

# Masonry Beams and Lintels

Definitions  
Behavior under flexure  
Reinforcement

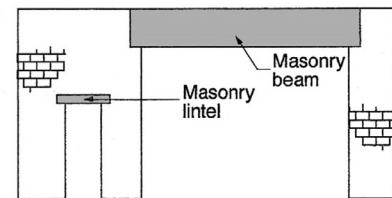


Siena College, NY  
David T. Biggs, P.E.  
1981

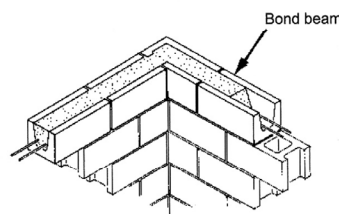
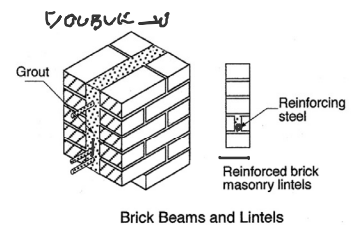
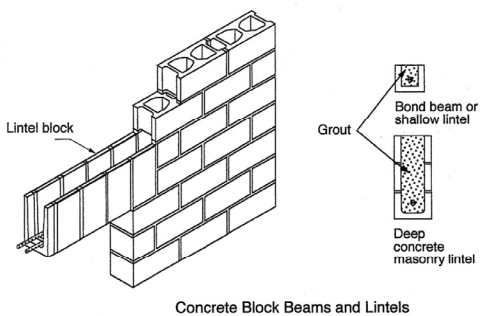
## Types of Flexure in Masonry

### Beams and Lintels

- single-wythe brickwork
- double-wythe brickwork + grout
- special lintel CMU
- bond beam CMU
- special knock-out CMU



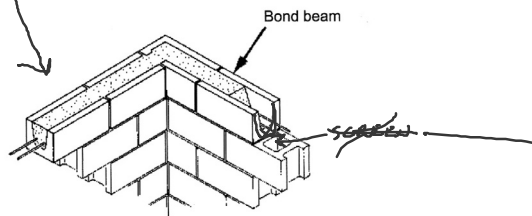
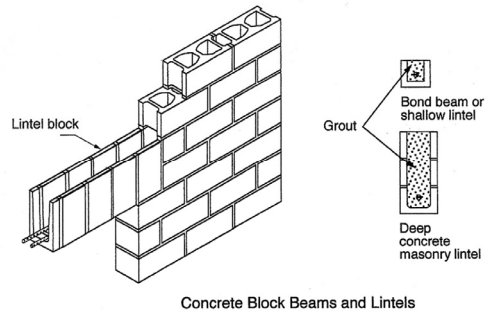
Beams and Lintels



