflection of beam elements is usually calculated on the basis of the Euler–Bernoulli beam equation while that of a plate or shell element is calculated using plate or shell theory which holds good for all types of cross sections [6-12]. But there is no specific theory for the deflection of bars, based on which the deflection of the tapering bar with continuously varying rectangular cross sections [13-15]. In this paper an equation for the deflection of the tapering bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section has been developed. The developed equation has been validated by comparing the deflection value obtained by the developed equation with the ANSYS solution for different assumed values of variables. The paper is organised as follows. In section 1 introduction is given, section 2 gives the developed equation, section 3 gives the calculation of the deflection values, section 4 gives the ANSYS solution and section 5 gives conclusions followed by references.

## **II. EQUATION FOR DEFLECTION**

Consider a hollow bar of continuously varying rectangular cross section as shown in Figure 1. Let L be the length of the tapered bar,  $t_i$  be the inner thickness of the bar,  $t_o$  be the outer thickness of the bar and  $P_x$  be axial force acting on the bar. The hollow bar tapers from the outer breadth  $b_{1_0}$  at length = 0 to  $b_{2_0}$  at length = L. Similarly, the hollow bar tapers from the inner breadth  $b_{1_i}$  at length = L.

Rate of change of inner breadth,

$$(b_i)_R = \frac{b_{1_i} - b_{2_i}}{L}$$
  
 $(b_o)_R = \frac{b_{1_o} - b_{2_o}}{L}$ 

Rate of change of outer breadth,

Consider an elemental length dx at a distance x from larger end as shown in Figure 1.

Hence, Inner breadth at section at x is

$$(b_i)_x = b_{1_i} - \left(\frac{b_{1_i} - b_{2_i}}{L}\right)x$$

Outer breadth at section at x is

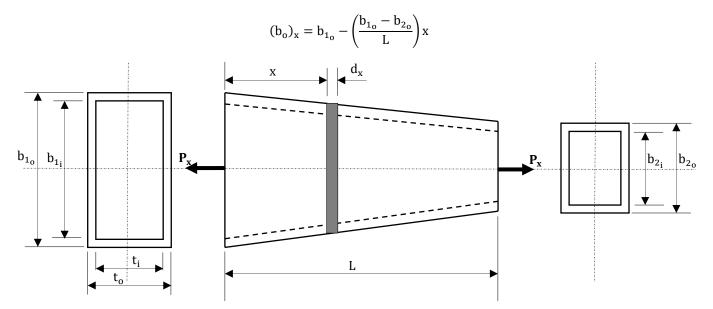


Figure 1: Hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section

# Therefore,

Outer rectangular cross sectional area of the section at x is

$$(A_{o})_{x} = t_{o}(b_{o})_{x} = t_{o}\left[b_{1_{o}} - \left(\frac{b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}}{L}\right)x\right]$$

Inner rectangular cross sectional area of the section at x is

$$(A_i)_x = t_i(b_i)_x = t_i \left[ b_{1_i} - \left( \frac{b_{1_i} - b_{2_i}}{L} \right) x \right]$$

Area of the hollow rectangular section at x is

$$A_{x} = \left\{ t_{o} \left[ b_{1o} - \left( \frac{b_{1o} - b_{2o}}{L} \right) x \right] \right\} - \left\{ t_{i} \left[ b_{1i} - \left( \frac{b_{1i} - b_{2i}}{L} \right) x \right] \right\}$$

Extension of the hollow rectangular section at x is given by,

$$\begin{split} \delta &= \frac{\delta}{\left\{ t_{o} \left[ b_{1_{o}} - \left( \frac{b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}}{L} \right) x \right] \right\} - \left\{ t_{i} \left[ b_{1_{i}} - \left( \frac{b_{1_{i}} - b_{2_{i}}}{L} \right) x \right] \right\} \right\} E} \\ \delta &= \frac{P_{x} dx}{\left\{ \left[ t_{o} b_{1_{o}} - t_{o} \left( \frac{b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}}{L} \right) x \right] - \left[ t_{i} b_{1_{i}} - t_{i} \left( \frac{b_{1_{i}} - b_{2_{i}}}{L} \right) x \right] \right\} E} \\ \delta &= \frac{P_{x} dx}{\left[ t_{o} b_{1_{o}} - t_{o} \left( \frac{b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}}{L} \right) x \right] - \left[ t_{i} b_{1_{i}} - t_{i} \left( \frac{b_{1_{i}} - b_{2_{i}}}{L} \right) x \right] \right\} E} \\ \delta &= \frac{P_{x} dx}{\left[ t_{o} b_{1_{o}} - t_{o} \left( \frac{b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}}{L} \right) x - t_{i} b_{1_{i}} + t_{i} \left( \frac{b_{1_{i}} - b_{2_{i}}}{L} \right) x \right] E} \\ \delta &= \frac{P_{x} dx}{\left\{ \left( t_{o} b_{1_{o}} - t_{i} b_{1_{i}} \right) + \left[ t_{i} \left( \frac{b_{1_{i}} - b_{2_{i}}}{L} \right) - t_{o} \left( \frac{b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}}{L} \right) \right] x \right\} E} \end{split}$$

