

## **Session 47**

**Dennis Mertz**

University of Delaware

### ***LRFR Methodology***

#### **Topic Description**

The application and basis of the Load and Resistance Factor Rating procedures of the new AASHTO Manual for Condition Evaluation and the Florida Structure Manual are discussed.

#### **Speaker Biography**

Professor Mertz teaches bridge engineering at the University of Delaware, and is the Director of the University's Center for Innovative Bridge Engineering (CIBrE). Previous to his appointment to the University, he was an Associate of the bridge design firm of Modjeski & Masters, Inc.

Dennis was the Co-Principal Investigator of the NCHRP research project which wrote the original edition of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications. He continues to be active in its further development and implementation.

All of Professor Mertz's engineering degrees are from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He is also a Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

# **LRFR: FDOT Rating Policies & Procedures**

**Dennis R. Mertz**  
**University of Delaware**  
**Center for Innovative Bridge Engineering**



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## **Part 1 BACKGROUND**



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## Objective of LRFD

**Develop a comprehensive and consistent Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) specification that is calibrated to obtain uniform reliability (a measure of safety) at the strength limit state for all materials.**



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## CALIBRATION

**Selection of a set of  $\gamma$ 's and  $\phi$ 's to approximate a target level of reliability in an LRFD-format specification.**



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## What's not LRFD?

- **New limit states,**
- **New, more complex live-load distribution factors,**
- **New unified-concrete shear design using modified compression-field theory,**
- **Strut-and-tie model for concrete, and**
- **Many other state-of-the-art additions.**



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## Limit States

- **Service limit states,**
- **Fatigue-and-fracture limit states,**
- **Strength limit states, and**
- **Extreme-event limit states.**



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**Only the strength limit states of the *LRFD Specifications* are calibrated based upon the theory of structural reliability, wherein statistical load and resistance data are required.**

**The other limit states are based upon the design criteria of the *Standard Specifications*.**



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## **Calibration consists of up to three steps:**

- **Reliability-based calibration,**
- **Calibration or comparison to past practice, and**
- **Liberal doses of engineering judgment.**

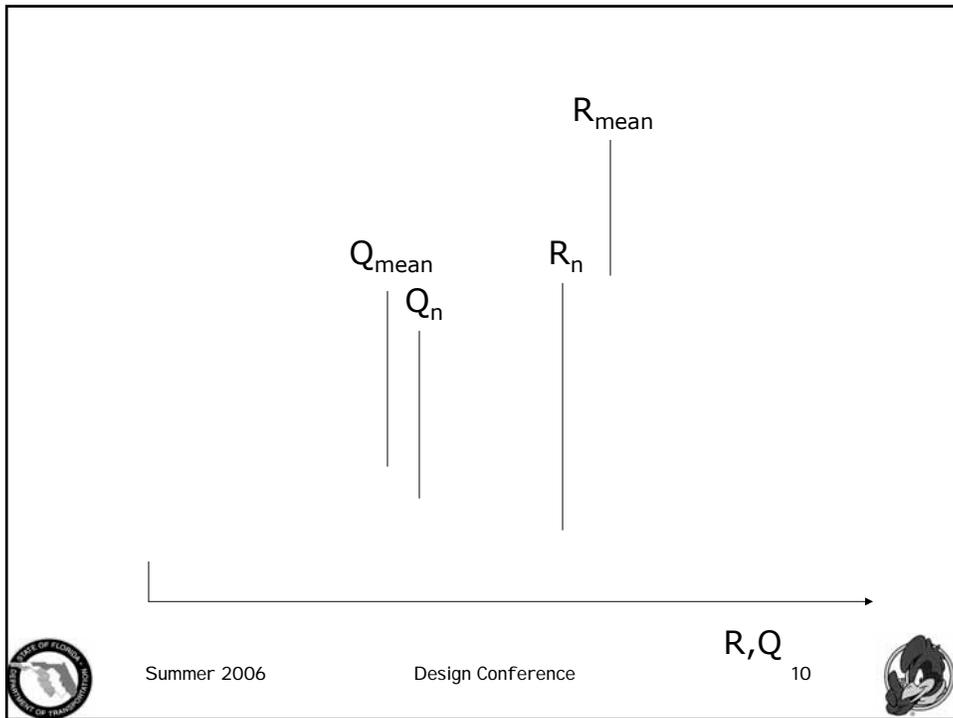
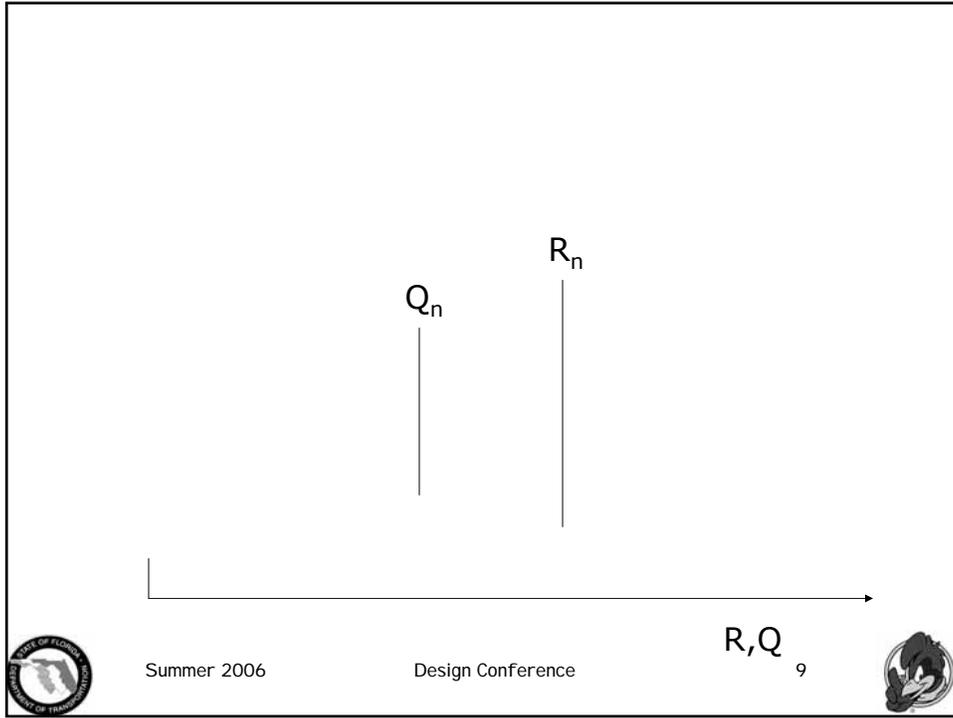


