

Example 1.3.5.14(c)

This example demonstrates the calculation of drift snow loads including unbalanced snow load for multiple gable roof and canopy snow load.

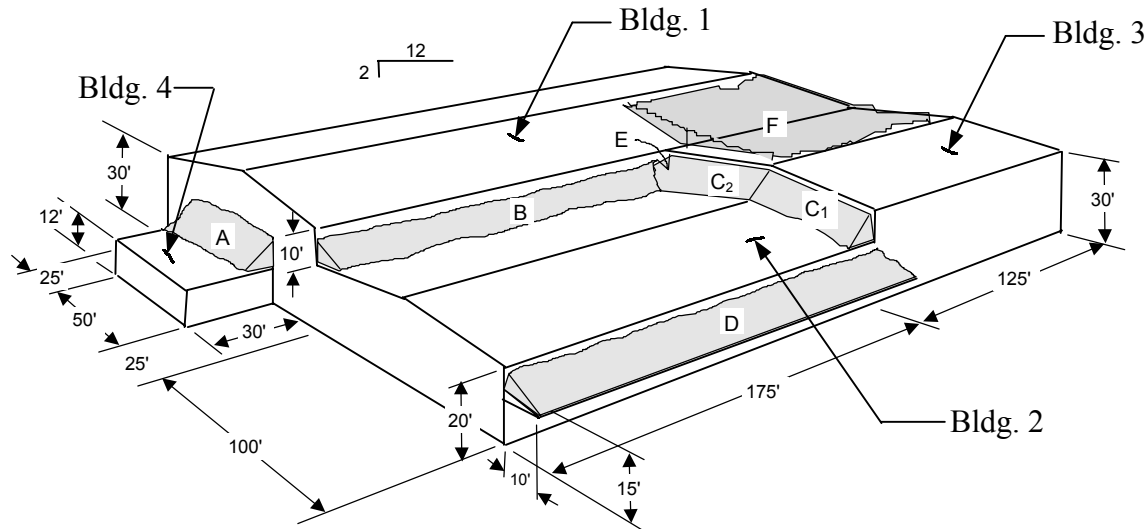


Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-1
Building Geometry and Drift Locations

A. Given:

Building Use: Manufacturing (Standard Building)

Location: Rock County, Minnesota

Building Size: (1) 100'W x 300'L x 30'H

(2) 100'W x 175'L x 20'H

(3) 100'W x 125'L x 30'H

(4) 50'W x 30'L x 12'H (Flat Roof)

Roof Slope: 2:12 ($\theta = 9.46^\circ$) (Buildings 1, 2 and 3)

Frame Type: Clear Span

Roof Type: Sheltered, Heated, Smooth Surface, Unventilated, Roof Insulation
(R-19)

Terrain Category: B

B. General:

Ground Snow Load, $p_g = 40$ psf [Figure 7-1, ASCE 7-05]

Importance Factor, $I_s = 1.0$ [Table 7-4, ASCE 7-05 or Table 1.3.1(a) in this Manual, Standard Building]

Roof Thermal Factor, $C_t = 1.0$ [Table 7-3, ASCE 7-05, Warm Roof]

Roof Slope Factor, $C_s = 1.0$ [Figure 7-2(a), ASCE 7-05 or Section 1.3.5.5a(ii) in this Manual]

Note that some roof slopes are unobstructed, but some are obstructed because an adjoining

building prevents snow from sliding off of the eave. However, since insulation is R-19, the solid line of Figure 7-2(a) governs for all roof slopes.

Roof Exposure Factor, $C_e = 1.2$ [Table 7-2, ASCE 7-05 for Terrain Category B and sheltered roof]

Snow density $\gamma = 0.13(40) + 14 = 19.2$ pcf (Eq. 7-3, ASCE 7-05)

Rain on Snow Surcharge: $p_g > 20$ psf, therefore, rain-on-snow surcharge load need not be considered.

