PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting)

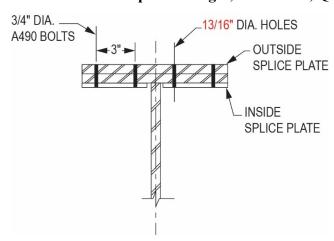
Errata posted 02/03/2025

Revisions are shown in red.

Vertical Forces Depth—Bridges, Scenario 1, Question 8

Variable		Value
A_g (in ²)		0.8
A_e (in ²)		0.95
A_n (in ²)		19.125
F_{yf} (ksi)		22.55
F_u (ksi)		24
P_{fy} (ksi)		50
ϕ_u		70
ϕ_y		1,127.5

Vertical Forces Depth—Bridges, Scenario 1, Question 11



PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting) Errata posted 02/03/2025

Vertical Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Solution 3

 $L_r = 20 \text{ psf for roof}$

The value used to calculate trib area for the LL applied to the column at the basement level is calculated as follows:

$$L = L_o \left(0.25 + \frac{15}{\sqrt{K_{LL} A_T}} \right)$$

 $K_{IJ} = 4$

ASCE 7 Sec. 4.7-1

$$A_T = 3 \times 900 \text{ ft}^2 = 2,700 \text{ ft}^2 \text{ tributary area}$$

Per ASCE 7, C4.7.2:

"For multiple floors, areas for members supporting more than one floor are summed."

$$L = 100 \left(0.25 + \frac{15}{\sqrt{4 \times 2,700}} \right) = 39.4 \text{ psf}$$

 $< 0.4L_o$ therefore use 40 psf for determination of column LL at the basement level

Live loads:

Roof live load = $20 \text{ psf} \times 30 \text{ ft} \times 30 \text{ ft} = 18 \text{ kips}$

$$L = 40 \text{ psf} \times 3 \times 30 \text{ ft} \times 30 \text{ ft} = 108 \text{ kips}$$

ASD (Allowable Stress Design)

ASCE 7 Sec 2.4.1

Load combo

- 1) D = 474 kips
- 2) D + L = 474 kips + 108 kips = 582 kips (governs)
- 3) $D + L_r = 474 \text{ kips} + 20 \text{ kips} = 494 \text{ kips}$
- 4) $D + 0.75L + 0.75L_r = 474 \text{ kips} + 0.75(108 \text{ kips}) + 0.75(20 \text{ kips}) = 570 \text{ kips}$

Acceptable range: > 575 kips and < 590 kips

LRFD (Strength Design)

ASCE 7 Sec 2.3.1

Load combo

- 1) 1.4D = 1.4(474 kips) = 663.6 kips
- 2) $1.2D + 1.6L + 0.5L_r$

$$= 1.2(474 \text{ kips}) = 1.6(108 \text{ kips}) = 0.5(20 \text{ kips}) = 751.6 \text{ kips} \text{ (governs)}$$

3) $1.2D + 1.6 L_r + L$

$$= 1.2(474 \text{ kips}) + 1.6(20 \text{ kips}) + 108 \text{ kips} = 708.8 \text{ kips}$$

Acceptable range: > 750 kips and < 770 kips

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: ASD 575 to 590

LRFD 750 to 770

PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

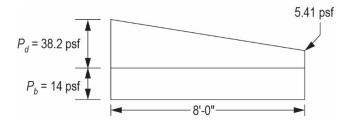
ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting) Errata posted 02/03/2025

Vertical Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Solution 4

$$p_d = (2.33 \text{ ft})(16.6 \text{ pcf}) = 38.2 \text{ psf}$$

 $W = 4h_d = 4(2.33 \text{ ft}) = 9.32 \text{ ft}$
 $P_b = 14 \text{ psf}$



$$\left[S = (14 + 5.41) \left(\frac{8 \text{ ft}}{2}\right) \left(\frac{12 \text{ ft}}{2}\right)\right] + \frac{(38.2 - 5.41)}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) (8 \text{ ft}) \left(\frac{12 \text{ ft}}{2}\right)$$
= 1.52 kips \(\lefta \) Governs snow

$$D + L_r = 2.09 + 0.48 = 2.57 \text{ kips}$$

 $D + S = 2.09 + 0.990 = 3.08 \text{ kips} \leftarrow \text{Governs}$

LRFD (Strength Design)

$$1.2D + 1.6L_r = 3.28$$
 kips $1.2D + 1.6S = 4.09$ kips

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: ASD 3.0 to 3.2 kips **LRFD 4.0 to 4.2 kips**

