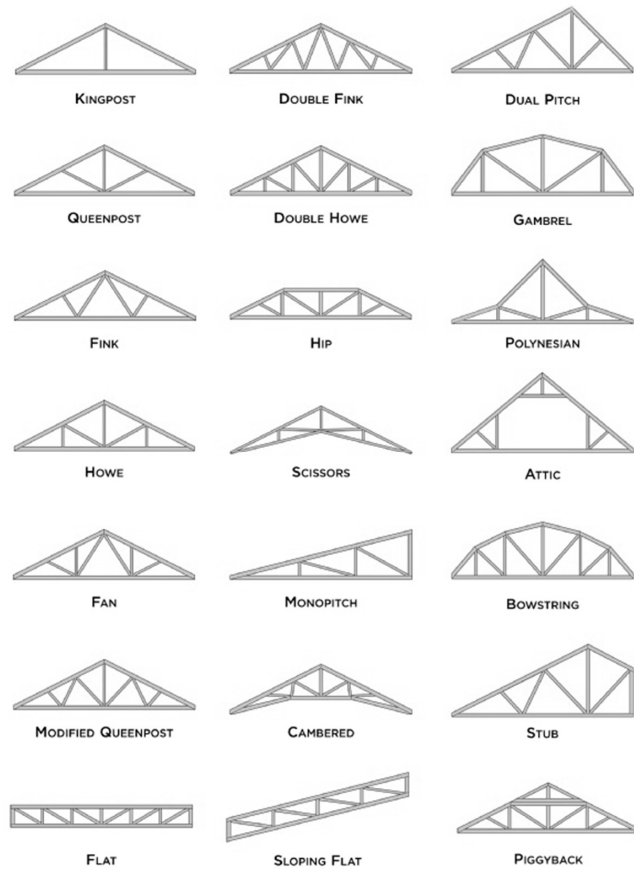


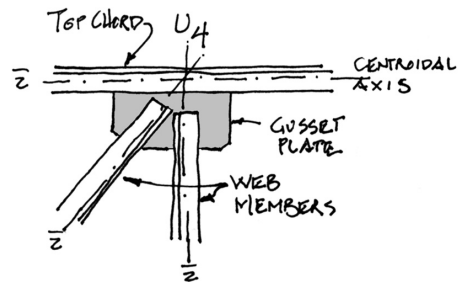
# Trusses by Sections

Analysis by sections  
Examples



## Definitions and Assumptions of Truss Systems

- 2 Force Members
- Pinned Joints
- Concurrent Member Centroids at Joints
- Joint Loaded
- Straight Members
- Small Deflections



Bullring Covering, Xàtiva, Spain  
Kawaguchi and Engineers, 2007

# Qualitative T or C

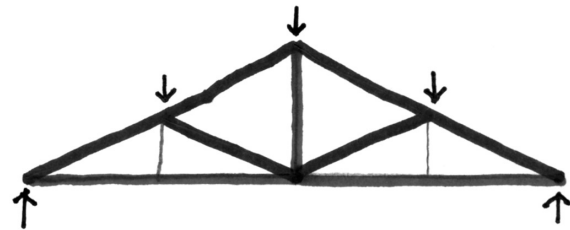
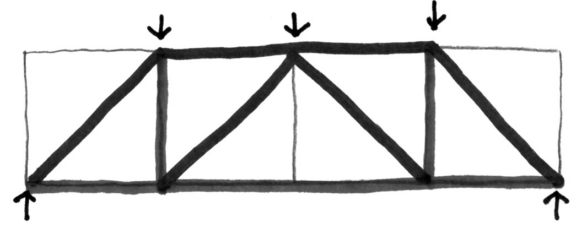
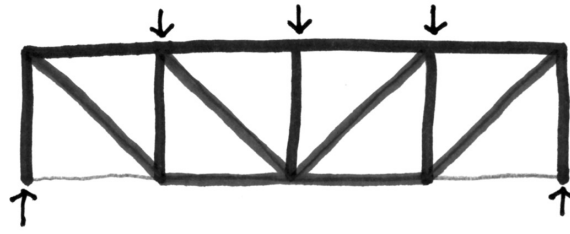
For typical gravity loading:  
(tension=red compression=blue)

