


```
sol = sp.solve(S, [w, x, y, z], dict=True)
print(sol)
| [{w: 564/85, x: 773/85, y: 14/85, z: -411/85}]
```

**Problem 4.5**  You are designing the truss structure shown in figure 4.6, which is to support the hanging of an external load  $f_C = -f_C \hat{j}$ , where  $f_C > 0$ . Your organization plans to offer customers the following options:

- Any width (i.e.,  $2w$ )
- A selection of maximum load magnitudes  $L = f_C/\alpha \in \Gamma$ , where  $\Gamma = \{1 \text{ kN}, 2 \text{ kN}, 4 \text{ kN}, 8 \text{ kN}, 16 \text{ kN}\}$ , and where  $\alpha$  is the factor of safety

As the designer, you are to develop a design curve for the dimension  $h$  versus half-width  $w$  for each maximum load  $L \in \Gamma$ , under the following design constraints:

- Minimize the dimension  $h$
- The tension in all members is no more than a given  $T$
- The compression in all members is no more than a given  $C$
- The magnitude of the support force at pin A is no more than a given  $P_A$
- The magnitude of the support force at pin D is no more than a given  $P_D$

Use a static analysis and the method of joints to develop a solution for the force in each member  $F_{AB}$ ,  $F_{AC}$ , etc., and the reaction forces using the sign convention that tension is positive and compression is negative. Create a Python function that returns  $h$  as a function of  $w$  for a given set of design parameters  $\{T, C, P_A, P_D, \alpha, L\}$ . Use the function to create a design curve  $h$  versus  $2w$  for each  $L \in \Gamma$ , maximum tension  $T = 81 \text{ kN}$ , maximum compression  $C = 81 \text{ kN}$ , maximum support A load  $P_A = 50 \text{ kN}$ , maximum support D load  $P_D = 50 \text{ kN}$ , and a factor of safety of  $\alpha = 5$ .

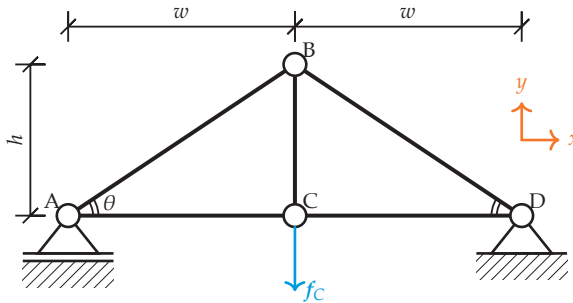


Figure 4.6. A truss with pinned joints, supported by a hinge and a floating support, with an applied load  $f_C$ .

**Solution 4.5** 

```
#### Import Packages {-}
```

```
import numpy as np
import sympy as sp
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

*Static Analysis* Using the method of joints, we proceed through the joints, summing forces in the  $x$ - and  $y$ -directions. We will assume all members are in tension, and their sign will be positive if this is the case and negative, otherwise. Beginning with joint A, which includes one reaction force  $R_A$  from the support,

$$\Sigma F_x = 0; \quad F_{AC} + F_{AB} \cos \theta = 0 \quad (4.1)$$

$$\Sigma F_y = 0; \quad R_A + F_{AB} \sin \theta = 0. \quad (4.2)$$

The angle  $\theta$  is known in terms of the dimensions  $w$  and  $h$  as

$$\theta = \arctan \frac{h}{w}.$$

These equations can be encode symbolically as follows:

```
RA, FAB, FAC, theta= sp.symbols(
    "RA, FAB, FAC, theta", real=True
)
h, w = sp.symbols("h, w", positive=True)
eqAx = FAC + FAB*sp.cos(theta)
eqAy = RA + FAB*sp.sin(theta)
theta_wh = sp.atan(h/w)
```

Proceeding to joint B,

$$\Sigma F_x = 0; \quad -F_{AB} \cos \theta + F_{BD} \cos \theta = 0 \quad (4.3)$$

$$\Sigma F_y = 0; \quad -F_{AB} \sin \theta - F_{BD} \sin \theta - F_{BC} = 0. \quad (4.4)$$

Encoding these equations,

```
FBD, FBC = sp.symbols("FBD, FBC", real=True)
eqBx = -FAB*sp.cos(theta) + FBD*sp.cos(theta)
eqBy = -FAB*sp.sin(theta) - FBD*sp.sin(theta) - FBC
```

For joint C, there is an externally applied force  $f_C$ , so the analysis proceeds as follows:

$$\Sigma F_x = 0; \quad -F_{AC} + F_{CD} = 0 \quad (4.5)$$

$$\Sigma F_y = 0; \quad F_{BC} - f_C = 0. \quad (4.6)$$

Encoding these equations,