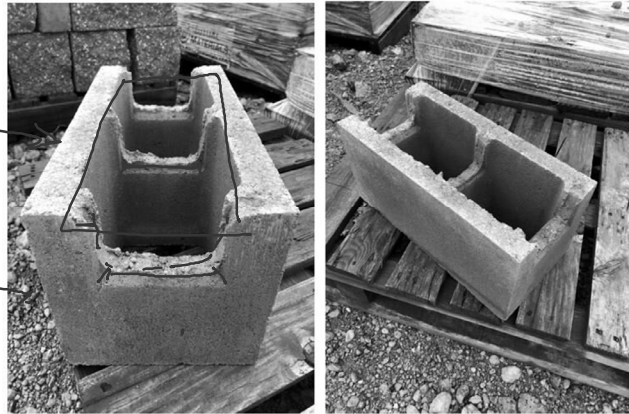
# Types of Flexure in Masonry

## Bond Beams

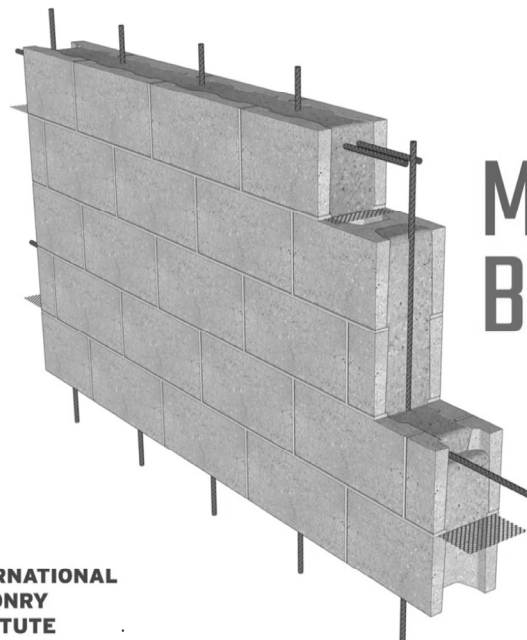
- within a wall
- horizontally reinforced and grouted
- resist out of plane bending
- resist in plane tension and shear
- typically at top of foundation and floor and roof levels
- distribute floor or roof loads
- bond beam CMU
- special knock-out CMU



Typical masonry bond beams



# Types of Flexure in Masonry – Bond Beams



# MASONRY BOND BEAMS

# Types of Flexure in Masonry – Bond Beams



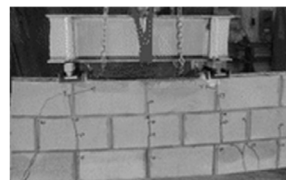
## Design considerations

### Strength and Stability

- flexure ✓
- shear —
- anchorage –

### Serviceability

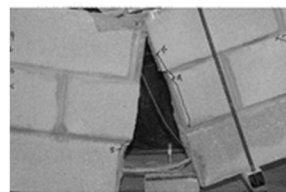
- deflection ✓
- cracking



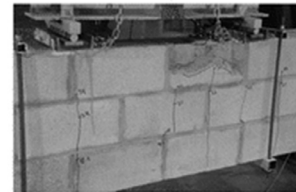
a)



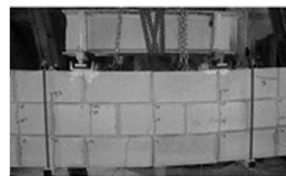
b)



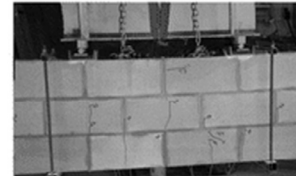
c)



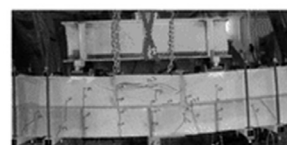
d)



e)



f)



g)

# Fundamental Assumptions

## Elastic Analysis:

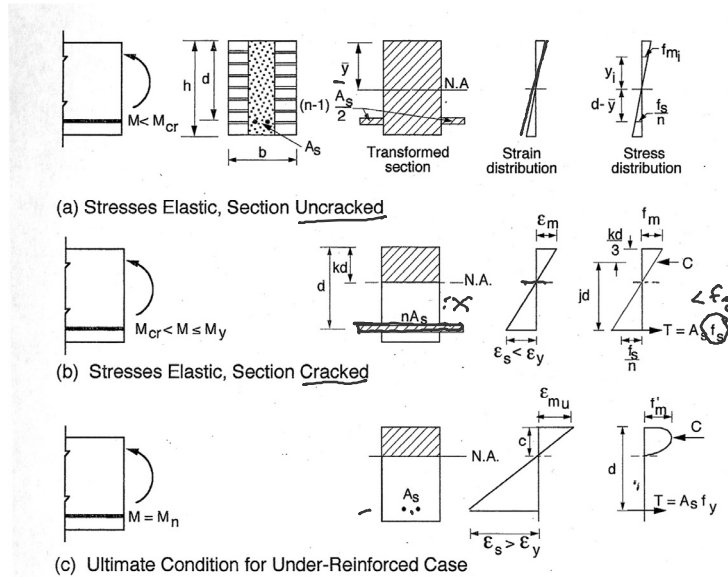
- internal forces at any section are in equilibrium with external loads
- plane sections before bending remain plane after bending
- after cracking tension in masonry is ignored. Tension is carried by steel.
- linearly elastic behavior exists for both steel and masonry within the service load range. N.A. at centroid of cracked section.
- complete bond exists between steel and grout

$$f_{m_i} = My_i/I_{tr} \frac{M_c}{I}$$

$$f_s = n(My_s/I_{tr})$$

$$n = \frac{E_s}{E_m}$$

$E_s$  = modulus of elasticity of steel  
 $E_m$  = modulus of elasticity of masonry



