

# Flange Lateral Bending



**Jim Scarlata, PE**  
Structures Design Bureau  
Assistant Director

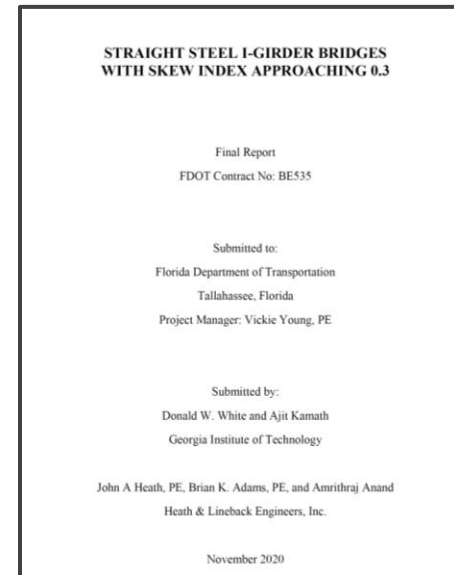
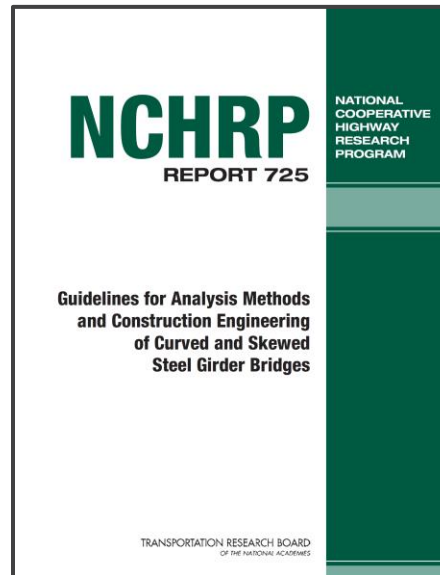
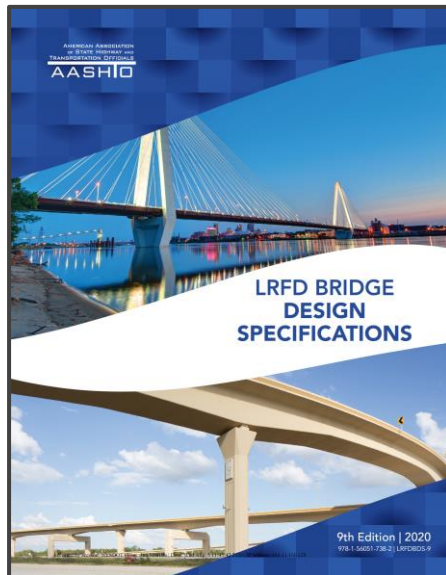
RADBUG Annual Meeting  
August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Presentation Topics

- ➔ **NYSDOT Skewed Steel I-Girder Analysis Requirements**
- ➔ **Literature Review**
- ➔ **Modified Line Girder Analysis**
- ➔ **BrDR Enhancement**

# Skewed Steel I-Girder Bridges

- ➔ Current NYSDOT policy: line girder analysis for skews less than 45 degrees
- ➔ Determine if revisions to current analysis and detailing policies are needed based on literature review



## Excerpts from LRFD BDS C6.10.1

- ⇒ *Significant flange lateral bending may be caused by wind, by torsion from eccentric concrete deck overhang loads acting on cantilever forming brackets placed along exterior girders, and by the use of discontinuous crossframes, i.e., not forming a continuous line between multiple girders, in conjunction with skews exceeding 20 degrees.*
- 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2007 and possibly earlier editions

## Excerpts from LRFD BDS C6.10.1

- ➔ *Lateral flange bending in the exterior girders is substantially reduced when cross-frames or diaphragms are placed in discontinuous lines over the entire bridge due to the reduced cross-frame or diaphragm forces.*
- ➔ *An examination of cross-frame or diaphragm forces is also considered prudent in all bridges with skew angles exceeding 20 degrees.*

- 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2010

## Straight Steel I-Girder Bridges with Skew Index Approaching 0.3 (FDOT Report)

- ➔ *To maximize engineering effectiveness, appropriate tools must be matched to the task. Straight skewed steel I-girder bridges have been designed traditionally using simplified 1D line girder analysis (LGA) methods. Modern 2D grid and 3D finite element analysis (3D FEA) procedures can capture the component and system response of these types of structures at a -higher resolution than the traditional approach.*

