

# Stability of Bridge Column Rebar Cages during Construction

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# Outline

- Background on Reinforcement Bars and Rebar Cages
- Loads on Rebar Cages and Who Design them?
- Collapse of Rebar Cages and Causes
- Current Research on Rebar Cage Stability
- Best Practices on Improving Rebar Cage Stability during Construction
- Research Needs on Rebar Cages

# Background

## Structural Engineers:

- Design reinforcement bars inside concrete elements to resist code **permanent** loadings.
- Specify bar reinforcement details (cover, spacing, and splice type).
- Prepare contract document (Drawing and Special Provisions) for the reinforced concrete elements.

# Background

## Contractors:

- Must build the reinforced concrete elements according to the contract drawings, special provisions and State Standard Specifications.
- Choose Methods and Means on how to build the reinforced concrete elements.
- Utilize steel fabricators and detailer to furnish and assembly reinforcement bars.

# Reinforcement Bar Assembly

- Steel Detailer prepare shop plans according to the contract drawings (bar schedule: size length, spacing, splice details).
- Structural Engineers approve shop plans.
- Steel Fabricators assemble bar reinforcement and build rebar cages using their expertise and CRSI “Placing Reinforcing Bars” document.
- Steel Fabricator transport rebar cages to site.

# Erecting Rebar Cages

- Contractors choose how to erect rebar cages: number of cranes, concrete forms, type of bracing system.
- Rebar cages are now part of a **temporary structure** that includes: guy wires and their connection devices and anchor blocks.
- Construction engineer design and seal temporary structure drawings.

# Caltrans Standard Specifications

## CT Section 52-1.01C(3)-2010

### **52-1.01C(3) Shop Drawings**

#### **52-1.01C(3)(a) General**

Shop drawings and calculations must be sealed and signed by an engineer who is registered as a civil engineer in the State.

#### **52-1.01C(3)(b) Temporary Support System**

If a portion of an assemblage of bar reinforcing steel exceeds 20 feet in height and is not encased in concrete, submit shop drawings and design calculations for a temporary support system.

The temporary support system must be designed to:

1. Resist all expected loads
2. Prevent collapse or overturning of the cage

If form installation or other work requires changes to or the temporary release of any part of the temporary support system, the shop drawings must show the support system to be used during these changes or the temporary release.

The minimum horizontal wind load to be applied to the reinforcing steel assemblage or to a combined assemblage of reinforcing steel and forms must be the sum of the products of the wind impact area and the applicable wind pressure value for each height zone.

# Caltrans Requirements

1. Temporary structure shall be designed to resist all expected loads.
2. Temporary structure shall be adequate to prevent collapse or overturning.
3. Requires checking to any temporary release of any portions of the support system.
4. Specify minimum wind load.



# Current Practice

- Construction engineers analyze and design for wind loading only.
- Size guy wires and their connections and determine the required anchor weights.
- Caltrans False Work Manual requires guy wires to be pre-tensioned so they become effective in resisting loads.
- Construction workers P/T wires using turn-buckle or come-along.



# Internal Forces in Rebar Cages

- Rebar cage is part of the temporary structure.
- The rebar cage has structural boundary conditions at the base (fixity, pin, lap-splice) and along its height (guy wires)
- The cage has structural section properties: area ( $A$ ), moment of inertia ( $I_x$ ,  $I_y$ ,  $J$ )
- The cage material has Young's Modulus,  $E$
- Loads will create axial forces, bending moments and shear forces in the rebar cage.

# What are Loads on Rebar Cages?

1. Self Weight
  2. Construction Loads
    - P/T Wire forces
    - Live Load (construction workers)
  3. Environmental Loads
    - Wind
- These loads are not similar to the permanent loads that the reinforced concrete element was designed for!

# Engineering Analysis and Design

- Structural engineer designed the bar reinforcements and approved the shop plans.
- Construction engineers designed the guying plan for the temporary structure.
- So who analyzed, designed and checked the rebar cages to the construction loads that are subjected to?

NO ONE!























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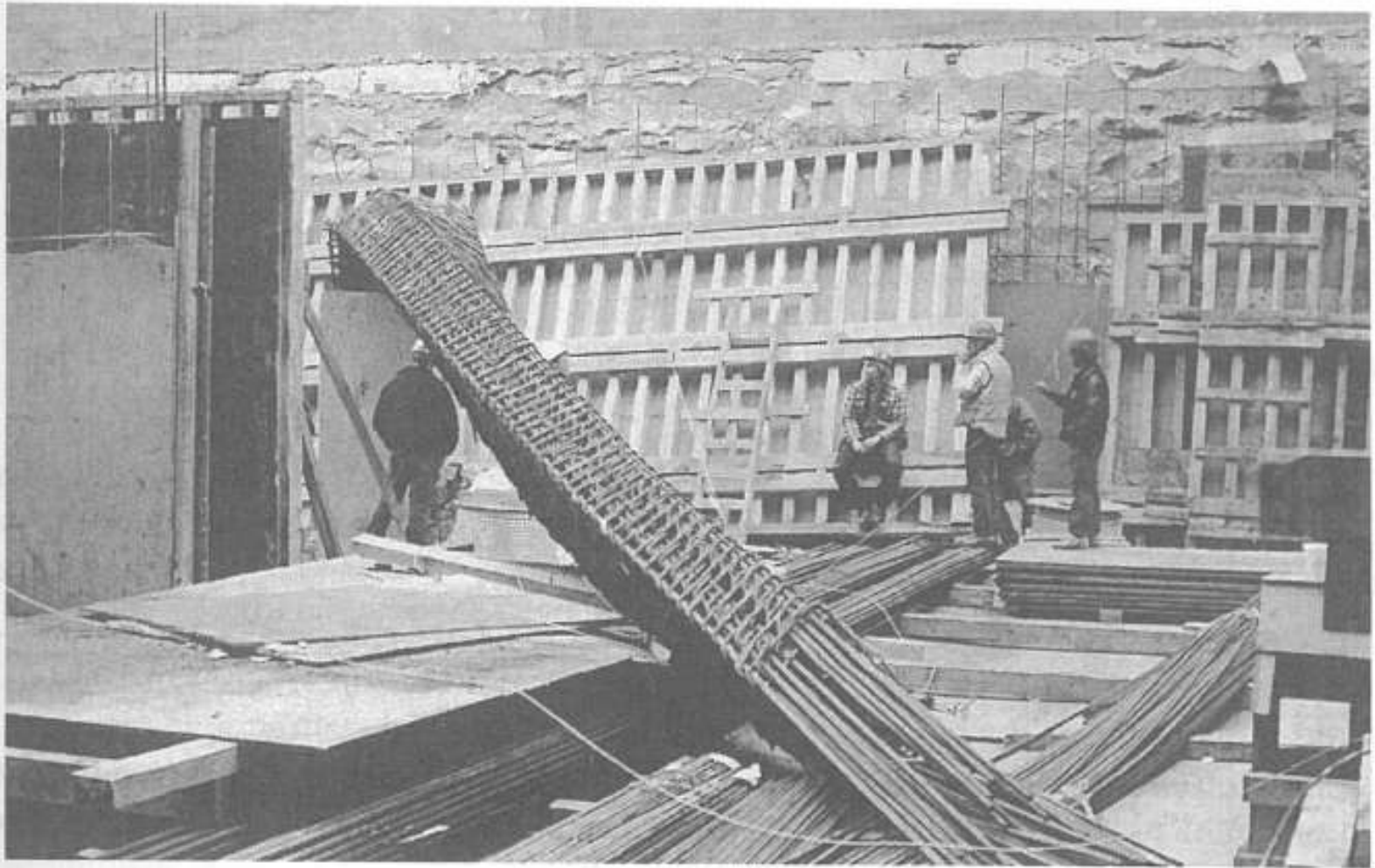












(a)

**FIGURE 10.11** Column reinforcing steel. (a) Tall reinforcing steel cage collapsed before erecting formwork. (From Jozef Jakubowski, *Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.*)



## Ironworker Killed When Rebar Cage Collapses\*

**Industry:** Structural Steel and Precast Concrete Contractors

**Task:** Installing rebar cage

**Occupation:** Journey level ironworker

**Type of Incident:** Struck by falling object

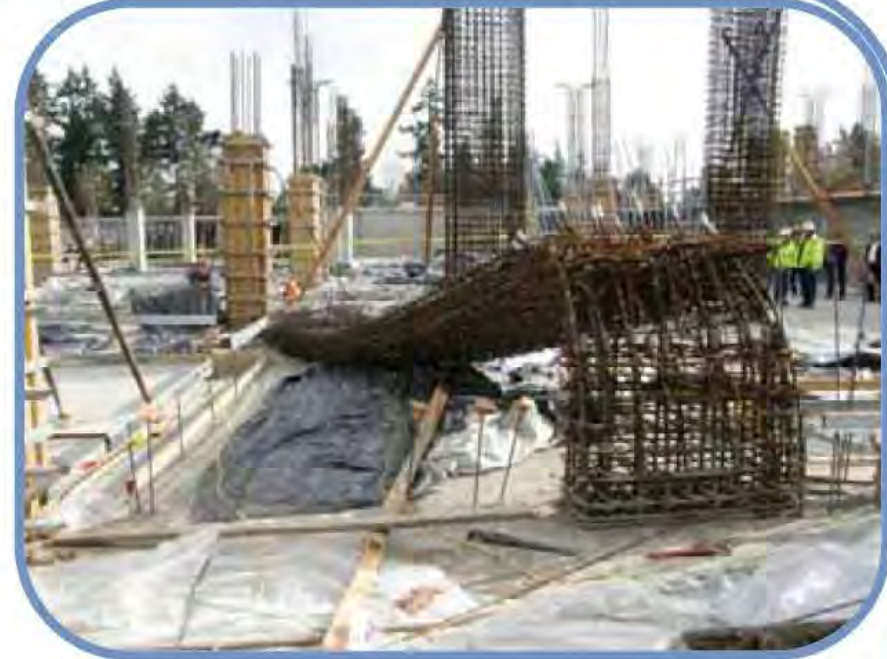
**Release Date:** April 12, 2011

**Incident Date:** February 19, 2009

**Case No.:** 09WA01101

**SHARP Report No.:** 71-100-2011

On February 19, 2009, a 23-year-old journey level ironworker died when a rebar cage collapsed. The victim worked for a structural steel erection contractor. The contractor was hired to perform steel rebar assembly and installation on the site of a new commercial office building. The job site work crew was erecting a steel rebar cage weighing about 5,600 lbs as part of a column structure. It measured 20x56 inches and 30 feet tall. They had previously erected 11 similar cages. The rebar cage was braced using 2x4's nailed together and attached to the building floor. A tower crane placed the cage into position and then released the cage. The victim and another crew member were climbing the cage to make adjustments to the rebar and set the braces. Both workers had fall protection gear and were working on the same side of the cage when the crew noticed the cage began to lean. The crew attempted to reconnect the crane to the cage, but before they were able to one of the 2x4 braces failed and the cage collapsed. The victim was struck by the falling rebar cage and died of blunt force injury of the head at the scene. The other worker escaped without injury.

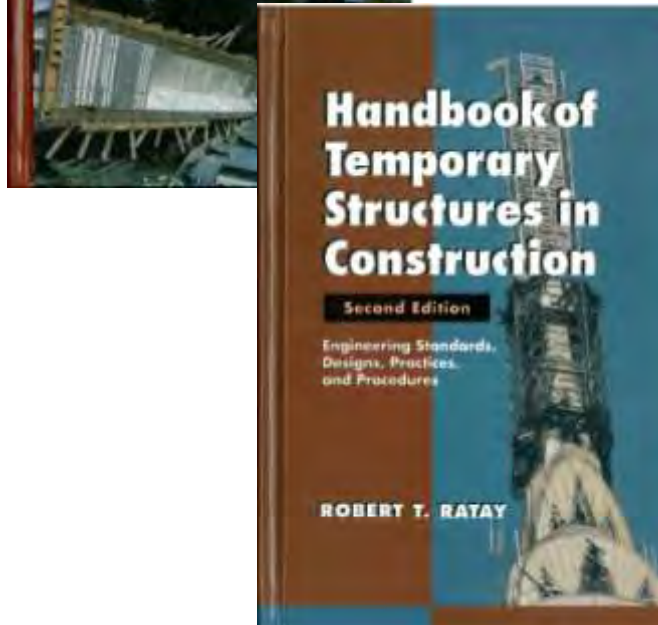


# Collapse of Rebar Cages

- Collapse of rebar cages is a rare incidence.
  - In California around 60 bridge cages collapsed during last 15 years.
- Collapse is associated with
  - Life safety: injury or death
  - Litigation
  - Schedule delay
  - Repair
- Lack of information on collapse cases due to legal issues.

# What Causes Rebar Cages to Collapse?

- Lack of knowledge and no National Standards



# Why Rebar Cages Collapse?

1. Rebar Cage Construction Methods and Means
  - Crane use and number of cranes
  - Decision on using rebar cage to part of temporary structure
2. Lack of Rebar Cage Analysis and Design
  - Cage Axial Resistance
  - Cage own weight
  - Effect of pre-tensioning of guy wires
3. Geometrical Disturbance
  - Asymmetrical Guy Wires
  - Guy wire release sequence
  - Accidental load-Crane hit

# Collapse of Rebar Cages



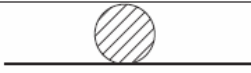
- Instability: Loss of Stiffness
  - Axial Instability
  - Lateral Torsional Instability
- Base Boundary Condition
  - Pin or lap splice at base
- Guy Wires
  - Insufficient Stiffness to brace rebar cage
  - Insufficient Strength to resist lateral loads
  - Asymmetrical configuration



# Instability of Rebar Cages

- Instability is a loading condition in which slight disturbance in load or geometry cause large displacements.

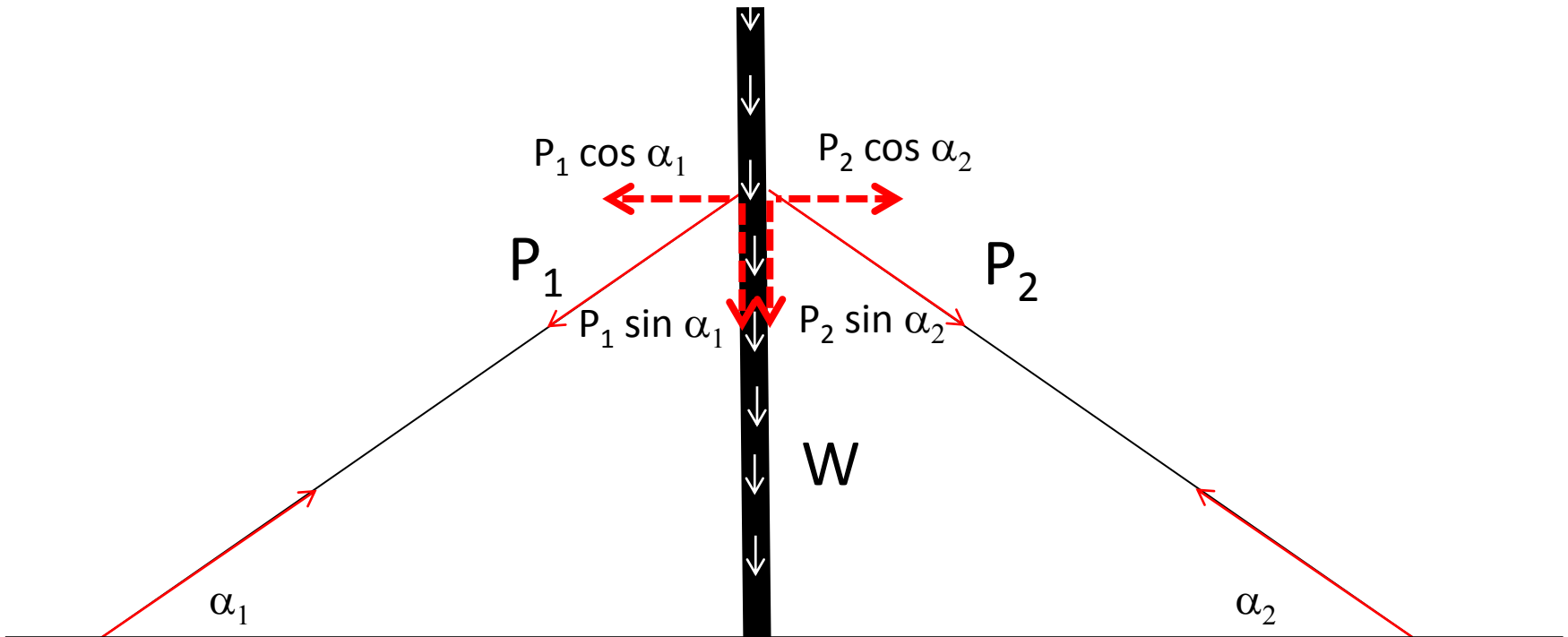


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of <math>\Pi</math></li> <li>• <b>Stable equilibrium</b></li> <li>• Energy must be added to change configuration.</li> </ul>	$\frac{d^2\Pi}{d\theta^2} > 0$		<i>Ball in cup can be disturbed, but it will return to the center.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum of <math>\Pi</math></li> <li>• <b>Unstable equilibrium</b></li> <li>• Energy is released as configuration is changed.</li> </ul>	$\frac{d^2\Pi}{d\theta^2} < 0$		<i>Ball will roll down if disturbed.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition from minimum to maximum</li> <li>• <b>Neutral equilibrium</b></li> <li>• There is no change in energy.</li> </ul>	$\frac{d^2\Pi}{d\theta^2} = 0$		<i>Ball is free to roll.</i>



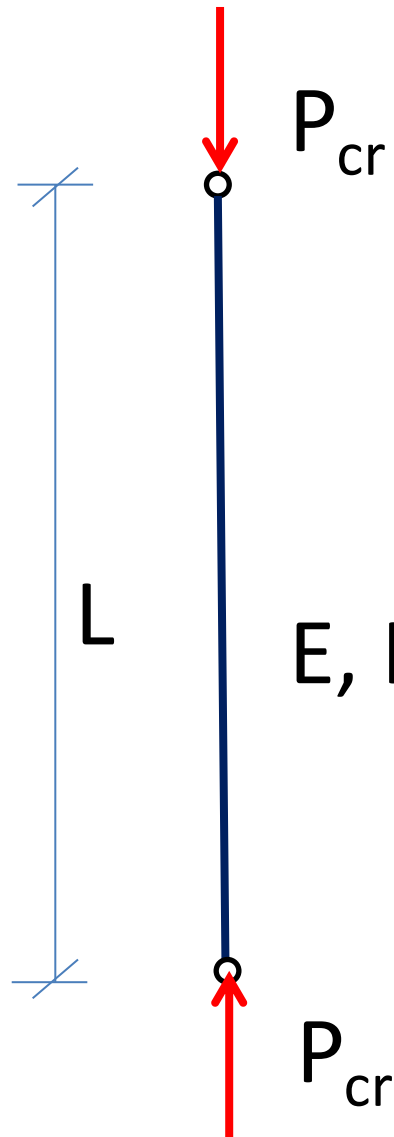
# Axial Stability of Rebar Cages

Axial Resistance > Axial Load Demand



$$\text{Axial Load Demand} = W + \sum P_i \sin \alpha_i$$

# Axial Resistance



Resistance Based Axial Stability

Euler Critical Load

- Perfect Straight Member
- Elastic Behavior
- First Buckling Mode

# Critical Load

## Axial Critical Load

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(KL)^2}$$

1. E: Material Young's Modulus
2. I: Section Moment of Inertia
3. L: Height
4. K: Effective Length Factor-Boundary Conditions

# Effective Length Factor

Approximate Values of Effective Length Factor, $K$						
Buckled shape of column is shown by dashed line.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Theoretical $K$ value	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0
Recommended design value when ideal conditions are approximated	0.65	0.80	1.2	1.0	2.10	2.0
End condition code	Rotation fixed and translation fixed Rotation free and translation fixed Rotation fixed and translation free Rotation free and translation free					

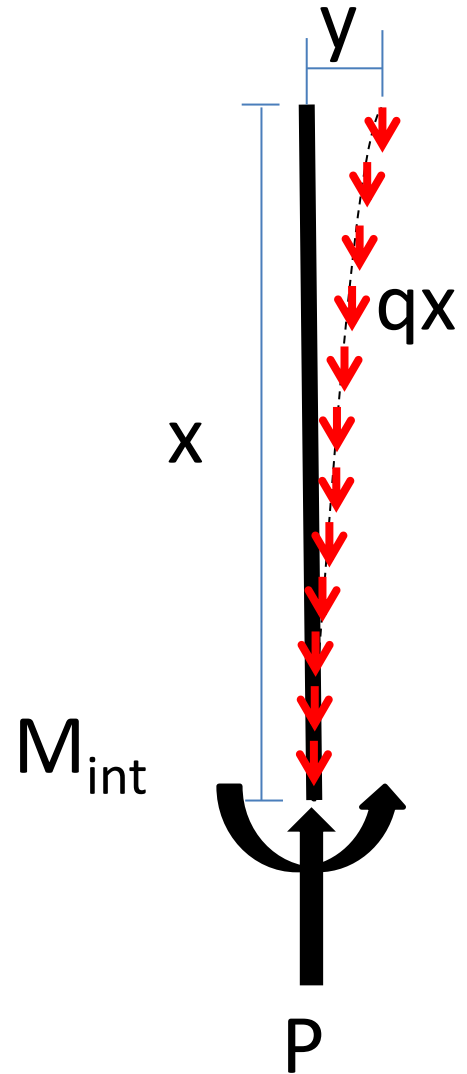
# Axial Stability under Own Weight

- Internal Moment

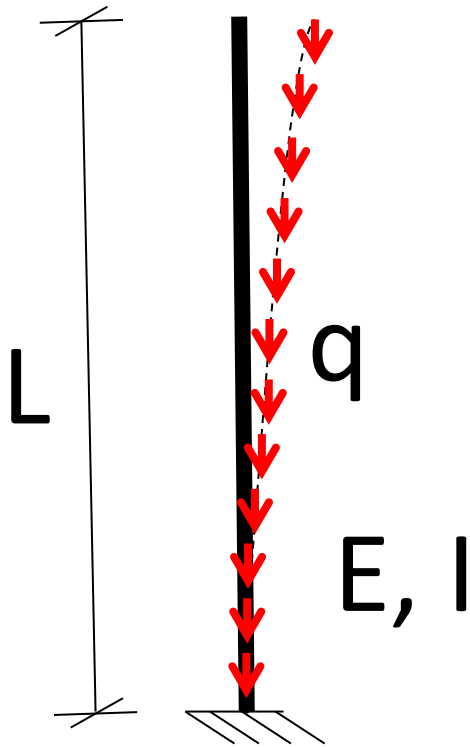
$$M_{int} = -\frac{E}{R} \int_A y^2 dA = -EI\varphi$$

- Section Moment of Inertia

$$I = \int_A y^2 dA$$

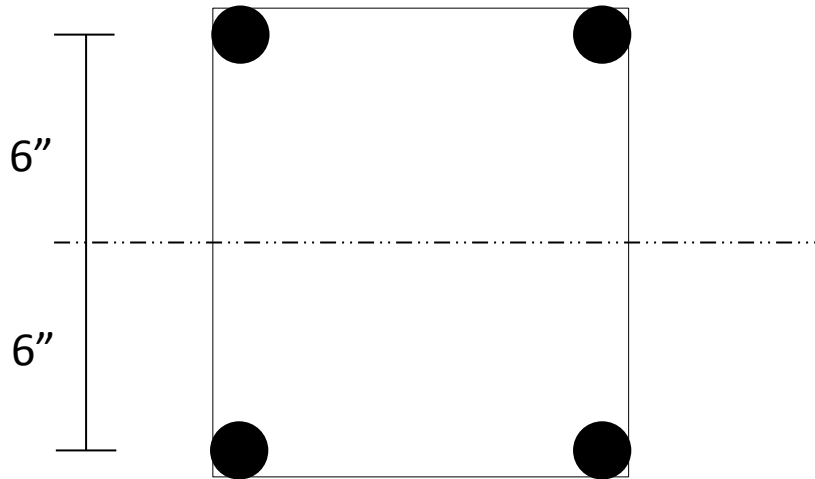


# Column Under Own Weight



$$(qL)_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(1.22L)^2}$$

# Example of Axial Stability



- 12"x12" Section
- Height 30'-0"
- Longitudinal 4#8 bars
- Transverse Ties #4@6"
- Cage Weight: 520 lb

# Limit State Axial Resistance

- $I = \sum Ad^2 = 4 \times 0.79 \times 6^2 = 114 \text{ in}^4$

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(1.22L)^2} = 168 \text{ kip} \quad P_y = Af_y = 182 \text{ kip}$$

- The section moment of inertia equation can be used when section area can be fully **developed**  
 $0.79 \times 2 \times 60 = 95 \text{ kips}$ .
- Bars are attached to stirrups by tie wire connections
- Tie wire connections need to develop 95 kips!



# Limit State Axial Resistance

- Assuming tie wire connections cannot develop 95 kips.
- Section moment of inertia will be the summation of individual bars
  - $I = \sum I_o = 4 \times 0.05 = 0.2 \text{ in}^4$

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(1.22L)^2} = 300 \text{ lb vs 168 kips!}$$

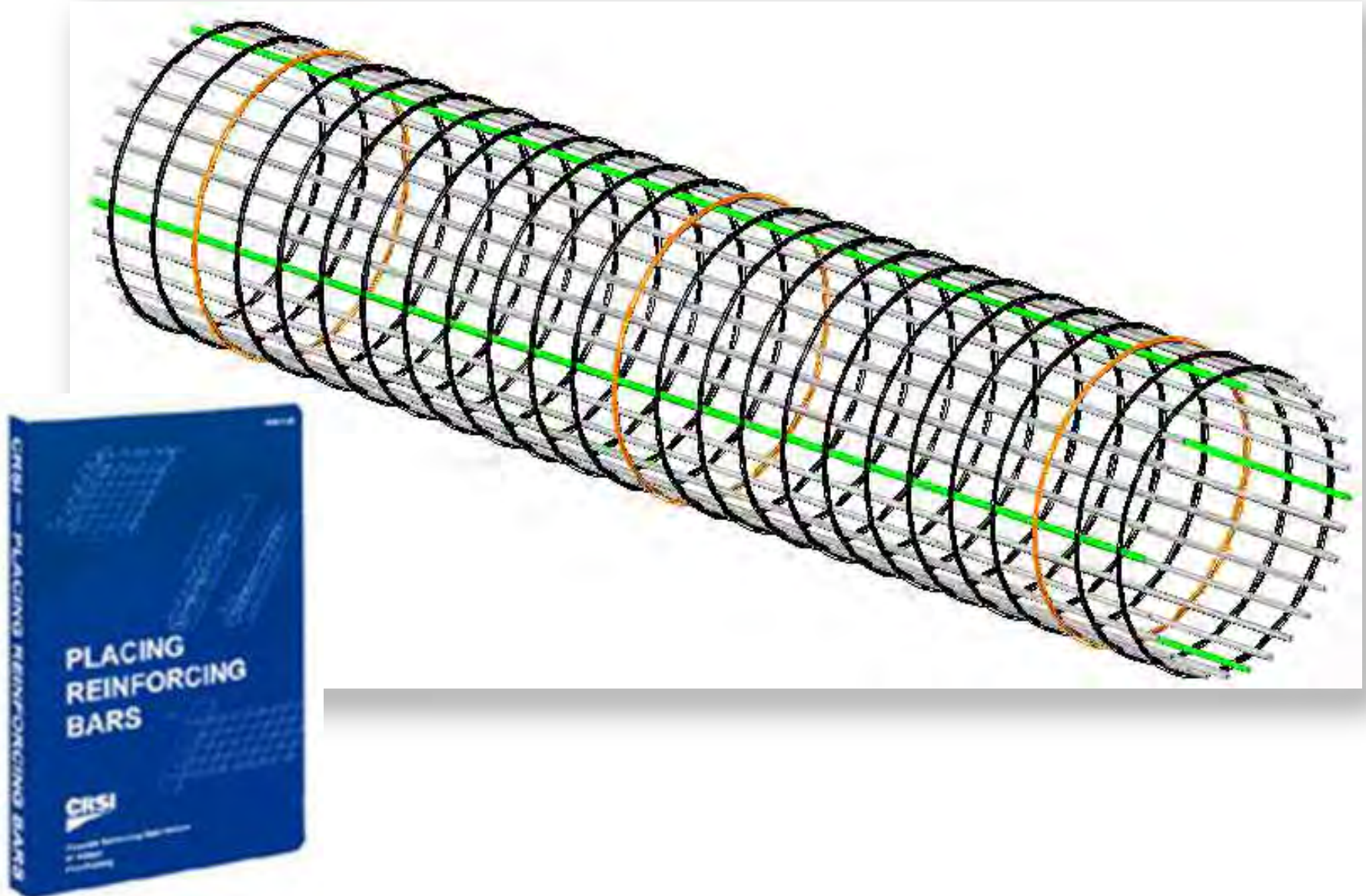
- Which section moment of inertia should be used!

