



## **School of Engineering & Built Environment**

**MEng/BEng(Hons) in:**  
**Mechanical-Electronic Systems Engineering**  
**Mechanical & Power Plant Systems**  
**Electrical Power Engineering**  
**Computer-Aided Mechanical Engineering**

**Module: Engineering Design & Analysis 2**  
***(Module No. M2H721926)***

**Combined Bending and Direct Stress:**  
**A Summary**

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**GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY****SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & BUILT ENVIRONMENT****ENGINEERING DESIGN & ANALYSIS 2 (M2H721926): Combined Bending and Direct Stress****Principle of Superposition**

The stress at any point of a structure, beam or strut carrying several loads may be found by considering each load separately *as if it acted alone*. The total stress is then the algebraic sum of the stresses due to each separate load. This is the *method of superposition*.

Direct Stress,  $\sigma_d = \frac{P}{A} (N/m^2)$  [Note: +ve for tensile load, -ve for compression load]

Bending Stress,  $\sigma_b = \pm \frac{My}{I} (N/m^2)$  [Note: +ve for tensile load, -ve for compression load]

Combined Stresses:  $\sigma = \sigma_d \pm \sigma_b$