## Straight Steel I-Girder Bridges with Skew Index Approaching 0.3 (FDOT Report)

- ➔ *However, these refined analysis tools require more expensive software and greater time to execute and interpret the higher resolution analysis models. It is broadly recognized that LGA is appropriate and sufficient for the design of straight non-skewed girder bridges*

## Straight Steel I-Girder Bridges with Skew Index Approaching 0.3 (FDOT Report)

- ➔ *The objectives of this research were to better understand the behavior of straight steel I-girder bridges with small to moderate skew, and to define and potentially extend the limits at which LGA provides an effective structural engineering solution for these bridge types.*
- ➔ *Comparative parametric 3D FEA and LGA studies were conducted on 26 bridges having a skew index up to and slightly larger than 0.3...*



## Straight Steel I-Girder Bridges with Skew Index Approaching 0.3 (FDOT Report)

- ➔ *The results showed that routine LGA models using equal distribution of dead loads to the girders and established AASHTO live load distribution factors provide a fast and sufficient solution for straight steel I-girder bridges with skew index up to 0.45 and skew up to 50 degrees within certain qualifications.*

## Skew Index - LRFD BDS Eq. 4.6.3.3.2-2

$$I_S = \frac{w_g \tan \theta}{L_s}$$

$I_S$  = bridge skew index, taken equal to the maximum of the values of Eq. 4.6.3.3.2-2 determined for each span of the bridge

$L_s$  = span length at the centerline (ft)

$w_g$  = maximum width between the girders on the outside of the bridge cross-section at the completion of the construction or at an intermediate stage of the steel erection (ft)

$\theta$  = maximum skew angle of the bearing lines at the end of a given span, measured from a line taken perpendicular to the span centerline (degrees)

# Revisions to Analysis Requirements

- ➔ Base need for refined analysis on both skew and skew index
- ➔ Use a modified line girder analysis to capture skew effects when appropriate
- ➔ **If  $20^\circ < \theta \leq 45^\circ$  and  $I_s \leq 0.3$**  use modified line girder analysis per FDOT Report BE535 for girders, diaphragms, and connections
- ➔ **If  $\theta > 45^\circ$  or  $I_s > 0.3$**  use 3D FEA for girders, diaphragms, bracing, and connections

# Modified Line Girder Analysis

- Increase the calculated Strength I girder vertical reactions at the obtuse corners of simple spans, and at the fascia girders in continuous spans, by a multiplicative factor of 1.10.
- Include flange lateral bending stresses in the analysis of girders and girder splices when applicable.
- Include additional diaphragm forces that result from the skewed diaphragms and the diaphragm forces.
- Do not use the provisions specified in Article 10.2.2.2c of the *NYSDOT LRF D Bridge Design Specifications* when calculating Live Load Distribution Factors.
- Determine girder live load deflections using the Live Load Distribution Factors for moment as specified in the *NYSDOT LRF D Bridge Design Specifications* rather than assuming all girders deflect equally.

**BRIDGE** Enhancement

# BrDR Enhancement

Bracing Ranges

Diapht

Lateral Support

Later

Ranges Locations Flange lateral bending

Lateral bending stress description

Load case name	Description
Skew effects	
Deck overhang brackets	A

Lateral bending stress load case: Skew effe

Lateral bending stress input: Unfactored

Diaphragm number	Support number	Distance (ft)	Top
1-2	1	25.00	7
2-2	1	35.00	2

Girder system format "Bay num  
Girder line format "Diaphragm

Add diaphragm locations...