C. Roof Snow Load:

1.) Flat Roof Snow Load:

$$p_f = 0.7 C_e C_t I_s p_g \quad [\text{Eq. 7-1, ASCE 7-05}]$$

$$p_f = 0.7(1.2)(1.0)(1.0)(40) = 33.6 \text{ psf}$$

For $p_g = 40$ psf

$$p_{f,\min} = I_s(20) = 1.0(20) = 20 \text{ psf}$$

$$\therefore p_f = 33.6 \text{ psf controls}$$

2.) Buildings No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3:

a.) Sloped Roof Snow Load:

$$\begin{aligned} p_s &= C_s p_f \quad [\text{Eq. 7-2, ASCE 7-05}] \\ &= 1.0(33.6) = 33.6 \text{ psf (balanced load)} \end{aligned}$$

b.) Unbalanced Snow Load:

Since the roof slope (9.46°) is greater than the larger of:
 $(70/W + 0.5) = (70/50 + 0.5) = 1.9^\circ$, and $(1/2 \text{ on } 12) = \underline{2.38^\circ}$,
 unbalanced loads must be considered.

$$h_d = 0.43 \sqrt[3]{W_w} \sqrt[4]{p_g + 10} - 1.5 = 0.43 \sqrt[3]{50} \sqrt[4]{40 + 10} - 1.5 = 2.71 \text{ ft.}$$

Figure 1.3.5.8(c) is applicable for metal building framing and the unbalanced snow loads are:

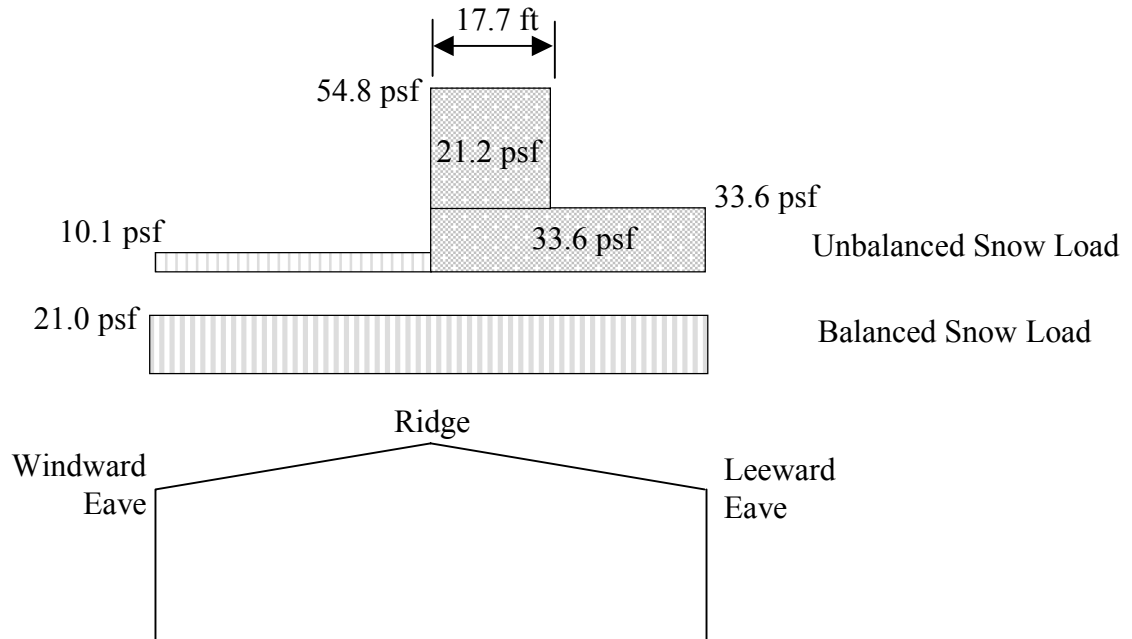
$$\text{Uniform Windward Load: } 0.3p_s = 0.3(33.6) = 10.1 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{Uniform Leeward Load: } p_s = 33.6 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{Surcharge Leeward Load: } h_d \gamma / \sqrt{S} = (2.71)(19.2) / \sqrt{6} = 21.2 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{Surcharge Leeward Length: } (8/3)h_d \sqrt{S} = (8/3)(2.71)\sqrt{6} = 17.7 \text{ ft}$$

The balanced and unbalanced design snow loads are shown in the figure below.



c.) Partial Loading:

Partial loading to be calculated as demonstrated in Examples 1.3.5.14(a) and 1.3.5.14(b).

3.) *Building No. 4 (50x30x12) (Flat roof):*

Flat-roof snow load:

$$p_r = 33.6 \text{ psf}$$

Note: Although slope is less than W/50, still no rain-on-snow required since $p_g > 20 \text{ psf}$ (ASCE 7-05 Section 7.10).

