



North American  
Pultrusion Conference

# Advancements in Pultruded FRP Connection Design and Detailing

David Pirchio, PhD, MSCE, MSAE

Frost Engineering & Consulting



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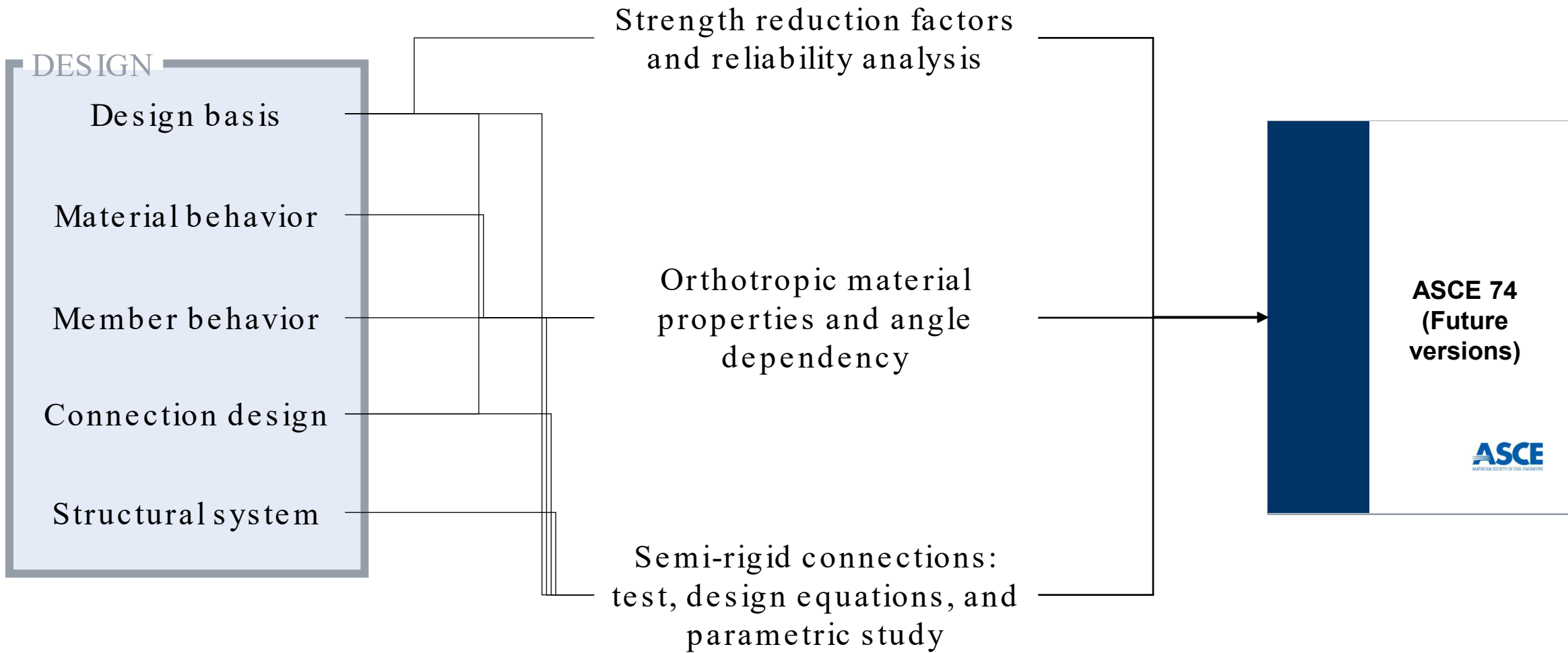
**01/2020 – Current: Project Engineer at Frost Engineering & Consulting – Specialization in design of pultruded fiber reinforced polymer (FRP) structures**

**08/2020 – 05/2023: Ph.D. in Civil Engineering – Specialization in structural applications of pultruded FRP**

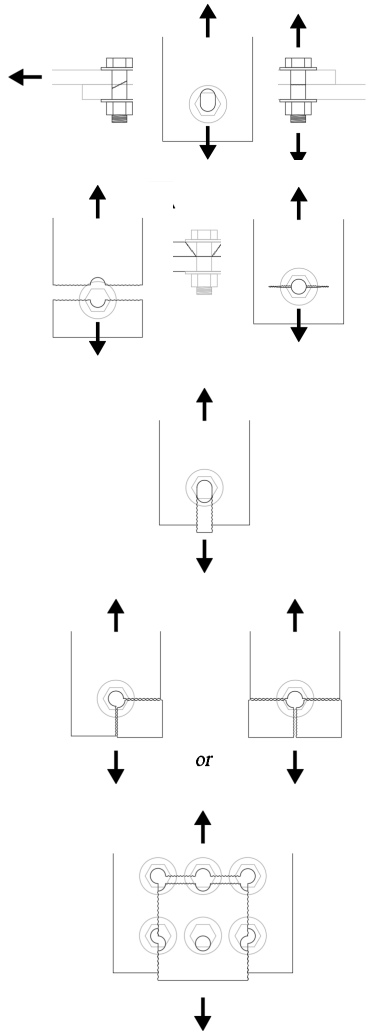
**08/2018 – 08/2020: M.S. in Civil Engineering – Specialization in seismic risk assessment of medieval unreinforced masonry religious buildings**

**09/2012 – 03/2018: B.S. + M.S. in Architectural Engineering - Specialization in seismic design and structural rehabilitation**





# Strength Reduction Factors and Reliability Analysis



**Bolt in tension limit state**

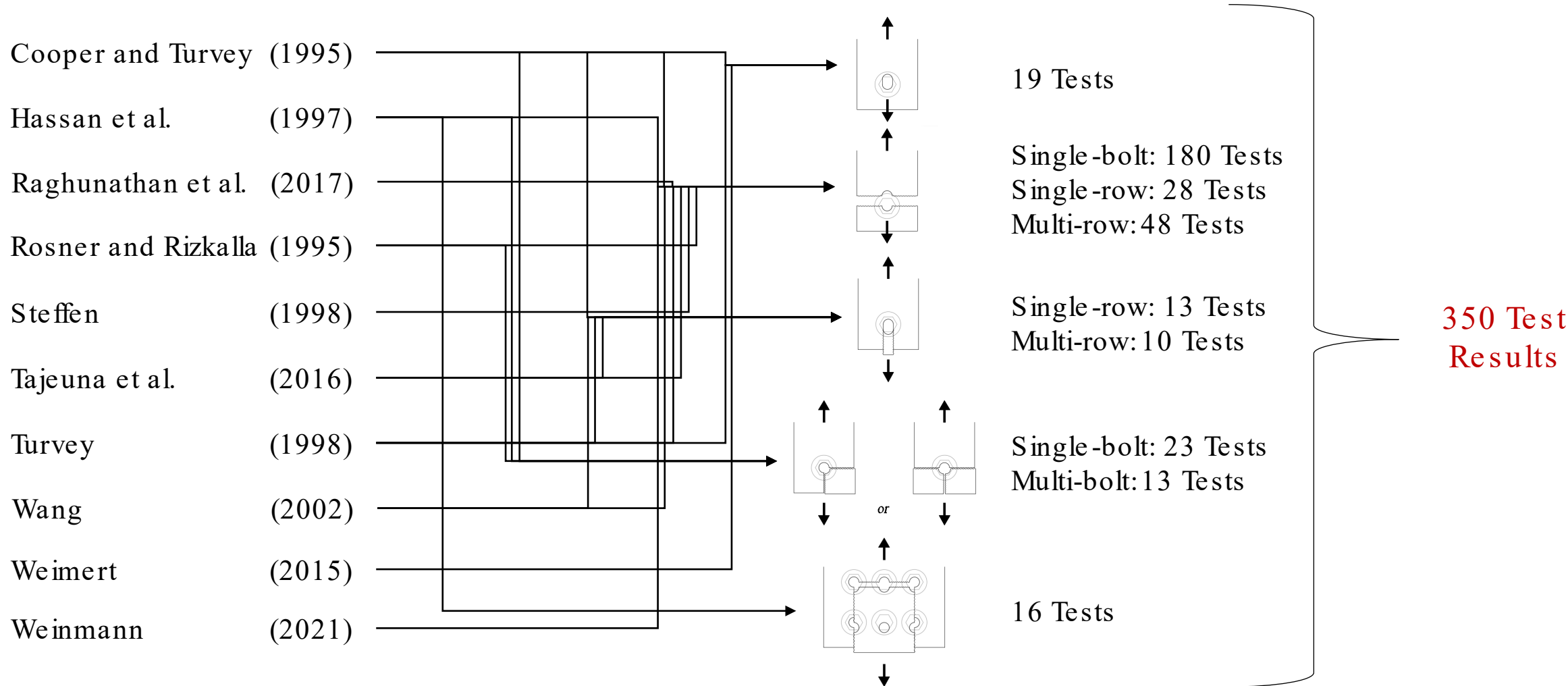
**Net tension limit state**  
**Pull-through limit state**  
**Net tension "splitting" limit state**