Support	Girder reaction adjustment factor
1	1.10
2	1.10
3	

Analysis defaults to 1.0 if not e

Tasks	Budget Hours
1. Mockups for implementation	0
2. Database, Data Access, Payload, Service, and Domain classes	
a. Database design and implementation	40
b. Generate Data Access, Payload, Service, and Domain classes	43
c. Bridge validation for diaphragm locations	9
3. User Interface	
a. 2 new control options for steel member alternatives	12
b. Girder system superstructure definition's steel plate, rolled, and built-up member alternativ	
i. Lateral Support window's Lateral bending tab (4 grids)	71
ii. Diaphragm selections and validation	12
c. Girder line superstructure definition's steel plate, rolled, and built-up member alternatives	
i. Bracing Ranges window's Lateral bending tab (4 grids)	71
ii. Diaphragm selections and validation	12
d. Add Diaphragm Locations dialog	31
4. Estimate stresses due to skew effects	43
5. AASHTO LRFD and LRFR Engine (Line Girder and 3D FEM)	
a. Model Domain and Element Domain	62
b. Apply girder reaction adjustment factor at obtuse corners	62
c. Specification Controller	124
d. Specification articles - LRFD 6.10.1.6, 6.10.3.2, 6.10.7.1.1, 6.10.8.1.1 (9th Edition only), A6.1.1, A6.1.2; MBE 6A.4.2.1.fl	186
6. Load Rating Tool (Line Girder)	62
Help (BrDR Help and Method of Solution)	9
Report Tool	9
API	6
Test Scripts	6
NSG	0
General Preferences	16
508 Compliance	0
Automated UI Testing	0
Automated Regression Testing	3
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>889</b>
<b>Testing</b>	<b>178</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>1067</b>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>\$ 188,000</b>

18.8 Service Units

temporary not use

ised table.

Consider for design review	Consider for LRFR rating
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

New Duplicate Delete

Port	Girder reaction adjustment factor
1	
2	

OK Apply Cancel

## Member Alternative Description

Member alternative: G1

Description Specs Factors Engine Import Control options

### LRFD

#### Points of interest

- Generate at tenth points
- Generate at section change points
- Generate at user-defined points
- Generate at stiffeners

- Allow moment redistribution
- Use Appendix A6 for flexural resistance
- Allow plastic analysis
- Ignore long. reinf. in negative moment capacity
- Consider deck reinf. development length

Must consider user input lateral bending stress

Consider concurrent moments in Cb calculation

#### Distribution factor application method

- By axle  
 By POI

### LRFR

#### Points of interest

- Generate at tenth points
- Generate at section change points
- Generate at user-defined points
- Generate at stiffeners

- Allow moment redistribution
- Use Appendix A6 for flexural resistance
- Allow plastic analysis
- Evaluate remaining fatigue life
- Ignore long. reinf. in negative moment capacity

Include field splices in rating

Consider deck reinf. development length

Consider tension-field action in stiffened web end panels

Must consider user input lateral bending stress

Consider concurrent moments in Cb calculation

# BrDR Enhancement

- MEMBERS
  - G1
    - Member Loads
    - Supports
    - MEMBER ALTERNATIVES
      - G1 (E) (C)
        - Default Materials
        - Impact/Dynamic Load
        - Girder Profile
        - Hinge Locations
        - Splice Locations
        - Deck Profile
        - Haunch Profile
        - Lateral Support**
        - Stiffener Ranges
        - Bearing Stiffener Loca
        - LL DIST. Live Load Distribution
        - Points of Interest
        - Deterioration Profile

Lateral Support

Ranges   Locations   **Flange lateral bending**

Lateral bending stress load cases

Load case name	Description	Stage	Type	Include in analysis		Consider for design review	Consider for LRFR rating
				Line girder	3D FEM		
Overhang bracket dead load		Construction (Stage 1)	D,DC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overhang bracket construction load		Construction (Stage 1)	Cons...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> Skew effect		Proportioned (Stage 1 +...)	DL+LL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Add default load case descriptions

Lateral bending stress load case: Skew effect

Diaphragm	Support number	Distance (ft)	Unfactored lateral bending stress (ksi)		Support	Girder reaction adjustment factor
			Top flange	Bottom flange		
1-1	1	0.00	8.000	8.000	1	1.10
1-2	1	3.85	8.000	8.000	2	1.10
1-3	1	19.85	2.000	2.000	3	1.10
1-4	1	35.85	2.000	2.000		
1-5	1	51.85	2.000	2.000		
1-6	1	67.85	2.000	2.000		
1-7	1	83.85	2.000	2.000		
1-8	1	99.85	4.000	4.000		
1-9	1	120.00	8.000	8.000		
1-10	2	3.85	8.000	8.000		
1-11	2	19.85	2.000	2.000		

Add diaphragm locations...

