

Tekla Structural Designer 2018

Reference Guides

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Analysis Verification Examples

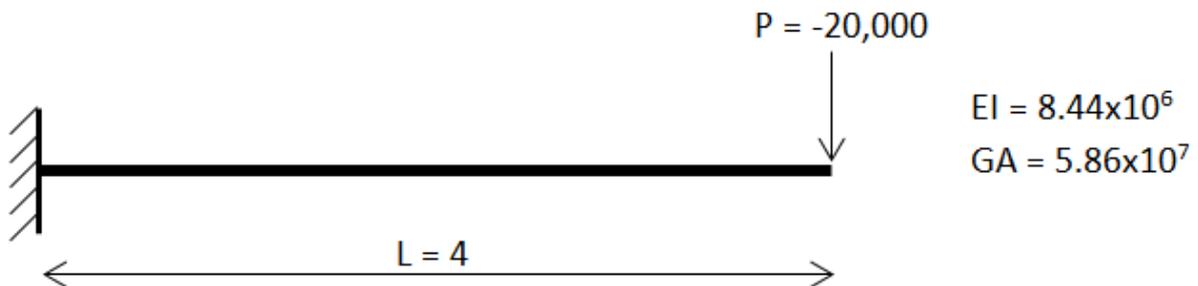
A small number of verification examples are included in this section. Our full automatic test suite for the Solver contains many hundreds of examples which are run and verified every time the Solver is enhanced.

These verification examples use SI units unless otherwise stated.

1st Order Linear - Simple Cantilever

Problem Definition

A 4 long cantilever is subjected to a tip load of 20,000.



Assumptions

Flexural and shear deformations are included.

Key Results

Result	Theoretical Formula	Theoretical Value	Solver Value	% Error
Support Reaction	$-P$	20,000	20,000	0%
Support Moment	PL	-80,000	-80,000	0%
Tip Deflection	$\frac{PL^3}{3EI} + \frac{PL}{GA}$	-0.0519	-0.0519	0%

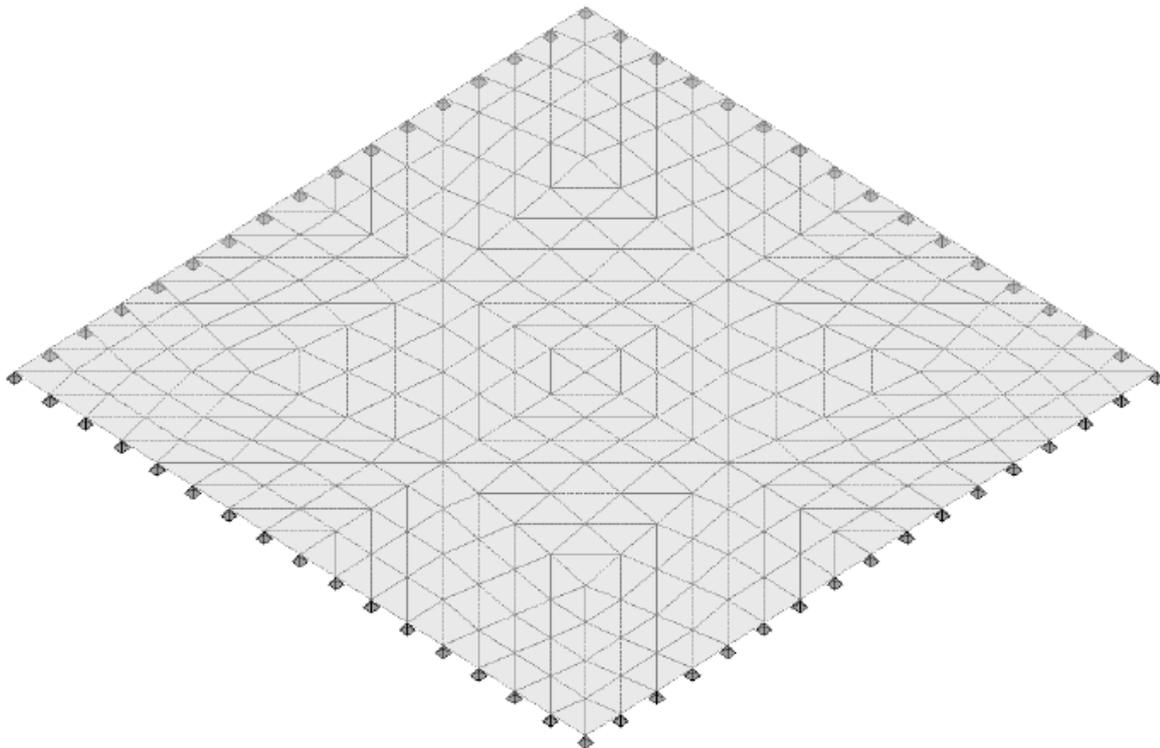
Conclusion

An exact match is observed between the values reported by the solver and the values predicted by beam theory.

1st Order Linear - Simply Supported Square Slab

Problem Definition

Calculate the mid span deflection of an 8x8 simply supported slab of 0.1 thickness under self-weight only. Take material properties $E=2 \times 10^{11}$, $G=7.7 \times 10^{10}$ and $\rho=7849$.



Assumptions

A regular triangular finite element mesh is used with sufficient subdivision. Flexural and shear deformation is included, and the material is assumed to be isotropic.

Key Results

The mid-span deformation is calculated using Navier's Method.

Result	Theoretical Value	Comparison 1	Solver Value	% Error
--------	-------------------	--------------	--------------	---------

Mid-span deflection	7.002×10^{-3}	6.990×10^{-3}	7.031×10^{-3}	0.43%
Mid Span Moment	23616	23708	23649	0.14%

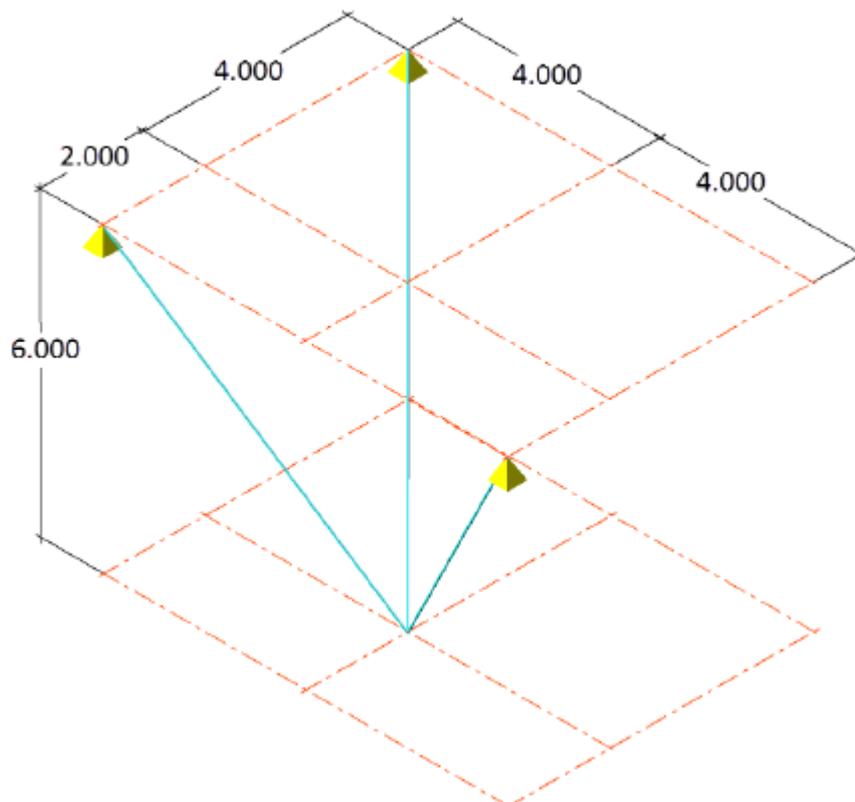
Conclusion

An acceptable match is observed between the theoretical values and the solver results. An acceptable match is also observed between the solver results and those obtained independently.

1st Order Linear - 3D truss

Problem Definition

Three truss members with equal and uniform EA support an applied load of -50 applied at the coordinate (4, 2, 6). The start of each truss member is fixed and are located at (0, 0, 0), (8, 0, 0) and (0, 6, 0) respectively. Calculate the axial force in each element.



Key Results

The results for this problem are compared against those published by Beer and Johnston and against another independent analysis package

Result	Beer and Johnston	Comparison 1	Solver Value	% Error
(0, 0, 0) - (4, 2, -6)	10.4	10.4	10.4	0%
(8, 0, 0) - (4, 2, -6)	31.2	31.2	31.2	0%
(0, 6, 0) - (4, 2, -6)	22.9	22.9	22.9	0%

Conclusion

An exact match is observed between the values reported by the solver those reported by Beer and Johnston.

1st Order linear - Thermal Load on Simply Supported Beam

Problem Definition

Determine the deflection, U , due to thermal expansion at the roller support due to a temperature increase of 5. The beam is made of a material with a thermal expansion coefficient of 1.0×10^{-5} .



Assumptions

The roller pin is assumed to be frictionless.

Key Results

Result	Theoretical Formula	Theoretical Value	Solver Value	% Error
Translation at roller	$U = \Delta T \times \alpha \times L$	5×10^{-4}	5×10^{-4}	0.0%

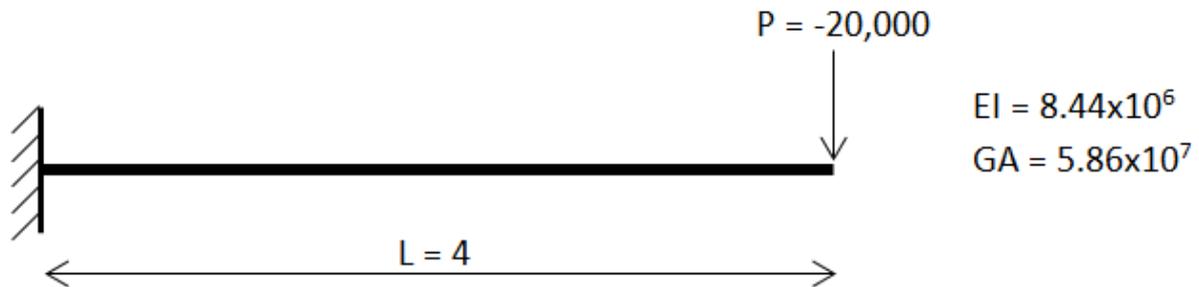
Conclusion

An exact match is shown between the theoretical result and the solver result.

1st Order Nonlinear - Simple Cantilever

Problem Definition

A 4 long cantilever is subjected to a tip load of 20,000.



Assumptions

Flexural and shear deformations are included.

Key Results

Result	Theoretical Formula	Theoretical Value	Solver Value	% Error
Support Reaction	-P	20,000	20,000	0%
Support Moment	PL	-80,000	-80,000	0%
Tip Deflection		-0.0519	-0.0519	0%

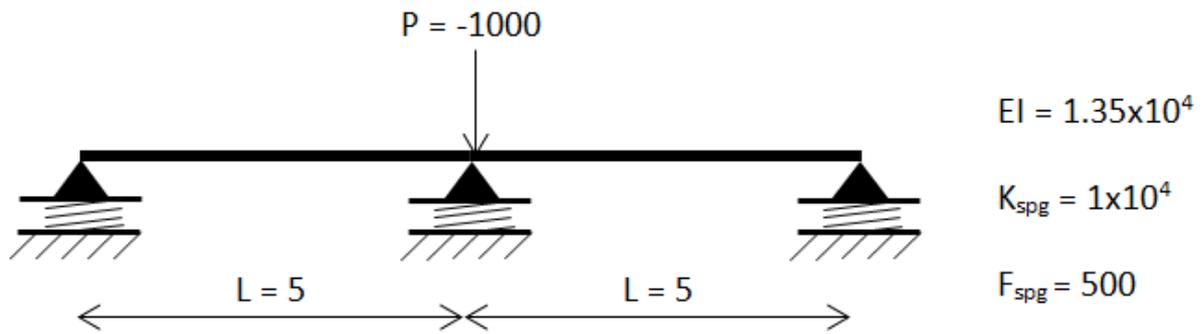
Conclusion

An exact match is observed between the values reported by the solver and the values predicted by beam theory.

1st Order Nonlinear - Nonlinear Supports

Problem Definition

A 10 long continuous beam is simply supported by three translational springs as shown. All springs have a maximum resistance force of 500. Calculate the reaction forces and deflection at each support.



Assumptions

Axial and shear deformations are ignored.

Key Results

Result	Comparison 1	Solver Value
LHS Reaction	250	250
Centre Reaction	500	500
RHS Reaction	250	250
LHS Displacement	-0.025	-0.025
Centre Displacement	-0.797	-0.797
RHS Displacement	-0.025	-0.025

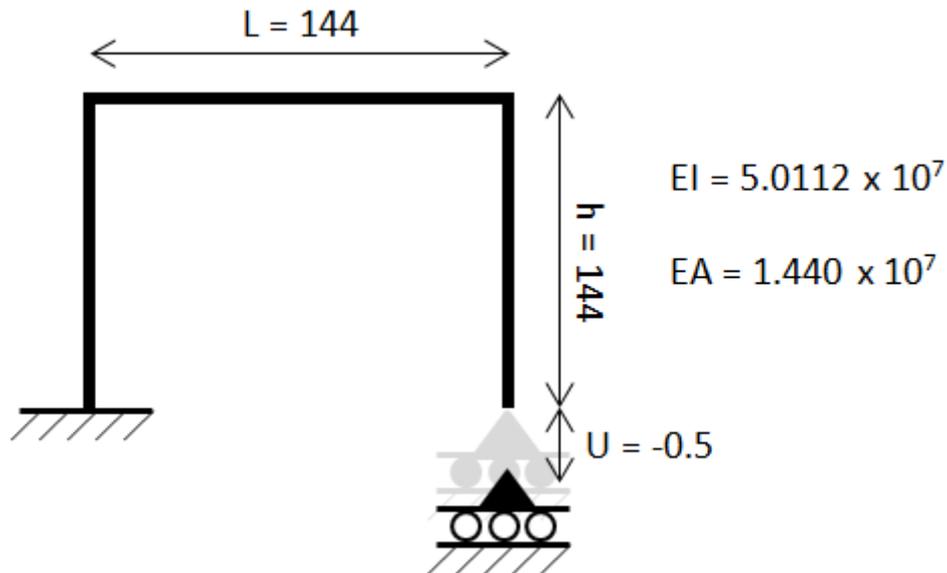
Conclusion

An exact match is shown between the solver and the independent analysis package.

1st Order Nonlinear - Displacement Loading of a Plane Frame

Problem Definition

Calculate the reaction forces of the plane moment frame shown below with the applied displacement U .



Assumptions

All elements are constant and equal EI. Axial and shear deformations are ignored; to achieve the former analytically the cross sectional area was increased by a factor of 100,000 to make axial deformation negligible.

Key Results

Results were compared with two other independent analysis packages.

Result	Comparison 1	Comparison 2	Solver Value
LHS Vertical Reaction	6.293	6.293	6.293
LHS Moment Reaction	-906.250	-906.250	-906.250
RHS Vertical Reaction	-6.293	-6.293	-6.293

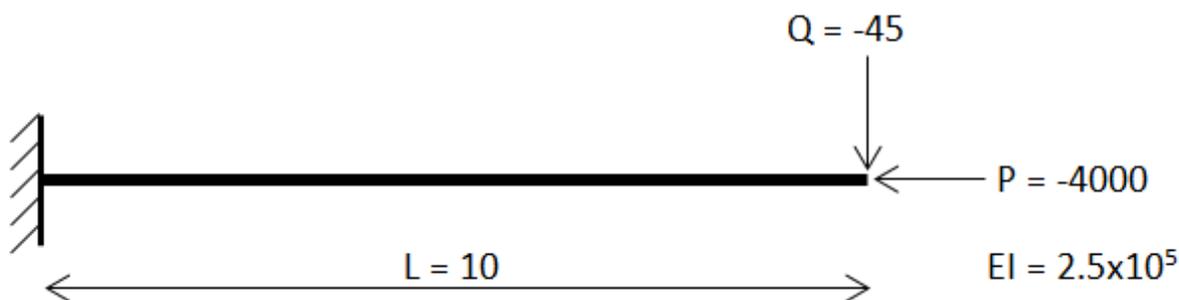
Conclusion

An exact match is shown between the solver and the two independent analysis packages.

2nd Order Linear - Simple Cantilever

Problem Definition

A 10 long cantilever is subjected to a lateral tip load of 45 and an axial tip load of 4000.



Assumptions

Shear deformations are ignored. Results are independent of cross section area; therefore any reasonable value can be used. Second order effects from stress stiffening are included, but those caused by update of geometry are not. The beam is modelled with only one finite element, (if more elements had been used the result would converge on a more exact value).

Key Results

Results were compared with an independent analysis package.

Result	Comparison	Solver Value
Tip Deflection	-0.1677	-0.1677
Base Moment Reaction	-1121	-1121

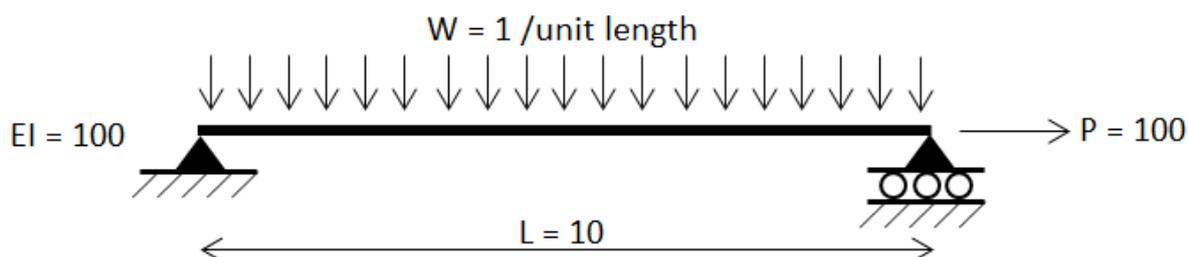
Conclusion

An exact match is observed between the values reported by the solver and the values reported in "Comparison".

2nd Order linear - Simply Supported Beam

Problem Definition

Determine the mid-span deflection and moment of the simply supported beam under transverse and tensile axial load.



Assumptions

Shear deformations are excluded. Results are independent of cross section area; therefore any reasonable value can be used. The number of internal nodes varies from 0-9.

Key Results

The theoretical value for deflection and moment are calculated as:

$$Y_{max} = -0.115 = \frac{5wL^4}{384EI} \times \frac{1}{\frac{5}{24}U^4} \frac{\cosh U - 1 + \frac{U^2}{2}}$$

$$M_{max} = -0.987 = \frac{wL^2}{8} \times \frac{2(\cosh U - 1)}{U^2 \cosh U}$$

Where U is a variable calculated:

No. internal nodes	Solver Deflection	Deflection Error %	Solver Moment	Moment I %
1	-0.116	0.734%	-0.901	8.631%
3	-0.115	0.023%	-0.984	0.266%
5	-0.115	0.004%	-0.986	0.042%
7	-0.115	0.001%	-0.986	0.013%
9	-0.115	0.000%	-0.986	0.005%

Conclusion

As the element is subdivided the result converges to the correct theoretical value.

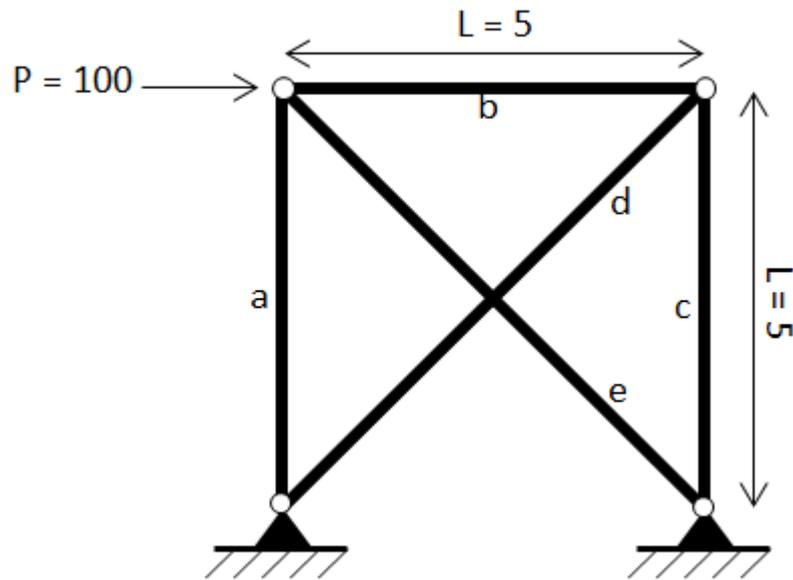
Reference

Timoshenko. S. 1956. *Strength of Materials, Part II, Advanced Theory and Problems*. 3rd Edition. D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc. New York, NY.

2nd Order Nonlinear - Tension Only Cross Brace

Problem Definition

Calculate the axial forces of the elements a-e shown in the 5x5 pin jointed plane frame shown below. Elements d and e can resist tensile forces only.



Assumptions

All elements are constant and equal EA. A smaller value of EA will increase the influence of second order effects, whereas a larger value will decrease the influence.

Key Results

Under the applied loading element e becomes inactive. The theoretical formulas presented below are obtained using basic statics. Note that a positive value indicates tension. These results assume no 2nd order effects; this requires the value of EA to be sufficiently large to make the 2nd order effect negligible.

Result	Theoretical Formula	Theoretical Value	Solver Value	% Error
a	0	0	0	0
b	-P	-100	-100	0
c	-P	-100	-100	0
d	$P\sqrt{2}$	141.42	141.42	0
e	0	0	0	0

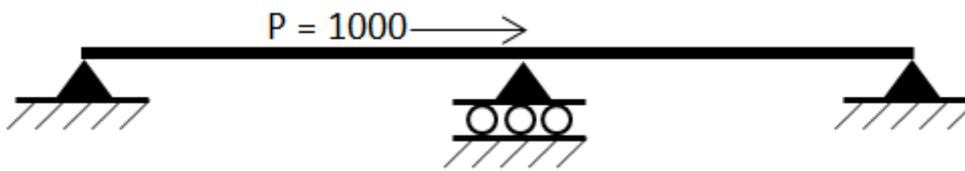
Conclusion

An exact match is observed between the values reported by the solver and the values predicted using statics. A 1st order nonlinear analysis can be used, with any section sizes, to confirm this result without second order effects.

2nd Order Nonlinear - Compression Only Element

Problem Definition

Calculate the reaction forces for the compression only structure shown below.



Assumptions

All elements are constant and equal EA , and can resist only compressive forces

Key Results

Under the applied loading the element on the left becomes inactive, therefore all applied loading is resisted by the support on the right.

Result	Theoretical Formula	Theoretical Value	Solver Value
LHS Reaction	0	0	0
RHS Reaction	$-P$	-1000	-1000

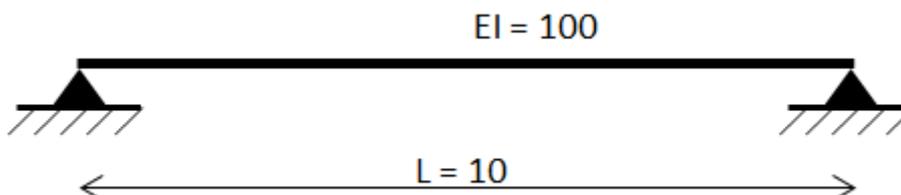
Conclusion

An exact match is observed between the values reported by the solver and the theoretical values.

1st Order Vibration - Simply Supported Beam

Problem Definition

Determine the fundamental frequency of a 10 long simply supported beam with uniform EI and mass per unit length equal to 1.0.



Assumptions

Shear deformations are excluded. The number of internal nodes varies from 0-5. Consistent mass is assumed.

Key Results

The theoretical value for the fundamental frequency is calculated as:

$$\omega = 0.9870 = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{10}\right)^4 \frac{100}{1}} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{L}\right)^4 \frac{EI}{m/L}}$$

With m is the total mass of the beam.

No. internal nodes	Solver Value	% Error
0	1.0955	10.995%
1	0.9909	0.395%
2	0.9878	0.081%
3	0.9872	0.026%
4	0.9871	0.011%
5	0.9870	0.005%

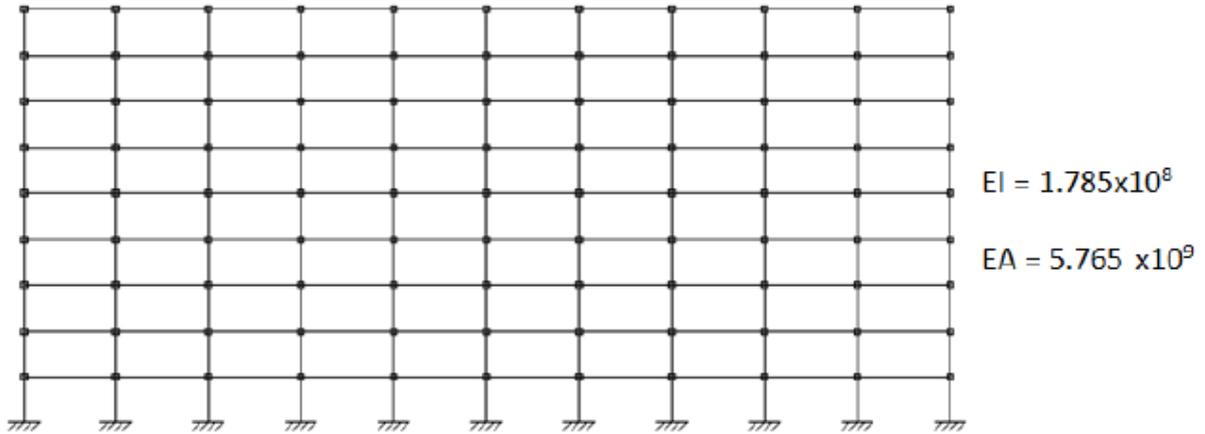
Conclusion

As the element is subdivided the result converges to the correct theoretical value.

1st Order Vibration - Bathe and Wilson Eigenvalue Problem

Problem Definition

A 2D plane frame structure has 10 equal bays each measuring 6.096m wide and 9 stories 3.048m tall. The column bases are fully fixed. All beams and columns are the same section, which have a constant mass/unit length equal to 1.438. Calculate the first three natural frequencies (in Hz) of the structure under self-weight.



Assumptions

Shear deformations are excluded. Each beam/column is represented by one finite element. Consistent mass is assumed.

Key Results

The results for this problem are compared with those published by Bathe and Wilson and against an independent analysis package.

Mode	Bathe and Wilson	Comparison	Solver Value
1	0.122	0.122	0.122
2	0.374	0.374	0.375
3	0.648	0.648	0.652

Conclusion

The results show a good comparison with the original published results and against the other analysis packages.

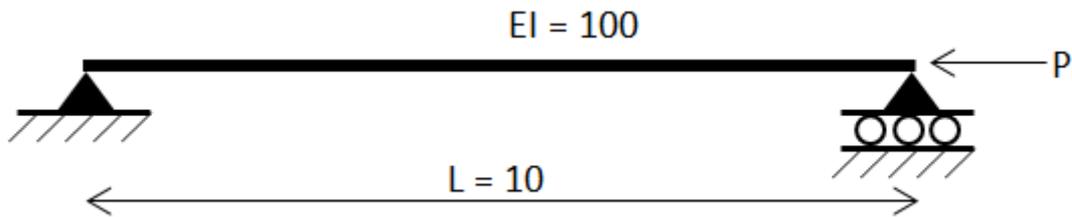
References

Bathe, K.J. and E.L. Wilson. 1972. *Large Eigen Values in Dynamic Analysis*. Journal of the Engineering Mechanics Division. ASCE Vol. 98, No. EM6. Proc. Paper 9433. December.

2nd Order Buckling - Euler Strut Buckling

Problem Definition

A 10 long simply supported beam is subjected to an axial tip load of P.



Assumptions

Shear deformations are excluded. The number of internal nodes varies from 0-5.

Key Results

The theoretical value for the first buckling mode is calculated using the Euler strut buckling formula:

$$\lambda = 9.869 = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

With $P = -1.0$ the following buckling factors are obtained

No. internal nodes	Solver Value	% Error
0	12.000	21.59%
1	9.944	0.75%
2	9.885	0.16%
3	9.875	0.05%
4	9.872	0.02%
5	9.871	0.01%

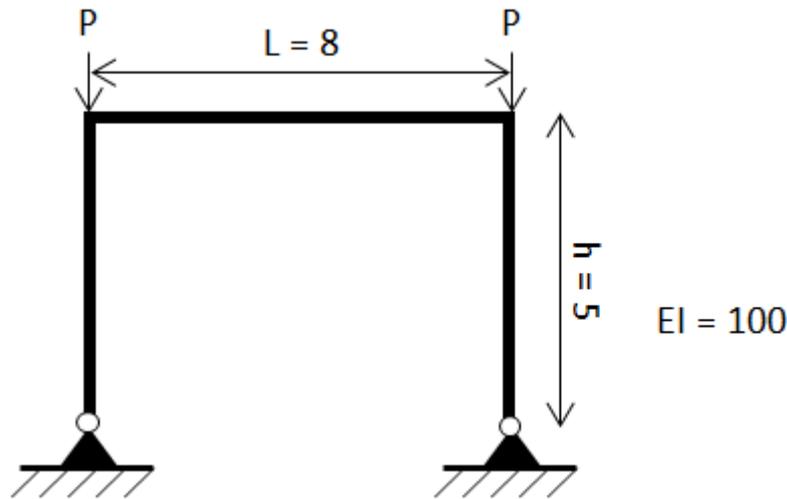
Conclusion

As the element is subdivided the result converges to the correct theoretical value.

2nd Order Buckling - Plane Frame

Problem Definition

Calculate the buckling factor of the moment frame shown below.



Assumptions

All elements are constant and equal EI. Axial deformations are ignored; to achieve this the cross section area is set to 1000. The number of elements per member is varied between 0 and 5.

Key Results

The theoretical buckling load is calculated by

$$P_{cr} = 6.242 = \frac{(kL)^2 EI}{h^2}$$

where

$$kL \tan(kL) = 1.249 = \frac{6h}{L}$$

Which can be solved using Newtons method and five iterations

No. internal nodes/member	Solver Value	% Error
0	6.253	0.17%
1	6.243	0.01%
2	6.242	0.00%
3	6.242	0.00%
4	6.242	0.00%
5	6.242	0.00%

Conclusion

A good match is shown between the solver and theory. The discrepancy decreases as the level of discretization is increased.

References

Timoshenko, S. and J. M. Gere. 1961. *Theory of Elastic Stability*. 2nd Edition. McGraw-Hill Book Company.

Loading -ASCE

ASCE7 Loading

This handbook provides a general overview of how loadcases and combinations are created in *Tekla Structural Designer* when the head code is set to United States(ACI/AISC). The ASCE7 Combination Generator is also described.