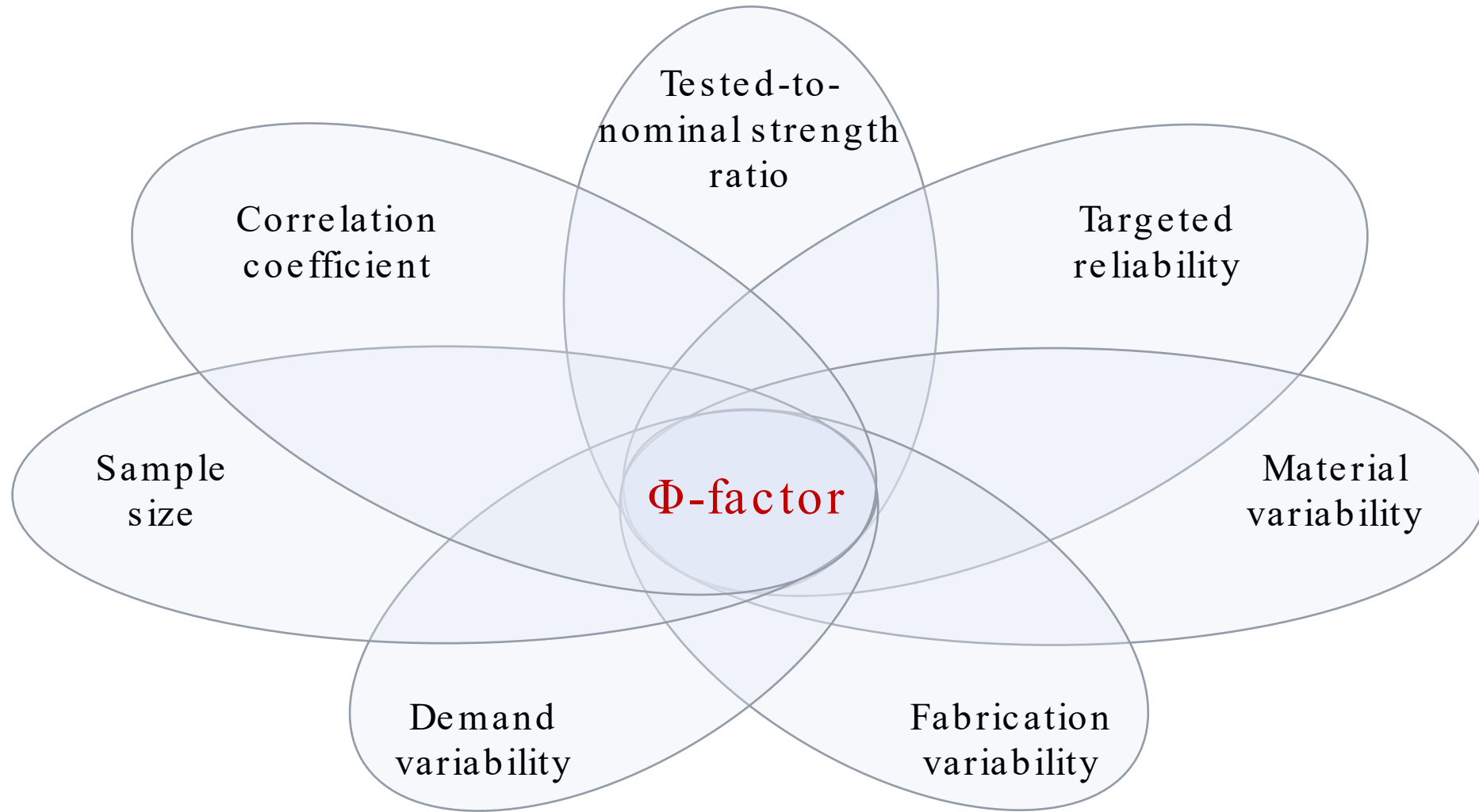
**Shear out limit state**

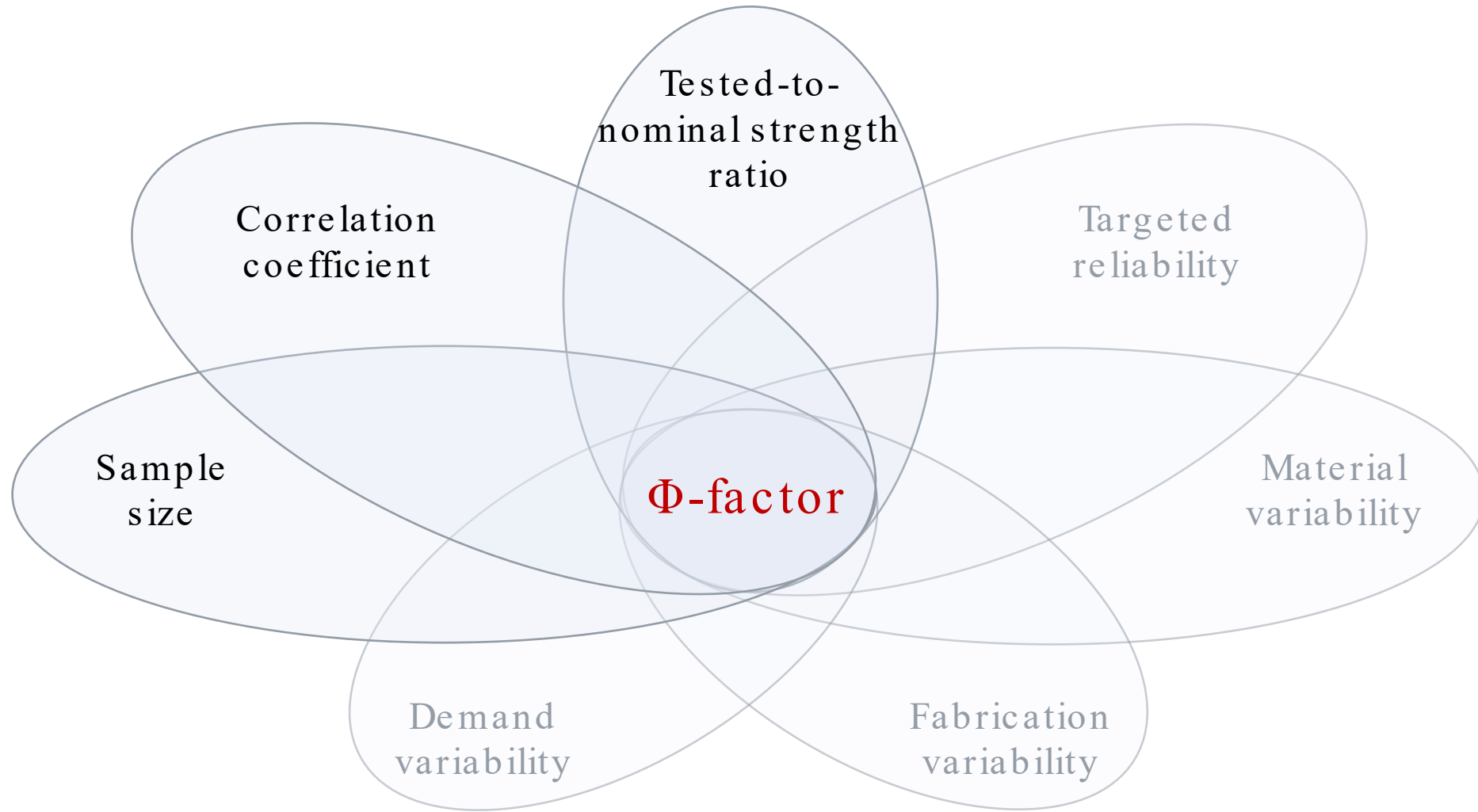
**Cleavage limit state**

**Block shear limit state**

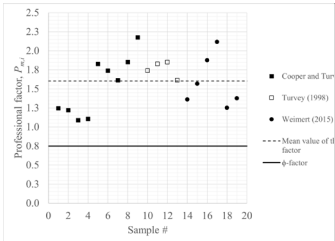
Limit state	$\Phi$ -factor ASCE/SEI 74
Bearing	0.60
Net tension for one bolt in one row	0.45
Net tension for multiple bolts in one row	0.45
Net tension for multiple rows of bolts	0.45 – 0.50
Shear out for one row of bolts	0.50
Shear out for multiple rows of bolts	0.45
Cleavage for one bolt in one row	0.50
Cleavage for multiple bolts in one row	0.50
Block shear	0.45