Add Diaphragm Locations

Estimate stresses due to skew effects

Estimation method:
  AASHTO
  Based on FDOT Report BE535, Omin/bf

Diaphragm layout:
  Contiguous
  Discontinuous/Staggered

## Table from FDOT Report BE535

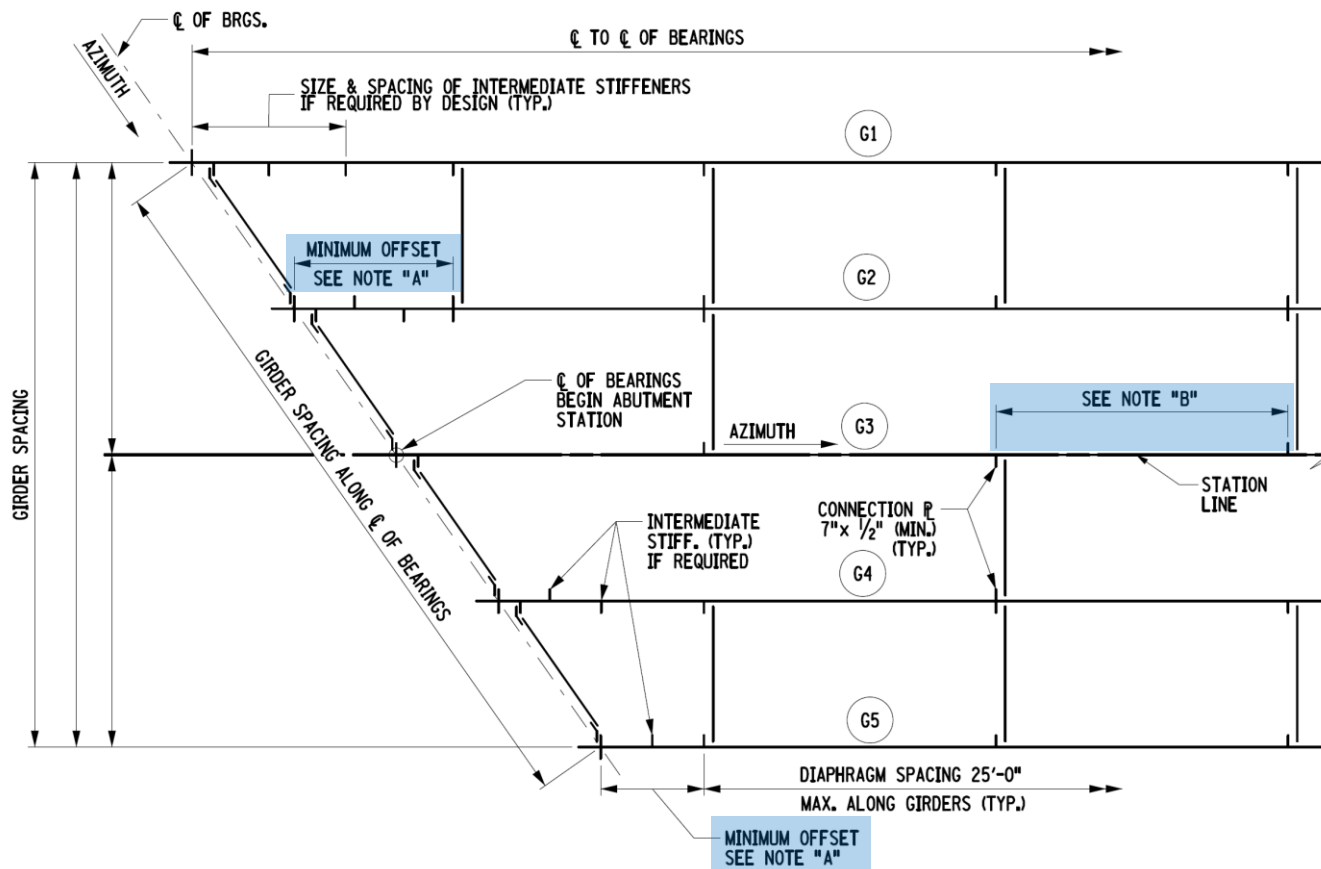
**Table 12. Summary of recommended estimations of the unfactored flange lateral bending stresses,  $f_e$**