# Rebar Cage Section Moment of Inertia

$$I = \sum I_o + \beta \sum A d^2$$

- $\beta$  is a reduction factor
  - Ratio depends on how much area can be developed in one side of the section to its yield strength.
  - Depends on tie wire connection
    - Connection Strength
    - Number and Type

# Reinforcement Placement and Assembly Rebar Cage



# Tie Wires for Rebar Cages

## Material and Gauge No.

- Black Annealed Wire for General Purpose
  - Imported from China
  - Low carbon soft annealed steel
  - $F_u \text{ min} = 40 \text{ ksi}$
- #15 Gauge
  - Diameter = 0.072 in
  - Area = 0.004in<sup>2</sup>
- Site Visits
  - # 16 gauge Black Wire
  - White Wires!



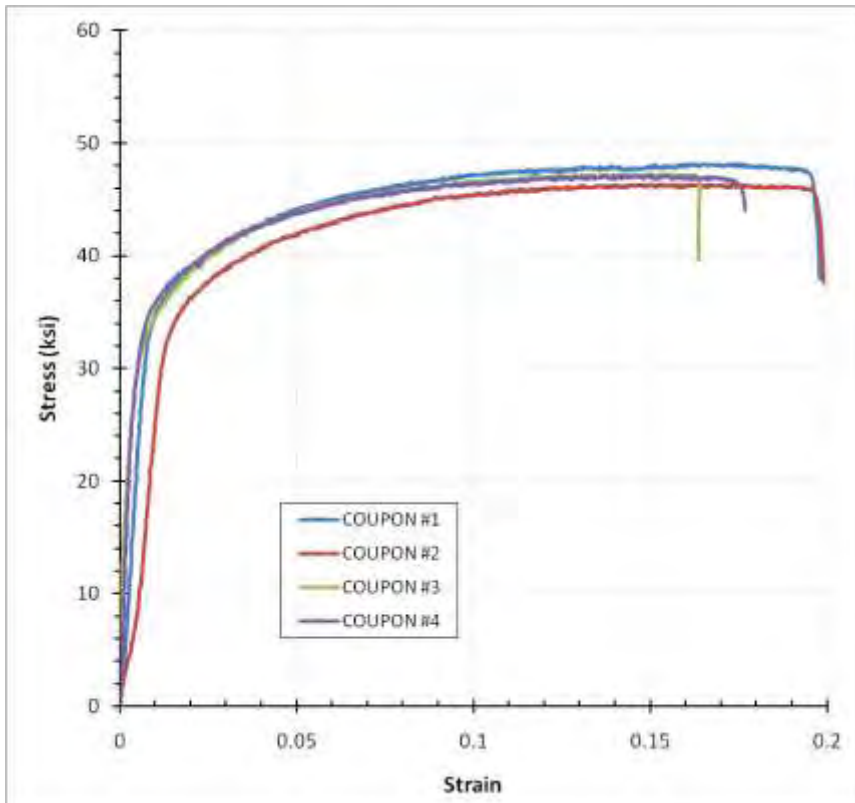
# Nominal Ultimate Tensile Axial Force

- #15 gauge,  $A=0.004 \text{ in}^2$
- $F_u=40,000 \text{ psi}$
- $P_{\text{nominal}}=160 \text{ lb}$

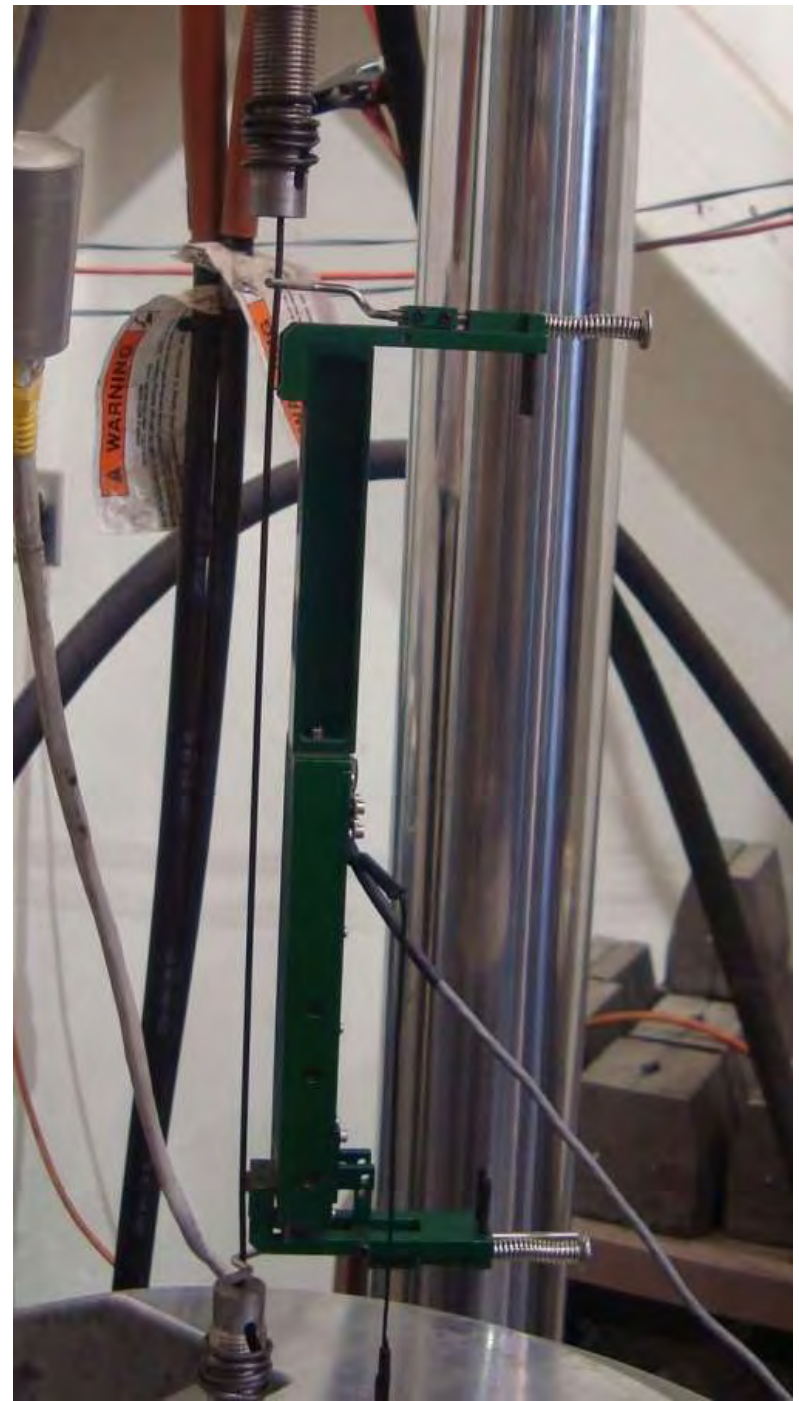




# Tie Wire Tensile Tests



TEST #	MAX. FORCE (lb)	STRESS (ksi)
1	196	48.2
2	189	46.4
3	193	47.3
4	192	47.2
AVRG	192	47.3



# Tie Wire Connections-CRSI



Single Snap Tie



Double Snap tie



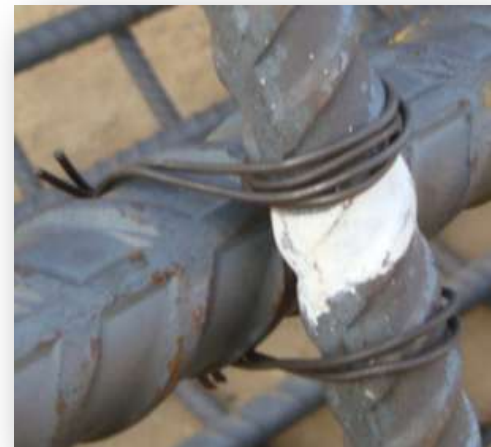
Single U-Tie



Double U-Tie



Column Tie



Wrap and Saddle



# Single Snap





# Single-U Connection





# Double-U Connection

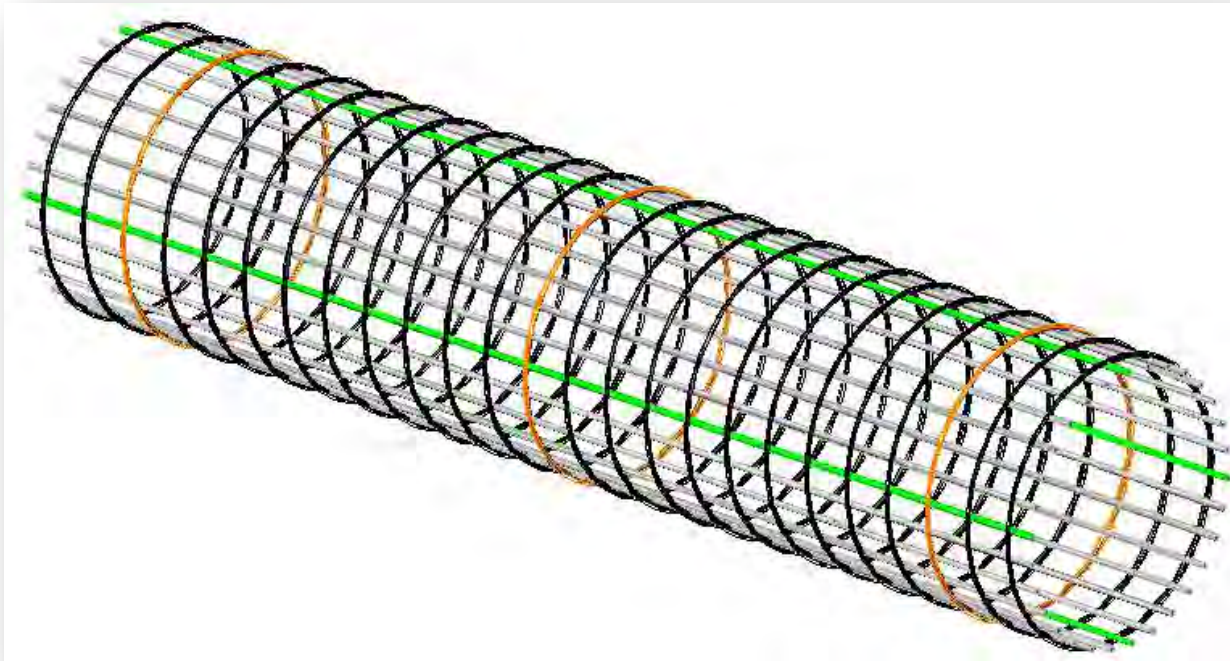




# Wrap and Saddle Connection



# Rebar Cage Assembly



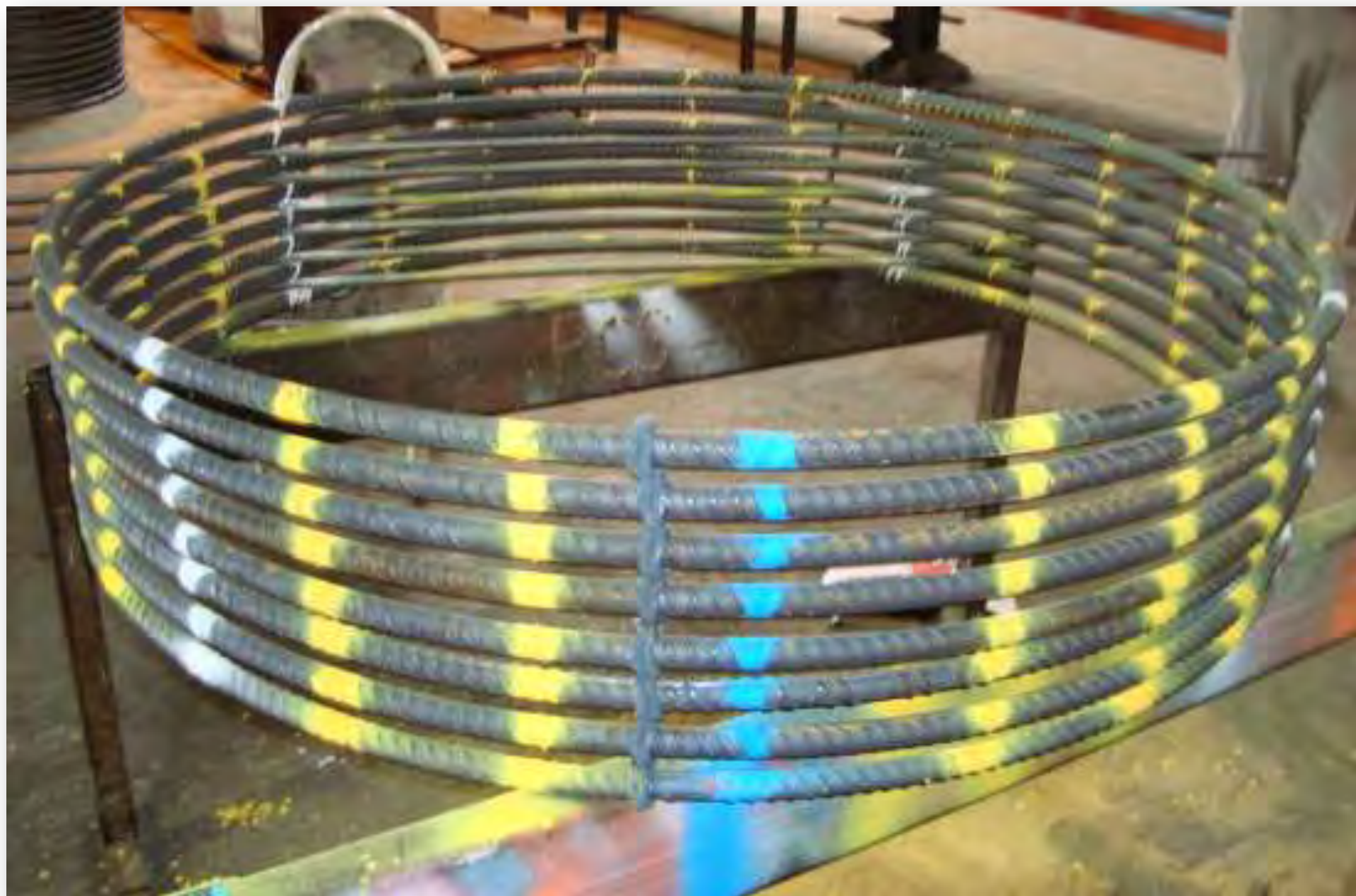
## Main Cage Components

- Template Hoops (Orange Color)
- Pick Up Bars (Green Color)

## Joint Connection

- Tie wire material and gage #
- Types of tie wire connections
- Number of Connections
- Workmanship





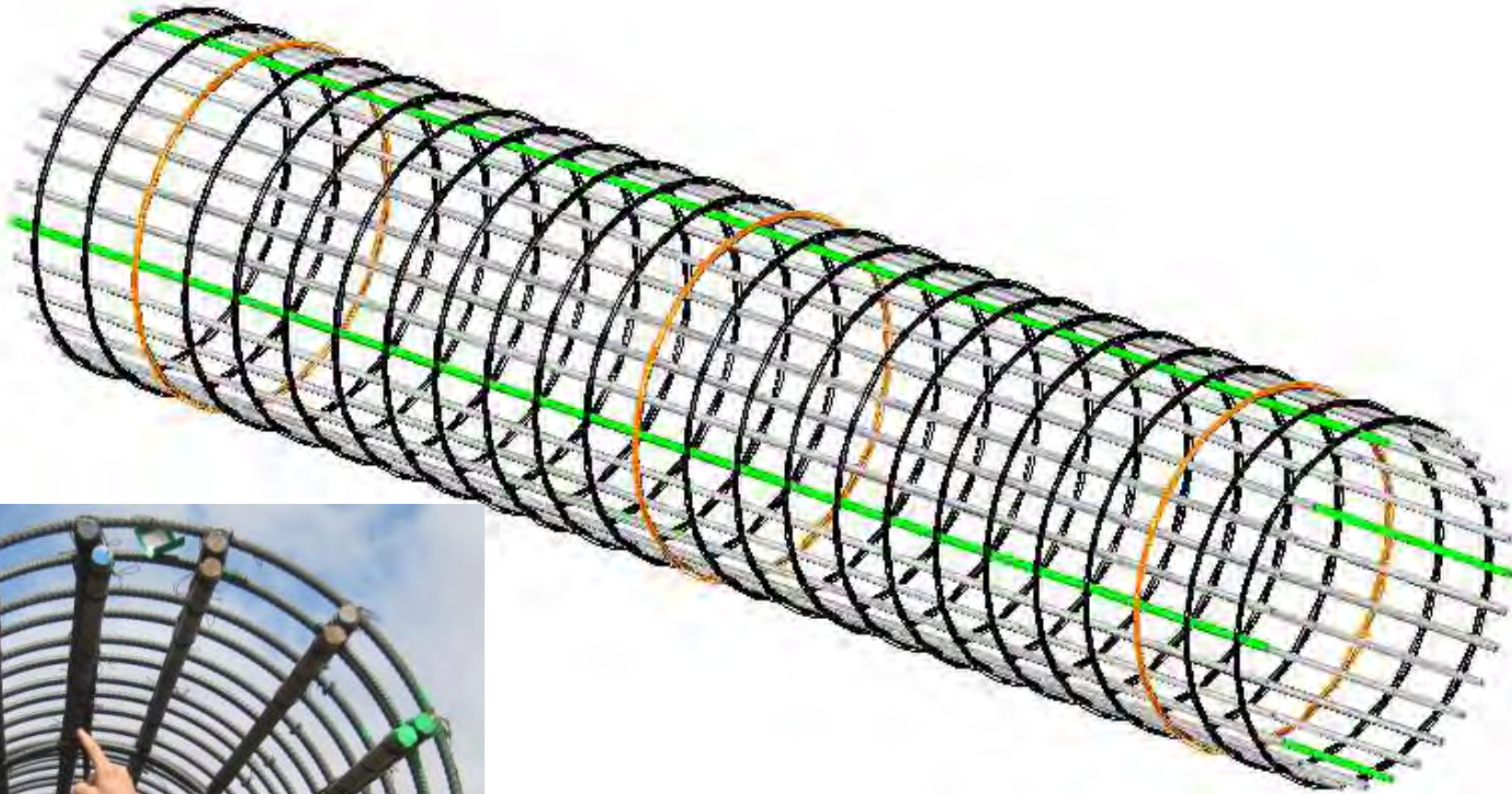








# PICK UP BARS



- Four longitudinal bars that form a square
- Tie at every intersection
- Double snap tie, Quadruple snap tie

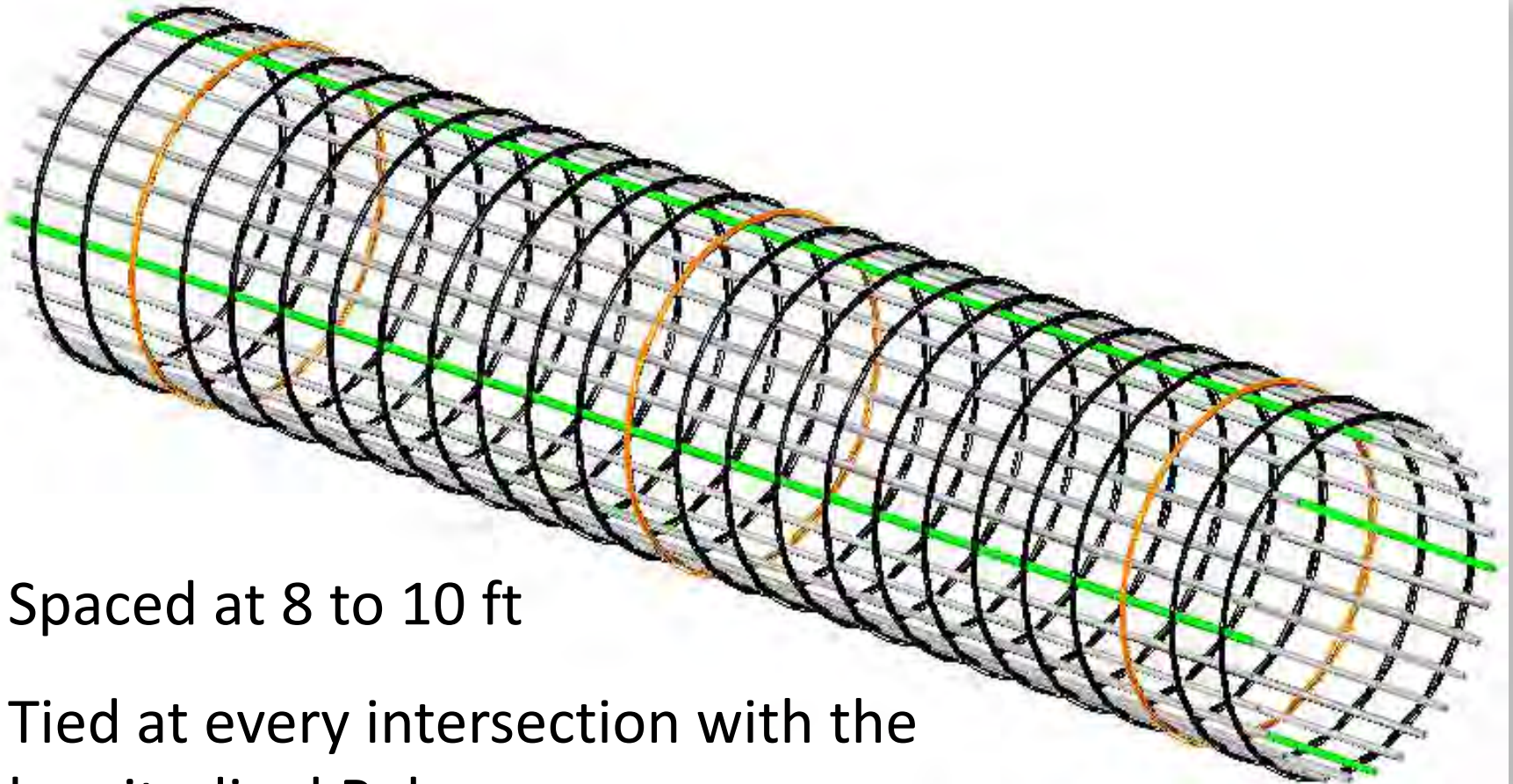


# Pick-Up Bar Tying



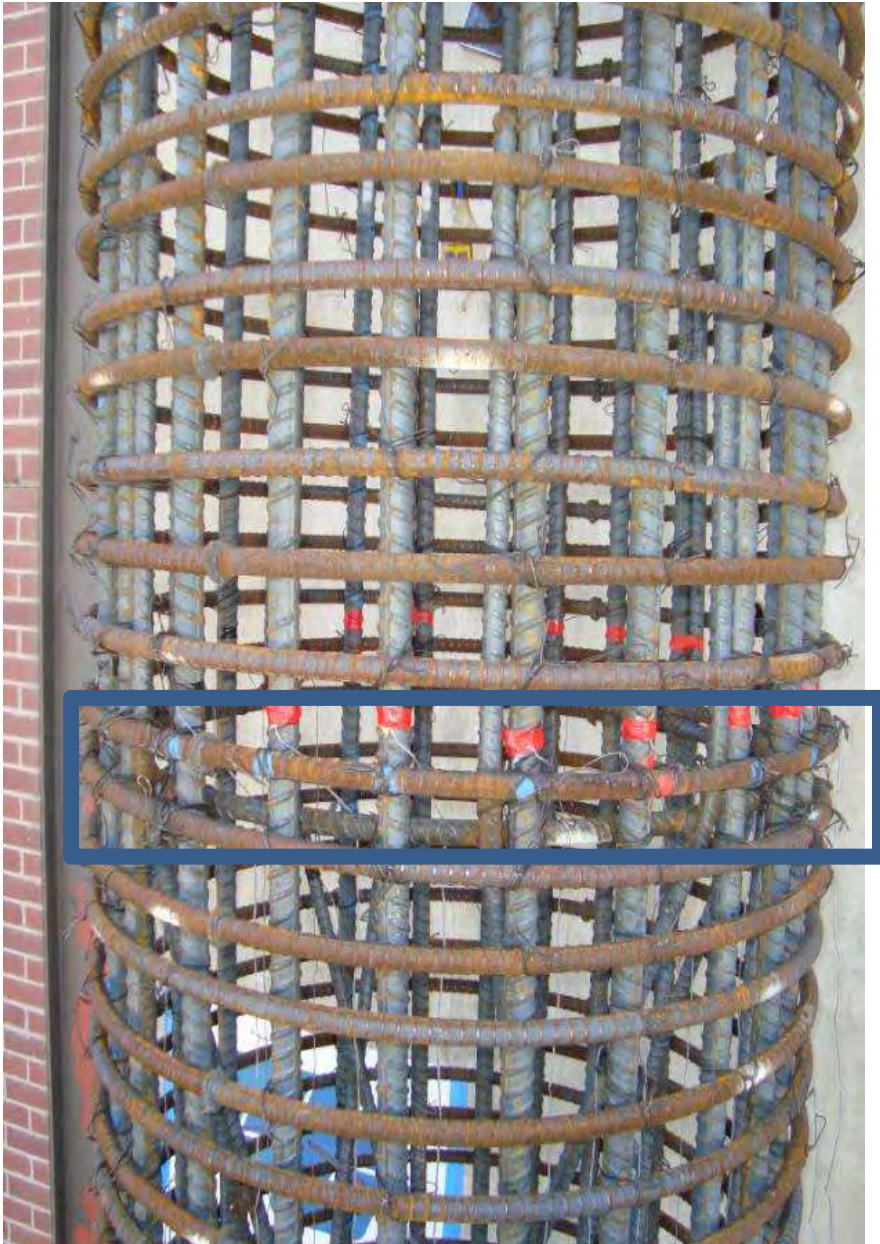


# TEMPLATE HOOPS



- Spaced at 8 to 10 ft
- Tied at every intersection with the longitudinal Rebar
- Double U-Tie, Wrap-and-Saddle

# Template Hoops Tying





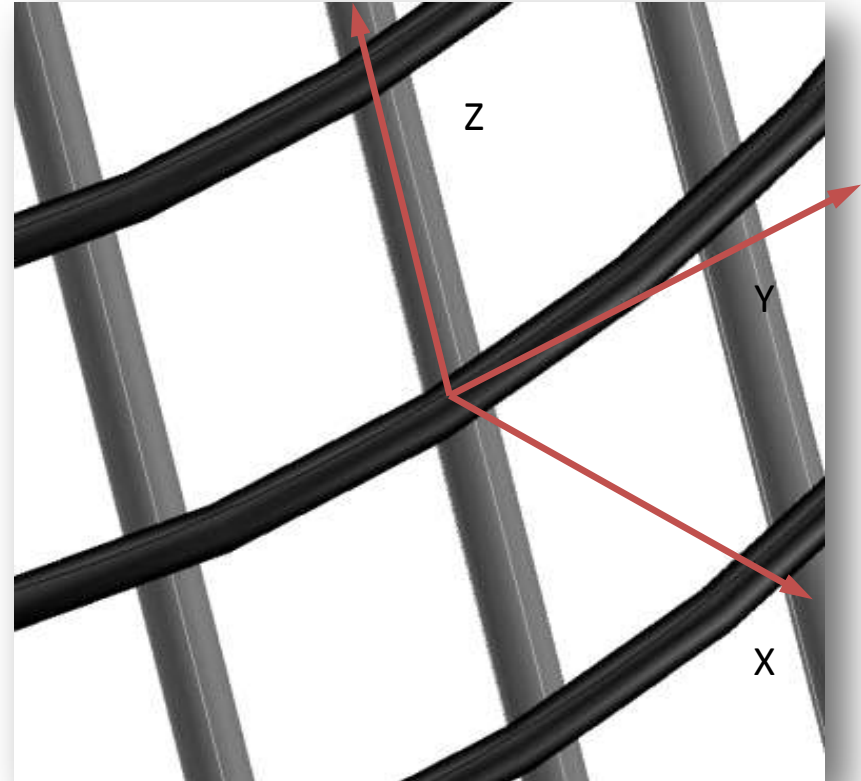
# FIELD ZONE TYING



- Zone between template hoops: Field Zone
- Tie 20% to 30% alternating joints
- Single Snap

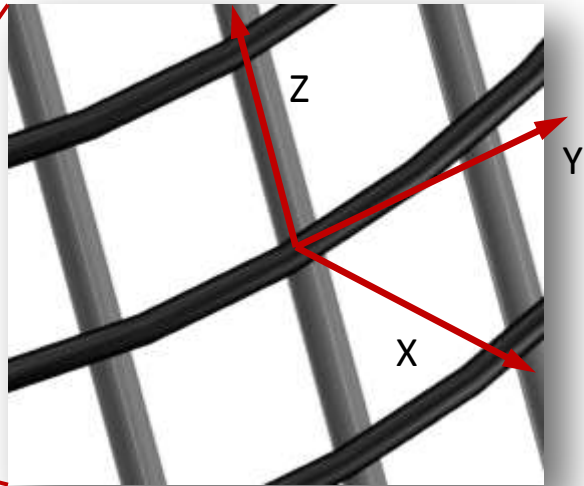
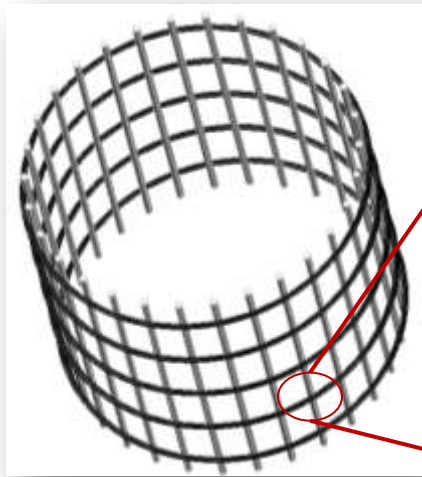
# Tie Wire Connection Restraints