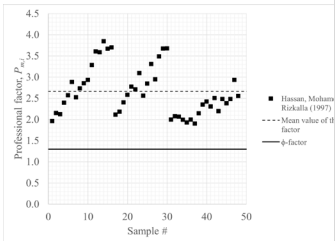




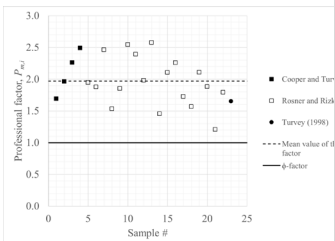




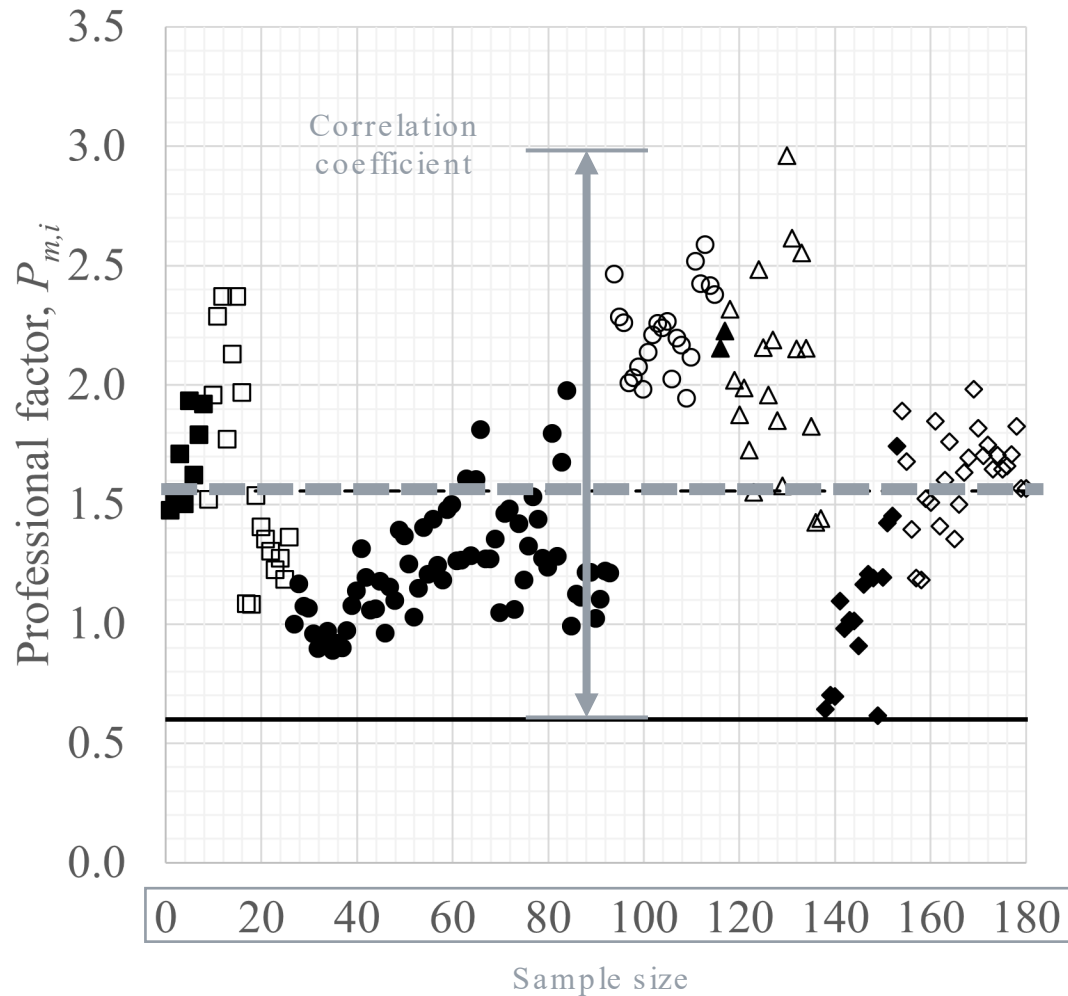
ASCE/SEI 74 & Pre-Standard



ASCE/SEI 74



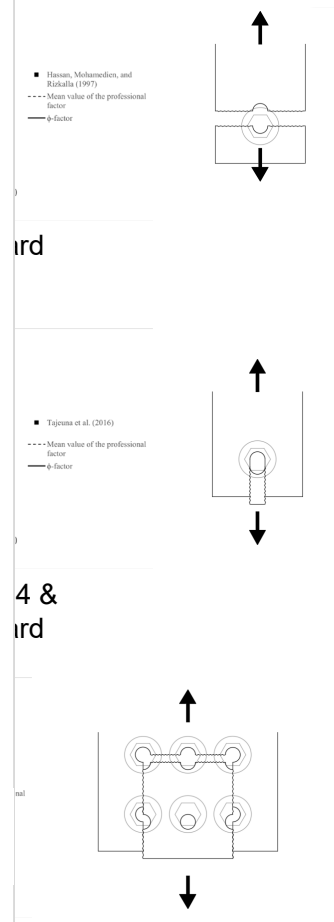
ASCE/SEI 74 & Pre-Standard

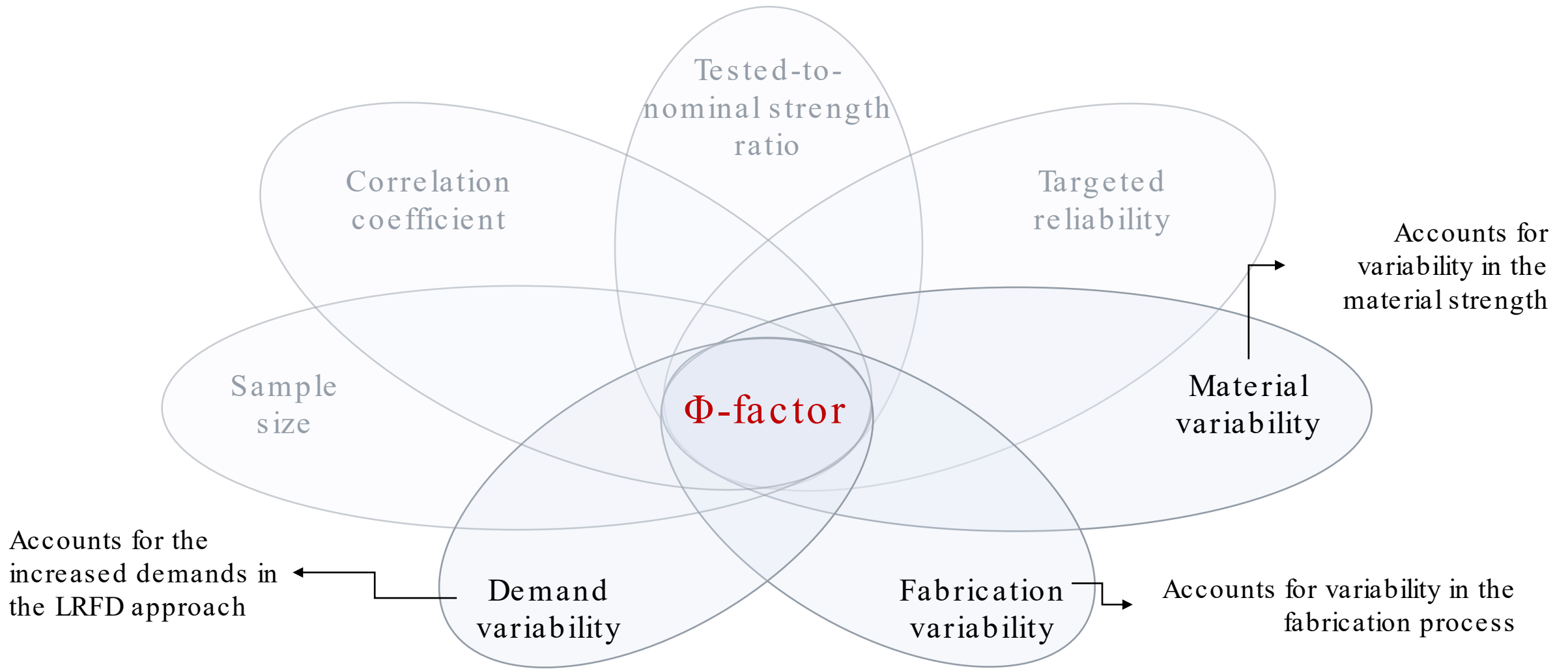


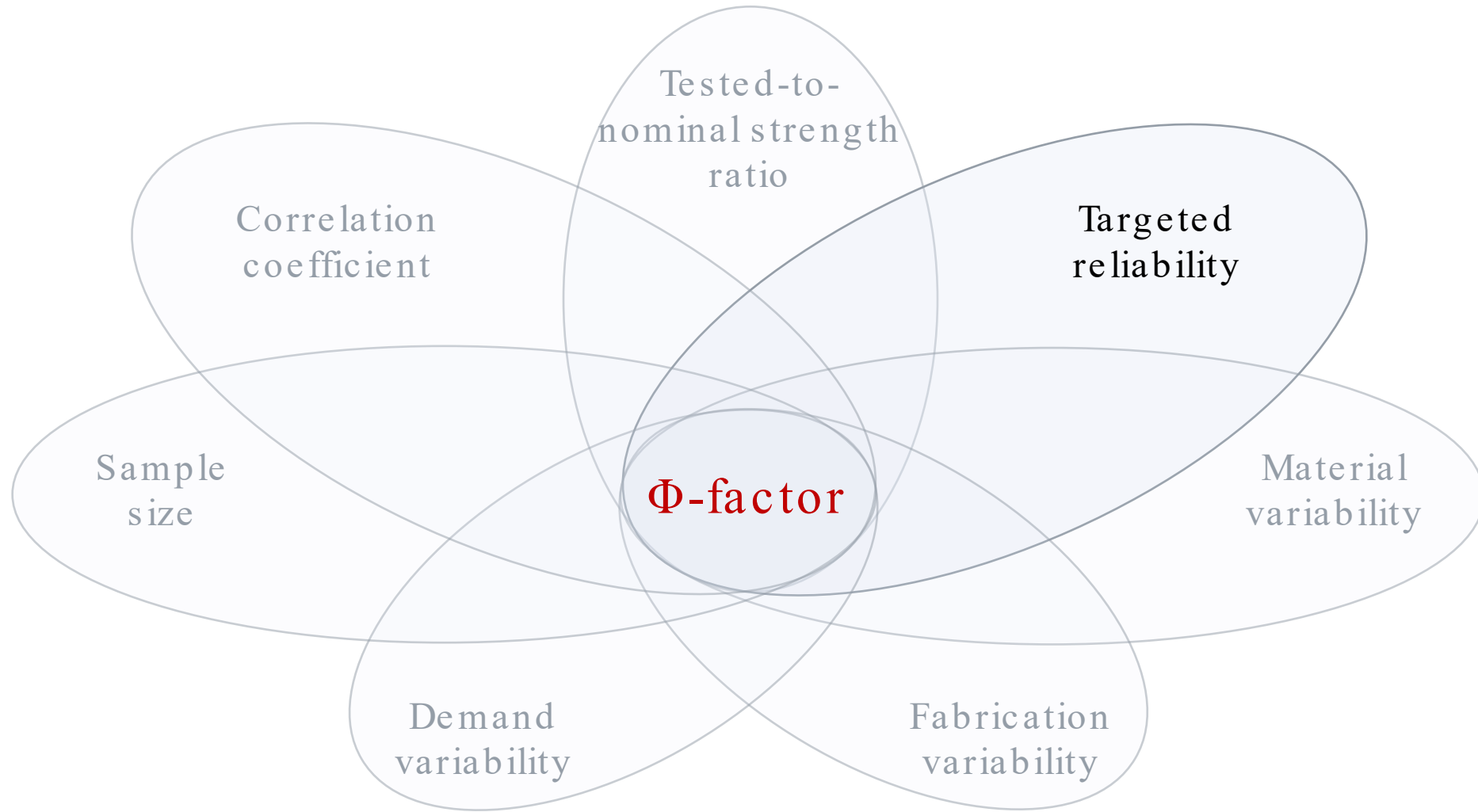
- Cooper and Turvey (1995)
- Raghunathan, Senthil, and Palani (2017)
- Rosner and Rizkalla (1995)
- Steffen (1998)
- ▲ Tajeuna et al. (2016)
- △ Turvey (1998)
- ◆ Wang (2002)
- ◇ Weinmann (2021)

Mean tested-to-nominal strength ratio (i.e., professional factor)

—  $\phi$ -factor







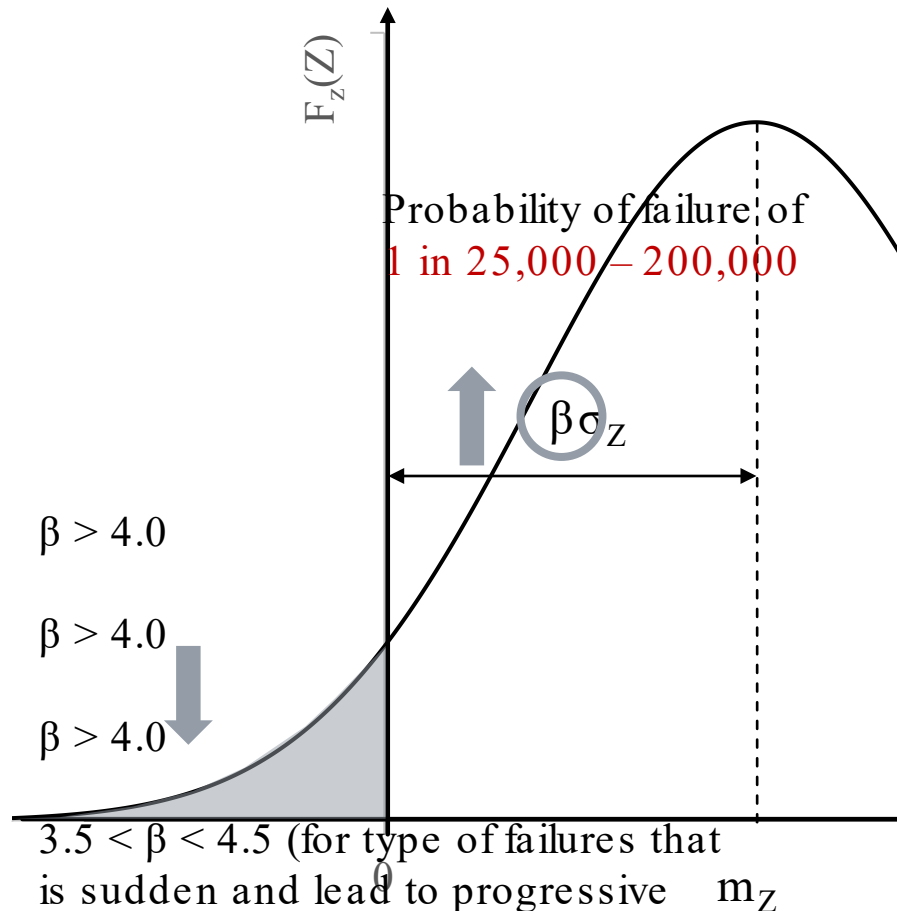
- ASCE/SEI 74:
- Pre-Standard:
- Ellingwood:
- ASCE 7-22:

$\beta > 4.0$

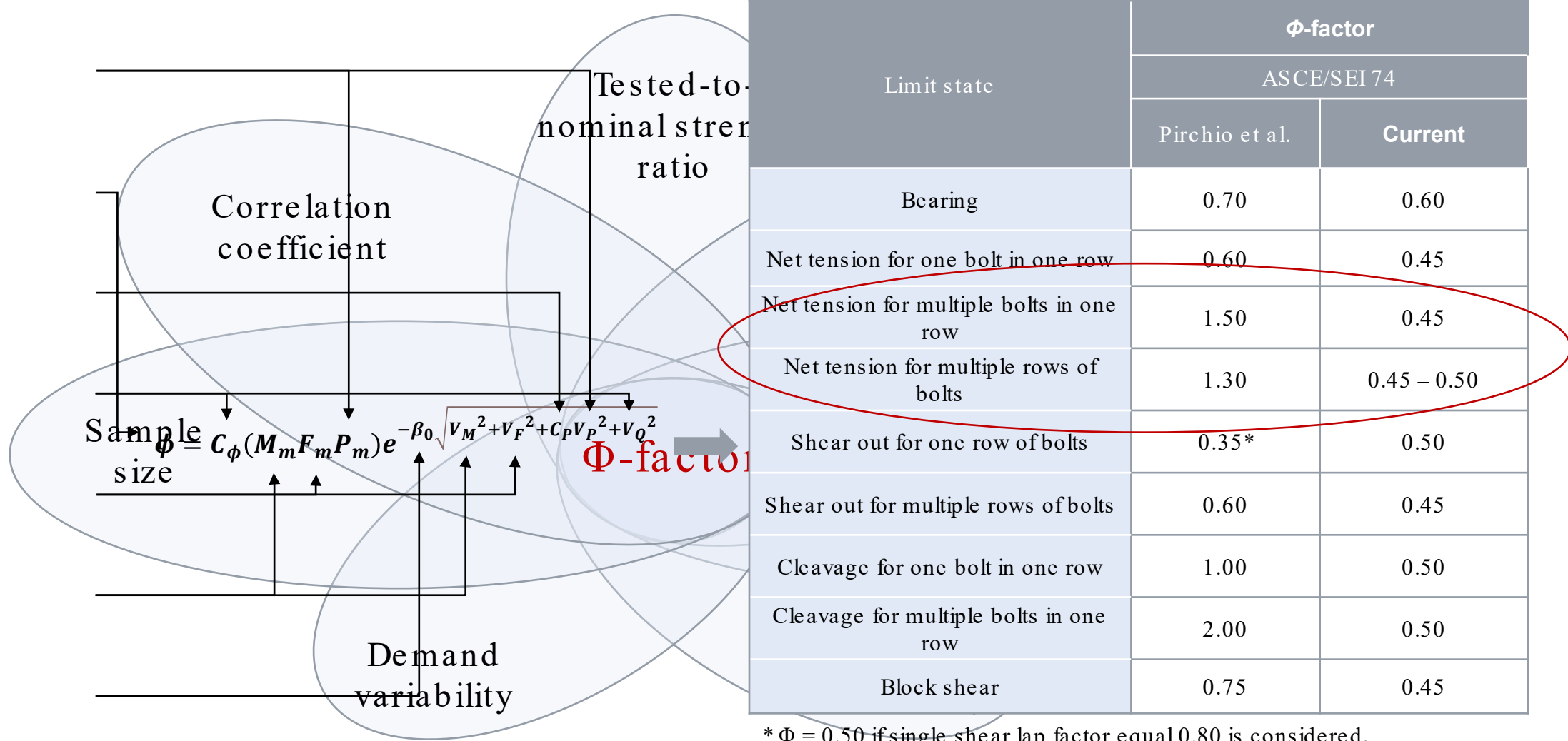
$\beta > 4.0$

$\beta > 4.0$

$3.5 < \beta < 4.5$  (for type of failures that is sudden and lead to progressive collapse)



Reliability index, $\beta$	Probability of failure in a 50-year reference period
0.0	50.0%
2.5	0.60% – 0.63%
3.0	0.10% – 0.15%
3.5	0.02% – 0.03%
4.0	0.003% – 0.004%
4.5	0.0003% – 0.0005%