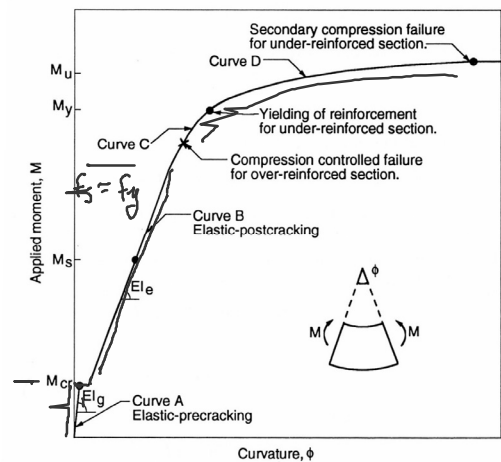
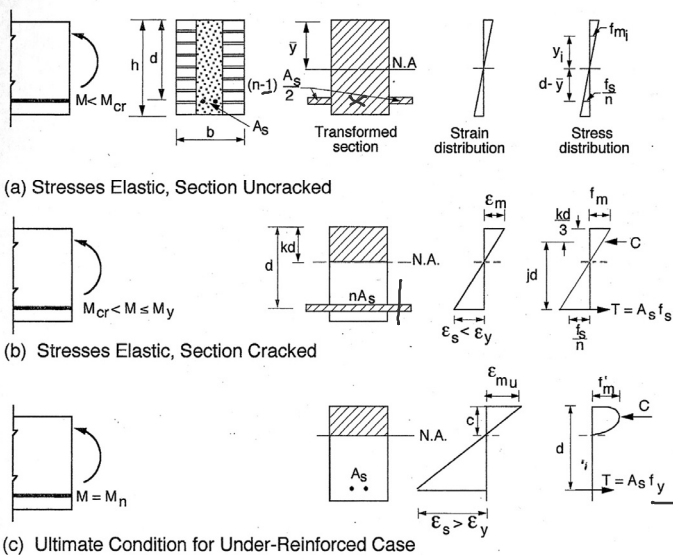
# Fundamental Assumptions - uncracked

$$f_{m_i} = My_i/I_{tr}$$

$$f_s = n(My_s/I_{tr})$$

$$n = \frac{E_s}{E_m}$$

$E_s$  = modulus of elasticity of steel  
 $E_m$  = modulus of elasticity of masonry



# Fundamental Assumptions - cracked

$$C = f_m k b d / 2$$

$$T = A_s f_s = \rho b d f_s$$

$$\rho = A_s / b d$$

$$\rho f_s b d = f_m k b d / 2$$

$$k = 2 \rho f_s / f_m$$

$$j d = d - k d / 3$$

$$j = 1 - k / 3$$

$$\rho_b = \frac{n F_b}{2 F_s (n + F_s / F_b)}$$

$$n = \frac{E_s}{E_m}$$

$E_s$  = modulus of elasticity of steel  
 $E_m$  = modulus of elasticity of masonry

