



# Rational design for FRP strengthened reinforced concrete structures in fire

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Rational Approaches for Fire Resistance Design of Concrete Structures

12 April 2015, ACI Spring Convention, Kansas City



The Leverhulme Trust



# Outline



- FRP and High Temperature
- Description of current ACI 440F recommendations
- Description of proposed changes to ACI 440F
- Loading during fire event
- Thermal modelling
- Structural modelling
- Examples

# Examples of FRP



Queen's  
UNIVERSITY

Unidirectional  
glass FRP bar

Carbon FRP  
prestressing  
tendon



Aramid  
FRP grid

Glass fibre  
roving

Carbon  
fibre roving

**High strength fibres in a polymer matrix**

# FRPs & Fire: Primary Concerns



- Fire is recognized as a critical research need for FRP:
  - a primary factor preventing widespread application of FRPs in buildings
- Potential concerns during fire:
  1. Loss of strength and stiffness
  2. Loss of interaction (bond) w/ concrete
  3. Smoke generation and flame spread

# Current 440F Repair Guidelines - Fire



- “The strength of externally bonded FRP systems is assumed to be lost completely... unless it can be demonstrated that the FRP temperature remains below its **critical temperature** (for example, FRP with a fire-protection system)”
- “The critical temperature of an FRP strengthening system should be taken as **the lowest glass-transition temperature  $T_g$**  of the components of the repair system,”
- “The structural member without the FRP system should possess sufficient strength to resist all applicable service loads during a fire” **(1.0DL + 1.0LL)**
- “The fire endurance of FRP-strengthened concrete members may be improved through the use of certain resins, coatings, insulation systems, or other **methods of fire protection**”
- Reference is made to **ACI 216R** guidelines

# Proposed 440F Repair Guidelines - Fire



- “The strength of externally bonded FRP systems is assumed to be lost completely in a fire, unless it can be demonstrated that the FRP **will remain effective for the required duration of the fire** (for example, FRP with a fire-protection system).”
- “**In most cases**, the structural member without the FRP system should possess sufficient strength to resist applicable service loads during a fire” **(1.2DL + 0.5LL + 0.2SL + 1.0A<sub>k</sub>)**
- “The resistance should be computed for the time period required by the member’s fire-resistance rating—for example, a 2-hour fire rating—and **should not account for the contribution of the FRP system unless the continued effectiveness of the FRP can be proven through testing.**”
- “Until better information on the properties of FRP at high temperature is available, the **critical temperature can be taken as the lowest  $T_g$**  of the components of the system.”