Vertical Forces Depth—Bridges, Scenario 1, Solution 4

$$3n = 3 \times 8.5 = 25.5$$

 $\overline{y} = \frac{3,260.49}{106.14} = 30.72 \text{ in.}$

$$I_{LT} = 45,618.42 \text{ in}^4 + 7,840.21 \text{ in}^4 = 53,438.63 \text{ in}^4$$

$$S_{LT}^b = \frac{53,438.63 \text{ in}^4}{30.72 \text{ in.}} = 1,740.19 \text{ in}^3$$

$$f_{bLT} = 1,200/1,740.19 \left(\frac{12 \text{ in.}}{\text{ft}}\right) = 8.27 \text{ ksi}$$

PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting)

Errata posted 02/03/2025

Vertical Forces Depth—Bridges, Scenario 1, Solution 5

Weld E = 5/16 in.

3/4-in. stiffener to 5/8-in. web

3/4-in. stiffener controls

Use 1/4-in. weld

Vertical Forces Depth—Bridges, Scenario 1, Solution 8

$$A_g = (16 \text{ in.})(1.5 \text{ in.}) = 24 \text{ in}^2$$
 $A_e = \frac{0.8 (70)}{0.95 (50)} (19.125) = 22.55 \text{ in}^2$
AASHTO 6.13.6.1.3 b-2

 $A_n = \left[16 - 4\left(\frac{13}{16}\right)\right] (1.5) = 19.125 \text{ in}^2$
Hole for 3/4-in.-diameter bolt

 $F_{yf} = 50 \text{ ksi}$
Table 6.4.1-1

 $F_u = 70 \text{ ksi}$
Table 6.4.1-1

 $P_{fy} = A_e F_{yf} = 1,127.5 \text{ kips}$
 $\phi_u = 0.8$
 $\phi_v = 0.95$
6.5.4.2

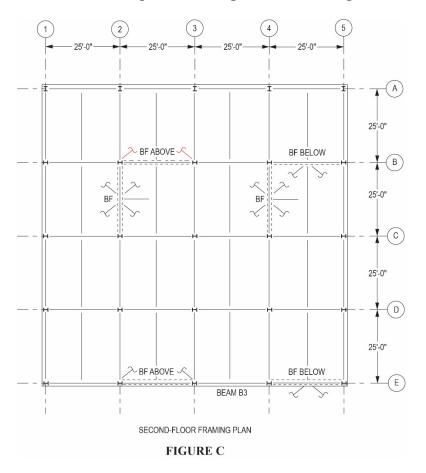
PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting)

Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Figure C



Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Question 2

Based on the following information, the lightest W36 beam for Beam B1 in Figure E is

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Question 3

Based on the story forces provided in **Table 1** and effective brace length KL = 18 ft, the lightest round hollow steel section using a round HSS 7.500 brace member between the sixth floor and roof is:

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Question 4

Which of the elements identified in the figure are required to be designed for overstrength?

Vertical Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Question 5

Based on story forces provided in **Table 1**, the governing axial force for Beam B3 in **Figure F** is:

PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

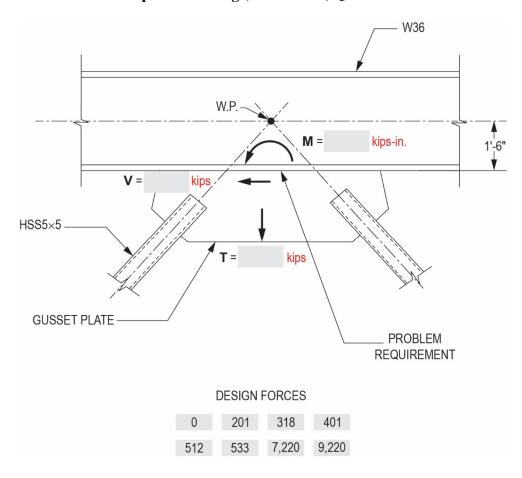
Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting)

Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Question 6

For this question, consider bolt failure states only. Based on the figure, the number of bolts required to transfer the axial force to the special concentric brace frame is:

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Question 7



Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 1, Question 10

☐ A. Attachment of steel deck using steel headed stud anchors

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2

Material Specifications:

Steel reinforcement ASTM A615, $f_v = 60$ ksi

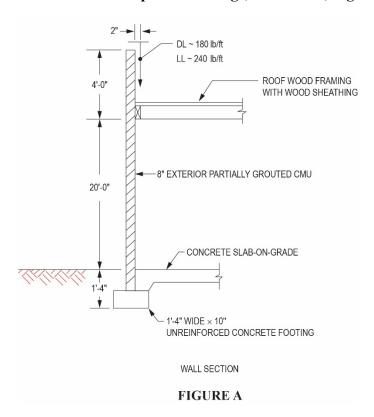
PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