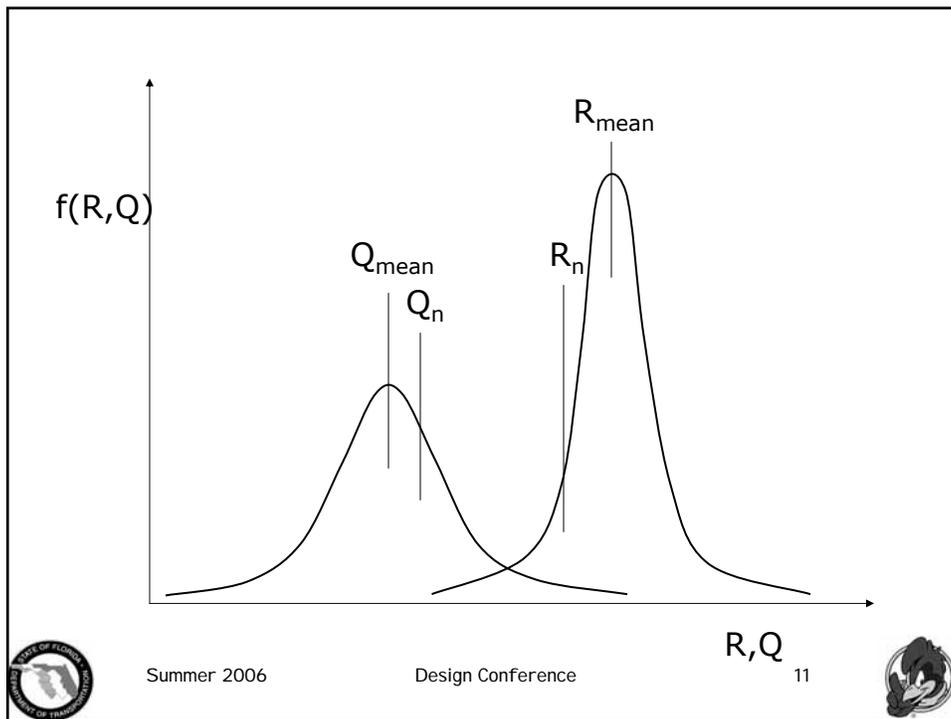
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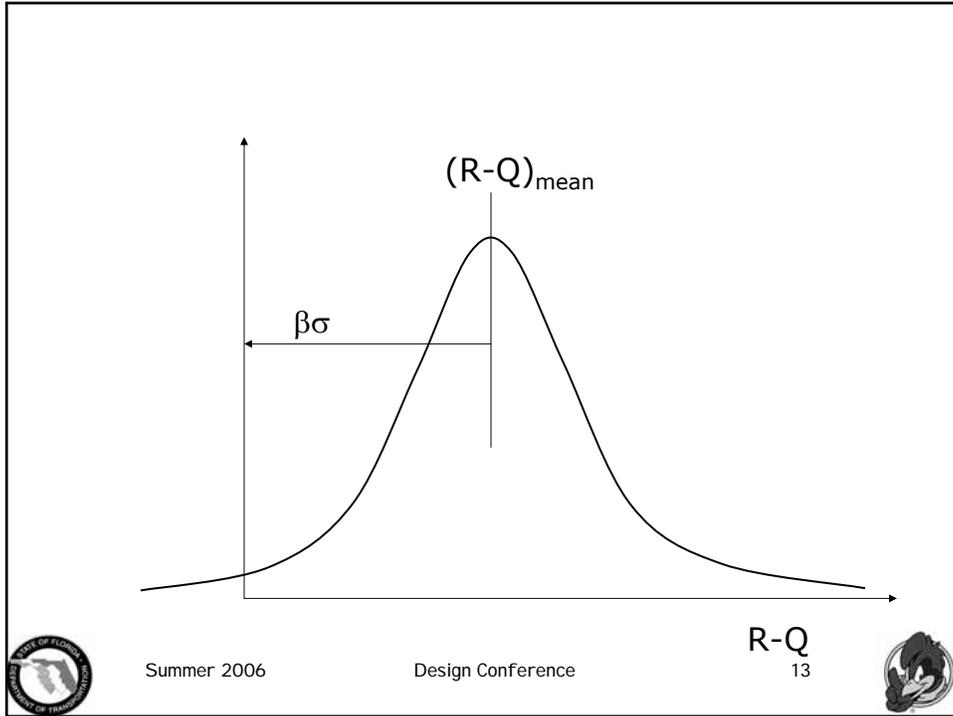