D. Drift Loads and Sliding Snow Loads

Note: Unbalanced snow loads, drift loads and sliding snow loads are treated as separate load cases and are not to be combined as per Section 1.3.5.12 of this Manual.

1.) *Calculation for Area A:*

a.) Drift Load - Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-2

$$h_r (\text{Average}) = 30 + \left\{ \frac{(25+50)}{2} \left(\frac{2}{12} \right) \right\} - 12 = 24.25 \text{ ft.}$$

$$h_b = \frac{33.6}{19.2} = 1.75 \text{ ft.; } h_c = (h_r - h_b) = 22.5 \text{ ft.}$$

$$\frac{h_c}{h_b} = \frac{22.5}{1.75} = 12.86 > 0.2 \quad \therefore \text{consider drift loads.}$$

$$L_L (\text{windward}) = 30 \text{ ft.}$$

$$h_d (\text{windward}) = 0.75 [0.43 \times \sqrt[3]{30} \sqrt[4]{40+10} - 1.5] \\ = 1.55 \text{ ft.} \leq h_c = 22.5 \text{ ft.}$$

$$L_u (\text{leeward}) = 300 \text{ ft.}$$

$$h_d (\text{leeward}) = [0.43 \times \sqrt[3]{300} \sqrt[4]{40+10} - 1.5] \\ = 6.15 \text{ ft.} \leq h_c = 22.5 \text{ ft.}$$

\therefore Leeward drift controls with $h_d = 6.15 \text{ ft.}$ and, $w = 4h_d = 24.6 \text{ ft.}$

$$\text{Drift surcharge load, } p_d = h_d \gamma = 6.15 \times 19.2 = 118.1 \text{ psf}$$

$$p_t = 33.6 + 118.1 = 151.7 \text{ psf}$$

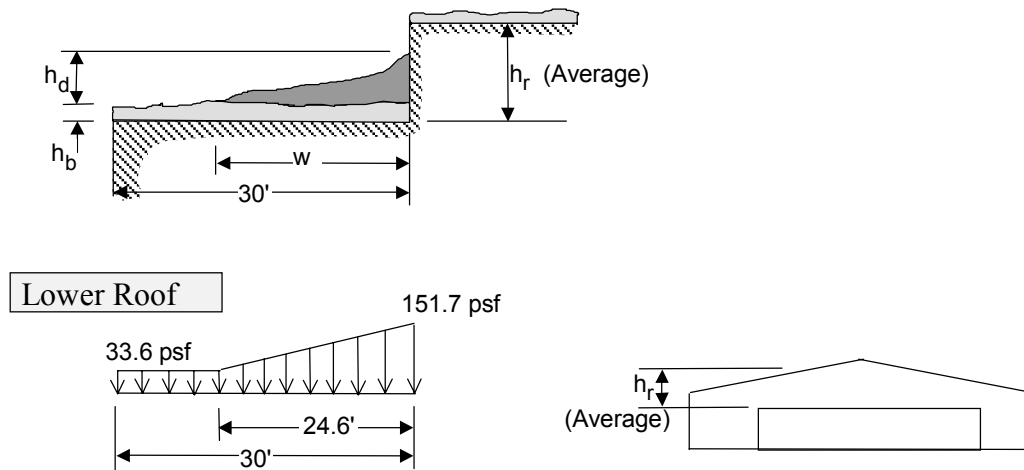


Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-2
Drift Load for Area A

b.) Sliding Snow

No snow will slide off of the roof of Building No. 1 onto the roof of Building No. 4.

2.) *Calculation for Area B:*

a.) Drift Load - Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-3

Sloped-roof snow load, $p_s = 33.6 \text{ psf}$ (balanced snow load)

$$h_r = (30-20) = 10 \text{ ft.}; \quad h_b = \frac{33.6}{19.2} = 1.75 \text{ ft.}; \quad h_c = (h_r - h_b) = 8.25 \text{ ft.}$$

$$\frac{h_c}{h_b} = \frac{8.25}{1.75} = 4.71 > 0.2 \quad \therefore \text{consider drift loads.}$$

L_L (windward) = L_u (leeward) = 100 ft. \therefore leeward drift controls.