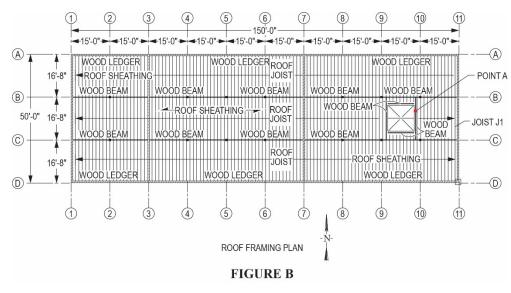
Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting)

Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Figure A



Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Figure B



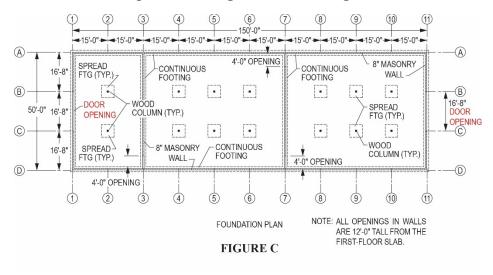
PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting)

Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Figure C



Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 1

Design Data:

Base wind speed = 142 mph

Exposure C

 $K_{zt} = 1.0$

 $K_e = 1.0$

The wind velocity pressure q_p (psf) at the top of the building's parapet is .

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 2

Based on a wind velocity pressure of 50 psf and vertical reinforcement at 16 in. o.c., the wind design pressure p (psf) at the top of the windward parapet at Grid Line 5 is

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 3

Based on a wind velocity pressure of 50 psf and vertical reinforcement at 16 in. o.c., the building's leeward parapet design wind pressure p (psf) at Grid Line 5 is ______.

PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting) Errata posted 02/03/2025

_

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 4

Assumptions:		
$q_z = 35$ psf at 15 ft above floor slab		
$q_h = 40$ psf at 20 ft above floor slab		
Total leeward parapet design wind pressure = 85 psf		
Anchorage from the wall to the roof has an effective wind area of 50 ft ² .		
Enclosed building		
The wind loads R_B (plf of roof) from the windward wall at Grid Line 5 that are resisted by the		
roof diaphragm are		
1 5		
Lateral Farmer Davids Davids and Commission 2 Occupies 5		
Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 5		
Based on the wind pressures in the table, the maximum moment M_{max} (lb-ft) due to wind pressures or		
the wall shown in Figure A is		
Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 6		
Later at Forces Deptil—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question o		
Assume an ASD moment of 1,080 ft-lb, or a strength level moment of 1,800 ft-lb. Based on Figure A,		
the maximum spacing of #5 vertical bar reinforcement for bars placed at the center of the 8-in. CMU		
wall is:		
Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 7		
Assumptions:		
$q_h = 46 \text{ psf}$		
Enclosed building		
Bridging/blocking fully braces bottom of joists. Joists are spaced at 16 in. o.c.		
Joists are spaced at 10 iii. o.e.		
The minimum 2× wood joist size required for bending stresses due to wind pressure on Joist J1		
on the roof framing plan in Figure B is .		

PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

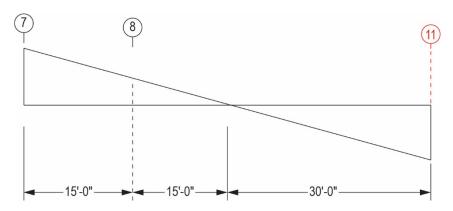
ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting)

Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Question 8

For a distributed diaphragm wind load W of 2,300 plf (strength/LRFD level) and based on 2× joists and blocking at all panel edges, what are the required horizontal plywood nail size and spacing, respectively, along Grids 7 and 8?



Lateral Forces Depth—Bridges, Scenario 1, Question 3

Assume half the mass of the columns contributes to the weight of the structure. The weight (kips) of the structure used to compute the period of the structure is ______.

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Solution 1

142 mph, Exposure C RC II, parapet 20–24 ft

 $q_p = 0.00256(K_z)(K_{zt})(K_d)(K_e)(V)^2$ at z of 20 ft, $K_z = 0.90$; at z of 24 ft, $K_z = 0.932$ $K_{zt} = 1.0$, $K_d = 0.85$, $K_e = 1.0$

 $q_p = 0.00256(0.932)(1.0)(0.85)(1.0)(142)^2 = 40.9 \text{ psf}$

Range: 40.5 to 41.5

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 40.5 to 41.5

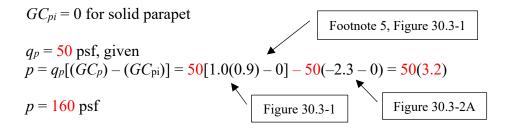
PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting) Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Solution 2