Top chords are in compression

Bottom chords are in tension

Diagonals down toward center are in tension (usually)

Diagonals up toward center are in compression (usually)

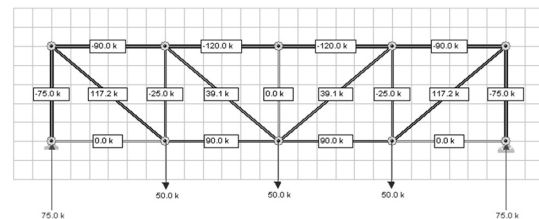
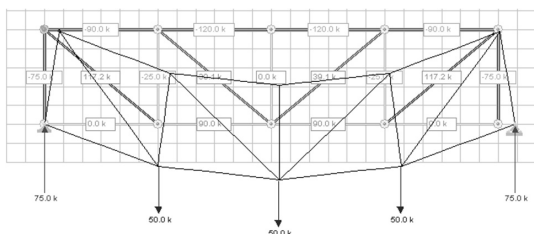
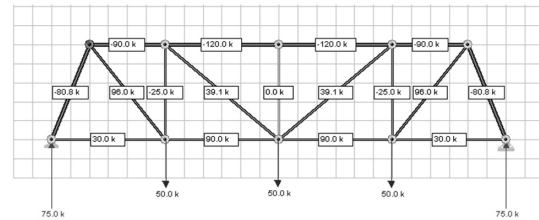
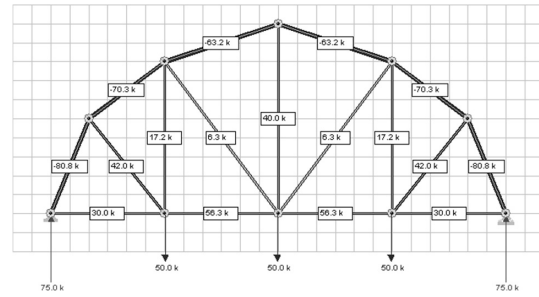


# Qualitative Force

For spanning trusses with uniform loading:  
(tension=blue compression=red)

Top and bottom chords greatest at center when flat (at maximum curvature or moment)

Diagonals greatest at ends (near reactions, i.e. greatest shear)



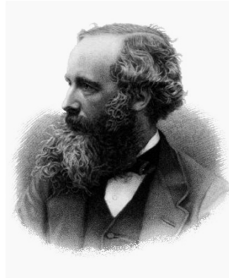
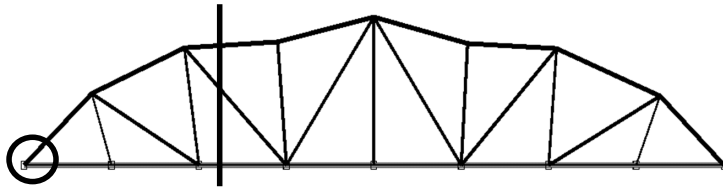
# Truss Analysis

Method of Joints

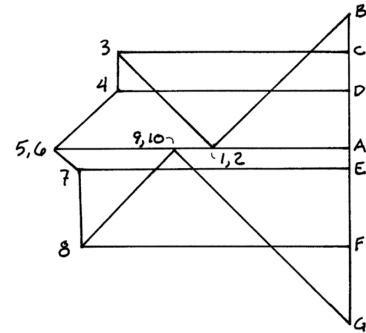
Method of Sections

Graphic Methods

- James Clerk Maxwell 1869
- M. Williot 1877
- Otto Mohr 1887
- Heinrich Müller-Breslau 1904
- William Baker, SOM