$$h_d \text{ (leeward)} = [0.43 \times \sqrt[3]{100} \sqrt[4]{40+10} - 1.5]$$

$$= 3.81 \text{ ft.} \leq h_c = 8.25 \text{ ft.}$$

$\therefore h_d = 3.81 \text{ ft.}$ and, $w = 4h_d = 15.24 \text{ ft.}$

Drift surcharge load, $p_d = h_d \gamma = 3.81 \times 19.2 = 73.2 \text{ psf}$

$$p_t = 33.6 + 73.2 = 106.8 \text{ psf}$$

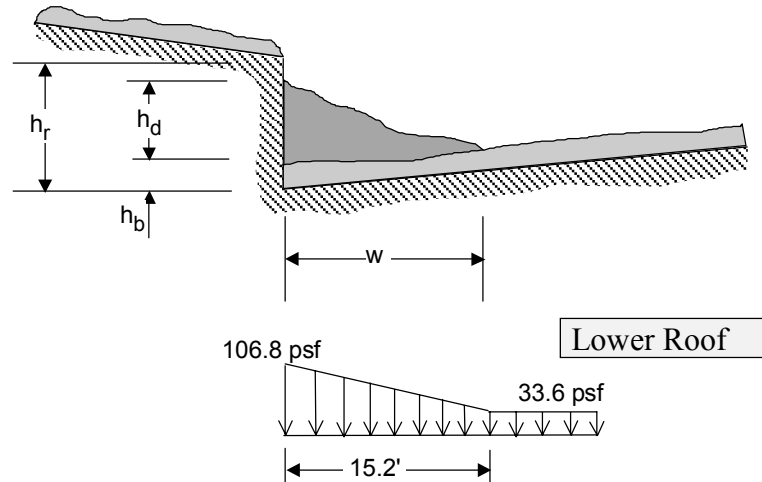


Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-3
Drift Load for Area B

b.) Sliding Snow - Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-4

$$h_c = h_r - h_b = (10.0 - 1.75) = 8.25 \text{ ft.}; L_u = 50.0 \text{ ft.}; \text{slope} = 2:12$$

Since $2:12 > \frac{1}{4}:12$, sliding snow must be checked

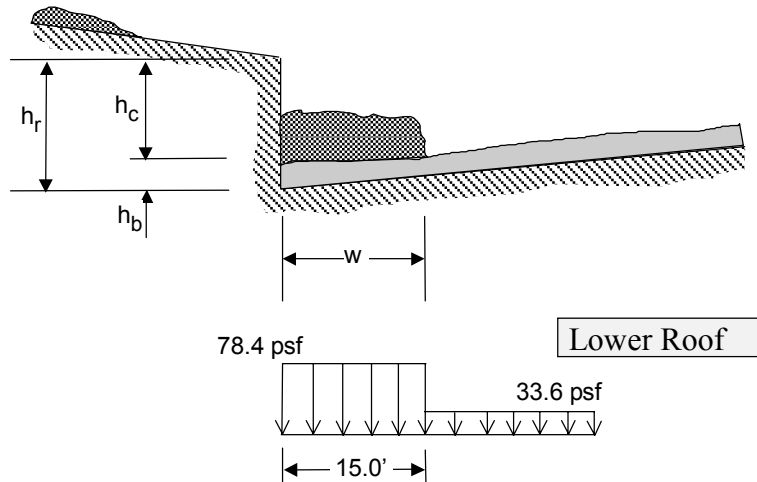
$$\text{Total sliding load/ft of eave} = 0.4p_f W = 0.4(33.6)(50) = 672 \text{ lb/ft}$$

Sliding snow shall be distributed over 15 ft.

$$\frac{672}{15} = 44.8 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{Since } \frac{44.8}{19.2} = 2.3 \text{ ft} < 8.25 \text{ ft, no reduction is allowed}$$

$$p_t = (33.6 + 44.8) = 78.4 \text{ psf}$$



**Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-4
Sliding Snow for Area B**

3.) Calculation for Areas C_1 and C_2 :

a.) Drift Load - Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-5

Sloped-roof snow load, $p_s = 33.6$ psf (balanced snow load)

Note: C_1 is on unobstructed side and C_2 is on obstructed side where snow is prevented from sliding off eave. However, as previously indicated, C_s is equal to 1.0 for both sides for the roof insulation of R-19.