## Strength and Stiffness

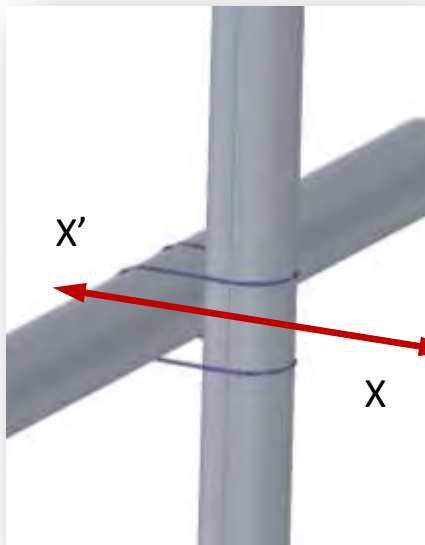




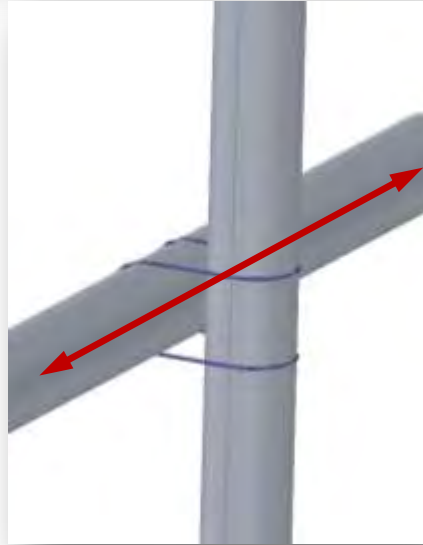
# Nonlinear Translational Springs (P- $\Delta$ )



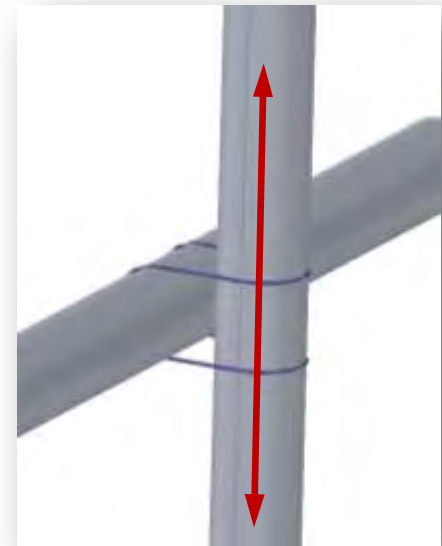
X: normal direction  
Y: tangential direction  
Z: vertical direction



Normal strength

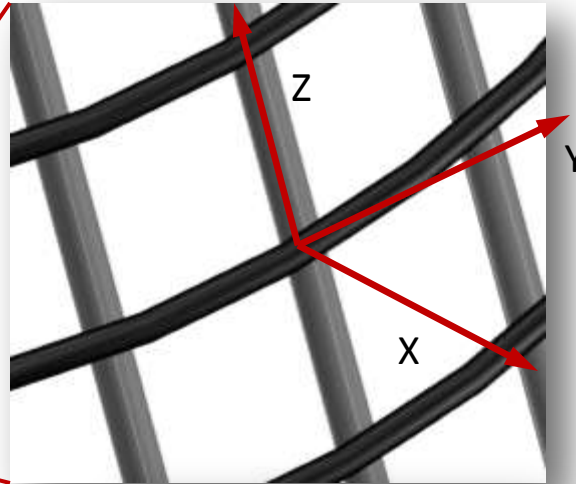
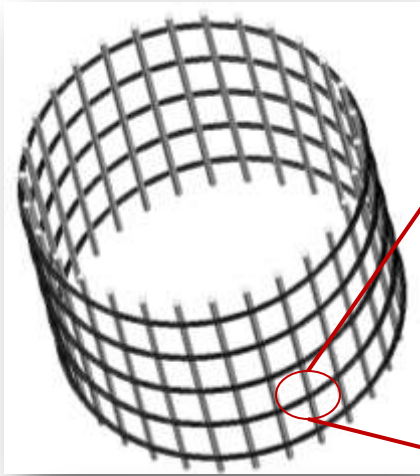


Tangential strength

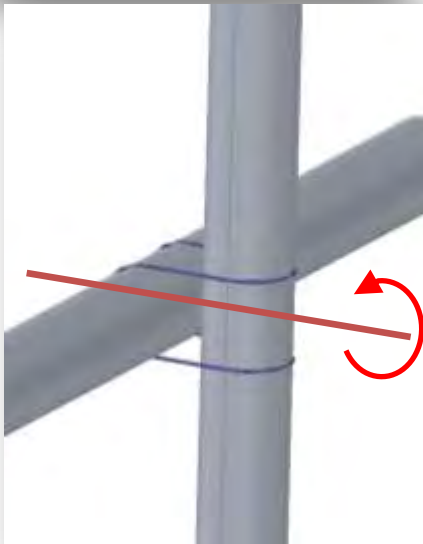


Vertical strength

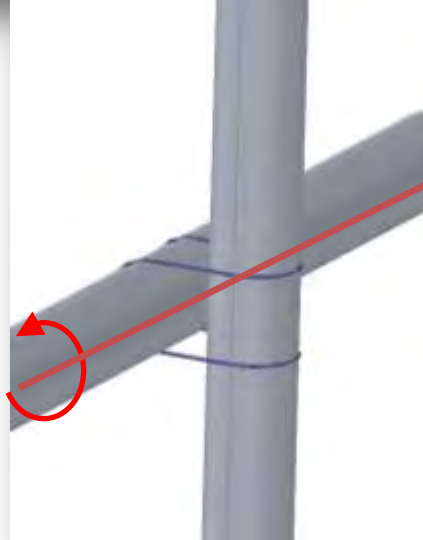
# Nonlinear Rotational Springs (M- $\theta$ )



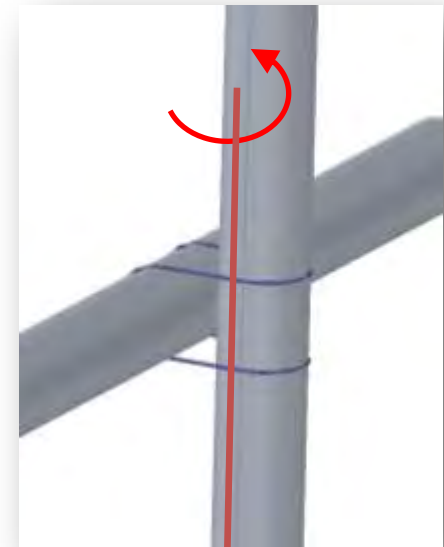
X: normal direction  
Y: tangential direction  
Z: vertical direction



Normal rotation

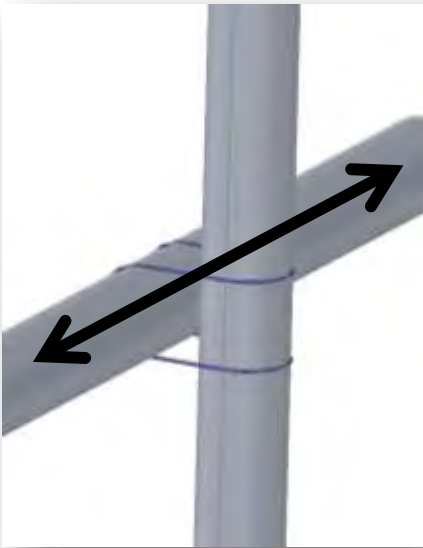


Tangential rotation

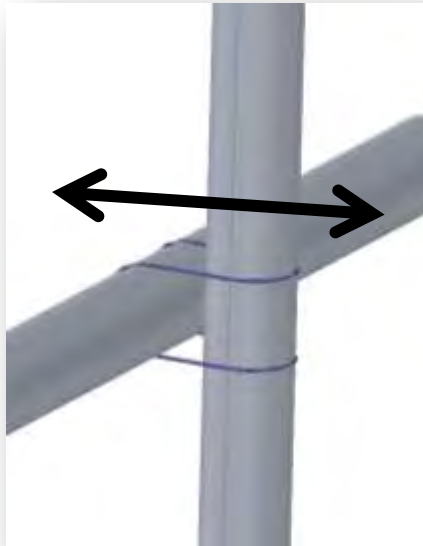


Vertical rotation

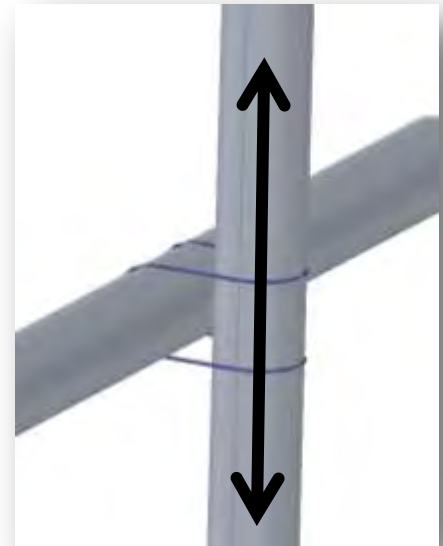
# Loading Direction on Tie Wire Connections



Tangential



Normal



Vertical

# Experimental Investigation

## 1. Six Types of Tie Connections

- Single-Snap
- Double-Snap
- Single-U
- Double-U
- Column-tie
- Wrap-and-Saddle

## 2. Workmanship

- Experience vs Inexperience Ironworker



152 Experiments



# Tie Wire Connection Specimens



SNAP TIE



DOUBLE SNAP TIE



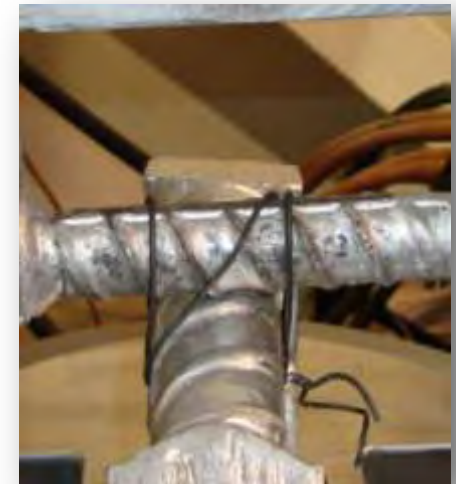
U-TIE



DOUBLE U-TIE



WRAP AND SADDLE



COLUMN TIE

# Test Set-up for Nonlinear P- $\Delta$ Response



Translation in the  
normal direction



Translation in the tangential  
and vertical direction



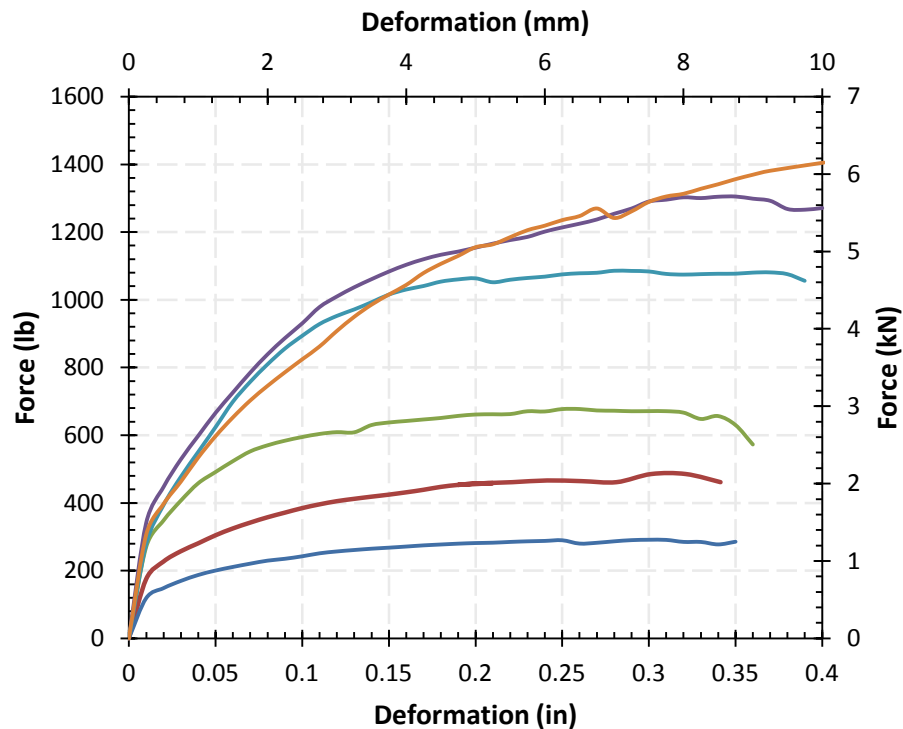
# Test Set-up for Nonlinear $M-\theta$



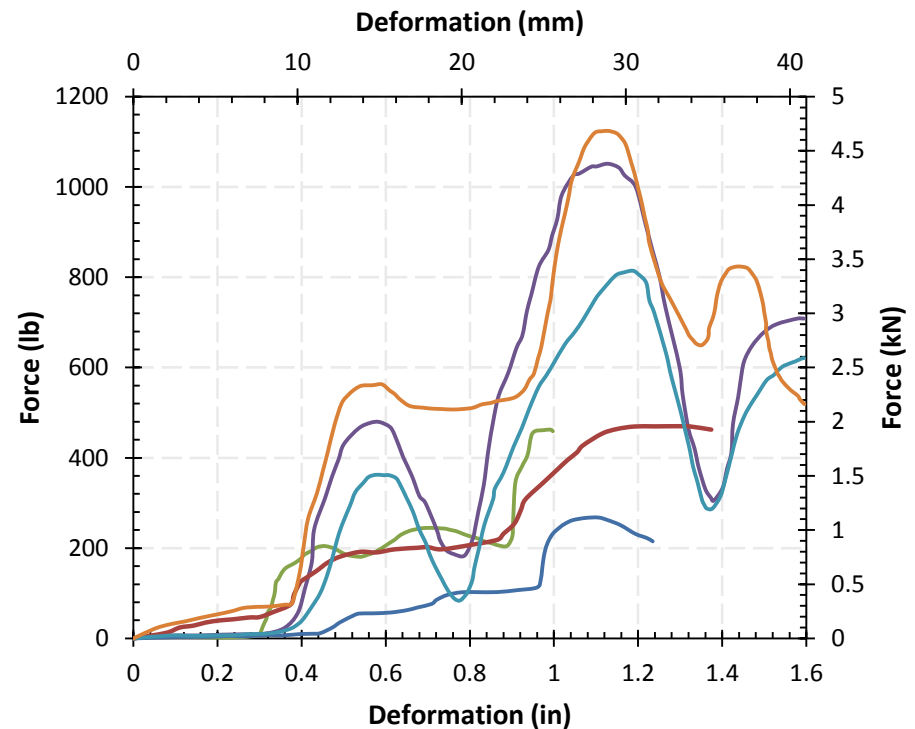
Rotation about the  
normal direction

# P- $\Delta$ Nonlinear Response Experienced Iron Worker

## Normal Direction

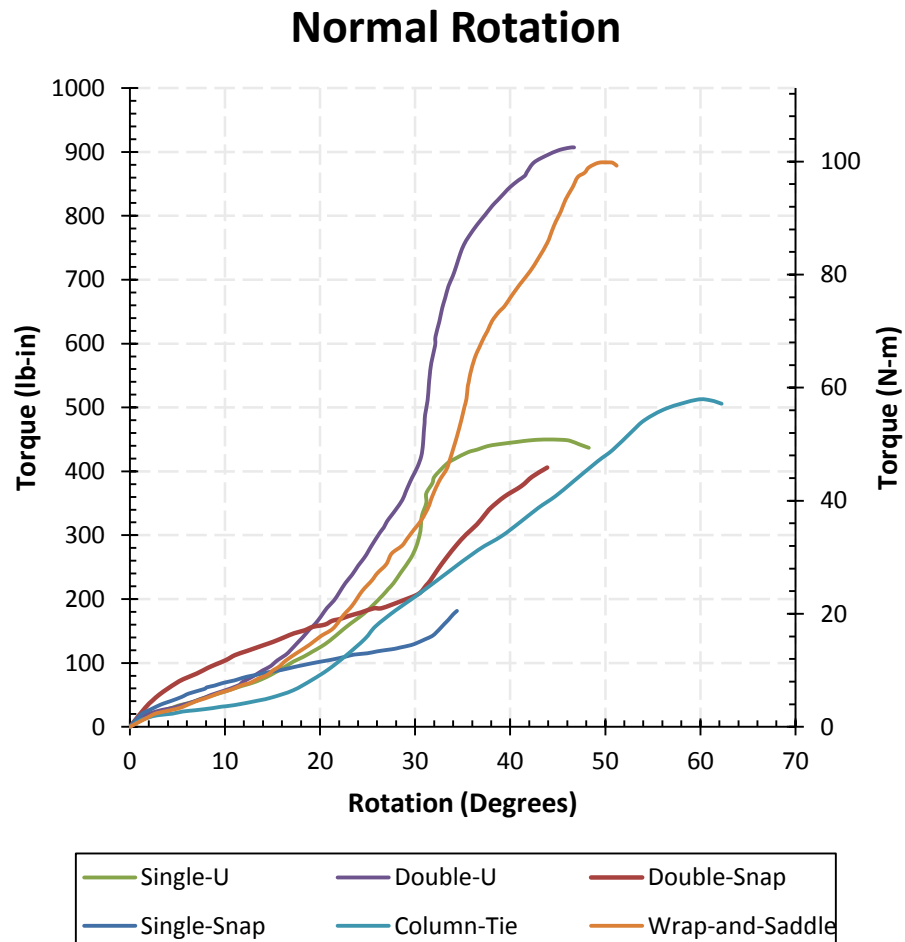


## Tangential & Vertical Direction





# M- $\theta$ Nonlinear Response Experienced Worker



# Ultimate Strength of Tie Wire Connections

Connection Ultimate Strength						
Connection Type	Experienced Iron Worker			Inexperienced Iron Worker		
	N (lb)	T (lb)	R (lb-in)	N (lb)	T (lb)	R (lb-in)
Single Snap	305	269	223	281	186	198
Double Snap	465	506	469	403	313	510
Single-U	681	469	479	541	544	448
Double-U	1310	1034	912	1025	721	845
Column Tie	1101	810	518	972	608	513
Wrap-and Saddle	1393	1139	865	1235	999	692

# Reflections on Tie Wire Connection Tests

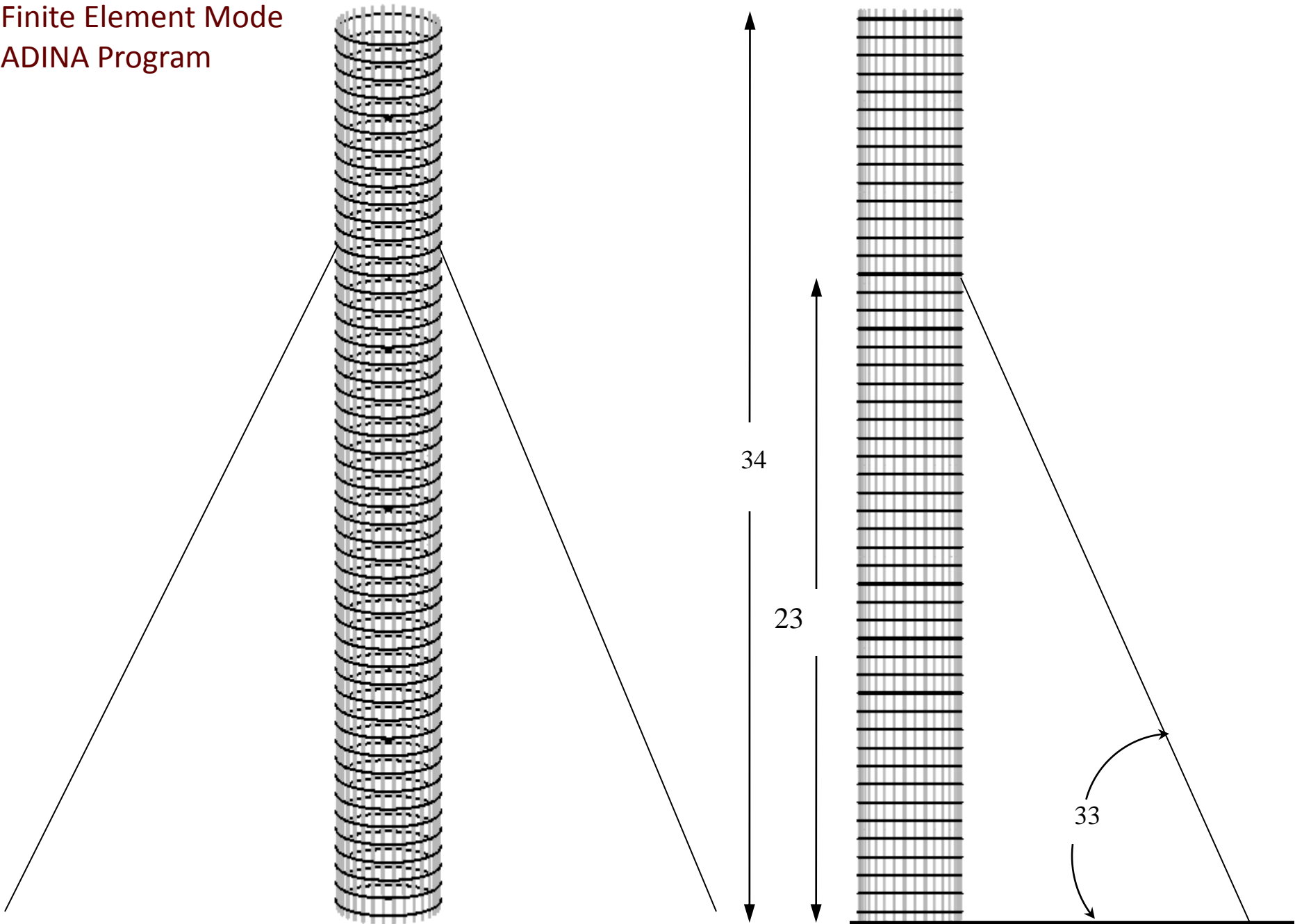
- Established nonlinear response of  $P-\Delta$  and  $M-\theta$
- Tie wire connections are soft and weak.
- Best tie wire connection cannot develop 1% of the bar area.
- Caution when determining section moment of inertia of rebar cages.



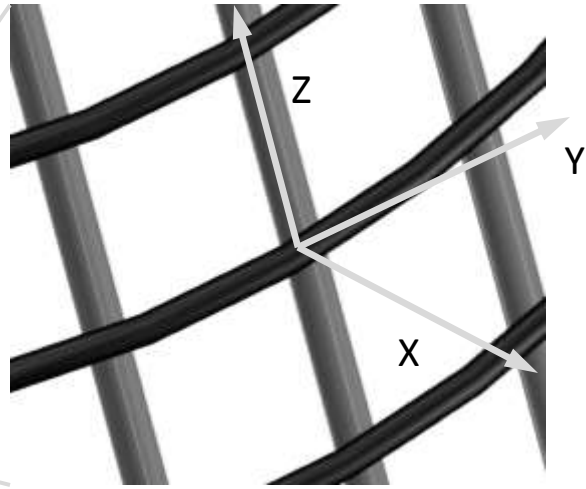
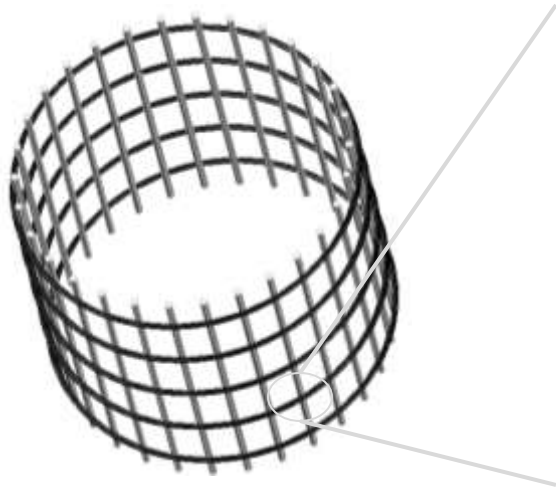
# Lap Splice in Reinforcement Bars and Rebar Cages

- Lap splice lengths were determined for R/C elements
  - Length will develop bar area through concrete bond stresses.
- Rebar cages are subjected to construction loads.
  - Lap splice strength depends on number and strength of tie wire connection.

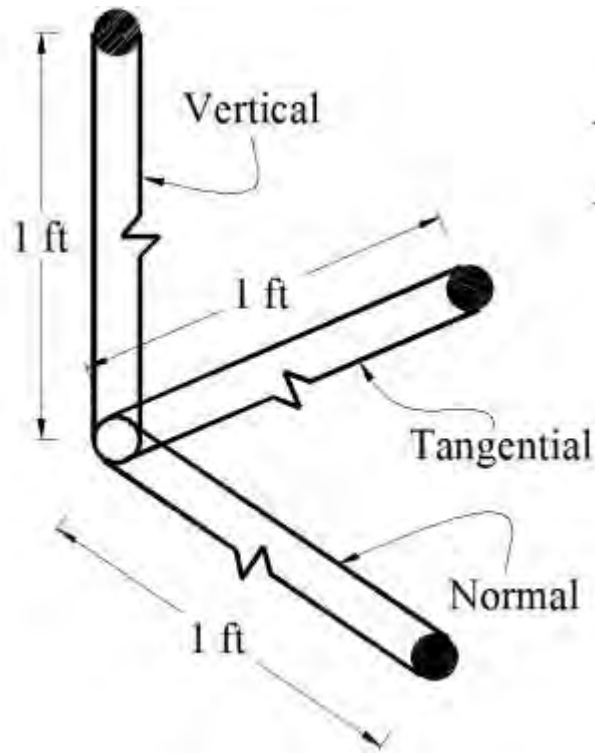
Finite Element Mode  
ADINA Program



# Model of Tie Wire Connections



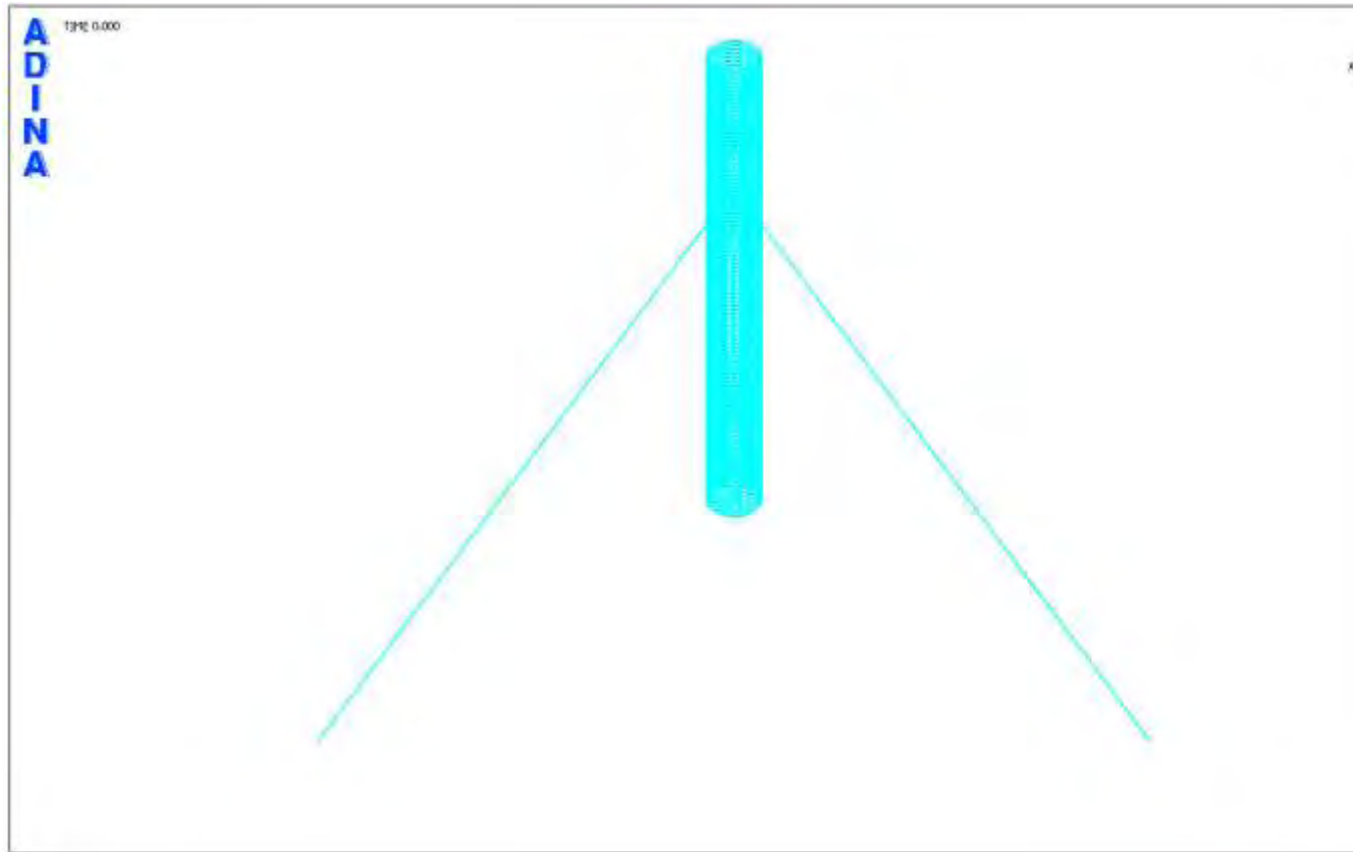
X: normal direction  
Y: tangential direction  
Z: vertical direction