```
FCD = sp.symbols("FCD", real=True)
fC = sp.symbols("fC", positive=True)
eqCx = -FAC + FCD
eqCy = FBC - fC
```

For joint D, the pinned reaction forces  $R_{Dx}$  and  $R_{Dy}$  are present, so the analysis proceeds as follows:

$$\Sigma F_x = 0; \quad -F_{CD} - F_{BD} \cos \theta + R_{Dx} = 0 \quad (4.7)$$

$$\Sigma F_y = 0; \quad F_{BD} \sin \theta + R_{Dy} = 0. \quad (4.8)$$

Encoding these equations,

```
RDx, RDy = sp.symbols("RDx, RDy", real=True)
eqDx = -FCD - FBD*sp.cos(theta) + RDx
eqDy = FBD*sp.sin(theta) + RDy
```

In total, we have 8 force equations and 8 unknown forces (5 member forces and 3 reaction forces). Let's construct the system and solve it for the unknown forces, as follows:

```
S_forces = [
    eqAx, eqAy, eqBx, eqBy, eqCx, eqCy, eqDx, eqDy
] # 8 force equations
member_forces = [FAB, FAC, FBC, FBD, FCD] # 5 member forces
reaction_forces = [RA, RDx, RDy] # 3 reaction forces
forces_unknown = member_forces + reaction_forces # 8 unknown forces
sol_forces = sp.solve(S_forces, forces_unknown, dict=True); sol_forces
```

```
{FAB: -fC/(2*sin(theta)),
 FAC: fC*cos(theta)/(2*sin(theta)),
 FBC: fC,
 FBD: -fC/(2*sin(theta)),
 FCD: fC*cos(theta)/(2*sin(theta)),
 RA: fC/2,
 RDx: 0,
 RDy: fC/2}
```

This solution is in terms of  $f_C$  and  $\theta$ . Because  $w$  and  $h$  are our design parameters, let's substitute `eqtheta` such that our solution is rewritten in terms of  $f_F$ ,  $w$ , and  $h$ . Create a list of solutions as follows:

```

forces_wh = {} # Initialize
for force in forces_unknown:
    force_wh = force.subs(
        sol_forces[0]
    ).subs(
        theta, theta_wh
    ).simplify()
    forces_wh[force] = force_wh
    print(f"{force} = {force_wh}")

FAB = -fC*sqrt(h**2 + w**2)/(2*h)
FAC = fC*w/(2*h)
FBC = fC
FBD = -fC*sqrt(h**2 + w**2)/(2*h)
FCD = fC*w/(2*h)
RA = fC/2
RDx = 0
RDy = fC/2

```

Define the constraints as follows:

```

C, T, PA, PD = sp.symbols("C, T, PA, PD", positive=True)
member_constraints = {"Tension": T, "Compression": C}
reaction_constraints = {
    PA: (RA, 0),
    PD: (RDx, RDy)
} # Max magnitude: (x force, y force)

```

Define a function that encodes the constraints as a list of expressions that must be nonnegative.

```

def get_force_constraints(
    forces: dict,
    member_forces: list,
    member_constraints: dict,
    reaction_constraints: dict,
):
    """Returns a list of expressions that must be nonnegative

    Args:
    - forces: Force solutions {force symbol: solution}
    - member_forces: List of member symbols [FAB, FAC ...]
    - member_constraints:
      {"Tension": max tension, "Compression": max compression}
    - reaction_constraints:
      {max force symbol: (max x force, max y force)}
    """
    force_constraints = []
    # Append member constraints
    for f_name, f_value in forces.items():
        if f_name in member_forces:
            if f_value > 0: # Tension
                force_constraints.append(
                    member_constraints["Tension"] - f_value
                )
            elif f_value < 0: # Compression
                force_constraints.append(
                    member_constraints["Compression"] + f_value
                )
        # Append reaction constraints
    for constraint, pair in reaction_constraints.items():
        force_constraints.append(
            constraint - sp.sqrt(pair[0]**2 + pair[1]**2).subs(forces_wh)
        )
    return force_constraints

```

Now apply the function:

```

constraints = get_force_constraints(
    forces_wh, member_forces, member_constraints, reaction_constraints
)
print(constraints)

```

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l}
 C - fC\sqrt{h^{**2} + w^{**2}}/(2*h), T - fC*w/(2*h), T - fC, C - \\
 \hookrightarrow fC\sqrt{h^{**2} + w^{**2}}/(2*h), T - fC*w/(2*h), PA - fC/2, PD - fC/2
 \end{array} \right]$$

At this point, we can solve for  $h$  in each expression that includes  $h$ . Because these constraints are to be nonnegative, solving with equality gives the minimum  $h_{\min}$ .

Expressions that don't include  $h$  must still be checked. We can use this opportunity to sort the constraint expressions into those that involve  $h$  and those that do not.