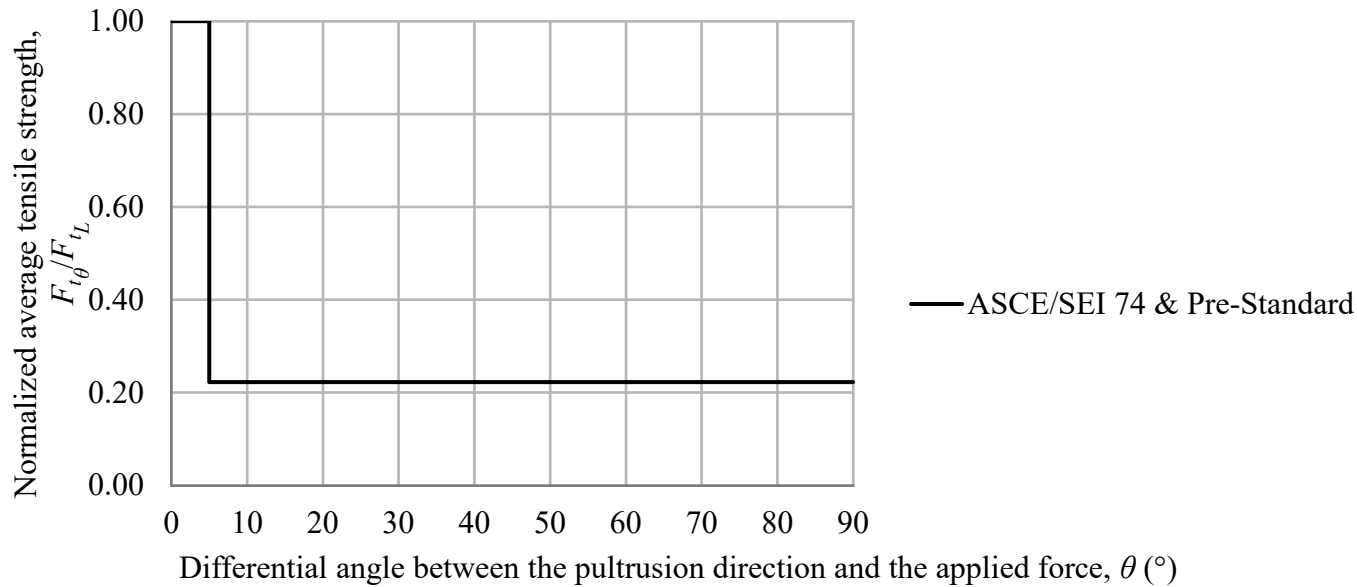


\*  $\Phi = 0.50$  if single shear lap factor equal 0.80 is considered.

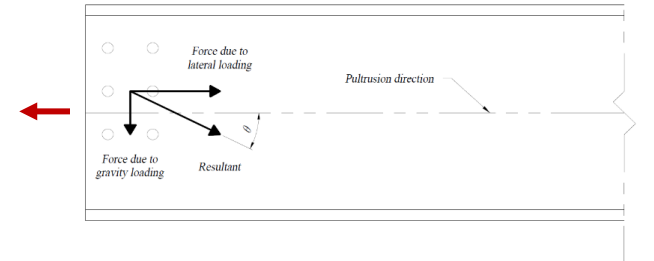


# Orthotropic Material Properties and Angle Dependency

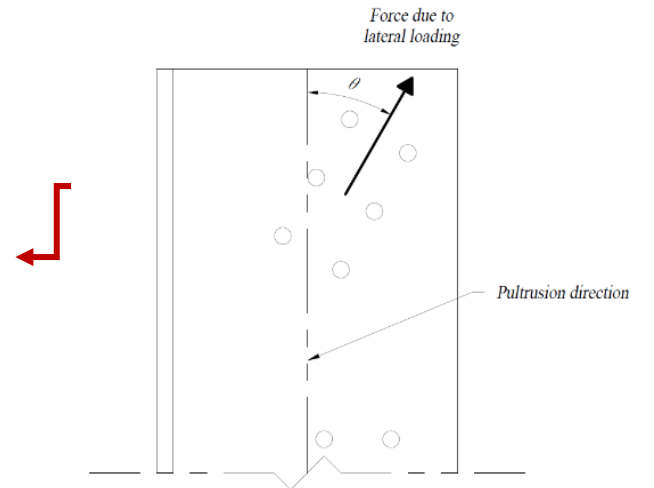
Lower-bound specified mechanical properties	ASCE/SEI 74	Manufacturer A	Manufacturer B
Longitudinal tensile strength	210 MPa	210 MPa	210 MPa
Transverse tensile strength	50 MPa	50 MPa	50 MPa
Longitudinal tensile modulus	21,000 MPa	17,200 MPa	17,200 MPa
Transverse tensile modulus	5,500 MPa	5,500 MPa	5,500 MPa



**Collector beam**



**Braced connection**



Test standard: ASTM D638

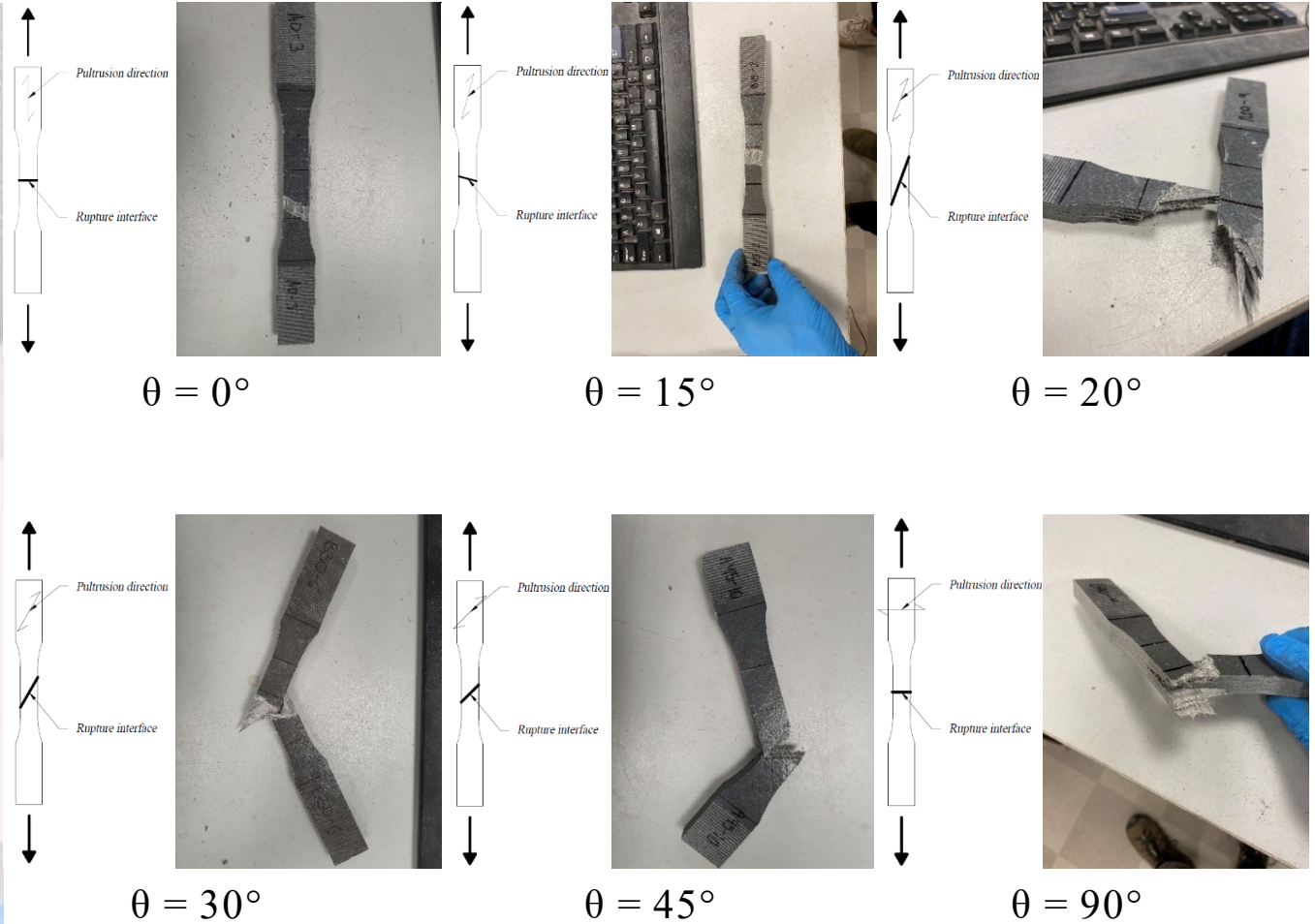
Specimen tested: Wishbone coupons

Specimen properties: 2" gage  
 Extracted from different members  
 Cut at different angles  
 Thickness 3/8" – 1/2"

Sample size:

- 94 at 0°
- 21 at 10°
- 7 at 15°
- 21 at 20°
- 34 at 30°
- 24 at 45°
- 2 at 60°
- 25 at 90°

228 specimens tested

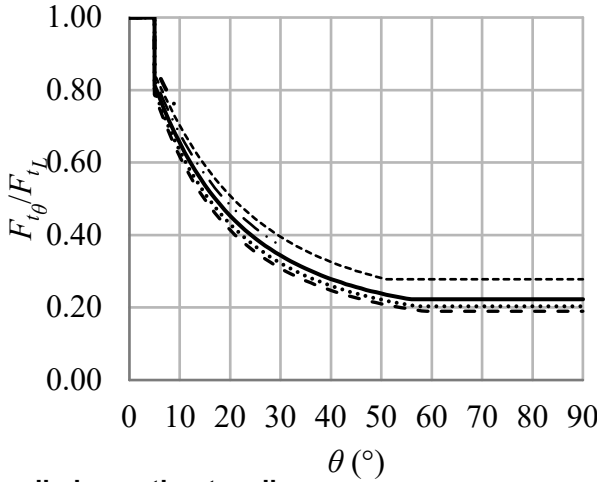




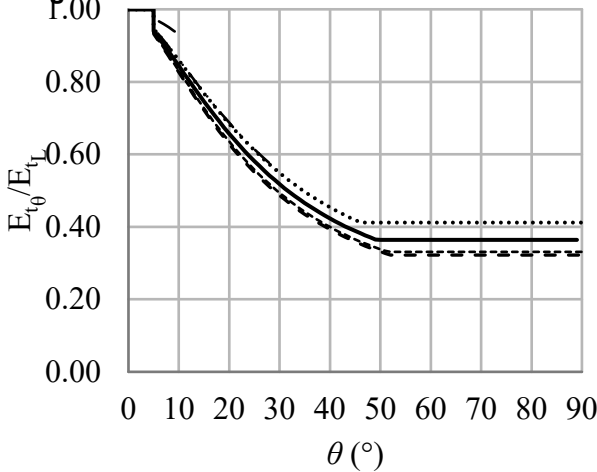
### Hankinson Proposed NDS Equation (1921)

$$x^\theta = \frac{x^L x^T}{x^L (\sin \theta)^\alpha + x^T (\cos \theta)^\beta} \geq x^T$$

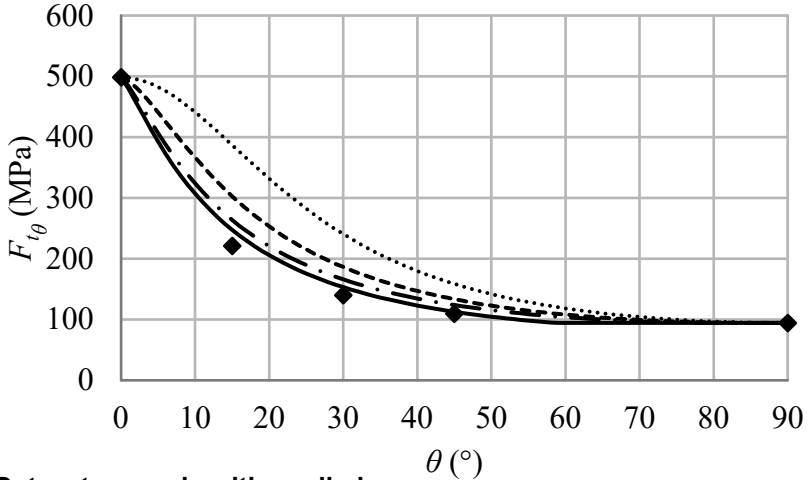
$x^\theta$  = Generic material property depending on the angle,  $\theta$   
 $x^L$   $\alpha = 1.22$  (strength), or 1.54 (modulus)  
 = Generic longitudinal material property  
 $x^T$   $\beta = 0.12$  (strength) or 0.11 (modulus)  
 = Generic transverse material property