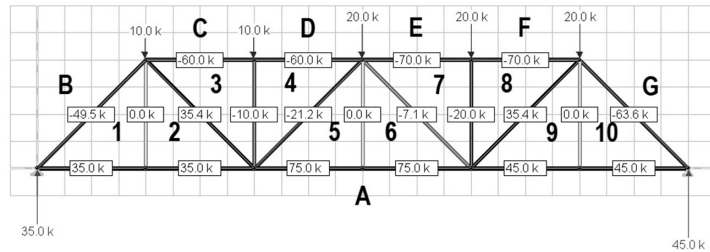


James Clerk Maxwell

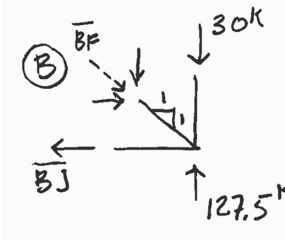
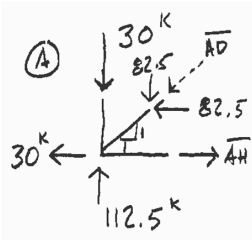
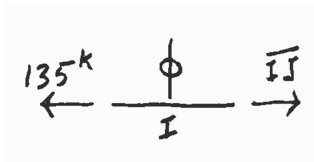
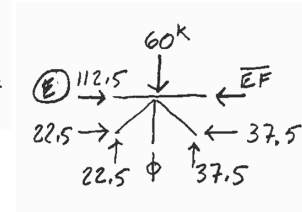
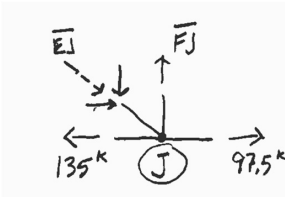
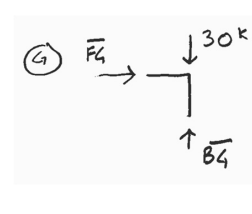
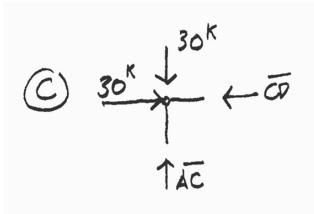
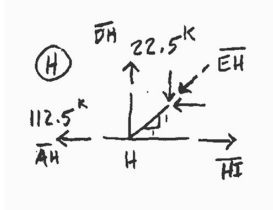
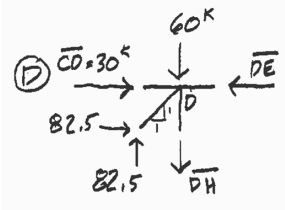
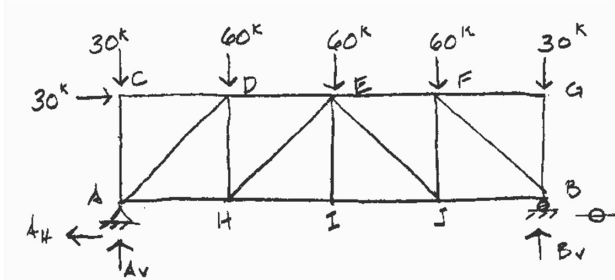


Computer Programs

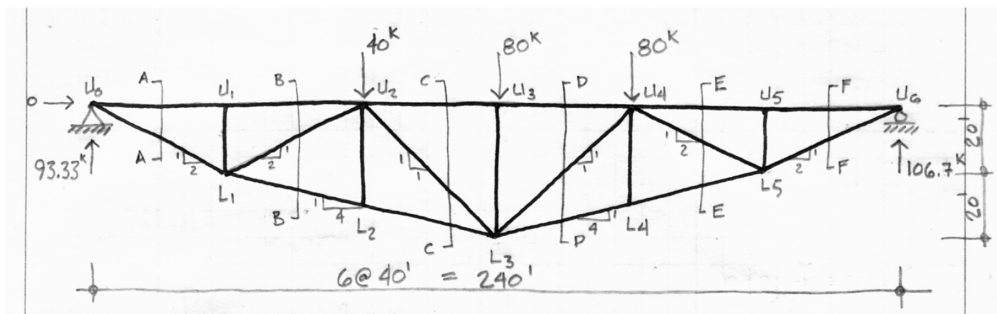
- Dr. Frame (2D)
- STAAD Pro (2D or 3D)
- West Point Bridge Designer