## INDEPENDENT OF DESIGN METHODOLOGY

The resultant value is independent of the design methodology employed in the design of the bridge as a probable resistance is compared to a probable load with no regard to the design methodology.



**THE TARGET RELIABILITY INDEX  $\beta$  IS A UNIQUE QUANTITY.**

**Many different sets of  $\gamma$ 's and  $\phi$ 's can be selected to achieve the unique reliability index  $\beta$ .**

**What is an acceptable value for  $\beta$ ?**

**Can we examine human behavior  
to choose a target  $\beta$  for bridge  
design?**



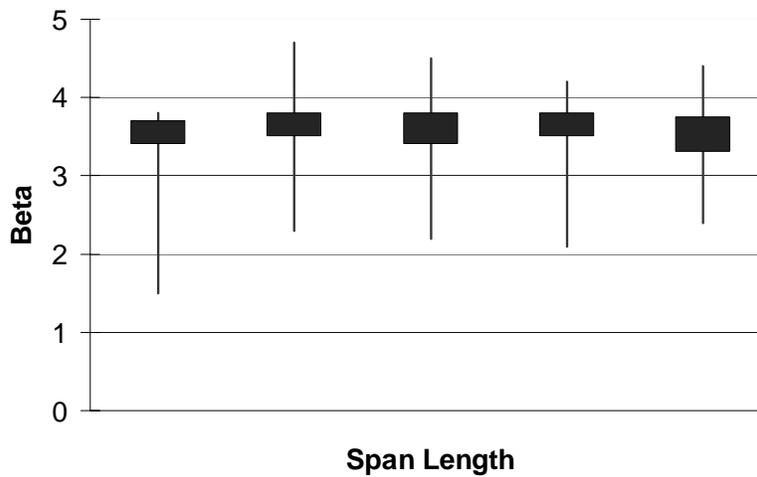
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### Reliability Indices



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**If load and resistance are normal  
random variables,**

$$\sigma_{(R-Q)} = \sqrt{\sigma_R^2 + \sigma_Q^2}$$

**and**

$$\beta = \frac{R_{mean} - Q_{mean}}{\sqrt{\sigma_R^2 + \sigma_Q^2}}$$



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**LRFD requires that:**

$$\phi R \geq \sum_i \gamma_i Q_i$$

**And the nominal  
design resistance is  
defined as:**

$$R_n = \frac{R_{mean}}{\lambda}$$



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**From the definitions of  $\beta$  and  $\lambda$**

$$R_{mean} = Q_{mean} + \beta \sqrt{\sigma_R^2 + \sigma_Q^2} = \lambda R_n$$

**but**

$$\phi R_n \geq \sum_i \gamma_i Q_i$$



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**Finally, solving for  $\phi$   
yields**

$$\phi = \frac{\lambda_R \sum_i \gamma_i Q_i}{Q_{mean} + \beta \sqrt{\sigma_R^2 + \sigma_Q^2}}$$

**With three "unknowns,"  $\phi$ , the  $\gamma_i$ 's  
and  $\beta$**



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**Load factors can be chosen such that all of the factored loads have an equal probability of being exceeded.**

