



**Analysis and Design of Reinforced Cast-in-Place
Concrete Diaphragms**

October 16, 2017

Diaphragm Design

using strut- and-tie analysis

1. Background
2. Case Study Introduction
3. Example 'traditional' diaphragm design
4. Example of Alternate design approach using strut and tie
5. Conclusions



Background

Uncertainty in Current Diaphragm Stiffness and Design

Table 4. Stiffness parameters for Upper Bound and Lower Bound Models

Stiffness Parameters	UB	LB
Diaphragms at the podium and below		
$E_c I_{eff}$	0.5	0.20 to 0.25
$G_c A$	0.5	0.20 to 0.25

Table 5. Stiffness parameters for Upper Bound and Lower Bound Models

Stiffness Parameters	UB	LB
Diaphragms at the podium and below		
$E_c I_g$	0.25	0.10
$G_c A$	0.5	0.25

100% DRAFT

Floor diaphragms – Seismic bulwark or Achilles' heel

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2014 NZSEE
Conference

ABSTRACT: Floor diaphragms form a critical component of seismic resistant buildings, but unfortunately, in the main their analysis and design in New Zealand leaves much to be desired. No worse example exists than the CTV Building in Christchurch. Despite the critical importance of diaphragms, there is a paucity of code provisions and design guidance relating to them.

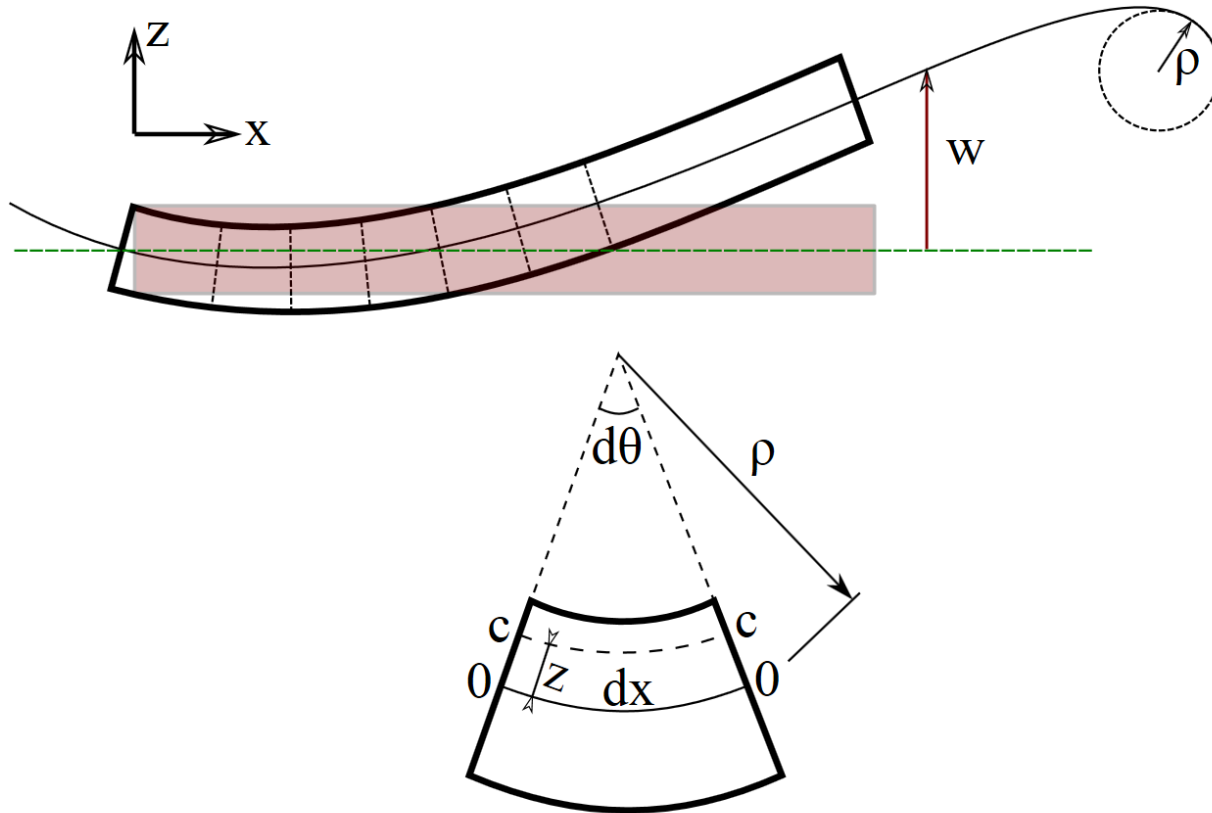
Using generic examples, the author describes a number of common diaphragm design deficiencies. These include diaphragms where valid load paths do not exist; diaphragms where the floors are not properly connected to the lateral load resisting elements, diaphragms that lack adequate flexural capacity and where re-entrant corners are not properly accounted for, and transfer diaphragms into which the reactions from the walls above cannot be properly introduced or transmitted.

Three main types of diaphragm action are discussed – ‘inertial,’ ‘transfer’ and ‘compatibility.’ These are, respectively, the direct inertial load on a floor that must be carried back to the lateral load resisting elements, the transfer forces that occur when major changes in floor area and lateral load resisting structure occur between storeys, and the compatibility forces that must exist to force compatible displacements between incompatible elements, such as shear walls or braced frames and moment frames, or as a result of redistribution.

The author presents a simple Truss Method that allows complex diaphragms to be analysed for multiple load cases, providing accurate force distributions without the multiple models that rigorous Strut and Tie methods would require.

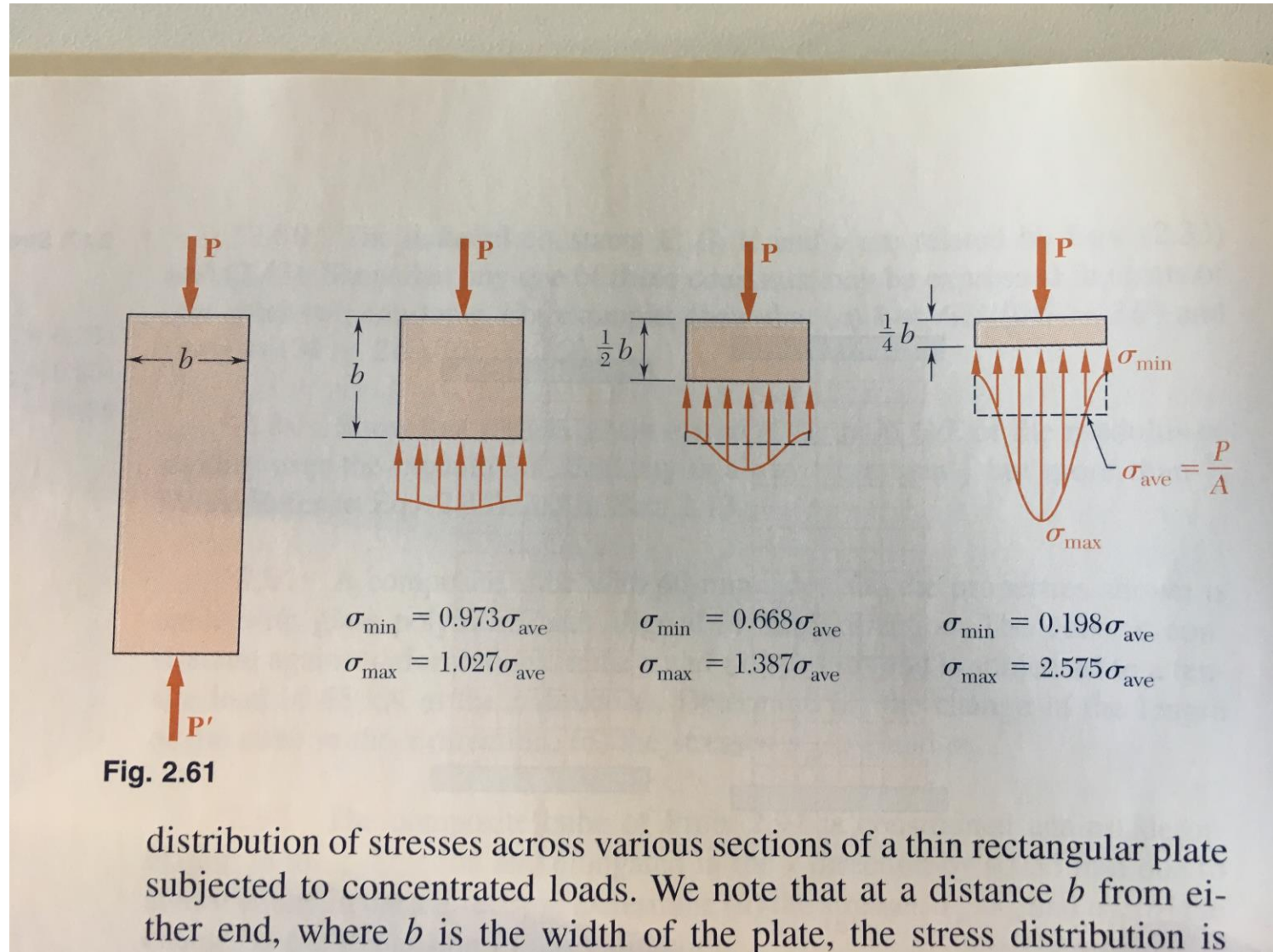
Euler-Bernoulli Beam Theory

Plane Sections Remain Plane



St. Venant's principle

Mechanics of Materials, Fourth Edition

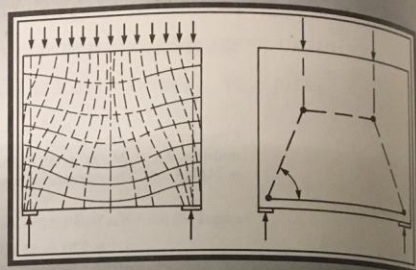


Strut-and-Tie method

- The Strut-and-Tie considers all load effects (Moment, Axial, Shear) simultaneously
- The model provides a rational approach by representing a complex structural behavior with an appropriate simplified truss of 1-D members
- MacGregor's 1992 book on Concrete Design provide one of the early and detailed examples of how to implement Strut-and-Tie.
- The method was incorporated into the 2002 version of ACI-318 in Appendix A

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Discontinuity Regions and Strut-and-Tie Models



18-1 INTRODUCTION

Definition of Discontinuity Regions

Structural members may be divided into portions called *B-regions*, in which beam theory applies, including linear strains and so on, and other portions called *discontinuity region*, or *D-regions*, adjacent to discontinuities or disturbances, where beam theory does not apply. D-regions can be *geometric discontinuities*, adjacent to holes, abrupt changes in cross section, or direction, or *statical discontinuities*, which are regions near concentrated loads and reactions. Corbels, dapped ends, and joints are affected by both statical and geometric discontinuities. Up to this point, most of this book has dealt with B-regions.