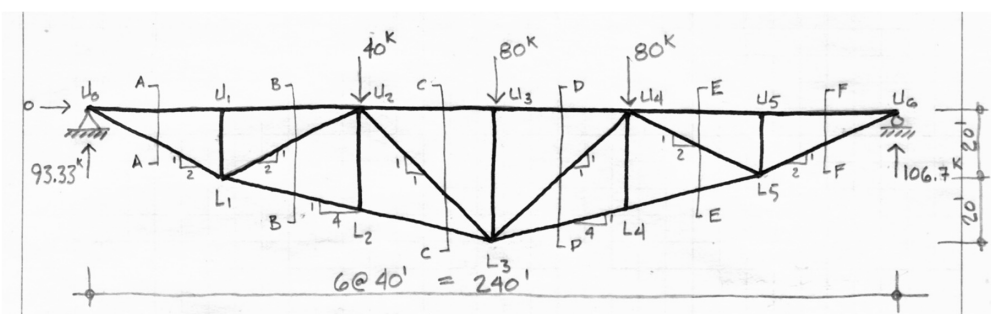
## Method of Joints – procedure



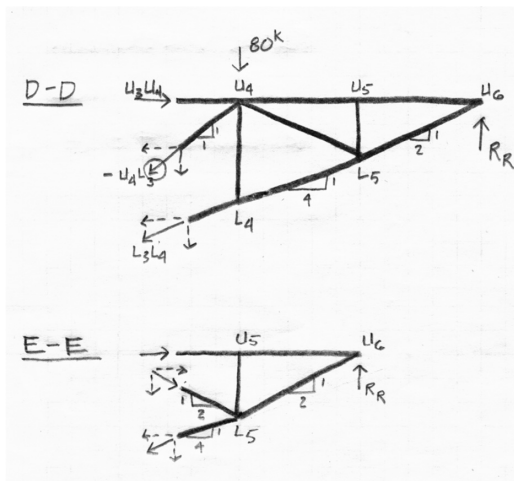
# Method of Sections - procedure



# Method of Sections - procedure



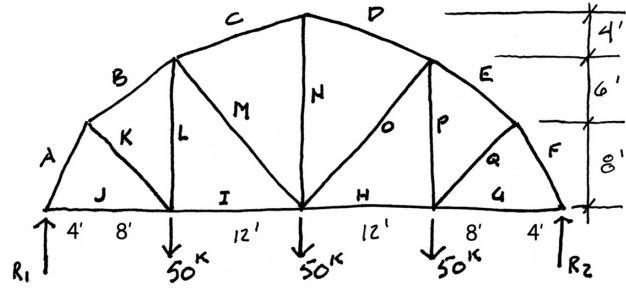
1. Solve Reactions
2. Cut section through truss
3. Choose point **where all but one of the unknown forces cross** and  $\Sigma M$
4. Continue with  $\Sigma F_H$  and  $\Sigma F_V$



# Method of Sections - example

1. Solve the external reactions for the whole truss.

Sum moments about each end. Or using symmetry, divide vertical forces evenly between reactions



REACTIONS :

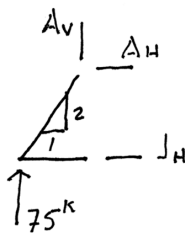
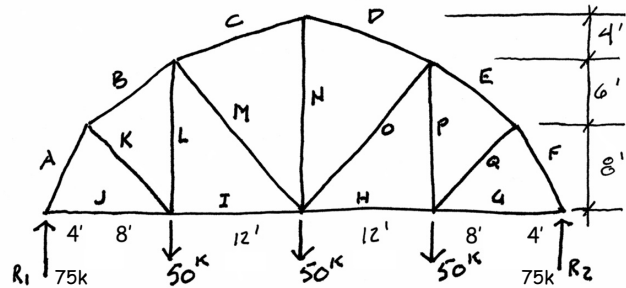
$$\begin{aligned} \sum M_{R1} &= 0 \\ &= 50^k(12') + 50^k(24') + 50^k(36') - R_2(48') \\ R_2(48') &= 3600^k\text{-l} \\ R_2 &= \underline{75^k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum M_{R2} &= 0 \\ &= R_1(48') - 50^k(36') - 50^k(24') - 50^k(12') \\ R_1(48') &= 3600^k\text{-l} \\ R_1 &= \underline{75^k} \end{aligned}$$

# Method of Sections - example

2. Solution proceeds by cutting FBDs of either joints or sections of the truss.

Member forces are shown as horizontal and vertical force components at each cut section.