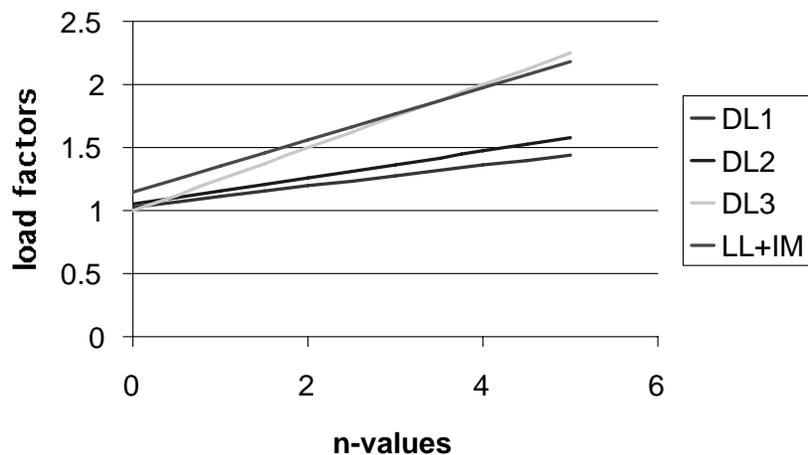
**In equation form,**

$$\gamma_i = \lambda_i (1 + nV_i)$$

**where n is a constant for all load components.**



### Load Factors



**With the target  $\beta$  and the  $\gamma$ 's chosen, the  $\phi$ 's to achieve the approximate desired level of reliability can be determined.**

**The process is repeated until a set of  $\gamma$ 's and  $\phi$ 's agreeable to the codewriters is obtained.**



**After much investigation, it was determined that:**

- **the total load,  $Q$ , can be accurately assumed to be a normal random variable, and**
- **the resistance,  $R$ , can be accurately assumed to be a lognormal random variable.**



## Nowak's equation D-25 (adapted)

$$\beta = \frac{R_n \lambda_n (1 - n V_R) [1 - \ln(1 - n V_R)] - Q_{mean}}{\sqrt{R_n V_n \lambda_n (1 - n V_R)}^2 + \sigma_Q^2}$$

but

$$R^* = \phi R_n = Q^* = \sum r Q$$

and

$$R^* = R_{mean} (1 - n V_R) = \lambda_R R_n (1 - n V_R) = \phi R_n$$



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**Thus, the calibration of the *LRFD Specifications* became a huge spreadsheet/bookkeeping iterative problem (see Nowak's Appendix F).**



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**The calibration represented in the current edition of the *LRFD Specifications* was made in the late 1980's and early 1990's.**

**Today, calibration is done differently. Due to modern computer resources, calibration is done by simulation, Monte Carlo Simulation.**



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## **MONTE CARLO SIMULATION**

- **"Bins" of data are developed holding values of distributed loads and resistances.**
- **Values are extracted randomly, and the LRFD comparison is made, in other words, is factored resistance greater than or equal to factored load?**
- **Many, many such comparisons are made until the sampling allows the probability of failure, and thus  $\beta$ , to be determined.**



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**THE LRFD LIMIT STATES ARE  
CALIBRATED BASED UPON PAST  
PRACTICE.**

**The strength limit states are calibrated  
to achieve levels of reliability  
comparable to the *Standard  
Specifications*.**

**The service, and fatigue-and-fracture  
limit states are calibrated to achieve  
member proportions comparable to the  
*Standard Specifications*.**



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**THE SERVICE LIMIT STATES  
GENERALLY GOVERN THE  
PROPORTIONS OF  
SUPERSTRUCTURE MEMBERS.**

**Positive-moment regions of steel  
girders are governed by the  
service II load combination.**

**Prestressed concrete members are  
governed by the service I or III  
load combinations.**



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## **MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN TO BE ANSWERED.**

- **What is the appropriate  $\beta$  for bridge design and evaluation?**
- **Should all bridge components have the same  $\beta$ ?**
- **Should all limit states have the same  $\beta$ ?**
- **Is an "analysis factor" needed?**



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## **CONCLUSIONS**

**The reliability-based LRFD design methodology is not perfect, but it represents an improvement over the ASD and LFD methodologies.**

**LRFD utilizes structural reliability to help us select improved load and resistance factors, and it provides a framework for future improvement.**



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## **CONCLUSIONS (continued)**

**Most of the features which designers dislike about the LRFD Specifications have little, if anything, to do with the LRFD design methodology.**



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**NCHRP Project 20-07/Task 122**

## **LOAD RATING BY LOAD AND RESISTANCE FACTOR EVALUATION METHOD**

*FINAL REPORT to  
AASHTO Technical Committee T-18*



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## OBJECTIVE

The objective of this project is to provide explicit comparisons between the ratings produced by the LRFR methods of the *Guide Manual for the Condition Evaluation and Load and Resistance Factor Rating of Highway Bridges* and LFR ratings from the latest edition of the *AASHTO Manual for Condition Evaluation of Bridges*.