Bridge Category	Cross-frame Framing Arrangement	Orientation of Intermediate Cross-frames	Girder	Location	$f_e$ (ksi)		
					$O_{min}/b_f < 4$	$O_{min}/b_f \geq 4$	AASHTO C6.10
1	Contiguous	Parallel to skew	Exterior	All	0	0	0
			Interior		0	0	0
2/3	Contiguous	Perpendicular to girders	Exterior	At or near supports	8	4	7.5
				Throughout the span	0	0	0
		Perpendicular to girders	Interior	At or near supports	10	5	10
				Throughout the span	0	0	0
2/3	Staggered	Perpendicular to girders	Exterior	At or near supports	8	4	7.5
				Throughout the span	3	2	2
		Perpendicular to girders	Interior	At or near supports	10	5	10
				Throughout the span	15	10	10



# Diaphragm Offsets

- ➔ AASHTO recommends minimum offset  $\geq 4x$  bottom flange width



AASHTOWare BrDR - Help

Show Back Print Options

## Lateral Support: Flange Lateral Bending

This tab allows you to define user input flange lateral bending stresses to consider in the specification checking. Enter the required information and click another tab or the **OK** button.

[Engine Related Help](#)

**Lateral bending stress load cases**

**Load case name**  
Enter a name for the load case.

**Description**  
Enter a brief description for the load case.

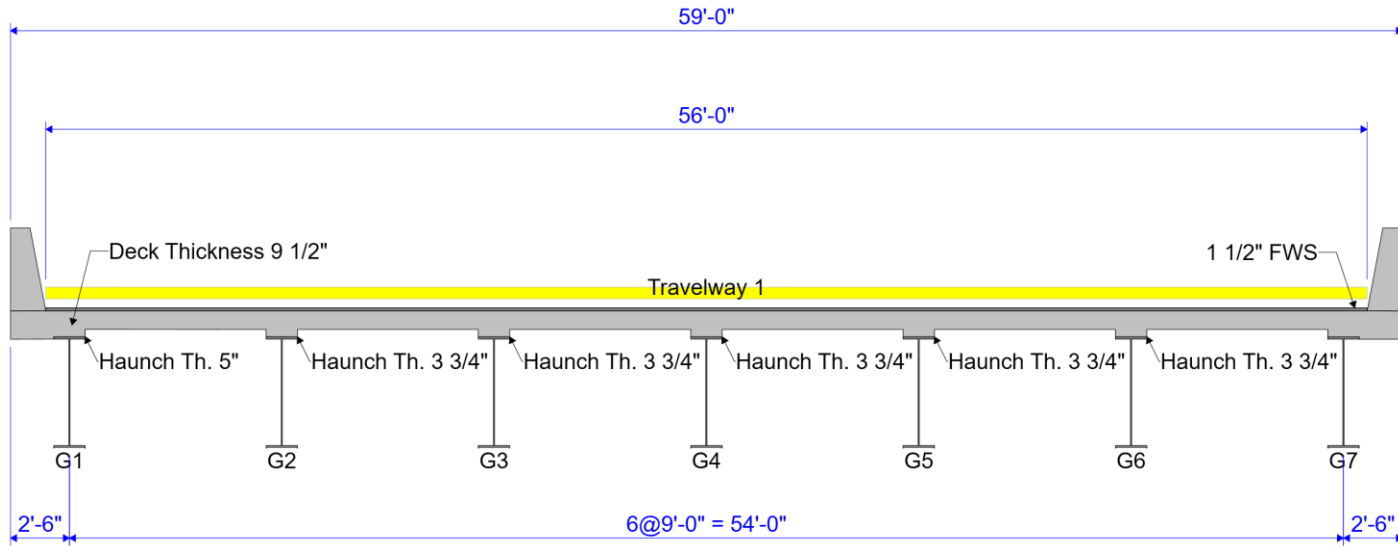
**Stage**  
Select the stage for the load case from the drop down menu. For stresses assigned to the proportioned (Stage 1 + Stage 3) stage, the entered stresses are proportioned to dead and live load in the same proportion as the unfactored major-axis dead and live moments at the section under consideration.