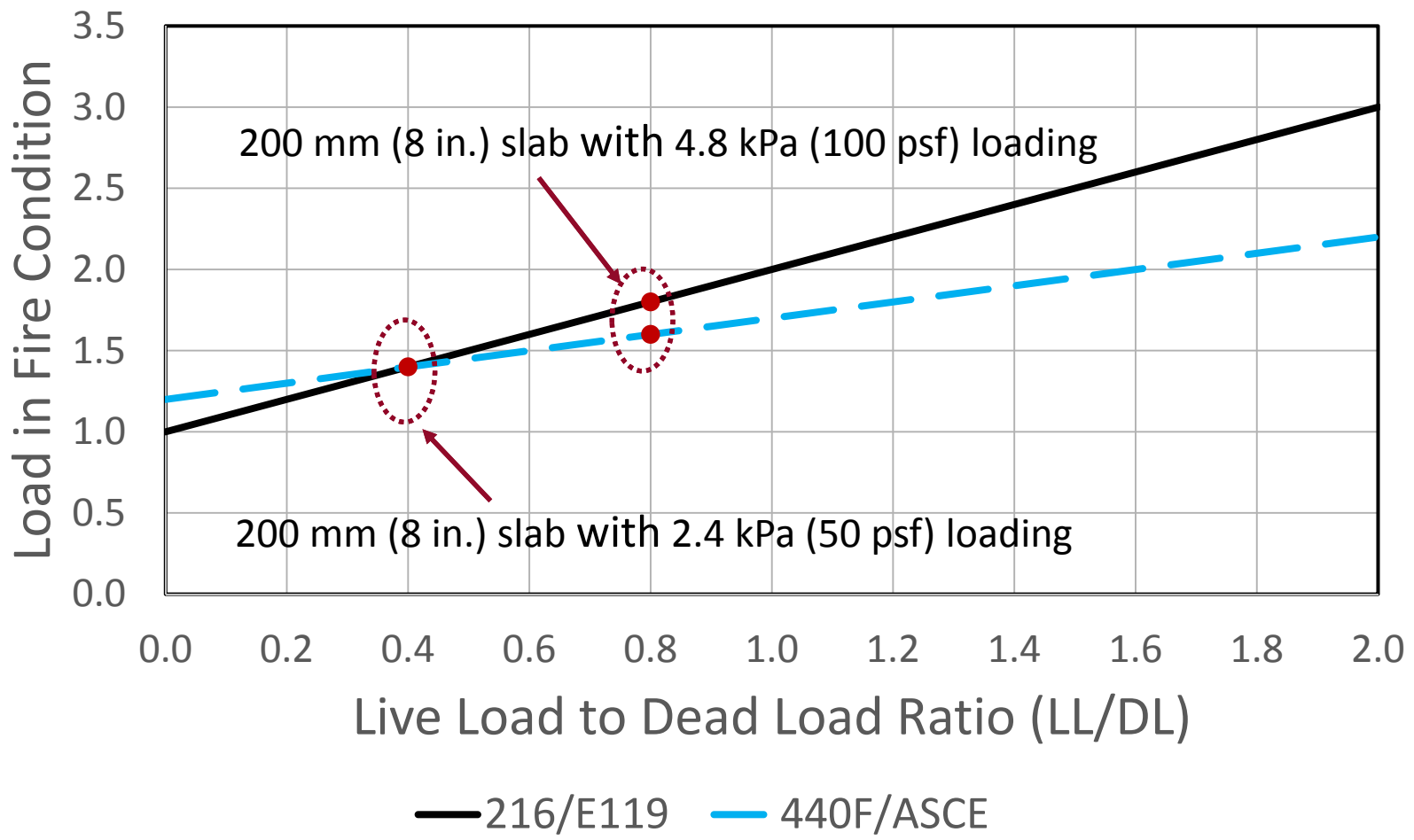
# Rationale for new load factors



- Old load factors for fire (1.0DL + 1.0LL) are based on ASTM E119 provisions for fire testing (**no statistical basis**)
- New ASCE 7 load factors are **based on probabilistic studies** and are applicable for new structures (Ellingwood)<sup>1</sup>
  - New loads have less than 5% probability of being exceeded in a given year
  - Average live load is 0.6 kPa or 12 psf (approx. 0.25 LL)

<sup>1</sup> Ellingwood, private communication with Tarek Alkhrdaji (August 2014)