For many years, D-region design has been by "good practice," by rule of thumb and empirical. Three landmark papers by Professor Schlaich of the University of Stuttgart and his coworkers [18-1], [18-2], [18-3] have changed this. This chapter will present rules and guidance for the design of D-regions, based largely on these and other recent papers.

Saint Venant's Principle and Extent of D-regions

St. Venant's principle suggests that the localized effect of a disturbance dies out about one member-depth from the point of the disturbance. On this basis, D-regions are assumed to extend one member-depth each way from the discontinuity. This principle is conceptual and not precise. However, it serves as a quantitative guide in selecting dimensions of D-regions.

Figure 18-1 shows D-regions in a number of structures, some of which have B-regions (bending regions) between two D-regions. Figure 18-2 shows examples of D-regions. D-regions in Fig. 18-2b and c extend one member-width from the discontinuity as suggested by St. Venant's principle. Occasionally, D-regions are assumed to fill the overlapped region common to two members meeting at a joint. This definition is used in the traditional definition of a joint region.

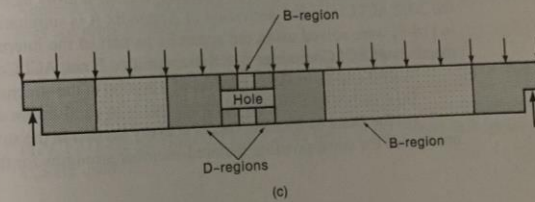
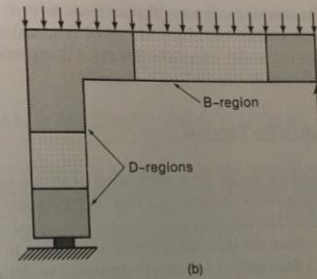
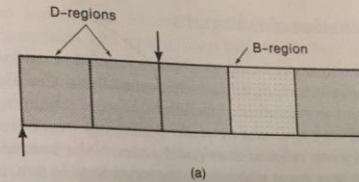
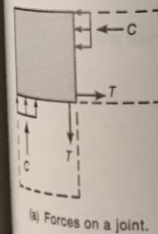
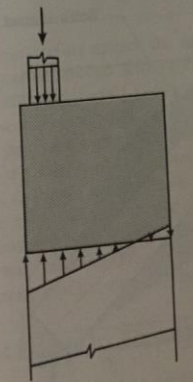


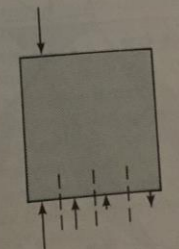
Fig. 18-1
B-regions and D-regions.



(a) Forces on a joint.



(b) Stresses on boundaries.



(c) Forces on boundaries.

Fig. 18-2
Forces on boundaries of D-regions.

DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS AND METHODS
 FOR REINFORCED CONCRETE FLOOR
 DIAPHRAGMS
 SUBJECTED TO SEISMIC FORCES, PhD Thesis,
 Debra Gardiner, University of Canterbury,
 February, 2011.