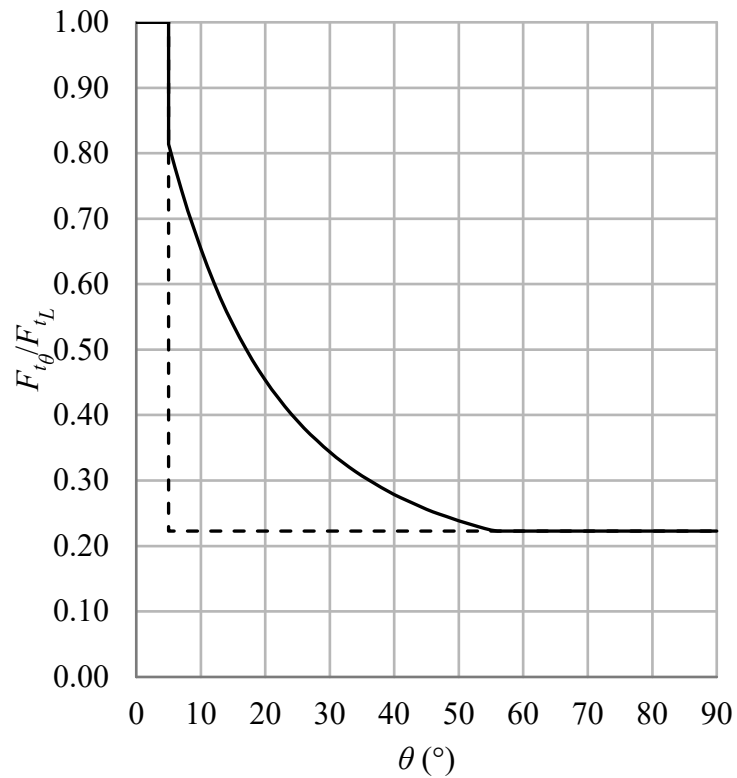
Applied equation tensile strength



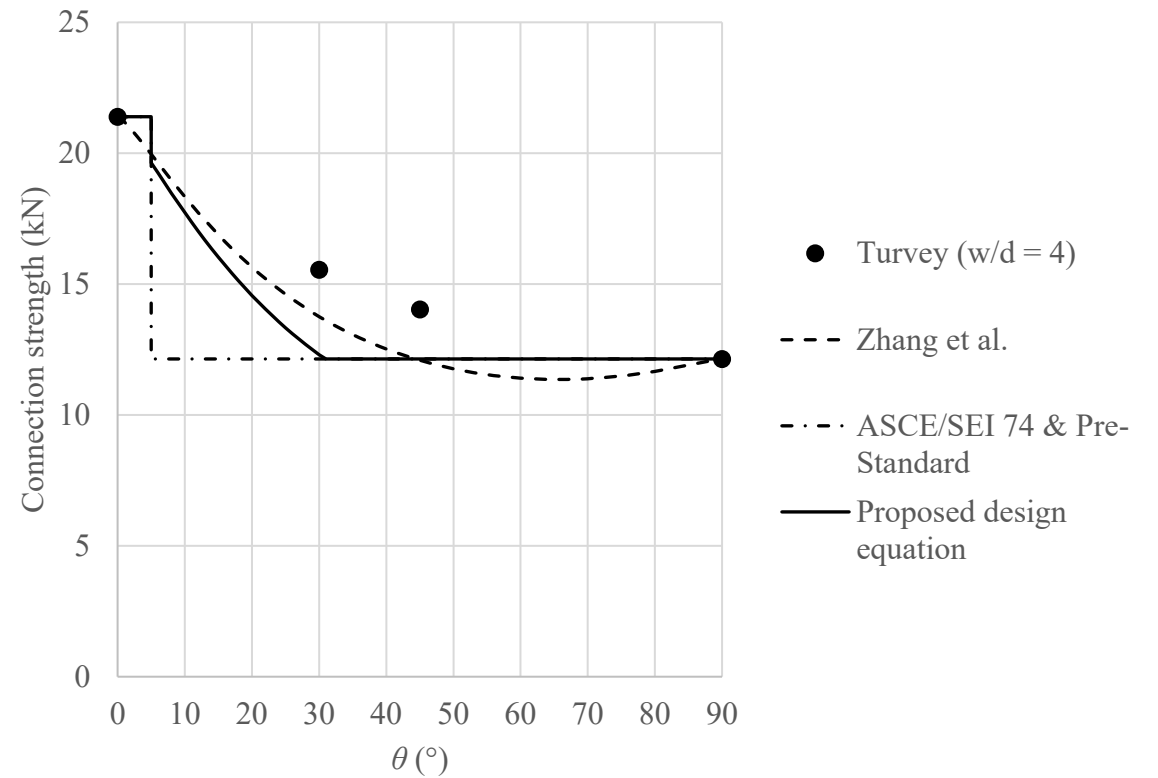
Applied equation tensile modulus



Dataset example with applied equations



Material strength



Connection strength for case study connection

# Semi-Rigid Connections

Test, Design Equations, and Parametric Study

- Limited structural application of the results due to the size of the tested members
- High cost of the proposed configurations due to the large number of connectors utilized
- Inapplicability to single-story platforms due to the interaction of the clip on the top flange with the deck
- Limited sample size of the test conducted (i.e., no defined nor defined design strength reduction)
- Low efficiency of the connections due to configurations borrowed from steel connections that engage weak material properties of pultruded FRP

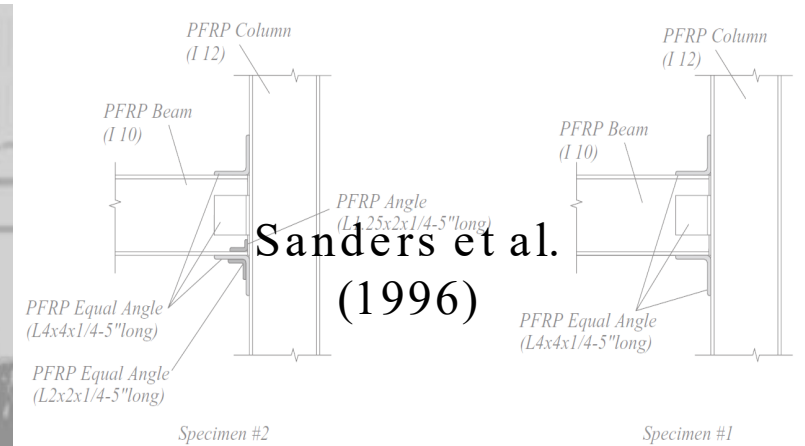
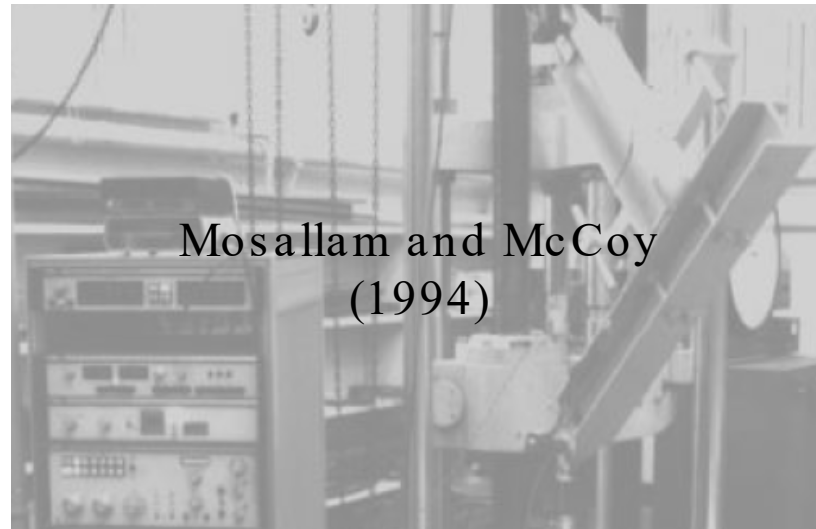
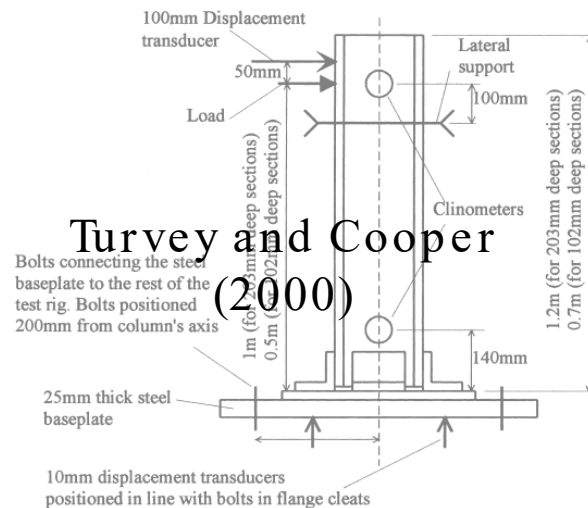
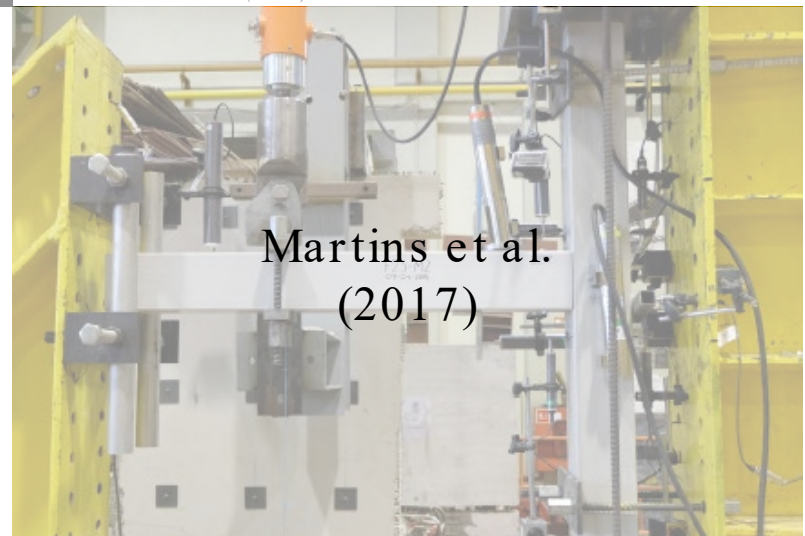
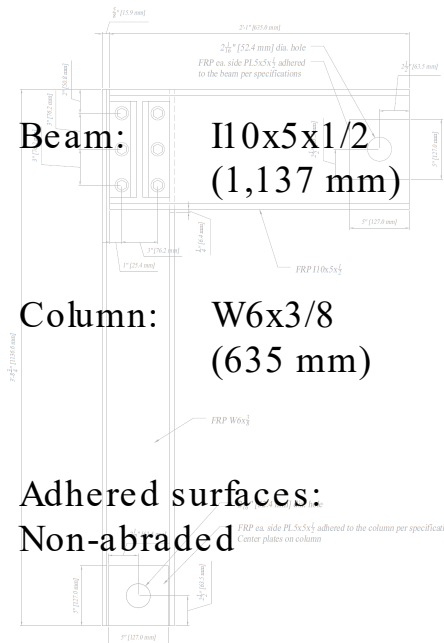


Figure 7-101. Beam-to-column bonded specimens details.  
Source: Sanders et al. (1996).