Load Cases (ASCE7)

Load Cases

Loadcase Types

The following load case types can be created:

Loadcase Type	Calculated Automatically	Include in the Combination Generator	Live Load Reductions	Pattern Load
self weight (beams, columns and walls)	yes/no	yes/no	N/A	N/A
slab wet	yes/no	N/A	N/A	N/A
slab dry	yes/no	yes/no	N/A	N/A
dead	N/A	yes/no	N/A	N/A
live	N/A	yes/no	yes/no	yes/no

roof live	N/A	yes/no	yes/no	N/A
wind	N/A	yes/no	N/A	N/A
snow	N/A	yes/no	N/A	N/A
snow drift	N/A	yes/no	N/A	N/A
temperature	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
settlement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
seismic	N/A	yes	N/A	N/A

As shown above, self weight loads can all be determined automatically. However other gravity load cases have to be applied manually as you build the structure.

Self Weight

Self weight - excluding slabs loadcase

Tekla Structural Designer automatically calculates the self weight of the structural beams/columns for you. The **Self weight - excluding slabs** loadcase is pre-defined for this purpose. Its loadcase type is fixed as "Selfweight". It can not be edited and by default it is added to each new load combination.

Self weight of concrete slabs

Tekla Structural Designer expects the wet and dry weight of concrete slab to be defined in separate loadcases. This is required to ensure that members are designed for the correct loads at construction stage and post construction stage.

The **Slab self weight** loadcase is pre-defined for the dry weight of concrete post construction stage, its loadcase type is fixed as "Slab Dry".

There is no pre-defined loadcase for the wet weight of concrete slab at construction stage, but if you require it for the design of any composite beams in the model the loadcase type should be set to "Slab Wet".

Tekla Structural Designer can automatically calculate the above weights for you taking into account the slab thickness, the shape of the deck profile and wet/dry concrete densities. It does not explicitly take account of the weight of any reinforcement but will include the weight of decking. Simply click the **Calc Automatically** check box when you create each loadcase. When calculated in this way you can't add extra loads of your own into the loadcase.

If you normally make an allowance for ponding in your slab weight calculations, *Tekla Structural Designer* can also do this for you. After selecting the composite slabs, you are able to review the slab item properties - you will find two ways to add an allowance for ponding (under the slab parameters heading). These are:

- as a value, by specifying the average increased thickness of slab
- or, as a percentage of total volume.

Using either of these methods the additional load is added as a uniform load over the whole area of slab.

Live and Roof Live Loads (ASCE7)

Live and Roof Live Loads

Live Load Reductions

Reductions can be applied to roof live and live loads to take account of the unlikelihood of the whole building being loaded with its full design live load. The reduction is calculated based on total floor area supported by the design member. Roof live and live load types each have their own reductions applied in accordance with either Section 4.8 and 4.9 of ASCE 7-05, or Section 4.7 and 4.8 of ASCE 7-10 as appropriate.

Due to the complications associated with live load reduction when considering members at any angle to the vertical or horizontal, reductions are only applied to:

- Horizontal steel beams with vertical webs (major axis horizontal) which are set to be "gravity only" pin ended only
- Vertical columns only (both RC and steel)
- Vertical walls only (RC)

Live Load Reduction Factor

The live load reduction factor, R is calculated as follows:

$$R = (0.25 + 15 / \text{Sqrt}(K_{LL} * A_T)) - \text{where } R \leq 1.0 \quad \text{US-units}$$

$$R = (0.25 + 4.57 / \text{Sqrt}(K_{LL} * A_T)) \quad \text{metric-units}$$

K_{LL} comes from Table 4-2 in ASCE7-05/ASCE7-10. Essentially:

Interior and exterior cols (no cantilever slabs) $K_{LL} = 4$

Edge and interior beams (no cantilever slabs) $K_{LL} = 2$

Interior beams (with cantilever slabs) $K_{LL} = 2$

Cantilever beams $K_{LL} = 1$

Edge cols (with cantilever slabs) $K_{LL} = 3$

Corner cols (with cantilever slabs) $K_{LL} = 2$

Edge beams (with cantilever slabs) $K_{LL} = 1$

For all beams and column stacks supporting one floor $R \geq 0.5$

For all column stacks supporting two or more floors $R \geq 0.4$



As it is not possible to automatically assess where cantilever slabs are and what they are attached to - the K_{LL} factor can be manually specified for individual column and wall stacks and beam spans.

Roof Live Load Reduction Factor

The roof live load reduction factor is calculated as follows:

$$R = R_1 * R_2$$

where

$$R_1 = 1.2 - 0.001 * A_T, \text{ where } 1.0 \geq R_1 \geq 0.6 \quad \text{US-units}$$

$$= 1.2 - 0.011 * A_T \quad \text{metric-units}$$

$$R_2 = 1.0 \text{ (conservatively assumes roofs } < 18 \text{ degs)}$$

Wind Loads (ASCE7)

Wind Loads

The ASCE7 Wind Wizard



The Wind Wizard is fully described in the Wind Modeling Engineer's Handbook.

The **Wind Wizard** assesses wind loading on your building structure via a choice of methods:

- Directional Procedure Part 1 - Rigid Buildings of All Heights (Chapter 27)
- Envelope Procedure Part 1 - Low-Rise Buildings (Chapter 28)

Wind load cases can then be generated and combined with other actions due to dead and imposed loads in accordance with Section 2.3.2 of ASCE7-10

in order to run the wind wizard the following assumptions/limitations exist:-

- The shape of the building meets the limitations allowed for in the code.
- It must be a rigid structure.
- The structure must be either enclosed or partially enclosed.
- Parapets and roof overhangs are not explicitly dealt with..

Simple Wind Loading

If use of the Wind Wizard is not appropriate for your structure then wind loads can be applied via element or structure loads instead.

Patterning of Live Loads

ASCE7 pattern loading for LRFD combinations is as follows:

Code Class	Load Combination	Loaded Spans	UnLoad
LRFD	$1.2D + 1.6L + 0.5Lr$	$1.2D + 1.6L + 0.5Lr$	$1.2D + 0$

Combinations (ASCE7)

Combinations

Once your load cases have been generated as required, you then combine them into load combinations; these can either be created manually, by clicking **Add...** - or with the assistance of [The Combinations Generator](#), by clicking **Generate...**

Application of Notional Loads in Combinations

Notional loads are applied to the structure in the building directions 1 and 2 as follows:

- NL Dir1+
- NL Dir1-
- NL Dir2+
- NL Dir2-

When you run the [The Combinations Generator](#) you are required to select the NL directions to add and the factors to be applied as part of the process. Alternatively, you are able to set up the combinations manually and apply notional loads and factors to each as required.

The Combinations Generator (ASCE7)

The Combinations Generator

Accessed via the **Generate...** button, this automatically sets up combinations for both strength and serviceability.



Temperature and settlement load case types not included in the Generator at all - these have to be added manually.

Combination Generator - Combinations

The first page of the generator lists suggested ASD and LRFD combinations (with appropriate factors).

The "Generate" check boxes are used to select those combinations to be considered.

Combination Generator - Service

This page indicates which combinations are to be checked for serviceability and the service factors applied.

Combination Generator - NL

The last page is used to set up the notional loads. You can specify NL's and factors in each of four directions. For each direction selected a separate NL combination will be generated.

Any combination with wind in is automatically greyed.

Click **Finish** to see the list of generated combinations.

Combination Classes (ASCE7)

Combination Classes

Having created your combinations you classify them as: Construction Stage, Gravity, Lateral, Seismic or Vibration Mass.



If generated via the Combinations Generator they are classified for you automatically.

Then (where applicable) you indicate whether they are to be checked for strength or service conditions, or both.

You also have the option to make any of the combinations inactive.

Construction Stage Combination

A Construction Stage load combination is only required for the purpose of designing any composite beams within the model. It is distinguished from other combinations by setting its "Class" to **Construction Stage**.

Typically this combination would include a loadcase of type "Slab Wet", (not "Slab Dry"), other loadcases being included in the combination as required.



The Slab Wet loadcase type should not be included in any other combination.

Gravity Combinations

These combinations are considered in both the Gravity Sizing and Full Design processes.

They are used in the Gravity Sizing processes as follows:

- **Design Concrete (Gravity)** - concrete members in the structure are automatically sized (or checked) for the gravity combinations.
- **Design Steel (Gravity)** - steel members in the structure are automatically sized (or checked) for the gravity combinations.
- **Design All (Gravity)** - all members in the structure are automatically sized (or checked) for the gravity combinations.

They are also used during the Full Design processes as follows:

- **Design Concrete (All)** - concrete members in the structure are automatically sized (or checked) for the gravity combinations.
- **Design Steel (All)** - steel members in the structure are automatically sized (or checked) for the gravity combinations.
- **Design All (All)** - all members in the structure are automatically sized (or checked) for the gravity combinations.

Lateral Combinations

These combinations are **not** used in the Gravity Sizing processes.

They are used during the Full Design processes as follows:

- **Design Concrete (All)** - concrete members in the structure are automatically sized (or checked) for the lateral combinations.
- **Design Steel (All)** - steel members in the structure which have **not** been set as Gravity Only are automatically sized (or checked) for the lateral combinations.
- **Design All (All)** - all concrete members and all steel members which have **not** been set as Gravity Only are automatically sized (or checked) for the lateral combinations.

Seismic Combinations

These combinations are only considered during the Full Design process. They are **not** used in the Gravity Sizing process.

Vibration Mass Combinations

For vibration analysis, you are required to set up specific "vibration mass" combinations. Provided these combinations are active they are always run through the vibration analysis.



It is always assumed that all loads in the load cases in the combination are converted to mass for vibration analysis.

You are permitted to add lumped mass directly to the model.

Concrete Design - ACI

Introduction to ACI 318 Design

When the *Tekla Structural Designer* head code is set to **United States(ACI/AISC)**, you have the option to specify the Concrete Design Resistance Code as either ACI 318-2008 or ACI 318-2011. If you are using US Customary Units the design is then performed in accordance with either ACI 318-08:2008 ([Ref. 1](#)) or ACI 318-11:2011 ([Ref. 2](#)). Design can also be performed for metric units in accordance with ACI 318M-11:2011 ([Ref. 3](#)).

Unless explicitly noted otherwise, all clauses, figures and tables referred to are from the above codes.

Seismic Design

Reinforced concrete structures in buildings subjected to earthquake effects are designed elastically to the strains and displacements both from static and dynamic forces which they are subjected to. It is recognised that during an earthquake the building and its structural elements are very likely to be exposed to displacements well into their inelastic range and special precautions need to be taken as to increase the strength of critical sections in members which contribute to the building's lateral resistance while also contributing to the ductile behaviour of the building in order to allow for the dissipation of induced stresses.

In the case of reinforced concrete structures, particular design and detailing requirements (provisions) need to be fulfilled beyond the conventional design of the elements as to provide them with ductile response capabilities. Such requirements are mainly addressed to structural elements part of structural systems built for the purpose of resisting seismic lateral forces - Seismic Force Resisting Systems [SFERS]. Seismic provisions also apply to reinforced concrete elements not part of the SFERS when the building is assigned to a higher Seismic Design Category - SDC D, E or F.

The seismic design checks and detailing requirements of reinforced concrete members in *Tekla Structural Designer* are based mainly on ACI318, Chapter 21 - Earthquake-Resisting Structures.

Seismic Force Resisting Systems

The level of design and detailing required of members that are part of a seismic resisting structural system can differ depending on the amount of toughness they are intended to provide to the building. ACI318-11 groups the main structural systems into "Ordinary", "Intermediate" and "Special" groups. Different types of structural systems have limitations to their application in each of the Seismic Design Categories.

Structural System	Allowed in SDC
-------------------	----------------

Ordinary Moment Frames	A, B
Ordinary Cast in Place Structural Walls	A, B, C
Intermediate Moment Frames	A, B, C
Intermediate Pre-Cast Walls	A, B, C
Special Moment frames	A, B, C, D, E, F
Special Structural Walls (Pre-Cast / Cast in Place)	A, B, C, D, E, F

As the current release of *Tekla Structural Designer* does not fully include the design requirements for all the Seismic Force Resisting Systems, SFRS types have been classified as **included** or **excluded** from the member design.

Members in **included** SFRS types are fully covered for seismic design provisions while those in **excluded** types are covered to a limited extent only.

- Seismic Force Resisting Systems **included** in the design:
 - Intermediate Moment Frames
 - Ordinary Moment Frames
 - Ordinary Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls
- Seismic Resisting Systems **excluded** from the design:
 - Special Moment Frames
 - Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls
 - Intermediate Precast Structural Walls

Consequently the current release of *Tekla Structural Designer* can be said to consider the design requirements for each of the Seismic Design Categories as follows:

Seismic Design Category	Seismic Requirements
SDC A	N/A
SDC B	Considered
SDC C	Considered
SDC D, E, F	Not Considered

Materials

Additional seismic material requirements apply to:

- concrete beams and columns assigned to a Special Moment Frame SFRS
- concrete walls assigned as Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls

Concrete Compressive Strength

The requirements for compressive strength of concrete are limited:

- Minimum compressive strength of normal weight concrete: $f'_c = 21$ MPa (3,000 psi);
- Maximum compressive strength of lightweight concrete: $f'_c = 35$ MPa (5,000 psi).

Reinforcement Steel

Reinforcement steel shall comply with ASTM 706(M), Grade 420 (60,000 psi).

- $(f_y)_{\text{actual}} - (f_y)_{\text{specified}} \leq 125$ MPa (18,000 psi)
- $(f_u)_{\text{actual}} / (f_y)_{\text{actual}} \geq 1.25$

where,

$(f_y)_{\text{actual}}$ = Actual yielding strength of the reinforcement based on mill tests, MPa (psi);

$(f_y)_{\text{specified}}$ = Specified yield strength of reinforcement, MPa (psi);

$(f_u)_{\text{actual}}$ = Actual ultimate tensile strength of the reinforcement, MPa (psi).

Reinforcement Characteristic Yield Strength

Requirements for the characteristic yield strength of the reinforcement steel are:

- Longitudinal Reinforcement
 - Maximum allowed characteristic yield strength of longitudinal reinforcement: $f_y = 420$ MPa (Grade 60 - 60,000 psi);
- Transverse Reinforcement
 - Maximum allowed characteristic yield strength of shear reinforcement: $f_{yt} = 420$ MPa (Grade 60 - 60,000 psi);

Beam Design to ACI 318

Limitations and Exclusions

The following general exclusions apply.

the current release will not:

- design beams as "deep beams" - beams classified as "deep" are designed as if they are regular beams and a warning is displayed.



Deep beams according to ACI 318 are:

- Members with clear spans equal to or less than 4 times overall member depth*
- Members with concentrated loads within twice the member depth from the support*

- design beams in lightweight concrete
- design beams with coated reinforcement

- design beams with stainless steel
- design prestressed concrete
- design structures subject to very aggressive exposure
- design watertight structures

material limitations for concrete:

- for structural concrete compressive strength of concrete f_c' shall not be less than 17 MPa (2500psi)
- durability requirements are not implemented

material limitations for reinforcement:

- the values of specified yield strength of reinforcement; f_y and f_{yt} used in calculations shall not exceed 550 MPa (80000psi)
- specified yield strength of non-prestressed reinforcement; f_y and f_{yt} shall not exceed 420 MPa (60 000 psi) in design of shear or torsion reinforcement
- wire reinforcement design is not implemented

Slender Beams

Spacing of lateral supports for a beam shall not exceed $50 \cdot b$.¹

In the program the lateral supports are taken as the distance between the faces of the supports, and for simplification, b is taken as the web width b_w

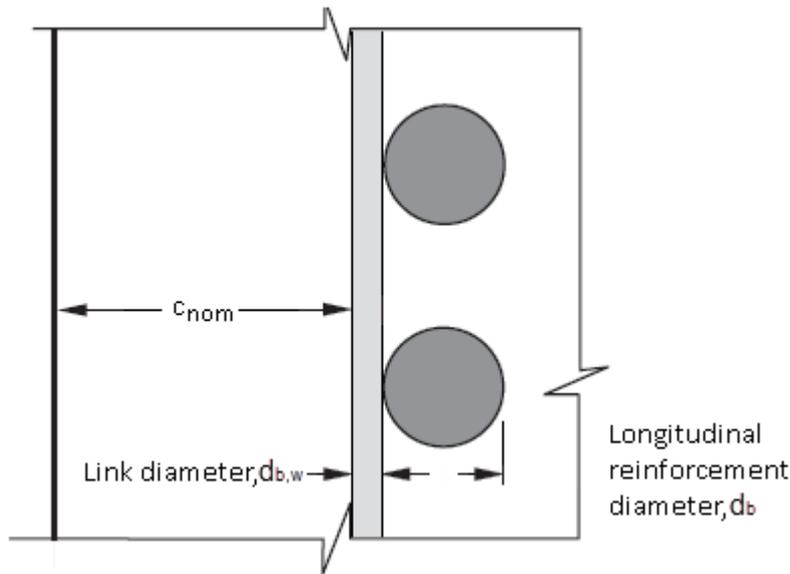
IF above check fails then a Warning and a text 'Slender span' or 'Over wide distance between lateral supports' is displayed.

Effects of lateral eccentricity of load are considered in determining spacing of lateral supports.

^{1.} ACI 318-08:2008 and ACI 318-11:2011 Section 10.4

Cover to Reinforcement

The nominal concrete cover is the distance between the surface of the reinforcement closest to the nearest concrete surface (including links and surface reinforcement where relevant) and the nearest concrete surface.



You are required to set a minimum value for the nominal cover, $c_{nom, u}$, for the top, bottom, sides and ends of each beam in the beam properties.

These values are then checked against the nominal limiting cover, $c_{nom, lim}$

If $c_{nom, u} < \text{MAX}(c_{nom, lim}, d_b)$ then a warning is displayed in the calculations.

Design Parameters for Longitudinal Bars (Beams: ACI 318)

Design Parameters for Longitudinal Bars

For each of these parameters, the user defined limits (specified in **Design Options > Beam > Reinforcement Settings**) are considered in addition to any ACI code recommendations.

Minimum and Maximum Diameter of Reinforcement

IF torsional reinforcement is required, there shall be at least one longitudinal bar in every corner of the stirrups. Longitudinal bars shall have a diameter at least 0.042 times the stirrup spacing, but not less than 9 mm (3/8 in).

The maximum diameters of reinforcement to be used in the various locations is set by the user.

Standard hooks for stirrups and ties are limited to No.8 bars, $d_b=25\text{mm}$ (1.0in.) and smaller.

And the 90-degree hook with $6d_b$ extension is further limited to No. 5, $d_b=16\text{mm}$ (0.625in.) bars and smaller.

For primary reinforcement there is no limit on bar size.

Minimum Distance between Bars

The minimum clear spacing between parallel bars in a layer, $s_{cl, min}$, is given by;

$$s_{cl,min} \geq \text{MAX}[d_b, 25\text{mm}] \quad \text{metric-units}$$

$$s_{cl,min} \geq \text{MAX}[d_b, 1\text{in}] \quad \text{US-units}$$

IF the above check fails then a Warning is displayed.

Where parallel reinforcement is placed in two or more layers, bars in the upper layers shall be placed directly above the bars in the bottom layer with clear distance between layers not less than 25mm (1in.).

Maximum Spacing of Tension Bars

The spacing of reinforcement closest to the tension face, s is given by; ¹

$$s \leq \text{MIN}[380\text{mm} * 280\text{MPa} / f_s - 2.5 * c_c, 300\text{mm} * (280\text{MPa} / f_s)] \quad \text{metric-units}$$

$$s \leq \text{MIN}[15\text{in} * 40000\text{psi} / f_s - 2.5 * c_c, 12\text{in} * (40000\text{psi} / f_s)] \quad \text{US-units}$$

where:

c_c = the least distance from surface of reinforcement to the tension face

f_s = calculated stress in reinforcement at service load; it shall be permitted to take

$$= (2/3) * f_y * (A_{s,reqd} / A_{s,prov})$$

IF the above check fails then a Warning is displayed

IF torsional reinforcement is required:

the longitudinal reinforcement required for torsion shall be distributed around the perimeter of the closed stirrups with maximum spacing of 300mm (12 in.) ²

Minimum Area of Reinforcement

The minimum area of longitudinal tension reinforcement, $A_{s,min}$, is given by; ³

$$A_{s,min} \geq \text{MAX}[(f'_c)^{0.5} / (4 * f_y)] * b_w * d, 1.4\text{MPa} * b_w * d / f_y \quad \text{metric-units}$$

$$A_{s,min} \geq \text{MAX}[(3 * f'_c)^{0.5} / f_y] * b_w * d, 200\text{psi} * b_w * d / f_y \quad \text{US-units}$$

where

f'_c = specified compressive strength of concrete

f_y = specified yield strength of reinforcement

b_w = web width; for statically determinate members with a flange in tension

$$b_w = \text{MIN}(2 * b_w, b_{eff}) \quad \Delta$$

d = distance from extreme compression fiber to centroid of longitudinal compression reinforcement

^Δ Assumption; the member is statically determinate in design

Eq. above is to be provided wherever reinforcement is needed, except where such reinforcement is at least one-third greater than that required by analysis;

IF $A_{s,prov} < 4/3 * A_s$

THEN $A_{s,min}$ is calculated as eq. above

ELSE $A_{s,min}$ not required

IF the above check fails then a Warning is displayed.

Maximum Area of Reinforcement

Net tensile strain in extreme layer of longitudinal tension steel, ϵ_t shall not be less than 0.004;

$$\epsilon_t \geq 0.004$$

$$A_{s,max} \leq 0.85 * (f'_c / f_y) * \beta_1 * b_w * d * [0.003 / (0.003 + 0.004)] \quad \text{A}$$

$$\leq 0.85 * (f'_c / f_y) * \beta_1 * b_w * d * (3/7)$$

where

A_g = the gross area of the concrete section

β_1 = stress block depth factor^B

metric units

$$= 0.85 \quad \text{for } f'_c \leq 28\text{MPa}$$

$$= 0.85 - 0.05 * [(f'_c - 28\text{MPa}) / 7\text{MPa}] \quad \text{for } 28\text{MPa} < f'_c < 55\text{MPa}$$

$$= 0.65 \quad \text{for } f'_c \geq 55\text{MPa}$$

US-units

$$= \min(\max(0.85 - 0.05 * (f'_c - 4 \text{ksi}) / 1\text{ksi}, 0.65), 0.85)$$

$$= 0.85 \quad \text{for } f'_c \leq 4000 \text{psi}$$

$$= 0.85 - 0.05 * [(f'_c - 4\text{ksi}) / 1\text{ksi}] \quad \text{for } 4000 \text{psi} < f'_c < 8000\text{psi}$$

$$= 0.65 \quad \text{for } f'_c \geq 8000 \text{psi}$$

^A Notes on ACI 318-08 Chap. 6 Section 10.3.5

^B ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 10.2.7.3

ELSE a Warning is displayed.

[1.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 10.6.4

[2.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 10.5.6.2

[3.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 10.5.1

Side Skin Reinforcement in Beams

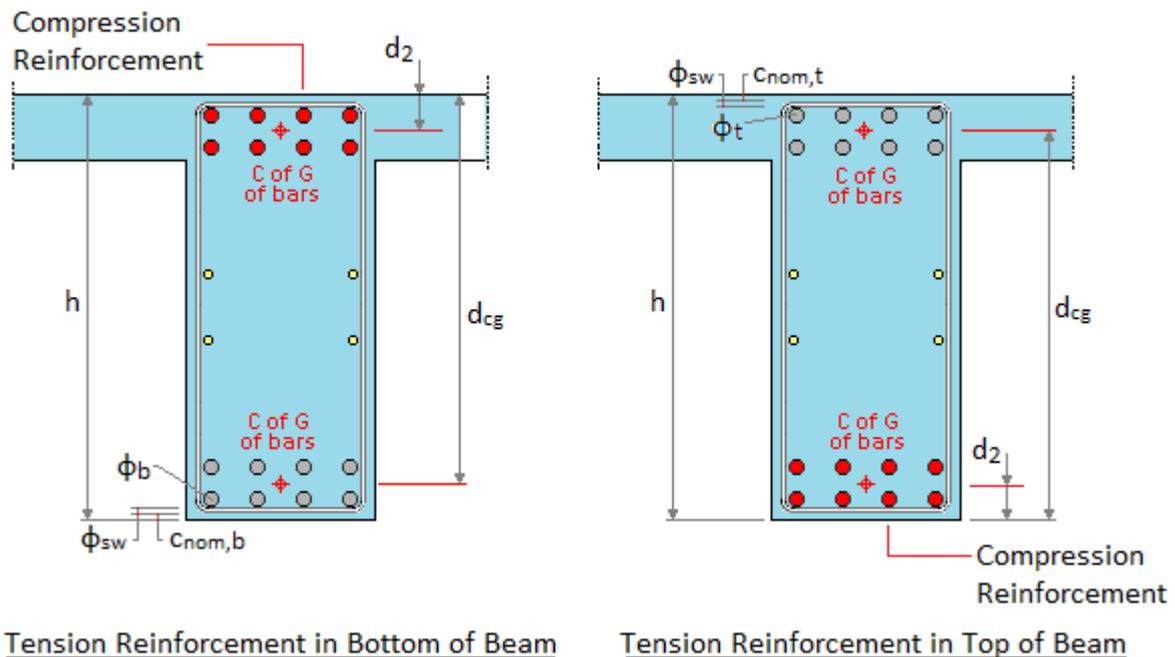
Where h of a beam or joist exceeds 900mm (36 in.), longitudinal skin (side) reinforcement shall be uniformly distributed along both side faces of the member.

The code requires that skin reinforcement shall extend for a distance $h/2$ from the tension face. Regardless of this in the first release the skin reinforcement is provided to the full height of the beam.

Effective Depth of Section

For the design of the longitudinal tension reinforcement, the effective depth of a section, d is defined as the distance from the extreme concrete fibre in compression to the center of gravity of the longitudinal tension reinforcement.

For the design of the longitudinal compression reinforcement, the effective depth in compression, d_2 is defined as the distance from the extreme fibre in compression to the center of gravity of the longitudinal compression reinforcement.



Design for Bending (Beams: ACI 318)

Design for Bending

Top Design Moment at Supports

The reinforcement in the top of the beam at the support is designed for a bending moment, M_u given by;

$$M_u = \text{MAX} (M_{u,\text{region}}, \beta_1 * M_{u,\text{maxspan}})$$

where

$M_{u,\text{region}}$ = largest applied negative moment in the beam end region

β_1 = the appropriate fixity coefficient

$M_{u,\text{maxspan}}$ = the maximum positive moment in the beam span (excluding support position)

Design for Bending for Rectangular Sections

Determine if compression reinforcement is needed¹;

Nominal strength coefficient of resistance is given;

$$R_n = M_u / (\phi * b * d^2)$$

where

M_u = factored moment at section

d = depth to tension reinforcement

b = width of the compression face of the member

ϕ = strength reduction factor^A
= 0.9 (corresponds to the tension-controlled limit)

^A ACI 318-08:2008 and ACI 318-11:2011 Section 9.3

IF $R_n \leq R_{nt}$ THEN compression reinforcement is not required.

IF $R_n > R_{nt}$ THEN compression reinforcement is required.

where

R_{nt} = Limit value for tension controlled sections without compression reinforcement for different concrete strength classes^A

$$= \omega_t * (1 - 0.59 \omega_t) * f'_c$$

f'_c = compressive strength of concrete

$$\omega_t = 0.319 * \beta_1$$

β_1 = stress block depth factor^B

metric-units	
= 0.85	for $f'_c \leq 28\text{MPa}$
= $0.85 - 0.05 * [(f'_c - 28\text{MPa})/7\text{MPa}]$	for $28\text{MPa} < f'_c < 55\text{MPa}$
= 0.65	for $f'_c \geq 55\text{MPa}$
US-units	
= $\min(\max(0.85 - 0.05 \times (f'_c - 4 \text{ ksi}) / 1\text{ksi}, 0.65), 0.85)$	
= 0.85	for $f'_c \leq 4000 \text{ psi}$
= $0.85 - 0.05 * [(f'_c - 4\text{ksi})/1\text{ksi}]$	for $4000 \text{ psi} < f'_c < 8000\text{psi}$
= 0.65	for $f'_c \geq 8000 \text{ psi}$

^A Notes on ACI 318-08 Section 10.3.4

^B ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 10.2.7.3

Compression reinforcement is not required

The tension reinforcement ratio is given by²;

$$\rho = 0.85 * f'_c / f_y * [1 - (1 - 2 * R_n / (0.85 * f'_c))^{0.5}] \leq \rho_t = 0.319 * \beta_1 * f'_c / f_y$$

where

$$f_y = \text{yield strength of reinforcement}$$

The area of tension reinforcement required is then given by;

$$A_s = \rho * b * d$$

Compression reinforcement is required

The area of compression reinforcement required is then given by³;

$$A_s' = M_n' / [(d - d') * f_s']$$

where

$$M_n' = M_n - M_{nt}$$

$$= (M_u / \phi) - M_{nt}$$

$$M_{nt} = \text{nominal moment resisted by the concrete section⁴}$$

$$= R_n * b * d^2$$

The area of tension reinforcement required is then given by⁵;

$$A_s = A_s' * f_s' / f_y + \rho * b * d$$

where

$$f_s' = \text{MIN}[E_s * (\epsilon_u * (c-d') / c), f_y]$$

$$\rho = \rho_t * (d_t / d)$$

$$\rho_t = 0.319 * \beta_1 * f_c' / f_y$$

$$\epsilon_u = 0.003$$

$$c = 0.375 * d_t$$

1. Notes on ACI 318-08 Chap 7.

2. Notes on ACI 318-08 Section 7 Eq.(3)

3. Notes on ACI 318-08 Section 7

4. Notes on ACI 318-08 Section 10.3.4

5. Notes on ACI 318-08 Chap. 7

6. ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 10.2.3

Design for Bending for Flanged Sections

IF $h_f < 0.5 * b_w$ THEN treat the beam as rectangular¹

where

$$b_w = \text{web width}$$

Depth of the equivalent stress block is given²:

$$a = \rho * d * f_y / (0.85 * f_c') \quad (= 1.18 * \omega * d)$$

where

$$\rho = 0.85 * f_c' / f_y * [1 - (1 - 2 * R_n / (0.85 * f_c'))^{0.5}]$$

$$R_n = (M_u / \phi) / (b_{eff} * d^2) \quad \text{assumption } \phi = 0.9$$

IF $a \leq h_f$ THEN the rectangular compression block is wholly in the depth of the flange and the section can be designed as a rectangular section with tension reinforcement only by setting $b = b_{eff}$ and checking the ϕ -factor as followed;

IF $(a/\beta_1)/d < 0.375$ **THEN** $\phi=0.9$ (section tension controlled)

IF $0.375 > (a/\beta_1)/d < 0.600$ **THEN** $\phi=0.7 + (\epsilon_t - 0.002) * (200/3)$

IF $(a/\beta_1)/d > 0.6$ **THEN** $\phi=0.65$ (section comp. controlled)

where

$$\epsilon_t = [(d * \beta_1) / a - 1] * 0.003$$

IF $a > h_f$ THEN the rectangular compression block extends into the rib of the flanged section and the following design method is to be used;

Required reinforcement is given;

$$A_{sf} = 0.85 * f_c' * (b_{eff} - b) * h_f / f_y$$

Nominal moment strength of **flange**;

$$M_{nf} = [A_{sf} * f_y * (d - h_f / 2)]$$

Required nominal moment strength to be carried by the beam **web** is given;

$$M_{nw} = M_u - M_{nf}$$

Can be written as;

$$M_{nw} = M_u - [(0.85 * f_c' * (b_{eff} - b) * h_f / f_y) * f_y * (d - h_f / 2)] = M_u - [(0.85 * f_c' * (b_{eff} - b) * h_f) * (d - h_f / 2)]$$

Reinforcement A_{sw} required to develop the moment strength to be carried by the web;

$$A_{sw} = \omega_w * f'_c * b * d / f_y$$

where

$$\omega_w = \rho * f_y / f'_c = 0.85 * f'_c / f_y * [1 - (1 - 2 * (M_{nw} / (b * d^2))) / (0.85 * f'_c)^{0.5}] * f_y / f'_c$$

Can be written as;

$$A_{sw} = b * d * 0.85 * f'_c / f_y * [1 - (1 - 2 * (M_{nw} / (b * d^2))) / (0.85 * f'_c)^{0.5}]$$

Total required reinforcement is given;

$$A_s = A_{sf} + A_{sw}$$

Check to see if the section is tension-controlled;

IF

$\rho_w \leq \rho_t$ section is tension- controlled ($\phi=0.9$)

ELSE add compression reinforcement where

$$\rho_w = \omega_w * f'_c / f_y \quad \rho_t = 0.319 * \beta_1 * f'_c / f_y$$

Can be simplified as;

$\omega_w \leq 0.319 * \beta_1$ section is tension- controlled ($\phi=0.9$)

ELSE add compression reinforcement

[1.](#) ACI 318-08:2008 and ACI 318-11:2011 Section 8.12.4

[2.](#) Notes on ACI 318-08 Section 7 (1)

Design for Shear (Beams: ACI 318)

Design for Shear

Shear Strength

Determine shear strength provided by the concrete¹;

Members subject to axial compression not applied at this stage.

$$\phi V_c = \phi * 0.17 * \lambda * f'_c{}^{0.5} * b_w * d = \phi * 0.17 * \lambda * f'_c{}^{0.5} * b_w * d \quad \text{metric-u}$$

$$\phi * 2 * \lambda * f'_c{}^{0.5} * b_w * d = \phi * 2 * \lambda * f'_c{}^{0.5} * b_w * d \quad \text{US-units}$$

where

$$\phi = 0.75 \text{ for shear}^A$$

$$\lambda = 1.0 \text{ for normal weight concrete}^B$$

$$f'_c{}^{0.5} = \text{square root of specified compressive strength of concrete.}^C$$

^A ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 9.3.2.3

^B ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 8.6.1

^C ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.1.2.1

Note; If the structure is defined as a joist construction V_c shall be permitted to be 10% more than that specified in above².

$$\phi V_{c,j} = 1.1 * \phi V_c$$

IF

$$\begin{aligned} V_u - \phi V_c &\leq \phi * 0.66 * f_c^{0.5} * b_w * d^A = \phi * 0.66 * f_c^{0.5} * b_w * d \quad \text{metric-units} \\ &= \phi * 8 * f_c^{0.5} * b_w * d = \phi * 8 * f_c^{0.5} * b_w * d \quad \text{US-units} \end{aligned}$$

where

V_u = the maximum design shear force acting anywhere on the beam

^A ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.4.7.9

THEN the shear design process can proceed.