# Comparison of Loading Combinations





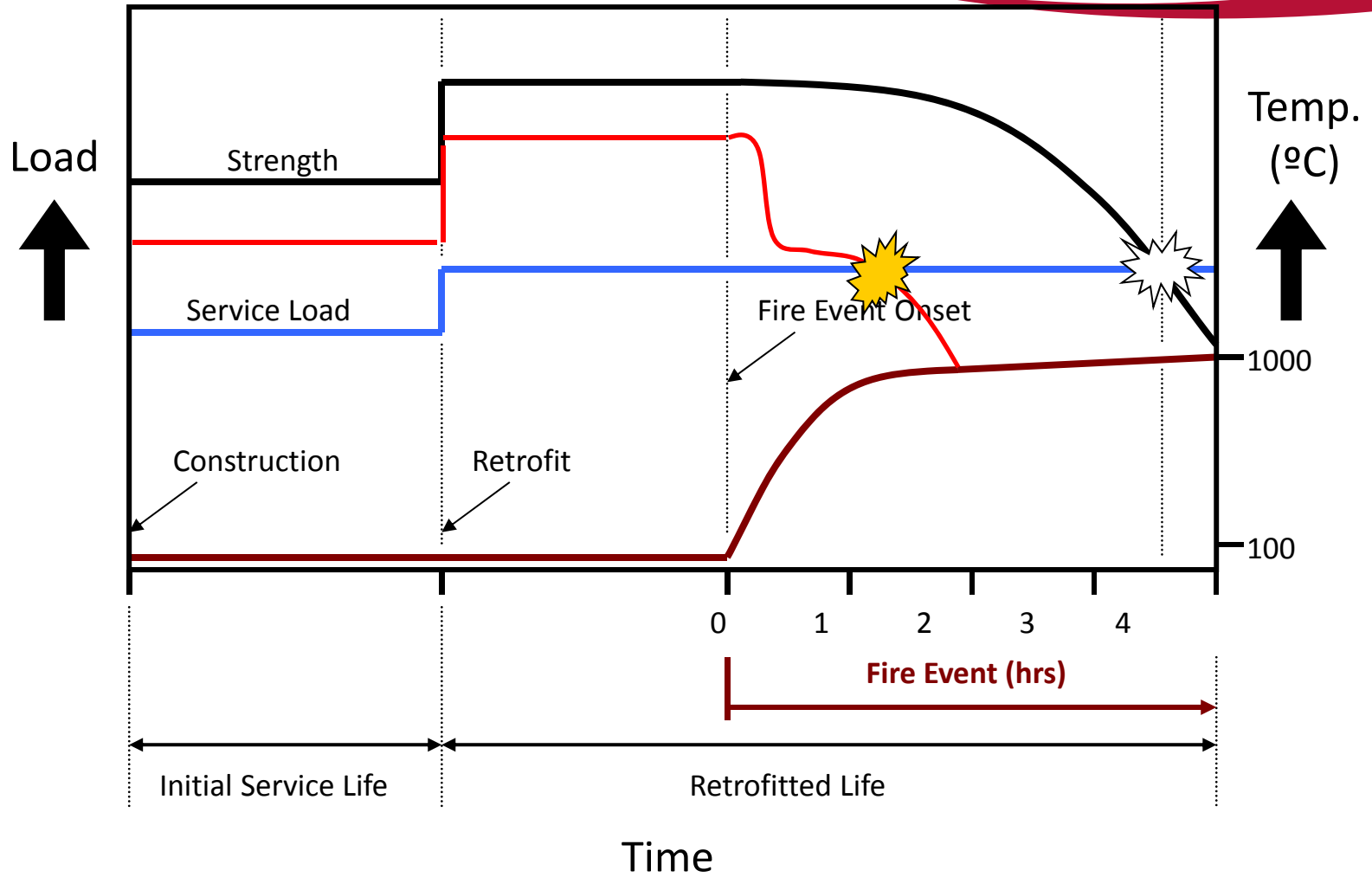
# Procedure for finding fire endurance

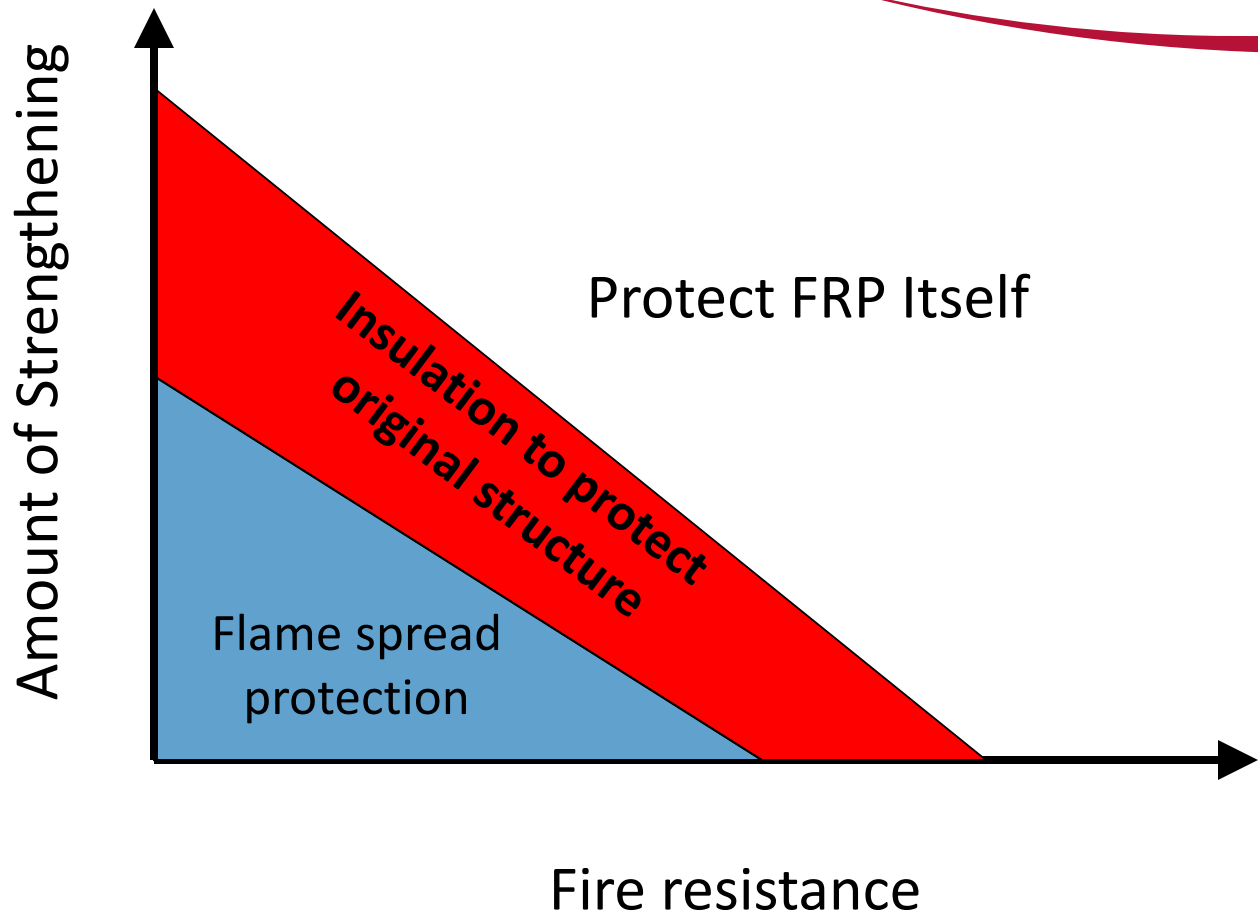


Necessary analysis steps:

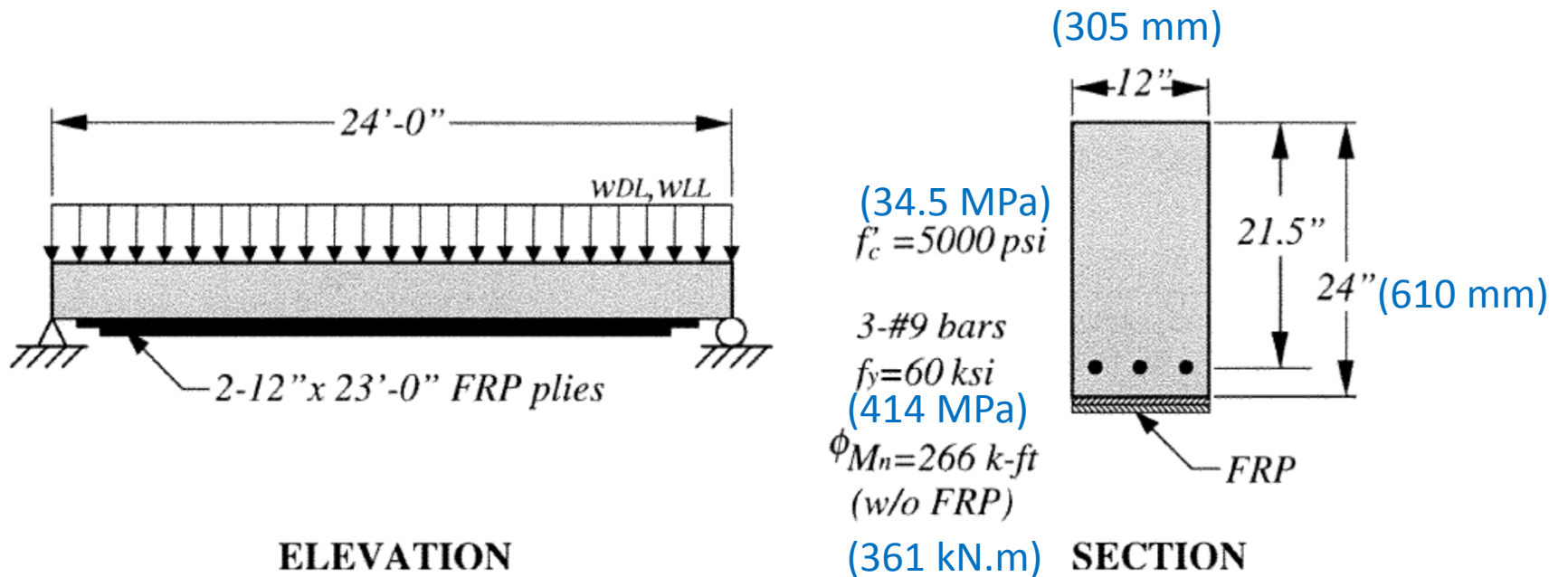
- 1. Find temperatures** in member at different times during the fire exposure
  - Guides (ACI, Eurocodes), test data, analytical models, numerical tools
- 2. Evaluate reductions in strength** and modulus of the materials (steel, concrete, FRP) depending on temperature – in most cases the FRP will not contribute
  - ACI 216, structural Eurocodes, research literature, testing
- 3. Calculate member strength**
  - Classical plane sections analysis
  - Simplified methods (e.g. Eurocode 500°C Isotherm Method)
  - Finite element methods