Hence,

Total extension of the tapered hollow rectangular bar is,

$$\Delta = \frac{P_{x}}{E} \int_{0}^{L} \frac{dx}{\left\{ \left( t_{o}b_{1_{o}} - t_{i}b_{1_{i}} \right) + \left[ t_{i} \left( \frac{b_{1_{i}} - b_{2_{i}}}{L} \right) - t_{o} \left( \frac{b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}}{L} \right) \right] x \right\}}$$

$$\begin{split} \Delta &= \frac{P_x}{E} \Biggl[ \frac{\log \left\{ \left( t_o b_{1_o} - t_i b_{1_i} \right) + \left[ t_i \left( \frac{b_{1_i} - b_{2_i}}{L} \right) - t_o \left( \frac{b_{1_o} - b_{2_o}}{L} \right) \right] x \right] \Biggr]_0^2 \\ \Delta &= \frac{P_x}{E \left[ t_i \left( \frac{b_{1_i} - b_{2_i}}{L} \right) - t_o \left( \frac{b_{1_o} - b_{2_o}}{L} \right) \right]} \left\{ \log \{ \left( t_o b_{1_o} - t_i b_{1_i} \right) + \left[ t_i \left( b_{1_i} - b_{2_i} \right) - t_o \left( b_{1_o} - b_{2_o} \right) \right] \} - \log \left( t_o b_{1_o} - t_i b_{1_i} \right) \right\} \\ \Delta &= \frac{P_x L}{E \left[ t_i \left( \frac{b_{1_i} - b_{2_i}}{L} \right) - t_o \left( \frac{b_{1_o} - b_{2_o}}{L} \right) \right]} \left[ \log \left( t_o b_{2_o} - t_i b_{2_i} \right) - \log \left( t_o b_{1_o} - t_i b_{1_i} \right) \right] \\ \Delta &= \frac{P_x L}{E \left[ t_i \left( b_{1_i} - b_{2_i} \right) - t_o \left( b_{1_o} - b_{2_o} \right) \right]} \left[ \log \left( t_o b_{2_o} - t_i b_{2_i} \right) - \log \left( t_o b_{1_o} - t_i b_{1_i} \right) \right] \\ \Delta &= \frac{P_x L}{E \left[ t_i \left( b_{1_i} - b_{2_i} \right) - t_o \left( b_{1_o} - b_{2_o} \right) \right]} \log \left( \frac{t_o b_{2_o} - t_i b_{2_i}}{t_o b_{1_o} - t_i b_{1_i}} \right) \end{split}$$

Total Deflection, 
$$\Delta = \frac{P_{x}L}{E[t_{o}(b_{1_{o}} - b_{2_{o}}) - t_{i}(b_{1_{i}} - b_{2_{i}})]} \log\left(\frac{t_{o}b_{1_{o}} - t_{i}b_{1_{i}}}{t_{o}b_{2_{o}} - t_{i}b_{2_{i}}}\right)$$

The above equation is the equation for deflection in a hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section. This equation can be reduced to get the deflection for a solid bar of continuously varying rectangular cross section as given in [1] by substituting  $t_i = 0$ ,  $b_{1_i} = 0$  and  $b_{2_i} = 0$  in the above equation and the reduced equation is given by

Total Deflection, 
$$\Delta = \frac{P_x}{Et_o(b_{1_o} - b_{2_o})} \log\left(\frac{t_o b_{1_o}}{t_o b_{2_o}}\right)$$

## **III.CALCULATION OF DEFLECTION VALUES**

Consider the following dimensions for the tapered hollow rectangular bar for validation of the above equation as shown in Figure 2. Let us assume the following values for variables to validate the developed equation. Let the length of the tapered bar be 1000mm, 100mm be the inner thickness of the bar, 150mm be the outer thickness of the bar and 150kN be axial force acting on the bar. Let the hollow bar taper from the outer breadth 400mm at length = 0 to 250mm at length = L. Similarly, let the hollow bar taper from the inner breadth 350mm at length = 0 to 200mm at length = L.