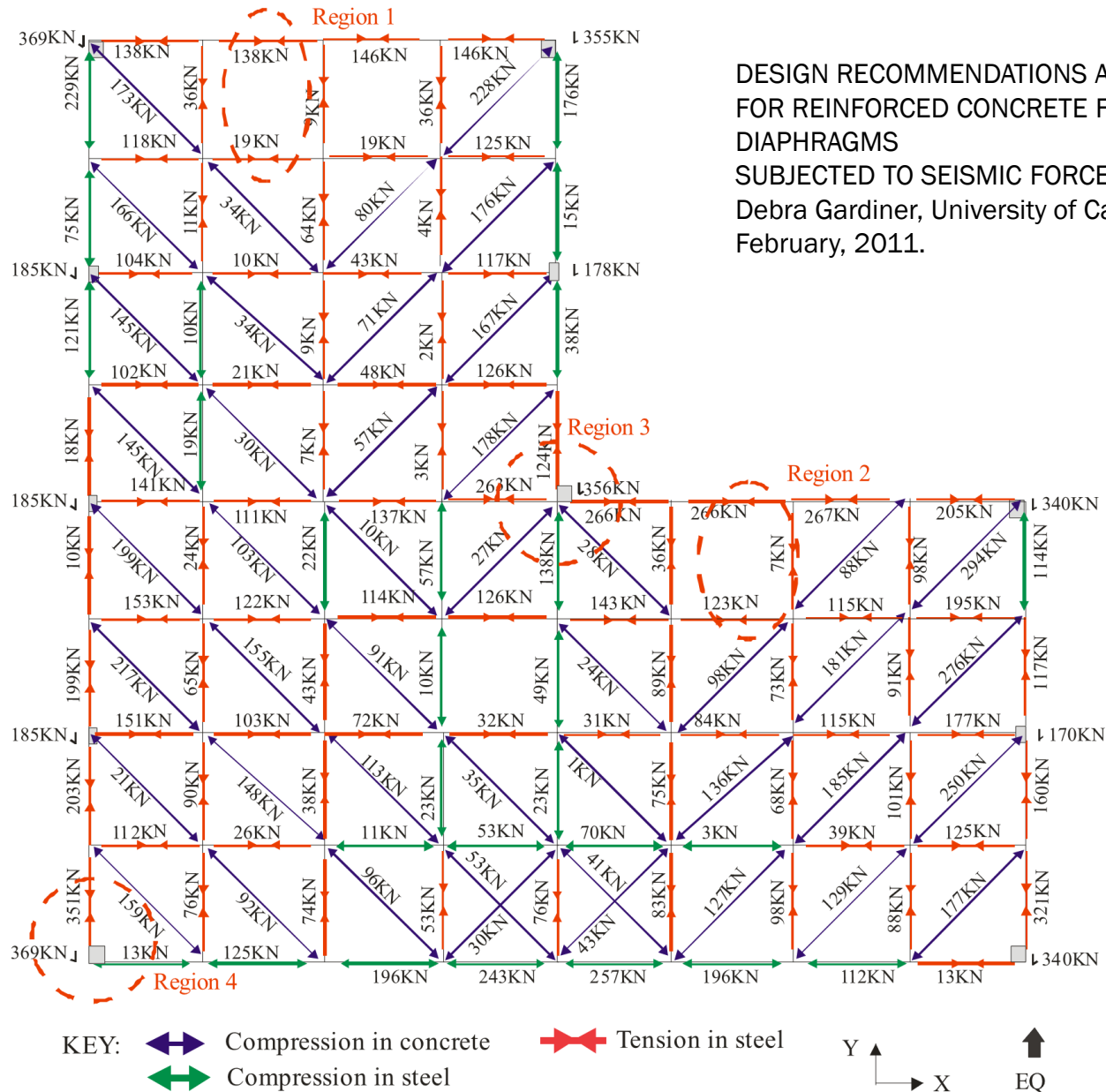


Figure 8-23 Strut and tie solution for L-shaped floor 3.5x3.5m mesh

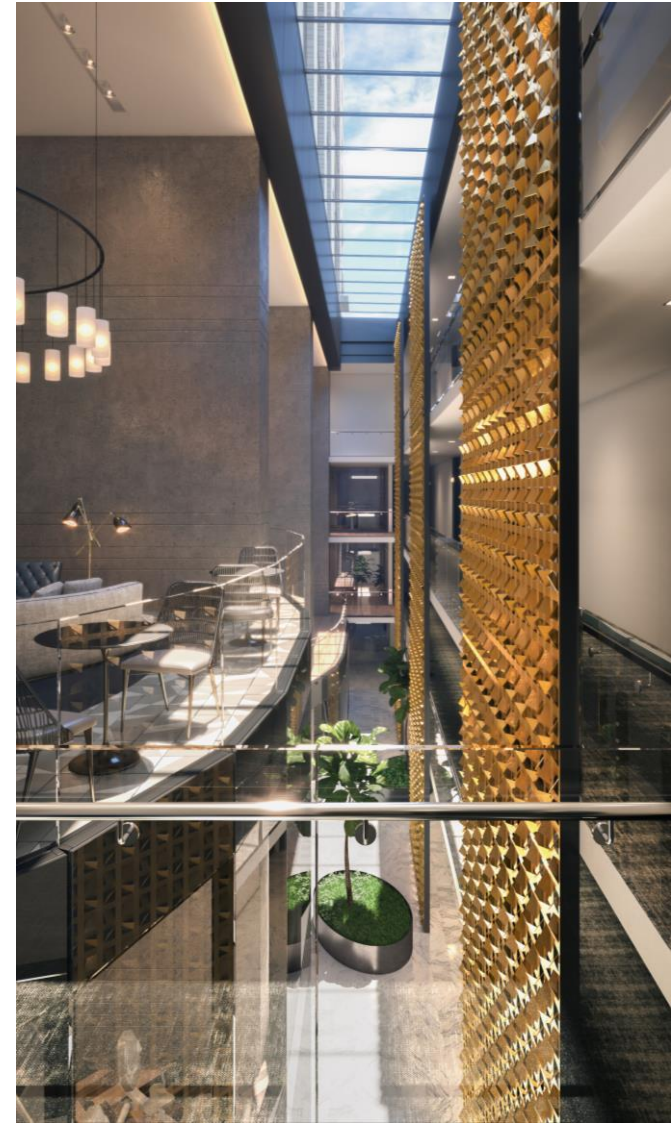
Case Study

Perla on Broadway

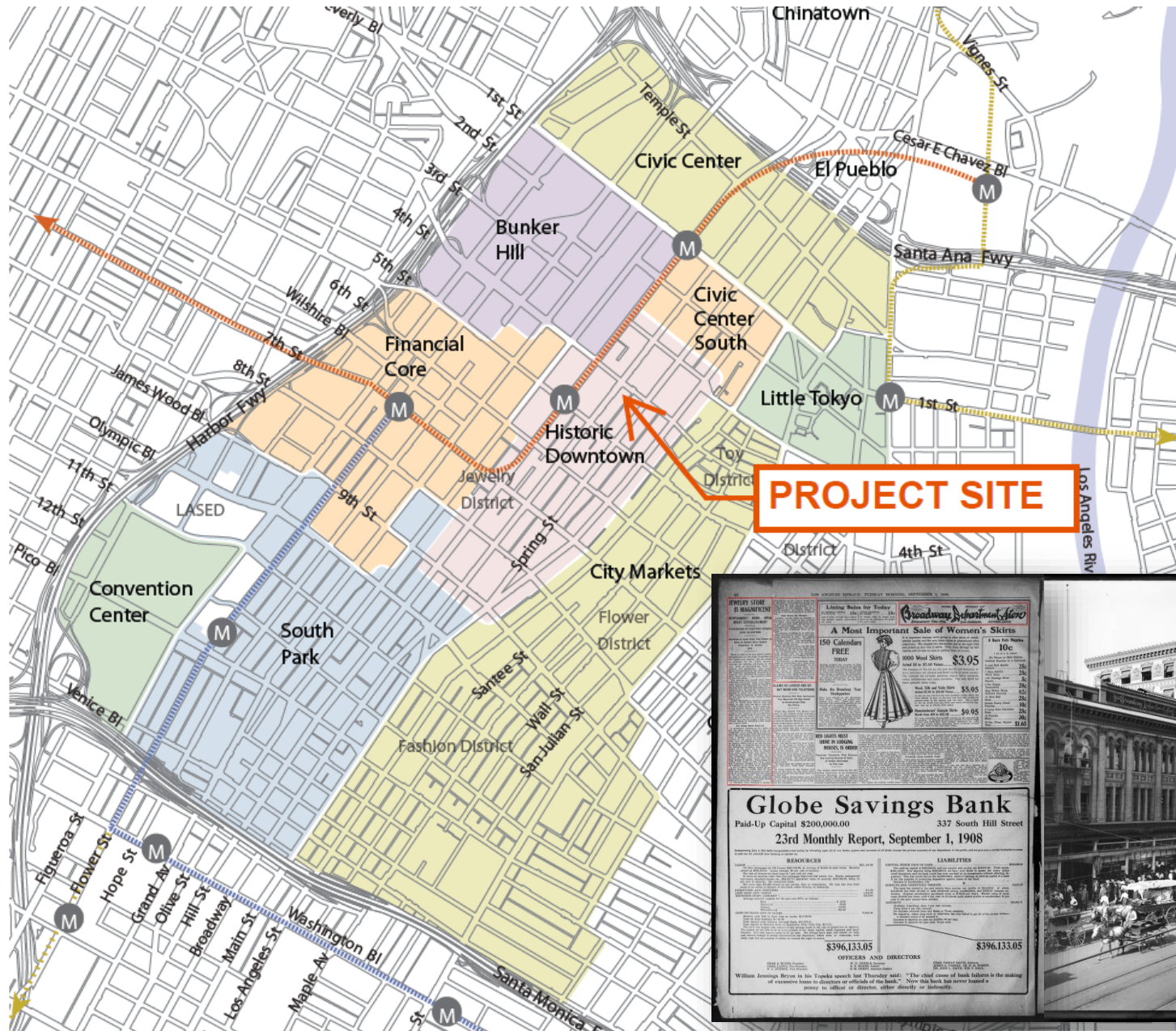
4th & Broadway, Downtown Los Angeles



- Guided by strict planning constraints in the historic core of downtown Los Angeles
- 35-story tower with
- Tall 11-story Podium
- Large 4-story Atrium
- Creates unique challenges for diaphragm design.
- Including large openings and transfer forces



Historic 4th and Broadway



ROADWAY DEPARTMENT STORE
A Most Important Sale of Women's Skirts
150 Calendars FREE
2000 Wool Skirts \$3.05
1000 Wool Skirts \$5.05
1000 Wool Skirts \$6.05

Globe Savings Bank
Paid-Up Capital \$200,000.00 337 South Hill Street
23rd Monthly Report, September 1, 1908

RESOURCES	LIABILITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposits Real Estate Loans Investments Other Assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposits Loans Other Liabilities
\$396,133.05	\$396,133.05

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

William Joseph Jones is the Tribune's search for "thoroughly good." "The chief cause of bank failures is the making of excessive loans to directors or officials of the bank." "Now this bank has never loaned a penny to director or director, either directly or indirectly."



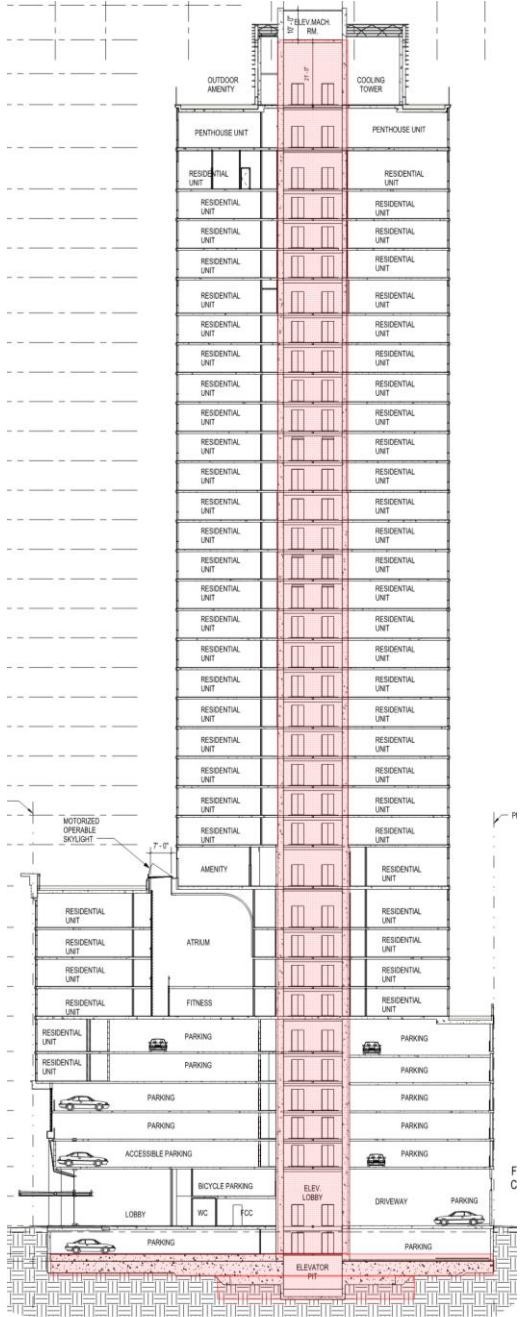
Historic 4th and Broadway



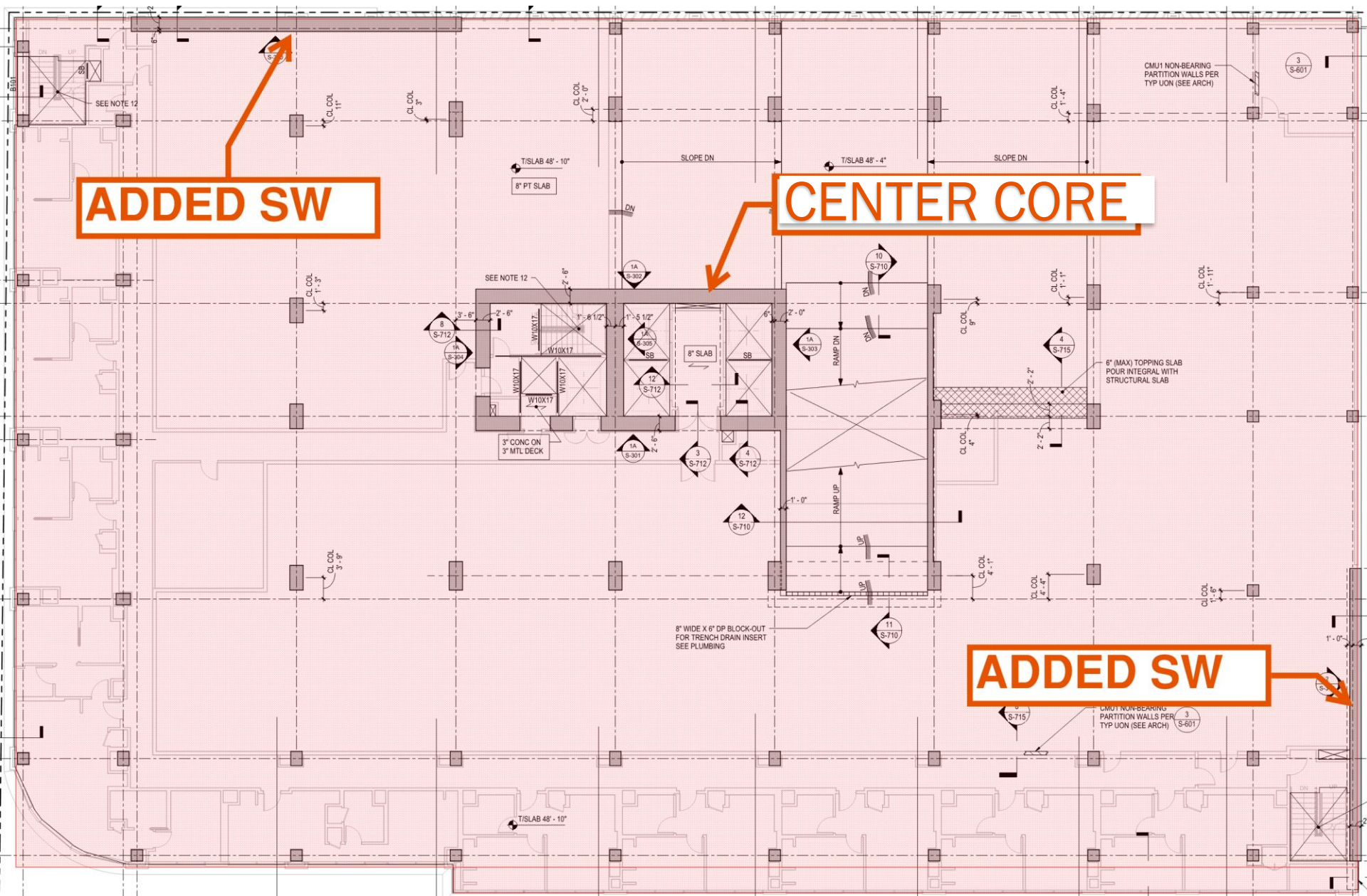
Tower Section

Tower Height = 380'

