



## **Lecture 04**

# **Design of T and L Beams in Flexure**

By: Prof Dr. Qaisar Ali  
Civil Engineering Department  
UET Peshawar  
[drqaisarali@uetpeshawar.edu.pk](mailto:drqaisarali@uetpeshawar.edu.pk)



## **Topics Addressed**

- Introduction to T and L Beams
- ACI Code provisions for T and L Beams
- Design Cases
- Design of Rectangular T-beam
- Design of True T-beam
- References



## Introduction to T and L Beam

- The T or L Beam gets its name when the slab and beam produce the cross sections having the typical T and L shapes in a monolithic reinforced concrete construction.



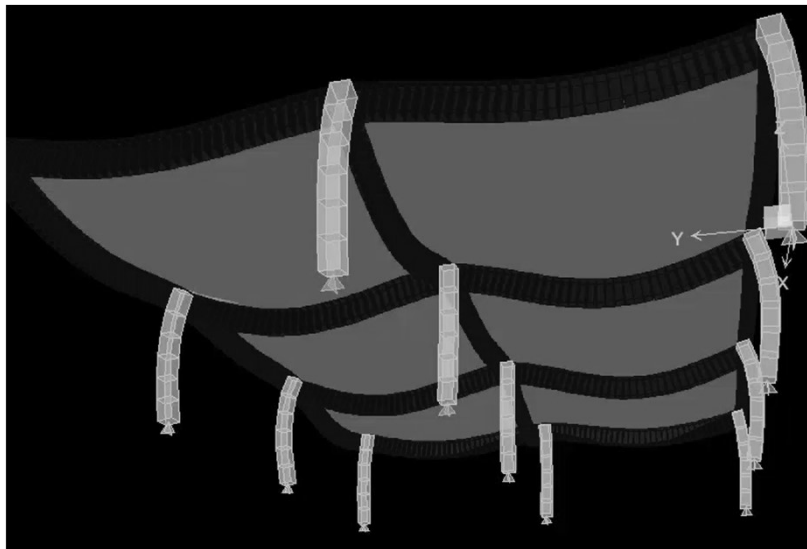
## Introduction to T and L Beam

- In casting of reinforced concrete floors/roofs, forms are built for beam sides, the underside of slabs, and the entire concrete is mostly poured at once, from the bottom of the deepest beam to the top of the slab.



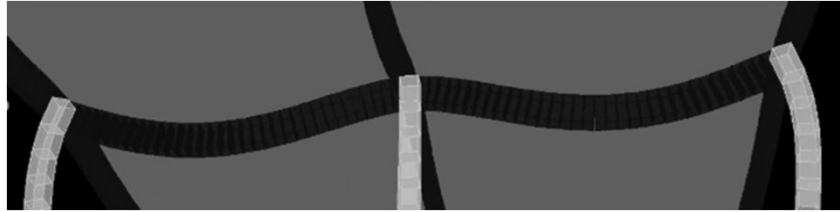


# Introduction to T and L Beam

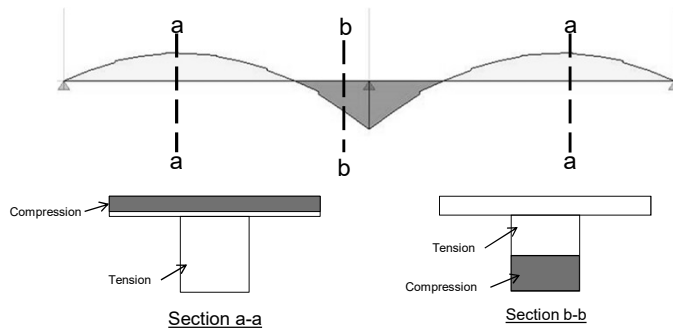
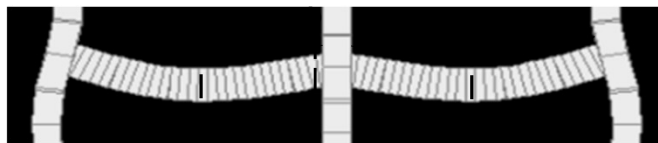




# Introduction to T and L Beam



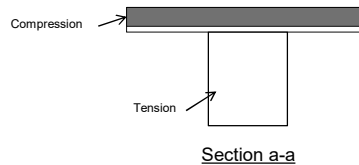
# Introduction to T and L Beam





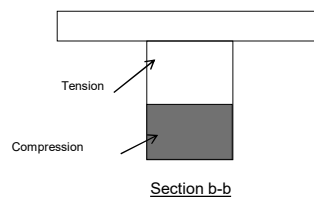
## Introduction to T and L Beam

- Positive Bending Moment
  - In the analysis and design of floor and roof systems, it is common practice to assume that the monolithically placed slab and supporting beam interact as a unit in resisting the positive bending moment.
  - As shown, the slab becomes the compression flange, while the supporting beam becomes the web or stem.