$$h_r = (30-20) = 10 \text{ ft.}; \quad h_b = \frac{33.6}{19.2} = 1.75 \text{ ft.}; \quad h_c = (h_r - h_b) = 8.25 \text{ ft.}$$

$$\frac{h_c}{h_b} = \frac{8.25}{1.75} = 4.71 > 0.2 \quad \therefore \text{consider drift loads.}$$

$$L_L (\text{windward}) = 175 \text{ ft.}$$

$$h_d (\text{windward}) = 0.75 [0.43 \times \sqrt[3]{175} \sqrt[4]{40+10} - 1.5] \\ = 3.68 \text{ ft.} \leq h_c = 8.25 \text{ ft.}$$

$$L_u (\text{leeward}) = 125 \text{ ft.}$$

$$h_d (\text{leeward}) = [0.43 \times \sqrt[3]{125} \sqrt[4]{40+10} - 1.5] \\ = 4.22 \text{ ft.} \leq h_c = 8.25 \text{ ft.}$$

\therefore Leeward drift controls with $h_d = 4.22$ ft. and, $w = 4h_d = 16.88$ ft.

$$\text{Drift surcharge load, } p_d = h_d \gamma = 4.22 \times 19.2 = 81.0 \text{ psf}$$

$$p_t = 33.6 + 81.0 = 114.6 \text{ psf}$$

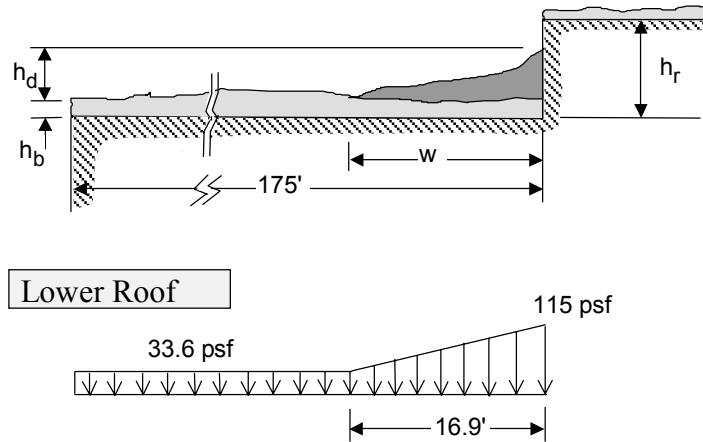


Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-5
Drift Load for Areas C₁ and C₂

b.) Sliding Snow

No snow will slide off of the roof of Building No. 3 onto the roof of Building No. 2.

4.) *Calculation for Area D:*

a.) Drift Load - Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-6

Unheated structure due to canopy condition.

Flat-roof snow load, $p_f = 0.7 C_e C_t I_s p_g$

where,

$p_g = 40$ psf

$C_e = 1.2$ [Table 7-2, ASCE 7-05 for Terrain Category B and sheltered roof]

$C_t = 1.2$ [Table 7-3, ASCE 7-05, Unheated Structure];

$\therefore p_f = 0.7 (1.2)(1.2)(1.0)(40) = 40.3$ psf

$$h_r = (20-15) = 5 \text{ ft.}; \quad h_b = \frac{40.3}{19.2} = 2.10 \text{ ft.}; \quad h_c = (h_r - h_b) = 2.90 \text{ ft.}$$

$$\frac{h_c}{h_b} = \frac{2.90}{2.10} = 1.38 > 0.2 \quad \therefore \text{consider drift loads.}$$

L_L (windward) = 10 ft. ≤ 25 ft. \therefore use L_L (windward) = 25 ft.

$$h_d \text{ (windward)} = 0.75 [0.43 \times \sqrt[3]{25} \sqrt[4]{40+10} - 1.5] \\ = 1.38 \text{ ft.} \leq h_c = 2.90 \text{ ft.}$$

L_u (leeward) = 100 ft.

$$h_d \text{ (leeward)} = [0.43 \times \sqrt[3]{100} \sqrt[4]{40+10} - 1.5] \\ = 3.81 \text{ ft.} > h_c = 2.90 \text{ ft.}$$

\therefore Leeward drift controls with drift height = $h_c = 2.90$ ft. and, $w = 4h_d^2 / h_c$