ELSE the shear design process **FAILS** since the section size or strength of the concrete is inadequate for shear. No further shear calculations are carried out in the region under consideration and the user is warned accordingly.

The design shear capacity of the minimum area of shear links actually provided, $V_{s,min}$ is given by³;

$$V_{s,min} = (A_{v,min}/s) * \phi * d * f_{yt}$$

where

$A_{v,min}$ is the area of shear reinforcement provided to meet the minimum requirements.

For each beam determine the following;

$V_{u,maxL}$ = the maximum vertical shear force at the face of the left hand support

$V_{u,dL}$ = the vertical shear force at a distance dL from the face of the left hand support

$V_{u,maxR}$ = the maximum vertical shear force at the face of the right hand support

$V_{u,dR}$ = the vertical shear force at a distance dR from the face of the right hand support

$V_{u,S2L}$ = the maximum vertical shear force at the extreme left of region S2

$V_{u,S2R}$ = the maximum vertical shear force at the extreme right of region S2

where

dL = the minimum effective depth of the beam in regions T1 and B1

dR = the minimum effective depth of the beam in regions T5 and B3

For region $S1$;

IF

$$ABS(V_{u,maxL}) - ABS(V_{u,dL}) \leq 0.25*ABS(V_{u,maxL})$$

THEN

$$V_{u,S1} = ABS(V_{u,dL})$$

ELSE

$$V_{u,S1} = ABS(V_{u,maxL})$$

For region $S3$;

IF

$$ABS(V_{u,maxR}) - ABS(V_{u,dR}) \leq 0.25*ABS(V_{u,maxR})$$

THEN

$$V_{u,S3} = ABS(V_{u,dR})$$

ELSE

$$V_{u,S3} = ABS(V_{u,maxR})$$

For region $S2$;

IF

$$ABS(V_{u,maxL}) - ABS(V_{u,dL}) \leq 0.25*ABS(V_{u,maxL})$$

$$V_{u,S2L} = \text{MIN}[ABS(V_{u,S2L}), ABS(V_{u,dL})]$$

ELSE

$$V_{u,S2L} = V_{u,S2L}$$

IF

$$ABS(V_{u,maxR}) - ABS(V_{u,dR}) \leq 0.25*ABS(V_{u,maxR})$$

$$V_{u,S2R} = \text{MIN}[ABS(V_{u,S2R}), ABS(V_{u,dR})]$$

ELSE

$$V_{u,S2R} = V_{u,S2R}$$

The absolute maximum vertical shear force in the region is then given by;

$$V_{u,S2} = \text{MAX}[ABS(V_{u,S2L}), ABS(V_{u,S2R})]$$

In any region, i ;

IF

$$V_{u,i} \leq V_{s,min} + \phi V_c$$

where

$V_{u,i}$ = the maximum shear in region i from the above routines

OR

The structure is defined as a joist construction⁴.

THEN

Minimum shear reinforcement shall be used;

And the nominal shear strength is given;

$$\phi V_n = \phi V_c + V_{s,\min} \text{ }^5$$

ELSE

$$V_{u,i} > V_{s,\min} + \phi V_c$$

THEN shear links are required in the region.

The area of shear reinforcement required is then given⁶;

metric-units;

$$(A_v/s)_{Si} = \text{MAX}[(V_u - \phi V_c) / (\phi f_{yt} d), 0.062 f_c^{0.5} b_w / f_{yt}, 0.35 \text{Pa} b_w / f_{yt}]$$

US-units;

$$(A_v/s)_{Si} = \text{MAX}[(V_u - \phi V_c) / (\phi f_{yt} d), 0.75 f_c^{0.5} b_w / f_{yt}, 50 \text{psi} b_w / f_{yt}]$$

$$V_s = (A_v/s) \phi d f_{yt}$$

IF

$$V_s \leq 0.66 f_c^{0.5} b_w d \text{ }^7 \text{ metric -units} \quad 8 f_c^{0.5} b_w d \text{ }^7 \text{ US-units}$$

THEN the shear design process passes.

And the nominal shear strength is given;

$$\phi V_n = \phi V_c + V_s$$

ELSE the shear design process FAILS since the section size or strength of the concrete is inadequate for shear.

[1.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.2.1.1

[2.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 8.13.8

[3.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.4.7.2

[4.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.4.6.1 - Terms (d) and (e) not applied at this stage.

[5.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.1

[6.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.4.6.3

[7.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.4.7.9

Minimum Area of Shear Reinforcement

The minimum area of shear reinforcement required, $A_{v,\min}$ is given by¹;

$$A_{v,\min} = \text{MAX}(0.062 f_c^{0.5} b_w s / f_{yt}, 0.35 \text{MPa} b_w s / f_{yt}, A_{v,\min,u}) \text{ metric-units}$$

$$\text{MAX}(0.75 f_c^{0.5} b_w s / f_{yt}, 50 \text{psi} b_w s / f_{yt}, A_{v,\min,u}) \text{ US-units}$$

where

s = the spacing of the shear reinforcement along the longitudinal axis of the beam

f_{yt} = yield strength of transverse reinforcement

$A_{v,\min,u}$ = the total minimum area of the shear reinforcement calculated from data supplied by the user i.e. maximum spacing across the beam, minimum link diameter and number of legs

[1.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.4.6.3

Spacing of Shear Reinforcement

For Longitudinal spacing, s between the legs of shear reinforcement is given by¹;

IF

$$V_u - \phi V_c \leq \phi * 0.33 * f_c^{0.5} * b_w * d \text{ metric-units}$$

$$\phi * 4 * f_c^{0.5} * b_w * d \text{ US-units}$$

THEN

$$s_{min,u} \leq s \leq \text{MIN}[0.5*d, 600\text{mm (24in.)}, s_{max,u}]$$

ELSE

$$s_{min,u} \leq s \leq \text{MIN}[0.25*d, 300\text{mm (12in.)}, s_{max,u}]$$

where

$s_{max,u}$ = the maximum longitudinal spacing specified by the user

$s_{min,u}$ = the minimum longitudinal spacing specified by the user

Moreover IF **compression reinforcement** is required the compression reinforcement shall be enclosed by ties². This is an additional limit, not an alternative.

Vertical spacing of ties is then given by³;

$$s \leq \text{MIN}(16*d_b, 48*d_{b,w}, b_w, h)$$

where

d_b = the nominal diameter of the bar

$d_{b,w}$ = the nominal diameter of the link reinforcement

[1.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 11.4.5

[2.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 7.11.1

[3.](#) ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 7.10.5.2

Seismic Design (Beams: ACI 318)

Seismic Design

Limitations and Assumptions

The follows limitations and assumptions apply:

- Seismic design is only performed for beams marked as part of a Seismic Force Resisting System and for seismic cantilevers.
- Requirements for beams particularly in the case of members not part of any SFRS when in Seismic Design Categories D through F are not considered in the current release.
- The design and detailing requirements of members part of Special Moment Frames is beyond scope (some checks are implemented but only due to their existence in lower toughness systems).



A full list of the code checks that have and have not been implemented is provided in the table below.

- Seismic design checks are mostly based on capacity design obtained from the main reinforcement provided. This can lead to an over-design of structural members if the designer does not take steps to minimize excess capacity.
- Beam seismic design and detailing in the current release is based on the beam rectangular section and takes under consideration the beam reinforcement only. In particular cases allowances for the slab presence and reinforcement might be required on top of the current design.
- Seismic design and detailing requirements for structural diaphragms according to ACI318-11 sections 21.3.6 and 21.11 are not considered in the current release.

ACI 318 Seismic Code Checks for beams that have been implemented in Tekla Structural Designer

Code Ref.	Requirement	SFRS	SDC A	SDC B	SDC C	SDC D,E,F
21.1.4.2	Minimum required compressive strength of concrete	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.4.3	Maximum allowed compressive strength of light-weight concrete	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.2	Maximum allowed steel characteristic yield strength of longitudinal reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.5	Maximum allowed longitudinal reinforcement yield strength used in the calculation of transverse reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.6.2	Mechanical Splices within twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.1.6.2	Mechanical Splices outside twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.1.7.1	Welded Splices within twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.1.7.2	Welding of stirrups or other elements to longitudinal reinf. required by design	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.2.2	Minimum number of bars at top/bottom faces continuous throughout	OMF	-	✓	-	-
21.2.2	Minimum number of bars at top/bottom faces continuous throughout	IMF	-	-	✓	-

Reference Guide - ACI/AISC

21.3.2	Maximum allowed factored axial force	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.3.1	Minimum Design shear force	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.4.1	Minimum +ve requirement (moment strength/steel) at a joint face	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.4.1	Minimum moment strength anywhere on a beam	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.4.2	Type of transverse reinforcement in confinement regions (hook/extension)	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.4.2	Length of support regions measured from the face of the joint	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.4.2	Maximum hoop spacing in support regions	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.4.2	Maximum distance between first hoop and joint face in support regions	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.4.3	Maximum hoop spacing outside confinement regions	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.5	Beams of Special Moment Frames will frame into columns of SMF	SMF	-	-	✓	-
21.5.1.1	Maximum allowed factored axial force	SMF	-	-	✓	-
21.5.1.2	Maximum allowed effective depth	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.1.3	Minimum allowed width	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.1.4	Maximum allowed width	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.2.1	Minimum number of bars at top/bottom faces continuous throughout	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.2.1	Minimum allowed area of reinforcement at top/bottom face throughout	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.2.1	Maximum allowed area of reinforcement : Max steel ratio at top/bottom/side face of the beam, ρ_{max}	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.2.2	Minimum +ve requirement (moment strength / steel) at a joint face	SMF	-	-	-	✓

21.5.2.2	Minimum moment strength anywhere on a beam	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.2.3	Lap splice location restrictions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.2.3	Lap Splice transverse reinforcement type	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.2.3	Maximum allowed hoop spacing at lap splices	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.1	Length of support regions measured from the face of the joint	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.1	Non-reversing plastic hinges : Flexural Yield region size (centered)	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.5.3.2	Maximum hoop spacing in support regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.2	Maximum distance between first hoop and joint face in support regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.2	Non-reversing plastic hinges : Maximum horizontal center spacing	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.5.3.3	Maximum allowed spacing of flexural reinforcing bars	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.3	Maximum allowed lateral link leg spacing in confinement regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.4	Maximum hoop spacing outside confinement regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.6	Type of transverse reinforcement in confinement regions (hook/extension)	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.3.6	Type of transverse reinforcement in beam sections that extend laterally beyond the column core (hook/extension)	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.5.4.1	Minimum Design shear force	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.5.4.2	Unreinforced concrete shear resistance at confinement regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.2.1	Stress in the beam flexural tensile reinforcement at joints face for joint shear calculation	SMF	-	-	-	✓

21.7.2.2	Tension anchorage length of beam long. Reinf. at external joints (beyond column inner face)	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.2.3	Maximum longitudinal reinforcement bar size	SMF	-	-	-	✓
-	Minimum beam depth at a joint where it contributes to joint shear	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.3.3	Spacing of confinement reinf. for longitudinal bars of beams outside the column core	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.7.3.3	Maximum distance between link legs in beam sections that extend laterally beyond the column core	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.7.5.1	Development length for beam longitudinal bars with a standard 90° hook	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.5.2	Development length for beam longitudinal straight bars	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.5.4	Development length for epoxy-coated or zinc and epoxy dual-coated beam longitudinal bars	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.8.2	Minimum distance from joint face for beam reinf. mechanical splices in ductile connections	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.8.2	Minimum nominal shear strength of ductile connections	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.8.3	Minimum nominal strength of the strong connection	SMF	-	-	-	✗
ASCE7/10 12.4.4	Extra design loads for horizontal cantilevers	-	-	-	-	✓

Notes:

- For further details of the checks that have been implemented, see: [Beams in Moment Resisting Frames](#), or consult the respective clause reference in the code.
- Most of the requirements will be fulfilled through automatic design. In some cases specific design options will need to be set by the user.
- Additional requirements may apply to members that are not part of the SFRS when in SDC's D, E or F
- Confinement regions: - support regions; - Probable flexural yield regions; - Lap splice regions.

Beams in Moment Resisting Frames (Beams-seismic: ACI 318)

Beams in Moment Resisting Frames

General Requirements

Maximum allowed factored axial force

Flexural elements with high axial loading values under any load combination are handled in the seismic design and detailing as compressive members.

If SFRS Type = Ordinary Moment Frame, then no axial compression limit applies.

If SFRS Type = Intermediate Moment Frame or SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

$$P_{\max} = A_g * f'_c / 10$$

where

$$P_{\max} = \text{Maximum allowed compression value on the member}$$

$$A_g = \text{Gross area of the concrete section}$$

$$f'_c = \text{specified compressive strength of concrete}$$

The check passes if;

$$P_u \geq P_{\max}$$

where

$$P_u = \text{Maximum factored compressive axial force anywhere in the span considering all load combinations}$$

Maximum allowed effective depth

The maximum allowed effective depth of a beam part of a Special Moment Frame is proportional to its clear span length to limit the overloading of the adjacent joints and columns.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

$$d \leq d_{\max}$$

where

$$d = \text{Distance between the extreme compression fiber and the longitudinal tension reinforcement centroid}$$

$$d_{\max} = \text{Maximum allowed distance between the extreme compression fiber and the longitudinal tension reinforcement centroid}$$

$$d_{\max} = 0.25 * l_n$$

where

$$l_n = \text{Length of the clear span measured from face-to-face of supports}$$

Minimum allowed width

Beams part of Special Moment Frames in buildings subjected to earthquake effects have a minimum width limit for their web.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

$$b_w \geq b_{w,min}$$

where

$$b_w = \text{Beam web width}$$

$$b_{w,min} = \text{Minimum allowed beam web width}$$

$$= \text{MAX}(0.3 * h, 250 \text{ mm}) \quad \text{Metric-units}$$

$$= \text{MAX}(0.3 * h, 10 \text{ in}) \quad \text{US-units}$$

where

$$h = \text{Overall depth of the concrete section}$$

Maximum allowed width

Despite not being advisable, beams in Special Moment Frames are allowed to be wider than the supporting columns up to a fixed limit.



The maximum lateral extension of a beam on each side of the joining column is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Flexural Requirements

Minimum number of bars

The minimum allowed number of bars continuous along the beam span is required to be checked in the layers closest to the top and bottom faces of any beam in the SFRS.

The number of bars should be ≥ 2 .

Maximum allowed bar size

This applies to end regions of beams where the beam reinforcement extends into the column core. The required development length of reinforcement bars extending into the column core restricts the minimum size of the column and vice-versa.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

“Anchorage requirements at the joint of special moment frames limit the maximum bar size at each end of the beam”

Minimum flexural strength

The minimum area of top and bottom steel required at any section of a beam part of a Moment Resisting Frame needs to comply with flexural strength requirements when considering earthquake effects.

Note that no seismic design requirements apply to beams that are part of Ordinary Moment Frames. All other Moment Resisting Frame types have minimum longitudinal moment requirements.

Minimum allowed area of reinforcement

The minimum allowed area of steel throughout the bottom and top faces of a beam part of a Special Moment Frame is limited as per ACI 318-11 equation (10-3).

Maximum allowed area of reinforcement

For the purpose of increasing the ductility response of beams in Special Moment Frames the area of reinforcement both at the top and bottom faces is limited.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

$$\begin{matrix} (A_s^- \text{ and} \\ A_s^+) \end{matrix} \leq A_{s,max} = 0.025 * b_w * d$$

where

A_s = Area of non-prestressed longitudinal tension reinforcement

b_w = Beam web width

d = Distance from extreme compression fiber to centroid of longitudinal tension reinforcement

No other Moment Resisting Frame type has a maximum area of steel requirement.

Maximum allowed center spacing of longitudinal bars

Limitations on the longitudinal bar spacing apply to beams part of Special Moment Frames.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame, then the maximum allowed center spacing is checked for confinement regions as follows:

$$S_{cr,max} = 350 \text{ mm} \quad \text{Metric-units}$$

$$A_s = 14 \text{ in.} \quad \text{US-units}$$

where

$$S_{cr,max} = \text{maximum allowed center spacing}$$

No requirement applies to regions where confinement reinforcement is not required.

No other Moment Resisting Frame type has a maximum allowed spacing of longitudinal bars requirement.

Non-reversing plastic hinges

Non-reversing plastic hinges are regions along the span of the beam where flexural yielding is likely to occur.



Non-reversing plastic hinges are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Splices

Restrictions apply to the locations of reinforcement lap splices along the span of a beam part of Special Moment Frames.

Strength design of mechanical splices and restrictions to the use of welded splices as required by ACI318-11 apply to Special Moment Frames.



These restrictions are not implemented in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Transverse Reinforcement

Seismic requirements relating to transverse reinforcement take into account properties, strengths and outcomes which are shear related ignoring any reinforcement intended to deal with torsional effects.

Design shear force

The design shear force for members subjected to earthquake effects is obtained by consideration of the minimum required shear strength of the member. The required nominal shear strength of a flexural member part of a Moment Resisting Frame is checked considering the sum of shears resultant from the moment strengths due to reverse curvature bending acting at each end of the beam and from the tributary factored gravity loads.

Beams are checked for shear in three regions:

- Left region, S1;
- Central region, S2;
- Right region, S3.

Shear design is performed considering the Major axis shear force only. Shear Force in the minor axis is checked against the ignorable threshold.

If SFRS Type = Ordinary Moment Frame, then no shear seismic check applies.

If SFRS Type = Intermediate Moment Frame

$$V_e = \phi \text{MIN}(V_{e,Mn} + V_{e,gravity}, V_{e,2E})$$

where

$$\phi = \text{Strength reduction factor} = 1.0$$

$$V_e = \text{Minimum design shear force for load combinations including earthquake effects}$$

$$V_{e,gravity} = \text{Shear due to factored gravity loads from seismic combinations (including vertical earthquake effects) retaining the sign from analysis}$$

$$V_{e,2E} = \text{Maximum shear resultant from seismic combinations, with doubled earthquake effect [i.e.: } V_{e,non-seismic} + V_{e,E} \times 2]$$

$$V_{e,Mn} = \text{Maximum shear associated with the development of reversed curvature bending due to nominal resisting moments at both ends of the member, considering both the clockwise and counter-clockwise cases}$$

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

$$V_e = \phi(V_{e,Mpr} + V_{e,gravity})$$

where

$$\phi = \text{Strength reduction factor} = 1.0$$

$$V_e = \text{Minimum design shear force for load combinations including earthquake effects}$$

$$V_{e,gravity} = \text{Shear due to factored gravity loads from seismic combinations (including vertical earthquake effects) retaining the sign from analysis}$$

$$V_{e,Mpr} = \text{Maximum shear associated with the development of reversed curvature bending due to the probable flexural moment strength for both the clockwise and counter-clockwise situations, at both ends of the member}$$

Maximum hoop spacing

The maximum allowed horizontal center spacing of hoops in confinement regions of beams is limited by ACI 318 depending on the type of Seismic Force Resisting System considered.



This check is performed for support regions only, it is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer for other confinement regions.



Non-reversing plastic hinge regions along the span have the same requirements as support regions, but these are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

For Support Regions:

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

The maximum allowed center hoop spacing in support regions, $s_{cr,max,sup}$ is calculated as follows:

According to ACI318-08¹:

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}(d/4, 8 * d_{b,smallest}, 24 * d_{b,w}, 300\text{mm}) \quad \text{Metric-units}$$

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}(d/4, 8 * d_{b,smallest}, 24 * d_{b,w}, 12 \text{ in.}) \quad \text{US-units}$$

According to ACI318-11²:

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}(d/4, 6 * d_{b,smallest}, 150 \text{ mm}) \quad \text{Metric-units}$$

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}(d/4, 6 * d_{b,smallest}, 6 \text{ in.}) \quad \text{US-units}$$

where

d = Distance from extreme compression fiber to centroid of longitudinal tension reinforcement

$d_{b,smallest}$ = Smallest longitudinal reinforcement bar diameter

$d_{b,w}$ = Link (hoop) diameter, mm

If SFRS Type = Intermediate Moment Frame

The maximum allowed center hoop spacing in support regions, $s_{cr,max,sup}$ is calculated as follows:

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}(d/4, 8 * d_{b,smallest}, 24 * d_{b,w}, 300\text{mm}) \quad \text{Metric-units}$$

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}(d/4, 8 * d_{b,smallest}, 24 * d_{b,w}, 12 \text{ in.}) \quad \text{US-units}$$

where

d = Distance from extreme compression fiber to centroid of longitudinal tension reinforcement

$d_{b,smallest}$ = Smallest longitudinal reinforcement bar diameter

$d_{b,w}$ = Link (hoop) diameter, mm

For Span Regions:

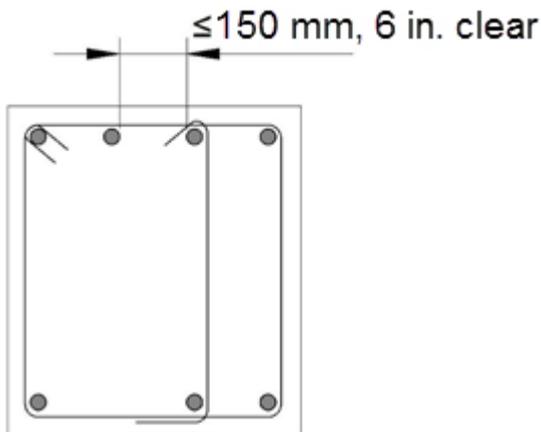
If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame, or Intermediate Moment Frame

The maximum allowed hoops spacing outside confinement regions, $s_{cr,max,span}$ is calculated as follows:

$$s_{cr,max,span} = d/2$$

Maximum allowed lateral link leg spacing

The clear spacing between link legs at right angles to the span is limited in confinement reinforcement regions of members part of Special Moment Frames only.



This check is performed for support regions only, it is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer for other confinement regions.

1. ACI318-08 Section 21.5.3.2. This requirement has changed from ACI318-08 to ACI318-11.
2. ACI318-08 Section 21.5.3.2. This requirement has changed from ACI318-08 to ACI318-11.

Beams not part of a SFRS (Beams-seismic: ACI 318)

Beams not part of a SFRS

Requirements when in SDC D - F

When designing members for earthquake effects, beams not part of the SFRS when in Seismic Design Categories D through F are required to be designed with seismic provisions all the same.



With the exception of seismic cantilevers, the design of these members for seismic provisions is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Seismic Cantilevers

Horizontal cantilever structural members in structures assigned to Seismic Design Category D, E or F are required to be designed to the applicable load combinations plus an isolated minimum net upward force of 0.2* times the dead load.

If a cantilever beam has been marked as a seismic cantilever, then provided the seismic design category = D, E or F the minimum design moment at the restrained end is checked as follows:

Calculate minimum positive design moment:

$$M_{\min}^+ = 0.2 * M_{e,\text{dead}}^-$$

where

M_{\min}^+ = Minimum positive design bending moment at the restrained end.

$M_{e,\text{dead}}^-$ = Critical negative bending moment at the restrained end due to dead loads only obtained for the considered seismic combination.

Check the minimum design moment at the restrained end:

$$M_u^+ \geq M_{\min}^+$$

where

M_u^+ = Critical negative bending moment at the restrained end due to dead loads only obtained for the considered seismic combination.

If the check fails the region is designed for $M_u^+ = M_{\min}^+$

Seismic Detailing (Beams: ACI 318)

Seismic Detailing

When designing a structure considering earthquake effects numerous seismic detailing requirements apply to structural beams intended to resist the earthquake induced forces.

The seismic detailing of concrete beams is performed only if the member is assigned to the SFRS through the **In a Seismic Force Resisting System** setting in the member properties window.

Flexural Reinforcement

Longitudinal reinforcement at the top and bottom faces of a beam in any Moment Resisting Frame are required to have at least two continuous steel bars along the span for structural integrity and constructability purposes.

Anchorage

Longitudinal reinforcement terminated at a column in beams that are part of Special Moment Frames shall be anchored within the element confined core for a length measured from the critical section at the element's face.

Tekla Structural Designer performs the calculation steps for the required development length at the supports of bars in tension for both the case where straight bars are used and where hooks are provided.

Lap Splices

Specific seismic requirements apply only to lap splices in flexural members that are part of Special Moment Frames.

For beams that are part of Special Moment Frames lap splices are not allowed to be located:

- Within joints or within a distance of twice the members depth from the face of a joint
- Within regions where flexural yielding is likely to occur.



The latter requirement to avoid lap splices in regions where flexural yielding is likely to occur is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Confinement Reinforcement for Ductility

Reinforcement Type

Confinement reinforcement should consist of hoops, i.e. closed or continuously wound ties with a seismic hook at each end.

Detailing Regions

Confinement reinforcement is required to be provided over the following confinement regions in beams that are part of Intermediate and Special Moment Frames. This is not a requirement for beams that are part of Ordinary Moment Frames

- Support regions:
 - These are probable flexural yielding regions flexural yielding regions next to beam-column joints



Beam-wall moment frames are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

- Non-reversing plastic hinge regions:
 - These are probable flexural yielding regions outside support regions.



Non-reversing plastic hinge regions are not identified in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

- Lap splices:
 - Over the full length of lap splices in members that are part of Special Moment Frames

Column Design to ACI 318

Limitations and Exclusions

The following general exclusions apply to the first release:

- Seismic loading and design,
- Consideration of fire resistance. [You are however given full control of the minimum cover dimension to the reinforcement and are therefore able to take due account of fire resistance requirements.],
- Lightweight concrete,
- Chamfers,
- Multi-stack reinforcement lifts.

Materials

Concrete

Only normal weight is included in the first release. (Lightweight concrete is excluded).

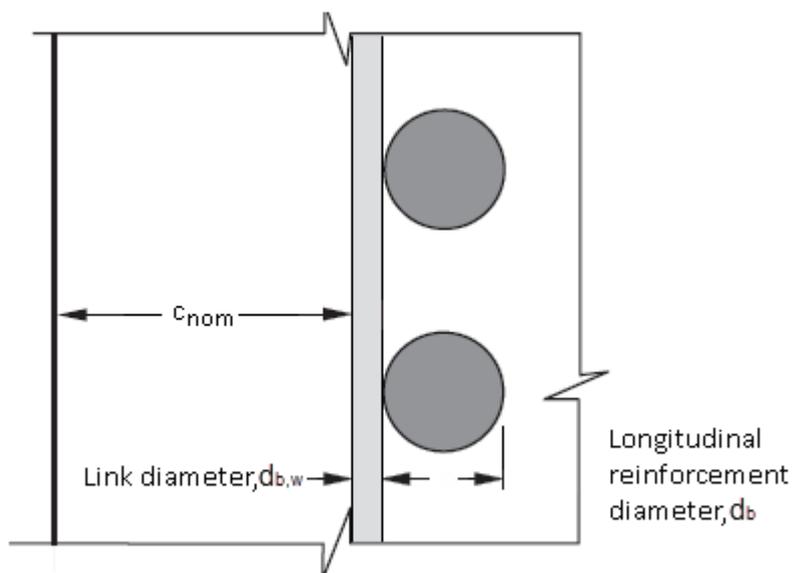
Reinforcement

The reinforcement options are:

- Loose reinforcing bars,
- Loose reinforcing bars bent to form ties.

Cover to Reinforcement

The nominal concrete cover is the distance between the surface of the reinforcement closest to the nearest concrete surface (including ties and surface reinforcement where relevant) and the nearest concrete surface.