Podium Height = 115'

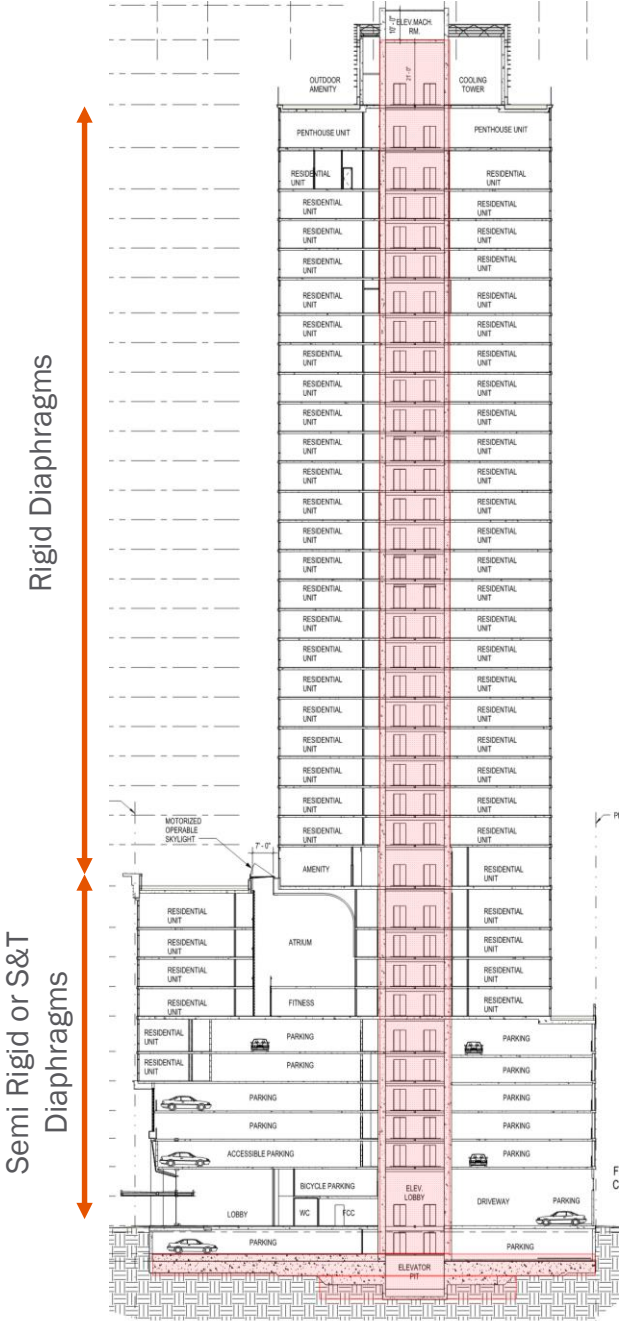


Podium Floor Plate



Diaphragm Design

Tower Section



Rigid Diaphragm vs Semi Rigid or Simple Truss Diaphragm

Rigid Diaphragm

Forces extracted at vertical elements and a diaphragm load path is assumed or modeled outside of the primary analysis program

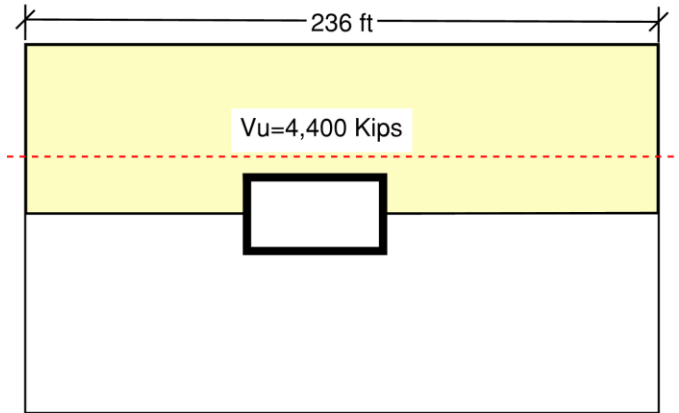
Semi Rigid or S&T

Diaphragm forces are extracted from within the diaphragm using section cuts or axial S&T forces

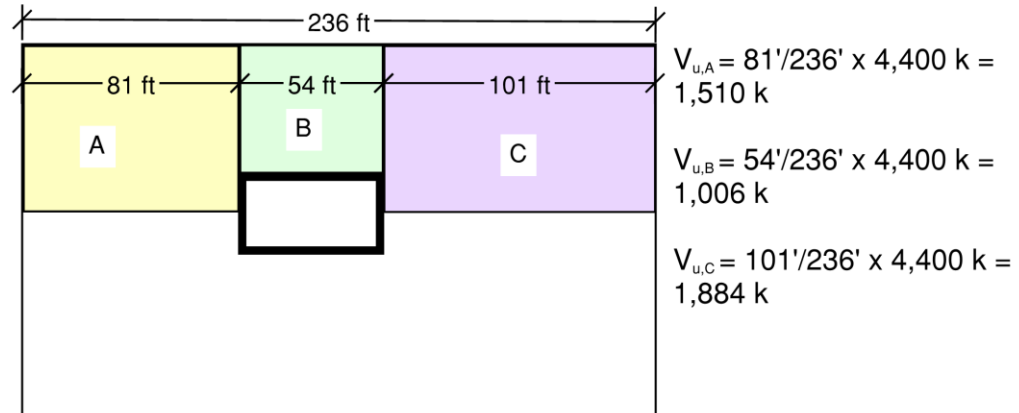
Traditional Diaphragm Design

Detailed calculation for slab-Wall connection at GL 3.1

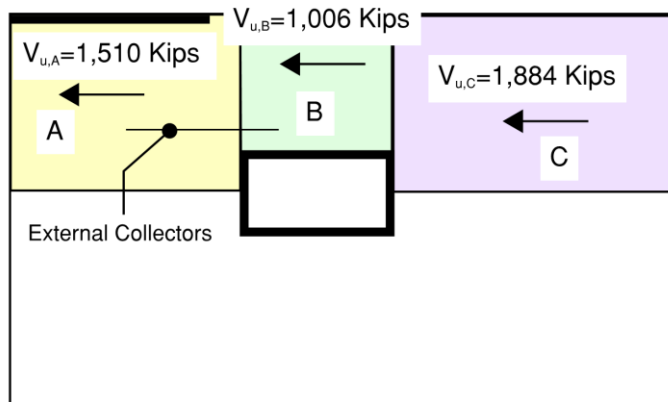
Slab moves to the left ←



Assume uniform distribution of shear force, the (3) slab panels proportionally receive forces:



Slab moves to the left ←



PANEL A

Post-tensioning tendons within the slab transfers:

$$0.4 \times 16 \text{ k/ft} \times 270 \text{ ksi} / 175 \text{ ksi} \times 48' = 474 \text{ k}$$

Remaining force is $1,510 - 474 = 1,036$ k, resisted by external collectors.

$$\text{Use (12) \# 10. Tension force: } 12 \times 1.27 \text{ in}^2 \times 1.17 \times 60 \text{ ksi} = 1,069 \text{ k} > 1,036 \text{ k} \quad \checkmark$$

PANEL C

Force delivered to shear walls through direct bearing :

$$0.4 \times 1.3 \times 5.5 \text{ ksi} \times 8" \times 60" = 1,372 \text{ k} < 1,884 \text{ k}$$

Remaining force is $1,884 - 1,372 = 512$ k, transferred to panel B as panel C pushes on it.

PANEL B

- Total shear force transferred to slab-wall dowels at panel B is :

$$1,006 + \underbrace{(474 + 1,036)}_{\text{from A}} + \underbrace{(512)}_{\text{from C}} = 3,028 \text{ k}$$

Over 54 ft of slab-wall interface, creates stress 56 k/ft < 65 k/ft corresponding to

$8 \sqrt{f'_{c,exp}}$ within the 8" thick slab. Provided are dowels 2 x #6 @ 6" minus #5 @ 6" for gravity, is $2 \times 62 - 44 = 80 \text{ k/ft} > 56 \text{ k/ft}$ ✓

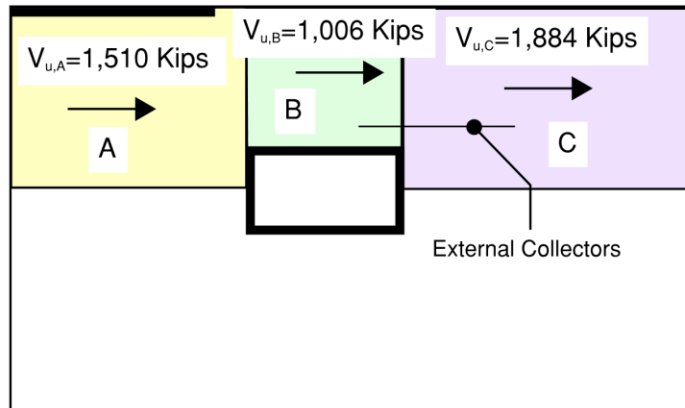
- Total shear force received by panel B is :

$$1,006 + \underbrace{(474)}_{\text{From A}} + \underbrace{(512)}_{\text{from C}} = 1,992 \text{ k}$$

Over 54 ft length of panel B, it is 37 k/ft > 16 k/ft which is the shear strength of unreinforced concrete.

