

In the following a structure with three supports is analysed. Two point loads and the three supports A, B and C are given. A possible thrust line under the given load and the reaction forces are sought.

First, the system is divided into a left and a right subsystem.  $F_1$ , A and B form the left and  $F_2$ , B and C the right part. On the line of action of  $F_1$  a point is now selected and connected to the two supports. This thrust line corresponds to the direction of the reaction forces A and  $B_1$ , which are shifted parallel in the force diagram. Equally this happens with the right subsystem, resulting in the force polygon  $F_2$ -C -  $B_2$ .



The reaction forces  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  can now be added up to the total reaction force B in the force diagram. Since the horizontal components of  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are equal but point in opposite directions, they cancel each other out. As a result the reaction force B becomes vertical. Together with the load line, the reaction forces also result in a closed polygon, which proves that the system is in global equilibrium.











In the following a structure with three supports is analysed. There is a dead line load and three supports A, B and C. A possible thrust line under the given load and the forces in the three supports are sought.

First, the system is divided into a left and a right subsystem. The line load is divided at the middle support and the two partial resultants  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are calculated. A point is now selected on the line of action of  $R_1$  and connected to the two supports. These are the tangents to the left parabola, which correspond to the direction of the reaction forces A and  $B_1$ . Equally this is done with the right subsystem.



Again,  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  can be added up to the reaction force B in the force diagram. Together with the load line, the reaction forces result in a closed polygon, which proves that the system is in global equilibrium.

Finally, the curve can be drawn into the form diagram by hand using the three tangents.







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