Effective wind area = $4(4)/3 = 5.33 < 10 \text{ ft}^2$; use 10 ft^2 Wall Zone 4 positive coefficient = +1.0 Roof Zone 2 uplift pressure coefficient = -2.3



THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 155 to 165

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Solution 3

$$q_2 = 50 \text{ psf}$$

 $GC_{pi} = 0.00 \text{ (solid parapet)}$
Effective wind area = 4.0 ft × 4.0 ft/3 = 5.33 ft²
 $GC_p = \text{Figure } 30.3\text{-}1$

$$= -1.0 \times 0.9 = +0.9 = GC_p \text{ for } p_{\text{roof}}$$

$$-1.1 \times 0.9 = -0.99 = GC_p \text{ for } p_{\text{wall}}$$

$$p_{\text{roof}} = 50 \text{ psf } (0.9 - \emptyset) = 45 \text{ psf}$$

$$p_{\text{wall}} = 50 \text{ psf } (0.99 - \emptyset) = 49.5 \text{ psf}$$

$$p_{\text{total}} = 94.5 \text{ psf}$$

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: 90.0 to 99.0

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Solution 6

From NCEES PE Structural Reference Handbook: $\frac{2/jk}{k} = (12)(3.81)^2(900)/1,080 = 12.1$ np = 0.019 $npj = 16.11(1,080)(12)/12(3.81)^2(32,000) = 0.037$ np = 0.041

PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting) Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Solution 7

Effective wind area need not be less than $(16.67)(16.67/3) = 93 \text{ ft}^2$ Therefore, use effective wind area = 93 ft²

ASCE 7 Figure 30.3-2A, Zone 2: GC_p can be taken with range of -1.7 to -1.9

Design wind uplift pressure, LRFD/Strength: $P = 46 \text{ psf} \begin{pmatrix} -1.7 - 0.18 \\ -1.9 - 0.18 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{cases} 86.5 \text{ psf} \\ \text{to} \\ 95.7 \text{ psf} \end{cases}$

Distributed wind load on joist: $W = \begin{pmatrix} 86.5 \text{ psf} \\ \text{to} \\ 95.7 \text{ psf} \end{pmatrix} (1.33 \text{ ft}) = \begin{pmatrix} 115.0 \text{ plf} \\ \text{to} \\ 127.3 \text{ plf} \end{pmatrix}$

Moment in joist:
$$\frac{Wl^2}{8} = \frac{W(16.67 \text{ ft})^2}{8} = \frac{3,995 \text{ lb-ft}}{4,422 \text{ lb-ft}} = \frac{47,936 \text{ lb-in.}}{53,063 \text{ lb-in.}}$$

ASD (Allowable Design)

$$S_{req} = \frac{(0.6)(47,936)}{1,656 \text{ psi}} = 17.4 \text{ in}^3$$

$$= \frac{(0.6)(53,063)}{1,656 \text{ psi}} = 19.2 \text{ in}^3$$

$$2 \times 8 S_x = 13.14 < 17.4 \text{ in}^3 \therefore \text{ NG}$$

$$2 \times 10 S_x = 21.39 > 19.2 \text{ in}^3 \therefore \text{ OK; use } 2 \times 10$$

LRFD (Strength Design)

$$S_{req} = M/F_b'$$

$$S_{req} = \frac{47,936 \text{ lb-in.}}{3,575 \text{ psi}} = 13.4 \text{ in}^2$$

to
$$\frac{53,063 \text{ lb-in.}}{3,575 \text{ psi}} = 14.8 \text{ in}^2$$

$$2 \times 8 S_x = 13.14 < 13.4 \text{ in}^2$$
.: NG
 $2 \times 10 S_x = 21.39 > 14.8 \text{ in}^2$.: OK; use 2×10

PE Structural Engineering Practice Exam

ISBN 978-1-947801-36-3

Copyright 2023 (November 2023, first posting) Errata posted 02/03/2025

Lateral Forces Depth—Buildings, Scenario 2, Solution 8

LRFD (Strength Design)

Shear at Grid Line 7:
$$V_7 = 2,300 \text{ plf } (30 \text{ ft}) = 69,000 \text{ lb}$$

 $v_7 = 69,000 \text{ lb/50 ft} = 1,380 \text{ lb/ft}$

ASD (Allowable Design)

$$v_7 = 0.6(1,380 \text{ lb-ft}) = 828 \text{ lb-ft}$$

 $v_8 = 0.6(690 \text{ lb-ft}) = 414 \text{ lb-ft}$