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The comparisons are based upon flexural-strength ratings.

For girder-type bridges, the rating comparisons further concentrate on the interior girder.



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EXAMPLE-BRIDGE DATABASE

| Bridge Type                             | Continuity                    | Span Length (Ft) | Number of Bridges |       |   |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------|---|
|   |                               |                  |                   |       |   |
| reinforced-concrete slab superstructure | simple                        | 25±10            | 4                 | 5     |   |
|   |                               | 50±10            | 1                 |       |   |
|   | continuous                    | 25±10            | 4                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 50±10            | 1                 |       |   |
| steel multi-girder                      | simple                        | 25±10            | 5                 | 26    |   |
|   |                               | 50±10            | 6                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 75±10            | 4                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 100±10           | 3                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 125±10           | 2                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 150±10           | 3                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 175±10           | 2                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 200±10           | 1                 |       |   |
|   |                               | continuous       | 25±10             |       | 2 |
|   | 50±10                         |                  | 1                 |       |   |
|   | 75±10                         |                  | 2                 |       |   |
|   | 100±10                        |                  | 0                 |       |   |
|   | 125±10                        |                  | 4                 |       |   |
|   | 150±10                        |                  | 3                 |       |   |
|   | 175±10                        |                  | 3                 |       |   |
|   | 200±10                        |                  | 3                 |       |   |
|   | prestressed-concrete I-girder |                  | simple            | 50±10 | 2 |
|   |                               | 75±10            |                   | 2     |   |
| 100±10                                  |                               | 3                |                   |       |   |
| 125±10                                  |                               | 0                |                   |       |   |
| 150±10                                  |                               | 0                |                   |       |   |
| prestressed-concrete slabs/boxes        | simple                        | 50±10            | 4                 | 13    |   |
|   |                               | 75±10            | 5                 |       |   |
|   |                               | 100±10           | 4                 |       |   |
| Total Number of Example Bridges         |                               |                  |                   | 74    |   |



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DESIGN-LOAD RATING FACTOR COMPARISON

| Type                | LRFR Rating Factor / LFR Rating Factor |                    |           |                    |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|
|                     | Inventory                              |                    | Operating |                    |
|                     | Mean                                   | Standard Deviation | Mean      | Standard Deviation |
| all                 | 1.07                                   | 0.31               | 0.84      | 0.25               |
| p/s-concrete box    | 1.11                                   | 0.16               | 0.86      | 0.13               |
| p/s-concrete girder | 0.97                                   | 0.11               | 0.75      | 0.09               |
| p/s-concrete slab   | 1.31                                   | 0.40               | 1.01      | 0.31               |
| r/c slab            | 0.80                                   | 0.29               | 0.62      | 0.22               |
| steel plate girder  | 1.19                                   | 0.21               | 0.93      | 0.16               |
| steel rolled beam   | 1.05                                   | 0.42               | 0.80      | 0.36               |



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DESIGN-LOAD RATING-FACTOR RATIO COMPARISON

| Type                 | Operating Rating Factor / Inventory Rating Factor |                    |      |                    |
|----------------------|---|--------------------|------|--------------------|
|                      | LFR   |                    | LRFR |                    |
|                      | Mean  | Standard Deviation | Mean | Standard Deviation |
| all                  | 1.68  | 0.038              | 1.31 | 0.059              |
| p/s-concrete box     | 1.67  | 0.005              | 1.30 | 0.002              |
| p/s-concrete girders | 1.68  | 0.002              | 1.30 | 0.002              |
| p/s-concrete slab    | 1.67  | 0.001              | 1.30 | 0.001              |
| r/c slab             | 1.67  | 0.005              | 1.29 | 0.005              |
| steel plate girder   | 1.68  | 0.018              | 1.31 | 0.086              |
| steel rolled beam    | 1.69  | 0.073              | 1.31 | 0.063              |