$$k = \sqrt{2 n \rho + (n \rho)^2} - n \rho$$

Compression

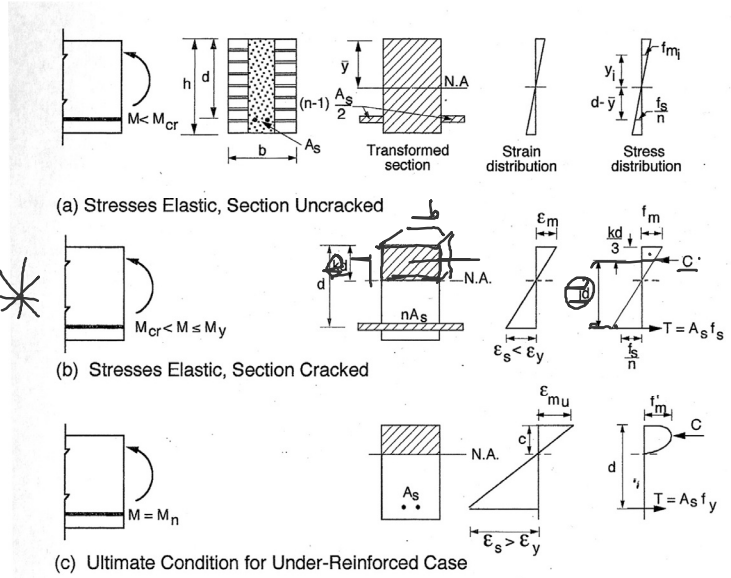
$$M = C j d = f_m k j b d^2 / 2$$

$$f_m = 2 M / k j b d^2$$

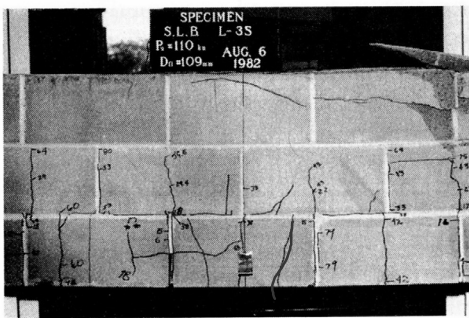
Tension

$$M = T j d = \rho f_s j b d^2$$

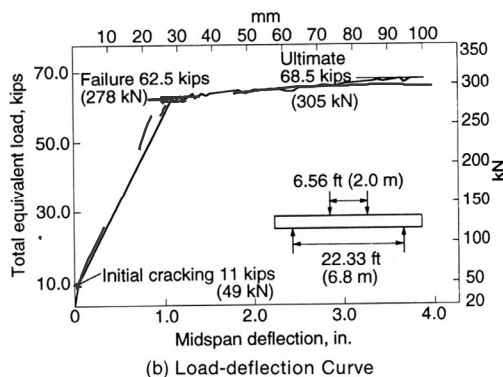
$$f_s = M / \rho j b d^2$$



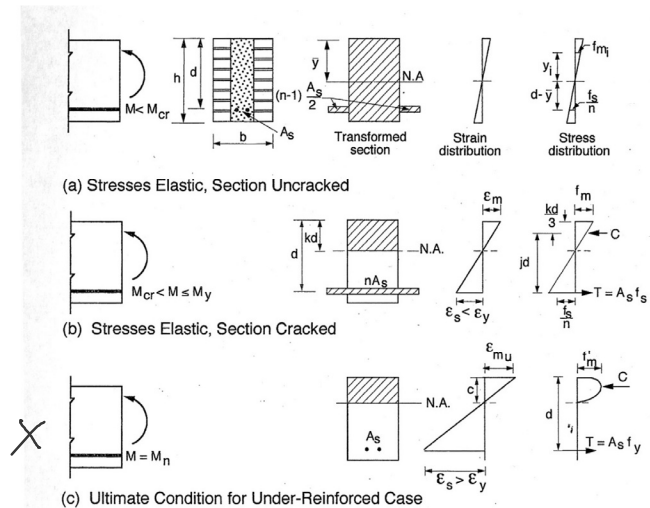
# Fundamental Assumptions – cracked + under reinforced



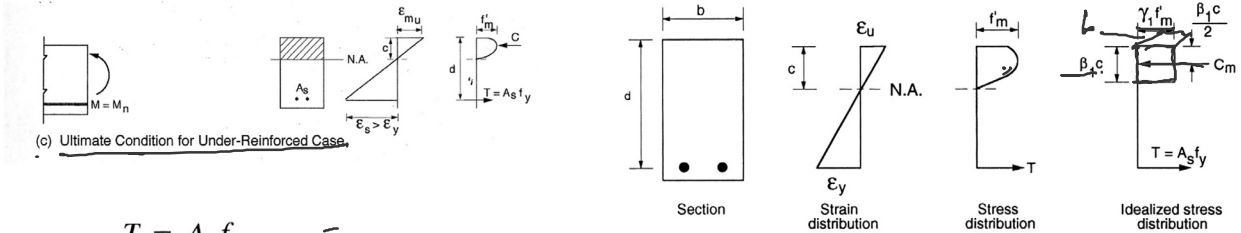
(a) Failure of Under-reinforced Beam (Courtesy of V.V. Neis)