You are required to set a minimum value for the nominal cover, $C_{nom, u}$, for each column in the column properties.

These values are then checked against the nominal limiting cover, $C_{nom, lim}$

If $C_{nom, u} < C_{nom, lim}$ then a warning is displayed in the calculations.

Design Parameters for Longitudinal Bars (Columns: ACI 318)

Design Parameters for Longitudinal Bars

For some of the longitudinal reinforcement design parameters, additional user defined limits can be applied - where this is the case minimum and maximum values are specified in **Design Options > Column > Reinforcement Layout**.

Minimum Longitudinal Bar Spacing

For design to ACI

minimum clear distance \geq MAX (1.5 * longitudinal d_b , 1.5in., 1.33* h_{agg}) US units

minimum clear distance \geq MAX (1.5 * longitudinal d_b , 40mm, 1.33* h_{agg}) metric units

where

d_b = bar diameter

h_{agg} = aggregate size

Maximum Longitudinal Bar Spacing

You are given control over this value by specifying an upper limit in **Design Options > Column > Reinforcement Layout**.

Minimum Longitudinal Total Steel Area¹

For design to ACI

1% * column area

Maximum Longitudinal Total Steel Area

For design to ACI

8% * column area

^{1.} BS EN 1992-1-1:2004 Section 9.5.2(2)

Ultimate Axial Load Limit

The strength of a column under truly concentric axial load is

$$P_{no} = 0.85 \cdot f_c \cdot (A_g - A_{st}) + f_y \cdot A_{st}$$

For nonprestressed compression members with tie reinforcement,

$$\phi P_{nmax} = 0.80 \cdot \phi \cdot [0.85 \cdot f_c \cdot (A_g - A_{st}) + f_y \cdot A_{st}]$$

where

$0.85f_c$ = maximum concrete stress permitted in column design

A_g = gross area of the section (concrete and steel)

f_y = yield strength of the reinforcement

A_{st} = total area of reinforcement in the cross section

ϕ = strength reduction factor = 0.65

Effective Length Calculations (Columns: ACI 318)

Effective Length Calculations

Unsupported Length

The unsupported length, l_u , of a column is the clear distance between lateral supports.

If, at an end of the compression member (stack), no effective beams, flat slab or slab on beams to include is found, then the clear height includes the (compression member) stack beyond this restraint, and the same rules apply for finding the end of the clear height at the end of the next stack (and so on). If there is no stack beyond this restraint (i.e. this is the end of the column), the clear height ends at the end of the column.

Effective Length

The effective length, l_e , is calculated automatically from ACI R10.10.1. You have the ability to override the calculated value.

Tekla Structural Designer will impose the following limits for stacks that are designated as braced:

$$0.5 \leq l_e / l_u \leq 1$$

When both ends of an unbraced compression member are hinged (pinned), a "Beyond Scope" warning is displayed.

The effective length of the stack (compression member) is given by:

$$l_e = k \cdot l_u$$

The program uses the bottom end of the stack (compression member) as end 1 and the top as end 2.

Any beams framing into the end of the compression member (stack) within 45 degrees of the axis being considered are said to be restraining beams for the stack in that direction. No adjustment is made to the restraint provided by the beam for the angle (i.e. the full value of $E * I / l$ is used for all beams within 45 degrees of the axis).

A beam is to be considered as a restraining beam in the direction considered if:

$$-45^\circ < \beta \leq 45^\circ$$

where

β is the angle from the axis in the direction considered to the beam, measured anti-clockwise when viewed from above (i.e. back along the length of the stack from the end towards the start).

Fixed Column Base

Since in practical structures there is no such thing as a truly fixed end, *Tekla Structural Designer* limits $\psi \geq 0.20$. This being the practical lower limit suggested in "RC Mechanics" by McGregor and Wright.

Pinned Column End

In any situation where the end of a column anywhere in the structure is pinned, $\psi = 1000$. (This being the upper limit on ψ that is imposed by *Tekla Structural Designer*.)

No Effective Beams Found

If no effective beams are found to restrain the end of the stack in the direction in question, then the program will consider whether there is a flat slab restraining the stack at this end. If a flat slab is found it will either be considered as a restraint, or not, in each direction at each end of the stack - this is controlled by checking the option **Use slab for calculation...** located as a Stiffness setting in the column properties.

If there are no effective beams and there is no flat slab (or any flat slab is not to be considered), then the program will look for a slab on beams. If a slab on beams is found, this acts as a restraint at the position. Slabs on beams will only be considered if the "Use slab for calculation..." option is selected, as is the case for flat slabs.

If no beams and no flat slab or slab on beams is found, then the program will look for the far end of the stack on the other side of the joint, and look at the restraints there, and so on until a restraint with an effective beam, flat slab or slab on beams to be considered is found.

If the stack is restrained by a flat slab, then the slab will be considered to act as a beam in this direction - note that it is one beam in the direction and NOT a beam on each side of the column. The beam's length is taken as four times its width.

If the stack is restrained by a slab on beams, this will have a zero contribution to the stiffness. This theoretically has the effect of setting $\psi = \text{infinity}$, though it is limited to 1000 in *Tekla Structural Designer* before being used in the calculations.

If the stack is an end stack and there are no supports, beams, flat slabs or slabs on beams considered to restrain the stack at this end in the direction, the end is therefore free in this direction and $\psi = 1000$.

Column Stack Classification (Columns: ACI 318)

Column Stack Classification

Slenderness ratio

The slenderness ratio, $k l_u/r$, of the restrained length (note: not necessarily the stack length – it will be longer if there is no restraint at either end of the stack) about each axis is calculated as follows:

$$(k l_u/r)_y = k * l_{u_y} / (\sqrt{I_y / A})$$

$$(k l_u/r)_z = k * l_{u_z} / (\sqrt{I_z / A})$$

where

slenderness ratio = $k * l_u/r$

k is an effective length factor

l_{u_y} is the unsupported column length in respect of major axis (y axis)

l_{u_z} is the unsupported column length in respect of minor axis (z axis)

r_y is the radius of gyration of the column in the y-direction

r_z is the radius of gyration of the column in the z-direction

I_y is the second moment of area of the stack section about the major axis (y axis)

I_z is the second moment of area of the stack section about the major axis (z axis)

A_g is the cross-sectional area of the stack section

For unbraced columns

IF $(k l_u/r)_y \leq 22$

THEN slenderness can be neglected and column can be designed as short column

ELSE, column is considered as slender

IF $(k l_u/r)_z \leq 22$

THEN slenderness can be neglected and column can be designed as short column

ELSE, column is considered as slender

For braced columns

IF $(k l_u/r)_y \leq \text{MIN}((34-12*M_1/M_2), 40)$

THEN slenderness can be neglected and column can be designed as short column

ELSE, column is considered as slender

IF $(k l_u/r)_z \leq \text{MIN}((34-12*M_1/M_2), 40)$

THEN slenderness can be neglected and column can be designed as short column

ELSE, column is considered as slender

where

M_1 = the smaller factored end moment on the column, to be taken as positive if member is bent in single curvature and negative if bent in double curvature

$$= \text{MIN} [\text{ABS}(M_{\text{top}}), \text{ABS}(M_{\text{bot}})]$$

M_2 = the larger factored end moment on the column always taken as positive

$$= \text{MAX} [\text{ABS}(M_{\text{top}}), \text{ABS}(M_{\text{bot}})]$$

Design for Combined Axial and Bending

Tekla Structural Designer designs the column for an applied axial force and applied bending about one or both axes of the section. In the case of bi-axial bending, a resultant moment is created for the combination of the applied moments.

An iterative approach is applied determined from first principles. This involves the calculation of the neutral axis position (rotation and depth) at which the ratio of the moment limits in each direction is equal to the ratio of the applied moments and the resultant axial resistance of the section is equal to the applied axial force.

When the final neutral axis angle has been found, the program then compares the resultant applied moment with the resultant moment resistance to find the moment utilization ratio:

$$\sqrt{(M^2_{\text{major}} + M^2_{\text{minor}})} / \sqrt{(\phi * M_{\text{major, res}})^2 + (\phi * M_{\text{minor, res}})^2} \leq 1.0$$

where

M_{major} = Moment about the major axis

M_{minor} = Moment about the minor axis

ϕ = Strength reduction factor

$M_{\text{major, res}}$ = Moment of resistance about the major axis

$M_{\text{minor, res}}$ = Moment of resistance about the minor axis

Design for Shear (Columns: ACI 318)

Design for Shear

Design Parameters for Shear Design

For some of the shear design parameters, additional user defined limits can be applied - where this is the case minimum and maximum values are specified in **Design Options > Column > Reinforcement Layout**.

Minimum Shear Link Diameter

For Ties, minimum shear reinforcement size

IF maximum longitudinal bar \leq 1.27 in. (32.3mm)

shear reinforcement diameter = 0.375 in. (9.5mm)

Minimum shear reinforcement diameter = 0.50 in. (12.7mm)

Maximum Span Region Shear Link Spacing

Controlled by seismic detailing requirements.

Maximum Support Region Shear Link Spacing

Controlled by seismic detailing requirements.

Seismic Design (Columns: ACI 318)

Seismic Design

Limitations and Assumptions

The follows limitations and assumptions apply:

- Seismic design is only performed on those columns marked as part of a Seismic Force Resisting System.
- Requirements for columns particularly in the case of members not part of any SFRS when in Seismic Design Categories D through F are not considered in the current release.
- The design and detailing requirements of members part of Special Moment Frames is beyond scope (some checks are implemented but only due to their existence in lower toughness systems).



A full list of the code checks that have and have not been implemented is provided in the table below.

- No height limitations apply to Seismic Force Resisting Systems in the form of Moment Resisting Frames according to ASCE7-10, Table 12.2-1.
- The use of spiral reinforcement as well as all seismic design checks and related assumptions are not considered due to the fact that this type of reinforcement is not currently available in *Tekla Structural Designer*.
- The Seismic Force Resisting System set by the user in each direction through the Seismic Wizard for analysis purposes is not checked for applicability against the allowed types of the resultant Seismic Design Category. This is a user responsibility.
- Seismic design checks are mostly based on capacity design obtained from the main reinforcement provided. This can lead to an over-design of structural members if the designer is not careful enough to minimize excess capacity, especially in columns considering the weak beam - strong column philosophy.

ACI 318 Seismic Code Checks for columns that have been implemented in Tekla Structural Designer

Code Ref.	Requirement	SFRS	SDC A	SDC B	SDC C	SDC D,E,F
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21.1.4.2	Minimum required compressive strength of concrete	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.4.3	Maximum allowed compressive strength of light-weight concrete	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.2	Maximum allowed steel characteristic yield strength of longitudinal reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.4	Maximum yield strength of transverse reinforcement in confinement regions of columns	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.5	Maximum allowed longitudinal reinforcement yield strength used in the calculation of transverse reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.5	Maximum allowed characteristic yield strength of shear reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.2.3	Design shear force	OMF	-	✓	-	-
21.3.2	Minimum factored axial force	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.3.2	Design shear force	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.2	Type of confinement reinforcement (hook/extension)	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.2	Minimum Support Region size (confinement reinforcement applies)	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.2	Maximum allowed center hoop spacing in confinement regions	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.3	First hoop placing distance from face of joint in support regions	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.3	First hoop placing distance from face of joint in support regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.3.5.5	Minimum depth of column transverse reinforcement into the joint	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.5	Minimum area of column rectangular transverse reinforcement	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.5	Minimum depth of column transverse reinforcement into the joint	SMF	-	-	-	✓

Reference Guide - ACI/AISC

21.3.5.5	Minimum volumetric ratio / area of column spiral or circular transverse reinforcement	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.6	Length of confinement region when inside footings, mats or pile caps	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.3.5.6	Length of confinement region for columns supporting/above discontinuous stiff members (walls)	IMF	-	-	✓	-
21.6.1	Minimum factored axial force	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.1.1	Minimum overall dimension	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.1.2	Minimum shortest dimension to perpendicular dimension ratio	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.2.2/21.6.2.3	Minimum flexural strength	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.3.1	Minimum allowed area of reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.3.1	Maximum allowed area of reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.3.2	Minimum allowed number of bars in columns with circular hoops	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.3.3	Lap splice allowed locations	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.3.3	Mechanical Splices within twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.6.3.3	Mechanical Splices outside twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.6.3.3	Welded Splices within twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.6.3.3	Welding of stirrups or other elements to longitudinal reinf. required by design	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.6.3.3	Minimum lap splice length	SMF	-	-	-	✓

21.6.4.1	Minimum Support Region size (confinement reinforcement applies)	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.1	Minimum length of confinement region at other flexural yielding sections	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.6.4.2	Type of confinement reinforcement (hook/extension)	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.2	Maximum allowed cross section center link leg spacing in confinement regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.3	Maximum allowed center hoop spacing in confinement regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.3	Maximum hoop spacing at lap Splices	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.6.4.4a)	Minimum volumetric ratio / area of spiral or circular confinement reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.4b)	Minimum area of rectangular confinement reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.5	Maximum center link/stirrup spacing in non special transverse reinf. regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.6	Length of confinement region when inside footings, mats or pile caps	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.6	Length of confinement region for columns supporting/above discontinuous stiff members (walls)	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.4.7	Spacing of transverse reinforcement for non-structural extensions	SMF	-	-	-	✗
21.6.5.1	Design shear force	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.6.5.2	Unreinforced Shear resistance at confinement regions	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.3.1	Minimum volumetric ratio / area of column spiral or circular transverse reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.3.1	Minimum area of column rectangular transverse reinforcement	SMF	-	-	-	✓
21.7.3.1	Type of column transverse reinforcement (hook/extension)	SMF	-	-	-	✓

21.7.3.1	Maximum allowed column cross section center link leg spacing	SMF	-	-	✓
21.7.3.1	Maximum allowed center hoop spacing	SMF	-	-	✓
21.7.3.1	Spacing of column transverse reinforcement for non-structural extensions	SMF	-	-	✗
21.7.3.2	Minimum column transverse reinf.with beams in all directions $\geq 3/4$ the column's width	SMF	-	-	✗
21.7.4.1	Maximum nominal shear strength for joints confined by beams on all four faces	SMF	-	-	✓
21.7.4.1	Maximum nominal shear strength for joints confined by beams on three faces or two opposite faces	SMF	-	-	✓
21.7.4.1	Maximum nominal shear strength for joints not confined by beams	SMF	-	-	✓
21.8.3	Minimum nominal strength of the strong connection for column-to-column connections	SMF	-	-	✗
21.8.3	Minimum nominal moment strength of the strong connection for column-to-column connections	SMF	-	-	✗
21.8.3	Minimum nominal shear strength of the strong connection for column-to-column connections	SMF	-	-	✗

Notes:

- For further details of the checks that have been implemented, see: [Columns in Moment Resisting Frames](#), or consult the respective clause reference in the code.
- Most of the requirements will be fulfilled through automatic design. In some cases specific design options will need to be set by the user.
- Additional requirements may apply to members that are not part of the SFRS when in SDC's D, E or F
- Confinement regions: - support regions; - Probable flexural yield regions; - Lap splice regions.

Columns in Moment Resisting Frames (Columns-seismic: ACI 318)**Columns in Moment Resisting Frames****General Requirements****End Fixity**

Reinforced concrete columns assigned to Moment Resisting Frames have their end fixities at the base of the building limited to:

- Fixed base;
- Pinned base;
- Spring base (foundation flexibility).

Minimum factored axial force

Members experiencing axial compression forces higher than the minimum threshold in the code from any of the load combinations are required to be checked for flexural strength and to consider flexural detailing within the strong column - weak beam design philosophy according to their assigned SFRS type.

If SFRS Type = Ordinary Moment Frame, then no No axial compression load requirement applies.

If SFRS Type = Intermediate Moment Frame, or Special Moment Frame

$$P_{\min} = A_g * f'_c / 10$$

where

P_{\min} = Minimum required axial compression

A_g = Gross area of the concrete section

f'_c = Specified compressive strength of concrete

$V_{e,2E}$ = Maximum shear resultant from seismic combinations, with doubled earthquake effect [i.e.: $V_{e,\text{non-seismic}} + V_{e,E} \times 2$]

$V_{e,Mn}$ = Maximum shear associated with the development of reversed curvature bending due to nominal resisting moments at both ends of the member, considering both the clockwise and counter-clockwise cases

The check passes and the member is designed for seismic provisions as a compressive member if $P_u > P_{\min}$

where

P_u = Largest factored compressive axial force at the top of the stack from any load combination.

Maximum recommended axial force

ACI 318 allows for the maximum design axial load to be as high as $0.8 * \phi * P_{n,\max}$, where $P_{n,\max}$ is the maximum compression resistance of the section composed of concrete and steel. However in the event of a severe earthquake a full height beam yielding mechanism could occur inducing higher compression strain on the columns than the one predicted by elastic design.

Good practice recommends that the maximum compressive strain in a column part of a Special Moment Frame should remain below the balanced value.



The current release of Tekla Structural Designer does not check if the compressive strain is below the balanced point.

Minimum cross-section dimension

ACI 318 limits the shortest cross-sectional dimension of a column that is part of a Special Moment Frame to a lower fixed value in any direction measured in a straight line passing through the section centroid and also to a fraction of the length of the perpendicular dimension.

These minimum dimension restrictions are calculated and applied accordingly when the column that is part of a Special Moment Frame.

Flexural Requirements

Minimum flexural strength

Columns that are part of Special Moment Frames are required by ACI 318 to have a minimum amount of flexural strength depending on the connecting beams flexural capacities so as to promote the formation of beam yielding mechanisms in the case of an earthquake. This is done by establishing a ratio between the beam and column moment strengths in the moment resisting frame direction.

The design of the main reinforcement in a column is done for the top, middle and bottom region of the stack and moment capacity is calculated for the factored axial force in each region for the Major and Minor directions.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame then flexural strength checks are performed at the joints:

$$\sum M_{nc,l} = M_{nc,l,bot} + M_{nc,l,top}$$

$$\sum M_{nc,r} = M_{nc,r,bot} + M_{nc,r,top}$$

where

$$\sum M_{nc,l}, \sum M_{nc,r} = \text{Sum of the Nominal Flexural Strengths of the columns framing into the joint in the relevant direction.}$$

$$M_{nc,l,bot}, M_{nc,r,bot} = \text{Nominal Moment Strength of the stack below the joint obtained for the axial force value consistent with the minimum Nominal Moment Strength respectively for the left and right sway cases.}$$

$$M_{nc,l,top}, M_{nc,r,top} = \text{Nominal Moment Strength of the stack above converging on the same joint for the axial force value consistent with the minimum Nominal Moment Strength respectively for the left and right sway cases.}$$

The sum of the beam strengths are obtained as follows:

$$\Sigma M_{nb,l} = M_{nb,l-} + M_{nb,l+}$$

$$\Sigma M_{nb,r} = M_{nb,r-} + M_{nb,r+}$$

where

$\Sigma M_{nb,l}$, $\Sigma M_{nb,r}$ = Sum of the Nominal Flexural Strengths of the beams framing into the joint in the relevant direction.

$M_{nb,l-}$, $M_{nb,r-}$ = Nominal Moment Strength at the joint from the beam on the left from current reinforcement arrangement respectively for the left and right sway cases.

$M_{nb,l+}$, $M_{nb,r+}$ = Nominal Moment Strength at the joint from the beam on the right from current reinforcement arrangement respectively for the left and right sway cases.

The minimum strength ratio between columns and beams in both left and right sway cases is checked as follows:

$$\Sigma M_{nc,l} \geq 6/5 * \Sigma M_{nb,l}$$

$$\Sigma M_{nc,r} \geq 6/5 * \Sigma M_{nb,r}$$

If the check fails the reinforcement in the column is increased and both the conventional design and seismic design calculations are repeated.

Maximum allowed area of reinforcement

The maximum area of longitudinal reinforcement in columns part of Special Moment Frames is limited as follows.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

Then calculate maximum area of steel, $A_{s,max}$ as follows::

$$A_{s,max} = 0.06 * A_g$$

where

$A_{s,max}$ = Maximum allowed area of reinforcement

A_g = Gross area of the concrete section.

Maximum allowed longitudinal bar center spacing

Limitations on the longitudinal bar spacing emerge from the code requirement for maximum allowed cross-section center link spacing of the confinement reinforcement due to the method of link leg distribution across the column section.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame

Then check maximum longitudinal reinforcement bar distance, $S_{cr,max}$ as follows:

$$S_{cr,max} = 350 \text{ mm} \quad \text{Metric-units}$$

$$S_{cr,max} = 350 \text{ mm} \quad \text{US-units}$$

Non-reversing plastic hinges

Non-reversing plastic hinges are regions along the stack of the column where flexural yielding is likely to occur.



Non-reversing plastic hinges are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Splices

Columns that are part of Special Moment Frames have restrictions on the allowed locations of lap splices.

Strength design of mechanical splices and restrictions to the use of welded splices as required by ACI 318-11 apply to Special Moment Frames



These restrictions are not implemented in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Transverse Reinforcement

Joint shear strength

The calculation of joint shear strength is a requirement of ACI 318 for joints of Special Moment Frames and it is obtained by considering both the free body diagram of the column and of the joint. The stress in the beam's tensile reinforcement at the joint's face is assumed as at least $\eta * f_y$ by considering the probable moment strengths of framing beams.

The calculation is performed on the following basis:

- Probable Moment Strengths are obtained from beams in the same direction as the column's considered direction
- Whether beams in the column SFRS Direction are included in the SFRS or not
- At the top region of stack only
- For both sway right and sway left cases
- Beams with pinned connection are ignored
- Axial stress in beams is assumed to be zero
- Contribution of the slab longitudinal reinforcement in the beam effective flange width is recommended to be considered, but remains beyond scope in the current release.

Design shear force

The Design Shear Force of a member subjected to flexure as well as axial loading part of a Moment Resisting Frame is checked taking into consideration the shear from the moment strengths of the connected flexural members due to reverse curvature bending.

- Shear design for columns is done for the entire stack as a single region and checked for the minimum requirements from the design code.
- The design is performed independently for both the orthogonal directions.

Minimum area of transverse reinforcement

For columns that are part of Special Moment Frames, the minimum area of transverse reinforcement required in confinement regions of a column is obtained as below:



For Special Moment Frames the amount of confinement reinforcement in joints with beams on all 4 sides wider than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the column width is allowed to be reduced to half and the spacing to be relaxed within the depth of the shallowest member - this is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.



Non-reversing plastic hinge regions along the span have the same requirements as support regions - Non-reversing plastic hinge regions are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

For circular columns:

$$\rho_s = \text{MAX}[0.12 * (f'_c / f_{yt}), 0.45 * [(A_g / A_{ch}) - 1] * (f'_c / f_{yt})]$$

where

ρ_s = ratio of volume of circular reinforcement to total volume of confine concrete core.

f'_c = Specified compressive strength of concrete.

f_{yt} = Specified yield strength of transverse reinforcement.

A_g = Gross area of concrete section.

A_{ch} = Area of concrete member section measured to the outside of the transverse reinforcement.

For other supported column geometries

$$A_{sh} = \text{MAX}[0.3 * s * b_c * (f'_c / f_{yt}) * [(A_g / A_{ch}) - 1], 0.09 * s * b_c * (f'_c / f_{yt})]$$

where

A_{sh} = total cross-section of transverse reinforcement, including cross-ties, within spacing s and perpendicular to dimension b_c .

s = Center to center spacing of transverse reinforcement along the region's height.

b_c = Cross section dimension of the member core measured to the outside of the transverse reinforcement and in the direction perpendicular to the considered reinforcement link legs.

A_g = Gross area of concrete section.

A_{ch} = Area of concrete member section measured to the outside of the transverse reinforcement.

Support regions of columns belonging to any other Moment Resisting Frame type have the minimum area of transverse reinforcement as per conventional design requirements.

Maximum allowed center hoop spacing

The maximum allowed horizontal center spacing of hoops in confinement regions of columns part of Moment Resisting Frames is limited as below.

If SFRS Type = Ordinary Moment Frame:

- No spacing requirement applies to support regions when designing for seismic provisions.

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame and the region is a support region:

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}[6 * d_{b,smallest}, 0.25 * \text{MIN}(c_1, c_2), 100 \text{ mm} \leq 100 + ((350 - h_x)/3) \leq 150 \text{ mm}]$$

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}[6 * d_{b,smallest}, 0.25 * \text{MIN}(c_1, c_2), 4 \text{ in.} \leq 4 + ((14 - h_x)/3) \leq 6 \text{ in.}]$$

where

$d_{b,smallest}$ = Smallest longitudinal reinforcement bar diameter

c_1 = Rectangular or equivalent rectangular column dimension in the direction of t which moments are being considered

c_2 = Dimension of the column perpendicular to c_1

h_x = Maximum center-to-center horizontal spacing of crossies at any face of the

If SFRS Type = Special Moment Frame and the region is not a support region:

$$s_{cr,max,span} = \text{MIN}[6 * d_{b,smallest}, 150 \text{ mm}] \quad \text{metric units}$$

$$s_{cr,max,span} = \text{MIN}[6 * d_{b,smallest}, 6 \text{ in.}] \quad \text{US units}$$

If SFRS Type = Intermediate Moment Frame and the region is a support region:

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}[8 * d_{b,smallest}, 24 * d_{b,w}, 1/2 * \text{MIN}(c_1, c_2), 300 \text{ mm}] \quad \text{metric units}$$

$$s_{cr,max,sup} = \text{MIN}[8 * d_{b,smallest}, 24 * d_{b,w}, 1/2 * \text{MIN}(c_1, c_2), 12 \text{ in.}] \quad \text{US units}$$

where

$d_{b,w}$ = Link (hoop) diameter

If SFRS Type = Intermediate Moment Frame and the region is not a support region:

- No spacing requirement applies beyond the conventional design requirements.

Seismic Detailing (Columns: ACI 318)

Seismic Detailing

Seismic detailing requirements apply to the reinforced concrete columns with the purpose of resisting earthquake induced forces.

The seismic detailing of concrete columns is performed only if the member is assigned to the SFRS through the **In a Seismic Force Resisting System** setting in the member properties window.

Flexural Reinforcement

Development Length at the Foundation

Columns that are part of Special Moment Frames shall have their longitudinal reinforcement extended into supporting footings, foundation mats or pile caps for a length not less than the full development length in tension.

Lap Splices

Specific seismic requirements apply only to lap splices in compressive members that are part of Special Moment Frames.

For columns that are part of Special Moment Frames:

- lap splices are only allowed at the center half of the column
- lap splices regions should be properly confined - hoop spacing should not exceed the maximum allowed hoop spacing



Both of these requirements are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Confinement Reinforcement for Ductility

Reinforcement Type

Confinement reinforcement in columns at regions where provided should consist of hoops, i.e. closed or continuously wound ties with a seismic hook at each end.



Confinement reinforcement in the form of spiral reinforcement is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Detailing Regions

Confinement reinforcement is required to be provided over three types of regions along reinforced concrete columns that are part of Intermediate Moment Frames and Special Moment Frames:

- Support regions:
 - These are probable flexural yielding regions at the top and bottom of the stack next to column-beam joints;
- Non-reversing plastic hinge regions:
 - These are probable flexural yielding regions outside support regions.



Non-reversing plastic hinge regions are not identified in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

- Lap splices:
 - Confinement reinforcement in the form of hoops is required to be provided over the length of lap splices in reinforced concrete columns part of Special Moment Frames



The requirement for hoop spacing not to exceed the maximum allowed hoop spacing at lap splices is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Wall Design to ACI 318

Tekla Structural Designer will design wall panels to resist axial load combined with shear and bending in each of the two planes of the wall.

The reference codes are ACI 318-08, ACI 318-11, ACI 318M-11 together with the PCA Notes on ACI 318-08.

Limitations and Exclusions

The design of walls is limited to load bearing and shear walls. Other wall types: non-load bearing, tilt-up and plates that resist in-plane compression are beyond scope.

The following general exclusions also apply to the first release:

- Seismic loading and design,
- Consideration of fire resistance. [You are however given full control of the minimum cover dimension to the reinforcement and are therefore able to take due account of fire resistance requirements],
- Lightweight concrete,
- Multi-stack reinforcement lifts.

Materials

Concrete

Only normal weight is included in the first release. (Lightweight concrete is excluded).

Reinforcement

The reinforcement options are:

- Loose reinforcing bars,
- Mesh (Standard Meshes)
- Loose reinforcing bars bent to form ties.

Cover to Reinforcement

For 1 layer of reinforcement, the vertical bar is on the center-line of the wall thickness, the face of the horizontal bar is closest to the critical concrete face.

For 2 layers of reinforcement, the horizontal bars are placed outside the vertical bars at each face.

The nominal concrete cover is measured to the face of the horz bar or any link/confinement transverse reinforcement that may be present.

You are required to set a minimum value for the nominal cover for each wall in the wall properties.

Design Parameters for Vertical Bars (Walls: ACI 318)

Design Parameters for Vertical Bars

For some of the vertical bar parameters, additional user defined limits can be applied - where this is the case minimum and maximum values are specified in **Design Options > Wall > Reinforcement Layout**.



*In the following, the concrete area is the gross area of the general wall, or the gross area of the mid zone if one exists.
For the end zone the design criteria for a reinforced concrete column element applies.*

Minimum and Maximum Vertical Bar Diameter

There are no code provisions, but user defined limits can be applied to the minimum and maximum bar diameters - specified in **Design Options > Wall > Reinforcement Layout**

Minimum and Maximum Vertical Loose Bar Spacing

Limiting minimum horizontal spacing of the vertical bars, $s_{v, \text{lim}, \text{min}}$ is controlled by the diameters of the 2 adjacent bars and aggregate size¹.

$$s_{v, \text{lim}, \text{min}} = 0.5 * (d_{bv, i} + d_{bv, (i + 1)}) + c_{\text{gap}}$$

where

c_{gap} = min. clear distance bet. bars

$$C_{\text{gap}} = \max (1.5*d_{\text{bv},i} , 1.5*d_{\text{bv},(i+1)}, 1.33* h_{\text{agg}}, 1.5 \text{ in.}) \quad \text{US units}$$

$$= \max (1.5*d_{\text{bv},i} , 1.5*d_{\text{bv},(i+1)}, 1.33* h_{\text{agg}}, 38\text{mm}) \quad \text{metric units}$$

where

$d_{\text{bv},i}$ and $d_{\text{bv},(i+1)}$ = the diameters of the two adjacent vertical bars

h_{agg} = aggregate size

Limiting maximum horizontal spacing of the vertical bars, $s_{\text{v,lim,max}}$ is controlled by the wall thickness.

$$s_{\text{v,lim,max}} = \min (3*h_w, 18 \text{ in.}) \quad \text{US units}$$

$$= \min (3*h_w, 450\text{mm}) \quad \text{metric units}$$

You are given control over these values by specifying minimum and maximum spacing limits in **Design Options > Wall > Reinforcement Layout**.