- Truss & Spring
- Rigid Link
- Non-sharing node

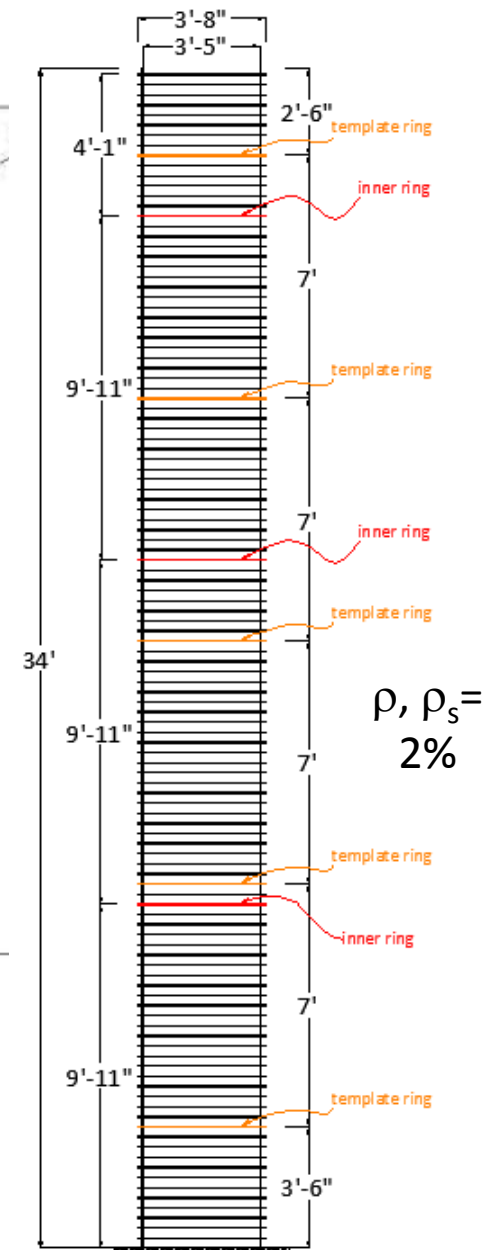


# Nonlinear Finite Element Analysis



## Tie Wire Connections

1. Min Tie: Template Hoops and Pick-up Bars
2. Max Tying –Every Joint



# Nonlinear FEA Results

FE Model		Elastic Stiffness (lb/in)	Max Lateral Load (lb)	Stiffness Ratio	Load Ratio
Tying	No. of Ties				
Min	620	511	1,160	1	1
Max	3140 (5xMin)	1,600	4,750	3.1	4.1

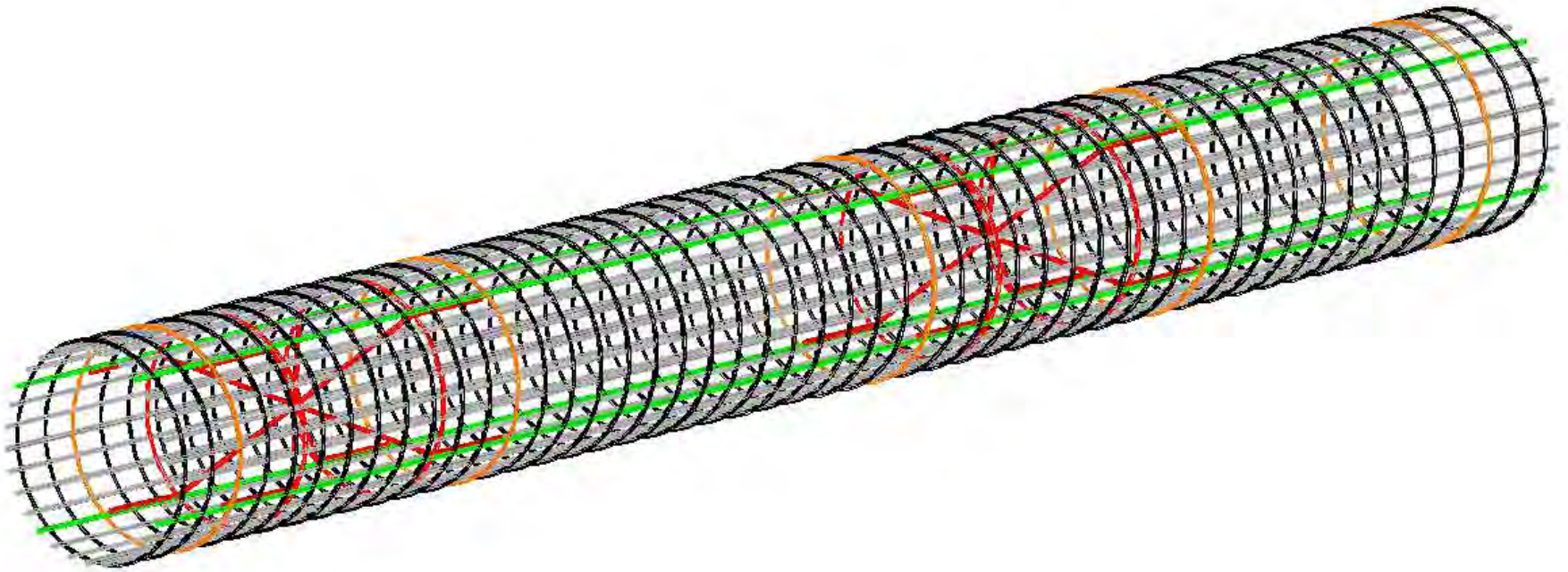
Tie wire connections **are not** effective in increasing the strength and stiffness

# Reflections on FE Analysis Results

1. Cages are dominated by shear flexibility ( $GA_s$ ) and not by flexure ( $EI$ ).
2.  $\beta$  factor is almost zero for minimum tying.
3. Tie wire connections are not effective in increasing the strength and stiffness.
4. Need to significantly increase the cage stiffness.
5. Investigate effect of internal braces

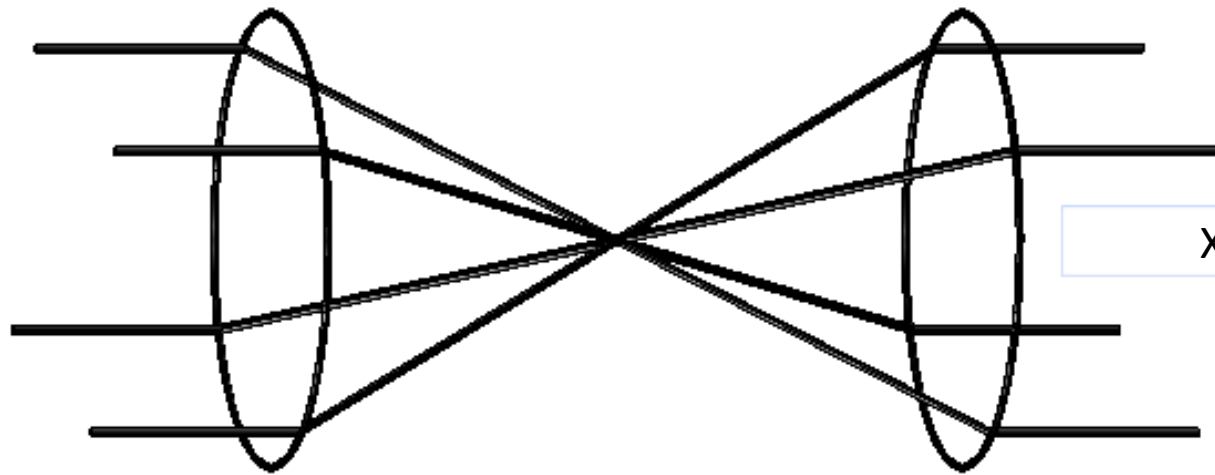


# Rebar Cage Internal Braces

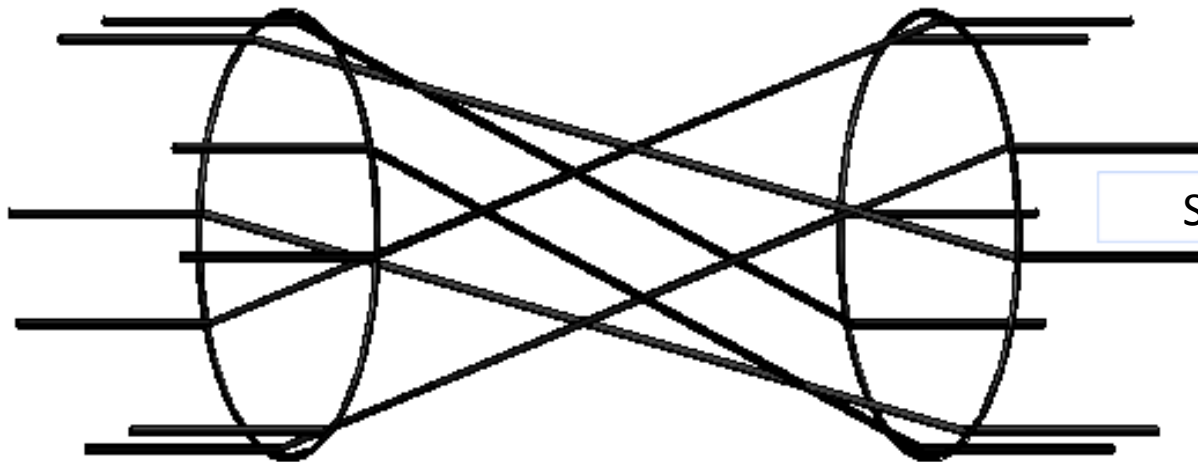


- Two Types: X-Type or Square
- #8 bars welded in the middles and spaced @ 10 ft
- Tied to longitudinal bars and to end rings

# Cage Internal Braces



X-Brace



Square Brace

# Internal Braces X Type





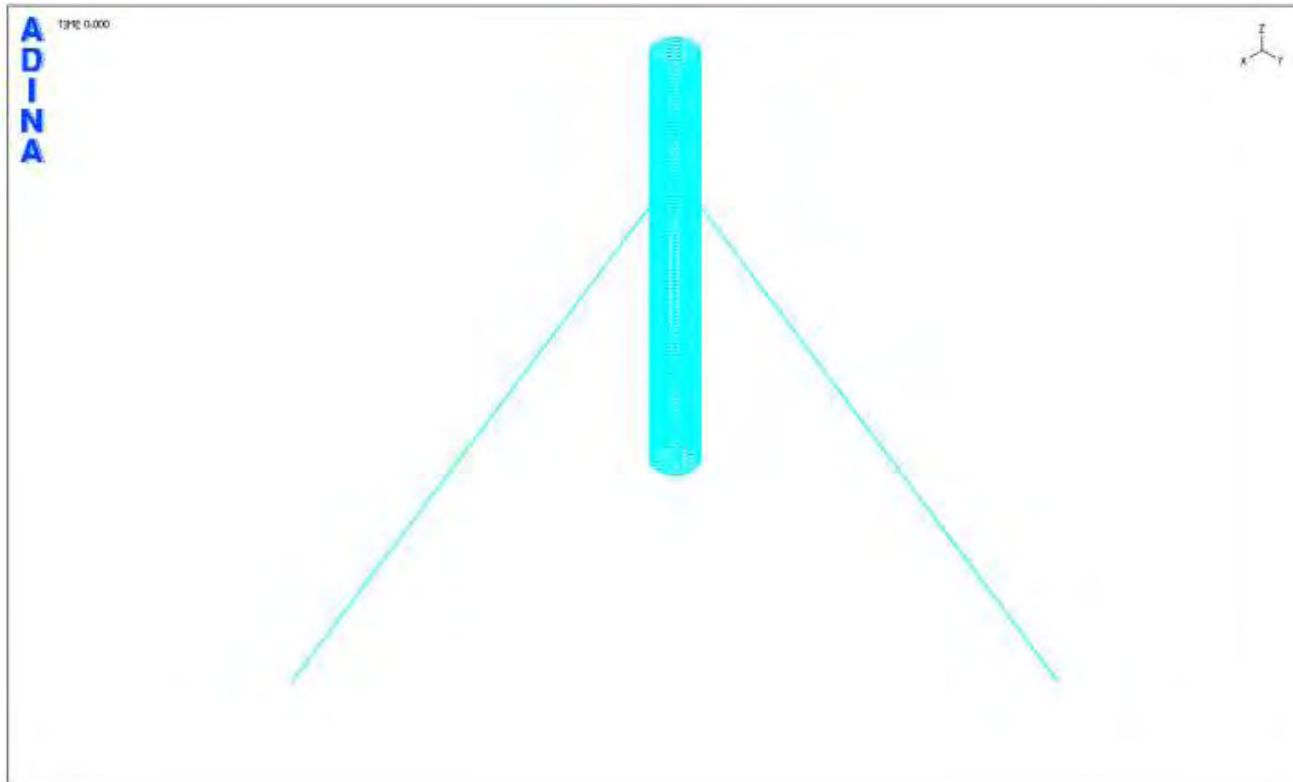
# Internal Braces Box Type



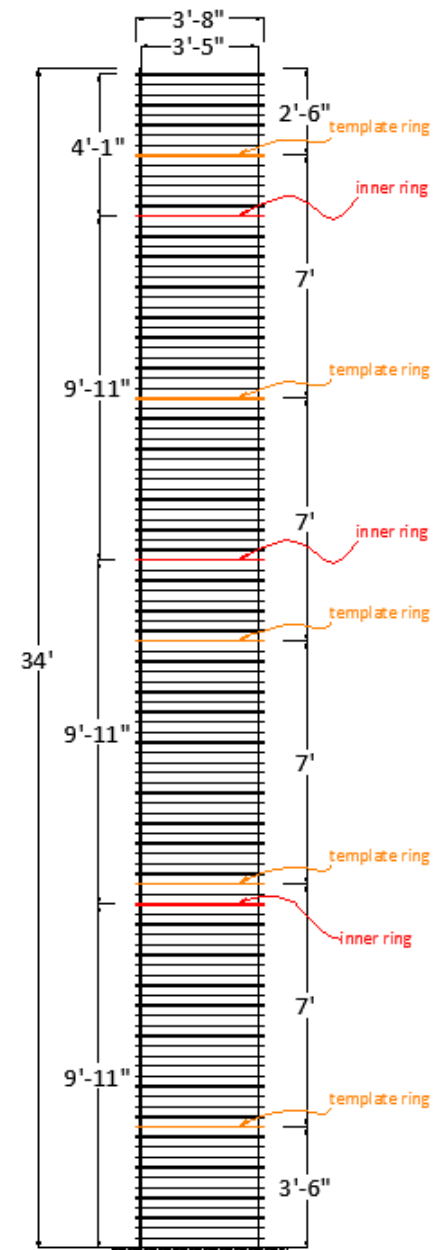




# Nonlinear Finite Element Analysis



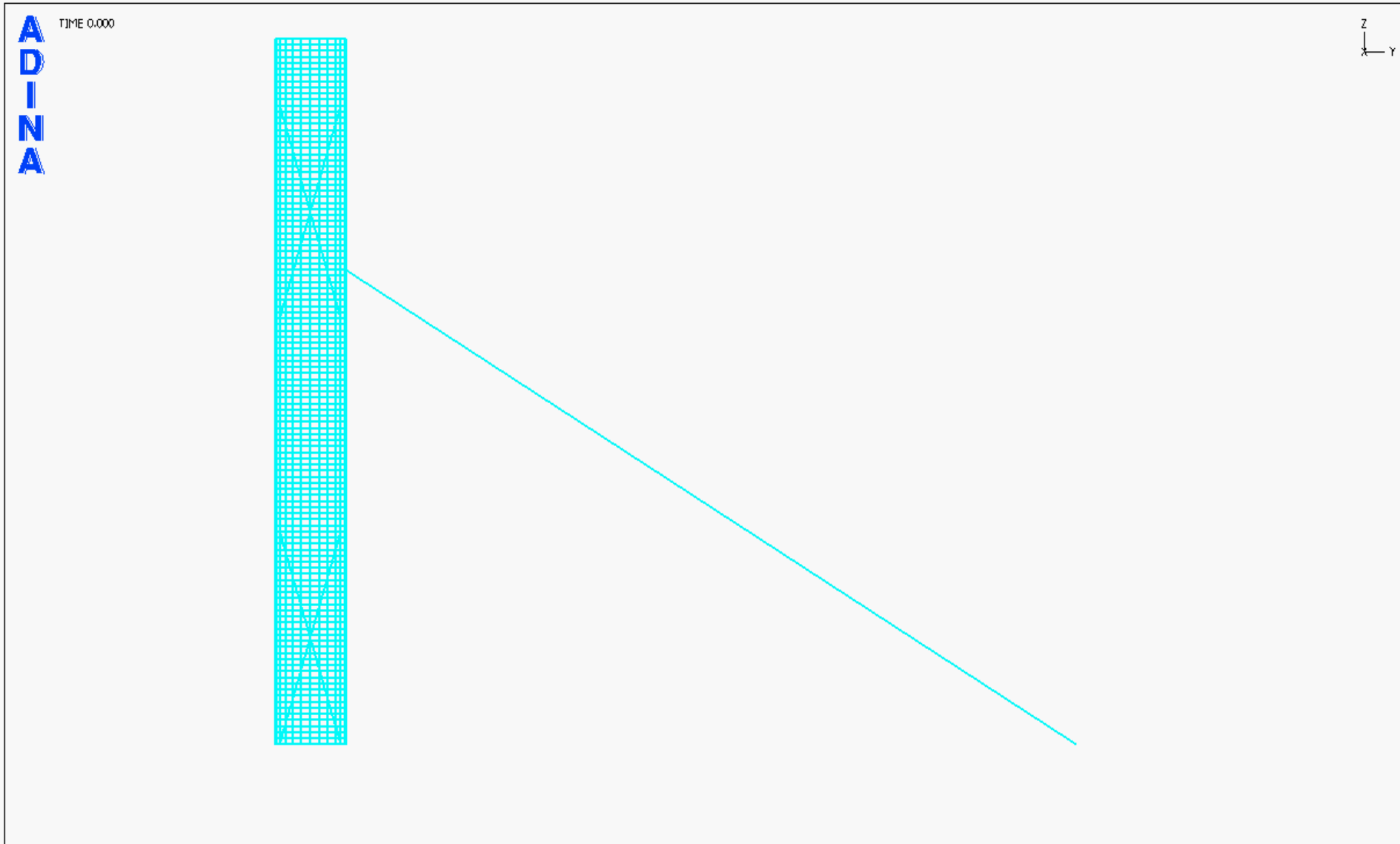
1. Min Tying
2. Max Tying
3. Min Tying with X-Braces
4. Min Tying with Box Braces



# Nonlinear FEA Results

Model		Elastic Stiffness (lb/in)	Max Lateral Load (lb)	Stiffness Ratio	Load Ratio
Tying	Brace Type				
Min	00	511	1,160	1	1
Max	00	1600	4,750	3.1	4.1
Min	Box	5370	6,230	10.5	5.4
Min	X	5170	7,140	10.1	6.2

# FEA Results





# Reflections on FEA Results

- Internal Braces increased the strength and stiffness of rebar cage.
- Rebar cages without internal braces are very flexible.
- Rebar cages must have internal braces.

# Rebar Cage Full Scale Experiments

Need to determine information on rebar cage collapse under controlled environment to:

- Determine Lateral Strength and Stiffness
- Progression of Collapse
- Calibrate Analytical Models

# Rebar Cage Experiments

- Two Full Scale Specimens
- Fabricated at Pacific Coast Steel similar to Caltrans cage assembly
- Cage Height 34 ft, Cage Dia 3'-8",  $H/D=34'-0"/3'-8''=9.3$

Specimen	Longitudinal Bars		Transverse Bars		Brace Type	Weight
1	12#11	$\rho=1\%$	#8@7"	$\rho_s=1\%$	X 4#8	4,100 lb
2	24#11	$\rho=2\%$	#8@3.5"	$\rho_s=1\%$	Square 8#8	8,200 lb





# Reinforcement Placing

- Four pick-up bars tied at every Joints
- Five template hoops tied at every joint

Specimen	Bar Type	Tie Wire Connection Types			
		2-Snap	4-Snap	Column-tie	Wrap & Saddle
I	Pick-up	20%	70%	4%	6%
	Template	0%	33%	33%	33%
II	Pick-up	90%	5%	0%	5%
	Template	5%	0%	0%	95%

# Number and Type of Tie Wire Connections

Specimen	# Joint	%Tied Joints				No Ties
		2-snap	4-Snap	Column Tie	Wrap & Saddle	
I	708	21%	41%	2%	4%	28%
II	2808	33%	10%	1%	4%	52%

# Test Set-up

- Fixity at the base of the cage
- Load applied at 23 ft high through two 7/16"-dia guy wires @ N-S and E-W directions
- Guy wire inclination 33 degrees
- Load applied through hydraulic wench with displacement control at the two locations

























































University of Tennessee

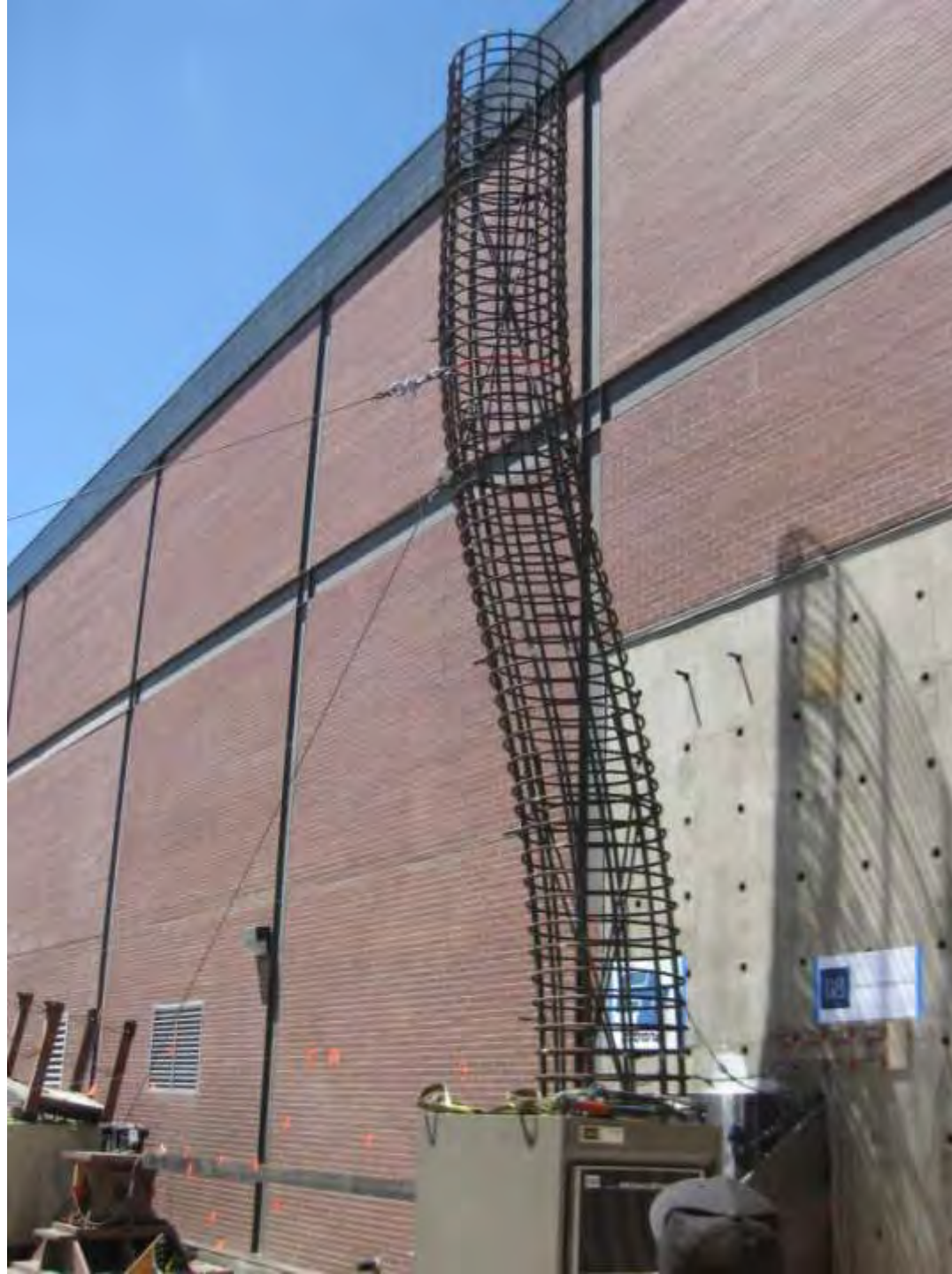
ASYM  
BLOCK

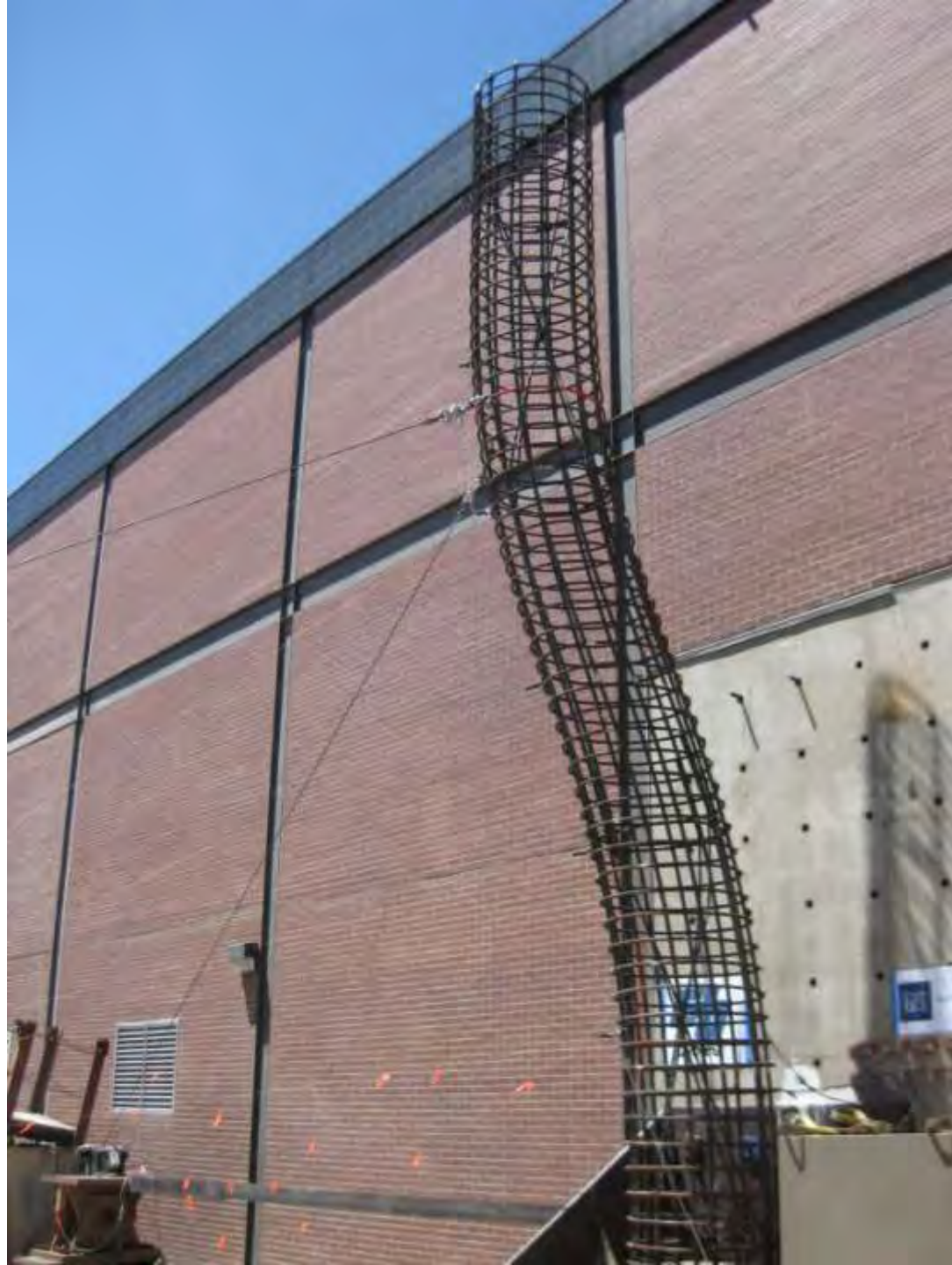
ASYM  
BLOCK



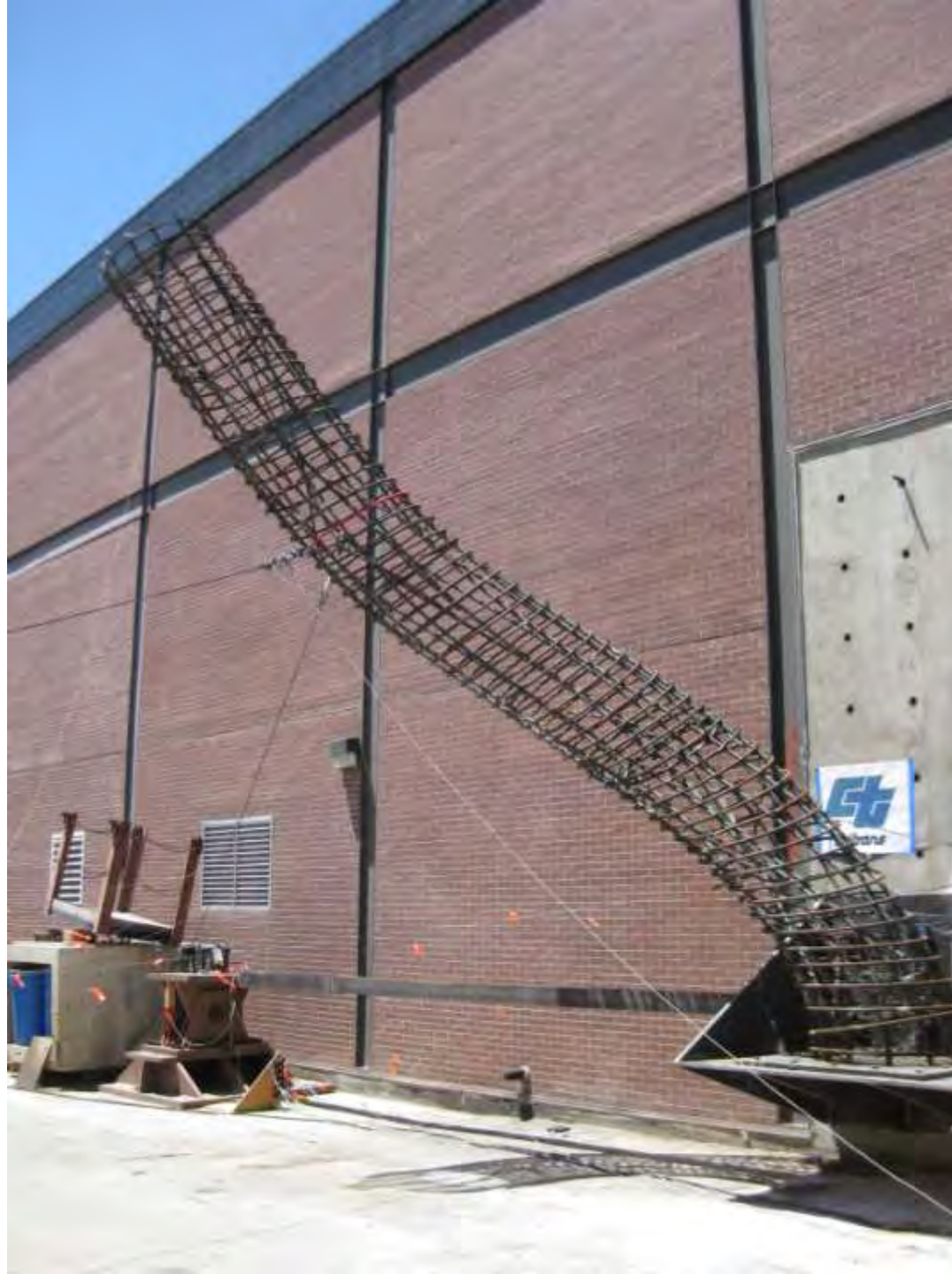






















- ❑ Specimen II
  - ❑  $\rho = 2\%$  (24 #11 rebar)
  - ❑  $\rho_s = 2\%$  (#11@3.0 in)
  - ❑ Square braces
  - ❑ Weight 8,200 lb





