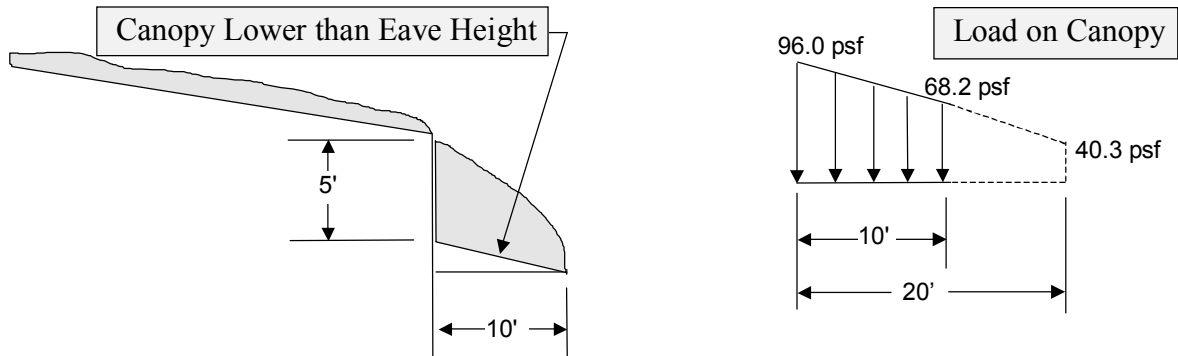
$$w = \frac{4(3.81)^2}{2.90} = 20.0 \text{ ft.}$$

Maximum drift width, $w = 8h_c = 8 \times 2.90 = 23.2 \text{ ft.} > 20.0 \text{ ft.}$

$\therefore w = 20.0 \text{ ft.}$

Drift surcharge load, $p_d = h_c \gamma = 2.90 \times 19.2 = 55.7 \text{ psf}$

$$p_t = 40.3 + 55.7 = 96.0 \text{ psf}$$



**Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-6
Drift Load for Area D**

Note: For the below eave canopy, the minimum design load per Section 7.4.5 of ASCE 7-05 is $2p_f = 2(40.3) = 80.6 \text{ psf}$.

b.) Sliding Snow - Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-7)

$$h_c = h_f - h_b = (5.0 - 2.10) = 2.90 \text{ ft.} ; L_u = 50.0 \text{ ft.} ; \text{slope} = 2:12$$

Since $2:12 > 1/4:12$, sliding snow must be checked

$$\text{Total sliding load/ft of eave} = 0.4p_f W = 0.4(33.6)(50) = 672 \text{ lb/ft}$$

Sliding snow shall be distributed over 15 ft (Even though canopy width is 10 ft.).

$$\frac{672}{15} = 44.8 \text{ psf}$$

Since $\frac{44.8}{19.2} = 2.3 \text{ ft} < 2.9 \text{ ft}$, no reduction is allowed

$$p_t = (40.3 + 44.8) = 85.1 \text{ psf}$$

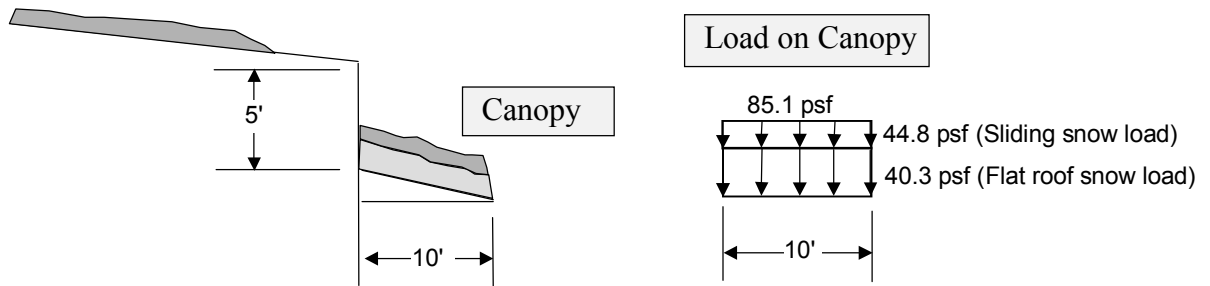


Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-7
Sliding Snow for Area D

5.) Calculation for Area E and Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-8:

For the intersection of drifts B and C₂ at E, the design load should be as shown in Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-8