# Philosophy for Fire-Safety





# Design example (after ACI 440.2R)



$$A_s = 3.0 \text{ in}^2 \text{ (1935 mm}^2\text{)}$$

# Analysis Approach and Assumptions

## 1. Find temperatures at key

- FRP – determined from furnace gas
- Steel reinforcement – determined
- Concrete compressive stress block

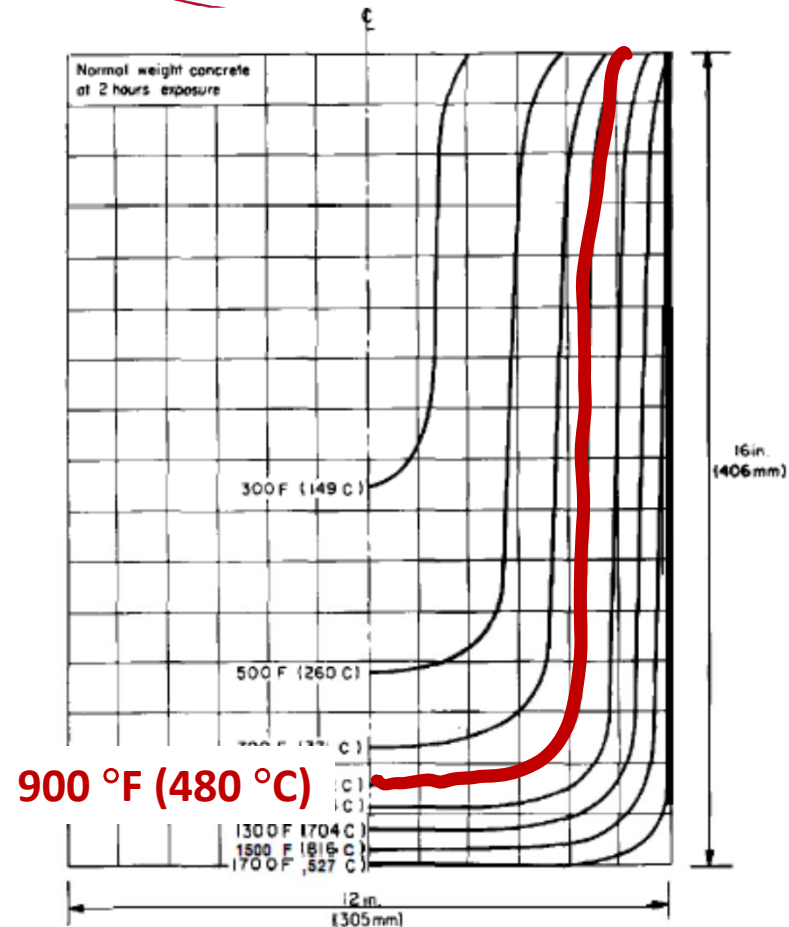


Fig. 7.2.10-Temperature distribution in normal weight concrete rectangular unit at 2 hr of fire exposure