Turvey and Cooper  
(2000)





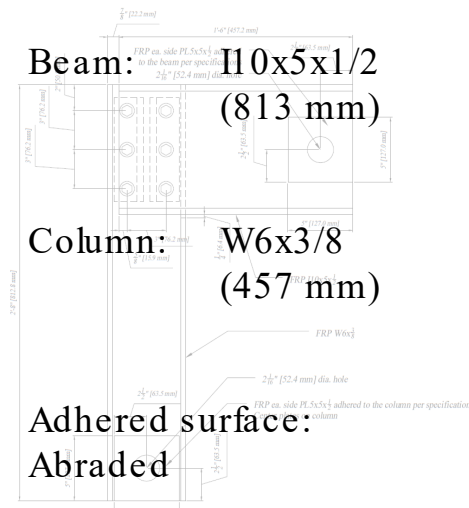
Beam: I10x5x1/2  
(1,137 mm)

Column: W6x3/8  
(635 mm)

Adhered surfaces:  
Non-abraded

Samples: 12

ID: A-I10-W6



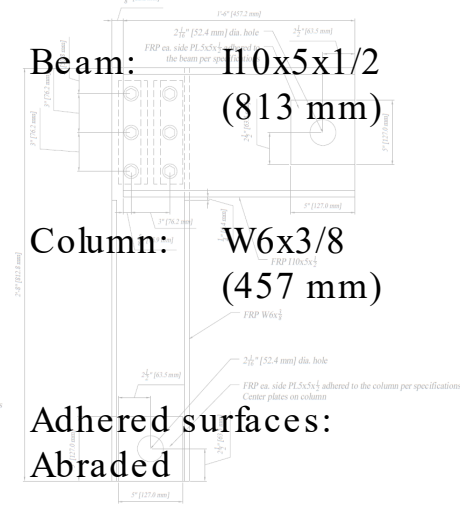
Beam: I10x5x1/2  
(813 mm)

Column: W6x3/8  
(457 mm)

Adhered surface:  
Abraded

Samples: 12

ID: B-I10-W6-1F



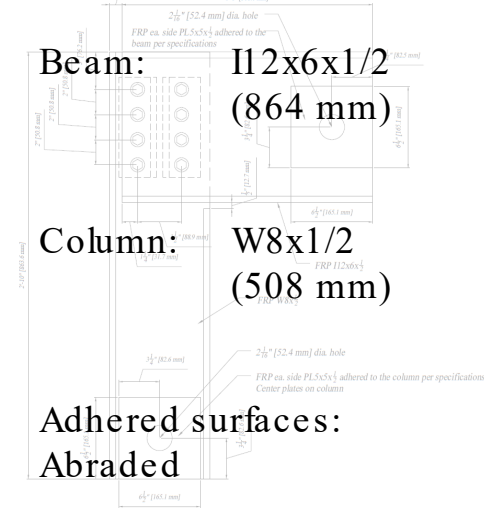
Beam: I10x5x1/2  
(813 mm)

Column: W6x3/8  
(457 mm)

Adhered surfaces:  
Abraded

Samples: 12

ID: B-I10-W6-2F



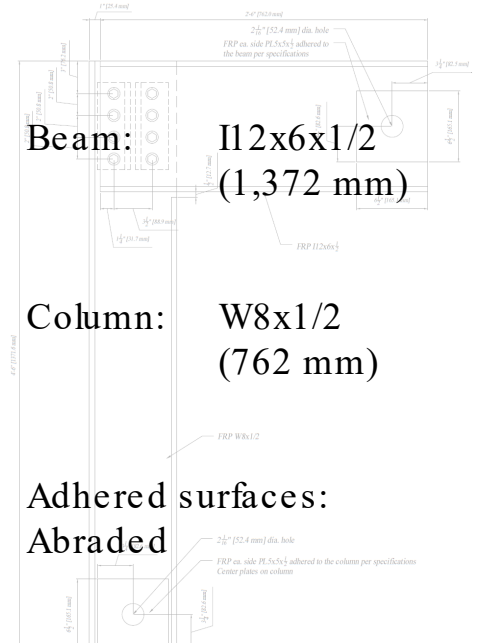
Beam: I12x6x1/2  
(864 mm)

Column: W8x1/2  
(508 mm)

Adhered surfaces:  
Abraded

Samples: 10

ID: B-I12-W-S



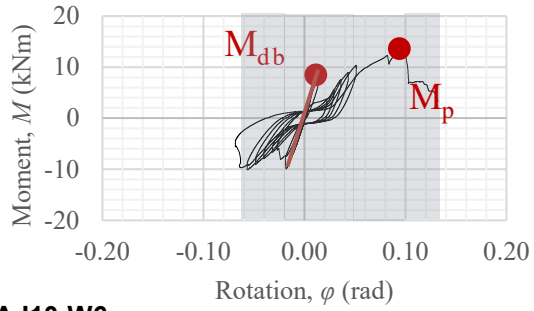
Beam: I12x6x1/2  
(1,372 mm)

Column: W8x1/2  
(762 mm)

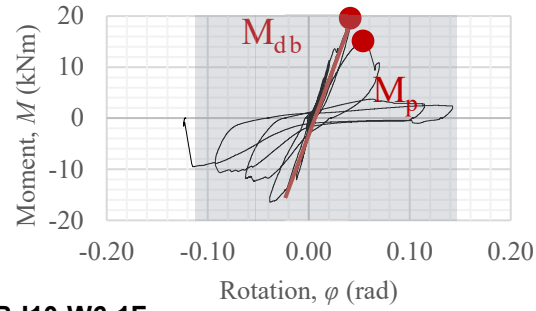
Adhered surfaces:  
Abraded

Samples: 5

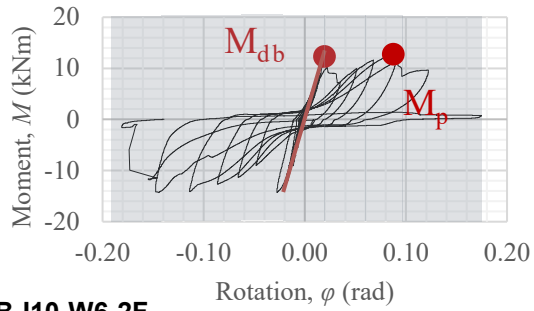
ID: B-I12-W-L



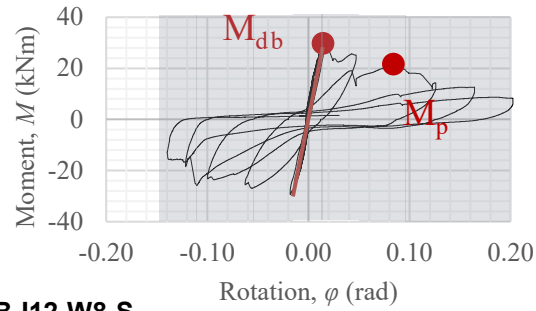
**A-I10-W6**



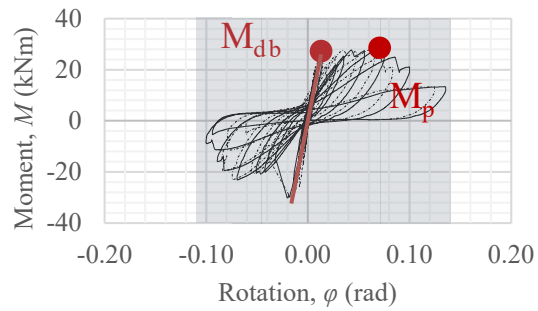
**B-I10-W6-1F**



**B-I10-W6-2F**



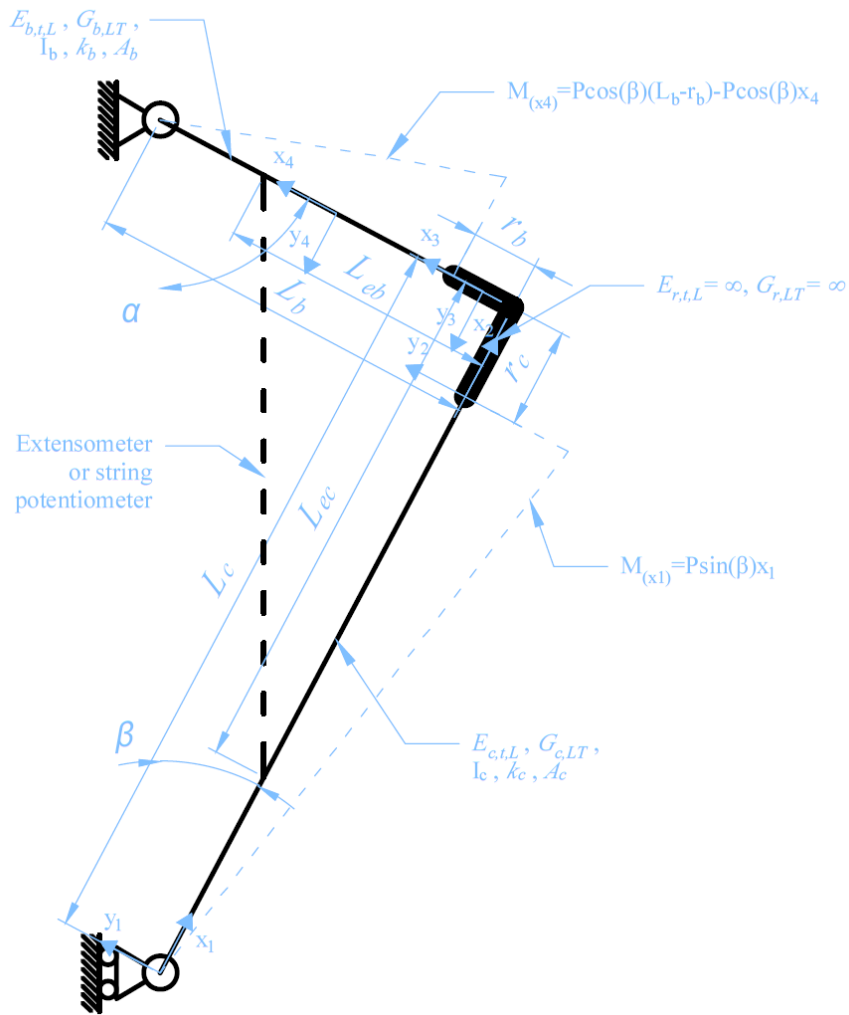
**B-I12-W8-S**



**B-I12-W8-L**

— String potentiometer 1  
 - - - String potentiometer 2





$$\varphi = \varphi_c + \varphi_{e,d}$$

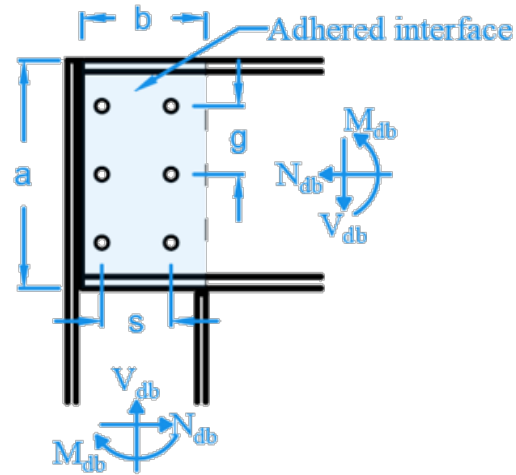
$$\varphi = \frac{P \sin \beta L_c}{k_r}$$

$$\varphi_c = \frac{P \sin \beta L_c}{K_r}$$

$$\varphi_{e,d} = \frac{y(x_3=0) - y(x_4=L_{e,b}-r_b)}{L_{e,b}} - \frac{y(x_1=L_c-L_{e,c})}{L_{e,c}}$$

$$K_r = \left( \frac{1}{k_r} - \frac{\varphi_{e,d}}{P \sin \beta L_c} \right)^{-1}$$

Type	$k_r$ (kNm/rad)	$K_r$ (kNm)	$K_r / k_r$
A-I10-W6	519	970	1.83
B-I10-W6-1F	785	1,227	1.74
B-I10-W6-2F	670	1,275	1.82
B-I12-W8-S	1,617	3,167	2.02
B-I12-W8-L	1,993 – 2,880	3,912 – 3,250	1.95 – 1.12

