Method of Virtual Work for Beams and Frames Steven Vukazich San Jose State University Work Done by Force/Moment



θ

M

Work is done by a force acting through and in-line displacement

Work is done by a moment acting through and in-line rotation Recall the General Form of the Principle of Virtual Work



# Consider a Beam Subjected To General Loading



We want to find the deflection at point A and the slope at point B due to the applied loads





Modify the General Form of the Principle of Virtual Work for Bending Deformation



### Principle of Virtual Work to Measure $\delta_A$



If the bending stiffness, *EI*, is constant:

$$Q\delta_A = \int_0^L M_Q \frac{M_P}{EI} dx$$

$$Q\,\delta_A = \frac{1}{EI} \int_0^L M_Q \,M_P \,dx$$

# To Measure Rotational Deformation, Apply a Virtual Moment





#### Principle of Virtual Work to Measure $\theta_A$



If the bending stiffness, *EI*, is constant:

$$Q\theta_B = \int_0^L M_Q \frac{M_P}{EI} dx$$

$$Q\theta_B = \frac{1}{EI} \int_0^L M_Q M_P dx$$

### Summary of Procedure for Finding Bending Deformation Using Virtual Work



We want to find the deflection at point A and the slope at point B due to the applied loads **Step 1** – Remove all loads and apply a virtual force (or moment) to measure the deformation at the point of interest



From an equilibrium analysis, find the internal bending moment function for the virtual system:  $M_Q(x)$ 

**Step 2** – Replace all of the loads on the structure and perform the real analysis



From an equilibrium analysis, find the internal bending moment function for the real system:  $M_P(x)$ 

**Step 3** – Evaluate the virtual work product integrals and solve for the deformation of interest

$$Q\,\delta_A = \int_0^L M_Q \,\frac{M_P}{EI} \,dx$$

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$$Q\,\delta_A = \frac{1}{EI} \int_0^L M_Q \,M_P \,dx$$

Table in textbook appendix is provided to help evaluate product integrals of this type

### **Table to Evaluate Virtual Work Product Integrals**

#### Appendix Table.2



Table is as useful tool to evaluate product integrals of the form:

 $M_Q M_P dx$  $J_0$