## Introduction to T and L Beam

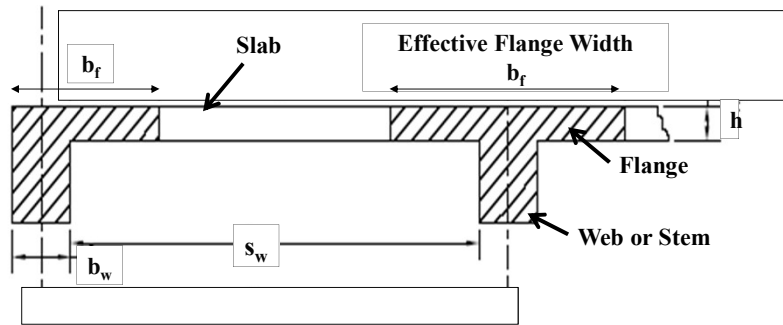
- Negative Bending Moment
  - In the case of negative bending moment, the slab at the top of the stem (web) will be in tension while the bottom of the stem is in compression. This usually occurs at interior support of continuous beam.





## ACI Code Provisions for T and L Beams

- For T and L beams supporting monolithic or composite slabs, the effective flange width  $b_f$  shall include the beam web width  $b_w$  plus an effective overhanging flange width in accordance with ACI Table 6.3.2.1

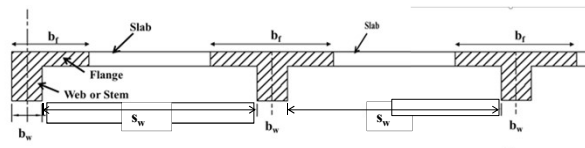


## ACI Code Provisions for T and L Beams

- Calculation of Effective Flange Width ( $b_f$ ) (ACI 6.3.2.1)

### T - Beam

- $b_w + 16h$
- $b_w + s_w$
- $b_w + \ell_n/4$



Least of the above values is selected

Where  $b_w$  is the width of the beam,  $h$  is the slab thickness,  $s_w$  is the clear distance to the adjacent beam and  $\ell_n$  is the clear length of beam.

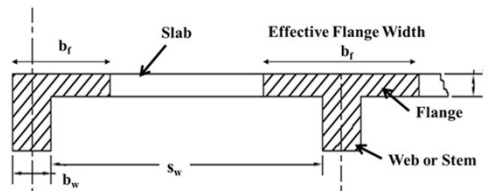


## ACI Code Provisions for T and L Beams

- Calculation of Effective Flange Width ( $b_f$ ) (ACI 6.3.2.1)

### L - Beam

- 1  $b_w + 6h$
- 2  $b_w + s_w/2$
- 3  $b_w + \ell_n/12$



Least of the above values is selected

Where  $b_w$  is the width of the beam,  $h$  is the slab thickness,  $s_w$  is the clear distance to the adjacent beam and  $\ell_n$  is the clear length of beam.

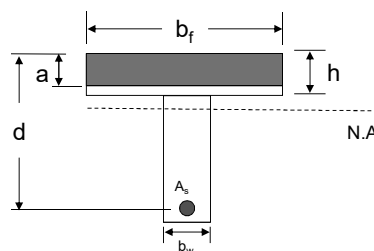


## Design Cases

- In designing a T-Beam for positive bending moment, there might exist two conditions:

Condition 1. The depth of the compression block may be less than or equal to the slab depth i.e. flange thickness ( $a \leq h$ )

In such a condition the T-Beam is designed as rectangular beam for positive bending with the width of compression block equal to  $b_f$ .

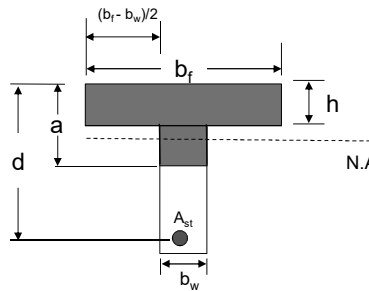




## Design Cases

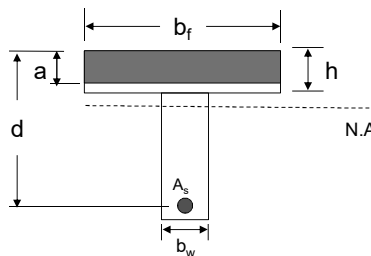
Condition 2. The compression block may cover the flange and extend into the web ( $a > h$ )

In such condition the T-Beam is designed as true T-beam.



## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Flexural Capacity
  - When  $a \leq h$







## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Flexural Capacity

$$(\sum F_x = 0)$$

$$0.85f'_c ab_f = A_s f_y$$

$$a = A_s f_y / 0.85f'_c b_f$$

$$(\sum M = 0)$$

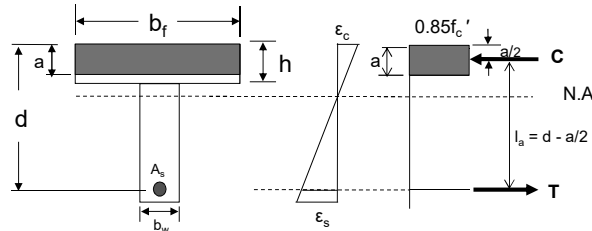
$$M_n = T l_a = A_s f_y (d - a/2)$$

$$A_s \Phi M_n = M_u ; \Phi A_s f_y (d - a/2) = M_u$$

$$\text{Therefore, } A_s = M_u / \Phi f_y (d - a/2)$$

The other checks remains as that of the rectangular beam design.

Note: In calculating  $A_{smax}$ , use  $b_w$ , not  $b_f$ .



## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Example 01

- The roof of a hall has a 5" thick slab supported on beam having 30 feet c/c and 28.5 feet clear span. Adjacent beams are having 9 feet clear distance and have been cast monolithically with slab. Overall depth of beam (including slab thickness) being 24 in and width of beam web being 14 in. Calculate the steel reinforcement area for the beam for a total factored load (including self weight of beam) of 3 k/ft. Use  $f'_c = 3$  ksi and  $f_y = 60$  ksi.



## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Example Solution:
  - Span length ( $l_{c/c}$ ) = 30' ; clear length ( $l_n$ ) = 28.5'
  - $w_u = 3$  k/ft
  - $d = 24 - 2.5 = 21.5''$ ,  $b_w = 14''$ ;  $h = 5''$
  - Effective flange width ( $b_f$ ) is minimum of,
    - $b_w + 16h = 14 + 16 \times 5 = 94''$
    - $b_w + s_w = 14 + 9 \times 12 = 122''$
    - $b_w + l_n/4 = 14 + 28.5 \times 12/4 = 99.5''$
  - Therefore,  $b_f = 94''$



## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Example Solution:
    - Check if the beam behaviour is T or rectangular.
    - $M_u = w_u l^2 / 8 = 3 \times 30^2 \times 12 / 8 = 4050$  in-kips
    - Trial # 01
      - Let  $a = h = 5''$
      - $A_s = M_u / \Phi f_y (d - a/2) = 4050 / \{0.90 \times 60 \times (21.5 - 5/2)\} = 3.94$  in<sup>2</sup>
    - Trial # 02
      - $a = A_s f_y / (0.85 f_c' b_f) = 3.94 \times 60 / (0.85 \times 3 \times 94) = 0.98'' < h = 5''$
- Therefore, design as Rectangular beam.



## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Example Solution:

$$A_s = M_u / \Phi f_y (d - a/2) = 4050 / \{0.90 \times 60 \times (21.5 - 0.98/2)\} = 3.56 \text{ in}^2$$

- Trial # 03

- $a = A_s f_y / (0.85 f_c' b_f) = 3.56 \times 60 / (0.85 \times 3 \times 94) = 0.89''$

$$A_s = M_u / \Phi f_y (d - a/2) = 4050 / \{0.90 \times 60 \times (21.5 - 0.89/2)\} = 3.56 \text{ in}^2$$

Therefore  $A_s = 3.56 \text{ in}^2$

Try #8 bars, No of Bars =  $3.56 / 0.79 = 4.50$ , say 05 bars



## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Example Solution:

Now check  $\rho_{\max}$  and  $\rho_{\min}$

$$\rho_{\max} = 0.85 \beta_1 (f_c' / f_y) \{ \epsilon_u / (\epsilon_u + \epsilon_t) \}$$

$$\rho_{\max} = 0.85 \times 0.85 \times (3/60) \{ 0.003 / (0.003 + 0.004) \} = 0.0155$$

$$\rho_{\min} = 3 \sqrt{f_c'} / f_y \geq 200 / f_y$$

$$3 \sqrt{f_c'} / f_y = 3 \times \sqrt{3000} / 60000 = 0.0027$$

$$200 / f_y = 200 / 60000 = 0.0033$$

Therefore,  $\rho_{\min} = 0.0033$

$$\rho_{\text{provided}} = A_s / b_w d = 5 \times 0.79 / 14 \times 21.5 = 0.0131$$

$$\rho_{\min} < \rho_{\text{provided}} < \rho_{\max}$$



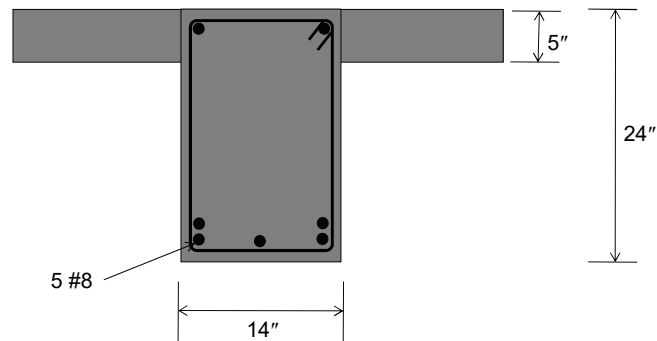
## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Example Solution:  
Check design capacity your self.



## Design of Rectangular T-beam

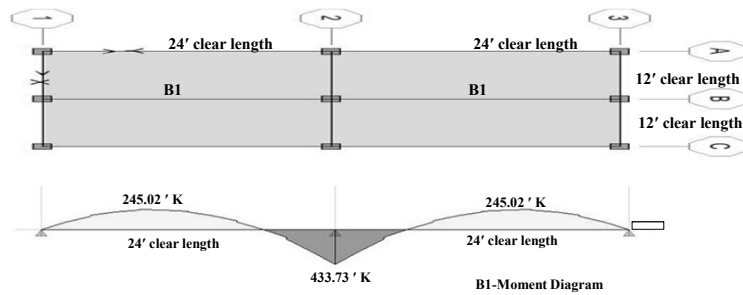
- Example Solution:





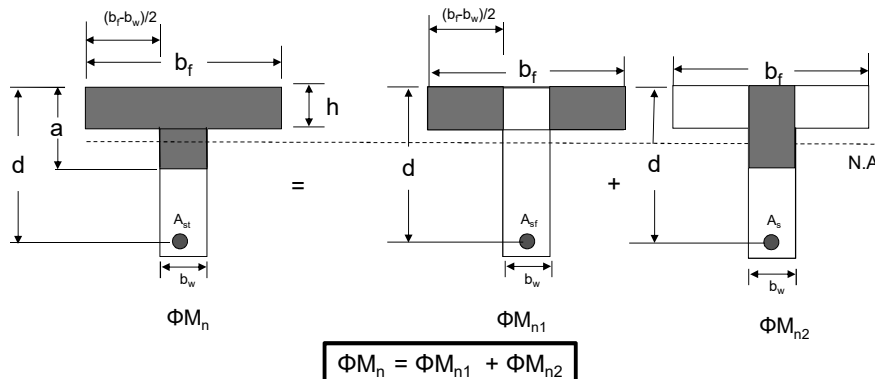
## Design of Rectangular T-beam

- Example 2: Design the Beam B1 for the following moments
  - $f'_c = 4 \text{ ksi}$ ,  $f_y = 60 \text{ ksi}$ , beam width = 12",
  - overall beam depth (including slab thickness) = 18", Slab thickness = 6"



## Design of True T-beam

- Flexural Capacity
  - When  $a > h$





## Design of True T-beam

• Flexural Capacity

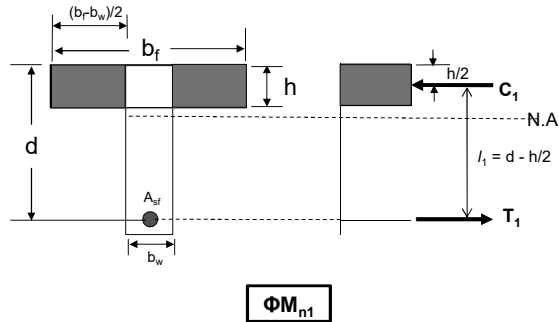
$\Phi M_{n1}$  Calculation

From stress diagram

- $T_1 = C_1$
- $C_1 = 0.85 f'_c (b_f - b_w)h$
- $T_1 = A_{sf} f_y$
- $A_{sf} f_y = 0.85 f'_c (b_f - b_w)h$