## Testing Specimen II













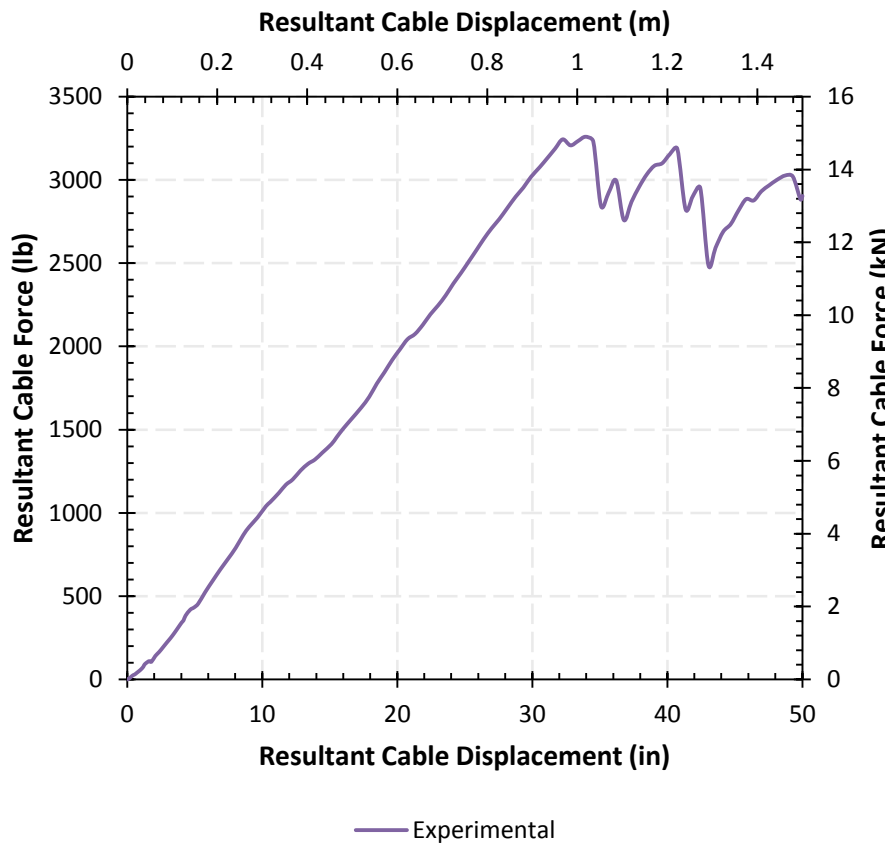




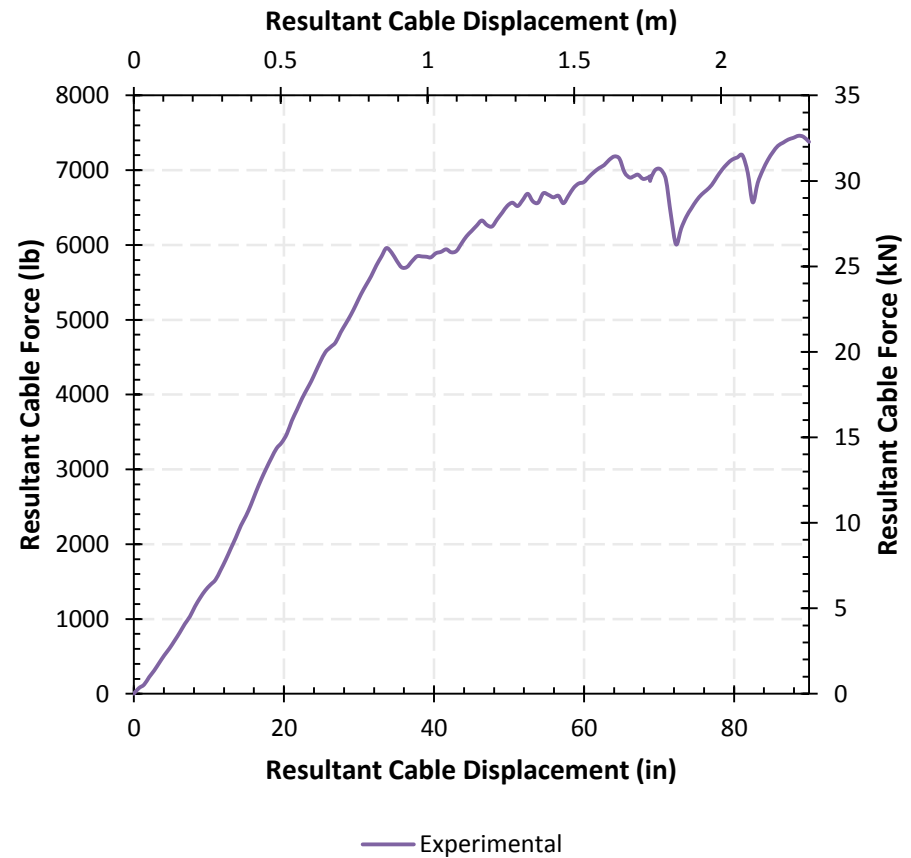


# Experimental Results

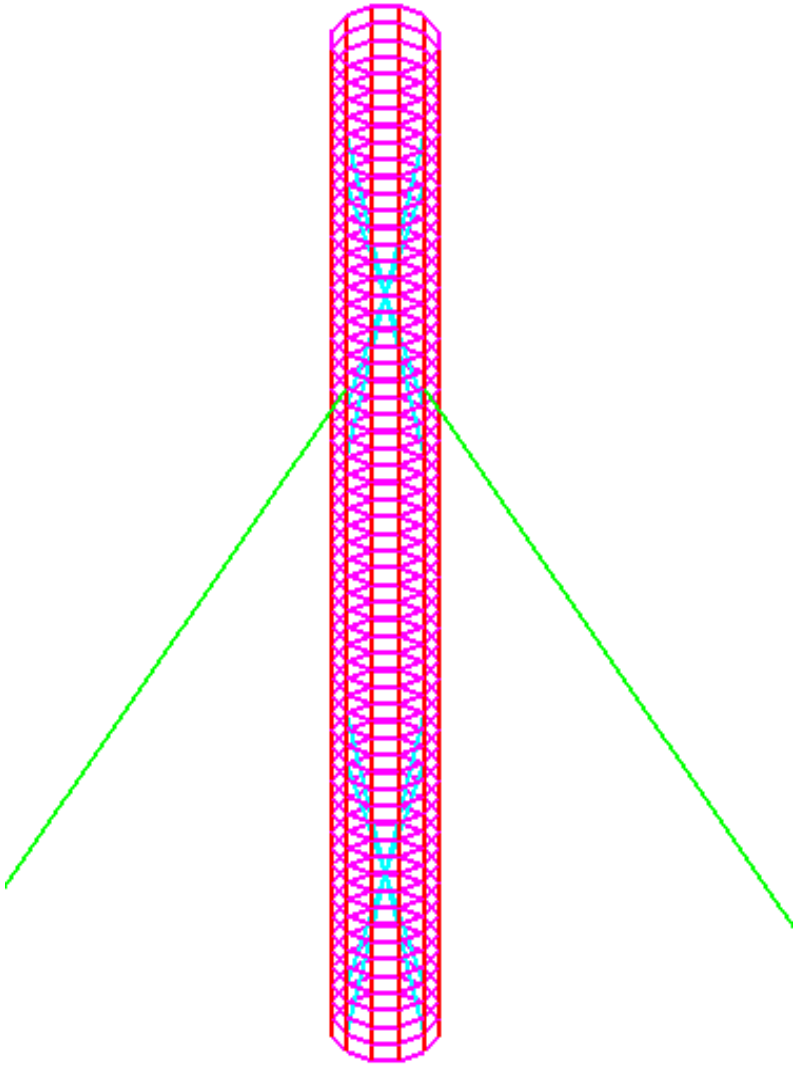
## Specimen I



## Specimen II



# Calibration of Computational Model

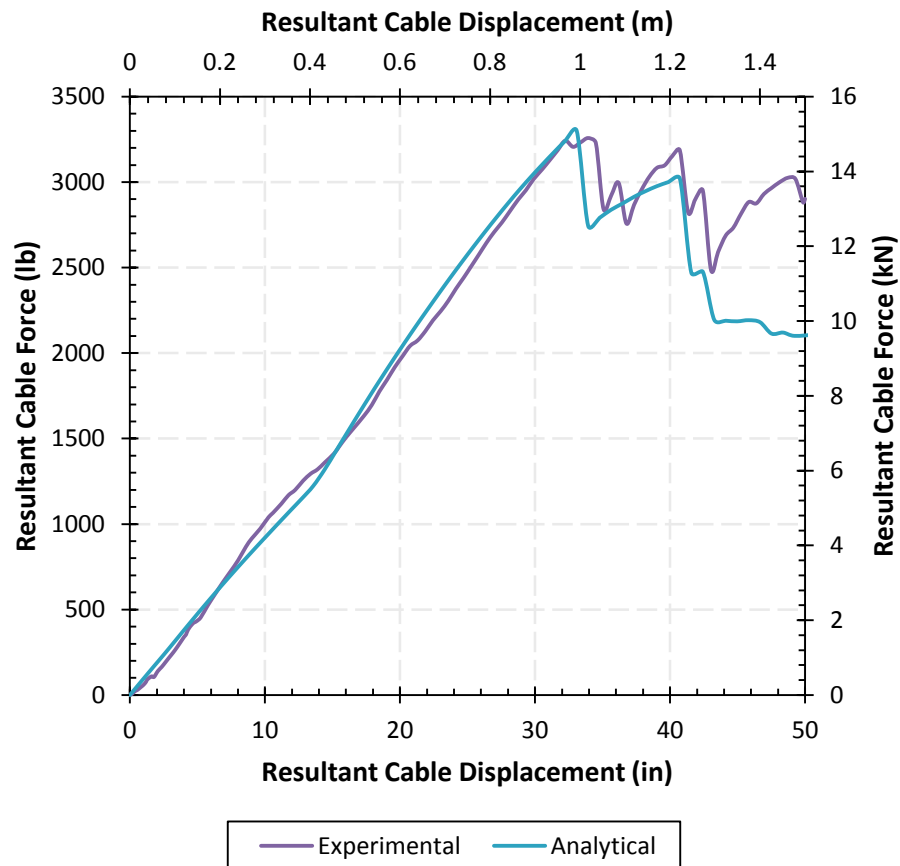


- ADINA v.8.6
- Tie Wire Connections
  - Strength
  - Stiffness
- Longitudinal bars
  - Axial
  - Flexure
  - Torsion
- Bracing Element
  - Boundary Conditions and Buckling

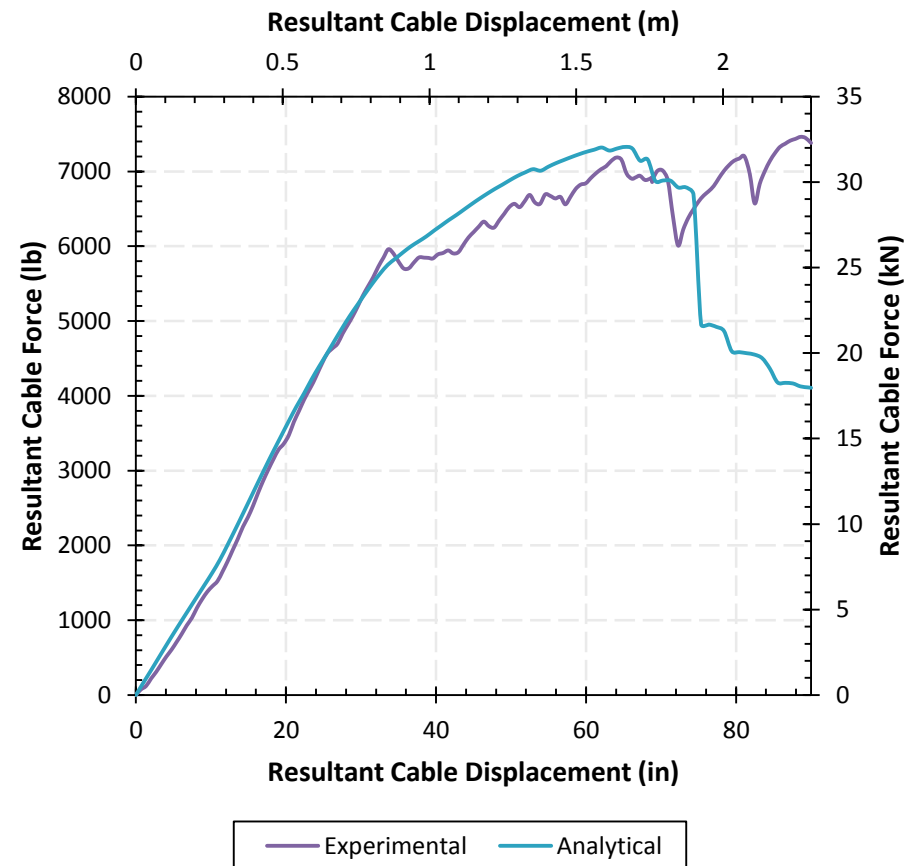


# Calibrated Computational Model Analysis Results

## Specimen I

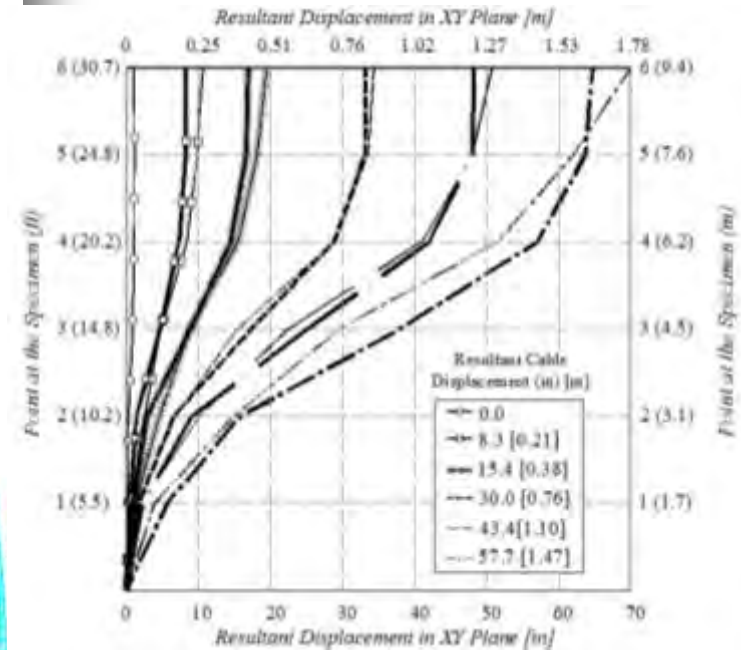
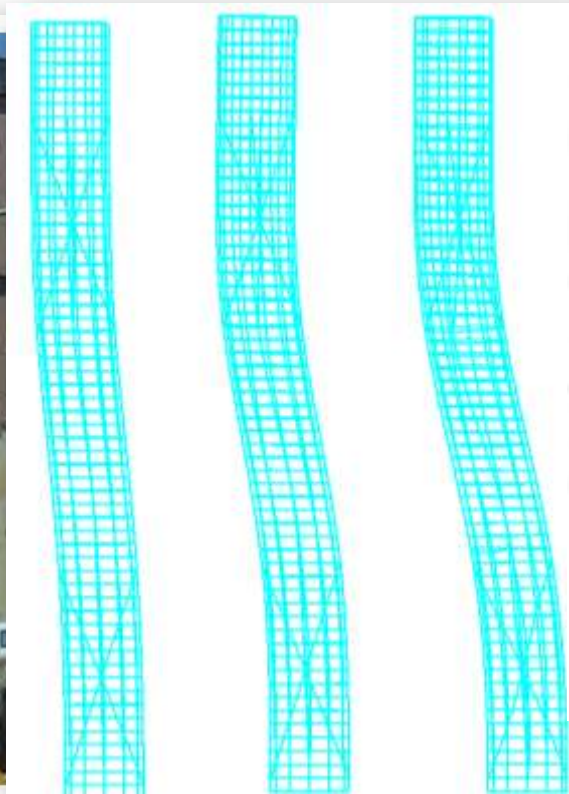


## Specimen II



# Calibrated Computational Model Results

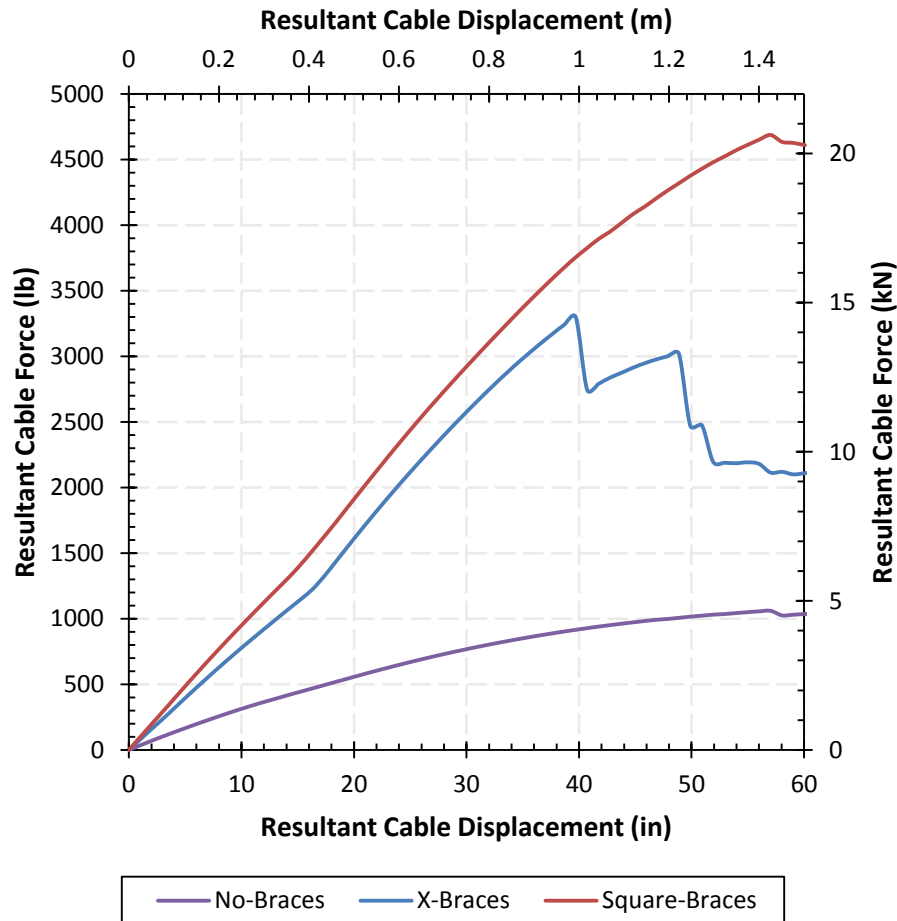
## Deformed Shape of Specimen I



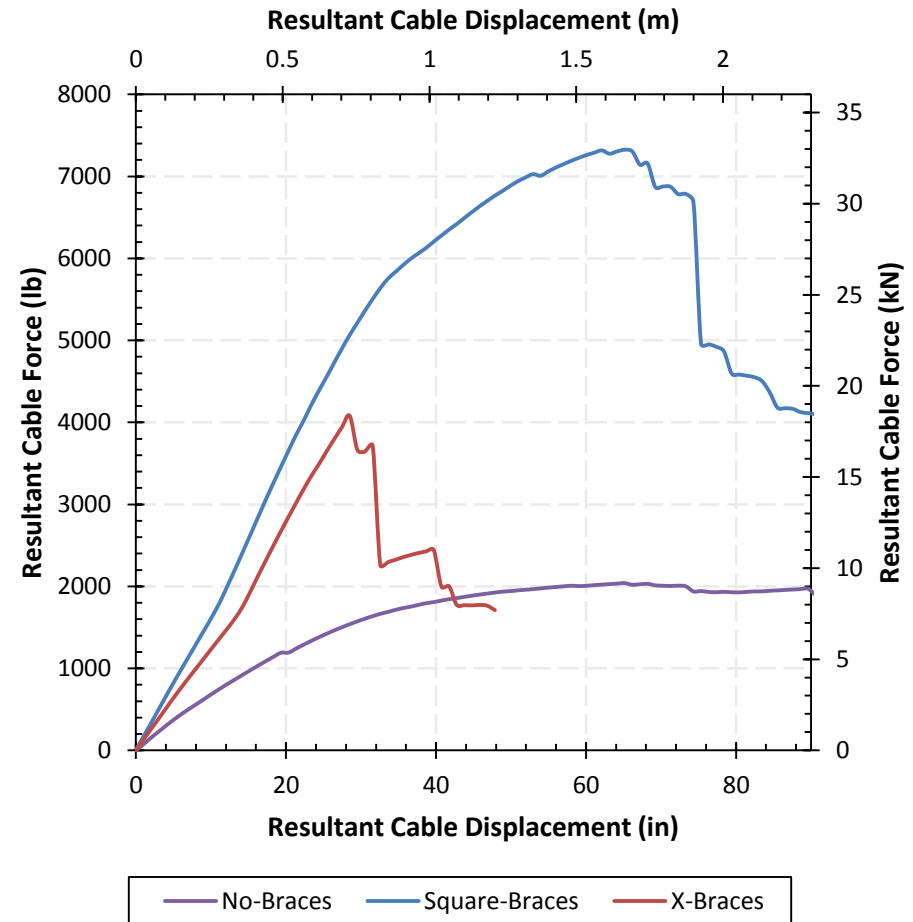
Measured (Dark)  
Analytical (Light)

# Effect of Presence and Type of Internal Braces

Specimen I



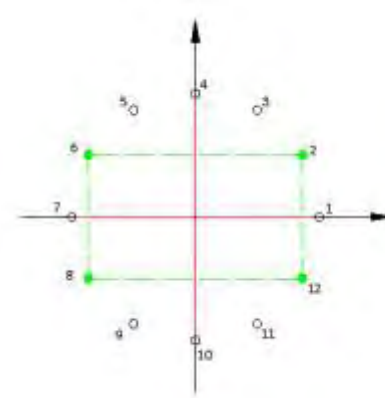
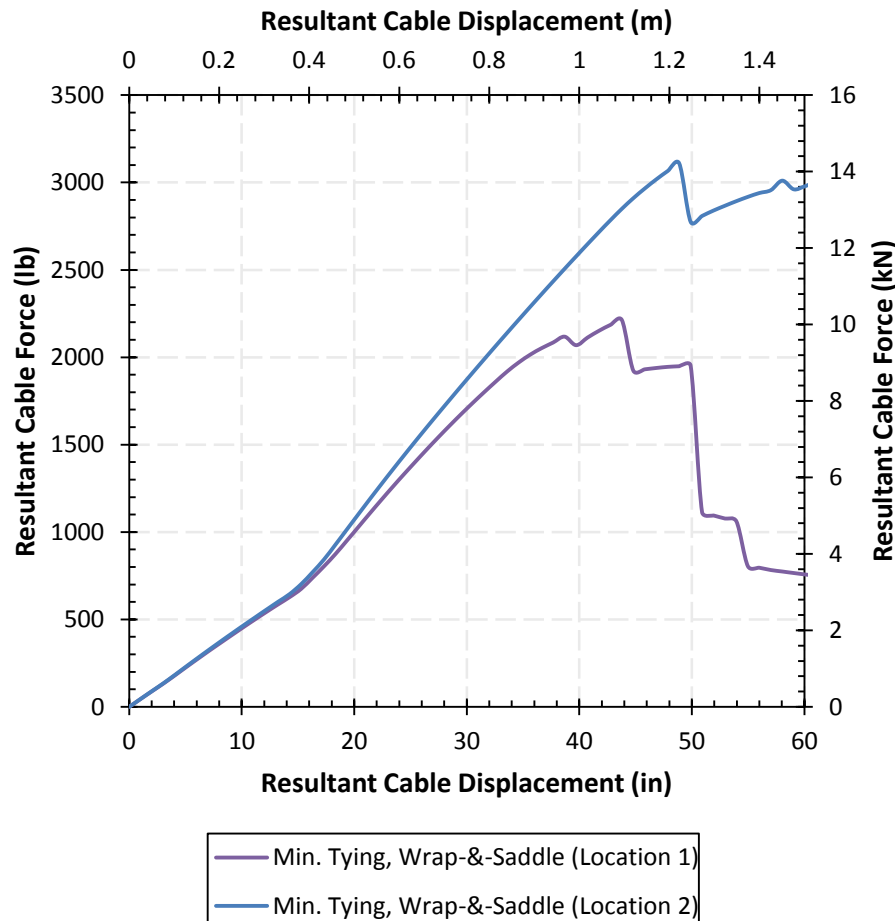
Specimen II