$$\begin{aligned} \sum F_v &= 0 = 75 - A_v \\ A_v &= 75^k \downarrow \\ A_h &= 37.5^k \leftarrow \end{aligned}$$

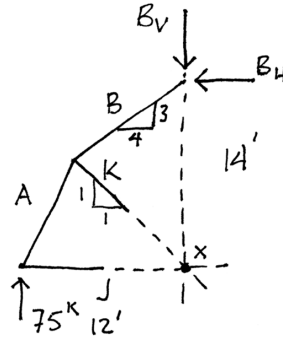
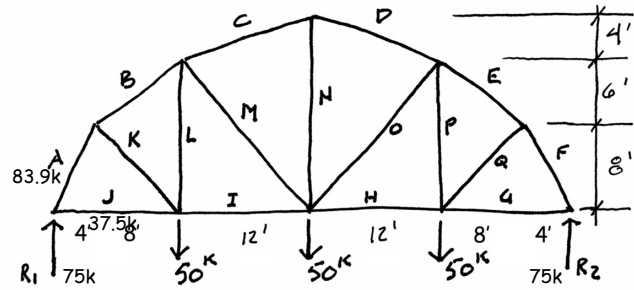
$$\begin{aligned} \sum F_h &= 0 = -37.5^k + J_h \\ J_h &= 37.5^k \rightarrow T \end{aligned}$$

# Method of Sections - example

- Solution proceeds by cutting FBDs of either joints or sections of the truss.

Member forces are shown as horizontal and vertical force components at each cut section.

- Choose a point where all but one of the forces cross and sum moments.



$$\sum M_X = 0 = 75(12') - B_H(4')$$

$$B_H = 64.28 \text{ k} \leftarrow$$

$$\frac{3}{4} : \frac{B_V}{64.28}$$

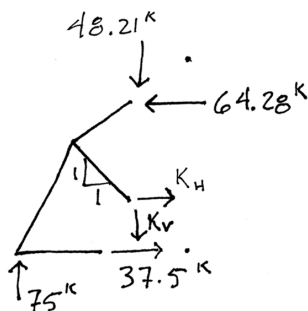
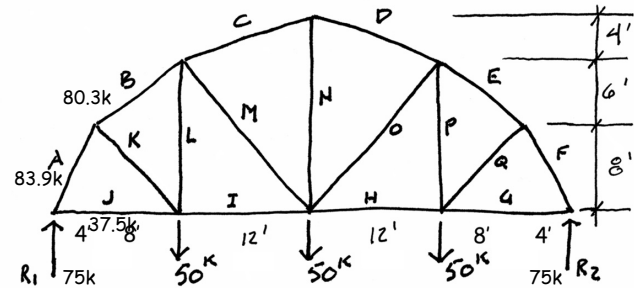
$$B_V = 48.21 \text{ k} \downarrow$$

$$B = 80.35 \text{ k} \text{ C}$$

# Method of Sections - example

- Continue with  $\sum F_H$  and  $\sum F_V$

Member forces are shown as horizontal and vertical force components at each cut section.



$$\sum F_H = 0 = +37.5 - 64.28 + K_H$$

$$K_H = 26.78 \text{ k} \rightarrow$$

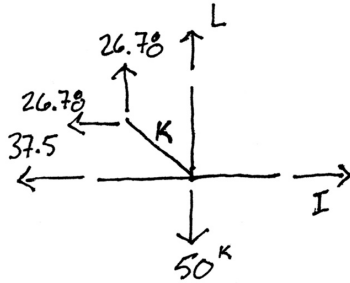
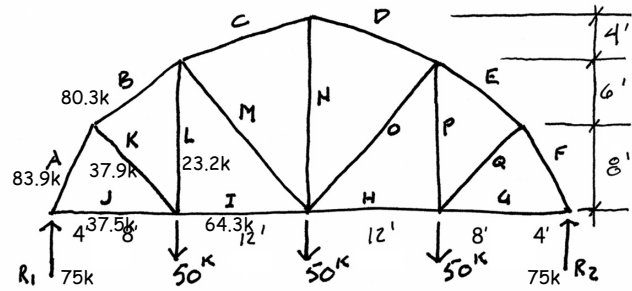
$$K_V = 26.78 \text{ k} \downarrow$$

$$K = 37.87 \text{ k} \text{ T}$$

# Method of Sections - example

4. Continue with  $\Sigma F_H$  and  $\Sigma F_V$

Member forces are shown as horizontal and vertical force components at each cut section.