Place shear reinforcement #5 @ 12" corresponding to a shear capacity of 22 k/ft. Total shear capacity is $16 + 22 = 38 \text{ k/ft} > 37 \text{ k/ft}$.

Slab moves to the right →



PANEL A

Force delivered to shear walls through direct bearing is :

$$0.4 \times 1.3 \times 5.5 \text{ ksi} \times 8" \times 60" = 1,372 \text{ k} < 1,510 \text{ k}$$

Remaining force is $1,510 - 1,372 = 138 \text{ k}$, transferred to panel B as panel C pushes on it.

PANEL C

Post-Tensioning tendons within the slab Transfers:

$$0.4 \times 16 \text{ k/ft} \times 270 \text{ ksi} / 175 \text{ ksi} \times 48' = 474 \text{ k}$$

Remaining force is $1,884 - 474 = 1,410 \text{ k}$, resisted by external collectors.

At L2-Use (16) #10. Tension force: $16 \times 1.27 \text{ in}^2 \times 1.17 \times 60 \text{ ksi} = 1,426 \text{ k}$.

L3-Use (12) #10

L5-Use (14) #10

L4-Use (12) #10

L6-Use (14) #10

PANEL B

- Total shear force transferred to slab-wall dowels at panel B is :

$$1,006 + (138) + (474 + 1,410) = 3,028 \text{ k}$$

----- -----
from A from C

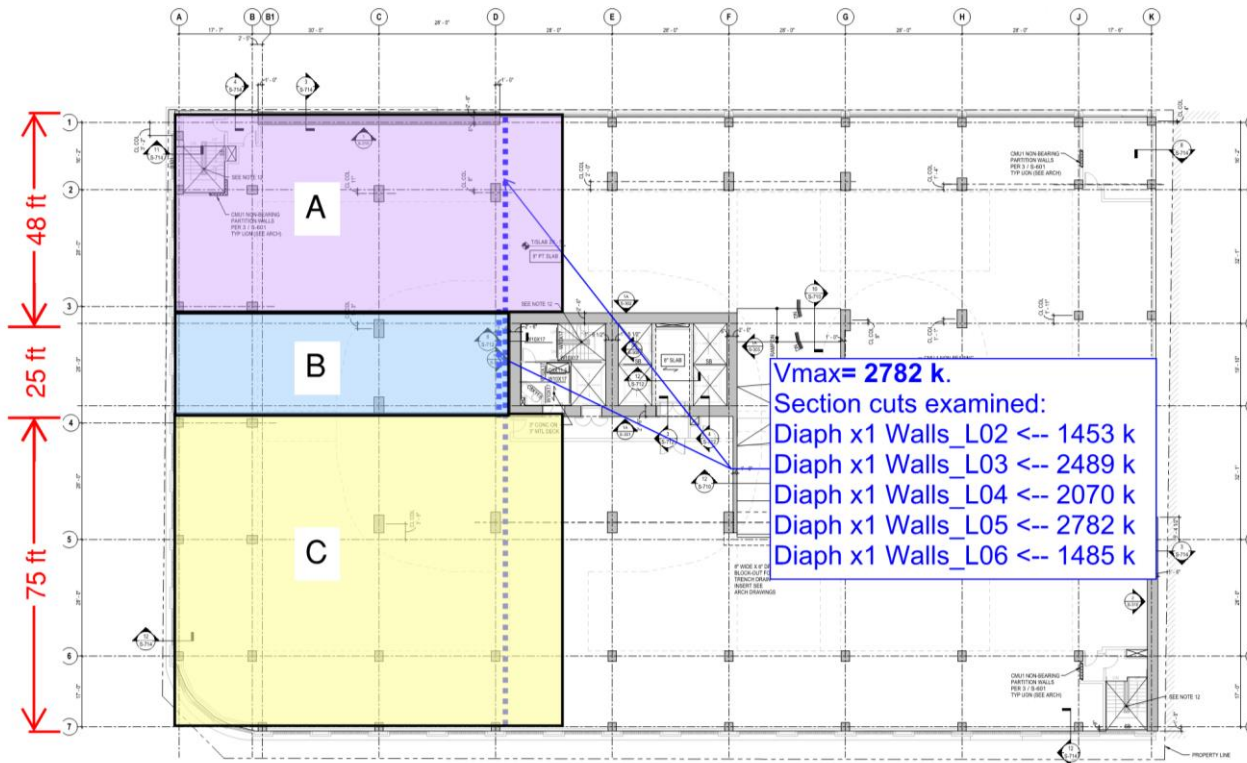
See corresponding calculations for opposite slab move.

- Total shear force received by panel B is :

$$1,006 + (138) + (474) = 1,618 \text{ k}$$

----- -----
From A from C

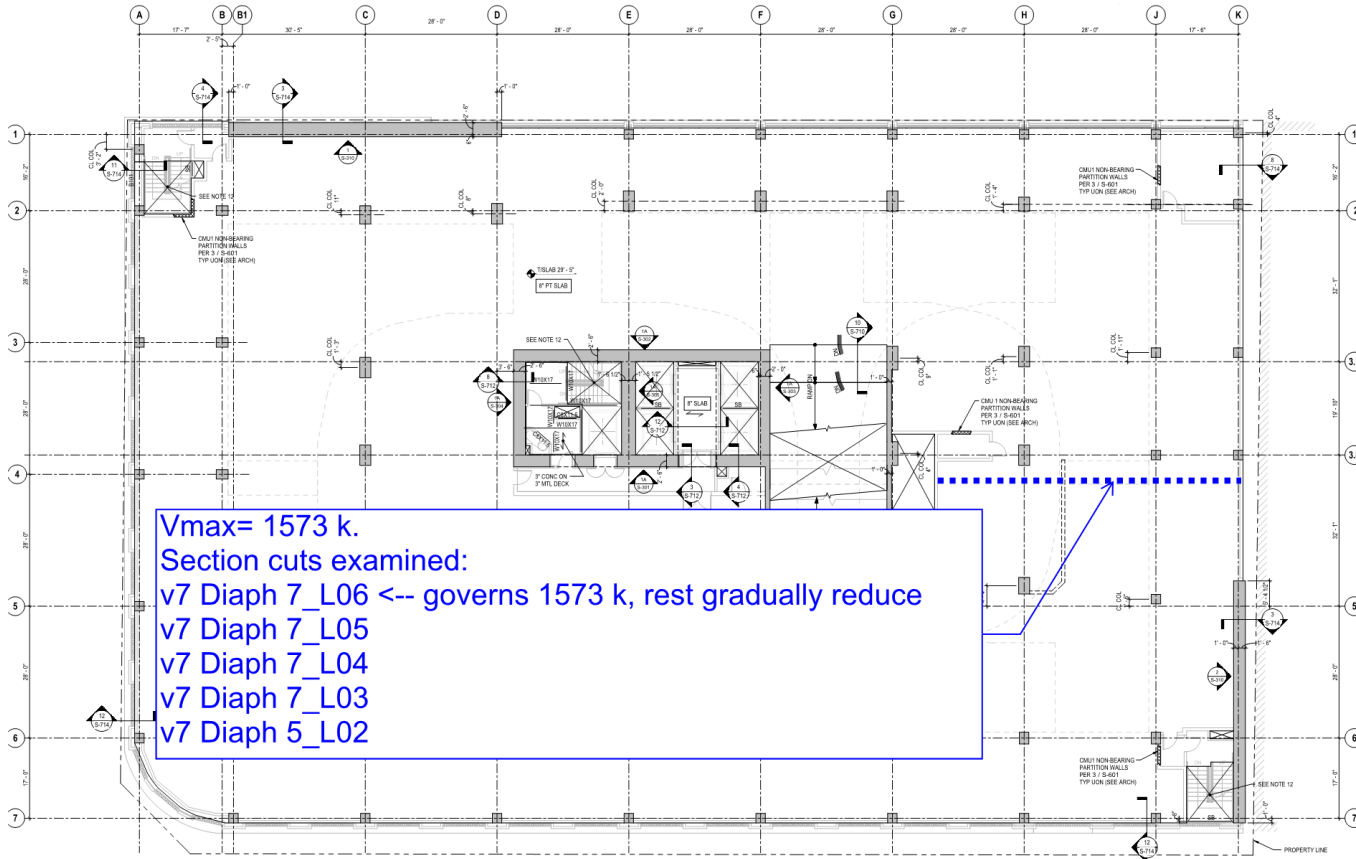
See corresponding calculations for opposite slab move.