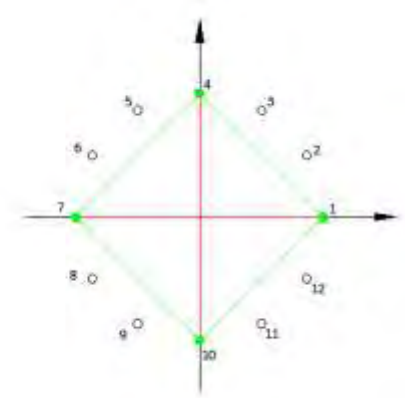


# Effect of Connecting the Braces to Pick-Up bars

Specimen1 with X-Braces



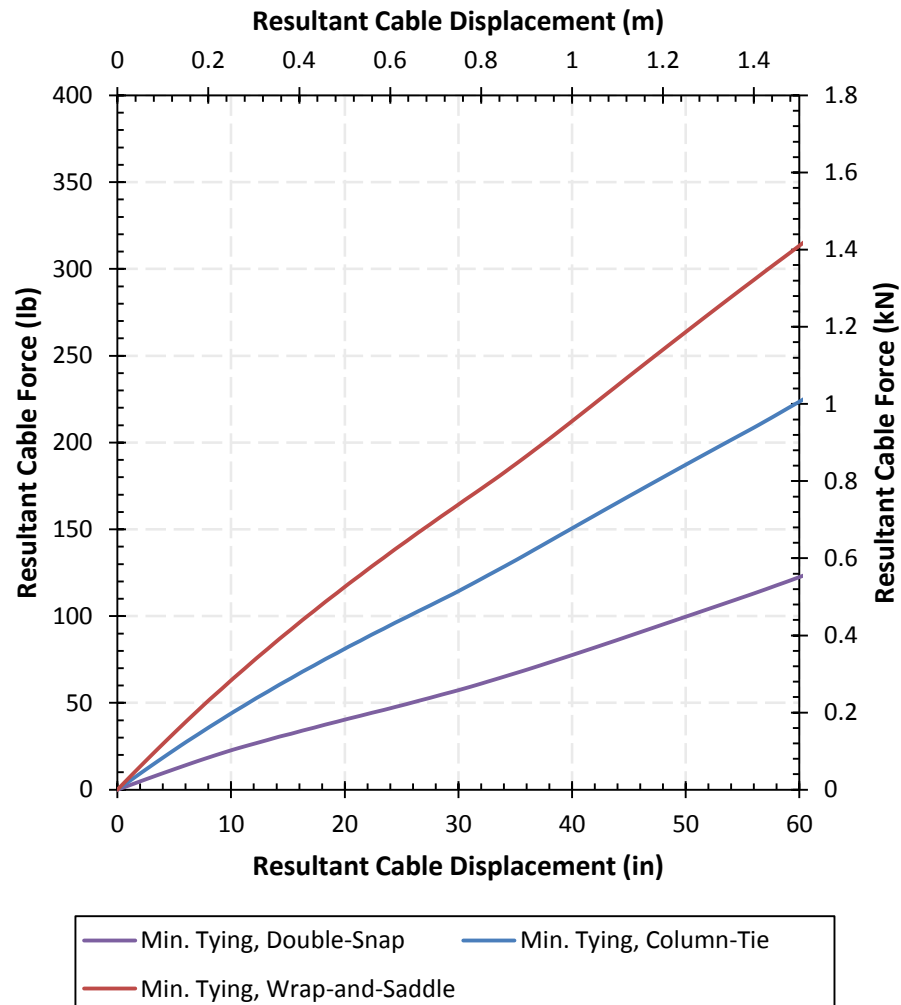
Location 1



Location 2

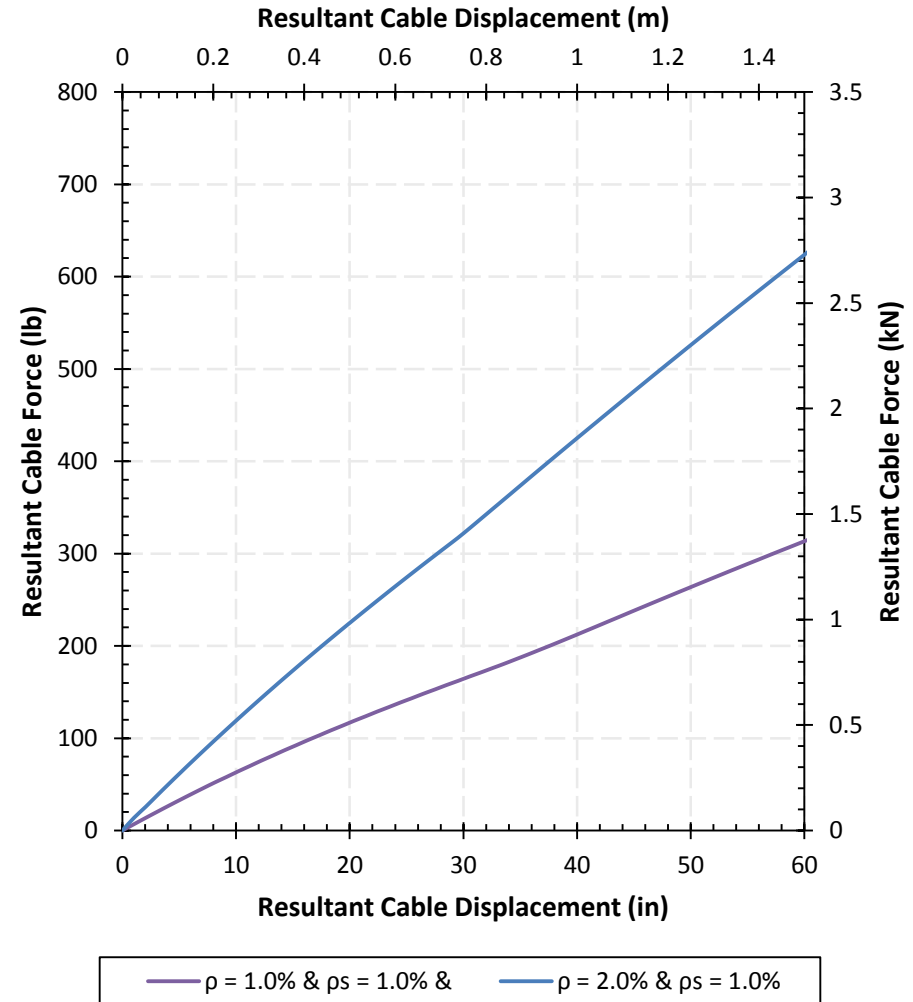
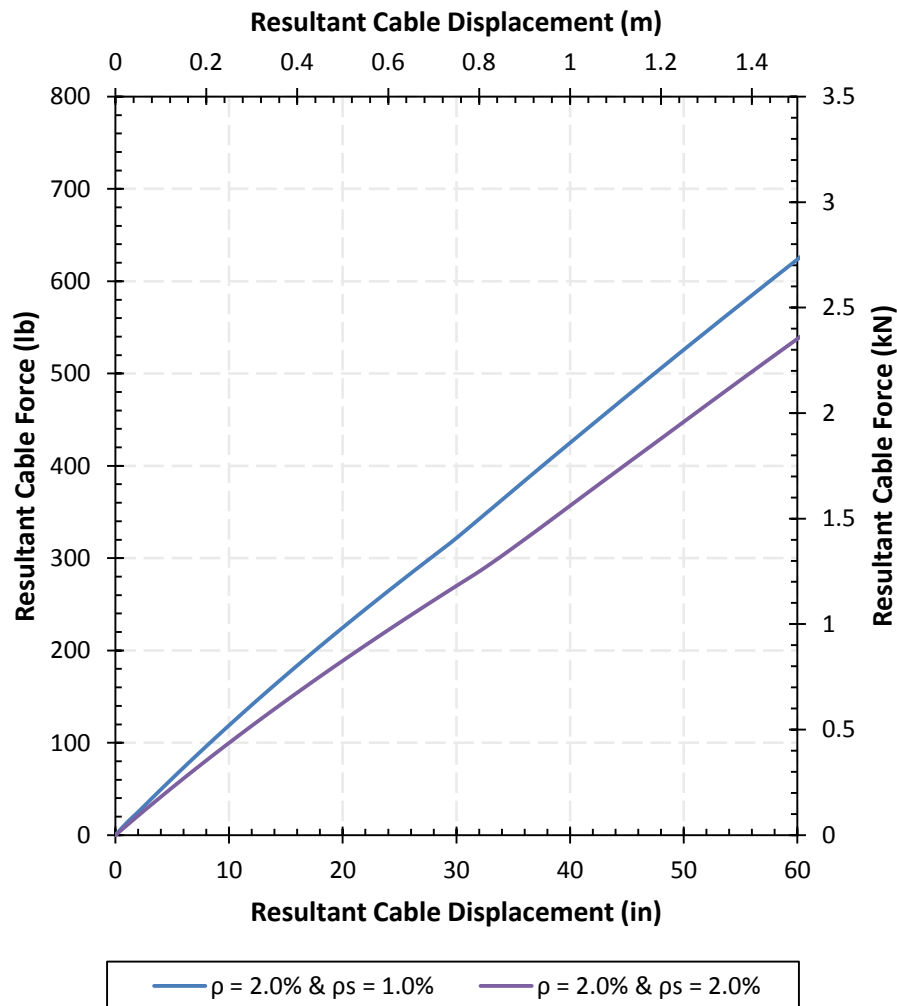
# Effect of Tie Wire Connection Types

## No Braces



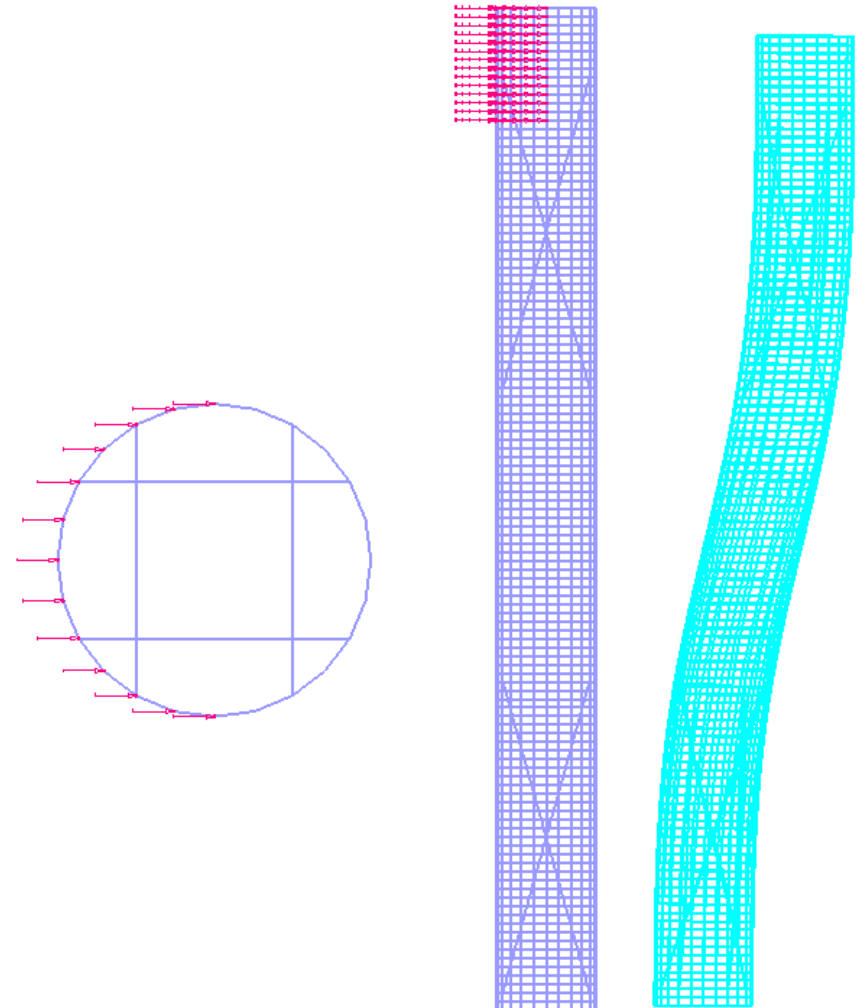
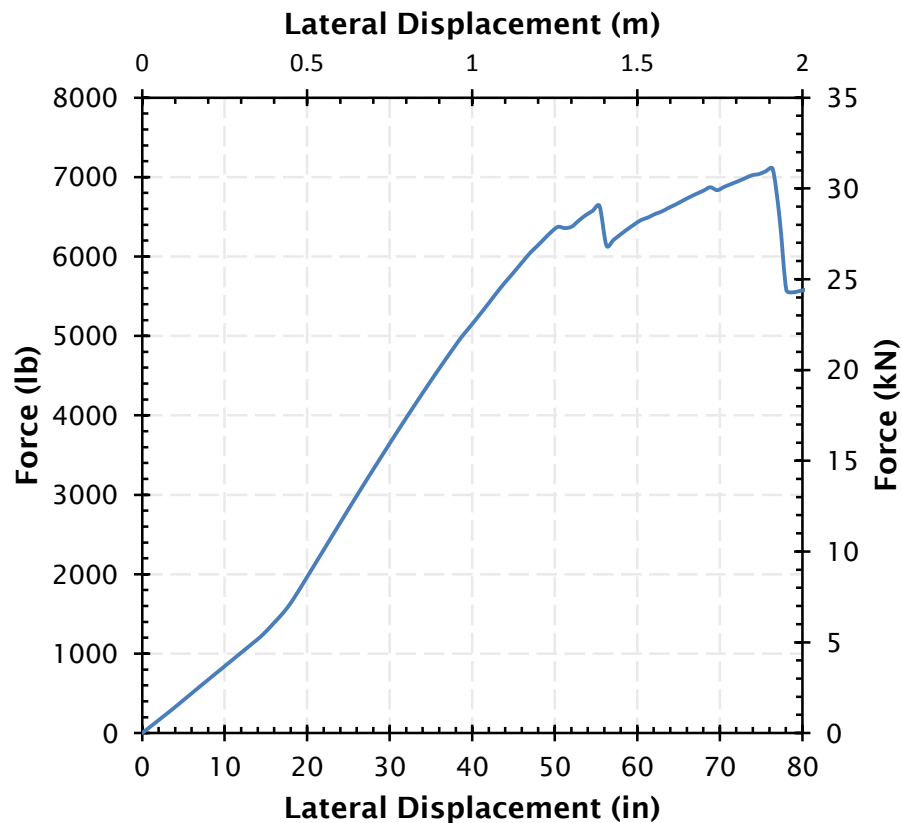
# Effect of Transverse and Longitudinal Reinforcement Ratios

## No Internal Braces

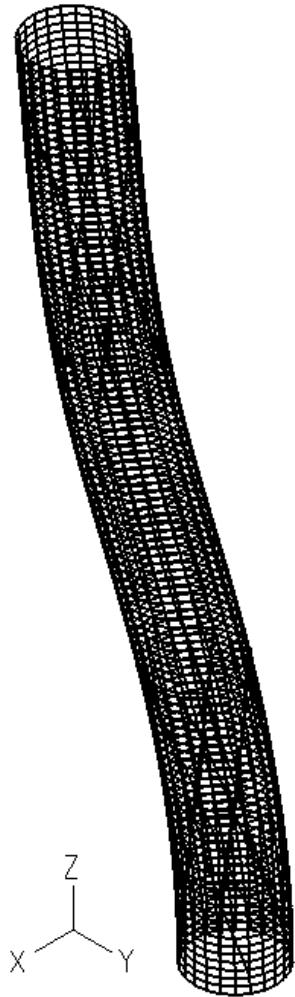




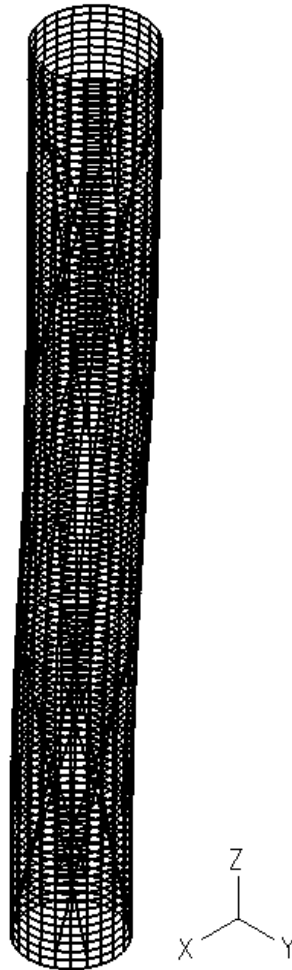
# Static Response under Accidental Loading With Square Braces



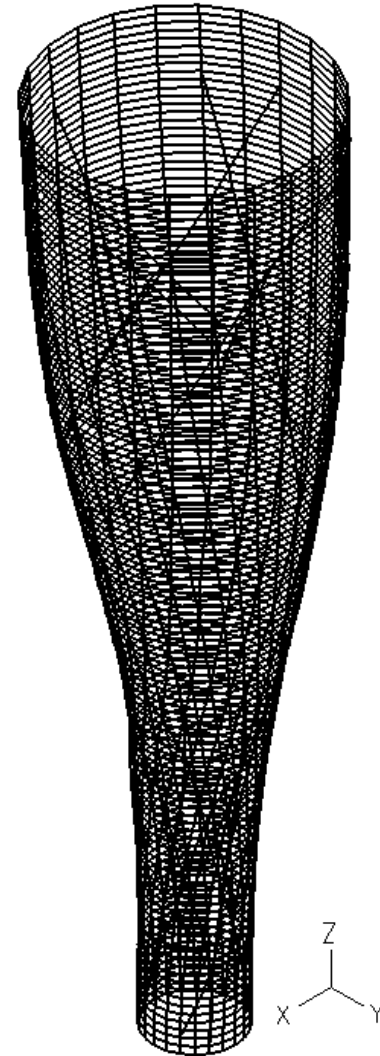
## Dynamic Characteristics-Mode Shapes of Specimen II



T1 = 2.13 sec

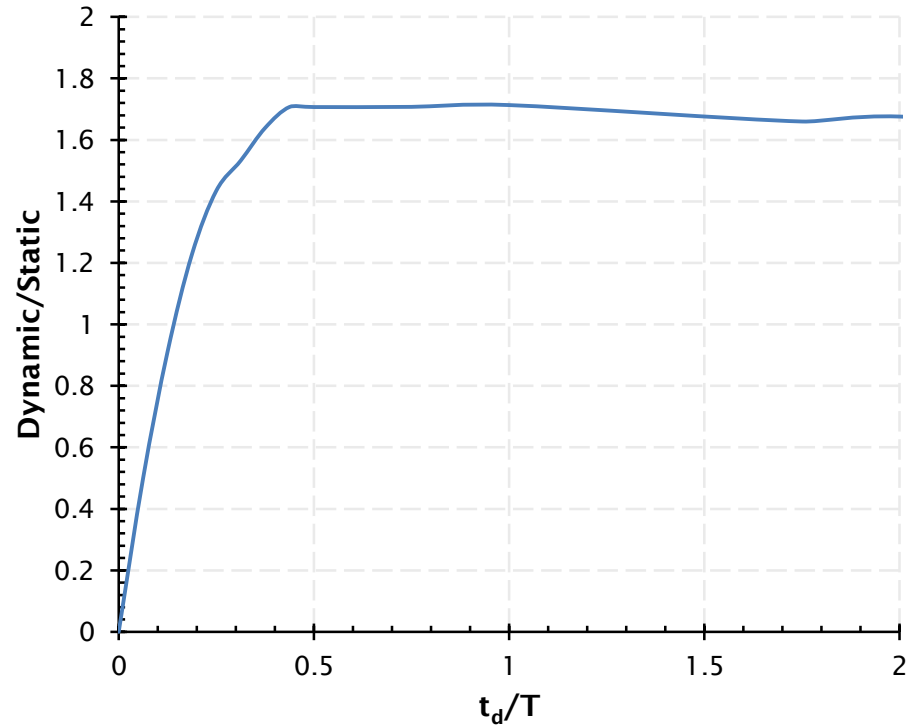
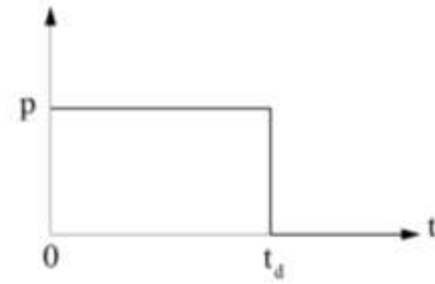
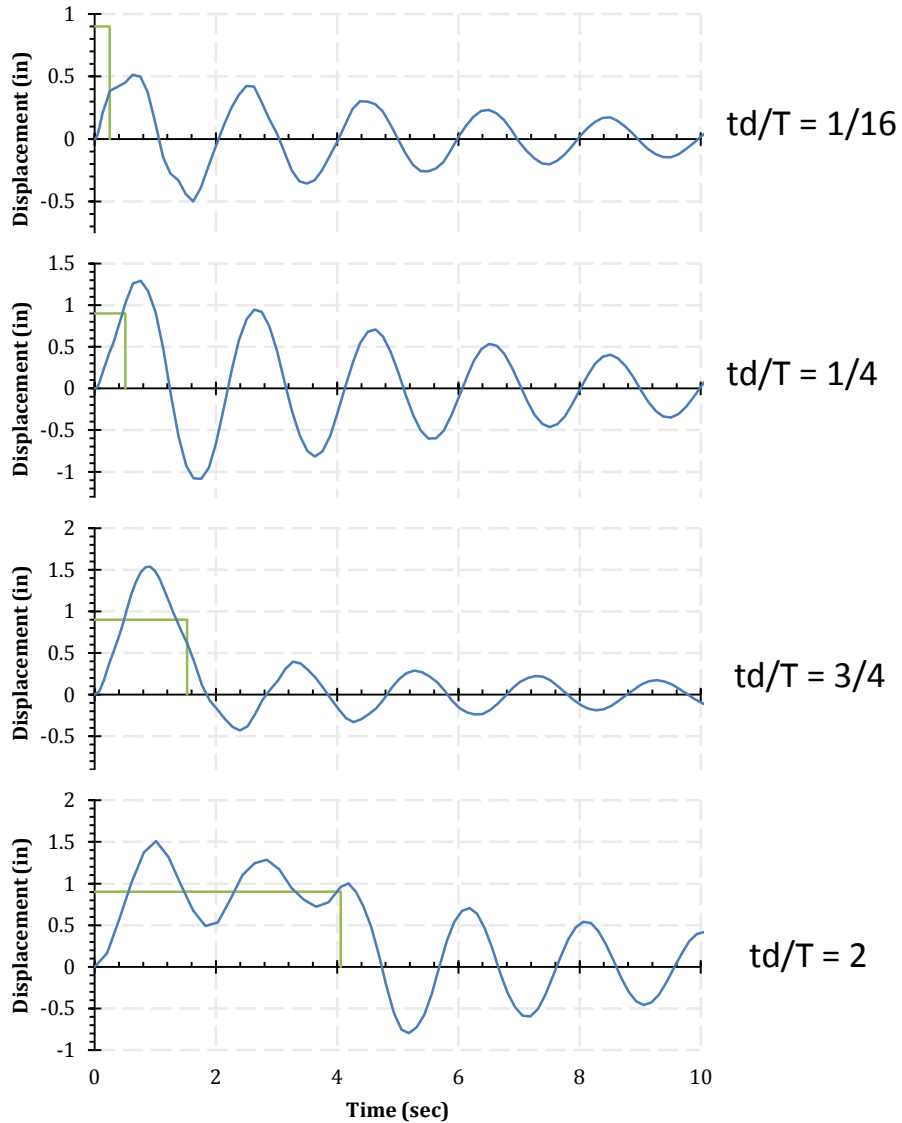


T2 = 1.90 sec



T3 = 1.33 sec

# Dynamic Response under Accidental Loading





# Common Practice in Rebar Cage Assembly

- Bar Placement
  - Spacing of template hoops
  - Number and Location of pick-up bars
  - Number of connections in field zones
- Tie Wire Connections
  - Types and Locations
- Braces
  - Box braces (#8 and #11)
  - Spacing
  - Connections to pick-up bars
- CRSI “Placing Reinforcing Bars” and State DOT Standard Specs

# CT Standard Specs 52-1.03D-2010

For column and pile bar reinforcing cages measuring 4 feet in diameter and larger:

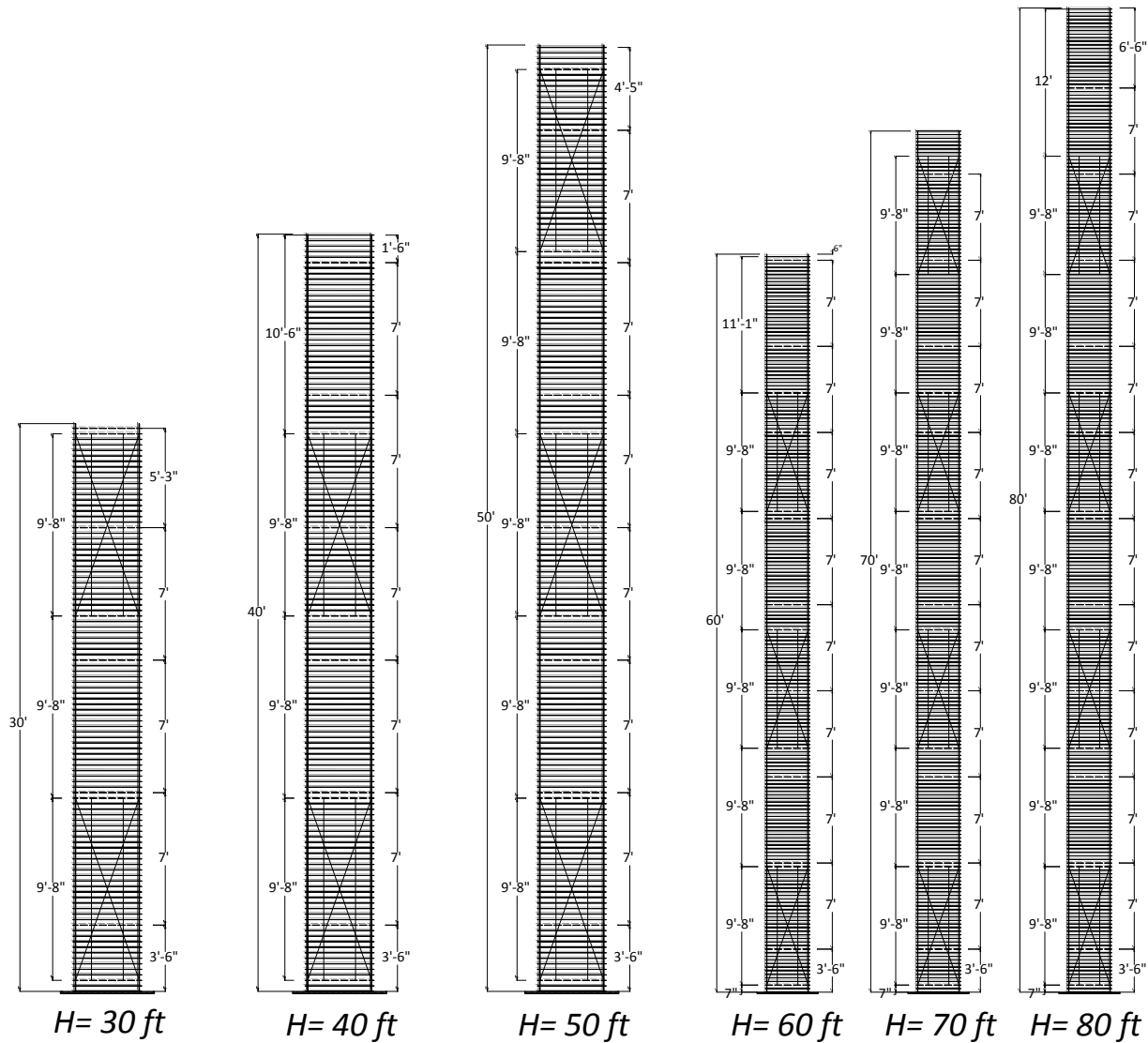
1. Tie all reinforcement intersections with double wire ties on at least 4 vertical bars of each cage equally spaced around the circumference.
2. Tie at least 25 percent of remaining reinforcement intersections in each cage with single wire ties. Stagger tied intersections from adjacent ties.
3. Provide bracing to avoid collapse of the cage during assembly, transportation, and installation.