Everything in the equation is known except  $A_{sf}$

- Therefore,  $A_{sf} = 0.85 f'_c (b_f - b_w)h / f_y$
- $\Phi M_{n1} = T_1 \times l_1 = \Phi A_{sf} f_y (d - h/2)$



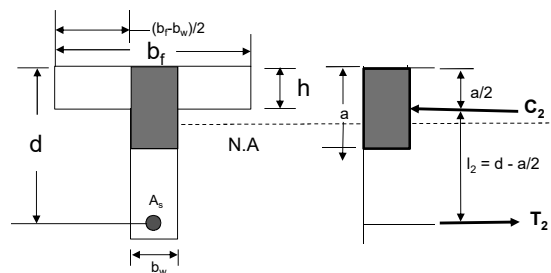
## Design of True T-beam

• Flexural Capacity

$\Phi M_{n2}$  Calculation

From stress diagram

- $T_2 = C_2$
- $C_2 = 0.85 f'_c a b_w$
- $T_2 = A_s f_y$
- $A_s f_y = 0.85 f'_c a b_w$
- $a = A_s f_y / (0.85 f'_c b_w)$
- $\Phi M_{n2} = T_2 \times l_2 = \Phi A_s f_y (d - a/2)$





## Design of True T-beam

- Flexural Capacity

$\Phi M_{n2}$  Calculation

We know that  $\Phi M_n = M_u$

$\Phi M_{n1} + \Phi M_{n2} = M_u$

$\Phi M_{n1}$  is already known to us,

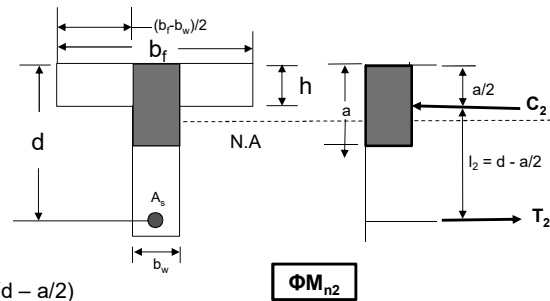
Therefore  $\Phi M_{n2} = M_u - \Phi M_{n1}$

And as,  $\Phi M_{n2} = T_2 \times l_2 = \Phi A_s f_y (d - a/2)$

Also  $\Phi M_{n2} = M_u - \Phi M_{n1}$

Therefore,  $A_s = (M_u - \Phi M_{n1}) / \Phi f_y (d - a/2)$ ; and  $a = A_s f_y / (0.85 f_c' b_w)$

Calculate  $A_s$  by trial and success method.



## Design of True T-beam

- Ductility Requirements

- $T = C_1 + C_2 \quad [ \sum F_x = 0 ]$

$$A_{st} f_y = 0.85 f_c' a b_w + 0.85 f_c' (b_f - b_w) h$$

$$A_{st} f_y = 0.85 f_c' a b_w + A_{sf} f_y$$

- For ductility  $\epsilon_s = \epsilon_t = 0.005$  (ACI table 21.2.2)

- For  $a = \beta_1 c = \beta_1 0.375 d$ ,  $A_{st}$  will become  $A_{stmax}$ . Therefore,

$$A_{stmax} f_y = 0.85 f_c' \beta_1 0.375 d b_w + A_{sf} f_y$$

$$A_{stmax} f_y = 0.85 f_c' \beta_1 0.375 d b_w + A_{sf} f_y$$

$$A_{stmax} = 0.31875 \beta_1 (f_c' / f_y) d b_w + A_{sf} \quad \text{OR} \quad A_{stmax} = A_{stmax(singly)} + A_{sf}$$

- So, for T-beam to behave in a ductile manner  $A_{st, provided} \leq A_{stmax}$



## Design of True T-beam

- Example 03
  - Design a simply supported T beam to resist a factored positive moment equal to 6500 in-kip. The beam is 12" wide and is having 20" effective depth including a slab thickness of 3 inches. The centre to centre and clear lengths of the beam are 25.5' and 24' respectively. The clear spacing between the adjacent beams is 3 ft.
  - Material strengths are  $f'_c = 3$  ksi and  $f_y = 40$  ksi.