$$\rho_b = \frac{n F_b}{2 F_s (n + F_s / F_b)}$$



# Fundamental Assumptions – cracked + under reinforced



$$T = A_s f_y$$

$$C = \gamma_1 f'_m \beta_1 c b$$

$$c = \frac{A_s f_y}{\gamma_1 f'_m \beta_1 b}$$

$$M_n = T \left( d - \frac{\beta_1 c}{2} \right)$$

$$M_n = A_s f_y \left( d - \frac{A_s f_y}{2 \gamma_1 f'_m b} \right)$$

$$\omega = \rho \frac{f_y}{f'_m}$$

$$M_n = b d^2 f'_m \omega \left( 1 - \frac{\omega}{2 \gamma_1} \right)$$

$$M_n = b d^2 f'_m \omega (1 - 0.59 \omega)$$

$$\rho_b = \beta_1 \gamma_1 (f'_m / f_y) \left( \frac{\epsilon_u}{\epsilon_u + \epsilon_y} \right)$$

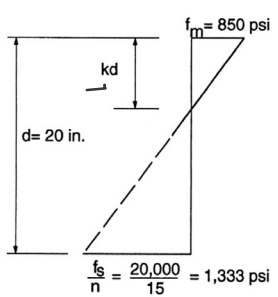
$$M_u \leq \Phi M_n$$

$$M_u \leq \Phi b d^2 f'_m \omega (1 - 0.59 \omega)$$

## Grouted Concrete Block – example ASD

Given:

- 3 blocks high
- 7 5/8 in. wide
- $A_s = 1 \times \#8 = 0.79 \text{ in}^2$
- $d = 20 \text{ in.}$
- modular ratio  $n = 15 \frac{E_m}{E_s}$
- $F_b = 850 \text{ psi}$
- $F_s = 20 \text{ ksi}$



$$\rho = \frac{A_s}{bd} = \frac{0.79}{7.625 \times 20} = 0.0052$$

$$k = \sqrt{2np + (np)^2} - np = 0.324$$

$$j = 1 - k/3 = 0.892$$

Find:

- allowable bending moment M

Compression:

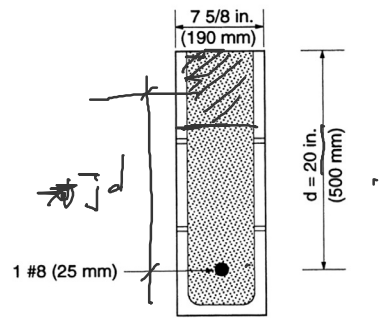
$$M = C_j d = \frac{1}{2} F_b k j b d^2$$

$$= \frac{850(0.324)(0.892)(7.625)(20)^2}{2(1000)(12)} = 31.1 \text{ ft-kip.}$$

Tension:

$$M = T_j d = \rho F_s j b d^2$$

$$= \frac{0.0052(20000)(0.892)(7.625)(20)^2}{1000(12)} = 23.6 \text{ ft-kip}$$



tension controls

# Grouted Concrete Block – example ASD

Given:

- 3 blocks high
- 7 5/8 in. wide
- $A_s = 1 \times \#8 = 0.79 \text{ in}^2$
- $d = 20 \text{ in.}$
- modular ratio  $n = 15$
- $F_b = 850 \text{ psi}$
- $F_s = 20 \text{ ksi}$

$$k = \frac{kd}{d} = \frac{850}{850 + 1333} = 0.389$$

$$kd = 0.389(20) = 7.78 \text{ in. from the top}$$

$$j = 1 - \frac{k}{3} = 0.87$$

$$C = \frac{1}{2} f_m k b d = \frac{1}{2} (850)(0.389)(7.625)(20)(10)^{-3}$$

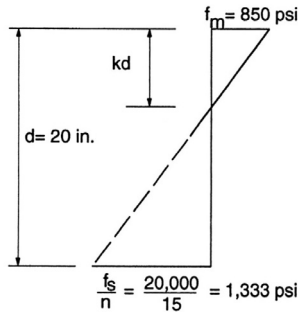
$$C = 25.21 \text{ kips}$$

$$C = T = A_s f_s$$

$$A_s = \frac{25,210}{20,000} = 1.26 \text{ in.}^2$$

Find:

- Find balanced condition and  $A_{s-bal}$



$$\rho_b = \frac{n F_b}{2 F_s (n + F_s / F_b)} = \frac{15(850)}{2(20000)(15 + 20000/850)} = 0.0083$$

$$A_s = \rho_b b d = 0.0083(7.625)(20) = 1.26 \text{ in.}^2 \quad \frac{A_s}{bd} = \rho$$

$$\rho_{max} = 0.5 \rho_b = 0.5(0.0083) = 0.00415 < 0.0052$$

# 2-Wythe Brick Beam - example

Given:

- Grouted beam
- $L = 12 \text{ ft.}$
- $P @ \text{C.L.} = 10 \text{ kips}$
- selfweight  $w_0 = 273 \text{ lb/ft}$
- $f'_m = 3000 \text{ psi}$
- $F_b = 0.33(f'_m) = 1000 \text{ psi}$
- $F_s = 20 \text{ ksi}$
- $d = 28 \text{ in.}$

$$M = \frac{Pl}{4} + \frac{w_0 l^2}{8}$$

$$= \frac{10 \times 12}{4} + \frac{0.273 \times (12)^2}{8} = 30 + 4.9 = 34.9 \text{ ft-kips}$$

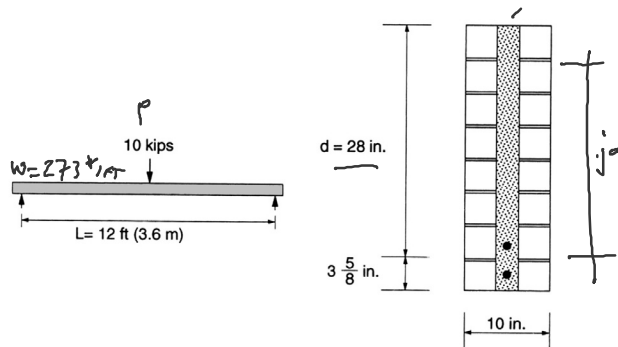
Find:

- Required reinforcement,  $A_s$

$$M = Tj d = A_s f_s j d$$

$$A_s = \frac{M}{f_s j d} = \frac{34.9(12)(1000)}{20000(0.90)(28)} = 0.83 \text{ in.}^2$$

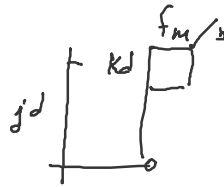
Try two No. 6 bars, giving  $A_s = 0.88 \text{ in.}^2$   
check the stresses.



## 2-Wythe Brick Beam - example

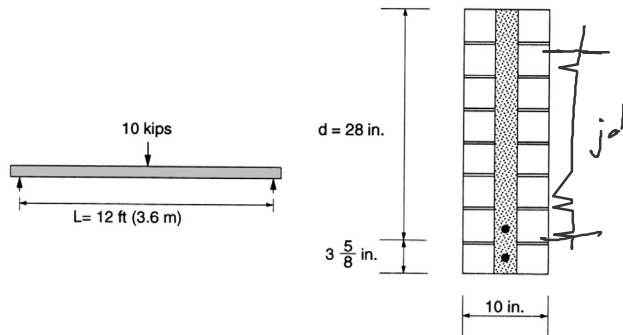
Given:

- Grouted beam
- L = 12 ft.
- P @ C.L. = 10 kips
- selfweight  $w_0 = 273$  lb/ft
- $f'_m = 3000$  psi
- $F_b = 0.33(f'_m) = 1000$  psi
- $F_s = 20$  ksi
- $d = 28$  in.