# Rebar Cage Stiffness

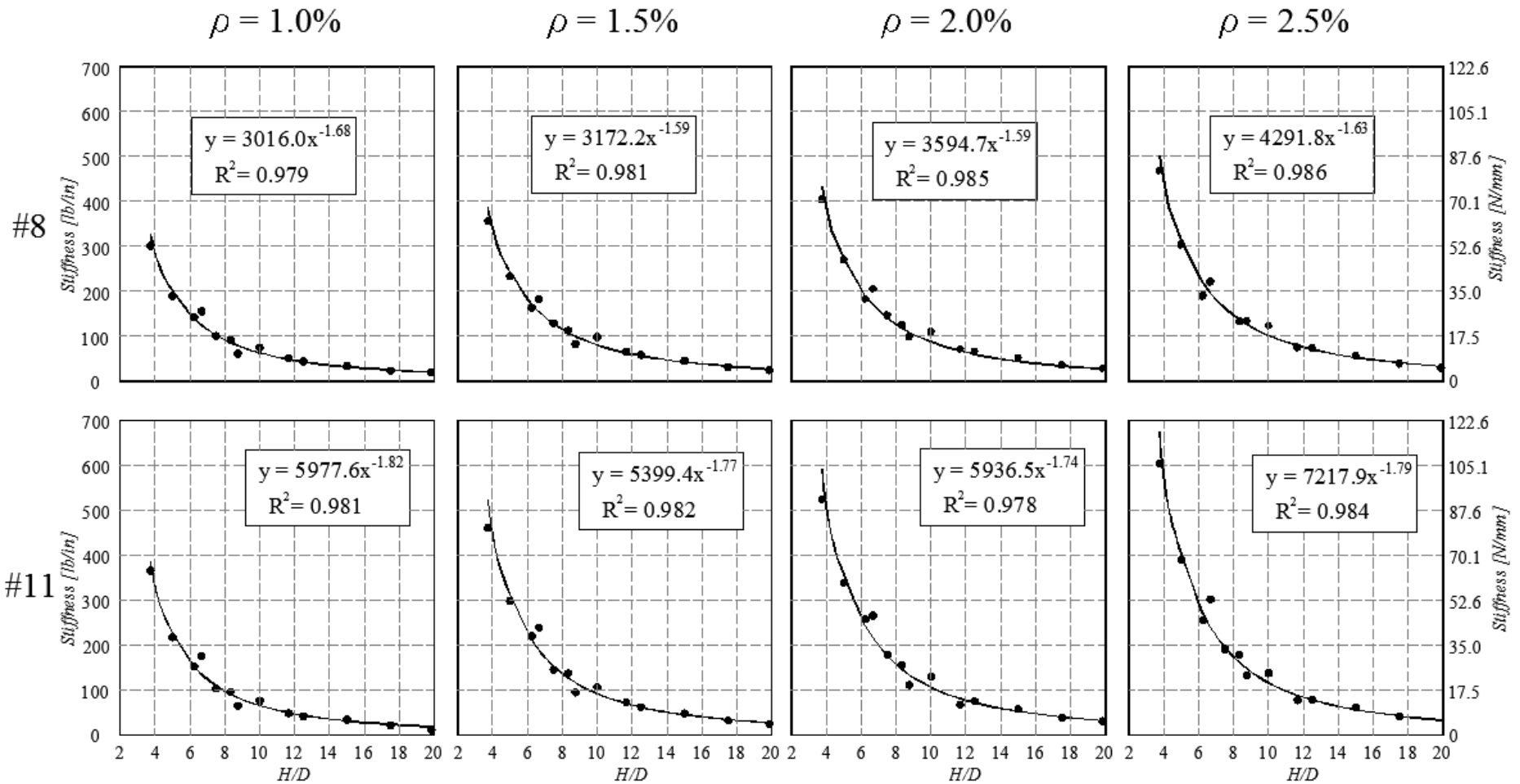
- Common Bridge Rebar Cages
  - 4, 6, and 8 ft diameter
  - $\rho=1, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5\%$  Reinforcement
  - $H=30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80$  ft
- Template Hoops @7'-0"
- Bracings
  - Box #8 bars
  - Box #11 bars
- Tying
  - #15 Gauge, Wrap-and-saddle
  - Template Hoops and Pick-up Bars only



# Parametric Analysis



# Results of Parametric Analysis



#8 brace  
bar

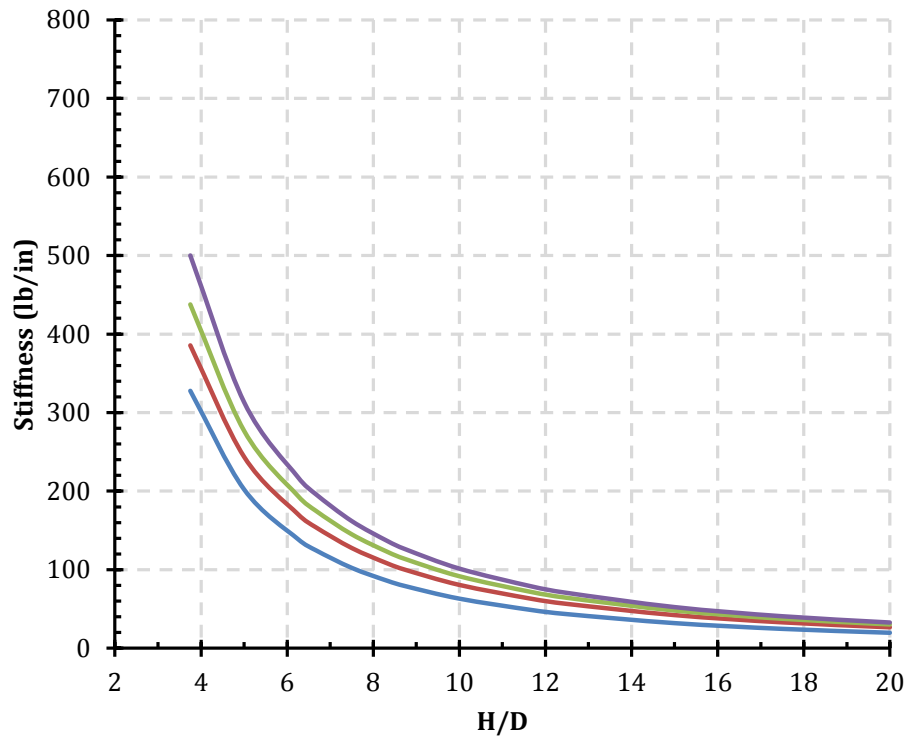
Average Limit Drift =3%

#11 brace  
bar

Average Limit Drift =4%

# Proposed Elastic Stiffness Equations

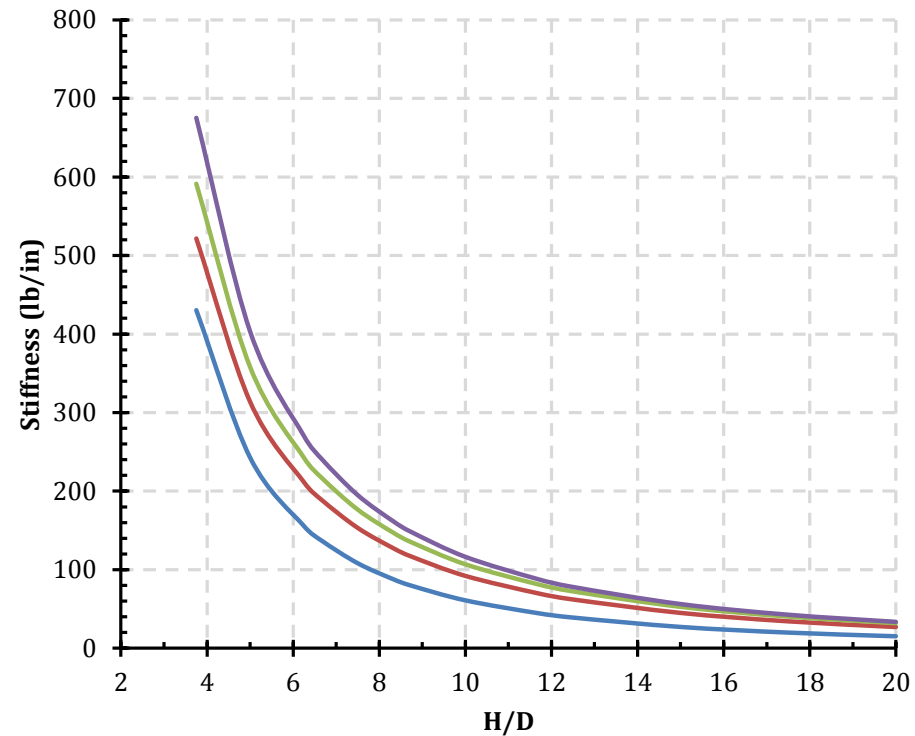
## Internal Braces using #8 rebar



ρ: — 1.0% — 1.5% — 2.0% — 2.5%

$$K_{\#8\text{-brace}} = \frac{85000\rho + 2031}{\left(\frac{H}{D}\right)^{1.62}}$$

## Internal Braces using #11 rebar



ρ: — 1.0% — 1.5% — 2.0% — 2.5%

$$K_{\#11\text{-brace}} = \frac{188113\rho + 2412}{\left(\frac{H}{D}\right)^{1.78}}$$



# Example Rebar Cage Stiffness

- H=34 ft,  $\rho=2\%$ , D=4 ft, Box Braces #8

$$K_{\text{\#8-brace}} = \frac{85000\rho + 2031}{\left(\frac{H}{D}\right)^{1.62}}$$

- Elastic Stiffness K=120 lb/in

# Guyed Temporary Structure

- A Guy is defined in Dictionary.com as: “*Rope or cable used to steady an object.*”
- Current Practice
  - Wire ropes are attached to cage and to anchor weights
  - Analyzed and designed to resist wind load only.





# Standards and Guidelines for Temporary Structure Design and Analysis

- Lack of standards and guidelines!
- CT Guidelines for Only wind analysis and design of guy wires, attachments, and anchor weights

REVIEWING  
GUY WIRE PLANS



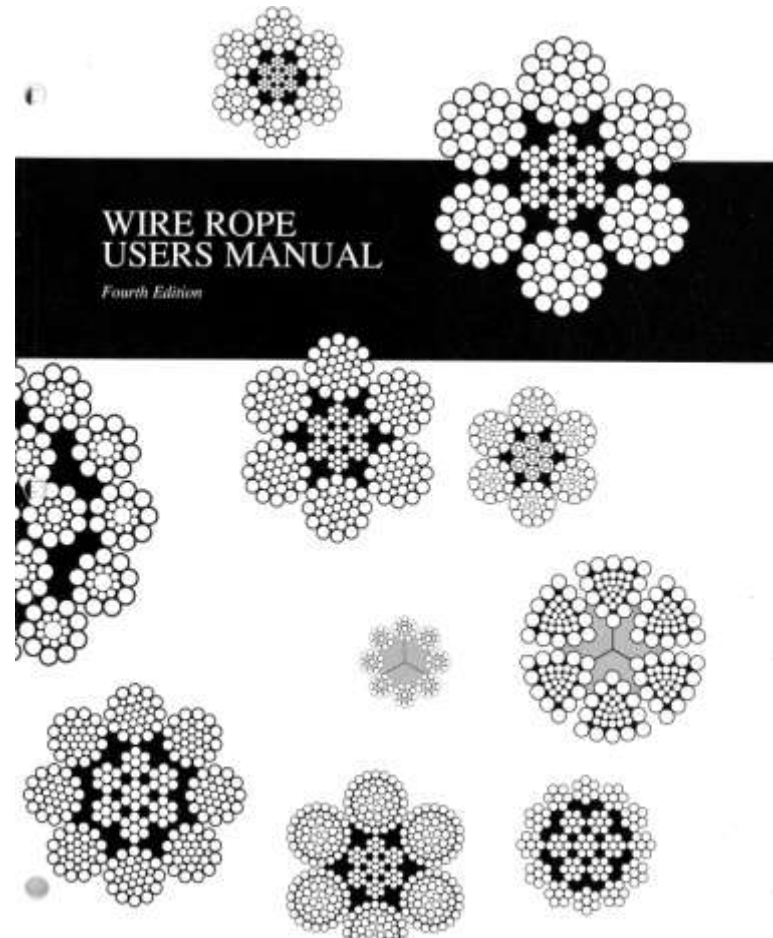
March 2003

By:  
Dan Dait, P.E.  
CT Senior Bridge Specialist

Reviewed By:  
Robert Crain, P.E.  
CT Senior Bridge Engineer

# Guy Wires

- EIPS IWRC 6x19 Guy Wire



# Guy Wires in Rebar Cages

- Tensile strength 245 to 340 ksi
- Size dia.  $3/8''$ ,  $7/16''$ ,  $1/2''$ ,  $5/8''$
- Area= .11, .15, .196, .307
- E=Young's Modulus and Wire Rope Manual
  - Nominal Value and Reduced Value
  - 11,000 to 14,500 ksi
  - Nominal value used for loads greater than 20% of breaking strength



# Stretch in Wire Ropes

- Constructional Stretch and Elastic Stretch: different values of  $E$  at various stages of loading.
  - Constructional stretch occurs when a cable is loaded for the first time. Depends on wire number of strands, number of wire in each strand and the type of core
  - Elastic Stretch result of inherent elasticity or recoverable deformation of the metal itself

# Pre-tensioned Guy Wires

- Caltrans Falsework Manual
- Preloading is necessary to ensure that cable units will act elastically when load are applied.
- Remove any slack wire!
- Come-along, Jaw Turnbuckle



# Why Pre-tension Guy Wires?

- Guyed Electrical Transmission Structures
- Pretensioned Wires
  - Wind Galloping Effect-Tension too low
  - Wind Aeolian Effect-Tension is too high

$$f = \frac{1}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{P}{m}}$$

- Normally tensioned 10% of break strength
- Example 3/8"-dia wire rop:  
P/T=1,500 lb

ASCE Manuals and Reports on Engineering Practice No. 91

## Design of Guyed Electrical Transmission Structures

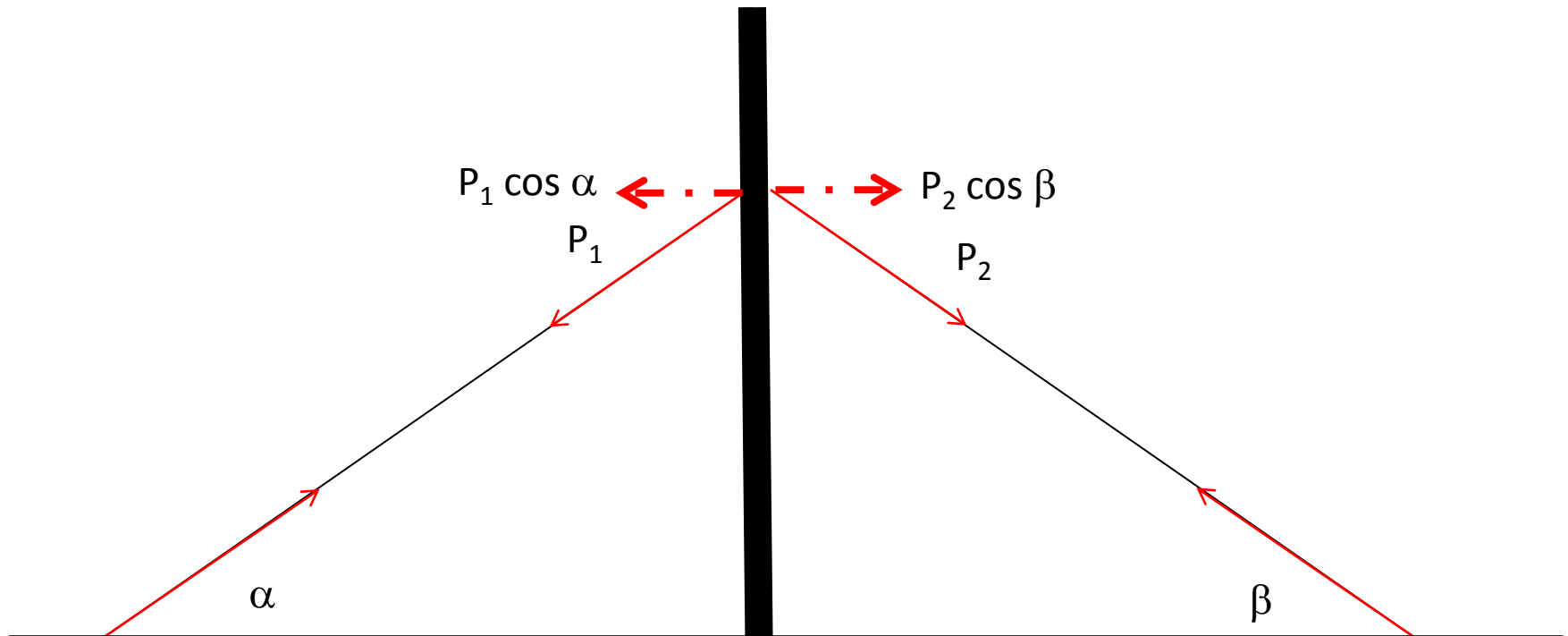
**ASCE**

20  
\*

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

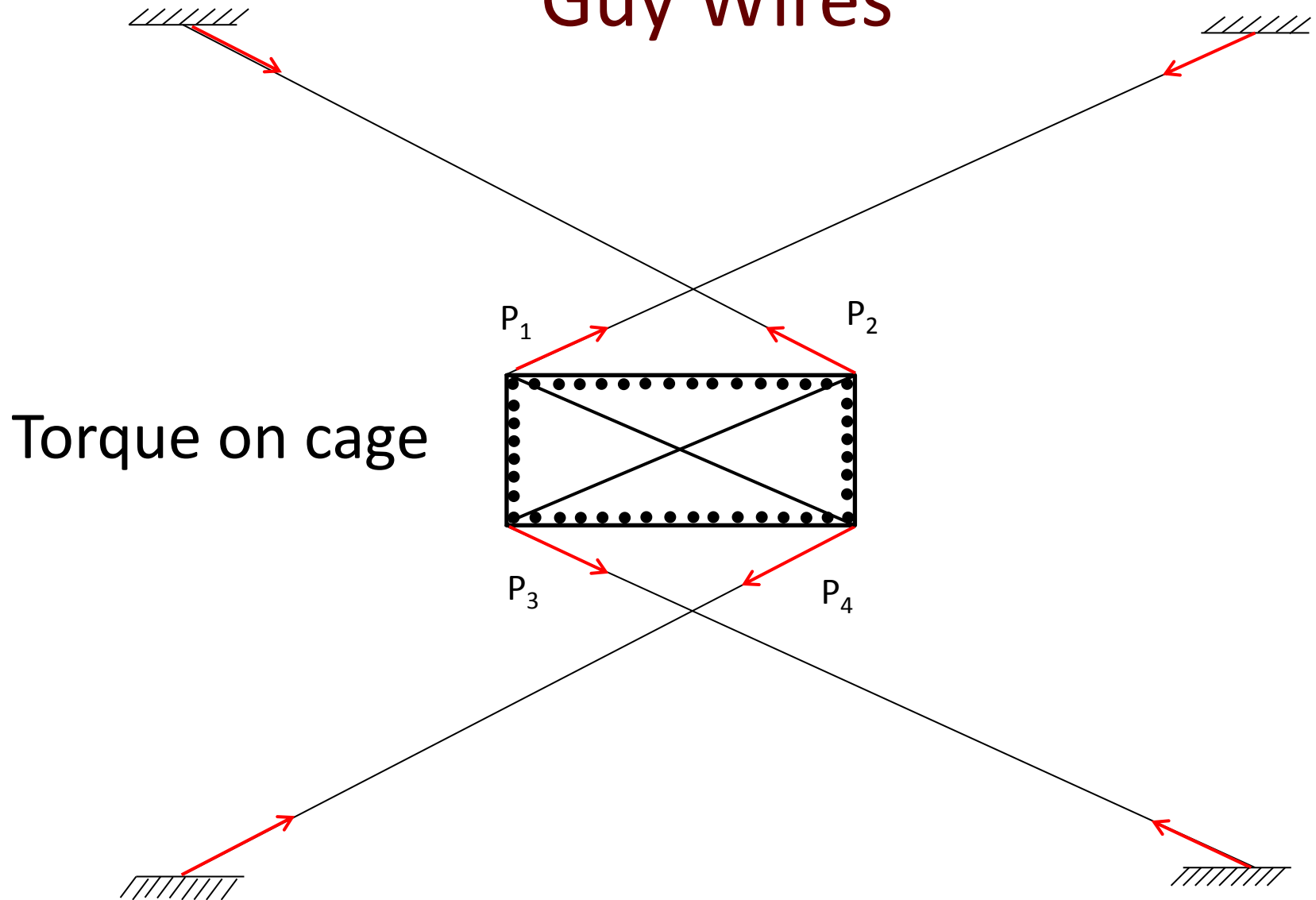


# Unsymmetrical Guy Wire Pretensioned Forces



Lateral Load on Rebar Cage

# Plan View of Cage and Different P/T of Guy Wires



# Needs for Guy Wire Plans

- Need to specify P/T force in the field.
- Need make sure that P/T forces are balanced.
- Net lateral force should be very small!
- Wire Tension Meter up to 10,000 lb





# Common Practice in Analysis of Guyed Temporary Structures

- No National Standards
- California Bridge Contractors
  - Tributary area and statics to determine guy wire force for wind loads
  - CT min Wind Pressure from 20 psf up to 35 psf
- No Checks on other Loads!
- No checks on rebar cages!

## CT Static Analysis for Guy Wire Design

$$\sum M_x = 0$$

$$F_{cx}(A_z) - W(H/2) = 0$$

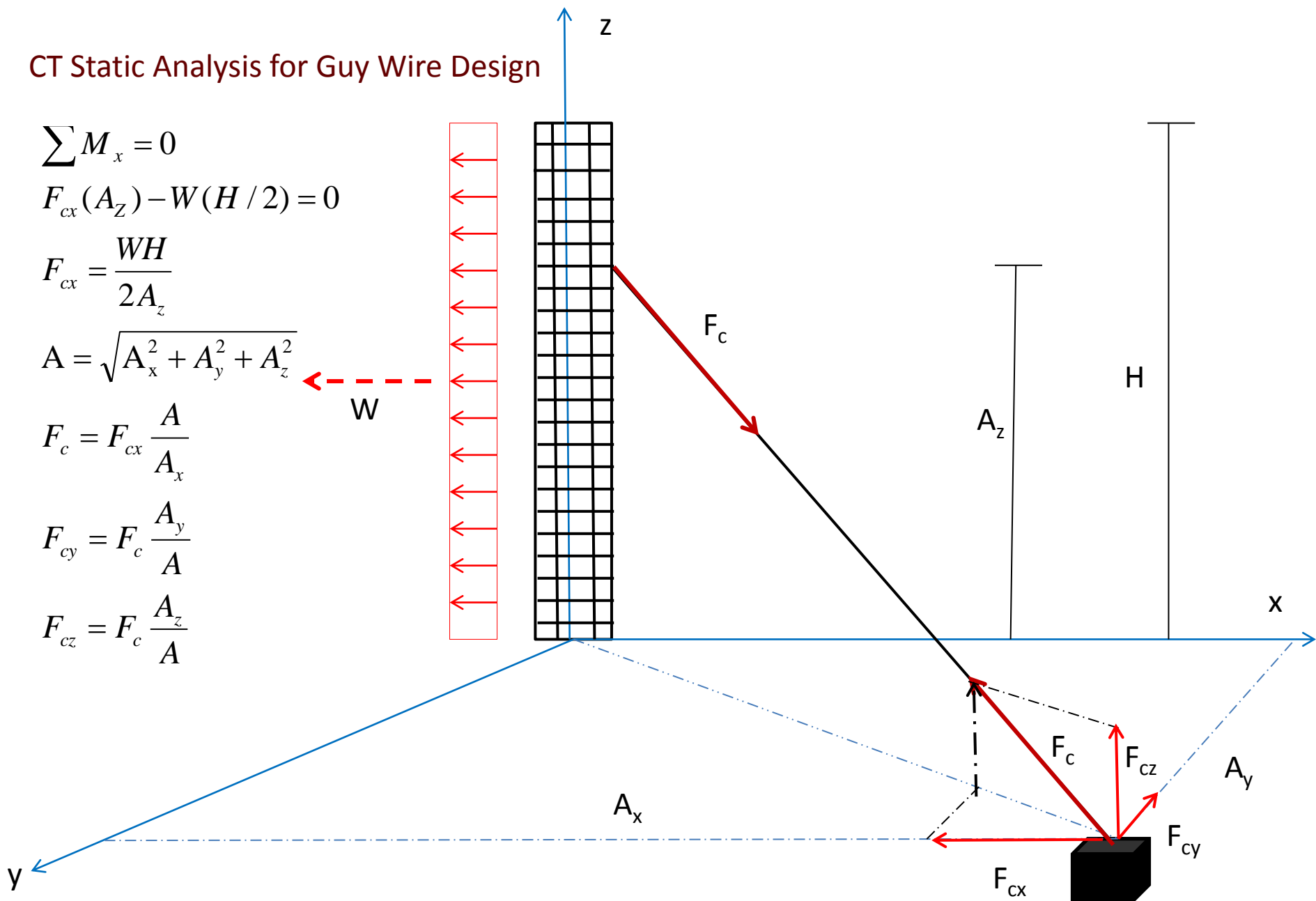
$$F_{cx} = \frac{WH}{2A_z}$$

$$A = \sqrt{A_x^2 + A_y^2 + A_z^2}$$

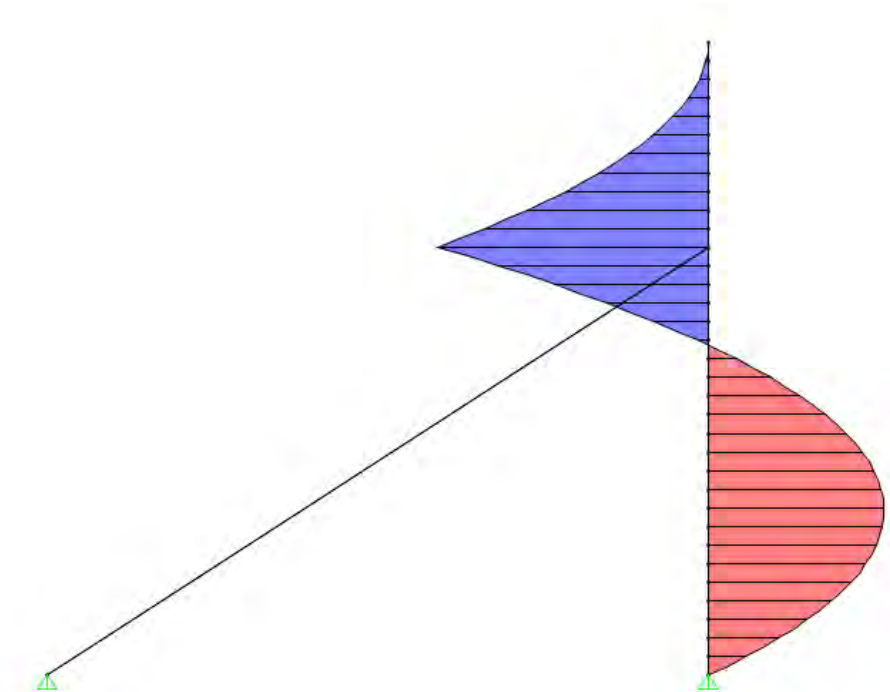
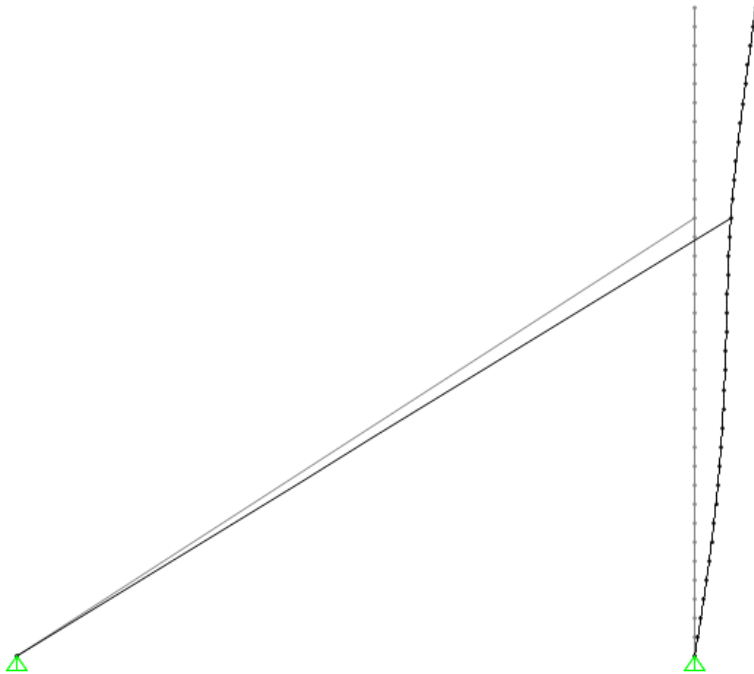
$$F_c = F_{cx} \frac{A}{A_x}$$