$$\Sigma F_V = 0 = 26.78^k - 50^k + L$$

$$L = 23.22^k \text{ T}$$

$$\Sigma F_H = 0 = -37.5 - 26.78 + I$$

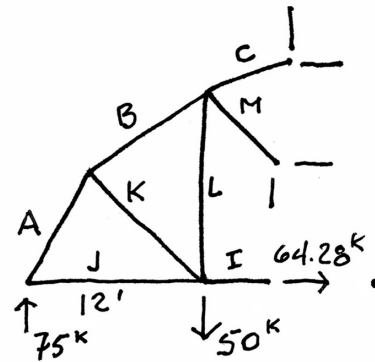
$$I = 64.28^k \text{ T}$$

# Method of Sections - example

2. Solution proceeds by cutting FBDs of either joints or sections of the truss.

Member forces are shown as horizontal and vertical force components at each cut section.

3. Choose a point where all but one of the forces cross and sum moments.



$$\Sigma M_X = 0$$

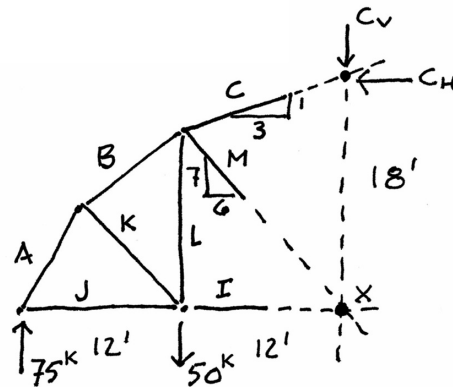
$$= 75^k(24') - 50^k(12') - C_H(18')$$

$$C_H(18) = 1200$$

$$C_H = 66.67^k \leftarrow$$

$$C_V = 22.22^k \downarrow$$

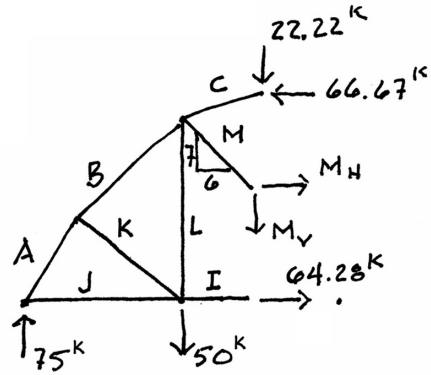
$$C = 70.27^k \text{ C}$$



# Method of Sections - example

4. Continue with  $\Sigma F_H$  and  $\Sigma F_V$

Member forces are shown as horizontal and vertical force components at each cut section.