Minimum and Maximum Reinforcement Area²

The code provisions which control the vertical reinforcement area are,

- Limiting minimum ratio of vertical reinforcement area to gross concrete area, $\rho_{\text{v,lim,min}}$
- Limiting maximum ratio of vertical reinforcement area to gross concrete area, $\rho_{\text{v,lim,max}}$

The controlling values are:

IF $d_{\text{bv}} \leq$ No. 5 (No. 16) with $f_y \geq 60,000$ psi (420 MPa) OR WWR \leq W31 or D31

then $\rho_{\text{v,lim,min}} = 0.0012$ else 0.0015 for all other deformed bars

Total minimum area of vertical reinforcement, $A_{\text{s,min}} = \rho_{\text{v,lim,min}}*A_{\text{cg}}$

Total maximum area of vertical reinforcement, $A_{\text{s,max}} = \rho_{\text{v,lim,max}}*A_{\text{cg}} = 0.08*A_{\text{cg}}$

where A_{cg} = Gross area of the concrete wall.

Where 2 layers are specified, this should be distributed equally to each face.

You are given further control over the minimum and maximum reinforcement ratio values via user limits in **Design Options > Wall > Reinforcement Layout**. These will be used if they are more onerous than the code limits.

[1.](#) Clause 7.6.3

[2.](#) 14.3.2

Design Parameters for Horizontal Bars (Walls: ACI 318)

Design Parameters for Horizontal Bars

For some of the horizontal bar parameters, additional user defined limits can be applied - where this is the case minimum and maximum values are specified in **Design Options > Wall > Reinforcement Layout**.

Minimum and Maximum Reinforcement Area¹

The code provisions which control the horizontal reinforcement area are,

- Limiting minimum ratio of horizontal reinforcement area to gross concrete area, $\rho_{h,lim,min}$
- Limiting maximum ratio of horizontal reinforcement area to gross concrete area, $\rho_{h,lim,max}$

The controlling values are:

IF $d_{bv} \leq$ No. 5 (No. 16) with $f_y \geq 60,000$ psi (420 MPa) OR WWR \leq W31 or D31

THEN $\rho_{h,lim,min} = 0.002$ ELSE 0.0025 for all other deformed bars

Total minimum area of horizontal reinforcement, $A_{s,min} = \rho_{h,lim,min} * A_{cg}$

Total maximum area of vertical reinforcement, $A_{s,max} = \rho_{h,lim,max} * A_{cg} = 0.08 * A_{cg}$

where A_{cg} = Gross area of the concrete wall.

You can select a minimum ratio which will be the start point for the design in **Design Options > Wall > Reinforcement Layout**.

Minimum and Maximum Horizontal Bar Spacing

This is identical in principle to min vertical bar spacing.

Minimum and Maximum Confinement Bar Spacing

There are Code provisions that control the maximum spacing:

The recommended values are,

Limiting maximum transverse spacing, $S_{w,lim,max} = \min(16 * d_{bv}, 48 * d_{bw}, h_w)$

^{1.} 14.3.3

Ultimate Axial Load Limit

The axial resistance calculations for walls are the same as for columns -see: [Ultimate Axial Load Limit \(Columns: ACI 318\)](#)

Effective Length and Slenderness Calculations

The slenderness calculations for walls are generally the same as for columns - see: [Effective Length Calculations \(Columns: ACI 318\)](#) and [Column Stack Classification \(Columns: ACI 318\)](#), except that for walls:

Where the criteria for each axis is:

If $\lambda < \lambda_{lim}$, section is "non-slender"

Elseif $\lambda \geq \lambda_{lim}$, section is "slender"

Since the wall panel has a rectangular plan shape, the calculation can be simplified:

In-plane,

Slenderness, $\lambda_y = l_{0,y} / i_y$

Radius of gyration, $i_y = l_w / (12)^{0.5}$

Effective length, $l_{0,y}$

Length of wall panel, l_w

Out-of-plane,

Slenderness, $\lambda_z = l_{0,z} / i_z$

Radius of gyration, $i_z = h_w / (12)^{0.5}$

Effective length, $l_{0,z}$

Thickness of wall panel, h_w

Pre-selection of Bracing Contribution:

The significant parameter within the slenderness criteria is a choice of how a wall (or column) is contributing to the stability of the structure.

In-plane direction, a wall is usually considered to be a bracing member.

Out-of-plane direction, a wall is usually considered to be braced by other stabilizing members.

These are the default settings but can be edited.

Design for Shear

In the plane of the wall the s factored shear must be equal to or less than the design shear strength of the wall

$$V_u \leq \Phi V_n$$

The design shear strength of the wall is equal to the design shear strength of the concrete plus that of the shear reinforcing

$$V_u \leq \Phi V_c + \Phi V_s$$

The shear strength, V_n , may not be taken greater than $10\sqrt{f'_c} h d$.

$$V_n \leq 10 * f'_c^{0.5} * h * d \quad \text{US units}$$

$$V_n \leq 0.83 * f'_c^{0.5} * h * d \quad \text{metric units}$$

where

h = wall thickness

$$d = 0.8 * l_w$$

l_w = length of the wall

Out of plane the shear design calculations are the same whether the design element is a column or a wall - see: [Design for Shear \(Columns: ACI 318\)](#)

Seismic Design (Walls: ACI 318)

Seismic Design

Limitations and Assumptions

The follows limitations and assumptions apply:

- For design purposes *Tekla Structural Designer* recognizes walls as isolated elements and as such the influence of flanges from adjacent walls are not to be considered when fulfilling seismic design requirements in those elements. Requirements of ACI318-11 section 21.9.5.2 and section 21.9.6.4(b) do not apply.
- Additional requirements for wall piers not part of any SFRS when in Seismic Design Categories D through F are not considered in the current release.
- Design and/or detailing requirements of Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls is beyond scope (some checks are implemented but only due to their existence in lower toughness systems).
- The use of spiral reinforcement as well as all seismic design checks and related assumptions are not considered due to the fact that this type of reinforcement is not currently available in *Tekla Structural Designer*.
- Special boundary elements in walls are directly linked with wall end-zones in *Tekla Structural Designer*. The current settings do not allow for end-zones of width different from the width of the wall itself.
- The Seismic Force Resisting System set by the user in each direction through the Seismic Wizard for analysis purposes is not checked for applicability against the allowed types from the resultant Seismic Design Category. This is user responsibility.
- Seismic design checks are mostly based on capacity design obtained from the main reinforcement provided. This can lead to an over-design of structural members if the designer is not careful enough to minimize excess capacity.
- The seismic design requirements for end-zone reinforcement are beyond scope in the current release.
- Construction joints are beyond scope in the current release.
- Seismic design provisions specific for beam-wall frames are beyond scope in the current release.
- Seismic design of walls with openings is beyond scope in the current release.
- Seismic design of wall piers is beyond scope in the current release.
- Seismic design of coupling beams is beyond scope in the current release.
- Seismic detailing requirements apply to Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls these are beyond scope in the current release.



A full list of the code checks that have and have not been implemented is provided in the table below.

ACI 318 Seismic Code Checks for walls that have been implemented in Tekla Structural Designer

Code Ref.	Requirement	SFRS	SDC A	SDC B	SDC C	SDC D,E,I
21.1.4.2	Minimum required compressive strength of concrete	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.1.4.3	Maximum allowed compressive strength of light-weight concrete	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.2	Maximum allowed steel characteristic yield strength of longitudinal reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.1.5.4	Maximum yield strength of transverse reinforcement in confinement regions of columns	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.1.5.5	Maximum allowed longitudinal reinforcement yield strength used in the calculation of transverse reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.1.6.1a)	Mechanical Splices outside twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.1.6.1b)	Mechanical Splices within twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.1.7.1	Welded Splices within twice the member depth from column/beam face or yielding regions	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.1.7.2	Welding of stirrups or other elements to longitudinal reinf. required by design	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.12.2.3	Confinement reinf.: Length inside footing when Special Boundary Element is within half the foundation depth from the footing edge	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.4.3	Minimum yield strength of connection not designed to yield	IPCSW	-	-	✗	-
21.4.4/21.9.8	Design of wall piers as columns ($l_w/b_w \leq 2.5$)	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.2.1	Minimum reinforcement ratio in each of the wall plane orthogonal directions	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓

21.9.2.1	Maximum allowed center spacing	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.9.2.2	Minimum number of reinforcement layers	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.9.2.3a)	Minimum discontinuous vertical bar extension	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.2.3a)	Development length at locations where flexural yielding is likely to occur	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.2.3c)	Minimum yield strength for development length and lap splices	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.3	Factored shear force at any section from lateral load analysis	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.9.4.1	Maximum nominal shear strength	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.9.4.3	Reinforcement in wall plane provided in both directions	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.9.4.3	Minimum in plane reinforcement ratios	SRCSW	-	-	-	✓
21.9.4.4	Maximum wall segment combined nominal shear strength	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.4.4/21.9.4.5	Maximum individual vertical or horizontal wall segment or coupling beam shear strength	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.5.2	Effective width of flanged wall sections	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.6.3	Minimum extreme fiber compressive stress to require Special Boundary Elements	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.6.3	Minimum stress to discontinue Special Boundary Element	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.6.4(a)	Minimum length of end-zone towards the center of the cross-section when Special Boundary Elements are required	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗
21.9.6.4(b)	Minimum length of end-zone towards the center of the cross-section in flanged sections with Special Boundary Elements	SRCSW	-	-	-	✗

Reference Guide - ACI/AISC

-	Minimum width of end-zone with special boundary elements	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4(c)	Special confining reinforcement type (hook/extension)	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4c)	Confining reinf.: Maximum spacing allowed between cross ties	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4c)	Confining reinf.: Maximum allowed longitudinal center link spacing	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4c)	Confinement reinf.: Minimum volumetric ratio / area of spiral or circular reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4c)	Confinement Reinf.: Minimum area of rectangular transverse reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4d)	Confining reinf.: Length of region inside footings, mats or pile caps, l_d	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4d)	Confining reinf.: Length of region into support	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.4e)	Development / anchorage of horizontal reinforcement with boundary elements	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.5a)	Ordinary Boundary Confinement region length - towards the center of the cross-section - at an end where special boundary elements are not required	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.5a)	Maximum spacing allowed between cross ties in high compression confinement reinf. at a boundary where special boundary elements are not required	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.5a)	Maximum long. center spacing of high compression confinement reinforcement at an end where special boundary elements are not required	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.5a)	Maximum spacing allowed between cross ties or legs of hoops	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.6.5b)	Design shear threshold for ignoring the need of engaging horizontal bars at the ends with standard hooks	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘

21.9.7.1	Minimum value of aspect ratio (l_n/h) to consider diagonal reinf.	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.2	Maximum shear allowed before considering diagonal reinf.	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4a)	Nominal Shear Strength of a coupling beam	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4b)	Minimum number of bars to be provided along each diagonal	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4b)	Minimum length of diagonal bars embedded into the wall	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Minimum breadth of the concrete core measured to the external face of the confining reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Minimum dimension of the concrete core in any direction than not the parallel to b_w , measured to the external face of the confining reinf.	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Special confining reinforcement (hook/extension)	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Confining reinf.: Maximum allowed center link spacing	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Confining reinf.: Minimum volumetric ratio / area of spiral or circular reinf.	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Confining Reinf.: Minimum area of rectangular transverse reinf.	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Minimum allowed total area of the additional longitudinal reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Maximum allowed spacing between the additional longitudinal bars	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Minimum allowed area of the additional transverse reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.7.4c)	Maximum allowed spacing between the additional transverse bars	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘
21.9.8.1a)	Design shear force calculation for wall piers with $l_w/b_w > 2.5$ and not designed as columns	SRCSW	-	-	-	✘

21.9.8.1b)	Nominal shear strength and distributed shear reinforcement	SRCSW	-	-	✘
21.9.8.1c)	Reinforcement type requirement for wall piers with $l_w/b_w > 2.5$ and not designed as columns	SRCSW	-	-	✘
21.9.8.1d)	Maximum allowed vertical spacing of transverse reinforcement. Wall piers with $l_w/b_w > 2.5$ and not designed as columns	SRCSW	-	-	✘
21.9.8.1e)	Length of the transverse reinf. region above and below the wall pier. Wall piers with $l_w/b_w > 2.5$ and not designed as columns	SRCSW	-	-	✘
21.9.8.1f)	Consider boundary elements	SRCSW	-	-	✘
21.9.8.2	Horizontal reinf. In adjacent walls when wall pier is at the edge of a wall	SRCSW	-	-	✘
ASCE7/10 - 12.2.1	Limiting Height	SRCSW	-	-	✘
ASCE7/10 - 12.2.1	Limiting Height	IPCSW	-	-	✘
R21.9.1	Vertical Segment Classification : Conditions for wall segments to require specific wall pier design	SRCSW	-	-	✘

Notes:

- For further details of the checks that have been implemented, see: [Seismic Resisting Shear Walls](#), or consult the respective clause reference in the code.
- Most of the requirements will be fulfilled through automatic design. In some cases specific design options will need to be set by the user.
- Additional requirements may apply to members that are not part of the SFRS when in SDC's D, E or F
- Confinement regions: - support regions; - Probable flexural yield regions; - Lap splice regions.

Seismic Resisting Shear Walls (ACI 318)**Seismic Resisting Shear Walls**

Direction dependant seismic checks are performed in the in plane direction only as this is the only direction in which shear walls are considered to act as Seismic Force Resisting Systems.

Walls included in the SFRS as Ordinary Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls (ORCSW) have no specific seismic design provisions according to ACI318-11.

Maximum Recommended Axial Force

As to impose the wall ductile behaviour axial force values are recommended to be kept low in the design of Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls resisting earthquake effects. The maximum axial force value in walls is recommended to be kept below the balanced point. Compression controlled walls should be avoided.



The current release of Tekla Structural Designer does not check if the axial force is below the balanced point.

Limiting Height

Buildings in which Special Reinforced Concrete Structural walls compose the SFRS in any of the main directions should have their height limited. Where dual systems of SRCSW and Moment Frames resisting at least 25% of the total shear exist there are no height restrictions.



The current release of Tekla Structural Designer does not check the maximum allowed building height based on Seismic Design Category.

Vertical Segment Classification

Isolated vertical segments within a wall - wall with openings - can be classified as wall segments or wall piers. For Special Reinforced Structural Walls and depending on the classification of the segment the governing design provisions can be split into provisions for walls and provisions for wall piers.



This is beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Mid-zone Reinforcement

Vertical and horizontal bars in mid-zones of Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls are designed according to the requirements of the following sections.

Minimum number of reinforcement layers

The minimum number of reinforcement layers allowed to be used in a Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Wall is governed by the amount of in-plane shear sustained by the wall

If the wall thickness b_w is greater than 250mm (10 in.) then at least two curtains of reinforcement are required.

If the wall thickness b_w is less than 250mm (10 in.) and the SFRS Type = Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Wall, then the minimum number of layers is dependent on the maximum shear force in the panel. This is checked accordingly.

Additionally, reinforcement is required to be provided in both of the orthogonal directions in the wall plane. - This requirement is automatically met as *Tekla Structural Designer* does not design walls with reinforcement in only one of the orthogonal directions in wall plane.

Minimum in plane reinforcement ratios

The minimum reinforcement ratio required in each of the orthogonal direction in the wall plane is dependent on the maximum panel factored shear force from analysis for seismic combinations and calculated as follows:



Grouped bars reinforcing the edges of the walls (end-zones) are not considered for the purpose of calculating reinforcement ratios.

IF SFRS Type = Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Wall then the maximum factored shear force at the panel is checked:

$$\text{If } V_u > V_{u,\text{lim}}$$

where

V_u = Maximum factored shear force in the wall panel obtained from the analysis for seismic combinations.

$V_{u,\text{lim}}$ = Minimum factored shear force in the wall above which horizontal and vertical main reinforcement minimum ratios need to be checked.

$M_{\text{nc},\text{l},\text{top}}, M_{\text{nc},\text{r},\text{top}}$ = Nominal Moment Strength of the stack above converging on the sa joint for the axial force value consistent with the minimum Nominal Moment Strength respectively for the left and right sway cases.

Then a check for minimum reinforcement ratio in each orthogonal direction on the wall plane is performed as follows:

$$\rho_l \geq \rho_{\text{min}}$$

$$\rho_t \geq \rho_{\text{min}}$$

where

ρ_l, ρ_t = Respectively the ratio of area of distributed vertical and horizontal reinforcement to gross concrete area perpendicular to each of those reinforcements.

ρ_{min} = Minimum allowed ratio of reinforcement in the wall plane = 0.0025

$$\text{Else if } V_u \leq V_{u,\text{lim}}$$

ρ_l and ρ_t are allowed to be taken as the wall design conventional values.

Depending on the overall dimensions of a wall the vertical reinforcement ratio, ρ_l in Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Walls is limited to be of the same value or larger than the horizontal reinforcement ratio, ρ_t

End-zone Reinforcement



The seismic design requirements for end zone reinforcement are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Shear Strength

Minimum shear strength

The basic design requirement for shear reinforcement in a wall is to have the reduced shear strength higher or the same as the maximum factored shear force at the considered section resultant from earthquake combinations. Some level of over-strength is expected when designing to multiple load combinations.

IF SFRS Type = Special Reinforced Concrete Structural Wall then the following check for shear strength is performed:

$$\phi V_n \geq V_u$$

where

ϕ = Strength reduction factor. For purposes of checking the nominal shear strength = 0.6

V_n = Maximum nominal shear strength at the considered panel.

V_u = Maximum factored shear force in the wall panel obtained from the analysis for seismic combinations.

Slab Design to ACI 318

Materials

Concrete

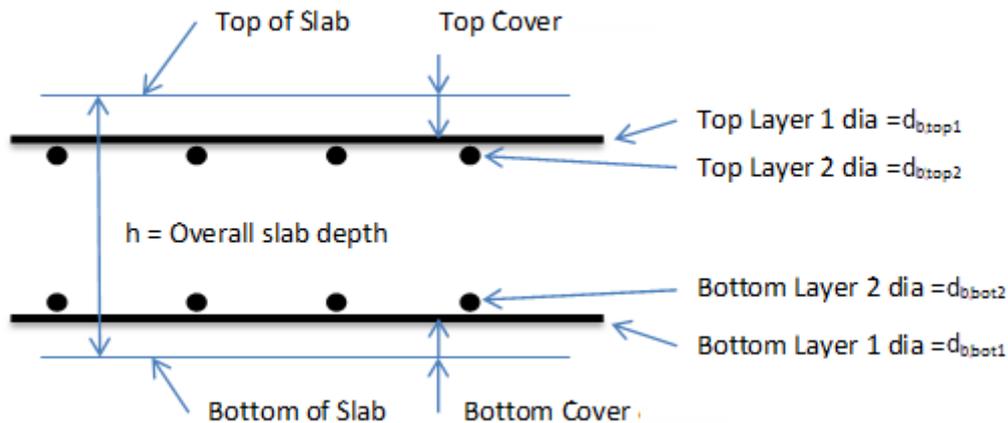
Only normal weight is included in the first release. (Lightweight concrete is excluded).

Reinforcement

The reinforcement options are:

- Loose reinforcing bars
- Mesh (Standard Meshes)
- Loose reinforcing bars bent to form links

Reinforcement Parameters



Note that when panel and patch reinforcement is considered in combination it is possible that there will be more than one bar size used in a layer, so for the purposes of the calculations in the sections below:

d_b = the nominal diameter of the bar

$d_{b,top1}$ = the diameter of the **largest** longitudinal reinforcing bar in top layer 1 (the bars nearest to the top surface of the slab)

$d_{b,top2}$ = the diameter of the **largest** longitudinal reinforcing bar in top layer 2

$d_{b,bot1}$ = the diameter of the **largest** longitudinal reinforcing bar in bottom layer 1 (the bars nearest to the bottom surface of the slab)

$d_{b,bot2}$ = the diameter of the **largest** longitudinal reinforcing bar in bottom layer 2

Slab design will always consider a rectangular section of unit width:

h = overall slab depth

b = unit width

For metric units:

the unit width of slab is 1m, and so the design cross section will always be a rectangular section where $b = 1000\text{mm}$

For US-customary units:

the unit width of slab is 1ft, and so the design cross section will always be a rectangular section where $b = 12\text{in.}$

Cover to Reinforcement

Concrete cover as protection of reinforcement against weather and other effects is measured from the concrete surface to the outermost surface of the steel to which the cover requirements applies.

You are required to set a minimum value for the nominal cover for each slab panel. These values for top and bottom cover are specified in the Reinforcement properties section of the slab panel properties.

This value is then checked against the nominal limiting cover, which depends on the diameter of the reinforcement.

If the nominal cover is less than the limiting cover then a warning is displayed in the calculations.

Limiting Reinforcement Parameters (Slabs: ACI 318)

Limiting Reinforcement Parameters

Limiting reinforcement parameters are specified in **Design Options > Slab > Reinforcement Layout**.

The parameters applied to "flat slab" design are held separately to those for "beam and slab" design.

Minimum Clear Spacing

The minimum clear spacing between parallel bars in a layer, $s_{cl,min}$, is given by;

$$s_{cl,min} \geq \text{MAX}[[d_b, 4/3*d_g, 1\text{in}, s_{cl,u,min}] \text{ (US units)}$$

$$s_{cl,min} \geq \text{MAX}[[d_b, 4/3*d_g, 25\text{mm}, s_{cl,u,min}] \text{ (metric units)}$$

where

d_g = the maximum size of aggregate

$s_{cl,u,min}$ = user specified min clear distance between bars

Minimum Area of Reinforcement

For ACI 318-08 and ACI 318-11¹

For structural slabs of uniform thickness the minimum area of tensile reinforcement in the direction of the span is:

For US-units:

IF Grade 40 to 50 deformed bars are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b*h*0.0020$$

IF Grade 50 to 60 deformed bars or welded wire reinforcement are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b*h*0.0018$$

For metric units:

IF Grade 280 to 350 deformed bars are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b*h*0.0020$$

IF Grade 350 to 420 deformed bars or welded wire reinforcement are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b \cdot h \cdot 0.0018$$

IF yield stress exceeding 420 MPa

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b \cdot h \cdot [\text{MAX}(0.0014, 0.0018 \cdot 420 / f_y)]$$

Maximum Area of Reinforcement

The maximum area of longitudinal tension reinforcement is calculated in the same way as for beams - see: in **Beam Design to ACI 318**.

[1.](#) ACI 318-08:2008 and ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 7.12.2.1 and 10.5.4

Basic Cross Section Design (Slabs: ACI 318)

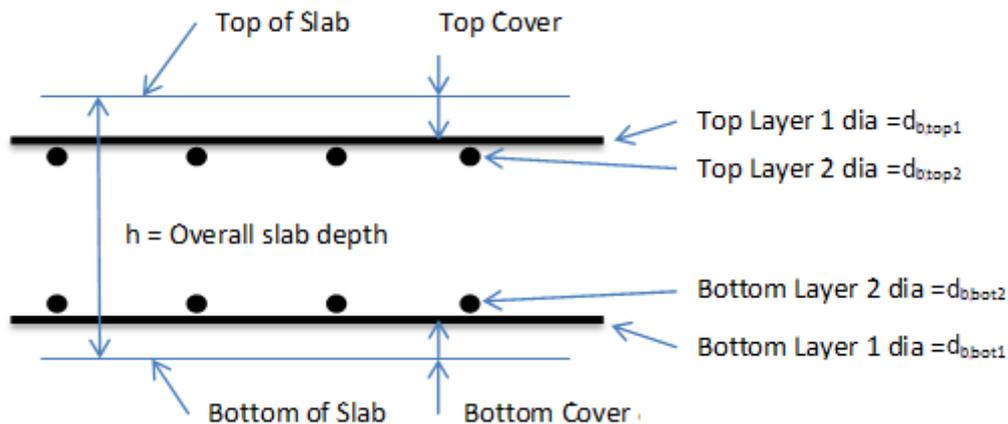
Basic Cross Section Design

Regardless of whether design is being carried out for a slab panel or a patch, a unit width of slab is always designed for a known design force.

h = overall slab depth

b = unit width

Matching Design Moments to Reinforcement Layers



In any panel or patch potentially up to 4 sets of Design Bending Moments are established:

- M_{dx-top} - used to determine the reinforcement requirement of the x-direction bars in the top of the slab.
- M_{dy-top} - used to determine the reinforcement requirement of the y-direction bars in the top of the slab
- M_{dx-bot} - is used to determine the reinforcement requirement of the x-direction bars in the bottom of the slab.
- M_{dy-bot} - is used to determine the reinforcement requirement of the y-direction bars in the bottom of the slab.

For each set of design bending moments, the effective depths d and d_2 are established - taking account of the direction of the outer bar layer (as specified in the Reinforcement properties section of the slab panel properties).

Design for Bending

The basic design method for slabs is identical to that for beams - see: *(Beams: ACI 318)*

Punching Shear Checks (Slabs: ACI 318)

Punching Shear Checks

Punching Shear limitations and assumptions (Slabs: ACI 318)

Punching Shear limitations and assumptions

Slab shear strength

ACI318 refers to two forms of slab shear strength

- Beam action - long or narrow slabs acting as a beam
- Two way action - punching along a truncated cone around a concentrated load or reaction area.

In *Tekla Structural Designer* we only consider Punching shear (two way action) and not Beam action.

Applicability of wall punching checks

Checks on walls are made but should be viewed with particular caution.

In particular there is some debate regarding the applicability of a punching check to a long wall - the check doesn't consider the potential for stress concentrations at the ends of the wall.

Columns and Walls not perpendicular to slabs

The program treats all columns and walls that are not perpendicular to slabs as if they are for the punching areas developed.

This is conservative as the punching area/perimeter will be smaller than that for the angled column or wall.

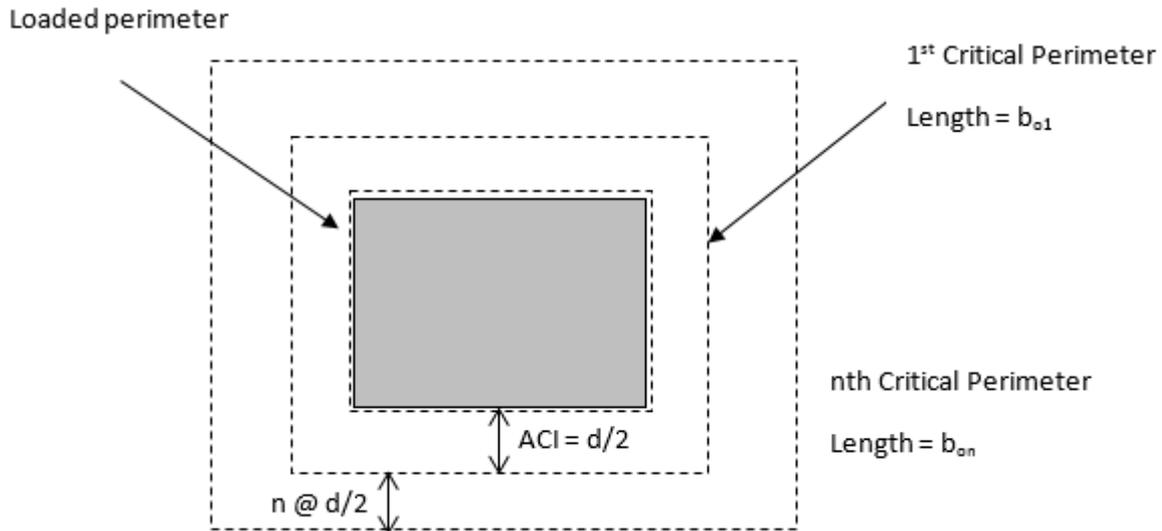
Overlapping control perimeters

The calculations are beyond scope in the following situations:

- If two areas touch then both areas are set to Beyond Scope.

- If an edge or corner area contains another column or wall then both areas are set to Beyond Scope.

Punching shear perimeters



There are a number of perimeters associated with Punching Shear (ref ACI 11.11.1.2)

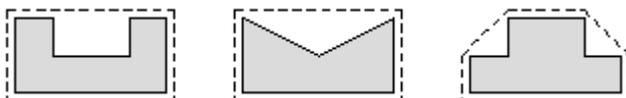
- Loaded perimeter - perimeter around the loaded area - e.g. face of the wall or column
- 1st Critical perimeter - is the check punching shear perimeter $d/2$ from the loaded perimeter
- n^{th} Critical perimeter - is the check punching shear perimeter $n \times d/2$ from the loaded perimeter
- b_o is the length of the 1st critical perimeter
- b_{on} is the length of the n^{th} critical perimeter
- d = depth to tension steel

Length of the loaded perimeter u_0

Loaded perimeter for Columns

The length of the loaded perimeter at the column face is calculated as determined below.

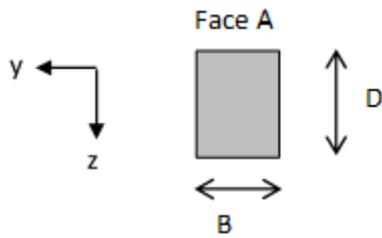
Note - for columns which have a re-entrant corner, i.e. where an internal angle is greater than 180 degrees, the length of a side and the slab/column interface is adjusted as indicated in the sketches below with the perimeter taken as the shortest distance around the column.



The following are the loaded perimeters for the possible column shapes. Each has a bounding rectangle or circle to aid in the design calculations.

Note all columns shown at 0 deg orientation looking down on column - face A to the top of each depiction.