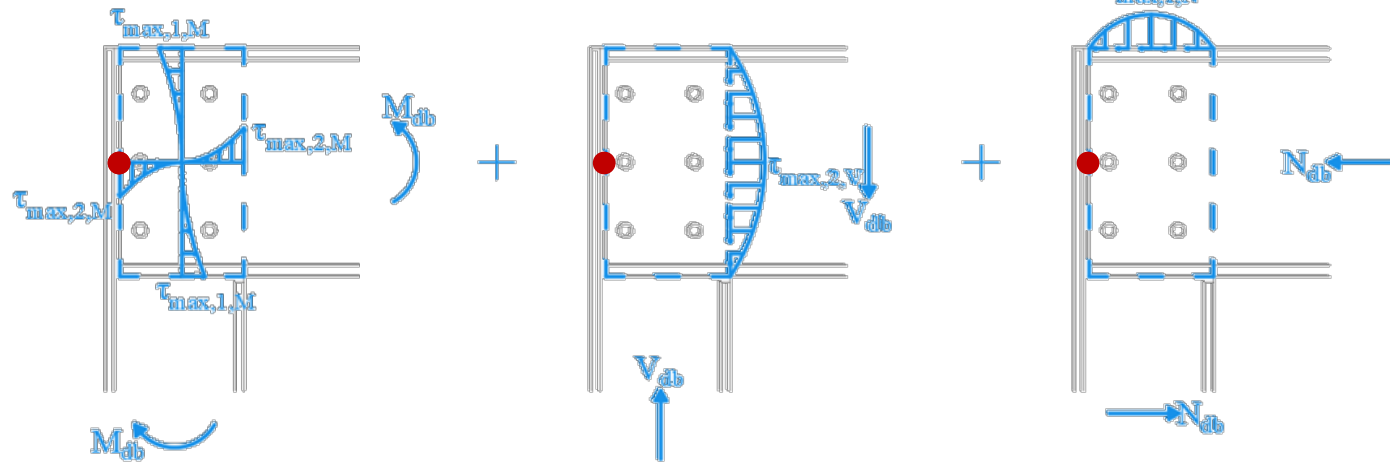


$$\tau_{max,2} = \tau_n = \tau_{max,2,M} + \tau_{max,2,V} + \tau_{max,2,N}$$

$$\tau_{max,2,M} = M_{db} \frac{b}{J_{t,net}}$$

$$\tau_{max,2,V} = 1.5 \frac{V_{db}}{A_{net}}$$

$$\tau_{max,2,N} = 0$$



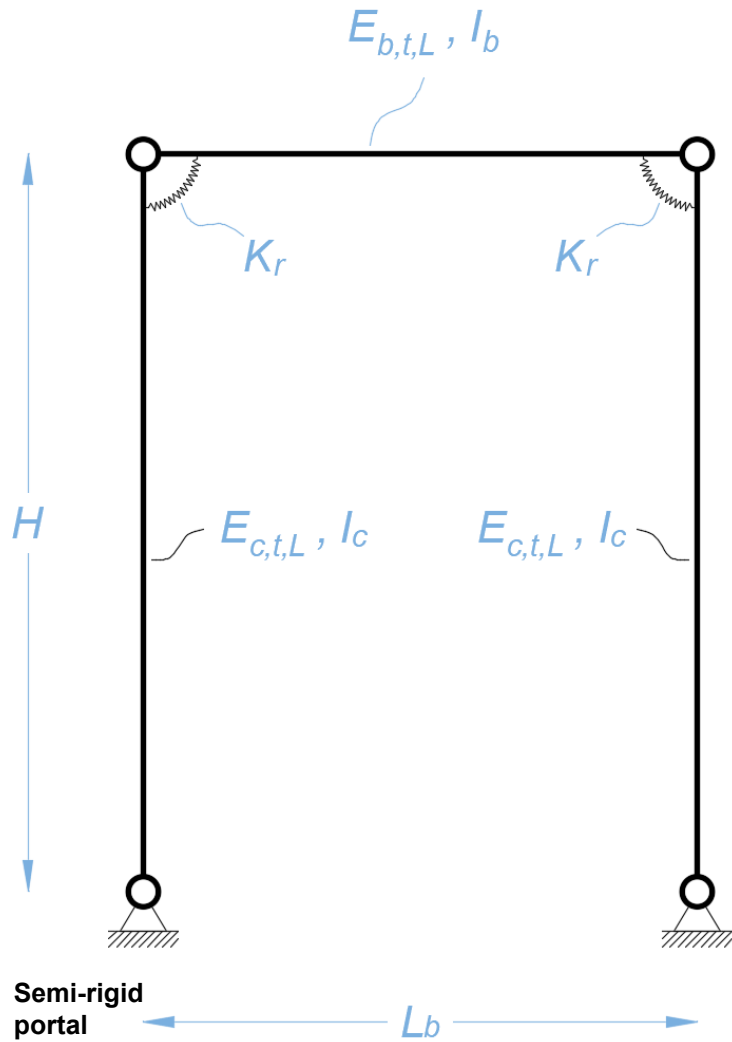
$$M_{db} = \left( \tau_n - 1.5 \frac{V_{db} b}{A_{net}} \right) \frac{J_{t,net}}{b}$$

$$\phi = 0.60 \quad \text{or} \quad \phi = 0.80$$

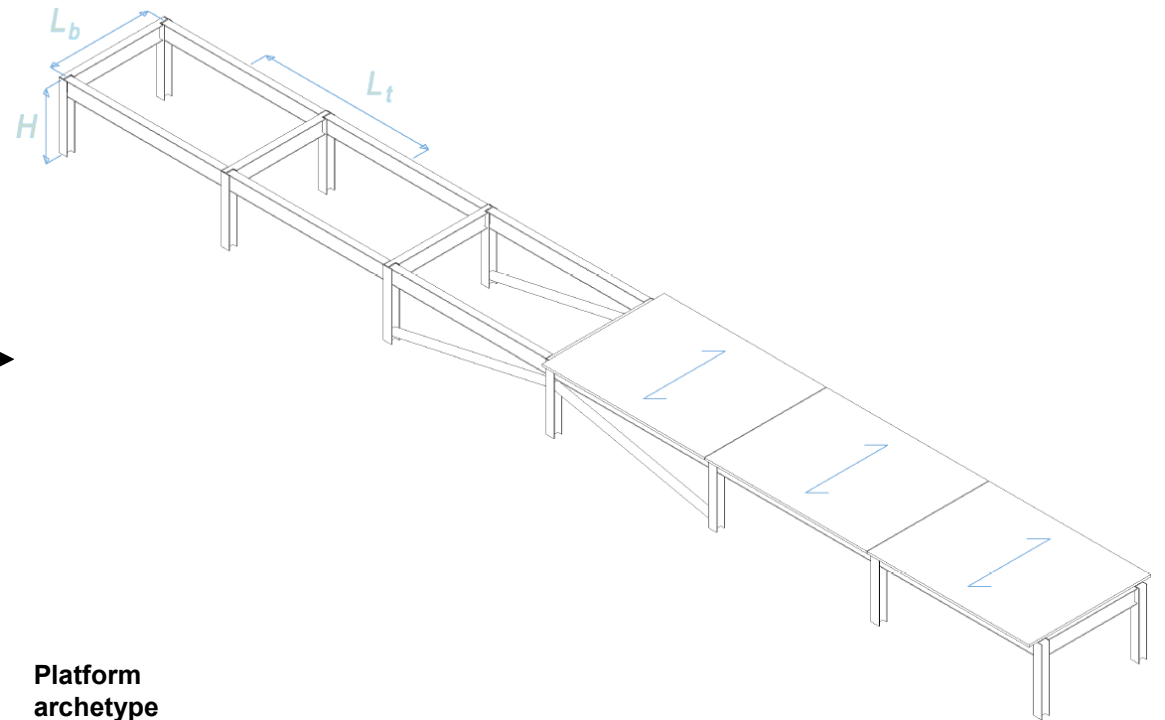
(A-II0-W6 included)

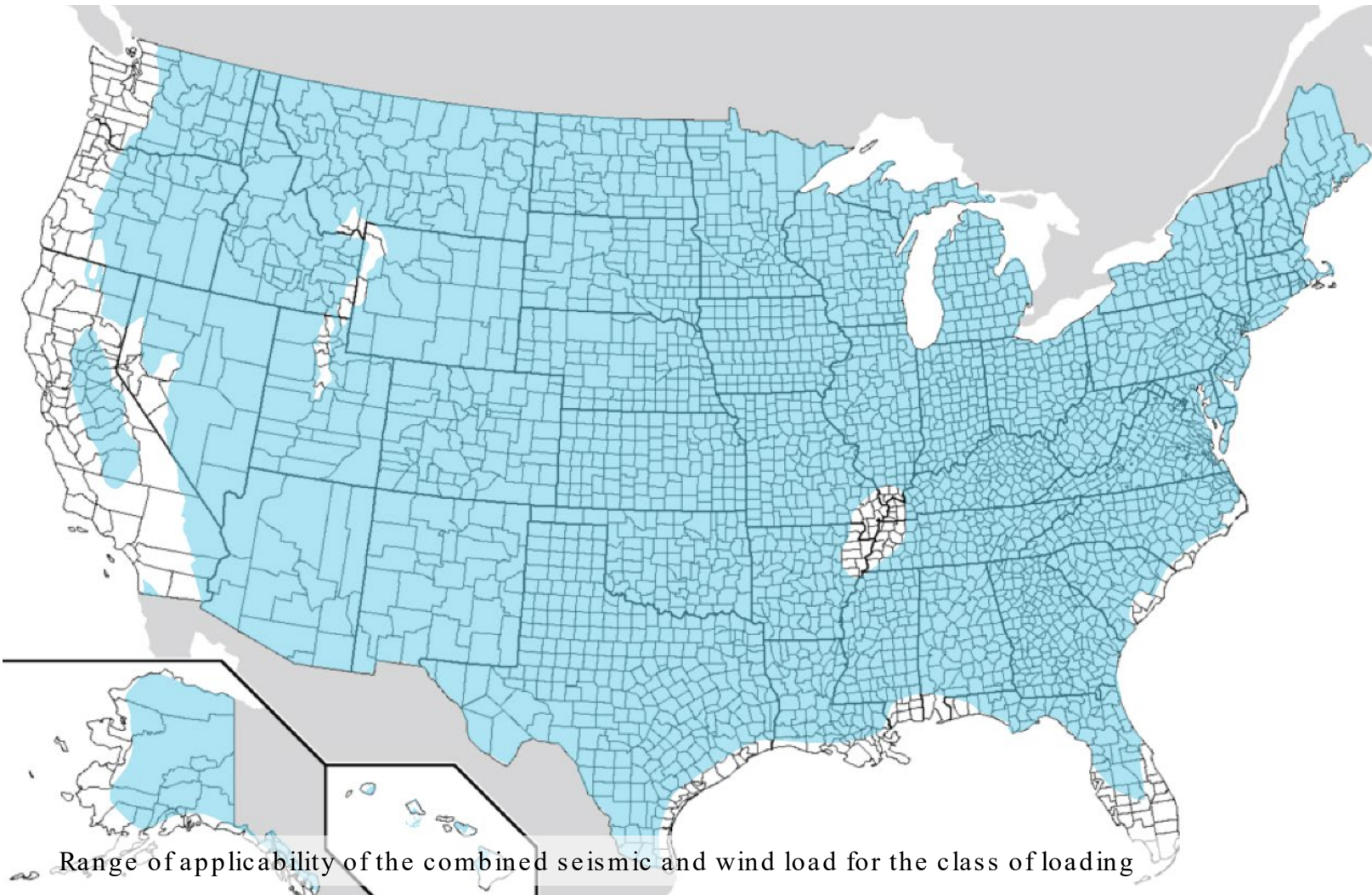
(A-II0-W6 excluded)





$$k = \frac{6E_{c,tL}I_c}{H^3} \left( \frac{2\alpha_s}{2\alpha_s + \beta_s + \frac{6\alpha_s E_{c,tL}I_c}{K_r H}} \right)$$





Range of applicability of the combined seismic and wind load for the class of loading