```
h_mins = []
constraints_to_check = []
for constraint in constraints:
    if h in constraint.free_symbols:
        # Solve for h
        h_min_sol = sp.solve(constraint, h)
        for h_min in h_min_sol:
            h_mins.append(h_min)
    else:
        constraints_to_check.append(constraint)
```

Inspect the `h_mins` and `constraints_to_check`:

```
print(f"Min h solutions: {h_mins}")
print(f"Constraints to be checked: {constraints_to_check}")

Min h solutions: [fC*w*sqrt(1/(2*C - fC))/sqrt(2*C + fC), fC*w/(2*T),
↳ fC*w*sqrt(1/(2*C - fC))/sqrt(2*C + fC), fC*w/(2*T)]
Constraints to be checked: [T - fC, PA - fC/2, PD - fC/2]
```

Finally, define a function to design the truss:

```
def truss_designer(
    h_mins: list,
    constraints_to_check: list,
    design_params: dict,
):
    """Returns an expression for h(w) using the design parameters provided
    """
    L = sp.symbols("L", positive=True)
    alpha = sp.symbols("alpha", positive=True)
    for constraint in constraints_to_check:
        constraint_ = constraint.subs(fC, L*alpha).subs(design_params)
        if constraint_ < 0:
            raise Exception(
                f"Design failed for constraint: {constraint} < 0"
            )
    h_mins_ = []
    for h_min in h_mins:
        h_mins_.append(h_min.subs(fC, L*alpha).subs(design_params))
    return max(h_mins_) # Maximum h_min
```

Define the given design parameters in a dictionary:

```
alpha = sp.symbols("alpha", positive=True)
design_parameters = {
    T: 81e3, C: 81e3, PA: 50e3, PD: 50e3, alpha: 5,
} # Forces in N
Gamma = [1e3, 2e3, 4e3, 8e3, 16e3]
```

Loop through the L loads, running `truss_designer()`:

```
h_mins_w = []
L = sp.symbols("L", positive=True)
for L_ in Gamma:
    design_parameters[L] = L_
    h_min = truss_designer(
        h_mins, constraints_to_check, design_parameters
    )
    h_mins_w.append(h_min)
    print(h_min)

0.0308789086390917*w
0.0618463369994117*w
0.124408521678431*w
0.254802914503365*w
0.56790458868584*w
```

Convert these symbolic expressions into numerically evaluable function, as follows:

```
h_min_funs = []
for h_min in h_mins_w:
    h_min_funs.append(
        sp.lambdify([w], h_min, modules=np)
    )
```

Plot the design curves as follows:

```
w_ = np.linspace(1, 20, 101)
fig, ax, = plt.subplots()
for ih, h_min_fun in enumerate(h_min_funs):
    ax.semilogy(2*w_, h_min_fun(w_), label=f"L = {Gamma[ih]}")
ax.set_xlabel(f"width $2w$ (m)")
ax.set_ylabel(f"height $h$ (m)")
ax.grid()
ax.legend()
plt.show()
```

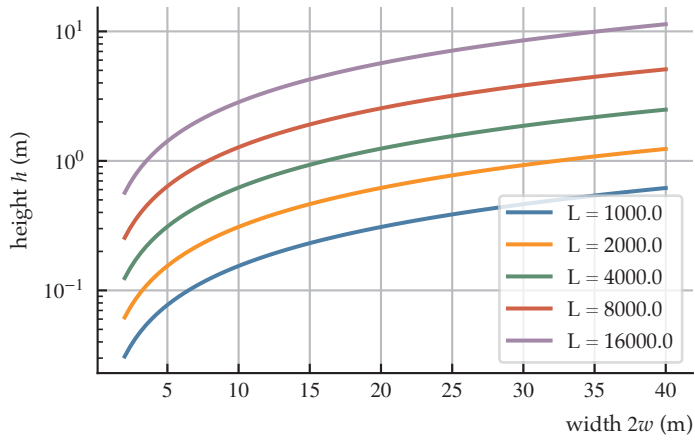


Figure S4.2. Truss design curve.