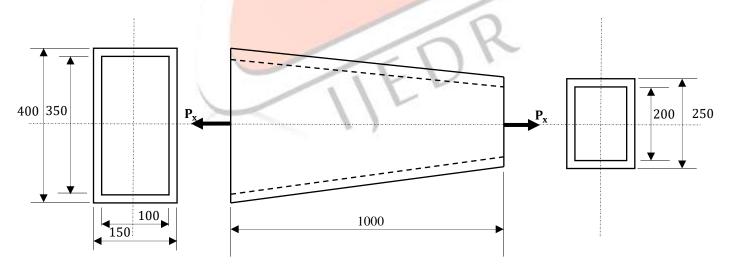


Figure 2: Assumed dimensions for hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section

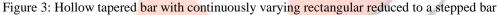
Here, on substituting the following values from Figure 2 in the developed equation for the hollow tapered bar of rectangular cross section, we get the deflection value of 0.03566mm as shown below.

$$b_{1_0} = 400 \text{ mm}, b_{1_i} = 350 \text{ mm}, b_{2_0} = 250 \text{ mm}, b_{2_i} = 200 \text{ mm}, t_0 = 150 \text{ mm}, t_i = 100 \text{ mm}, L = 1000 \text{ mm}, P_x = 150 \text{ km}$$

 $\text{Total Deflection}, \Delta = \frac{150000 \times 1000}{200000[150(400 - 250) - 100(350 - 200)]} \log \left(\frac{150 \times 400 - 100 \times 350}{150 \times 250 - 100 \times 200}\right) = 0.03566 \text{ mm}$ 

# **IV. CALCULATION OF DEFLECTION VALUES**

To obtain the deflection value for the tapered bar shown in Figure 2 using ANSYS it is assumed as a stepped rectangular bar of areas  $(A_1)_{avg.}$  and  $(A_2)_{avg.}$  as shown in Figure 3. The areas  $(A_1)_{avg.}$  and  $(A_2)_{avg.}$  are calculated as follows.



The theoretical deflection value for the bar shown in Figure 3 can be calculated as follows and this can be used to validate the ANSYS solution. And both of these solutions can be used to validate the new equation developed for the deflection of the tapered hollow bar of continuously varying rectangular cross section.

Total Deflection, 
$$\Delta = \frac{P_x L_1}{(A_1)_{avg,E}} + \frac{P_x L_2}{(A_2)_{avg,E}}$$
  
Total Deflection, 
$$\Delta = \left(\frac{150000 \times 500}{23125 \times 200000}\right) + \left(\frac{150000 \times 500}{19375 \times 200000}\right) = 0.03557 \text{ mm}$$

In the ANSYS finite element model is obtained by using three nodes, two nodes 1 and 3 at L = 0 and L = 1000mm respectively, another node 2 in the centre (L = 500mm) at the junction of change of area. Boundary conditions are applied to the finite element model by fixing the node 1 to all degrees of freedom as zero. And load of 150kN is applied at node 3. Figure 4 shows the applied boundary conditions to finite element model in ANSYS. Figure 5 gives the deflection values obtained using ANSYS.

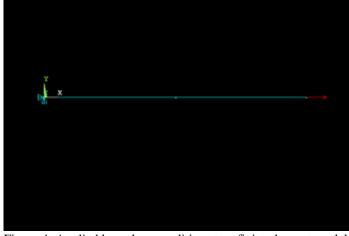


Figure 4: Applied boundary conditions to a finite element model

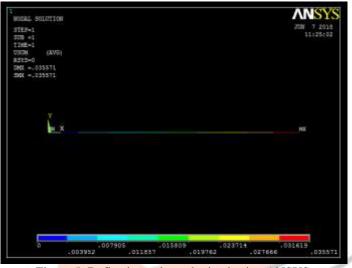


Figure 5: Deflection values obtained using ANSYS

### V. CONCLUSIONS

The equation for the deflection of a hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section is obtained and is given by  $\frac{P_xL}{E[t_o(b_{1_0}-b_{2_0})-t_i(b_{1_i}-b_{2_i})]} \log(\frac{t_ob_{1_0}-t_ib_{1_i}}{t_ob_{2_0}-t_ib_{2_i}})$ . This equation can be validated in a simple way by substituting  $t_i = 0$ ,  $b_{1_i} = 0$  and  $b_{2_i} = 0$  which gives deflection for a solid bar of continuously varying rectangular cross section as given in [1]. This simple way of validation shows that the developed is correct. The developed equation is used to get the deflection value for the assumed values of variables and the same assumed values are used to get the deflection value in ANSYS. The deflection value for the hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section obtained using newly developed equation is 0.03566mm and the deflection obtained from ANSYS is 0.03557mm. The percentage error in deflection values obtained from developed equation and ANSYS is 0.2495 %. Since ANSYS gives approximate solution, this error can be neglected. Hence, the developed

equation of deflection for hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section is correct and can be directly used for the practical application involving hollow tapered bar with continuously varying rectangular cross section.

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