ASSUMED LOAD DISTRIBUTION

- (3) effective areas based on contributing lengths:

Panel A: [48ft, 902 k]
 Panel B: [25ft, 470 k]
 Panel C: [75ft, 1410 k]



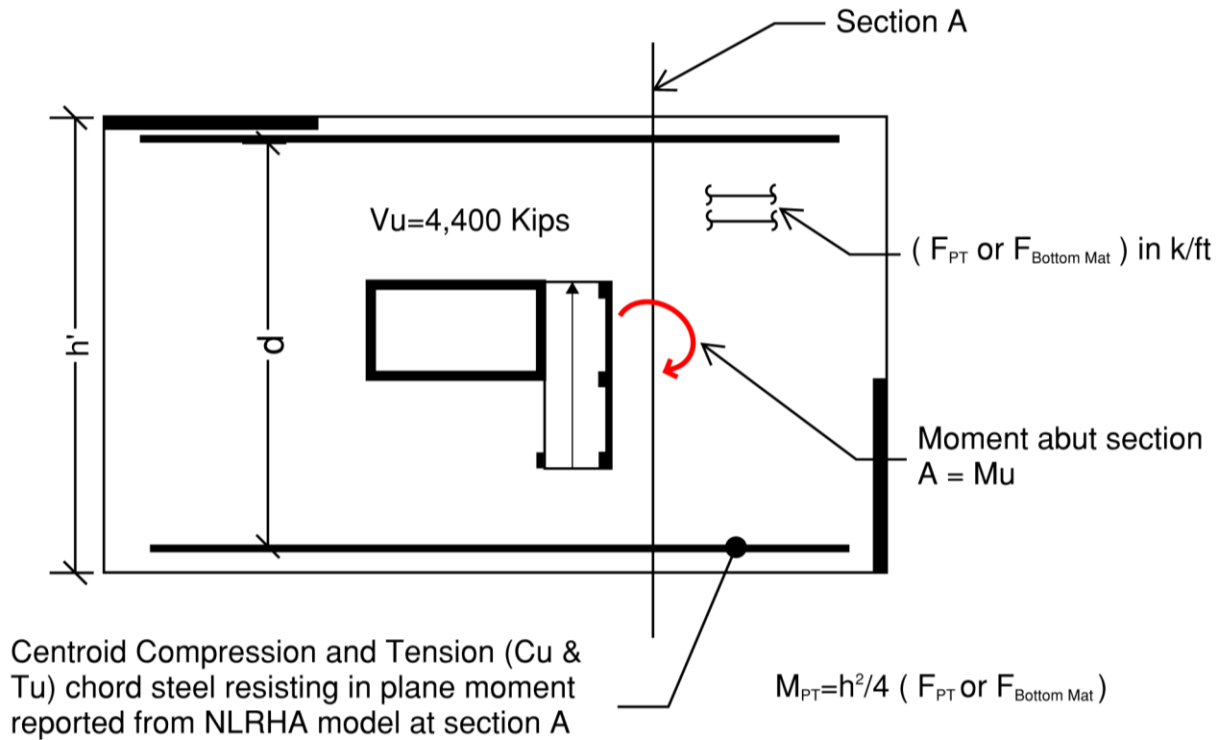
Over 75 ft is 21 k/ft > 16 k/ft. Place #4@24" distributed reinf which has 7 k/ft, total 23 k/ft, ok.

OK

Chord reinforcement in the diaphragm is designed using section cuts in the NLRHA model at levels II and below.

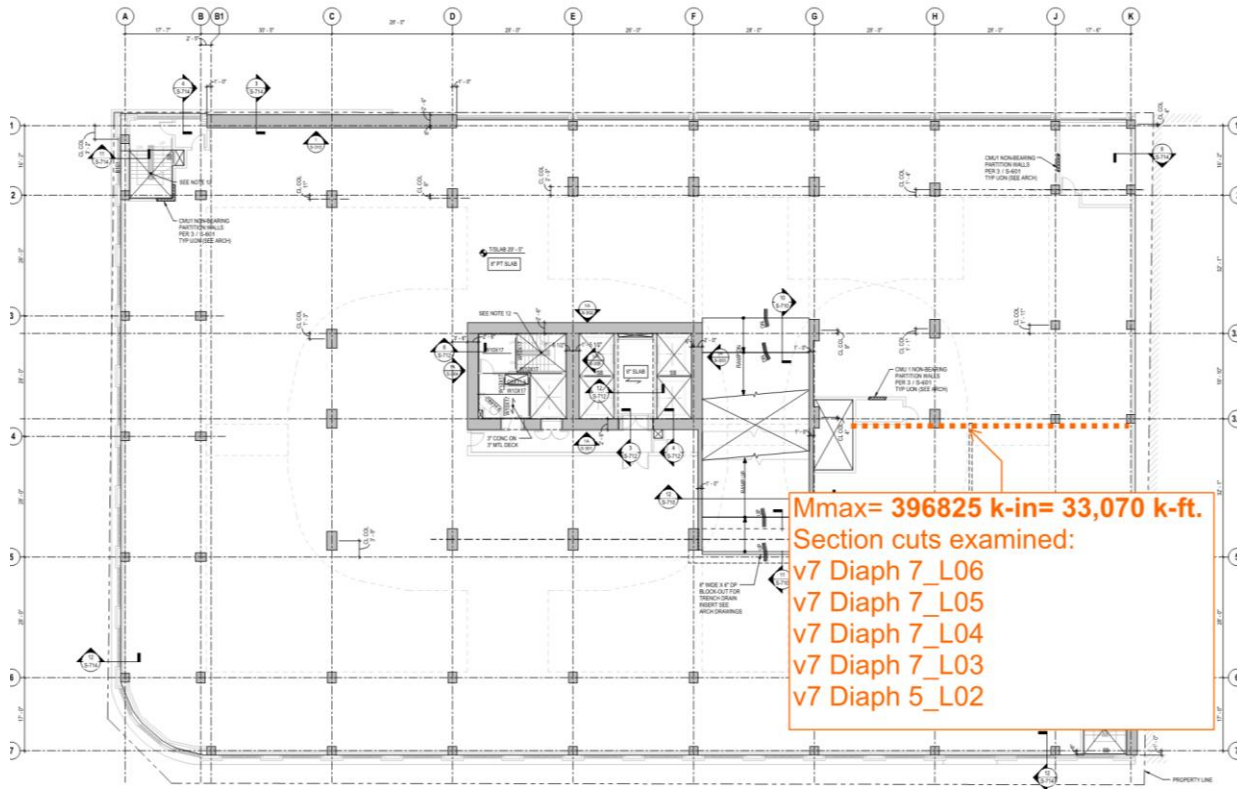
The moment about section cuts taken at critical location is averaged for (13) ground motions.

At transfer levels, this mean force is amplified by a factor of 1.5x.
 at all other levels, the mean force is used for design.



Chord forces and reinforcement are designed using a simple beam analogy in accordance with NIST GCR 16-917-42

$$C_u = T_u = M_u \cdot M_{PT} / d$$

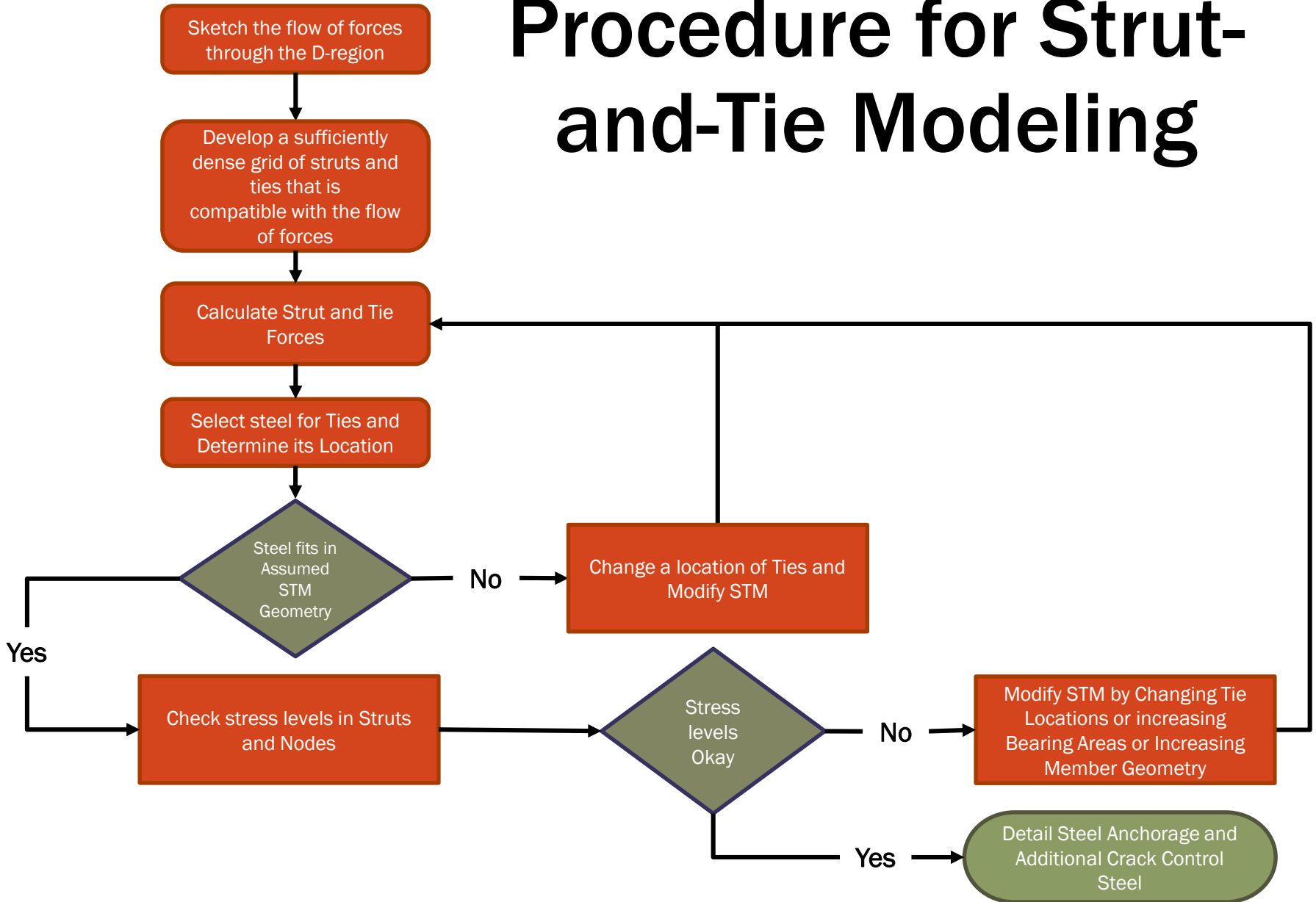


$M_{pt} = \frac{h^2}{4} \times f_y = \frac{(75)^2}{4} \times (9.87) = 13,879 \text{ k-ft, ok.}$
 Provided are collectors at least (6)#10 at a distance 65 ft have moment 34671 k-ft.
 Total strength $13879 + 34671 = 48,550 \text{ k-ft.}$