Rectangular (D and B)



$$u_0 = 2 \times (D + B)$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{\text{bound}} = D$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{\text{bound}} = B$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle perimeter } u_{0\text{bound}} = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}})$$

$$a_n = \max(D, B)$$

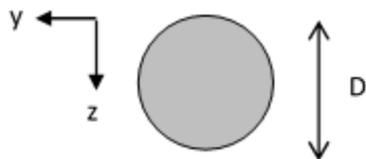
$$b_n = \min(D, B)$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_0 = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}} + 2 \times d)$$

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

Circular (D)



$$\text{Loaded perimeter } u_0 = \pi \times D$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{\text{bound}} = D$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{\text{bound}} = D$$

$$\text{Bounding perimeter } u_{0\text{bound}} = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}})$$

$$a_n = \max(D, B)$$

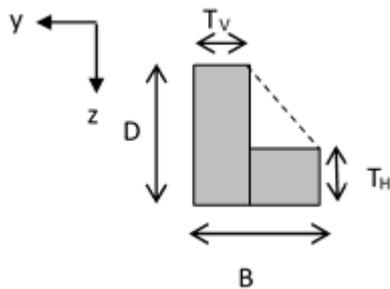
$$b_n = \min(D, B)$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_0 = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}} + 2 \times d)$$

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

L section (D, B, T_H and T_V)



Loaded perimeter $u_0 = D + B + T_V + T_H + \text{Sqrt}((B-T_V)^2 + (D-T_H)^2)$

Bounding rectangle $D_{\text{bound}} = D$

Bounding rectangle $B_{\text{bound}} = B$

Bounding perimeter $u_{0\text{bound}} = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}})$

$a_n = \sqrt{(D^2 + B^2)}$

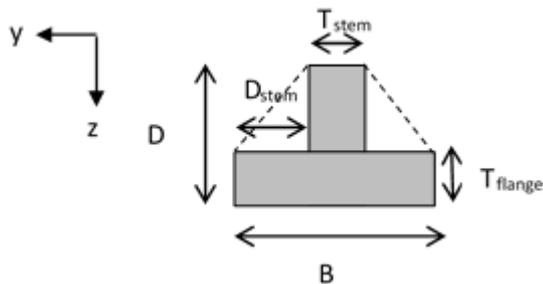
$b_n = D \times B / \sqrt{(D^2 + B^2)} + T_V \times T_H / \sqrt{(T_V^2 + T_H^2)}$

$\beta = a_n / b_n$

Critical perimeter $b_0 = (D + d) + (B + d) + (T_V + 3/4d) + (T_H + 3/4d) + \sqrt{((B+d) - (T_V + 3/4d))^2 + ((D + d) - (T_H + 3/4d))^2}$

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

T section (D, B, T_{stem}, T_{flange} and D_{stem})



$u_0 = B + 2 \times T_{\text{flange}} + T_{\text{stem}} + \text{Sqrt}((D_{\text{stem}}^2 + (D - T_{\text{stem}})^2) + \text{Sqrt}((B - T_{\text{stem}} - D_{\text{stem}})^2 + (D - T_{\text{stem}})^2)$

Bounding rectangle $D_{\text{bound}} = D$

Bounding rectangle $B_{\text{bound}} = B$

Bounding rectangle perimeter $u_{0\text{bound}} = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}})$

$a_n = \max(D, B)$

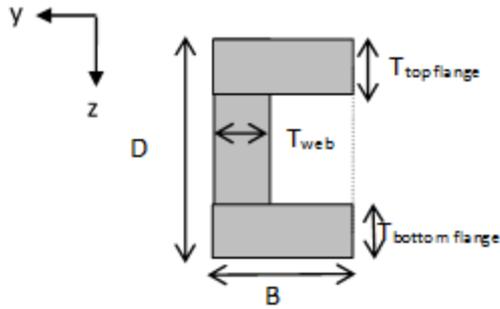
$b_n = \min(D, B)$

$\beta = a_n / b_n$

Critical perimeter $b_0 = (B + d) + 2 \times (T_{\text{flange}} + d) + (T_{\text{stem}} + d) + \sqrt{((D_{\text{stem}} + d)^2 + (D - (T_{\text{stem}})^2) + \sqrt{((B + d) - (T_{\text{stem}} + d) - (D_{\text{stem}} - d))^2 + (D - T_{\text{stem}})^2})}$ (approx)

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

C section (D, B, T_{web}, T_{top flange} and T_{bottom flange})



$$u_0 = 2 \times (B + D)$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{\text{bound}} = D$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{\text{bound}} = B$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle perimeter } u_{0\text{bound}} = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}})$$

$$a_n = \max(D, B)$$

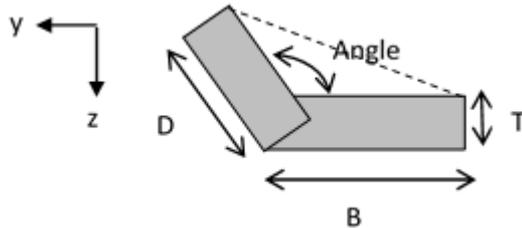
$$b_n = \min(D, B)$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_0 = 2 \times (B + D + 2 \times d)$$

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

Elbow (D, B, T, angle)



$$u_0 = B + D + 2 \times T + \text{Sqrt}((B + D \times \text{Sin}(\text{angle}-90) - T \times \text{Cos}(\text{angle}-90))^2 + (D \times \text{Cos}(90-\text{angle}) - T)^2)$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{\text{bound}} = D \text{ Sin}(180-\text{Angle}) \times T \text{ Cos}(180-\text{Angle})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{\text{bound}} = B + D \text{ Cos}(180-\text{Angle})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle perimeter } u_{0\text{bound}} = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}})$$

$$a_n = \max(B + D \text{ Cos}(180-\text{Angle}), D \text{ Sin}(180-\text{Angle}) + T \text{ Cos}(180-\text{Angle}))$$

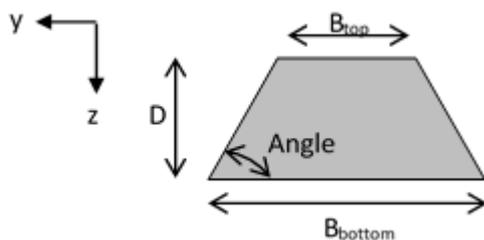
$$b_n = \min(B + D \text{ Cos}(180-\text{Angle}), D \text{ Sin}(180-\text{Angle}) + T \text{ Cos}(180-\text{Angle}))$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_0 = (B+d) + (D+d) + 2 \times (T+d) + \sqrt{(((B+d) + (D+d) \times \text{Sin}(\text{angle}-90) - (T+d) \times \text{Cos}(\text{Angle}-90))^2 + ((D+d) \times \text{Cos}(90-\text{Angle}) - (T+d))^2)} \text{ (approx)}$$

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

Trapezium (D, B_{bottom}, B_{top}, angle)



$$u_0 = B_{top} + B_{bottom} + 2 \times D / \sin(\text{Angle})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{bound} = D$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{bound} = \max(B_{bottom}, B_{top})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle perimeter } - u_{0bound} = 2 \times (D_{bound} + B_{bound})$$

$$a_n = \max(D, B_{top}, B_{bottom})$$

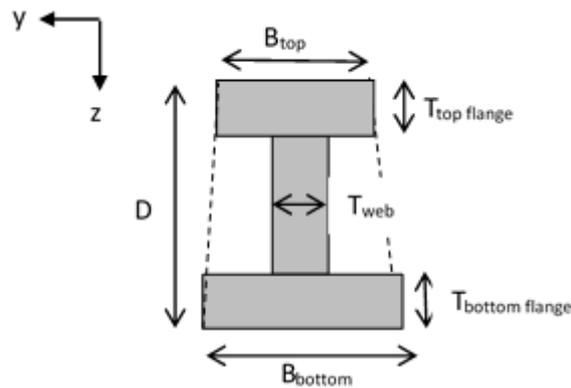
$$b_n = \min(D, B_{top}, B_{bottom})$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_o = (B_{top}+d) + (B_{bottom}+d) + 2 \times (D+d) / \sin(\text{Angle}) \text{ (approx)}$$

Note $d = d_{drop}$ if a drop is present

I section (D, B_{top}, B_{bottom}, T_{web}, T_{top flange}, T_{bottom flange})



$$u_0 = B_{bottom} + B_{top} + 2 \times \sqrt{((B_{bottom}-B_{top})/2)^2 + D^2} \text{ (approx)}$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{bound} = D$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{bound} = \max(B_{bottom}, B_{top})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle perimeter } u_{0bound} = 2 \times (D_{bound} + B_{bound})$$

$$a_n = \max(D, B)$$

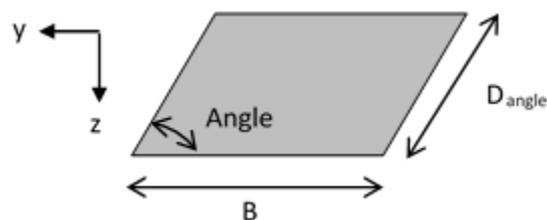
$$b_n = \min(D, B)$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_o = (B_{bottom} + d) + (B_{top} + d) + 2 \times \sqrt{((B_{bottom} - B_{top})/2)^2 + (D + d)^2} \text{ (approx)}$$

Note $d = d_{drop}$ if a drop is present

Parallelogram (D_{angle}, B, angle)



$$u_0 = 2 \times (B + D_{angle})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{bound} = D \times \sin(\text{Angle})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{bound} = B + D_{angle} \times \cos(\text{Angle})$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle perimeter } u_{0bound} = 2 \times (D_{bound} + B_{bound})$$

$$a_n = \max(B, D \times \sin(\text{Angle}))$$

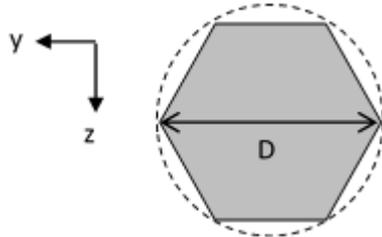
$$b_n = \min(B, D \times \sin(\text{Angle}))$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_0 = 2 \times ((B + d) + (D_{\text{Angle}} + d)) \text{ (approx)}$$

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

Polygon (D, n) - $n > 4$



$$u_0 = 2 \times n \times D/2 \times \sin(180/n)$$

$$\text{Bounding circle } D_{\text{bound}} = n \times D/\pi \times \sin(180/n) \text{ (equivalent perimeter)}$$

$$\text{Bounding circle perimeter } u_{0\text{bound}} = \pi \times D_{\text{bound}}$$

$$a_n = \max(D, B)$$

$$b_n = \min(D, B)$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

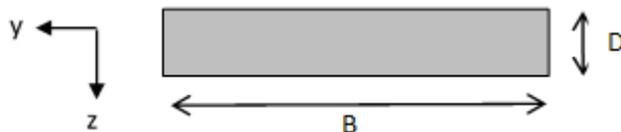
$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_0 = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}} + 2 \times d)$$

Note $d = d_{\text{drop}}$ if a drop is present

Loaded perimeter for Walls

The length of the loaded perimeter at the wall face may be calculated as determined below.

Rectangular (D and B)



$$u_0 = 2 \times (D + B)$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } D_{\text{bound}} = D$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle } B_{\text{bound}} = B$$

$$\text{Bounding rectangle perimeter } u_{0\text{bound}} = 2 \times (D_{\text{bound}} + B_{\text{bound}})$$

$$a_n = \max(D, B)$$

$$b_n = \min(D, B)$$

$$\beta = a_n / b_n$$

$$\text{Critical perimeter } b_0 = 2 \times (D + B + 2 \times d)$$

Note d is for the slab

Loaded perimeter for Point Loads

The length of the loaded perimeter at the point load may be calculated as determined below.

$$u_0 = 2 \times (D_{\text{load}} + B_{\text{load}})$$

Bounding rectangle $D_{bound} = D_{load}$

Bounding rectangle $B_{bound} = B_{load}$

Bounding rectangle perimeter $u_{0bound} = 2 \times (D_{bound} + B_{bound})$

$a_n = \max(D_{load}, B_{load})$

$b_n = \min(D_{load}, B_{load})$

$\beta = a_n / b_n$

Critical perimeter $b_0 = 2 \times (D_{load} + B_{load} + 2 \times d)$

Note d is for the slab

Additional Loaded perimeter drops

The additional loaded perimeter for a column/wall with a drop is defined by the perimeter of the rectangular drop

Loaded perimeter $u_{0drop} = 2 \times B_{drop} \times D_{drop}$

$a_n = \max(D_{drop}, B_{drop})$

$b_n = \min(D_{drop}, B_{drop})$

$\beta = a_n / b_n$

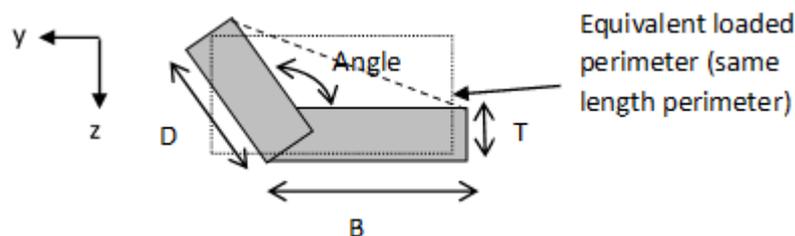
Critical perimeter $b_0 = 2 \times (D_{drop} + B_{drop} + 2 \times d)$

Note d is for the slab around the drop

The equivalent loaded perimeter

For "rectangular" shapes of column and walls, the equivalent loaded perimeter -

- $D_{equiv} = D_{bound} \times u_0 / u_{0bound}$
- $B_{equiv} = B_{bound} \times u_0 / u_{0bound}$



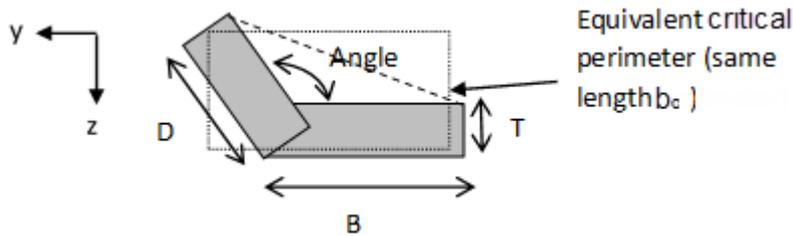
The equivalent perimeter is used in three situations

- adjustment of the loaded perimeter length/shape u_0 for edge and corner columns/walls
- the rectangle from which the 1st to nth critical perimeters are determined
- Reduction in V_{Ed}

The equivalent critical perimeter

For "rectangular" shapes of column and walls, the equivalent loaded perimeter -

- $d_1 = (b_0 / 2 - B_{equiv} - D_{equiv}) / 2$
- $D_{equiv} = D_{bound} \times u_0 / u_{0bound}$
- $B_{equiv} = B_{bound} \times u_0 / u_{0bound}$



Length of the critical perimeter b_o

Critical perimeter without drops

The length of the column/wall critical perimeter is the length as determined below.

- For all internal column/wall shapes and point loads, b_o is as given in the section:
- For all corner column/wall shapes and point loads

$$b_o = A + B + C$$

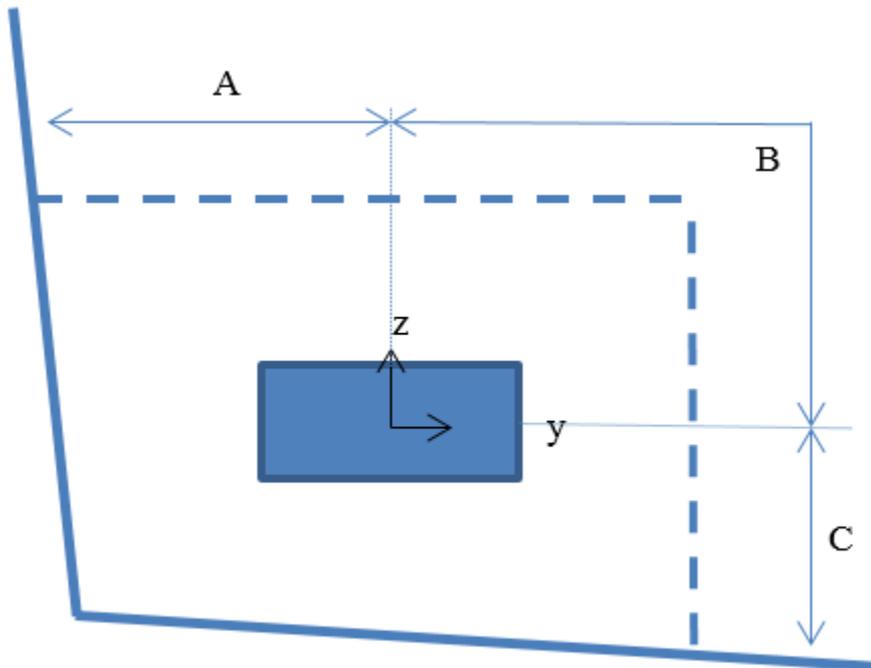
where

for a rectangle

A = dist from centroid to edge along local y

B = $c_1/2 + d + c_2/2$

C = dist from centroid to edge along local z



- For all edge column/wall shapes and point loads

$$b_o = A + B + C$$

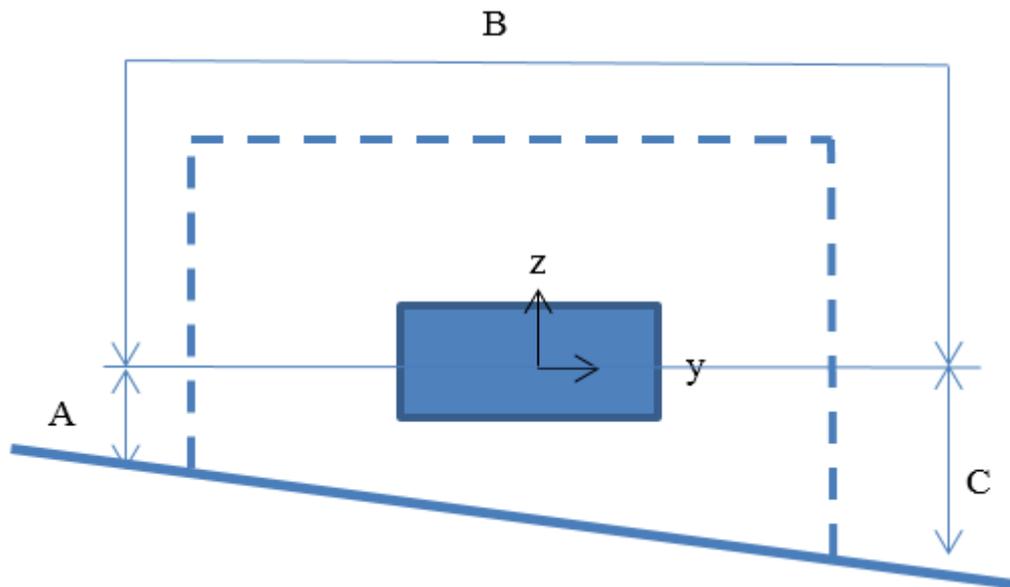
where

For a rectangle

A = dist from centroid to edge along local y or local z

B = $c_1 + 2 \times d + c_2$

C = dist from centroid to edge along local y or local z



If a critical perimeter passes across a slab edge then only the perimeter length in the slab is counted in b_o .

Note if a slab around a column/wall/point load changes depth, the thinnest slab and its "d" values above is used.

Modification of control perimeters to take account of slab openings

If any openings have been defined in the slab and if the nearest opening edge is not greater than $10xh$ (h = slab thickness) from the face of the column then the length of the loaded perimeter at the column face, b_o and out from there to b_{on} need to be reduced to take account of the presence of the opening(s) as indicated in fig 11.11.6 of ACI 318.



When a perimeter length has been reduced to cater for openings - as the exact position of the opening in relation to the reinforcement strips is not known, the calculations conservatively ignore any patch reinforcement in the punching checks - only the slab reinforcement is used.

User Modification of control perimeters

If you want to consider the effect of openings, but do not want to place them in the slab, this can be done by defining the following properties:

- u_0 - user reduction
- u_1 - user reduction

When applied, the length of the respective shear perimeters are reduced by the specified amount.

Basic design procedure

The basic design procedure applied to an internal column is described below:

Check shear stress at perimeter against unreinforced shear resistance

The following check is performed at $d/2$ and perimeters beyond until the slab thickness is adequate.

If $v_u \leq v_n$ then, the slab thickness is adequate and the calculations stop.

Otherwise, punching shear reinforcement is required.

Required shear stress of reinforcement

$$V_{s,reqd} = (V_u/\phi) - \text{MIN} (v_c, (3 \times \lambda \times \sqrt{f'_c}))^1$$

where,

V_u = shear force

$\phi = 0.75$

$v_c = \text{MIN} (v_{ca}, v_{cb}, v_{cc})^2$

Required area of punching shear reinforcement

$$A_v / s = V_{s,reqd} \times b_o / f_{yt}$$

where

f_{yt} = the design strength of the reinforcement

A_v = is the cross sectional area of all legs of reinforcement on one peripheral line

s = the spacing of link legs away from the column faces

b_o = length of the 1st critical perimeter

Calculate the provided area of punching shear reinforcement

$$A_{v,provided}/s = N_s \times d_{sr}/s$$

where

N_s = is the number of the studs/stirrups per perimeter

d_{sr} = is the section area of single stud/stirrup

s = is the spacing between the reinforcement perimeters

Check area of punching shear reinforcement

IF $A_{v,provided} / s \geq A_v / s_r$ – the choice of bars (number & diameter) and their spacing are adequate.

Otherwise, if auto-design is active a new arrangement is tried; the number of bars, and diameter are increased and the spacing decreased until the check passes.

^{1.} ACI 318 -11 Equation 11-1 & 11.2

^{2.} ACI 318 -11 Section 11.11.2.1

Pad and Strip Base Design to ACI 318

Pad and strip bases are designed to resist the applied forces and moments for the three phenomena of bending, beam shear and punching shear.

Reinforced concrete design checks relating to bases are carried out using **Concrete Combinations** in accordance with ACI 318-08.

The soil bearing pressure check and net eccentricity of load are carried out using **Soil Combinations**.

•

Checks Performed

The checks performed for both directions are:

- Max soil bearing pressure must not exceed allowable bearing pressure.
- Provided steel must be greater than $A_s(\text{min})$ for both vertical directions.
- Provided bar spacing must be inside the limiting spacing
- Provided bar size must be inside the limiting sizes
- Check for bending moment capacity
- Check for shear capacity - wide beam action at 'd' from column face
- Punching check at 'd/2' from column face - two-way action
- Check for transfer of forces at column base
- Check for transfer of horizontal forces by shear friction theory
- Check for overturning forces - **not in the current release**
- Check for sliding
- Check for uplift - **not in the current release**

Foundation Bearing Capacity (Pad and Strip Base: ACI 318)

Foundation Bearing Capacity

Check for Pad Base Bearing Capacity

Bearing capacity calculations are done by using service (soil) -combinations.

Total base reaction:

$$T = F_{\text{swt}} + F_{\text{soil}} + F_{\text{dl,sur}} + F_{\text{ll,sur}} - P$$

Moment about X axis:

$$M_{x,c} = M_{x,sup} - P * e_y - t_{ftg} * F_{y,sup}$$

Moment about Y axis:

$$M_{y,c} = M_{y,sup} + P * e_x + t_{ftg} * F_{x,sup}$$

Where:

L_x = Length of foundation in X-direction

L_y = Length of foundation in Y-direction

A_f = $L_x * L_y$ = Foundation area

t_{ftg} = Depth of foundation

D_s = Depth of soil above the foundation

l_x = Length of column/wall in X-direction

l_y = Length of column/wall in Y-direction

A_c = cross section of the column/wall segment

e_x = eccentricity in X direction.

e_y = eccentricity in Y direction.

ρ_c = density of concrete

ρ_s = density of soil

F_{swt} = $A_f * t_{ftg} * \rho_c$ = foundation self-weight

F_{soil} = $(A_f - A_c) * D_s * \rho_s$ = soil self-weight

$F_{dl,sur}$ = $(A_f - A_c) * sc_{dl}$ = Dead load from surcharge

$F_{ll,sur}$ = $(A_f - A_c) * sc_{ll}$ = Live load from surcharge

sc_{dl} = Surcharge in dead load case

sc_{ll} = Surcharge in live load case

P = axial load acting on support in service combinations

$M_{x,sup}$ = Moment acting on support around X-axis in service comb.

$M_{y,sup}$ = Moment acting on support around Y-axis in service comb.

$F_{x,sup}$ = Horizontal force acting on support X-direction in service comb.

$F_{y,sup}$ = Horizontal force acting on support Y-direction in service comb.

Eccentricity of base reaction in X-direction:

$$e_{Tx} = M_{y,c} / T$$

Eccentricity of base reaction in Y-direction:

$$e_{Ty} = M_{x,c} / T$$

If $\text{abs}(e_{Tx}) / L_x + \text{abs}(e_{Ty}) / L_y \leq 0.167$

Then Base reaction acts within kern distance - no loss of contact in X-direction, and:

Pad base pressures:

$$q_1 = T/A_f - 6 * M_{y,c} / (L_x * A_f) + 6 * M_{x,c} / (L_y * A_f)$$

$$q_2 = T/A_f - 6 * M_{y,c} / (L_x * A_f) - 6 * M_{x,c} / (L_y * A_f)$$

$$q_3 = T/A_f + 6 * M_{y,c} / (L_x * A_f) + 6 * M_{x,c} / (L_y * A_f)$$

$$q_4 = T/A_f + 6 * M_{y,c} / (L_x * A_f) - 6 * M_{x,c} / (L_y * A_f)$$

Max base pressure:

$$q_{\max} = \max (q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4)$$

Check for Strip Base Bearing Capacity

The principles used in the strip base bearing capacity calculations are similar to those for pad foundations. Only the direction X is checked (around Y-axis) using segment widths.

If $\text{abs}(e_{Tx}) / L_x \leq 0.167$

Then - no loss of contact, and:

max base pressures for segment:

$$q_{\max} = T/A_f + \max[- 6 * M_{y,c} / (L_x * A_f) , 6 * M_{y,c} / (L_x * A_f)]$$

Else - loss of contact and

max base pressures for segment:

$$q_{\max} = 2 * T / [3 * L_y * (L_x / 2 - \text{abs}(e_{Tx}))]$$

where L_y = segment width

Design for Bending (Pad and Strip Base: ACI 318)

Design for Bending

Bending design calculations are performed using ultimate load (factored concrete) combinations.

Determination of the Design Moment in Pad Bases

Ultimate base reaction;

$$T_u = - P_u$$

Ultimate moment around Y-axis in center of foundation:

$$M_{y,c,u} = M_{y,sup,u} + P_u * e_x + t_{ftg} * F_{x,sup,u}$$

Ultimate moment around X-axis in center of foundation:

$$M_{x,c,u} = M_{x,sup,u} - P_u * e_y - t_{ftg} * F_{y,sup,u}$$

Where

$P_u =$ = ultimate axial factored load acting on support – from analysis

$M_{x,sup,u}$ = ultimate moment acting on support around X-axis – from analysis

$M_{y,sup,u}$ = ultimate moment acting on support around Y-axis – from analysis

$F_{x,sup,u}$ = ultimate horizontal force acting on support X-direction – from analysis

$F_{y,sup,u}$ = ultimate horizontal force acting on support Y-direction – from analysis

Eccentricity of ultimate base reaction in X:

$$e_{Tx,u} = M_{y,c,u} / T_u$$

Eccentricity of ultimate base reaction in Y:

$$e_{Ty,u} = - M_{x,c,u} / T_u$$

Pad ult. base pressures:

$$q_{1,u} = T_u/A_f - 6 * M_{y,c,u} / (L_x * A_f) + 6 * M_{x,c,u} / (L_y * A_f)$$

$$q_{2,u} = T_u/A_f - 6 * M_{y,c,u} / (L_x * A_f) - 6 * M_{x,c,u} / (L_y * A_f)$$

$$q_{3,u} = T_u/A_f + 6 * M_{y,c,u} / (L_x * A_f) + 6 * M_{x,c,u} / (L_y * A_f)$$

$$q_{4,u} = T_u/A_f + 6 * M_{y,c,u} / (L_x * A_f) - 6 * M_{x,c,u} / (L_y * A_f)$$

The range and rate of change of base pressure is then determined and the design moment established about each axis.

Determination of the Design Moment in Strip Bases

The principles used in the strip base bending capacity calculations are similar to those for pad foundations. Only the direction X is checked (around Y-axis) using segment widths.

Ultimate base reaction;

$$T_u = - P_u$$

Ultimate moment around Y-axis in center of foundation:

$$M_{y,c,u} = M_{y,sup,u} + P_u * e_{px} + h * F_{x,sup,u}$$

Where

P_u = ultimate axial factored load acting on support – from analysis

$M_{y,sup,u}$ = ultimate moment acting on support around Y-axis – from analysis

$F_{x,sup,u}$ = ultimate horizontal force acting on support X-direction – from analysis

Eccentricity of ultimate base reaction in X:

$$e_{Tx,u} = M_{y,c,u} / T_u$$

Pad ult. base pressures:

$$q_{1,u} = T_u/A - 6 * M_{y,c,u} / (L_x * A)$$

$$q_{2,u} = T_u/A + 6 * M_{y,c,u} / (L_x * A)$$

The range and rate of change of base pressure is then determined and the design moment established around the Y axis.

Bending Capacity Check

The basic design method is identical to that for beams - see: in "Beam Design to ACI 318".

Checks for Limiting Parameters (Pad and Strip Base: ACI 318)

Checks for Limiting Parameters

Limiting reinforcement parameters are specified in **Design Options > Foundations > Isolated Foundations > Reinforcement Layout**

Limits on bar size and reinforcement quantities

For structural foundations of uniform thickness the **minimum area** of tensile reinforcement shall be:

For metric units:

IF Grade 280 to 350 deformed bars are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b * h * 0.0020$$

IF Grade 350 to 420 deformed bars or welded wire reinforcement are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b * h * 0.0018$$

IF yield stress exceeds 420 MPa

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b * h * [\text{MAX}(0.0014, 0.0018 * 420 / f_y)]$$

For US-units:

IF Grade 40 to 50 deformed bars are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b \cdot h \cdot 0.0020$$

IF Grade 50 to 60 deformed bars or welded wire reinforcement are used

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b \cdot h \cdot 0.0018$$

IF yield stress exceeds 60000 psi

$$A_{s,min,reqd} \geq b \cdot h \cdot [\text{MAX}(0.0014, 0.0018 \cdot 60000 / f_y)]$$

where

$$b = \text{unit width}$$

The **maximum area** of tensile reinforcement shall be:

$$A_{s,max} \leq 0.85 \cdot (f_c / f_y) \cdot \beta_1 \cdot b \cdot d^{(3/7)}$$

where

$$A_g = \text{the gross area of the concrete section}$$

$$V = \text{stress block depth factor}^A$$

^A ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 10.2.7.3

metric-units

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1 &= 0.85 && \text{for } f_c \leq 28\text{MPa} \\ &= 0.85 - 0.05 \cdot [(f_c - 28\text{MPa}) / 7\text{MPa}] && \text{for } 28\text{MPa} < f_c < 55\text{MPa} \\ &= 0.65 && \text{for } f_c \geq 55\text{MPa} \end{aligned}$$

US-units

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1 &= \min(\max(0.85 - 0.05 \cdot (f_c - 4 \text{ksi}) / 1\text{ksi}, 0.65), 0.85) \\ &= 0.85 && \text{for } f_c \leq 4000 \text{psi} \\ &= 0.85 - 0.05 \cdot [(f_c - 4\text{ksi}) / 1\text{ksi}] && \text{for } 4000 \text{psi} < f_c < 8000\text{psi} \\ &= 0.65 && \text{for } f_c \geq 8000 \text{psi} \end{aligned}$$

Limits on bar spacing

The following spacing rules apply to Rebar type reinforcement where the subscript *i* refers to the X and Y directions respectively.