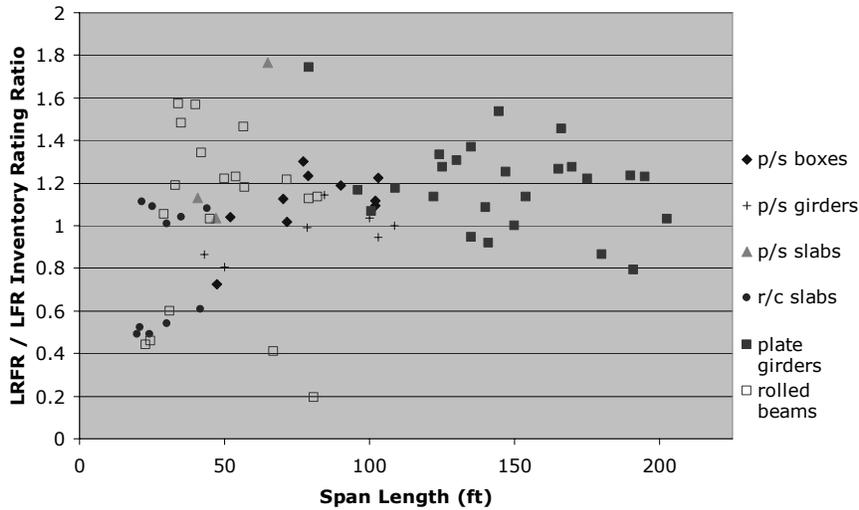
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SPAN-LENGTH EFFECT



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OPERATING RATING COMPARISON

| Type                 | LRFR Rating / LFR Rating |                    |          |                    |          |                    |              |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|
|                      | Legal Loads              |                    |          |                    |          |                    | Permit Truck |                    |
|                      | Type 3                   |                    | Type 3S2 |                    | Type 3-3 |                    |              |                    |
|                      | Mean                     | Standard Deviation | Mean     | Standard Deviation | Mean     | Standard Deviation | Mean         | Standard Deviation |
| all                  | 1.17                     | 0.37               | 1.18     | 0.37               | 1.18     | 0.37               | 1.14         | 0.35               |
| p/s-concrete box     | 1.14                     | 0.20               | 1.14     | 0.20               | 1.14     | 0.19               | 1.14         | 0.20               |
| p/s-concrete girders | 0.99                     | 0.16               | 1.03     | 0.17               | 1.03     | 0.17               | 0.96         | 0.21               |
| p/s-concrete slab    | 1.27                     | 0.42               | 1.27     | 0.41               | 1.27     | 0.41               | 1.27         | 0.42               |
| r/c slab             | 0.83                     | 0.28               | 0.87     | 0.33               | 0.85     | 0.30               | 0.83         | 0.28               |
| steel plate girder   | 1.42                     | 0.24               | 1.42     | 0.26               | 1.43     | 0.27               | 1.36         | 0.24               |
| steel rolled beam    | 1.10                     | 0.46               | 1.10     | 0.46               | 1.09     | 0.46               | 1.07         | 0.43               |



## MONTE CARLO SIMULATION

The reliability of the example bridges was established through Monte Carlo simulation.

The application of Monte Carlo simulation employed for this study compares two distributions of values; in this case, load and resistance; and determines a random value of resistance minus load for a given design criteria, in this case the Strength I limit state for flexure.