## Design of True T-beam

- Example Solution:
  - Span length ( $l_{c/c}$ ) = 25.5' ; clear length ( $l_n$ ) = 24'
  - $d = 20"$ ;  $b_w = 12"$ ;  $h = 3"$
  - Effective flange width ( $b_f$ ) is minimum of,
    - $b_w + 16h = 12 + 16 \times 3 = 60"$
    - $b_w + s_w = 12 + 3 \times 12 = 48"$
    - $b_w + l_n/4 = 12 + 24 \times 12/4 = 84"$
  - Therefore,  $b_f = 48"$





## Design of True T-beam

- Example Solution:

- Check if the beam behaviour is T or rectangular.

- Let  $a = h = 3''$

$$A_s = M_u / \Phi f_y (d - a/2) = 6500 / \{0.90 \times 40 \times (20 - 3/2)\} = 9.75 \text{ in}^2$$

$$a = A_s f_y / (0.85 f_c' b_f) = 9.76 \times 40 / (0.85 \times 3 \times 48) = 3.18'' > h$$

- Therefore, design as T beam.



## Design of True T-beam

- Example Solution:

- Design:

- We first calculate  $A_{sf}$

$$A_{sf} = 0.85 f_c' (b_f - b_w) h / f_y$$

$$= 0.85 \times 3 \times (48 - 12) \times 3 / 40 = 6.885 \text{ in}^2$$

- The nominal moment resistance ( $\Phi M_{n1}$ ), provided by  $A_{sf}$  is,

$$\Phi M_{n1} = \Phi A_{sf} f_y \{d - h/2\} = 0.9 \times 6.885 \times 40 \times \{20 - 3/2\} = 4585.41 \text{ in-kip}$$



## Design of True T-beam

- Example Solution:

- Design:

- The nominal moment resistance ( $\Phi M_{n2}$ ), provided by remaining steel  $A_s$  is,  
 $\Phi M_{n2} = M_u - \Phi M_{n1} = 6500 - 4585.41 = 1914.45$  in-kip

- Let  $a = 0.2d = 0.2 \times 20 = 4$ "

$$A_s = \Phi M_{n2} / \{\Phi f_y (d - a/2)\} = 1914.45 / \{0.9 \times 40 \times (20 - 4/2)\} = 2.95 \text{ in}^2$$

$$a = A_s f_y / (0.85 f_c' b_w) = 2.95 \times 40 / (0.85 \times 3 \times 12) = 3.85$$

- This value is close to the assumed value of "a". Therefore,

$$A_{st} = A_{sf} + A_s = 6.885 + 2.95 = 9.84 \text{ in}^2 \text{ (13 \#8 Bars)}$$



## Design of True T-beam

- Example Solution:

- Ductility requirements,  $(A_{st} = A_s + A_{sf}) \leq A_{stmax}$

$$A_{stmax} = A_{smax} \text{ (singly)} + A_{sf}$$

$$= 4.87 + 6.885 = 11.76 \text{ in}^2$$

$$A_{st} = A_s + A_{sf} = 13 \times 0.79 = 10.27 \text{ in}^2 < 11.76 \text{ O.K.}$$



## Design of True T-beam

- Example Solution:

- Ensure that  $A_{st} > A_{smin}$

$$A_{st} = 10.27 \text{ in}^2$$

- $A_{smin} = \rho_{min} b_w d$

- $\rho_{min} = 3\sqrt{f'_c}/f_y \geq 200/f_y$

$$3\sqrt{f'_c}/f_y = 3 \times \sqrt{(3000)/40000} = 0.004$$

$$200/f_y = 200/40000 = 0.005$$

$$\rho_{min} = 0.005 ; A_{smin} = 0.005 \times 12 \times 20 = A_{st} > 1.2 \text{ in}^2 \text{ O.K.}$$



## Design of True T-beam

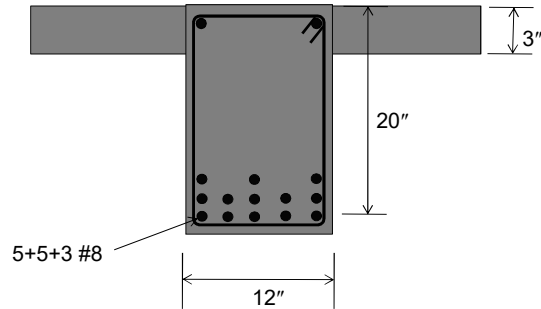
- Example Solution:

Check design capacity your self.



## Design of True T-beam

- Example Solution:



## References

- Design of Concrete Structures 14th Ed. by Nilson, Darwin and Dolan.
- Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318-14)