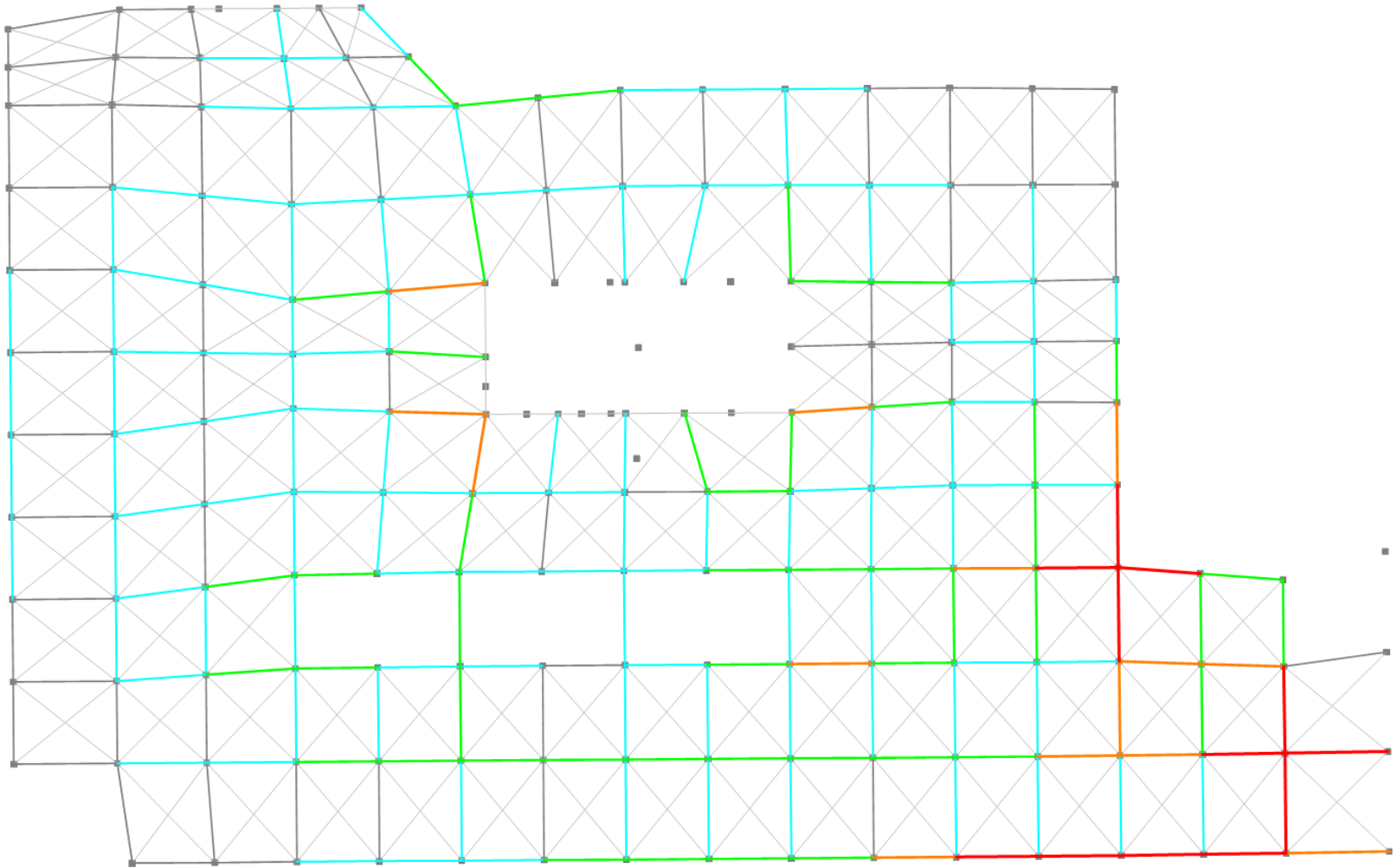
JK

Alternate Approach

Procedure for Strut-and-Tie Modeling

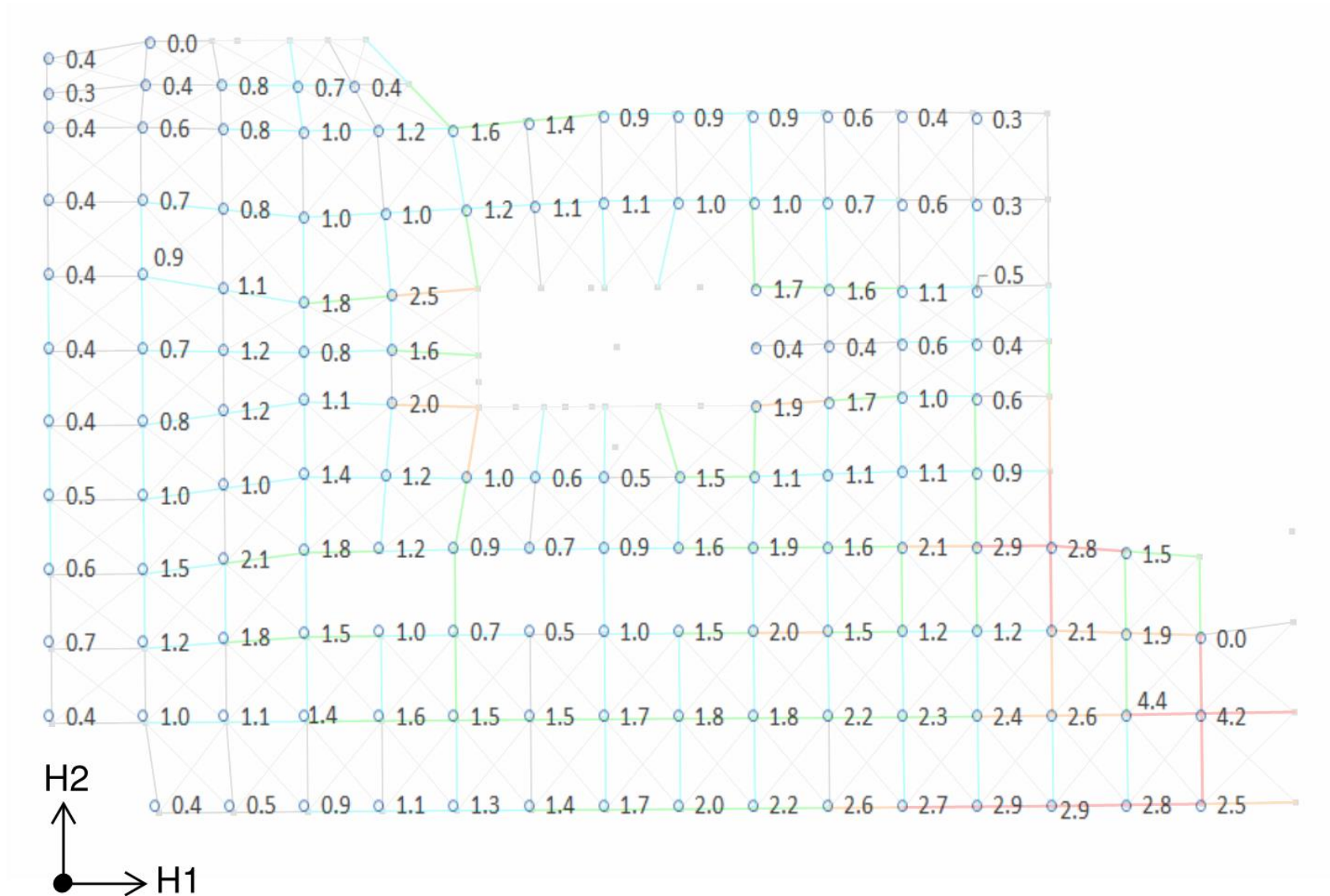


Diaphragm Tie Forces at Level 11



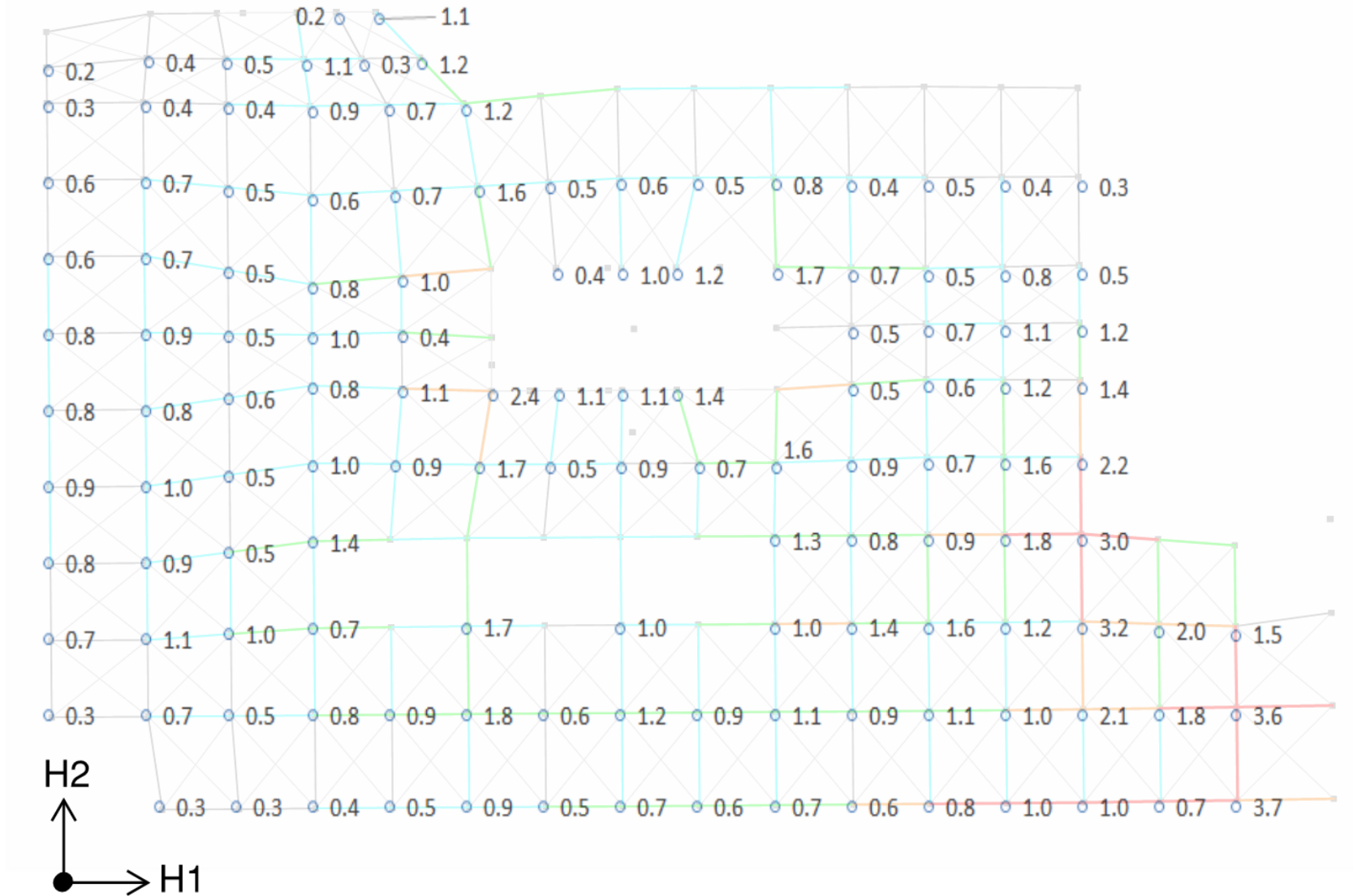
Axial Force in Diaphragm Ties

Tension Steel in L11 Diaphragm Ties - H1 Direction



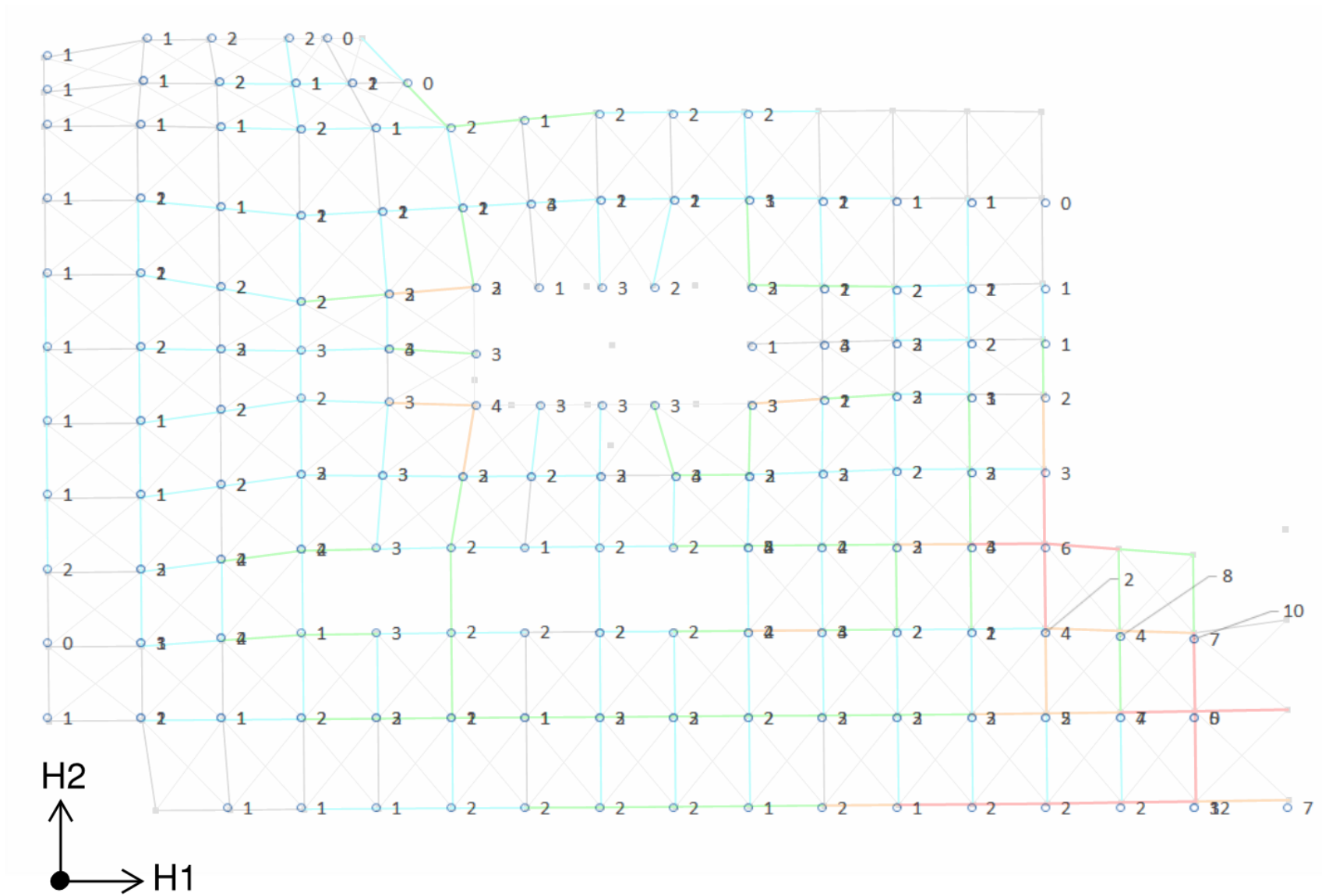
Tension Steel Required in Diaphragm Ties H1 direction

Tension Steel in L11 Diaphragm Ties - H2 Direction

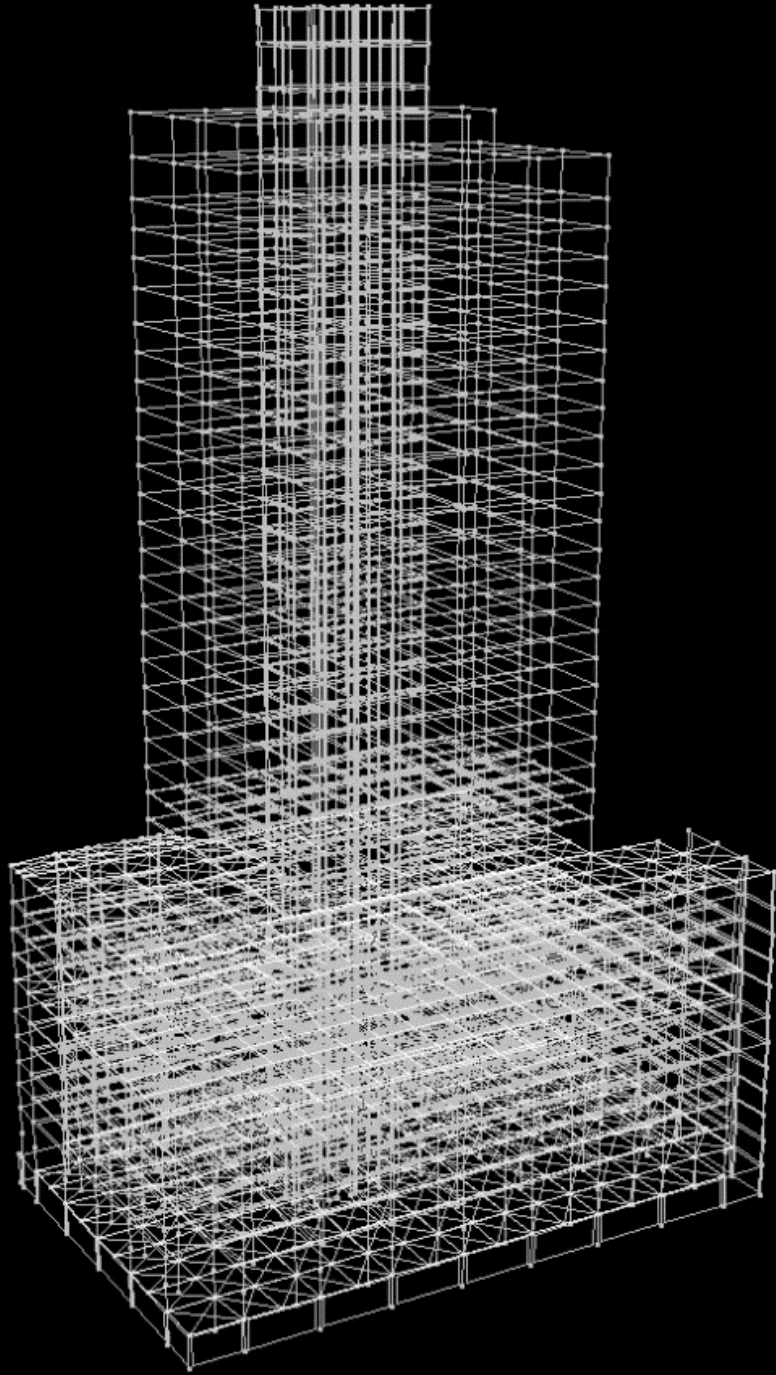


Tension Steel Required in Diaphragm Ties H2 direction

Compression Width Required in L11 Diaphragm Diagonal Struts



Compression Width Required for Diaphragm Struts



Conclusions

Conclusion

1. This approach provides a simplified analysis model that can account for shear, axial, and moment forces through a resultant one dimensional element in tension or compression.
2. Provides a graphical representation of the diaphragm load path.
3. Allows for the extraction of diaphragm forces without having to define explicit section cuts.
4. Provides explicit modeling of collectors to assist the designer in the determination of collector reinforcing and extents.
5. Provide explicit deformation in long collector elements where the stiffness of the collector can be calibrated to the amount of steel provided.
6. Future studies - Allows for nonlinear analysis of diaphragm elements
7. Future studies – provides a detailed distribution of diaphragm forces that can lead to more economical, safe designs.

Thornton Tomasetti