STATISTICS

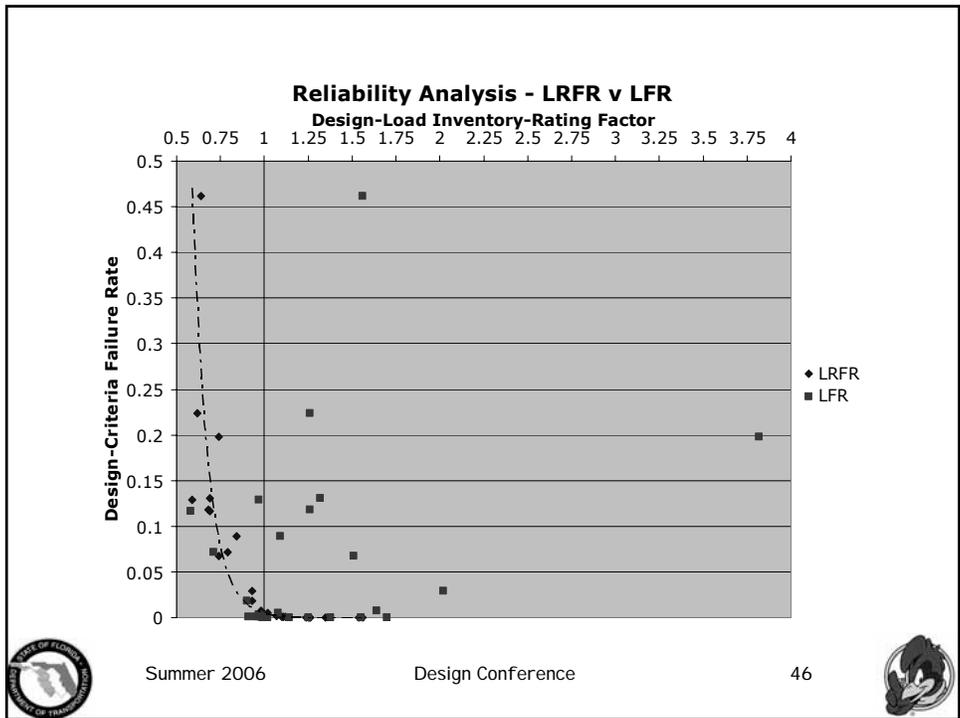
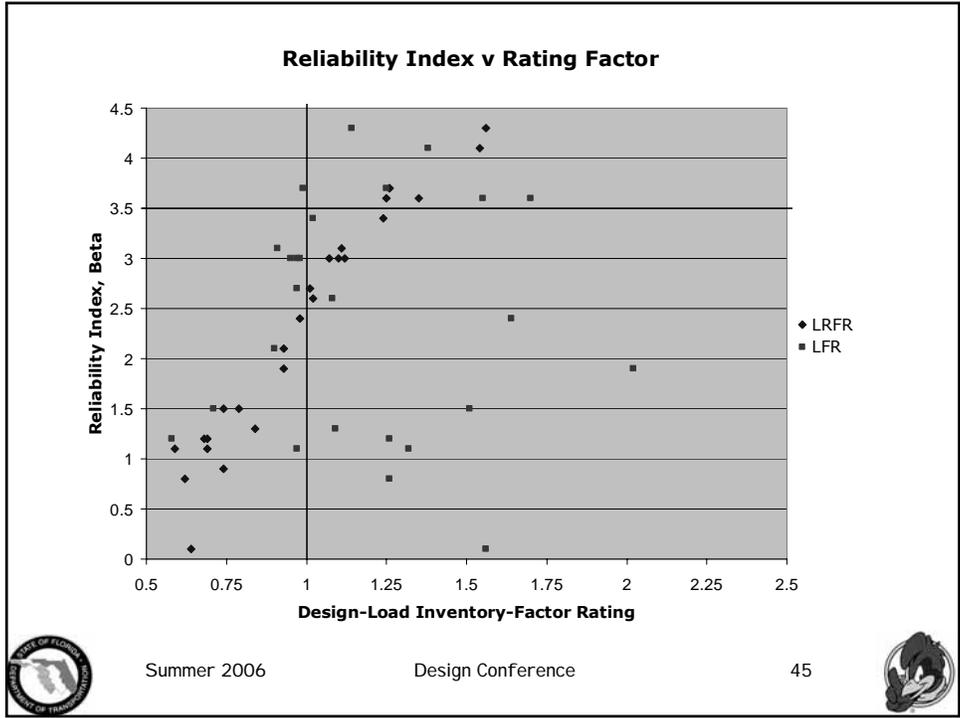
| Parameter                                   | Assumed Distribution | Bias Factor, $\lambda$ , associated with LRFD | Coefficient of Variation, V |
|---|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| D, dead load                                | normal               | 1.05  | 0.10                        |
| L, live load plus impact                    |                      | 1.30  | 0.18                        |
| R, composite-steel flexural resistance      | lognormal            | 1.12  | 0.10                        |
| R, reinforced-concrete flexural resistance  |                      | 1.12  | 0.13                        |
| R, prestressed-concrete flexural resistance |                      | 1.05  | 0.075                       |

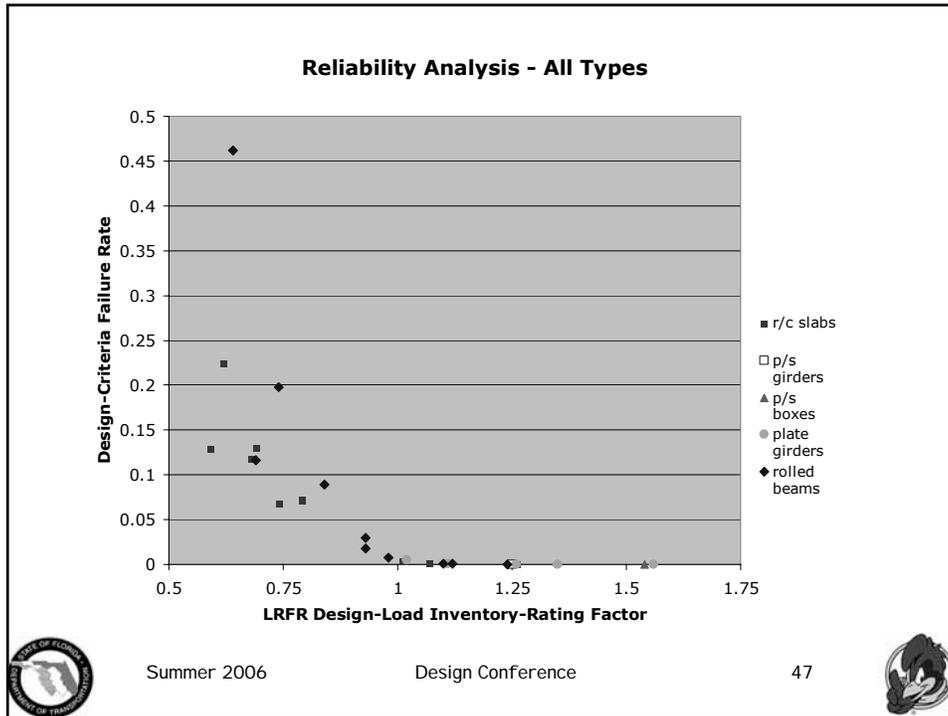
**Note:** The mean value of a parameter,  $\mu$ , is equal to the nominal value times the bias factor. The standard deviation,  $\sigma$ , is equal to the coefficient of variation, V, times the mean value.