$$F_{cy} = F_c \frac{A_y}{A}$$

$$F_{cz} = F_c \frac{A_z}{A}$$

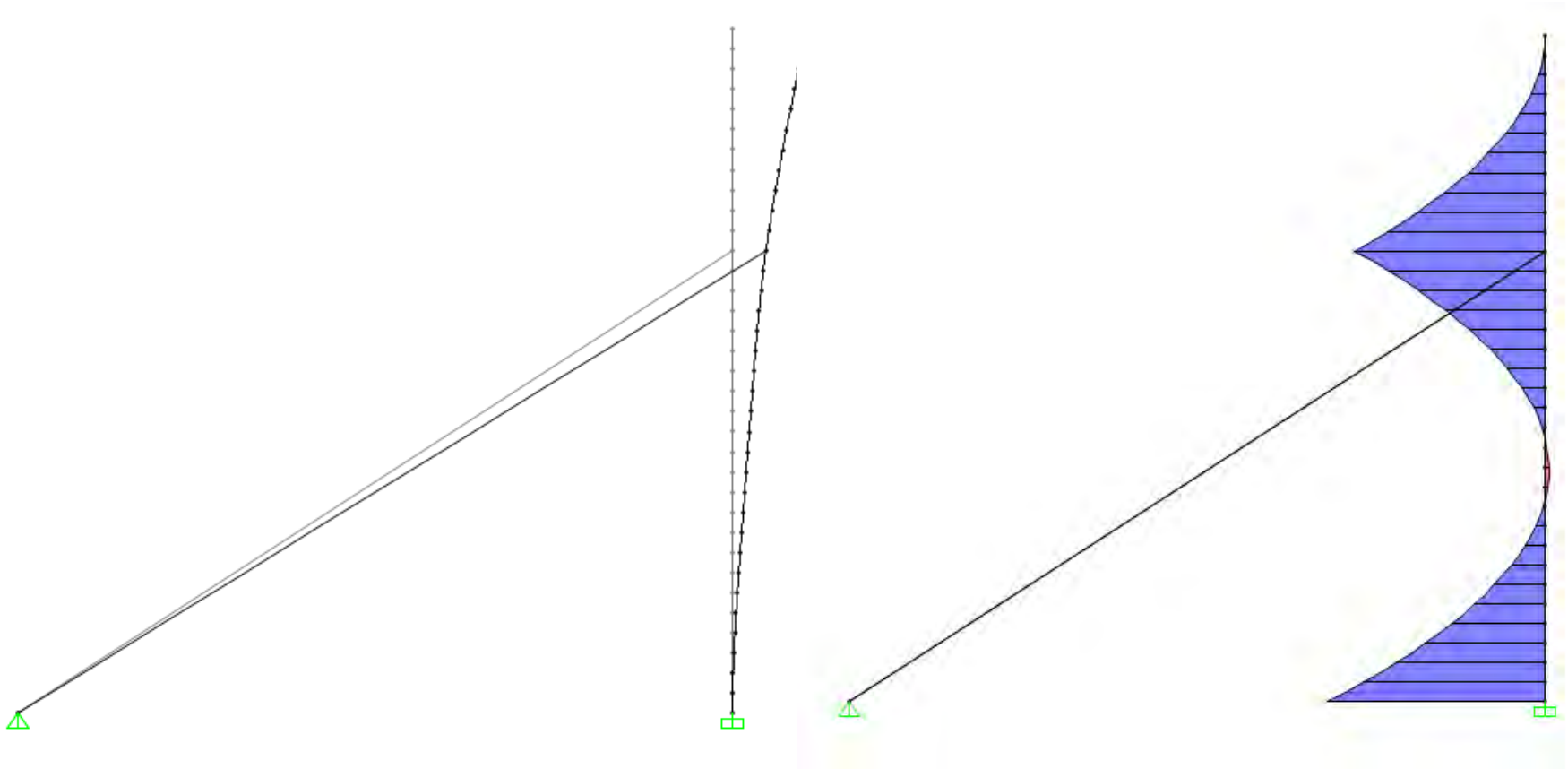


# Analysis with Pin Base, Effect of Wire Flexibility and Cage Stiffness





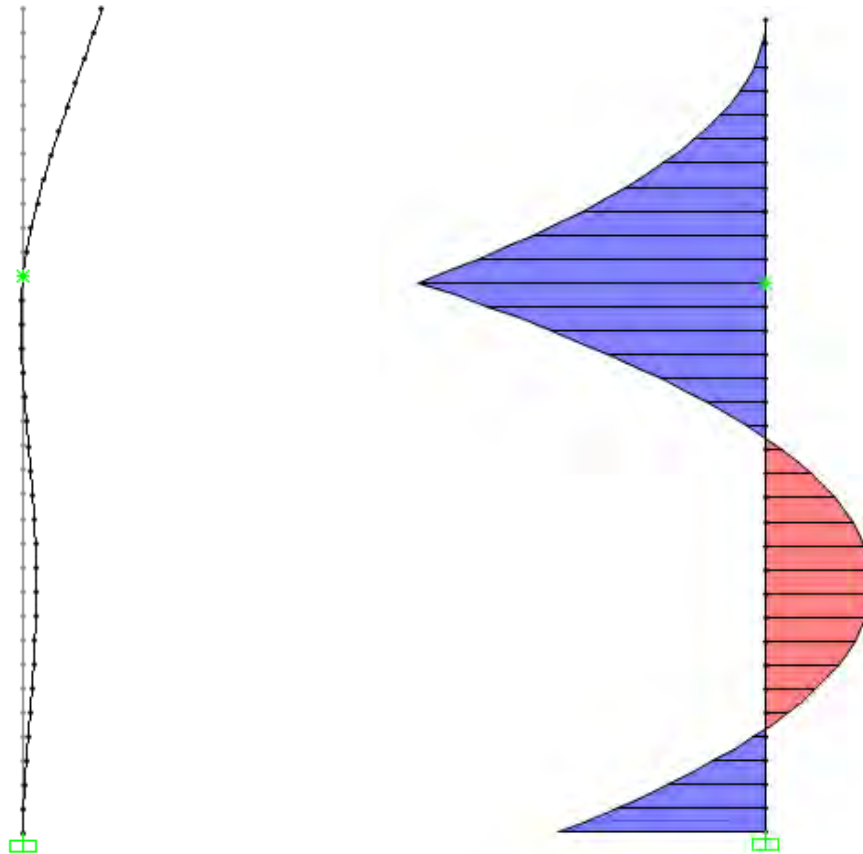
# Analysis with Fix Base, Effect of Wire Flexibility and Cage Stiffness



# Other Bridge Contractors

- Use structural analysis with fixed base and rigid roller support at the guy wire location!
- ASCE 7 Wind Loading!

# Analysis with Fixed Base and Rigid Roller Support





# Effect of Guy Wires on Cage Stability

- Can guy wire enhance the stability of rebar cage by reducing the  $K$ ?

Approximate Values of Effective Length Factor, $K$						
Buckled shape of column is shown by dashed line.	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Theoretical $K$ value	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0
Recommended design value when ideal conditions are approximated	0.65	0.80	1.2	1.0	2.10	2.0
End condition code	Rotation fixed and translation fixed Rotation free and translation fixed Rotation fixed and translation free Rotation free and translation free					

# Stiffness Needed in Guy Wires

## AISC Appendix 6

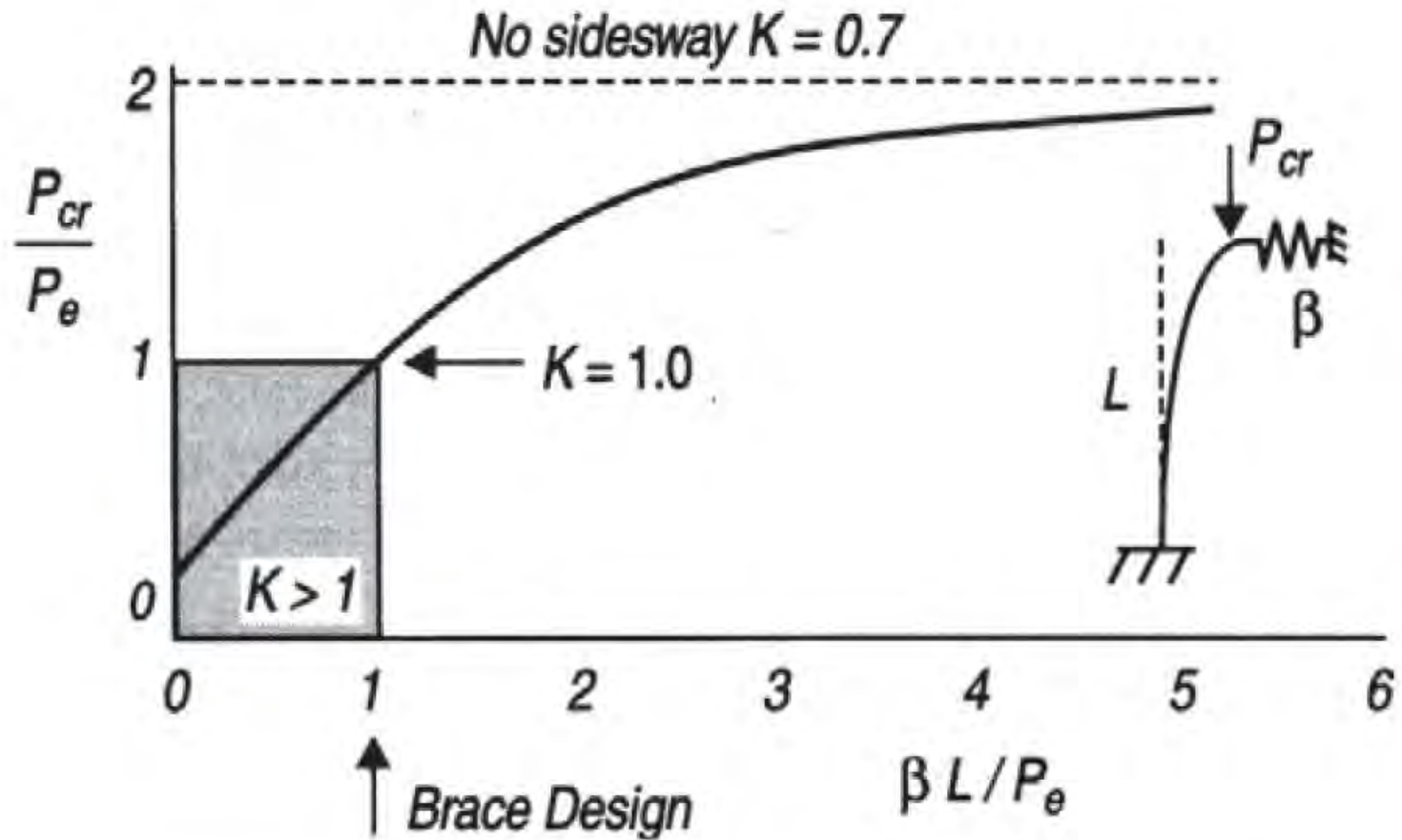


Fig. C-A-6.2. Cantilevered column with brace at top.

# Required Stiffness in Guy Wires

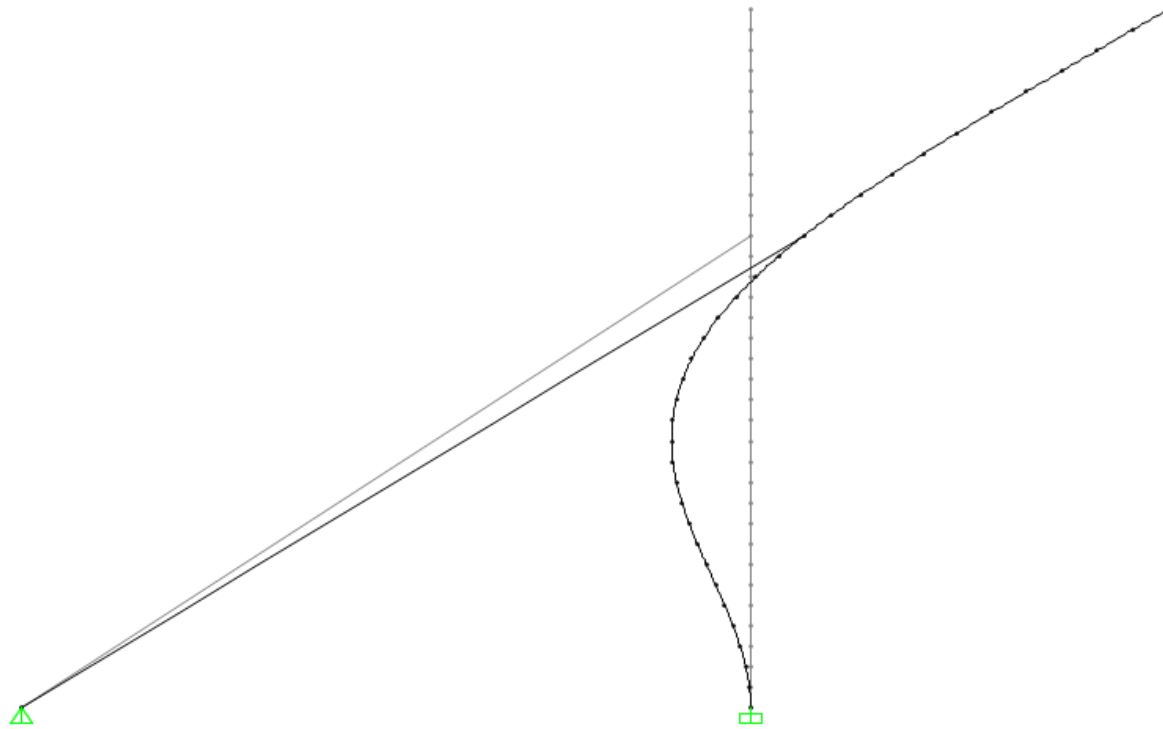
- Required stiffness for guy wire at height  $h$ , and cage height  $L$

$$K_s = 2P_{cr} \left( \frac{L}{h} \right)^3 \left( \frac{1}{3L - 2h} \right)$$

- Required lateral stiffness  $K_s = (EA/L) \cos^2 \alpha$  to be effective in cage stability



# Buckled Mode Shape with Effective Guy Wire Stiffness

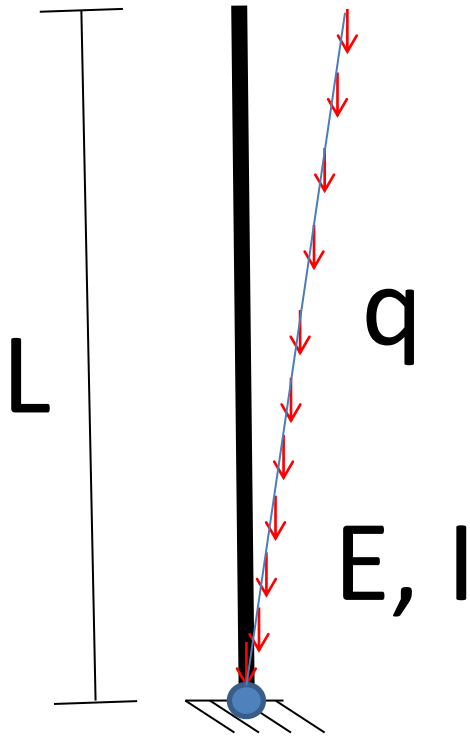


$$(qL)_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(1.0L)^2}$$

# What about Pin Base or Lap Splice?



# Buckling Load on Pin Base Column



$$(qL)_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(KL)^2}$$

$K=?$



# Stability in Pined Base Rebar Cage with Effective Guy Wire Stiffness

- **VERY CRITICAL** and Potential of **Collapse is HIGH**
- Stability depends on:
  - Presence of internal braces
  - Guy wire stiffness
  - Strength of guy wire connections
- High uncertainties, use TWO CRANES operation
- Cage should be held at all times till it is secured inside column forms

# Effect of Lap Splice in Rebar Cage

- For fixed column base with lap splice (dowels), still used in many parts of the US.
- Strength of the splice is the strength of the tie wire connections (number, type, workmanship)
- Splice will slip under construction load
- Treat rebar cage as PINNED Base!





# Observations and Conclusions

- Rebar cages with no internal braces have low stiffness.
- Guy wires needed to be checked for stiffness in addition to strength
- Need to perform dead load and stability analysis in addition to wind analysis.
- Cage height and base boundary condition play a critical role in stability.

# Rebar Cage Assembly

- Rebar Cage should have internal braces (X or square #8 or #11 bars)
- ‘Template Hoops’ and Pick-up bars tying is critical.
- Internal braces should be connected to ‘Pick-Up’ bars.
- Number of tying in field zone does NOT have significant effect on lateral stiffness and strength.

# Proposed Specifications

- ❑ Tie wire connections shall use No. 15 gage, soft annealed black steel with min  $F_u=40$  ksi.
- ❑ At least four vertical bars that form a square shall be tied at every intersection with at least double tie wire connections. The strength of these connections shall be adequate for cage pick-up.



- ❑ At a maximum of eight feet increments, template hoops shall be tied at every intersection with wrap-and-saddle tie wire connection.
- ❑ At least 25% of the remaining reinforcement intersection shall be tied with single tie wire connections. Ties shall be staggered from adjacent ties.
- ❑ At a maximum of alternating ten feet increments, internal braces with square configurations, min #8 bars, with interlocking hoops at the ends shall be provided and connected to the pick-up bars. These bracing shall be adequate for cage lift and transportation.

# Needs to Mitigate Rebar Cage Failure

1. Develop guidelines and examples
  - Analysis and Design of rebar cages for gravity and lateral loading
  - One and multi-level guying
2. Understand the behavior of rebar cages during transporting and erecting.
  - Develop best practices

# Transporting Rebar Cages

- Horizontal Pick
  - Location of Pick-up Points
  - Cage Bending
    - Type and number of internal braces
- Cage Tilt
  - Distribution of Pick Forces
  - Effect of Ground Contact
- Vertical Pick
  - Location of Pick Points
  - Distribution of Forces along Pick-up Bars

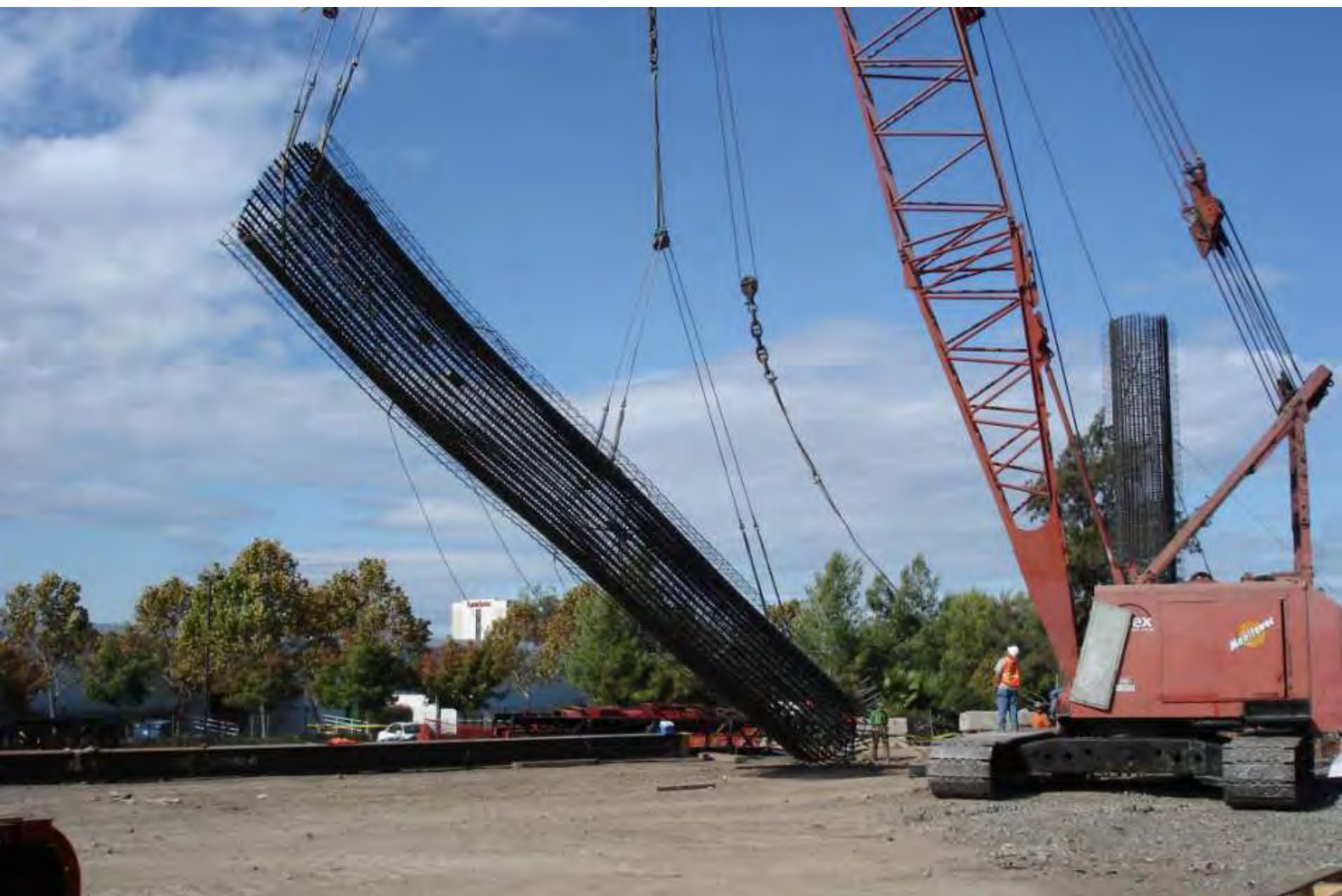






OCT 28 2005

























# Concluding Remarks

- Structural failures are not just accidents....  
They are the results of human error  
originating from lack of knowledge, no  
specifications and standards or oversight.
- Adequate analysis, design and construction  
will save larger costs in repair, schedule delays  
and litigation!

# Project Team



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- California Department of Transportation
  - Office of Bridge Construction-Dr. S. El-Azazy, John Drury, Ajay Sehgal
- Steel Rebar Fabricators
  - Pacific Coast Steel (H. Bennion, M. Briggs and K. Byrnes)
  - Harris Rebar ( L. Sieg)
- Contractors
  - CC Myers donated crane use for two days!
- CRSI
  - B. Hennings



# *Safety in Construction Temporary Reinforcing Structures*

**Vancouver March 27, 2012**

**Calgary March 28, 2012**

**Edmonton March 29, 2012**

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***Lyle Sieg, P. Eng. Executive V.P. Safety,  
Harris Rebar***

***Dr. Ahmad Itani, Ph. D., SE, F. ASCE,  
Professor – University of Nevada***

**Location:**  
**Iron Workers Union Training Center**  
3150 Bayshore Road  
Benica, CA  
94510

### List of Speakers

Dr. Ahmad M. Itani, Ph.D. P.E., S.E., FASCE  
Michael J. Casey, Ph.D., P.E., George Mason University,  
ASCE's Construction Institute  
Lyle Sieg, P. Eng, Executive Vice President of Safety, Harris Rebar  
Robert D. Peterson, ESQ  
Steve Rank, Director Western Region, Ironworkers IMPACT Group  
Len Welsh, Chief Cal/OSHA

### Invites Sent to:

AGC Members  
CRSI Members  
Reinforcing Subcontractors  
Iron Worker Local  
Engineering Students  
Structural Engineers Association  
Cal/OSHA Representatives  
Insurance Companies

For Registration, visit [www.crsi.org](http://www.crsi.org). Select **Robert Ceja Safety Training Seminar** under **Upcoming Events**.

If you have any questions regarding this program, contact  
Lyle Sieg, Harris Rebar at [lsieg@harrisrebar.com](mailto:lsieg@harrisrebar.com) or (925) 525-3621.



June 14th, 2011

## Robert Ceja Memorial Reinforcing Seminar



Underwritten and Sponsored by:  
**HARRIS SALINAS REBAR, INC.**

WP



## Safety in Construction: Temporary Reinforcing Structure

Free Safety Seminar and Round Table Discussions\*

Robert Ceja, a valued member of the Harris Salinas Rebar employee family, was fatally injured when a reinforced steel column, on which he was working, collapsed. Determined to help enhance safety and health awareness associated with construction of steel columns, we dedicate this safety seminar to Robert Ceja and his family.



In cooperation with the American Society of Civil Engineers, Harris Salinas Rebar, Inc. is sponsoring a panel of construction industry leaders, regulators, and academic experts to discuss the need for *simple and practical* guidelines on *methods of analysis* for erecting and placing reinforcement cages on construction sites. An ASCE Committee Report compiling best practices for consideration by the industry will be offered.

Please join Harris Salinas Rebar, the ASCE-CI, Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute, Iron Workers IMPACT, Cal/OSHA and various company stakeholders to study, discuss and assist with the development for simple and practical guidelines on the methods to design, build and erect temporary reinforcing structures for all construction sites.

THIS SEMINAR IS OPEN AND FREE TO ATTENDEES

## Agenda

8:00am-1:30pm

(Continental Breakfast Included)

### Introduction

- Industry Concern (30 mins): Review of various reinforcing accidents in California involving failure of reinforcing structures (Presentation lead by Lyle Sieg, Harris Salinas Rebar with Steve Rank, Iron Worker IMPACT)
- Stability of Rebar cages during construction (45 mins)  
- Dr. Ahmad M. Itani



### Session 2

- Cal/OSHA (30 mins) - Len Welsh
- Legal Responsibilities (30 mins) - Robert Peterson
- Break



### Session 3

- Research in Safety Best Practices from designer to builder (30 mins) - Dr. Michael Casey
- Panel Discussion (60 mins) - What steps do we collectively take to ensure safety when working with these structures? Question Period
- Lunch





# Robert Ceja



# Hazards are out there!





# Robert Ceja – 2007 Fatality



























THIS IS WHY YOU DON'T TAKE DOWN THE GUY LINES!!!!!!

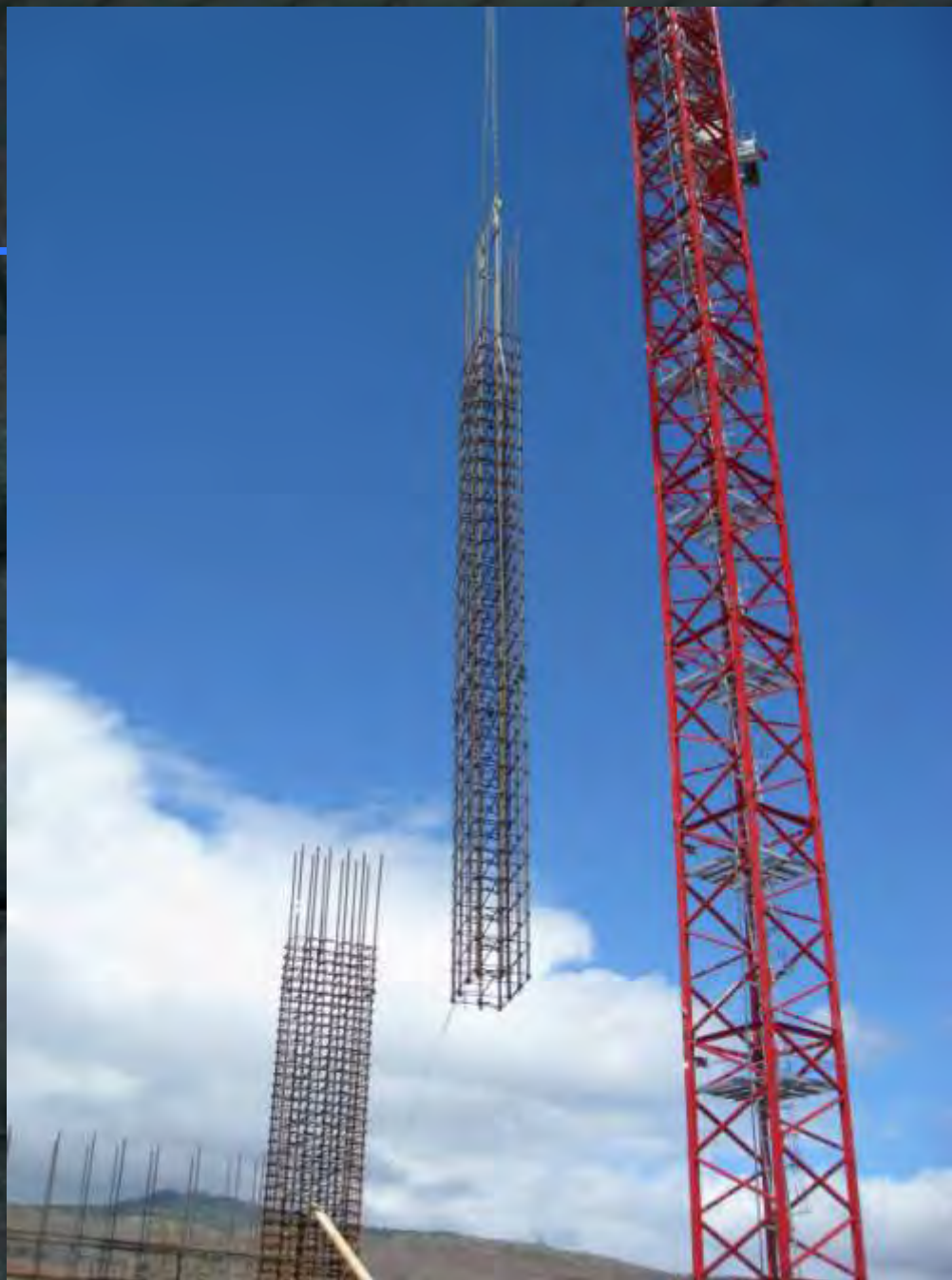






## HOW NOT TO CLIMB A COLUMN











# What do we do from here as Industry Members?

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- Continue this type of education
- Applying this knowledge to all aspects of cage construction
- Clearly establish who has custody of care
- Proper planning of procedures and putting them in writing to ensure good communication through out the process
- Support further research and forums to share lessons learned

# Labor & Management Responsibilities

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- **Shared responsibility for zero fatalities and injuries**
- **Ensure contract language addresses the best practices and steps required for safe erection**
- **Get engaged with IMPACT and CRSI Safety Committee work**
- **Get your local stakeholders together to talk about these issues**
- **Support the current Reinforcing OSHA Subpart negotiations and rulemaking or public comment**



# Industry Coalition of Stakeholders

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- **Iron Workers International**
- **Department of Reinforcing Ironworkers Advisory Committee**
  - **IMPACT**
  - **Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute**
    - **Post Tensioning Institute**
- **National Association of Reinforcing Steel Contractors**
- **The Center for Construction Research and Training**
  - **Western Steel Council**





## Specific Requirements for Vertical & Horizontal Column Stability

**1926.700??**

- 1.** All vertical and horizontal columns shall be guyed, shored, or supported to prevent collapse.
- 2.** The installation and removal of guying, bracing, and shoring shall be under the supervision of a competent and qualified person.





CHSI

**Specific Requirements to Prevent Column Collapse**





CRSI

**Requirements to Prevent Collapse of Horizontal Columns**







# Why we work safely!