$$\Sigma F_V = 0 = 75 - 50 - 22.22 - M_V$$

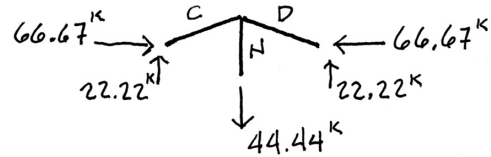
$$M_V = 2.78 \text{ k} \downarrow$$

$$M_H = 2.38 \text{ k} \rightarrow$$

$$M = \underline{3.66 \text{ k T}}$$

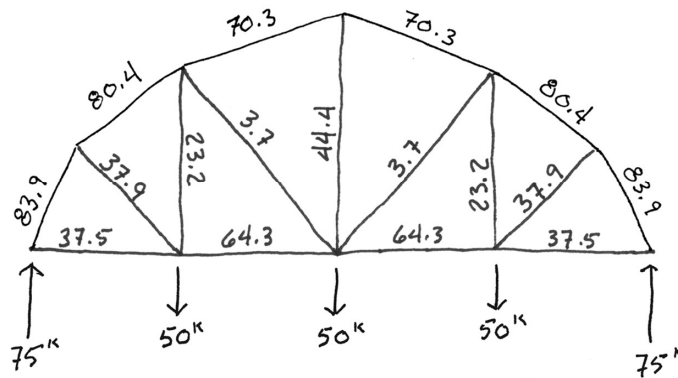
$$\Sigma F_H = 0 = -66.67 + 2.38 + I$$

$$I = \underline{64.29 \text{ k T}}$$



# Method of Sections - example

5. Make final qualitative check of solution.

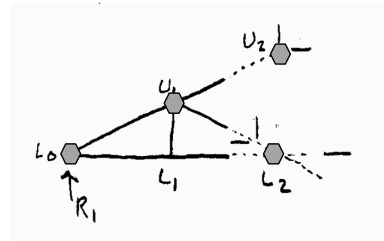
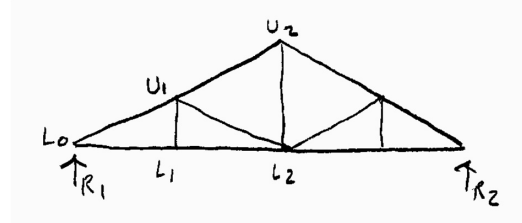




# Tips on Sections

## Howe Truss

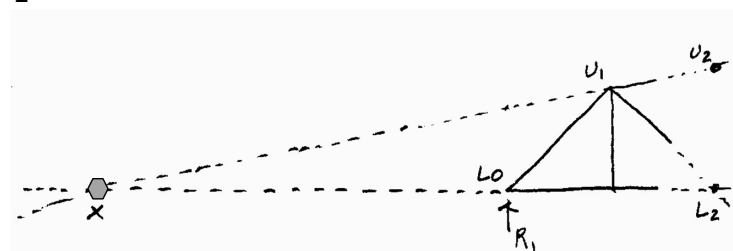
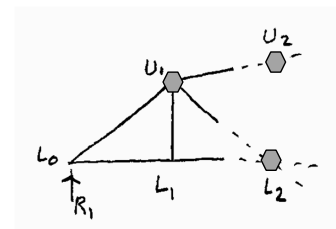
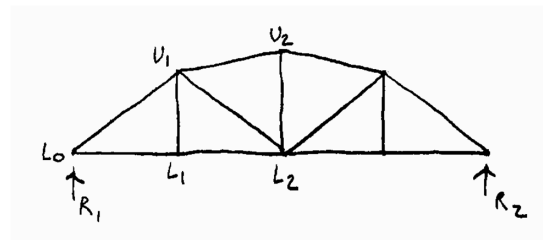
1. Cut a panel with diagonals
2.  $\Sigma M$  at  $L_2$  and resolve upper chord force at  $U_2$ . This gives  $U_1U_2H$
3.  $\Sigma M$  at  $U_1$  to find  $L_1L_2$
4.  $\Sigma M$  at  $U_2$  and resolve  $U_1L_2$  at  $L_2$  to find  $U_1L_2H$
5.  $\Sigma M$  at  $L_0$  and resolve  $U_1L_2$  at  $L_2$  to find  $U_1L_2V$
6.  $U_1U_2V$  can now be found by  $\Sigma F_V$



# Tips on Sections

## Parker Truss

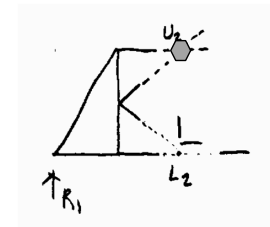
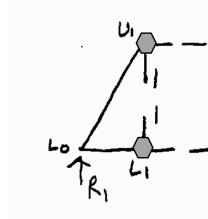
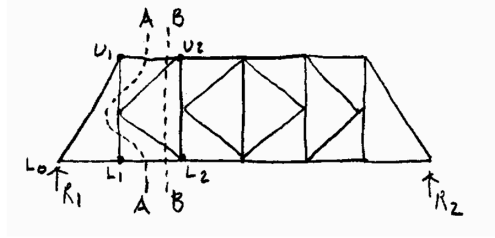
1. Cut a panel with diagonals and  $\Sigma M$  at  $L_2$  to solve  $U_1U_2H$  as before.
2.  $\Sigma M$  at  $U_1$  to find  $L_1L_2$
3.  $\Sigma M$  at  $U_2$  and resolve  $U_1L_2$  at  $L_2$  to find  $U_1L_2H$
4. Find point  $x$  in line with  $U_1U_2$ .  $\Sigma M$  at  $x$  and resolve  $U_1L_2$  at  $L_2$  to find  $U_1L_2V$
5.  $U_1U_2V$  can now be found by  $\Sigma F_V$