The minimum clear spacing between parallel bars in a layer, $s_{cl,min,i}$, is given by;

$$s_{cl,min} \geq \text{MAX}[d_b, 4/3*d_g, 25\text{mm}, s_{cl,u,min}] \quad \text{metric-units}$$

$$s_{cl,min} \geq \text{MAX}[d_b, 4/3*d_g, 1\text{in.}, s_{cl,u,min}] \quad \text{US-units}$$

where

$$d_g = \text{the maximum size of aggregate}$$

$$s_{cl,u,min} = \text{user specified minimum clear distance between bars}$$

The maximum spacing of the bars, $s_{i,max}$, is given by¹,

$$s_{i,max} = \text{MIN}(s_{max,user}, 18 \text{ in}) \quad \text{for US units}$$

$$= \text{MIN}(s_{max,user}, 450 \text{ mm}) \quad \text{for metric units}$$

^{1.} ACI 318-08:2008, ACI 318-11:2011 and ACI 318M-11:2011 Section 15.10.4

Shear Design (Pad and Strip Base: ACI 318)

Shear Design

Pad base shear design check

The nominal shear strength of the concrete in beam action, v_n is given by¹

$$\begin{aligned} v_n &= 2*\lambda*\text{MIN}(\sqrt{(f'_c)}, 100\text{psi})*d \\ &= 0.17*\lambda*\text{MIN}(\sqrt{(f'_c)}, 8.3\text{MPa})*d \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\lambda = \text{modification factor related to the density of the concrete}$$

$$\lambda = 1.0 \text{ for normal weight concrete}$$

If

$$V_u \leq \Phi_{\text{shear}}*v_n$$

Then the foundation thickness is adequate for shear -

Utilization ratio is then;

$$\text{U-ratio} = \text{max} [V_u / (\Phi_{\text{shear}}*v_n)]$$

Else the check has failed, the foundation thickness is inadequate.



If the thickness is inadequate and the auto-design footing depth option is active then the foundation thickness gets increased.

[1.](#) ACI 318-08 Sections 11.1.2 and 11.2.1.1 Eqn (11-3)

Strip base shear design check

The principle of the strip base shear design check is similar to that for the pad base. Only the direction X is checked (around Y-axis) using segment widths.

Punching Shear Design

Punching shear checks are carried out for pad foundations only, using ultimate load (factored concrete) -combinations.

The punching shear checks for pad bases follow the same basic principle as used for slabs. See: Slab Design - [Punching Shear Checks](#).

The main differences between flat slab and pad base punching shear checks are:

- Flat slab punching checks don't take account load reductions caused by soil pressure.
- Column local axes are always parallel with the pad base edges in the pad base punching checks.
- Loads from the column are always above the pad base (one direction).
- No openings can be placed in pad bases.
- No shear reinforcement is used in pad bases.

Check for Transfer Forces at Column Base

This check applies when a concrete column is attached to the foundation.

Determine the bearing strength of the column:

$$\Phi * P_{nb,c} = \Phi_{bearing} (0.85 * f'_c * A_c)$$

If

$$\Phi * P_{nb,c} < - P_u$$

Then check fails

Else determine the bearing strength of the footing:

$$\Phi * P_{nb,f} = \min[(A_2/A_c)^{0.5}, 2] * \Phi_{bearing} (0.85 * f'_c * A_c)$$

where for rectangular columns:

$$A_2 = \min\{L_x, 2t_{ftg} + l_x + \min[(L_x - l_x)/2 - \text{abs}(e_x), 2t_{ftg}]\} * \min\{L_y, 2t_{ftg} + l_y + \min[(L_y - l_y)/2 - \text{abs}(e_y), 2t_{ftg}]\}$$



Circular columns are treated as square members with the same area.

If

$$\Phi * P_{nb,f} < -P_u$$

Then check fails

Required min. area of dowel bars between column and footing is then:^A

$$A_{s,min} = 0.005 * A_c$$

Currently dowel bars are not designed.

The area of the provided column reinforcement $A_{s,prov,column}$ is the same as the provided reinforcement of starter/dowel bars.

If

$$A_{s,min} > A_{s,prov,column}$$

Then check fails

^A ACI 318-08 Section 15.8.2.1

Check for transfer of horizontal forces by shear friction

This check applies when a concrete column is attached to the foundation.

Determine if the shear-friction design method applicable¹:

When surface is not intentionally roughened (conservative assumption)

$$\text{If } V_u \leq \Phi_{\text{shear}} * A_c \min(0.2 * f'_c, 800 \text{psi}) \quad \text{for US units}$$

$$V_u \leq \Phi_{\text{shear}} * A_c \min(0.2 * f'_c, 5.5 \text{MPa}) \quad \text{for metric units}$$

where

$$V_u = \max[\text{abs}(F_{y,sup,u}), \text{abs}(F_{x,sup,u})]$$

Then maximum shear transfer is permitted at the base of the column.

Required area of dowel reinforcement:

$$A_{vf} = V_u / (f_y * \Phi_{shear} * \mu)$$

where

$\mu = 0.6$ when concrete not intentionally roughened (assumption)

$\mu = 1.0$ when concrete intentionally roughened

$\mu = 1.4$ when concrete placed monolithically

Currently dowel bars are not designed.

The area of the provided column reinforcement $A_{s,prov,column}$ is the same as the provided reinforcement of starter/dowel bars.

If

$$A_{vf} > A_{s,prov,column}$$

Then check fails

[1.](#) ACI 318-08 Section 11.6.5

Check for Overturning Forces



Checks for overturning forces are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Check for Sliding

The check for sliding is carried out for pad foundations only.

If there is no horizontal force acting on foundation check for sliding is not required.

Resultant Force on foundation:

$$H_d = [(F_{x,sup})^2 + (F_{y,sup})^2]^{0.5}$$

Resultant Force Angle $\alpha_{Hd} = \tan^{-1} [(F_{y,sup} / F_{x,sup})]$

where

$F_{x,sup}$ = horizontal force acting on support in X-dir. (from analysis)

$F_{y,sup}$ = horizontal force acting on support in Y-dir. (from analysis)

Resistance to sliding due to base friction:

$$H_{friction} = [-P + F_{swt}] * \tan \delta$$

where

δ = design base friction – user input

Passive pressure coefficient:

$$K_p = (1 + \sin\Phi') / (1 - \sin\Phi')$$

where

Φ' = design shear strength of soil – user input

Passive resistance of soil in X direction:

$$H_{x\text{pas}} = 0.5 * K_p * (h^2 + 2 * h * h_{\text{soil}}) * L_x * \rho_{\text{soil}}$$

Passive resistance of soil in Y direction:

$$H_{y\text{pas}} = 0.5 * K_p * (h^2 + 2 * h * h_{\text{soil}}) * L_y * \rho_{\text{soil}}$$

Resultant Passive Resistance:

$$H_{\text{res,pas}} = \text{abs}(H_{x\text{pas}} * \cos \alpha_{\text{Hd}}) + \text{abs}(H_{y\text{pas}} * \sin \alpha_{\text{Hd}})$$

Total resistance to sliding:

$$R_{\text{H.d}} = (H_{\text{friction}} + H_{\text{res,pas}}) / 1.5$$

If

$$R_{\text{H.d}} \geq H_d$$

The check for stability against sliding passes

Check for Uplift



Checks for uplift are beyond scope in the current release of Tekla Structural Designer.

Pile Cap Design to ACI 318

The forces acting on a pile cap are applied to the foundation at the foundation level. The foundation can take axial load and bi-axial shear and moment.

Pile cap design is divided between pile design (pile capacity check) and structural design of the pile cap which includes bending, shear and punching shear design checks.

Pile Capacity

The pile capacity is compared to the axial service load acting on pile:

Pile capacity passes if:

$$R_c \geq P_n \geq -R_t$$

Where:

- R_c = Pile compression capacity (service)
 R_t = Pile tension capacity (service)
 P_n = Pile load

Design for Bending

The pile cap is treated as a beam in bending, where the critical bending moments for the design for the bottom reinforcement are taken at the face of the column.

The basic design method is identical to that for beams - see: [Design for Bending for Rectangular Sections](#) (*Beams: ACI 318*)

Shear Design

Pile cap shear capacity passes if:

$$V_{su} \leq \Phi V_c \quad \text{and} \quad V_{su,d} \leq \Phi V_{c,d} \quad \text{for both sides and both directions}$$

Refer to CRSI Design Handbook 2002 - Chapter 13, page 13-18...13-21

Punching Shear Design

Punching shear (two-way shear) checks are performed for the column and the individual piles.

Columns

The punching shear check is similar to that for pad bases, but with the following difference:

- the shear force at a perimeter uses the value from the column reduced by pile loads within the perimeter

See: [Punching Shear Design](#) (*Pad and Strip Base: ACI 318*)

Piles

The punching shear check is similar to that for pad bases, but with the following differences:

- variable d is replaced with d_{red} where $d_{red} = \min(h - \text{"pile penetration depth"}, \text{average reinforcement effective depth})$
- no moments act on top of the pile, only axial load considered

See: [Punching Shear Design](#) (*Pad and Strip Base: ACI 318*)

Checks for Limiting Parameters

Limiting reinforcement parameters are specified in **Design Options > Foundations > Isolated Foundations > Reinforcement Layout**

Check for distance of pile cap overhang

Check pile edge distance "e" for pile "i" in a pile group for both directions:

The check passes if:

$$e_i > \min(e_{\min}, e_{\min, \text{user}})$$

where:

e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[230\text{mm}, 380\text{mm} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $R_c \leq 534 \text{ kN}$	Metric
e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[9\text{in}, 15\text{in} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $R_c \leq 120 \text{ kips}$	US Customary
e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[230\text{mm}, 530\text{mm} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $534 \text{ kN} < R_c \leq 1068 \text{ kN}$	Metric
e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[9\text{in}, 21\text{in} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $120 \text{ kips} < R_c \leq 240 \text{ kips}$	US Customary
e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[230\text{mm}, 685\text{mm} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $1068 \text{ kN} < R_c \leq 1779 \text{ kN}$	Metric
e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[9\text{in}, 27\text{in} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $240 \text{ kips} < R_c \leq 400 \text{ kips}$	US Customary
e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[230\text{mm}, 760\text{mm} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $R_c > 1779 \text{ kN}$	Metric
e_{\min}	=	$\text{MAX}[9\text{in}, 30\text{in} - 0.5 * l_p]$	when $R_c > 400 \text{ kips}$	US Customary

$$l_p = \text{least width/diameter of the pile}$$

Check for minimum pile spacing

Check center to center spacing "s" between piles "i" and "j" in a pile group:

The check passes if:

$$\text{If } s_{ij} > \min(s_{\min}, s_{\min, \text{user}})$$

where

$$s_{\min, \text{user}} = \text{user input}$$

$$s_{\min} = \max(\text{least width of the pile} + 0.6\text{m}, 0.9\text{m}) \text{ for metric units}$$

$$s_{\min} = \max(\text{least width of the pile} + 2\text{ft.}, 3\text{ft}) \text{ for US customary units¹}$$



*There is also minimum recommended pile spacing in ACI 543R-10 section 2.1.4:
 $s_{min} = 3 \text{ times diameter or width at the cut off level}$*

Check for maximum pile spacing

Check center to center maximum spacing “s” between piles “i” and “j” in a pile group:

The check passes if:

$$\text{If } s_{ij} < s_{max,user}$$

$$s_{max,user} = \text{user input}$$

Other checks

The remaining checks are identical to those for pad bases - see: [Checks for Limiting Parameters \(Pad and Strip Base: ACI 318\)](#)

1. CRSI – Design handbook page 13-18

References

1. **American Concrete Institute.** Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318-08) and Commentary. **ACI 2008.**
2. **American Concrete Institute.** Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318-11) and Commentary. **ACI 2011.**
3. **American Concrete Institute.** Metric Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318M-11) and Commentary. **ACI 2014.**

Steel Design to AISC 360 ASD and LRFD

Tekla Structural Designer designs steel and composite members to a range of international codes. This reference guide specifically describes the design methods applied when the AISC 360 ASD or AISC 360 LRFD resistance codes are selected.

General

General

Seismic Design

All "Gravity Only Design" members are designed as per the normal AISC Specification rules for the seismic load combinations.

Additional design rules are required for seismic combinations. These are as per the AISC Seismic Provisions (AISC 341-05) ([Ref. 8](#)) or (AISC 341-10) ([Ref. 9](#)). These additional design rules ONLY apply to members in Seismic Load Resisting Systems. These rules are applied as follows:

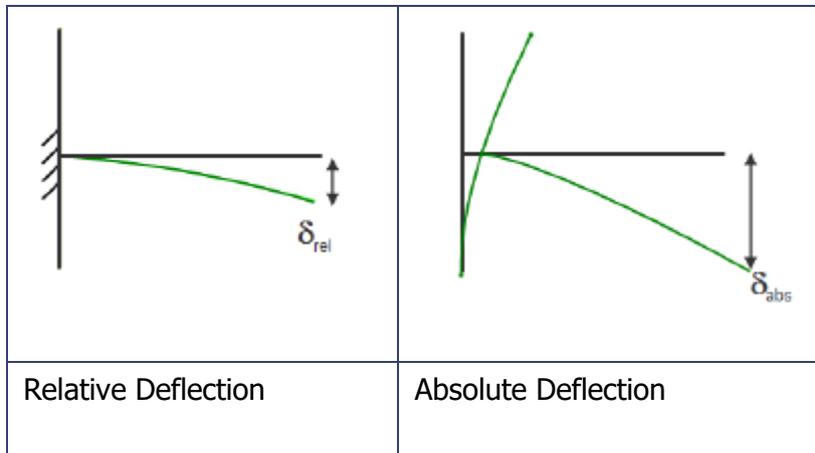
- If SDC = A - no additional requirements
- If SDC = D, E or F, apply rules for AISC 341

For each of X and Y directions:

- If SDC = B or C and $R \leq 3$ - no additional requirements
- If SDC = B or C and $R > 3$, apply rules for AISC 341

Deflection checks

Tekla Structural Designer calculates both **relative** and **absolute** deflections. Relative deflections measure the internal displacement occurring within the length of the member and take no account of the support settlements or rotations, whereas absolute deflections are concerned with deflection of the structure as a whole. The absolute deflections are the ones displayed in the structure deflection graphics. The difference between **relative** and **absolute** deflections is illustrated in the cantilever beam example below.



Relative deflections are given in the member analysis results graphics and are the ones used in the member design.

Steel Grade

The steel grade can be chosen from the standard range for the USA or from an international range. User defined grades can also be added.



The upper limit for the steel grade is defined in the AISC Specification as 75 ksi - you should not attempt to add a grade higher than this. See I1.2 (360-05) or I1.3 (360-10).

The elastic modulus of steel for use in design is defined in the AISC Specification as $E = 29,000$ ksi

Steel Beam Design to AISC 360

Design method

Either a load and resistance factor design (LRFD) or an allowable strength design (ASD) can be performed to determine the adequacy of the section for each condition.

The design method employed is consistent with the design parameters specified in the relevant chapters of the AISC Specification and associated 'Commentary', unless specifically noted otherwise. As both the 2005 ([Ref. 1](#)) and 2010 ([Ref. 2](#)) versions are supported, where clauses are specific to a particular version these are indicated as (360-05) or (360-10) as appropriate.

A basic knowledge of the design methods for beams in accordance with the specification is assumed.

Steel beam limitations and assumptions

The following general limitations apply:

- Continuous beams (more than one span) must be co-linear in the plane of the web within a small tolerance (sloping in elevation is allowed),
- Rolled doubly symmetric prismatic sections, doubly symmetric hollow sections, channel sections are fully designed, plated beams are also fully designed
- Single angles, double angles and tees are designed, but additional limitations apply, (see [Angle and Tee Limitations](#))
- Design of beams with web openings is beyond scope.

The following additional limitations apply for plated beams:

- Double and single symmetric I-sections allowed
- Single or multi-span allowed, including cantilever spans
- Design for axial force (tension or compression) or flexure (major or minor) or any combination of these
- Non-composite only
- Flanges and web all have same grade steel
- No design of curved beams (plan or elevation)
- No auto design
- No torsion design
- No seismic design

The following assumptions apply:

- All supports are considered to provide torsional restraint, that is lateral restraint to both flanges. This cannot be changed. It is assumed that a beam that is continuous through the web of a supporting beam or column together with its substantial moment resisting end plate connections is able to provide such restraint.
- If, at the support, the beam oversails the supporting beam or column then the detail is assumed to be such that the bottom flange of the beam is well connected to the supporting member and, as a minimum, has torsional stiffeners provided at the support.
- In the *Tekla Structural Designer* model, when not at supports, coincident restraints to both flanges are assumed when one or more members frame into the web of the beam at a particular position and the cardinal point of the centre-line model of the beam lies in the web. Otherwise, only a top flange or bottom flange restraint is assumed. Should you

judge the actual restraint provided by the in-coming members to be different from to what has been assumed, you have the flexibility to edit the restraints as required.

- Intermediate lateral restraints to the top or bottom flange are assumed to be capable of transferring the restraining forces back to an appropriate system of bracing or suitably rigid part of the structure.
- It is assumed that you will make a rational and "correct" choice for the effective lengths between restraints for compression buckling. **The default value for the effective length factor of 1.0 may be neither correct nor safe.**

Section Classification

Cross-section classification is determined using Table B4.1 (360-05), or Tables B4.1a+B4.1b (360-10).

At every cross section there are two classifications for each element in the section (flange or web) - one for axial compression and one for bending (flexure).

If axial compression does not exist (0kip or tension), the axial classification is not applicable. If bending is not present about both axes then the flexure classification is not applicable.

For axial compression the web and flanges are classified as either Compact or Slender and the worst of the two is the resultant axial classification.

For bending both the web and flange are classified as Compact, Non compact or Slender and the worst of the two is the resultant flexural classification.

The classification of the section must normally be Compact or Non compact, however sections which are classified as Slender will be allowed if they are subject to axial load only.

Classification for Plated Beams

Since built-up (plated) beams allow for asymmetric sections, the general approach in flexure classification for all built-up beams is:

- under major bending the compression flange is classified (both flanges are classified if double curvature exists, and the worst case is reported)
- under minor bending both flanges are classified
- under biaxial bending, major and minor bending are considered independently and the worst case is reported

D2. Axial Tension

If axial tension exists, tensile yielding and rupture checks are performed at the point of maximum tension in accordance with Eqns D2.1 and D2.2.



In the rupture check the net area A_e is assumed to equal the gross area A_g .

A warning is issued if the slenderness ratio L/r exceeds 300.

E. Axial Compression

If axial compression exists, the member is assessed for Flexural Buckling and for Torsional and Flexural Torsional buckling. The compressive strength is determined in accordance with Eqns E3.1 and E4.1. For double angles these equations are subject to the modifications of Section E6.

The member length or member sub lengths between braces are checked for:

- Flexural buckling about major axis - for each unbraced length between adjacent points of major axis lateral brace and or torsional brace.
- Flexural buckling about minor axis - for each unbraced length between adjacent points of minor axis lateral brace and or torsional brace.
- Torsional and flexural torsional buckling - for each unbraced length between adjacent points of torsional brace (this check is not applied to hollow sections.)

For any unbraced length, the required compressive force P_r is taken as the maximum compressive force in the relevant length.

A warning is issued if the slenderness ratio KL/r exceeds 200.

G2. Shear Strength

Shear checks are performed at the point of maximum shear in accordance with Section G2.

Plated beams only

Since built-up (plated) beams allow for asymmetric sections, under minor shear the web shear coefficient, C_v is calculated for each flange separately and Equation G2-1 taken as:

$$V_n = 0.6 \times F_y \times (A_{w,top} \times C_{v,top} + A_{w,btm} \times C_{v,btm})$$

F2. Flexure

The member is assessed for Flexure in accordance with Section F2 to F10 (as appropriate).

The following checks are potentially required:

About the x axis - within the LTB braced length

- Yielding
- Compression flange local buckling
- Web local buckling
- Local buckling
- Lateral Torsional Buckling (only required for I and C sections)

About the y axis in the LTB braced length

- Yielding
- Flange local buckling
- Web local buckling
- Local buckling

You can switch off the lateral torsional buckling checks for any unbraced length by indicating the length is continuously braced. If you use this option you must be able to provide justification that the unbraced length is adequately braced against lateral torsional buckling.

When the checks are required *Tekla Structural Designer* assumes a top flange (but not bottom flange) brace is provided at the position of each incoming beam. You can add or remove these braces if they don't reflect the actual brace provided by the incoming section. Each unbraced length which is not defined as being continuously braced is then checked in accordance with Section F2.

Plated beams only

The following additional checks apply about the x axis:

- Compression flange yielding
- Tension flange yielding

The approach to evaluating the web plastification factors, R_{pc} and R_{pt} in Section F4.2 and F4.4 of 360-10, has been adopted for 360-05 also i.e. the ratio I_{yc}/I_y is considered as well as h_c/t_w but note the following:

- under 360-05 I_{yc} is taken as the minimum inertia about the y axis of top and bottom flange (regardless which flange is in compression)
- under 36010 I_{yc} is taken as the inertia about the y axis of the compression flange being considered

For flange local buckling about the y axis Equation F6-2 is used for both double and single symmetric sections, but in the latter case the more slender of the two flanges is assessed i.e. the higher λ value will be used.

H1. Combined Forces

Members subject to axial tension or compression and flexure about one or both axes are assessed in accordance with Section H1.

Plated beams only

For built-up (plated) beams a Proportioning Limit check applies. In AISC 360-05 and 360-10 this is detailed within the chapter on design for flexure (section F13.2). Load combinations which result in major axis bending on a built-up (plated) beam cause this check to be made. Any load combination which fails the Proportioning Limit check is considered as Beyond Scope for Combined Forces (regardless of whether any axial force is compressive or tensile).

DG9. Torsion (Beams: AISC 360)

DG9. Torsion

Torsion design is carried out according to AISC design guide 9 (DG9), AISC 360-05 and AISC 360-10 for single span, pin ended steel beams with open and closed section types as follows:

Open sections (I- symmetric rolled)

- A torsion design and an angle rotation check can be carried out for applied torsion forces only

Closed sections (HSS only)

- An angle of rotation check can be carried out for applied forces only

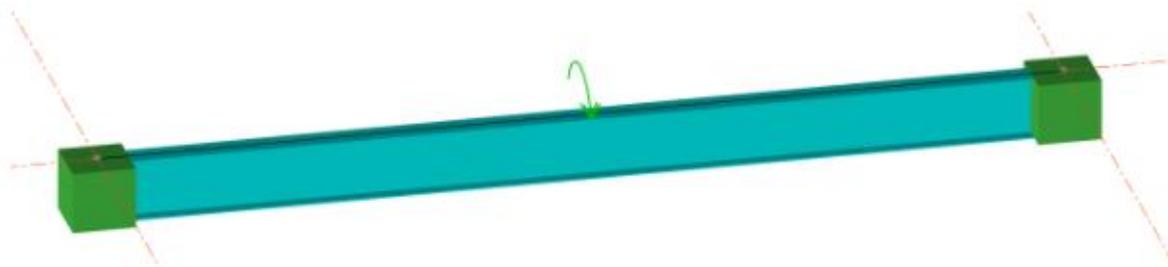
Torsion design - loading

For design of open sections (i.e. rolled I sections in the current release) torsion design is carried out for "applied torsion loading" only and in accordance with those cases in Appendix B of DG9 with torsion fixed and warping free member ends (i.e. cases 3, 4 and 5 of DG9, with some extension for partial UDL and VDL).

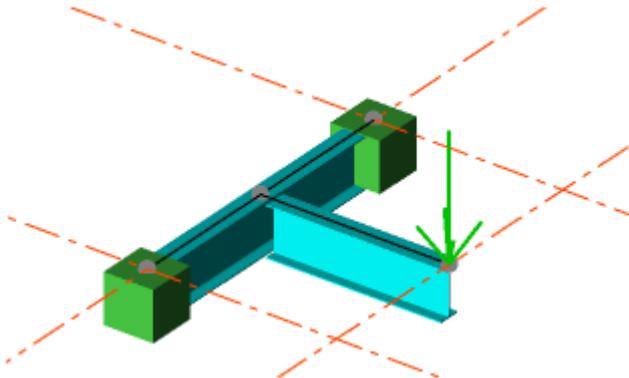
Applied torsion loading

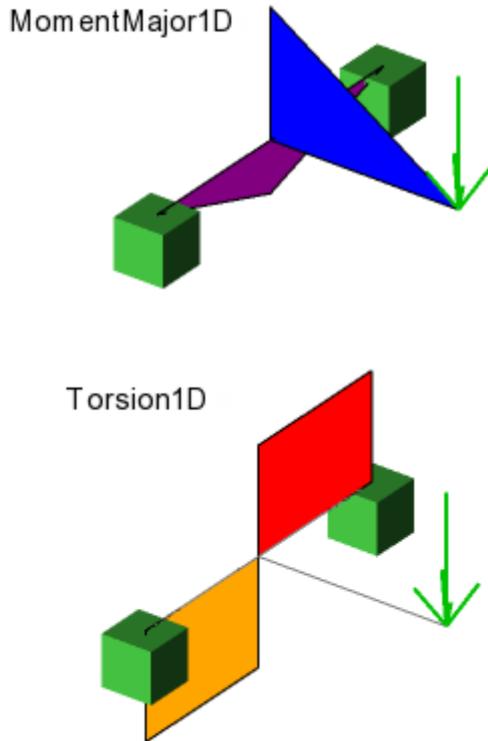
Tekla Structural Designer defines "applied torsion loading" as:

- A force that is manually applied by the User using the Member Loading in the Load ribbon, (as shown below)



- Or a force that is induced from a moment connection between primary and secondary beams, or a cantilever beam (as shown below, with bending and torsion moment diagrams).





Seismic Design Rules (Beams: AISC 360)

Seismic Design Rules

Additional design rules are required for seismic combinations. These are as per the AISC Seismic Provisions (AISC 341-05)([Ref. 8](#)). These additional design rules ONLY apply to members in Seismic Load Resisting Systems.

See "Assumptions/Limitations of the Seismic Provisions" for a list of the assumptions and limitations that apply with respect to the application of these rules to *Tekla Structural Designer* models.

The rules applied depend upon the seismic load resisting system as defined in the AISC Seismic Provisions and are listed below:

For a moment resisting frame

9.Special Moment Frame (SMF)

- 9.4a. Classification
- 9.8. Max spacing of bracing

10. Intermediate Moment Frame (IMF)

- 10.4a. Classification
- 10.8. Max spacing of bracing

11. Ordinary Moment Frame (OMF)

- 11.4. Classification

Moment resisting frame with a truss component

12. Special Truss Moment Frame (STMF) [1](#) - Beyond Scope

For a braced frame

13. Special Concentrically Braced Frames (SCBF)

- 13.2d. Classification
- 13.4a.(2). Max lat brace spacing
- 13.4a. V and inverted V type

14. Ordinary Concentrically Braced Frames (OCBF)

- 14.2. Classification
- 14.3. Beams with V and inverted V type
- Beams (not columns with no K braces)
 - 14.2.(2). Max lat brace spacing

15. Eccentrically Braced Frames (EBF) - Beyond Scope

Buckling resistant braced frame

16. Buckling Restrained Braced Frames (BRBF) - Beyond Scope

Frames containing composite beams

Composite Special Concentrically Braced Frames (C-SCBF) - Beyond Scope

Composite Ordinary Braced Frames (C-OBF) - Beyond Scope

Composite Eccentrically Braced Frames (C-EBF) - Beyond Scope

[1](#). Beyond Scope of the current version of Tekla Structural Designer

Composite Beam Design to AISC 360

Design method

Either a load and resistance factor design (LRFD) or an allowable strength design (ASD) can be performed to determine the adequacy of the section for each condition.

The design method employed is consistent with the design parameters for simple composite beams as specified in Chapter I of the AISC Specification and associated 'Commentary', unless specifically noted otherwise. As both the 2005 ([Ref. 1](#)) and 2010 ([Ref. 2](#)) versions are supported, where clauses are specific to a particular version these are indicated as (360-05) or (360-10) as appropriate.

A basic knowledge of the design methods for composite beams in accordance with the specification is assumed.

Construction stage (Composite beams: AISC 360)

Construction stage

At construction stage the beam is acting alone before composite action is achieved and is unshored.

When you design or check a beam for construction stage loading the following checks are carried out in accordance with the relevant chapters of the AISC Specification, consistent with the approach (i.e. LRFD or ASD) used at the composite stage.

Section classification

Cross-section classification is determined using Table B4.1 (360-05), or Tables B4.1a+B4.1b (360-10) and must be Compact or Non compact. Sections which are classified as Slender are beyond the scope of *Tekla Structural Designer*.

Shear strength - I3.1b (360-05), I4.2 (360-10)

Shear checks are performed at the point of maximum shear based upon the properties of the steel section alone in accordance with Section G2.

Strength during construction - I3.1c (360-05), I3.1b (360-10)

Flexure

Checks are performed at the point of maximum moment along the beam based upon the properties of the steel section alone in accordance with Section F2.

Lateral torsional buckling checks

When the forms are attached to the top flange then full lateral restraint can be assumed, irrespective of the angle of the deck. In this case you should indicate the beam is continuously braced.

In other cases any incoming beams will be automatically identified.

Each sub-length which is not defined as being continuously braced is checked in accordance with Section F2.

Deflection checks

Relative deflections are used in the composite beam design. (See: .)

The following deflections are calculated for the loads specified in the construction stage load combination:

- the Dead load deflections i.e. those due to the beam self weight, the Slab Wet loads and any other included dead loads,
- the live load deflections i.e. those due to construction live loads,
- the Total load deflection i.e. the sum of the previous items.

The loads are taken as acting on the steel beam alone.

The "Service Factor" (default 1.0), specified against each load case in the construction combination is applied when calculating the above deflections.

If requested by the user, the total load deflection is compared with either a span-over limit or an absolute value. The initial default limit is span/200, (as per CC.1.1 of ASCE 7-05([Ref. 6](#)) or ASCE 7-10([Ref. 7](#))).

Composite stage (Composite beams: AISC 360)

Composite stage

Tekla Structural Designer performs all checks for the composite stage condition in accordance with Section I3 unless specifically noted otherwise.

Equivalent steel section

An equivalent steel section is determined for use in the composite stage calculations by removing the fillet while maintaining the full area of the section. This approach reduces the number of change points in the calculations while maintaining optimum section properties.

Shear strength - I3.1b (360-05), I4.2 (360-10)

Shear checks are performed at the point of maximum shear in accordance with Section G2 for the maximum required shear strength, V_r , at the composite stage. The shear check is performed on the bare beam alone at the composite stage ignoring any contribution from the concrete slab.

Strength of composite beams with shear connectors - I3.2

Section classification

For section classification purposes the true section is used. *Tekla Structural Designer* classifies the section in accordance with Section I3.2a. Only the web of the section is classified - the bottom flange is in tension and so cannot buckle locally and it is assumed that the top flange is sufficiently braced by the composite slab.

The classification of the web must be compact so that plastic stress blocks can be used.

Flexure

Checks are performed at the point of maximum moment and the position of application of each point load as well as all other points of interest along the beam. Flexure is calculated in accordance with Section I3.2 (360-05/-10). Since the flexural strength at all point loads is

checked then this will inherently satisfy Section I3.2d (6) (360-05) or Section I8.2c (360-10) which require that "the number of shear connectors placed between any concentrated load and the nearest point of zero moment shall be sufficient to develop the maximum required flexural strength at the concentrated load point".

During the selection process, in auto design mode point loads are taken to be "significant" if they provide more than 10% of the total shear on the beam. For the final configuration and for check mode all point loads are checked for flexure.