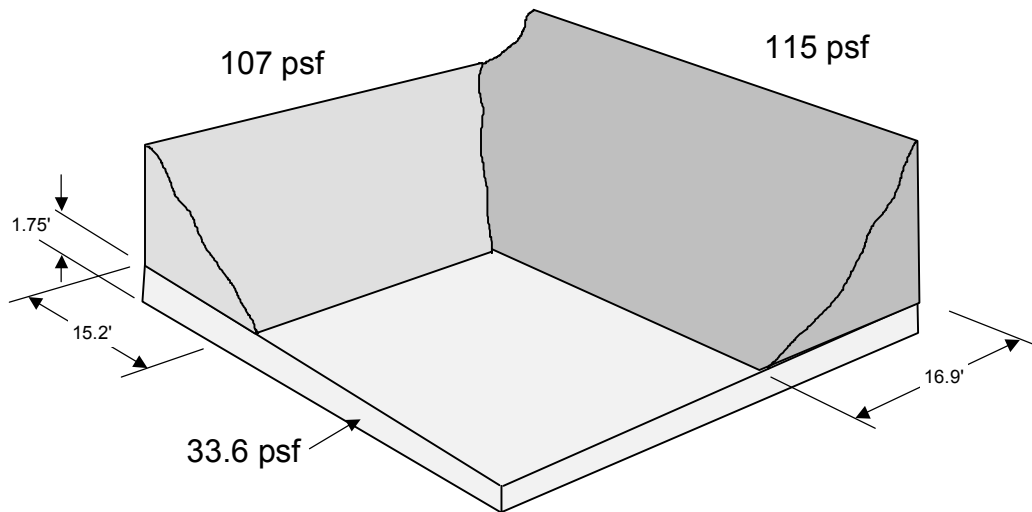


Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-8
Intersecting Snow Drifts for Area E

6.) Calculation for Area F:

a.) Valley Drift Load - Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-9

For buildings 1 & 3, $p_f = 33.6$ psf

$$h_b = \frac{p_f}{\gamma} = \frac{33.6}{19.2} = 1.75 \text{ ft.}$$

$C_e = 1.2$ (Table 7-2 for Terrain Category B and sheltered roof)

The unbalanced snow load (See ASCE 7-05, Section 7.6.3):

$$\text{At Ridge} = 0.5 p_f = 0.5 \times 33.6 = 16.8 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{At Valley} = 2 p_f / C_e = (2 \times 33.6) / 1.2 = 56.0 \text{ psf}$$

Check if calculated snow depth in valley extends above snow level at ridge:

$$\text{Snow depth at valley, } h_{dv} = \frac{56.0}{19.2} = 2.92 \text{ ft.}$$

$$\text{Snow level at ridge relative to valley} = \frac{50(2)}{12} + \frac{1.75}{2} = 9.20 > 2.92 \text{ ft}$$

\therefore The valley snow depth does not extend above ridges

$$\text{Windward slope snow load} = 0.3 p_f = 0.3 \times 33.6 = 10.1 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{Leeward slope snow load} = p_f = 33.6 \text{ psf}$$

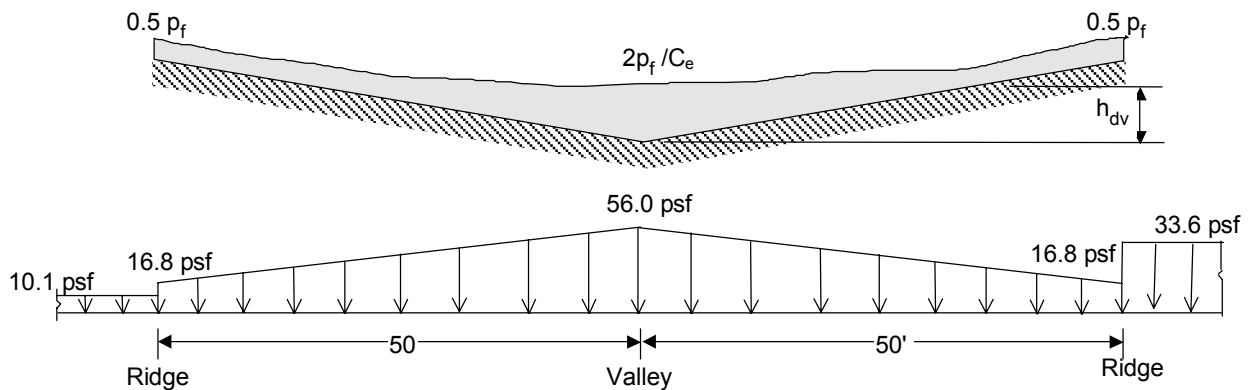


Figure 1.3.5.14(c)-9
Valley Snow Drift for Area F