Find:

- Required reinforcement,  $A_s$



$$\rho = \frac{A_s}{bd} = \frac{0.88}{10 \times 28} = 0.00314$$

$$n = \frac{E_s}{E_m} = \frac{29,000,000}{3000 \times 750} = 12.9$$

$$k = \sqrt{2n\rho + (n\rho)^2} - n\rho = 0.247$$

$$j = 1 - k/3 = 0.918$$

$$M = \frac{1}{2} f_m k j b d^2$$

$$f_m = \frac{2(34.9)(12)(1000)}{0.247(0.918)(10)(28)^2} = 471 \text{ psi}$$

$$f_m = 471 \text{ psi} < F_m = 1000 \quad \checkmark$$

ok

$$\rho_{\min} = \frac{80}{f_y} = \frac{80}{40,000} = 0.0020$$

$$\rho > \rho_{\min}$$

use two No. 6 bars

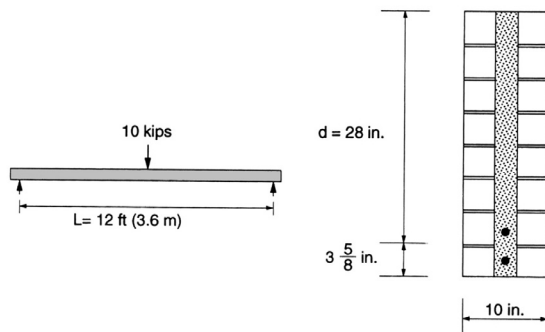
## 2-Wythe Brick Beam - example

Given:

- Grouted beam
- L = 12 ft.
- P @ C.L. = 10 kips
- selfweight  $w_0 = 273$  lb/ft
- $f'_m = 3000$  psi
- $F_b = 0.33(f'_m) = 1000$  psi
- $F_s = 20$  ksi
- $d = 28$  in.

Find:

- Required reinforcement,  $A_s$



$$\rho = \frac{A_s}{bd} = \frac{0.88}{10 \times 28} = 0.00314 \text{ ACTUAL}$$

$$\rho_{\min} = \frac{80}{f_y} = \frac{80}{40,000} = 0.0020 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\rho > \rho_{\min}$$

use two No. 6 bars

$$\rho_b = (0.85)(0.85) \left( \frac{3}{40} \right) \left( \frac{0.003}{0.003 + \frac{40}{29,000}} \right) = 0.037$$

$$\rho_{\max} = 0.5 \rho_b = 0.5(0.037) = 0.0185$$

$$0.00314 < 0.0052 \text{ ok}$$

$$0.0185$$



# Mortar Types

Types M, S, N, O

The following mortar designations took effect in the mid-1950's:

**M** a **S** o **N** w **O** r **K**  
 strongest weakest



**Table 2-3. Guide to the Selection of Mortar Type\***

Location	Building segment	Mortar type	
		Recommended	Alternative
Exterior, above grade	Load-bearing walls	N	S or M
	Non-load-bearing walls	O**	N or S
	Parapet walls	N	S
Exterior, at or below grade	Foundation walls, retaining walls, manholes, sewers, pavements, walks, and patios	S†	M or N†
Interior	Load-bearing walls	N	S or M
	Non-load-bearing partitions	O	N

\*Adapted from ASTM C270. This table does not provide for specialized mortar uses, such as chimney, reinforced masonry, and acid-resistant mortars.

\*\*Type O mortar is recommended for use where the masonry is unlikely to be frozen when saturated or unlikely to be subjected to high winds or other significant lateral loads. Type N or S mortar should be used in other cases.

†Masonry exposed to weather in a nominally horizontal surface is extremely vulnerable to weathering. Mortar for such masonry should be selected with due caution.

Note: For tuckpointing mortar, see "Tuckpointing," Chapter 9.

Portland cement – lime mortars

*Relative Parts by Volume*

mortar type	Portland cement	lime	sand
M	1	$\frac{1}{4}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
S	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
N	1	1	6
O	1	2	9

sum should equal 1/3 of sand volume  
 (assuming that sand has void ratio of 1 in 3)