Shear connectors

Tekla Structural Designer checks shear connectors to Section I1-3 (360-05), or Section I8 (360-10).

The nominal strength of headed stud shear connectors in a solid slab or a composite slab is determined in accordance with Section I3.2d (360-05), or Section I3.2d with shear connector strength from I8.2a (360-10).

Ribs perpendicular

The reduction factor R_p is taken as,

$$R_p = 0.6 \quad \text{for any number of studs and } e_{\text{mid-ht}} < 2 \text{ in} \\ = 0.75 \quad \text{for any number of studs and } e_{\text{mid-ht}} \geq 2 \text{ in}$$

In *Tekla Structural Designer* you are therefore not required to input the actual value of $e_{\text{mid-ht}}$ instead you simply indicate if it is less than 2 in.

Ribs parallel

$$R_p = 0.75 \quad \text{in all cases}$$

Ribs at other angles

Where the ribs are at an angle θ_r to the beam there is no guidance in the AISC Specification. The approach adopted by *Tekla Structural Designer* is to apply a geometric adjustment of the reduction factors R_g and R_p which for the purposes of this adjustment are combined into one "k" factor. The combined reduction factor is calculated for perpendicular and parallel separately and then adjusted as shown below.

$$k_s = k_1 * \sin^2\theta_r + k_2 * \cos^2\theta_r$$

Where:

k_s = the adjusted value of the combined reduction factor $R_g * R_p$

k_1 = the value of the combined reduction factor $R_g * R_p$ for ribs perpendicular

k_2 = the value of the combined reduction factor $R_g * R_p$ for ribs parallel

Degree of shear connection

For efficient design the number of studs should be minimized. If the number provided has an overall capacity greater than the capacity of the concrete flange or steel beam (whichever is the lesser) then this is full shear connection. Anything less than this, is partial shear connection. There are, however, limits on the amount of partial interaction that are recommended by the AISC Specification – see note "3" (p.16.1-311 of the 2005 Commentary, or p.16.1-356 of the 2010 Commentary).

For all beams, the number of connectors required for full shear connection is,

$$N_s = (\min(T_s, (C_{c1} + C_{c2}))) / Q_n \text{ rounded up to the next group size above}$$

Where:

T_s = the tensile yield strength of the steel section

C_{c1} = the strength of the concrete flange above the ribs

C_{c2} = strength of the concrete in the ribs (zero for perpendicular decks)

Q_n = the nominal strength of an individual shear connector

The degree of partial shear connection is given by,

$$I_{nt} = N_a * Q_n / (\min((C_{c1} + C_{c2}), T_s))$$

Where:

N_a = the number of shear connectors provided from the nearer point of support to the position under consideration

The degree of partial shear connection is checked at the point of maximum bending moment or the position of a point load if at that position the maximum utilization ratio occurs.

To determine the status of the check *Tekla Structural Designer* applies the following rules:

- If the partial interaction ratio at the position of maximum moment is less than the absolute minimum interaction ratio (default 25%), then this generates a FAIL status,
- If the partial interaction ratio at the position of maximum utilization ratio when this is at a different position to the maximum moment, is less than the absolute minimum interaction ratio, then this generates a WARNING status,
- If the partial interaction ratio at the position of maximum moment, or maximum utilization ratio if this is different, is greater than the absolute minimum interaction ratio, then this generates a PASS status,
- If the partial interaction ratio at any point load position that is not the maximum utilization ratio is less than the absolute minimum interaction ratio, then this does not affect the status in any way.
- If the partial interaction ratio at any position is less than the advisory minimum interaction ratio (default 50%) then this is given for information only and does not affect the status in any way.

Dimensional requirements

The dimensional limits given below are either recommendations or code limits:

- the nominal rib height of the profiled deck, h_r should be not greater than 3 in
- the mean width of the ribs of the profiled sheet, w_r should be not less than 2 in (for re-entrant decks the "mean" is taken as the minimum opening at the top of the rib)
- the nominal diameter of stud connectors, d_{sc} should be not greater than $\frac{3}{4}$ in
- the height of the stud after welding, H_s should be at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ in greater than the nominal rib height of the profiled deck – see Section I3.2c(b) (360-05), or Section I3.2c(2) (360-10).
- the total depth of the composite slab, d_{cs} should not be less than $3\frac{3}{4}$ in
- the thickness of concrete above the main flat surface of the top of the ribs of the sheeting, $d_{cs} - h_r$ should not be less than 2 in

- concrete cover, $d_{cs} - H_s$ over the connector should not be less than $\frac{1}{2}$ in – see Section I3.2c(b) (360-05), or Section I3.2c(2) (360-10).
- the longitudinal spacing should not exceed the lesser of 36 in or $8 * \text{the slab depth, } d_{cs}$ (see Section 6.2.6.2 of Structural Steel Designer's Handbook, Second Edition(Ref. 4))
- where studs are spaced at greater than 18 in centers puddle welds or other appropriate means are required to ensure anchorage of deck – see Section I3.2c (360-05), or Section I3.2c(4) (360-10).
- the clear distance between the edge of a connector and the edge of the steel beam flange should be not less than $\frac{3}{4}$ in (as universal good practice).
- Section I8.2d of the AISC Specification (360-10) requires that the minimum edge distance from the center of an anchor to a free edge in the direction of the shear force shall be 8 in for normalweight concrete and 10 in for lightweight concrete. This requirement will apply only in a limited number of configurations and therefore is not checked.
- the spacing of connectors in the direction of shear i.e. along the beam should be not less than, $6 * \text{the stud diameter}$
- the spacing of connectors transverse to direction of shear i.e. across the beam should be not less than $4 * \text{the stud diameter}$ except for the condition given in the next item
- where rows of studs are staggered, the minimum transverse spacing between longitudinal lines of studs should be not less than $3 * \text{the stud diameter}$ with the amount of stagger such that the diagonal distance between studs on adjacent longitudinal lines is not less than $4 * \text{the stud diameter}$
- the stud connector diameter should not exceed 2.5 times the flange thickness unless located directly over the web.



You should confirm that the chosen configuration of decking and studs meet those dimensional requirements that you deem appropriate.

Serviceability Limit State (SLS)

Section properties (SLS)

In the calculation of the gross moment of inertia of the composite section the steel deck is ignored as is any concrete in tension. The concrete is converted into an equivalent steel section using an effective modular ratio based on the proportions of long and short term loads which are relevant to the particular calculation. Two alternative approaches are given - see p.16.1-308 in the 2005 Commentary, or p.16.1-353 in the 2010 Commentary for obtaining these properties.

One (the 'traditional method') calculates the gross uncracked inertia of the transformed section but uses 75% of the resulting value in the determination of deflections. The other uses a given formula to determine a 'lower-bound' inertia. While studies have shown that the simple application of a reduction factor (0.75) is more onerous than the lower-bound solution, the simpler 'traditional method' is the approach adopted in *Tekla Structural Designer*.

Tekla Structural Designer therefore calculates the deflection for the beam based on the properties as tabulated below.

Loadcase Type	Properties used
self-weight	bare beam
Slab Dry	bare beam
Dead	composite properties calculated using the modular ratio for long term loads*
Live, Roof Live	composite properties calculated using the effective modular ratio** appropriate to the long term load percentage for each load.
Wind, Snow, Earthquake	composite properties calculated using the modular ratio for short term loads
Total loads	these are calculated from the individual loadcase loads as detailed above.

*The long term modulus is taken as the short term value divided by a factor (for shrinkage and creep), entered in the Slab properties.

$$n_s = \text{the short term modular ratio} \\ = E_s/E_c$$

$$n_L = \text{the long term modular ratio} \\ = (E_s/E_c) * k_n$$

**The effective modular ratio, n_E is based on the percentage of load which is considered long term. These calculations are repeated for each individual load in a loadcase.

The effective modular ratio is given by,

$$n_E = n_s + \rho_L * (n_L - n_s)$$

$$\rho_L = \text{the proportion of the load which is long term}$$

The calculated Slab Dry, Live and Total load deflections (where necessary adjusted for the effect of partial interaction) are checked against the limits you specify.



All the beam deflections calculated above are "relative" deflections. For an illustration of the difference between relative and absolute deflection see .

Stress checks (SLS)

The Commentary (Section I3.1, paragraph 2 of the 2005 version, Section I3.2, of the 2010 version) suggests that where deflection controls the size of the beam then either it should be ensured that the beam is elastic at serviceability loading or that the inelastic deformations are taken into account. *Tekla Structural Designer* adopts the former approach. This is confirmed by checking that yield in the beam and crushing in the concrete do not occur at serviceability loading i.e. a service stress check. If they are found to fail, suggesting

inelasticity at serviceability loading, then a warning will appear on the deflections page and the service stress results are available to view.

Tekla Structural Designer calculates the worst stresses in the extreme fibres of the steel and the concrete at serviceability limit state for each load taking into account the proportion which is long term and that which is short term. These stresses are then summed algebraically. The partial safety factors for loads are taken as those provided by you for the service condition on the Design Combinations page. The stress checks assume that full interaction exists between the steel and the concrete at serviceability state.

Natural frequency checks (SLS)

The calculation of the natural frequency of a composite beam can be complex and is dependent upon the support conditions, the load profile and the properties of the composite section. In reality the vibration of a composite beam is never in isolation – the whole floor system (including the slabs and other adjacent beams) will vibrate in various modes and at various frequencies.

A simple (design model) approach is taken based on uniform loading and pin supports. This fairly simple calculation is provided to the designer for information only. The calculation can be too coarse particularly for long span beams and does not consider the response side of the behavior i.e. the reaction of the building occupants to any particular limiting value for the floor system under consideration. In such cases the designer will have the option to perform a Floor Vibration Analysis within the *Tekla Structural Designer* application.

Simplified approach

The natural frequency is determined from,

$$NF = 0.18 * \sqrt{(g/\Delta_{NF})}$$

Where:

Δ_{NF} = the maximum static instantaneous deflection (in inches) that would occur under the effects of Slab Dry loading, and the proportion of dead loads and live loads specified by the user (as specified on the Natural Frequency page of the Design Wizard). It is based upon the composite inertia but not modified for the effects of partial interaction.

g = the acceleration due to gravity (386.4 in/s²)

This is not given in the AISC Specification but is taken from Chapter 3 of Steel Design Guide Series 11. Floor Vibrations due to Human Activity. ([Ref. 5](#)) Its formulation is derived from the first mode of vibration of a simply supported beam subject to a udl.

Steel Column Design to AISC 360

Design Method

Either a load and resistance factor design (LRFD) or an allowable strength design (ASD) can be performed to determine the adequacy of the section for each condition.

The design method employed is consistent with the design parameters specified in the relevant chapters of the AISC Specification and associated 'Commentary', unless specifically noted otherwise. As both the 2005 ([Ref. 1](#)) and 2010 ([Ref. 2](#)) versions are supported, where

clauses are specific to a particular version these are indicated as (360-05) or (360-10) as appropriate.

A basic knowledge of the design methods for columns in accordance with the specification is assumed.

Section classification

Cross-section classification is determined using Table B4.1 (360-05), or Tables B4.1a+B4.1b (360-10).

At every cross section there are two classifications for each element in the section (flange or web) - one for axial compression and one for bending (flexure).

If axial compression does not exist (0kip or tension), the axial classification is NA. If bending is not present about both axes then the flexure classification is NA.

For axial compression the web and flanges are classified as either Compact or Slender and the worst of the two is the resultant axial classification.

For bending both the web and flange are classified as Compact, Non compact or Slender and the worst of the two is the resultant flexural classification.

The classification of the section must normally be Compact or Non compact, however sections which are classified as Slender will be allowed if they are subject to axial load only.

All unacceptable classifications are either failed in check mode or rejected in design mode.

D2. Axial Tension

If axial tension exists, tensile yielding and rupture checks are performed at the point of maximum tension in accordance with Eqns D2.1 and D2.2.



In the rupture check the net area A_e is assumed to equal the gross area A_g .

A warning is also issued if the slenderness ratio L/r exceeds 300.

E. Axial Compression

If axial compression exists, the member is assessed for Flexural Buckling and for Torsional and Flexural Torsional buckling. The compressive strength is determined in accordance with Eqns E3.1 and E4.1. For double angles these equations are subject to the modifications of Section E6.

The member length or member sub lengths between braces are checked for:

- Flexural buckling about major axis - for each sub-length between adjacent points of major axis lateral bracing and or torsional bracing.
- Flexural buckling about minor axis - for each sub-length between adjacent points of minor axis lateral bracing and or torsional bracing.

- Torsional and flexural torsional buckling - for each sub-length between adjacent points of torsional bracing (this check is not applied to hollow sections.)

For any sub-length, the required compressive force P_r is taken as the maximum compressive force in the relevant sub-length.

A warning is also issued if the slenderness ratio KL/r exceeds 200.

G2. Shear Strength

Shear checks are performed for the absolute value of shear force normal to the x-x axis and normal to the y-y axis, F_{vx} and F_{vy} , at the point under consideration in accordance with Section G2.

F2. Flexure

The member is assessed for Flexure in accordance with Section F2. The following checks are potentially required:

About the x axis - within the LTB sub-length

- Yielding
- Compression flange local buckling
- Web local buckling
- Local buckling
- Lateral Torsional Buckling (only required for I and C sections)

About the y axis in the LTB sub-length

- Yielding
- Compression flange local buckling
- Web local buckling
- Local buckling

The lateral torsional buckling checks can be switched off for any sub-length by indicating the length is continuously braced. If you use this option you must be able to provide justification that the sub-length is adequately braced against lateral torsional buckling.

When the checks are required you can set the effective length of each sub-beam (the portion of the beam between one brace and the next) either by giving factors to apply to the physical length of the beam, or by entering the effective length that you want to use.

H1. Combined Forces

Members subject to axial tension or compression and flexure about one or both axes are assessed in accordance with Section H1.

Seismic Design Rules (Columns: AISC 360)

Seismic Design Rules

Additional design rules are required for seismic combinations. These are as per the AISC Seismic Provisions (AISC 341-05) ([Ref. 8](#)). These additional design rules ONLY apply to members in Seismic Load Resisting Systems.

See "Assumptions/Limitations of the Seismic Provisions" for a list of the assumptions and limitations that apply with respect to the application of these rules to *Tekla Structural Designer* models.

The rules applied depend upon the seismic load resisting system as defined in the AISC Seismic Provisions and are listed below:

For a moment resisting frame

9. Special Moment Frame (SMF)

- 9.4a. Classification
- 9.4. Column strength check
- 9.6. Column/beam moment ratio

10. Intermediate Moment Frame (IMF)

- 10.4a. Classification
- 10.4. Column strength

11. Ordinary Moment Frame (OMF)

- 11.4. Classification
- 11.4. Column strength check

Moment resisting frame with a truss component

12. Special Truss Moment Frame (STMF) ¹ - Beyond Scope

For a braced frame

13. Special Concentrically Braced Frames (SCBF)

- 13.2d. Classification
- 13.2b. Column strength check

14. Ordinary Concentrically Braced Frames (OCBF)

- 14.2. Classification
- 14.2. Column strength check

15. Eccentrically Braced Frames (EBF) - Beyond Scope

Buckling resistant braced frame

16. Buckling Restrained Braced Frames (BRBF) - Beyond Scope

Frames containing composite beams

Composite Special Concentrically Braced Frames (C-SCBF) - Beyond Scope

Composite Ordinary Braced Frames (C-OBF) - Beyond Scope

Composite Eccentrically Braced Frames (C-EBF) - Beyond Scope

[1.](#) Beyond Scope of the current version of Tekla Structural Designer

Steel Brace Design to AISC 360

Design Method

Tekla Structural Designer allows you to analyze and design a member with pinned end connections for axial compression, tension and seismic design forces.

Either a load and resistance factor design (LRFD) or an allowable strength design (ASD) can be performed to determine the adequacy of the section for each condition.

The design method employed is consistent with the design parameters specified in the relevant chapters of the AISC Specification and associated 'Commentary', unless specifically noted otherwise. As both the 2005 ([Ref. 1](#)) and 2010 ([Ref. 2](#)) versions are supported, where clauses are specific to a particular version these are indicated as (360-05) or (360-10) as appropriate.

A basic knowledge of the design methods for braces in accordance with the specification is assumed.

Section Classification

Cross-section classification is determined using Table B4.1 (360-05), or Tables B4.1a+B4.1b (360-10).

D2. Axial Tension

If axial tension exists, tensile yielding and rupture checks are performed at the point of maximum tension in accordance with Eqns D2.1 and D2.2.

A warning is also issued if the slenderness ratio L/r exceeds 300.

E. Axial Compression

If axial compression exists, the member is assessed for Flexural Buckling and for Torsional and Flexural Torsional buckling. The compressive strength is determined in accordance with Eqns E3.1 and E4.1. For double angles these equations are subject to the modifications of Section E6.

The member length or member sub lengths between braces are checked for:

- Flexural buckling about major axis - for each braced length between adjacent points of major axis lateral bracing and or torsional bracing.
- Flexural buckling about minor axis - for each braced length between adjacent points of minor axis lateral bracing and or torsional bracing.

- Torsional and flexural torsional buckling - for each braced length between adjacent points of torsional bracing (this check is not applied to hollow sections.)

For any braced length, the required compressive force P_r is taken as the maximum compressive force in the relevant length.

A warning is also issued if the slenderness ratio KL/r exceeds 200.

Seismic Design Rules (Braces: AISC 360)

Seismic Design Rules

Additional design rules are required for seismic combinations. These are as per the AISC Seismic Provisions (AISC 341-05) ([Ref. 8](#)). These additional design rules ONLY apply to members in Seismic Load Resisting Systems.

See "Assumptions/Limitations of the Seismic Provisions" for a list of the assumptions and limitations that apply with respect to the application of these rules to *Tekla Structural Designer* models.

The rules applied depend upon the seismic load resisting system as defined in the AISC Seismic Provisions and are listed below:

For a braced frame

13. Special Concentrically Braced Frames (SCBF)
 - 13.2d. Classification
 - 13.2b. brace required strength
 - 13.2a. brace slenderness limit
 - 13.2e. built up members - double angles
14. Ordinary Concentrically Braced Frames (OCBF)
 - 14.2. Classification
 - 14.2. Bracing members, V or A braces
15. Eccentrically Braced Frames (EBF) - Beyond Scope

Buckling resistant braced frame

16. Buckling Restrained Braced Frames (BRBF) - Beyond Scope

Frames containing composite beams

Composite Special Concentrically Braced Frames (C-SCBF) - Beyond Scope

Composite Ordinary Braced Frames (C-OBF) - Beyond Scope

Composite Eccentrically Braced Frames (C-EBF) - Beyond Scope

Truss Member Design to AISC 360

Design Method

Unless explicitly stated all truss calculations will adopt either a load and resistance factor design (LRFD) or an allowable strength design (ASD) as consistent with the design parameters as specified in the AISC Specification and associated Commentary.

Design Checks (Trusses: AISC 360)

Design Checks

Truss Members can either be defined manually, or the process can be automated using the *Truss Wizard*. Irrespective of the method used the resulting Truss Members will be one of four types:

- Internal
- Side
- Bottom
- Top

Depending on the type, different design procedures are adopted.

Internal and Side Truss Members

The design checks for internal and side truss members are the same as those for braces. With the exception that seismic forces are not designed for. See: 'Theory and Assumptions' in the Braces Chapter.

Top and Bottom Truss Members

The design checks for top and bottom truss members are the same as those for beams. With the exception that seismic forces are not designed for. See: 'Theory and Assumptions' in the General Beams Chapter

Steel Single, Double Angle and Tee Section Design to AISC 360

Design Method

Either a load and resistance factor design (LRFD) or an allowable strength design (ASD) can be performed to determine the adequacy of the section for each condition.

The design method adopted is dictated by the member characteristic type:

"Beam", "Truss member top" or "Truss member bottom" characteristic:

- Member is designed for axial tension, compression, shear, bending and combined forces

- This is consistent with the method detailed in [Steel Beam Design to AISC 360](#)

“Brace”, “Truss internal” or “Truss member side” characteristic:

- Member is designed for axial tension, compression and compression buckling only
- This is consistent with the method detailed in [Steel Brace Design to AISC 360](#)



For tees, single angles, and double angles - specific additional [Angle and Tee Limitations](#) apply to the above design methods.

A basic knowledge of the design method for angles and tees in accordance with the specification is assumed.

Angle and Tee Limitations

- All sections and in particular single angles are assumed to be effectively loaded through the shear centre such that no additional torsion moments are developed. In addition no direct allowance is made for 'destabilizing loads'.
- Design excludes bending of the outstand leg of single and double angles loaded eccentrically e.g. supporting masonry.

Section Axes

For all sections -

- x-x is the axis parallel to the flanges
- y-y is the axis perpendicular to the flanges
- for Single Angles and Double Angles
 - y-y parallel to long side (leg) - single angles
 - y-y parallel to long side (leg) - double angles with long leg back to back
 - y-y parallel to short side (leg) - double angles with short leg back to back
- w-w is the major principal axis for single angles
- z-z is the minor principal axis for single angles

Design Procedure for Single Angles (Angles and Tees: AISC 360)

Design Procedure for Single Angles

Single angles with continuous lateral-torsional restraint along the length are permitted to be designed on the basis of **geometric axis (x, y) bending**.

Single angles without continuous lateral-torsional restraint along the length are designed using the provision for **principal axis (w, z) bending** except where the provision for bending about geometric axis is permitted.

Geometric axis bending permitted:

- If single angles without continuous lateral torsional restraint and legs of angles are equal and there is no axial compression and bending about one of the geometric axis only



Design on the basis of geometric axis bending should also be permitted if single angles without continuous lateral torsional restraint but with lateral torsional restraint at the point of maximum moment only and legs of angles are equal and there is no axial compression and bending about one of the geometric axis only. However this is beyond scope of the current release of the program.

Geometric axis design

1. Nominal flexural strength M_{nx} – about X axis (major geometric axis)
2. Nominal flexural strength M_{ny} – about Y axis (minor geometric axis)

Check:

IF LRFD

- a. $M_{rx} \leq \phi_b * M_{nx}$, where $\phi_b = 0.9$
- b. $M_{ry} \leq \phi_b * M_{ny}$, where $\phi_b = 0.9$

IF ASD

- a. $M_{rx} \leq M_{nx} / \Omega_b$, where $\Omega_b = 1.67$
- b. $M_{ry} \leq M_{ny} / \Omega_b$, where $\Omega_b = 1.67$

Principal axis design

1. Required flexural strength M_{rw} – about W axis
2. Required flexural strength M_{rz} – about Z axis
3. Nominal flexural strength M_{nw} – about W axis (major principal bending axis)
4. Nominal flexural strength M_{nz} – about Z axis (minor principal bending axis)

Check:

IF LRFD

- a. $M_{rw} \leq \phi_b * M_{nw}$, where $\phi_b = 0.9$
- b. $M_{rz} \leq \phi_b * M_{nz}$, where $\phi_b = 0.9$

IF ASD

- a. $M_{rw} \leq M_{nw} / \Omega_b$, where $\Omega_b = 1.67$
- b. $M_{rz} \leq M_{nz} / \Omega_b$, where $\Omega_b = 1.67$

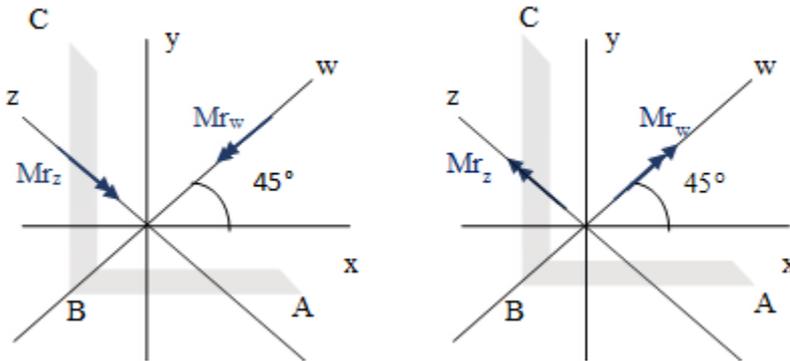
The principal axes moments are calculated from the following formulas for both LRFD and ASD:

$$M_{rw} = M_{rx} \cos \alpha + M_{ry} \sin \alpha$$

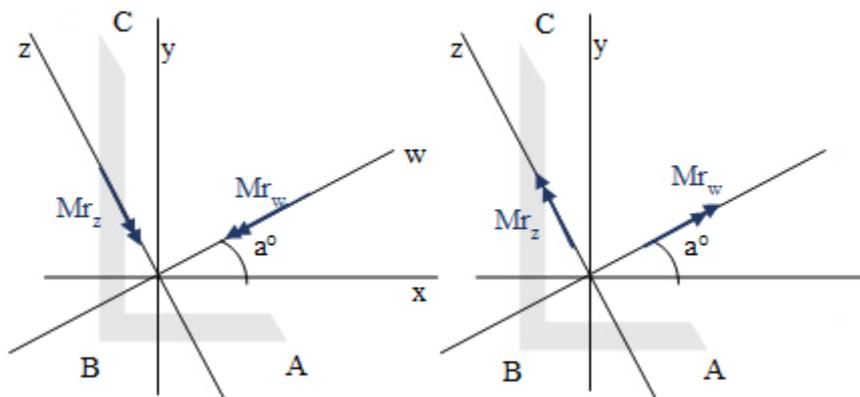
$$M_{rz} = -M_{rx} \sin \alpha + M_{ry} \cos \alpha$$

In the case of biaxial bending, or bending and axial force the combined stress ratio must be checked using the provisions of AISC, section H2.

For the **three points of the angle A, B, C** the combined ratio check should be performed.



Single Equal Angles - Sign of Moments



Single Unequal Angles - Sign of Moments

If the interaction of stresses at each point is seen to be less than 1.0 the member is adequate to carry the required load.

Check:¹

$$\text{Abs} (f_{ra} / F_{ca} + f_{rbw} / F_{cbw} + f_{rbz} / F_{cbz}) \leq 1.0$$



In axial tension when the sum of the moment ratios about the major and minor axis bending is greater or equal to 0 then the axial stress ratio is taken as 0.0 in order to give conservative results and the axial stress ratio is renamed "effective".

^{1.} AISC 360-10 Eqn H2.1

Design Procedure for Tee Sections

The nominal flexural strength M_n is the lowest value obtained according to the limit states of yielding (plastic moment), lateral-torsional buckling and leg local buckling.

$$M_{nx} = \text{Min} \{M_{nx,\text{Yield}}, M_{nx,\text{LTB}}, M_{nx,\text{LLB}}\}$$

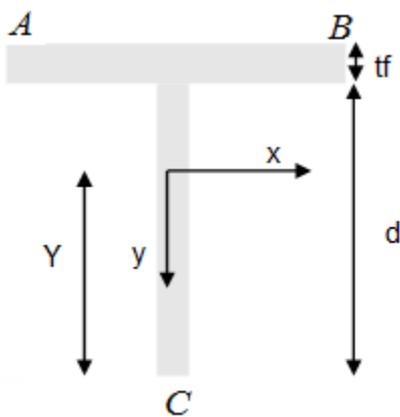
In the case of biaxial bending, or bending and axial force the combined stress ratio must be checked using the provisions of AISC, section H2.

The applied loads are

- P_r Axial
- M_{rx} Bending in x axis
- M_{ry} Bending in y axis

Check:¹

$$\text{Abs} (f_{ra} / F_{ca} + f_{rbzx} / F_{cbx} + f_{rby} / F_{cby}) \leq 1.0$$



Tees - Critical Points A, B & C

¹. AISC 360-10 Eqn H2.1

Design Procedure for Double Angles

The nominal flexural strength M_n is the lowest value obtained according to the limit states of yielding (plastic moment), lateral-torsional buckling and leg local buckling.

$$M_{nx} = \text{Min} \{M_{nx,\text{Yield}}, M_{nx,\text{LTB}}, M_{nx,\text{LLB}}\}$$



For the local buckling check of double angles the provisions of the 2010 code are used. In the 05 code, section F9.3 states Flange local Buckling of Tees and does not refer to double angles.

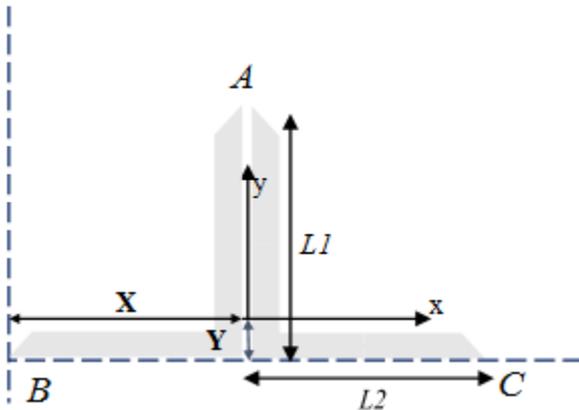
In the case of biaxial bending, or bending and axial force the combined stress ratio must be checked using the provisions of AISC, section H2.

The applied loads are

- P_r Axial
- M_{rx} Bending in x axis
- M_{ry} Bending in y axis

Check:¹

$$\text{Abs} (f_{ra} / F_{ca} + f_{rbw} / F_{cbx} + f_{rby} / F_{cby}) \leq 1.0$$



Double Angles - Critical Points A, B & C

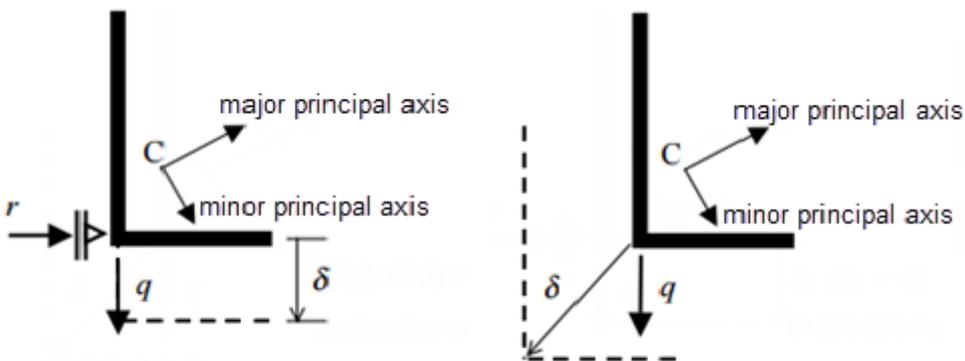
^{1.} AISC 360-10 Eqn H2.1

Deflection of Single Angles

If a single angle is continuously restrained the major geometric moment and major geometric section properties are used in the general equation governing the beam deflection.

However, because single angle geometric axes are not coincident with the principal axes; a different procedure is required if the angle is not continuously restrained, the procedure being as follows:

1. External loads are transposed from the geometric axes to the principal axes.
2. The deflection equations are used to calculate deflections in the principal axes.
3. These principal axis deflections are then transposed to geometric axes again.



Single Angle Deflections (continuously restrained, unrestrained)

References

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3. **American Concrete Institute.** Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete and Commentary. ACI 318-08. **ACI, 2008.**
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