Low class of lateral loading

Seismic:  $S_s = 0.321g$   
 $S_1 = 0.083g$   
 $T_L = 16s$

Wind:  $V = 49.2 \text{ m/s (110 mph)}$

Moderate class of lateral loading

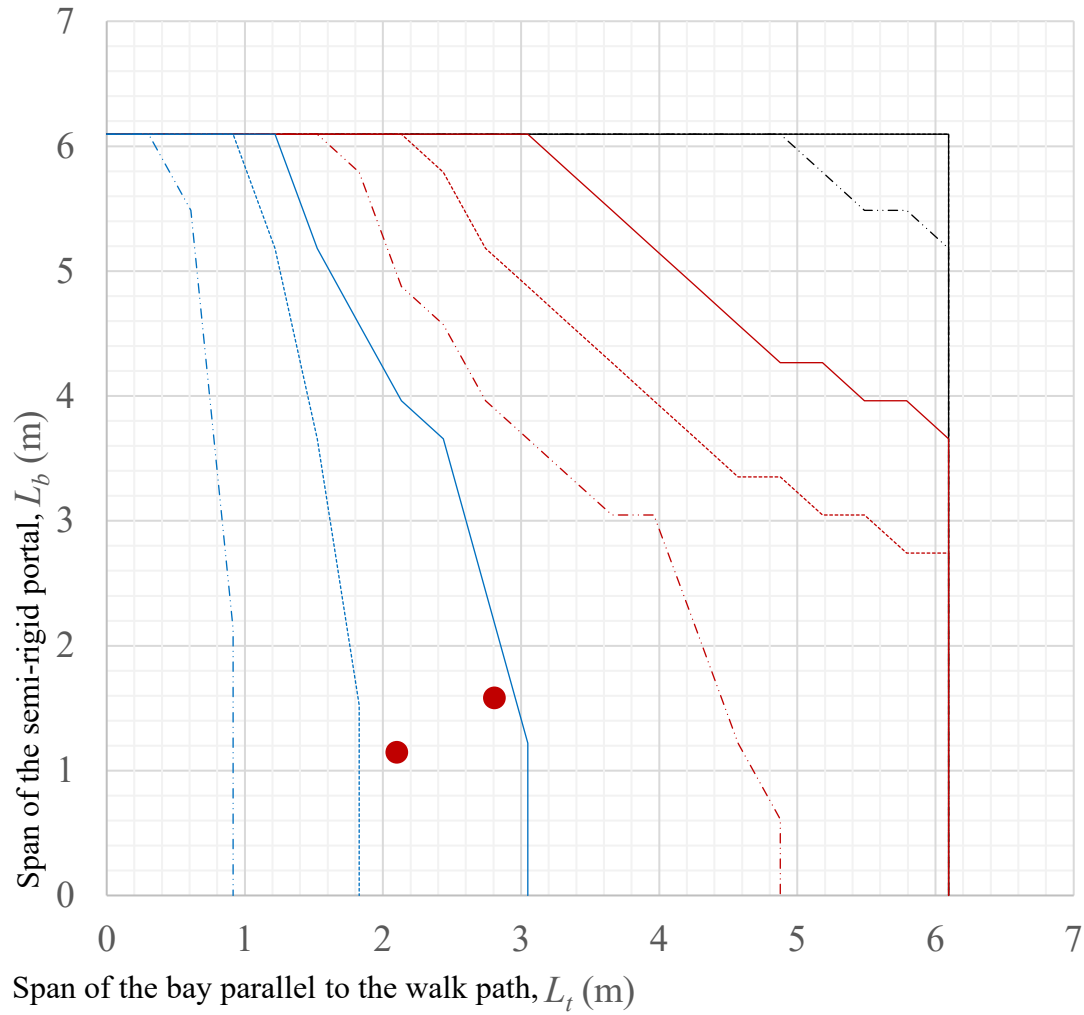
Seismic:  $S_s = 0.552g$   
 $S_1 = 0.128g$   
 $T_L = 16s$

Wind:  $V = 53.6 \text{ m/s (120 mph)}$

High class of lateral loading

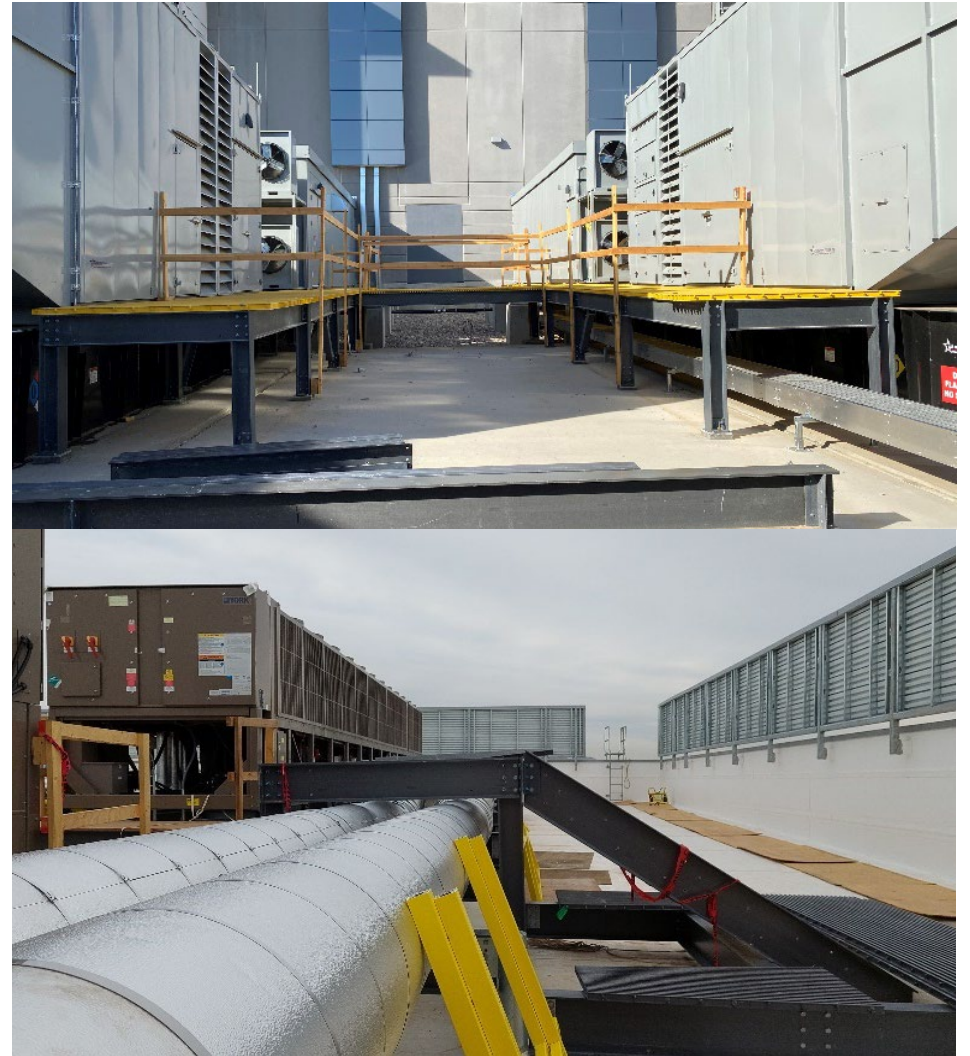
Seismic:  $S_s = 1.500g$   
 $S_1 = 0.300g$   
 $T_L = 16s$

Wind:  $V = 62.6 \text{ m/s (140 mph)}$

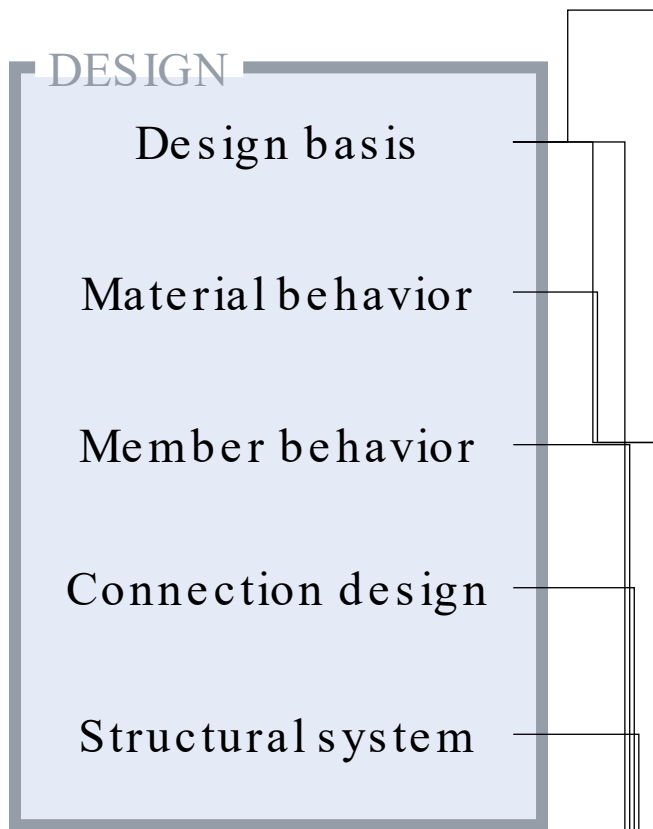


- $H = 0.3$  m
- ⋯  $H = 0.6$  m
- -  $H = 0.9$  m
- $H = 1.2$  m
- ⋯  $H = 1.5$  m
- -  $H = 1.8$  m
- $H = 2.1$  m
- ⋯  $H = 2.4$  m
- -  $H = 2.7$  m

B-II0-W6  
Low class of loading



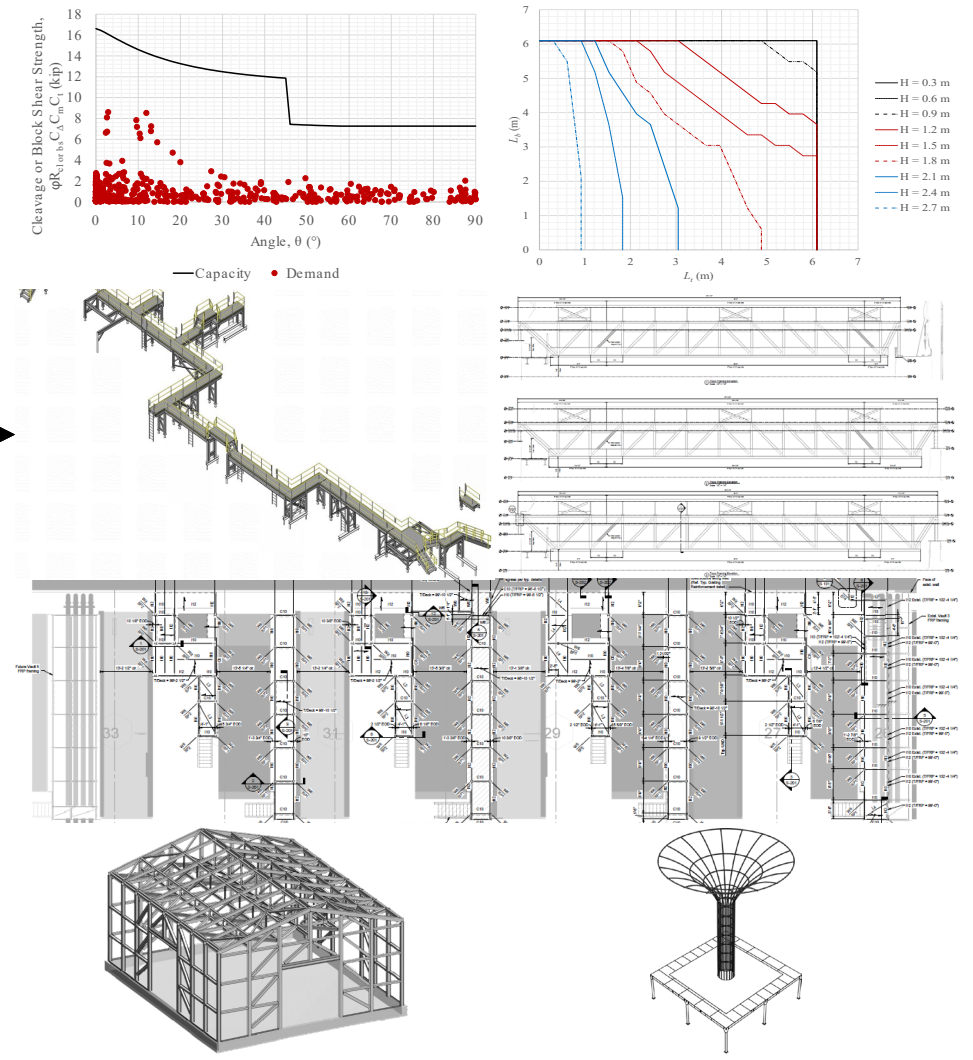
# Applications



Strength reduction factors and reliability analysis

Orthotropic material properties and angle dependency

Semi-rigid connections: test, design equations, and parametric study



# THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION

Special thanks to: University of Notre Dame; Strongwell, Advantac; Elizabeth DePaola, CEEES '22 (University of Notre Dame); Jack Mowat, CEEES '22, MEng '23 (University of Notre Dame); Lee Ngochi, CEEES '23 (University of Notre Dame); Capra Williams, MEng '23 (University of Notre Dame); Joseph Perri, EIH Chief Technician (University of Notre Dame); Ruchi Rathod, PhD Student, ISNAP (University of Notre Dame);