

# Compression Members

M. Barakat, Lecture Notes - Draft1

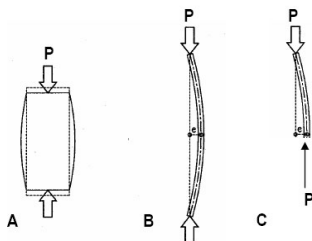
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## Buckling

Buckling is a tendency of slender compression members to bow out, which causes bending. When the combined bending and compressive stress exceeds the buckling capacity failure occurs. Buckling effects all compression members, such as columns, truss bars, bracing, etc

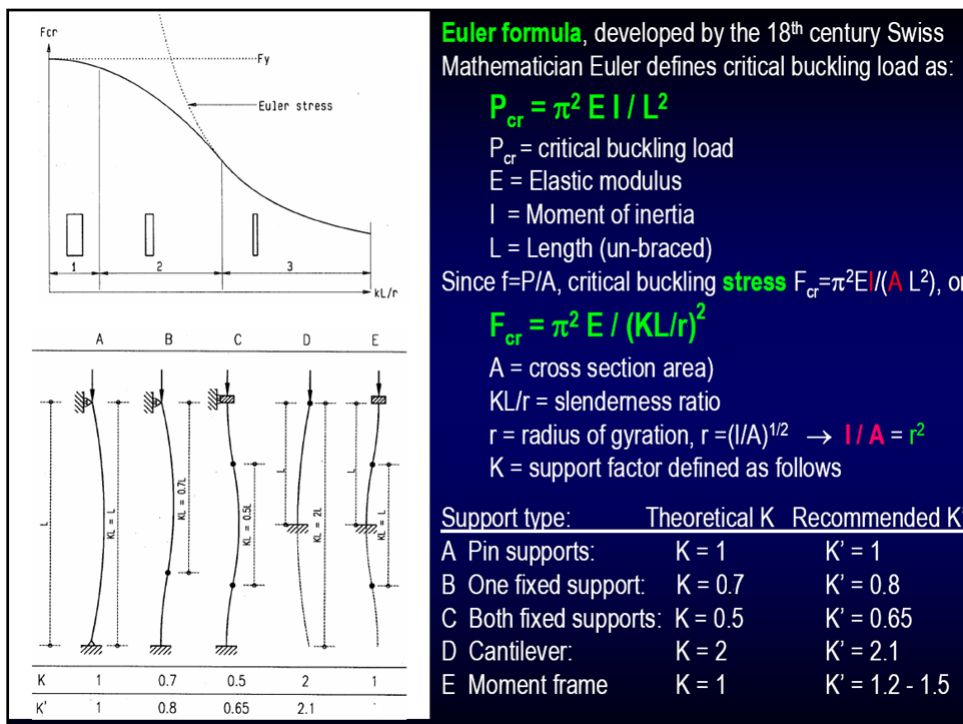
- A Short columns fail in compression.
- B Slender columns fail in buckling
- C Free-body diagram of half column shows bending moment  $M = P e$  (force times lever arm)



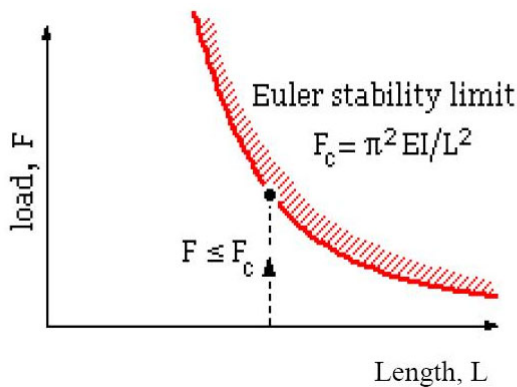
Buckling bends a column progressively. Increasing offset  $e$  increases bending, which in turn increases  $e$  further .....  
**which finally causes buckling failure ☹**

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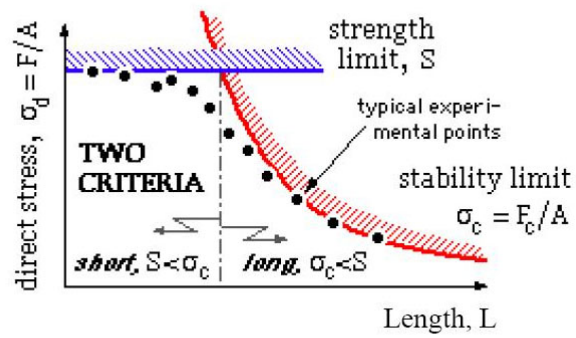
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### Buckling vs. length of column