ACI 216 - 2 hours

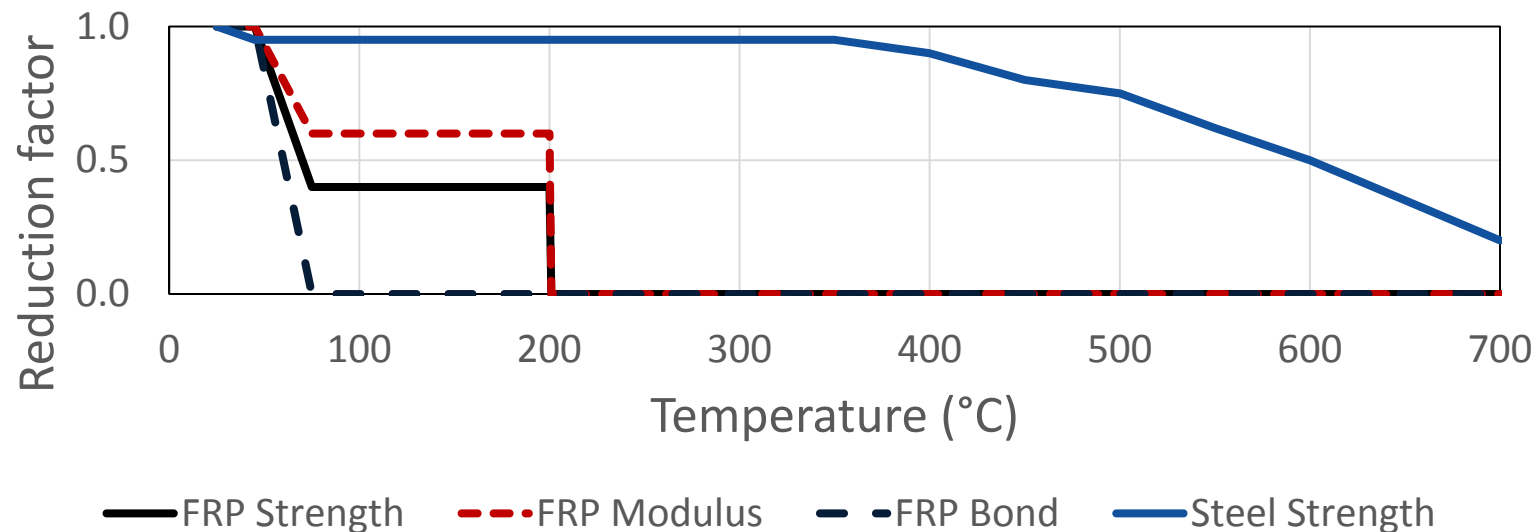
# Analysis Approach and Assumptions



## 1. Find temperatures at key locations

- FRP – determined from furnace gas temperature
- Steel reinforcement – determined from ACI 216
- Concrete compressive stress block – determined from ACI 216

## 2. Evaluate reductions in material strengths



# Analysis Approach and Assumptions



## 1. Find temperatures at key locations

- FRP – determined from furnace gas temperature
- Steel reinforcement – determined from ACI 216
- Concrete compressive stress block – determined from ACI 216

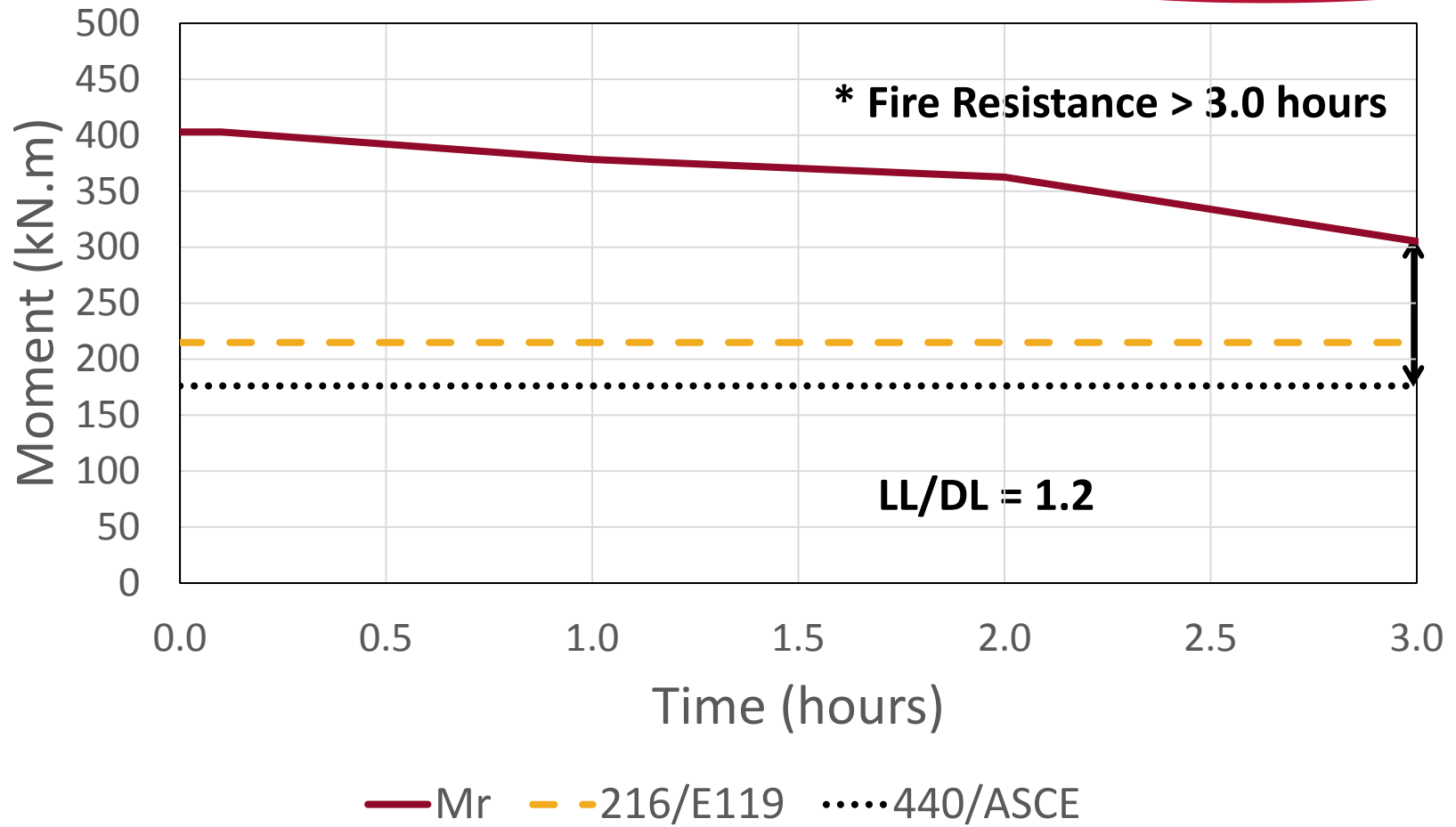
## 2. Evaluate reductions in material strengths