**Type**  
Select the load case type for the load case from the drop down menu.

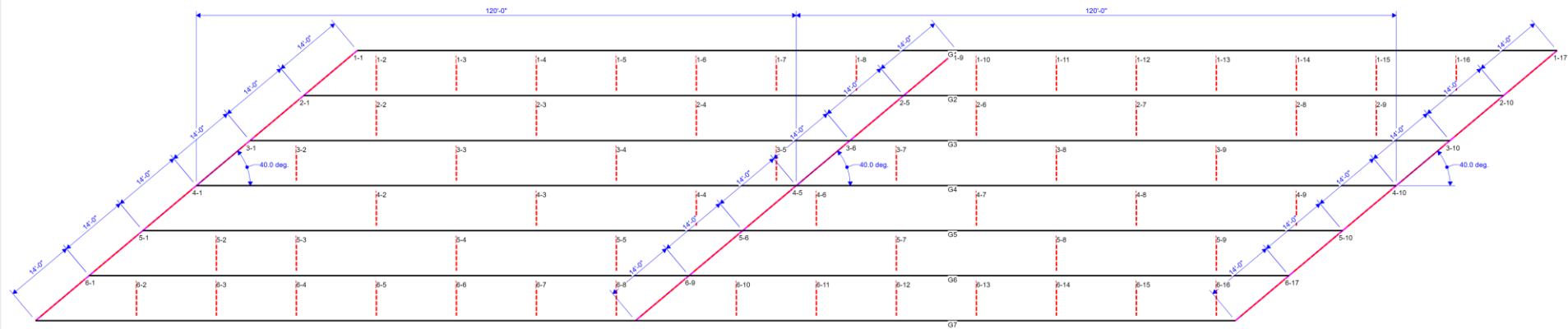
**Include in analysis**

**Line girder**  
Check this box to include flange lateral bending stresses for this load case in a line girder analysis.

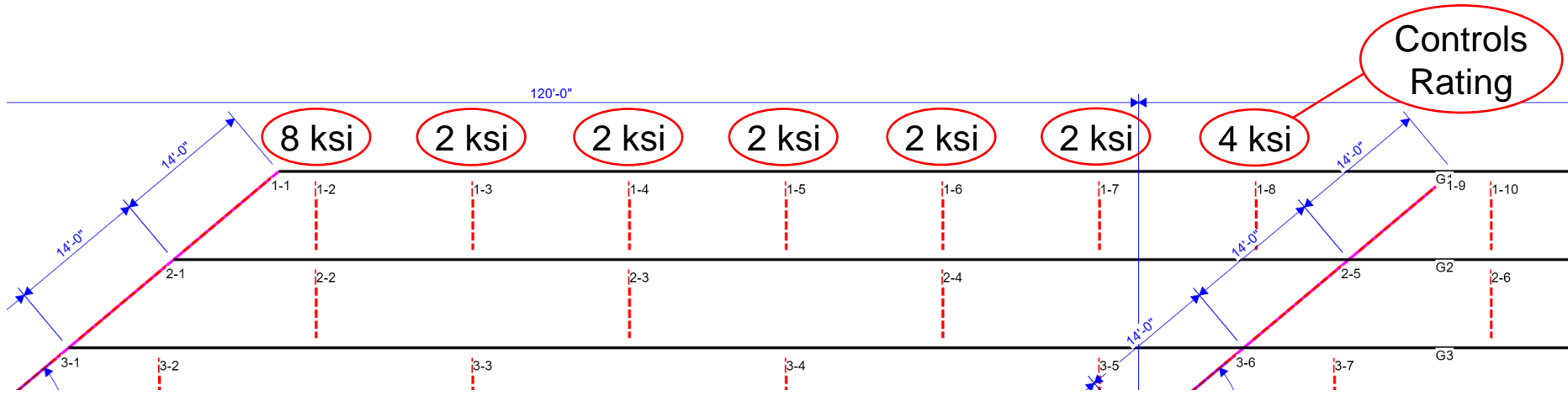
**3D FEM**  
Check this box to include flange lateral bending stresses for this load case in a 3D FEM analysis.



