## 6. SLOPE DEFLECTION METHOD

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### 6.2 INTRODUCTION

As mentioned earlier, it is a displacement based analysis for indeterminate structures - Unknown displacements are first written in terms of the loads by using load-displacement relationships; then these equations are solved for the displacements. Once the displacements are obtained, unknown loads are determined from the compatibility equations using load-displacement relationships.

- Nodes: Specified points on the structure that undergo displacements (and rotations)
- Degrees of Freedom: These displacements (and rotations) are referred to as degrees of freedom


### 6.2 Introduction

To clarify these concepts we will consider some examples, beginning with the beam in Fig. 1(a). Here any load P applied to the beam will cause node A only to rotate (neglecting axial deformation), while node B is completely restricted from moving. Hence the beam has only one degree of freedom, $\theta_{\mathrm{A}}$. The beam in Fig. 1(b) has node at $A, B$, and $C$, and so has four degrees of freedom, designed by the rotational displacements $\theta_{\mathrm{A}}, \theta_{\mathrm{B}}, \theta_{\mathrm{C}}$, and the vertical displacement $\Delta_{\mathrm{C}}$. Consider now the frame in Fig. 1(c). Again, if we neglect axial deformation of the members, an arbitrary loading P applied to the frame can cause nodes B and C to rotate nodes can be displaced horizontally by an equal amount. The frame therefore has three degrees of freedom, $\theta_{\mathrm{A}}, \theta_{\mathrm{B}}, \Delta_{\mathrm{B}}$.


### 6.3 Slope Deflection Method

Consider portion AB of a continuous beam, shown below, subjected to a distributed load $\mathrm{w}(\mathrm{x})$ per unit length and a support settlement of $\Delta$ at B ; EI of the beam is constant.