- FRP – determined from Green et al. (2014) Bisby et al. (2005)
- Steel Reinforcement – determined from ACI 216
- Concrete compressive stress block – determined from Eurocodes

## 3. Calculate member strength

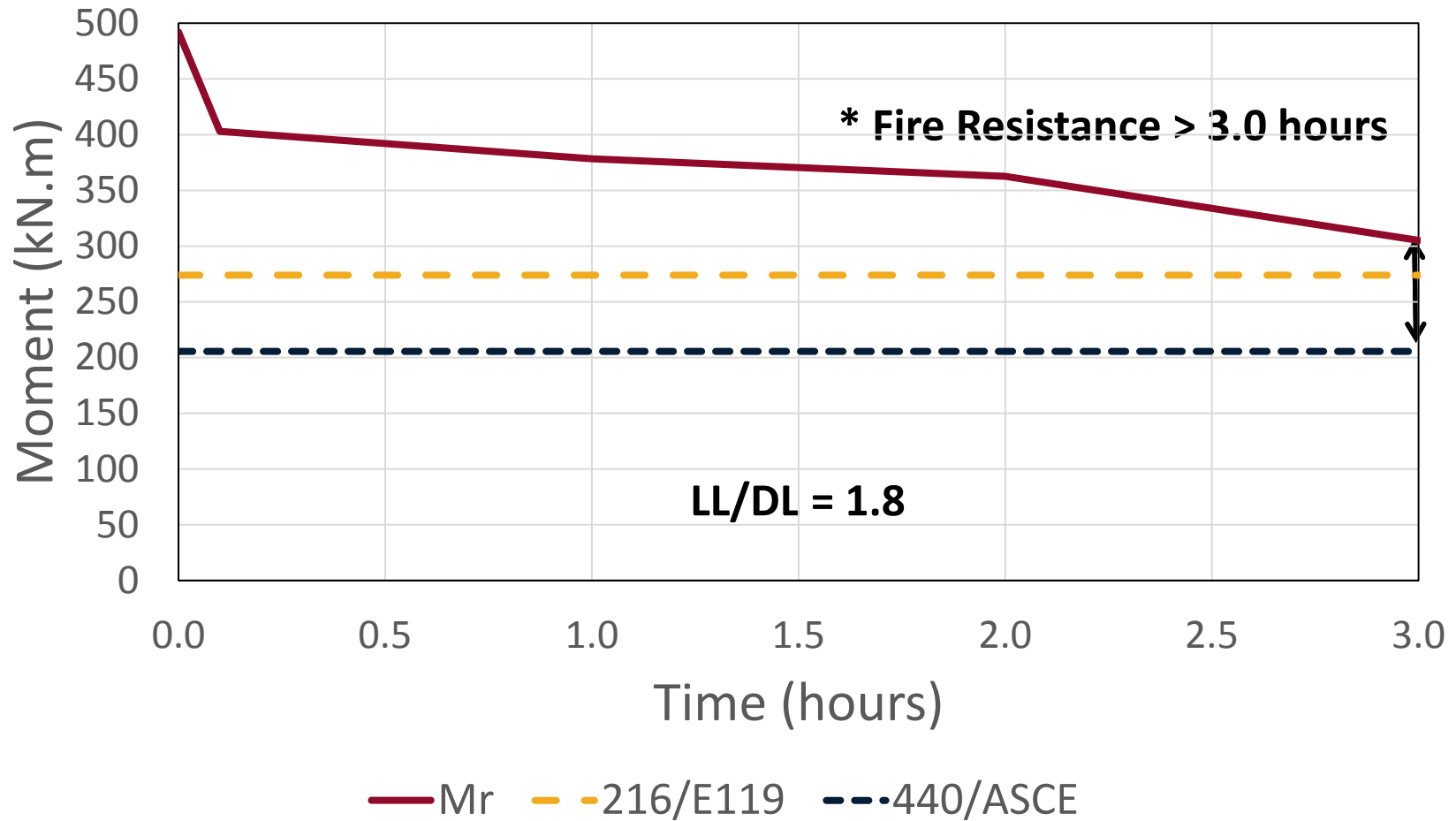
- Classical plane sections analysis assuming full strength in 'residual' section
- Eurocode '500°C Isotherm Method' used to treat compressive stress block width