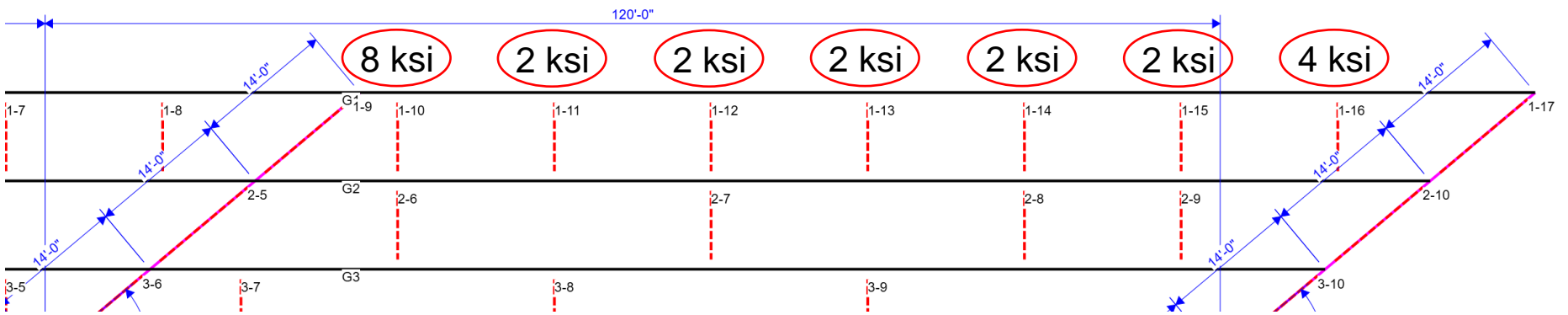
## Typical Section



## Framing Plan



Span 1 – Exterior Girder Unfactored FLB



Span 2 – Exterior Girder Unfactored FLB

## Without Flange Lateral Bending

BrDR Spec Check Detail for 6A.4.2.1 General Load Rating Equation - Steel Flexure Stress

Bottom Flange LTB Rating

Load	Load Combo	Limit State	Component	Flexure Type	Location	FDL1 (ksi)	FDL2 (ksi)	fLL (ksi)	Factored Stresses						RF	Capacity (Ton)
									User	Input fl	DL	User	Input fl	LL		
DesignInv	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignInv	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-14.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	1.953	70.33	
DesignOp	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignOp	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-11.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	2.532	91.16	
DesignInv	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignInv	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-12.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	2.267	81.61	
DesignOp	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignOp	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-9.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	2.938	105.79	
DesignInv	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignInv	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-19.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	1.463	52.66	
DesignOp	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignOp	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-14.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	1.896	68.26	

## With Flange Lateral Bending

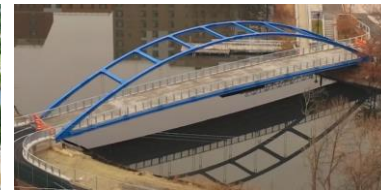
BrDR Spec Check Detail for 6A.4.2.1 General Load Rating Equation - Steel Flexure Stress

Bottom Flange LTB Rating

Load	Load Combo	Limit State	Component	Flexure Type	Location	FDL1 (ksi)	FDL2 (ksi)	fLL (ksi)	Factored Stresses						RF	Capacity (Ton)
									User	Input fl	DL	User	Input fl	LL		
DesignInv	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	-10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignInv	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-14.39	-6.65	0.00	0.00	-4.69	-50.00	1.514	54.51	
DesignOp	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	-10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignOp	1	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-11.10	-6.65	0.00	0.00	-3.62	-50.00	1.993	71.75	
DesignInv	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	-10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignInv	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-12.40	-6.97	0.00	0.00	-4.24	-50.00	1.755	63.19	
DesignOp	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	-10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignOp	2	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-9.57	-6.97	0.00	0.00	-3.27	-50.00	2.304	82.94	
DesignInv	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	-10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignInv	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-19.22	-5.98	0.00	0.00	-5.63	-50.00	1.149	41.38	
DesignOp	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	0.00	-10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-50.00	99.000	3564.00	
DesignOp	3	STR-I	Bot Flange	Neg	120.00,L	-19.59	-2.30	-14.83	-5.98	0.00	0.00	-4.34	-50.00	1.516	54.59	



**Department of  
Transportation**



**Office of  
Structures**



**Jim Scarlata, PE**  
Structures Design Bureau  
[Jim.Scarlata@dot.ny.gov](mailto:Jim.Scarlata@dot.ny.gov)