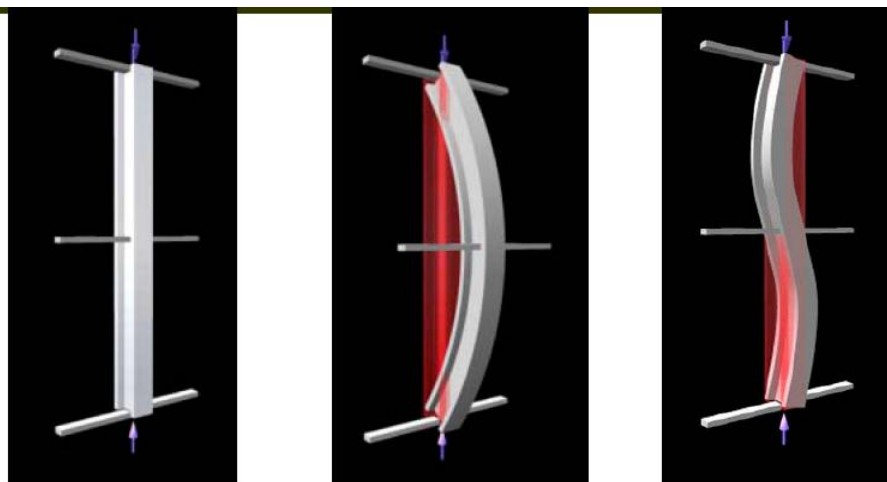


## Failure of Compression Members



Failure by buckling or crushing  
Reality may be in between the two modes

## Buckling Modes of I-Section



Unbuckled

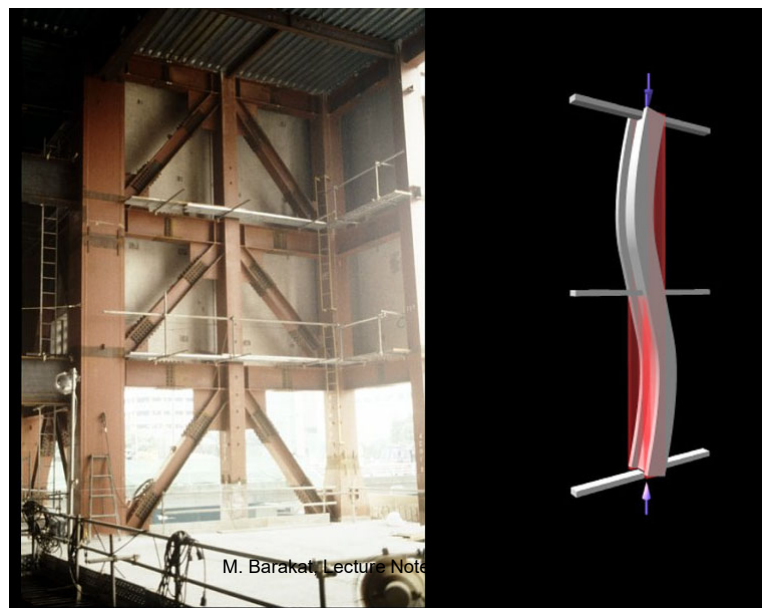
Strong axis

Weak axis

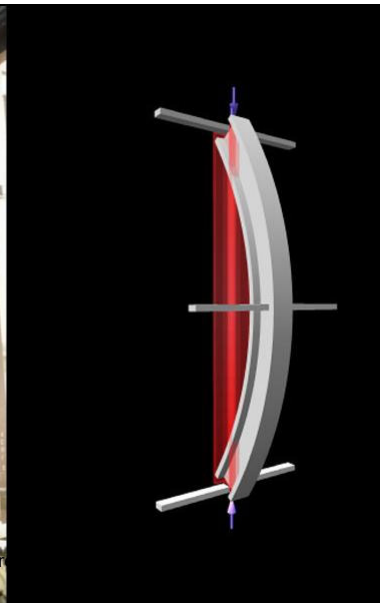
### Column braced in the weak axis



### Buckling about the weak axis

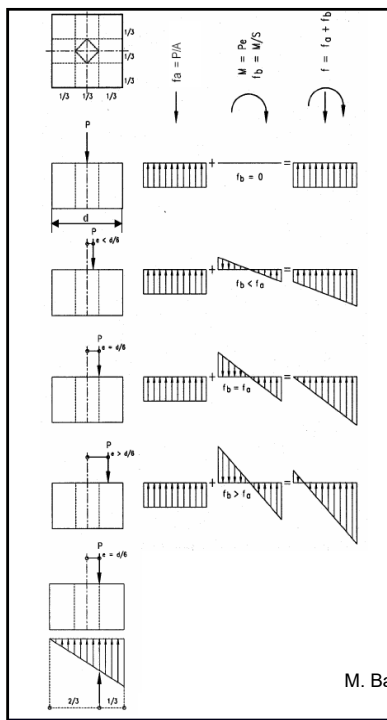


## Buckling about the strong axis



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**Kern**, German for core denotes inner 1/3 of cross section (rhomboid for rectangular, circular for round posts).

Load within the kern causes compressive stress only  
Load outside the Kern adds bending stress  $f_b = M/S$  ( $M = Pe$ )

Concentric load causes axial stress only  $f_a = P/A$

load inside Kern causes  $f_b < f_a$

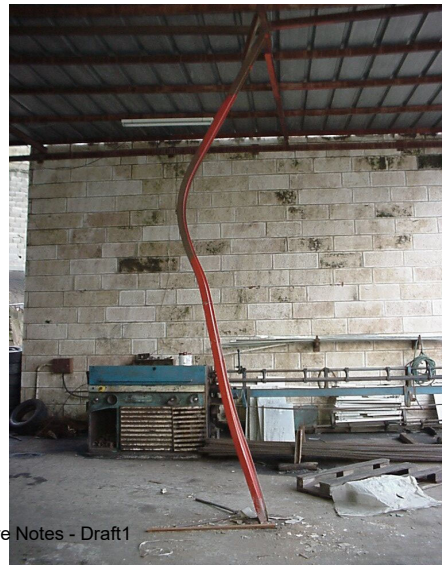
3 Load at Kern edge causes  $f_b = f_a$

4 Load outside the Kern causes  $f_b > f_a$   
(yields tensile bending stress)

Proof:  
Triangular stress block has centroid @  $d/3$

M. Ba

### Actual buckling of I-section



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### Actual vs. design length of column



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### Long (slender) columns