# Tips on Sections

## K Truss

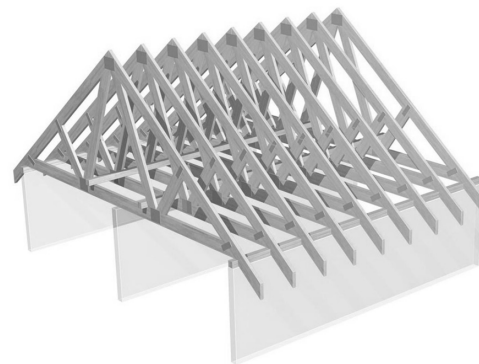
1. Make cut A-A to avoid the mid panel joint
2.  $\Sigma M$  at  $U_1$  to get  $L_1L_2$
3.  $\Sigma M$  at  $L_1$  to get  $U_1U_2$
4. The vertical web forces can be solved using joints
5. Cut B-B through the diagonals
6.  $\Sigma M$  at  $U_2$  and resolve lower diagonal at  $L_2$  to find its H component. The V component can be found by slope triangle. Top and bottom chords are known from steps 2. & 3.
7. Repeat step 6 by  $\Sigma M$  at  $L_2$  to find other diagonal.



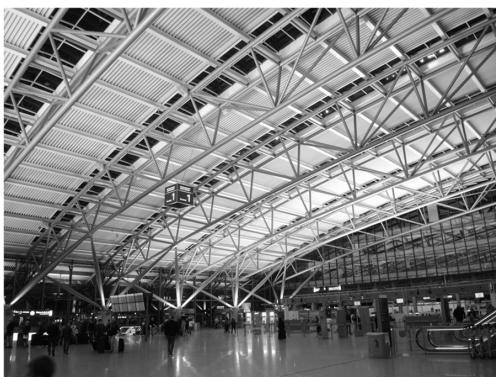
# Examples of Trusses



Timber Frame



Light Frame – dimensioned lumber



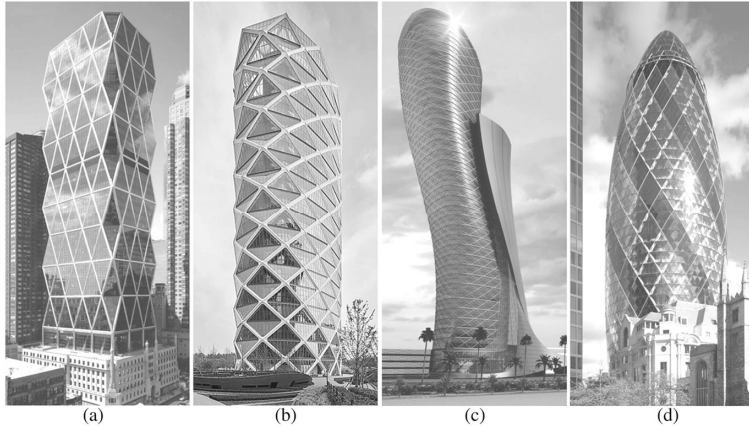
Hamburg Airport – steel tube truss



Concrete Truss – Kilburn Rd. Bridge, Calif.

# Trussed Lateral Bracing

## Diagrid Towers



(a) Hearst Tower in NY

(b) Poly International Plaza tower in Chaoyang Qu

(c) Capital Gate tower in Abu Dhabi

(d) 30 St. Mary Axe in London



John Hancock Tower - 1968  
875 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago  
Fazlur Kahn, SOM

## Optimized Principal Stress Grid

Figure 1. (a) Original Michell's minimum frame [9], (b) structural design by Zalewski and Zabłocki [105], and (c) CITIC financial centre in Shenzhen by SOM [105]. William Baker