# Unstrengthened beam in fire

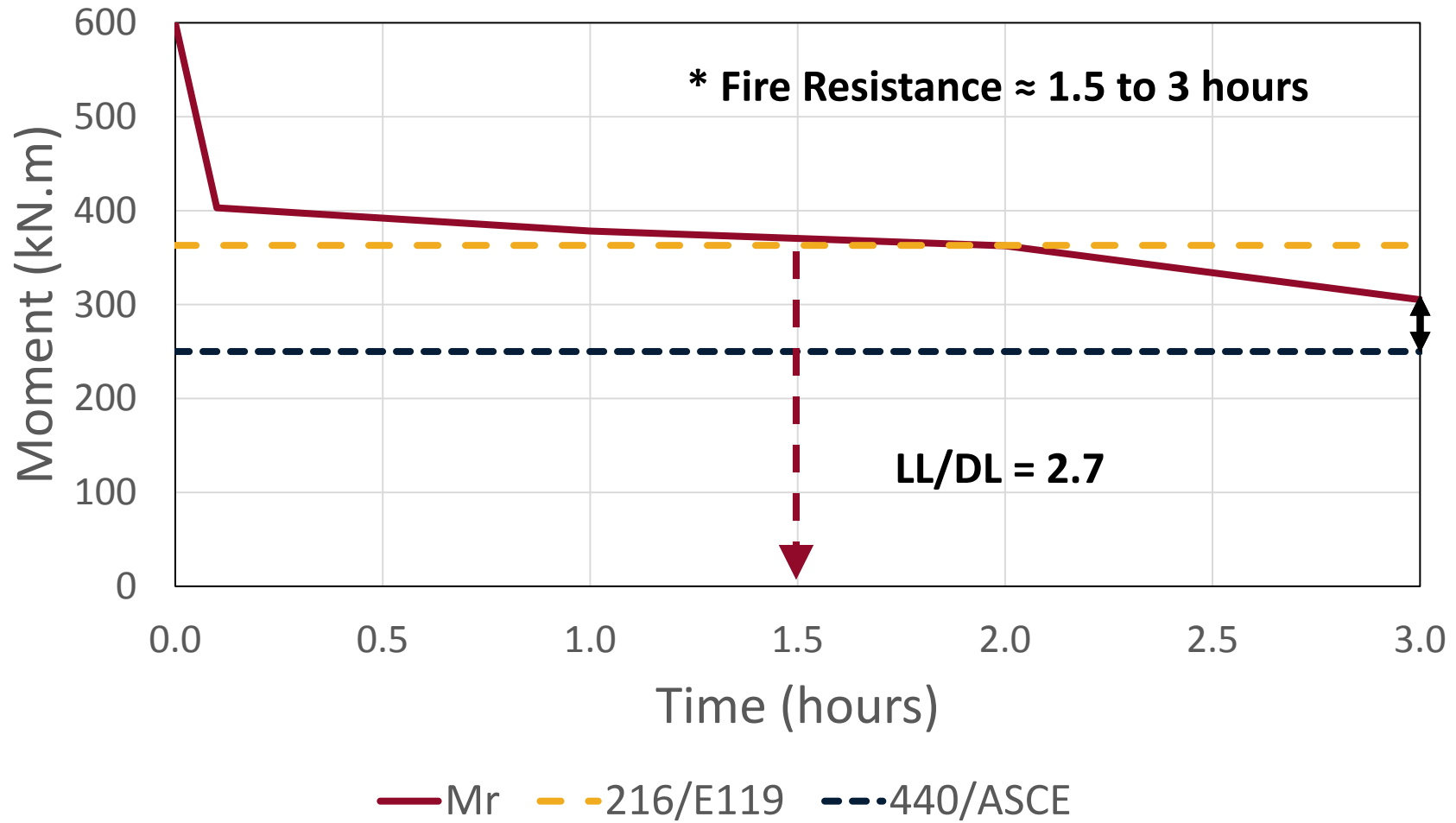




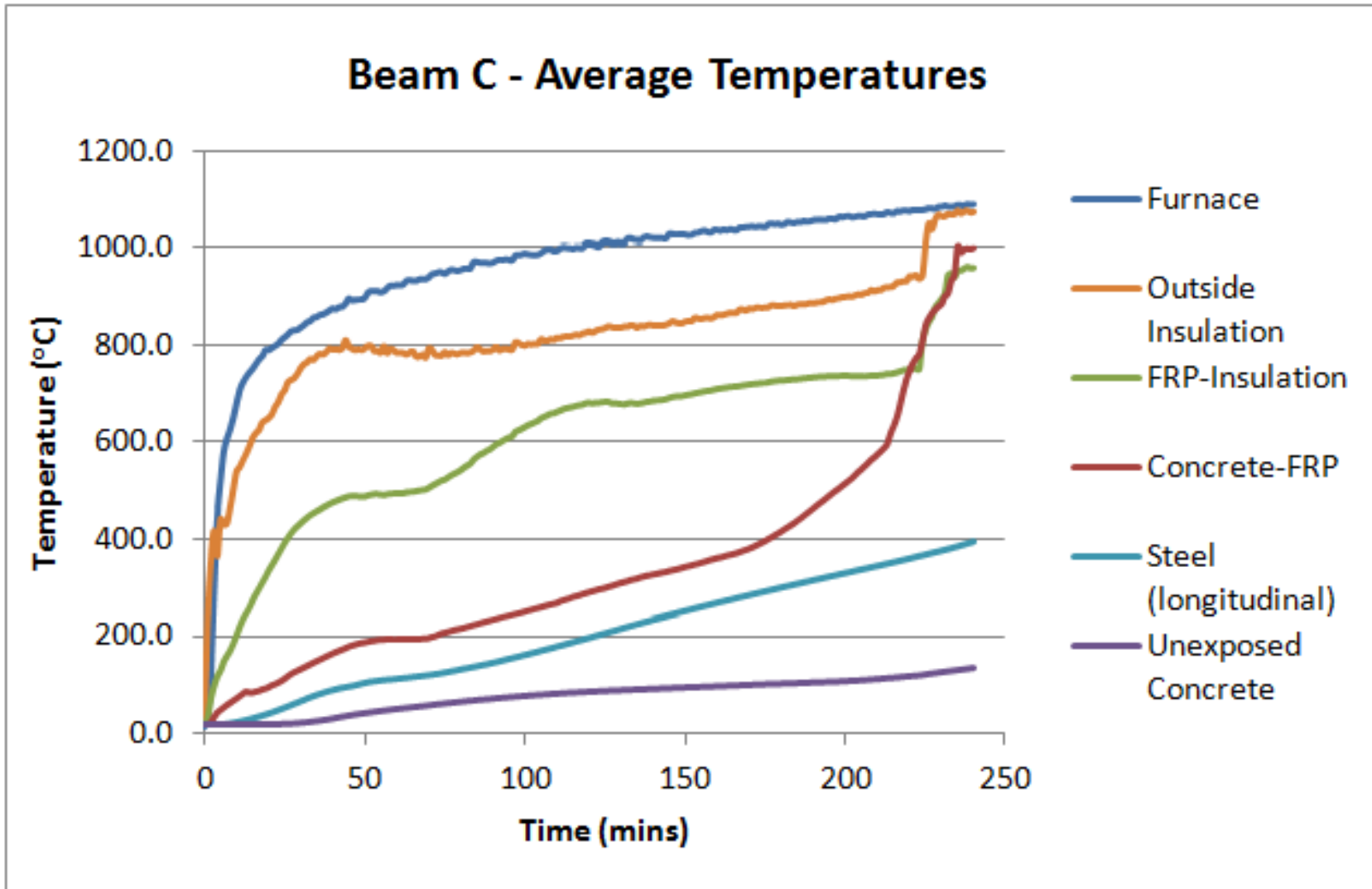
# FRP Strengthened beam in fire



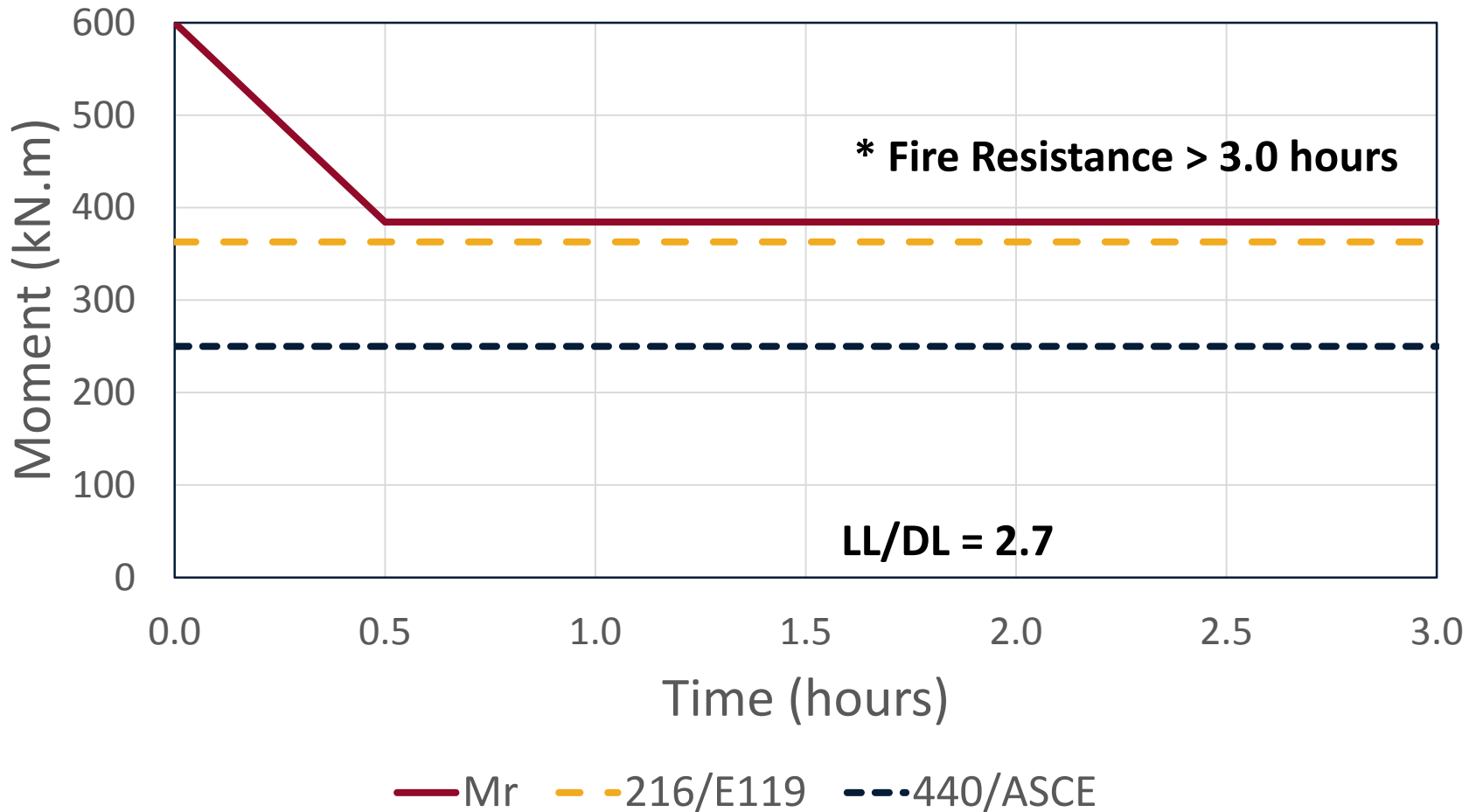
# Beam FRP strengthened by 50% in fire



# Insulation - Fire Test: Beam C (15 mm)



# Beam strengthened by 50% in fire – with insulation



# Conclusions



- ACI 440.2R is proposing to modify the load demand equation for the fire limit state to harmonize with ACI 562 and ASCE 7

$$1.0DL + 1.0LL$$



$$1.2DL + 0.5LL + 0.2SL + 1.0A_k$$

- Practical guidance has been given on how to determine the fire resistance of FRP strengthened beams, with or without supplemental fire insulation
- In most cases it is possible for FRP strengthened concrete structural elements to achieve satisfactory fire resistances

# Acknowledgements



- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
- Leverhulme Trust



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# Questions?

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