Twenty six of the bridges in the 74 bridge database demonstrated a failure rate of more than 10 failures out of 1,000,000 simulations ( $\beta >$  about 4.5).







## CONCLUSIONS

Based upon the results of this investigation, in general, LRFR rating factors are equal to or greater than LFR ratings factors except for reinforced-concrete slab bridges. These types of slab bridges may represent a problem in terms of LRFR rating. As demonstrated, the lower slab-bridge ratings are technically appropriate

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This study suggests that LRFR is technically sound with the LRFR rating factors in good correlation with the failure rates. LRFR rating factors lower than one demonstrated relatively high failure rates. LFR ratings did not correlate well. In fact, many bridges with LFR rating factors above one demonstrated unacceptably high failure rates. This is not to say that the continued use of LFR rating is necessarily unsafe, just irrational.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

Questions about LRFR versus LFR for force effects other than moment and limit states other than strength are not answered.

Nonetheless, the researcher recommends adoption of the LRFR methodology for rating bridges. Assuming the LRFR calibration process is sound, comparable results should result for other more extensive studies. The service limit states which are uncalibrated and optional in LRFR need additional thought.



If the diminished range between inventory and operating ratings shown in Table 4 is not acceptable from an operational standpoint, then the target reliability index,  $\beta_T$ , for the operating rating in LRFR should be re-evaluated. Decreasing  $\beta_T$ , will increase this range.



## Part 2

back to

# FDOT RATING POLICIES & PROCEDURES



# TERMINOLOGY

**LRFR = AASHTO *Manual for Bridge Evaluation* (2006)**

**FDOT = Florida's proposed additions, revisions & deletions**



| DESIGN METHODOLOGY                       | LOAD-RATING METHODOLOGY       |                          |  |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
|  | ALLOWABLE STRESS RATING (ASR) | LOAD FACTOR RATING (LFR) | LOAD AND RESISTANCE FACTOR RATING (LRFR) |
| Allowable Stress Design (ASD)            | ✓                             | ✓                        | ✓  |
| Load Factor Design (LFD)                 |                               | ✓                        | ✓  |
| Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) |                               |                          | ✓  |



**AASHTO LRFR seems to assume that every permit load will be evaluated.**

**FDOT LRFR assumes that blanket permits will be issued based upon previously established operating-level ratings.**



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## **LRFR EVALUATION LEVELS**

- 1.Design-load rating**
- 2.Legal-load rating**
- 3.Permit-load rating**



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# **FDOT EVALUATION LEVELS**

- 1.Design-load & permit-load rating**
- 2.Legal-load rating**



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# **LRFR RATING LEVELS**

- Inventory –  $\beta = 3.5$   
(*represents LRFD design*)**
- Operating –  $\beta = 2.5$   
(*represents traditional operating*)**



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| TYPE   | BRIDGE                     | CORVEN | LEAP | SDR | FDOT      |
|--|----------------------------|--------|------|-----|-----------|
| Simple-span prestressed concrete beam simple-spans | __0074                     | ✓✓     | ✓✓   | ✓✓  |           |
|  | __0052                     | ✓✓     | ✓✓   | ✓✓  |           |
|  | __0057 - span 2 & 3        | ✓✓     | ✓✓   | ✓✓  | ✓✓        |
|  | __0057 - span 1 & 4        | ✓✓     |      |     |           |
|  | __0196 - 3 wb              | ✓✓     | ✓✓   | ✓✓  |           |
|  | __0196 - 7 wb              | ✓✓     |      |     |           |
|  | __0196 - 14 wb             | ✓✓     |      |     |           |
| Continuous flat slabs                              | __0081                     | ✓✓     | ✓✓   | ✓✓  |           |
|  | __0091                     | ✓✓     |      | ✓✓  | ✓✓ (edge) |
| Continuous prestressed concrete spliced girder     | __4094                     | ✓✓     |      | ✓✓  |           |
|  | __0108 - 4-span unit       | ✓      | ✓✓   |     |           |
|  | __0108 3-span channel unit | ✓      | ✓✓   |     |           |

**Florida Database of Concrete Bridges**

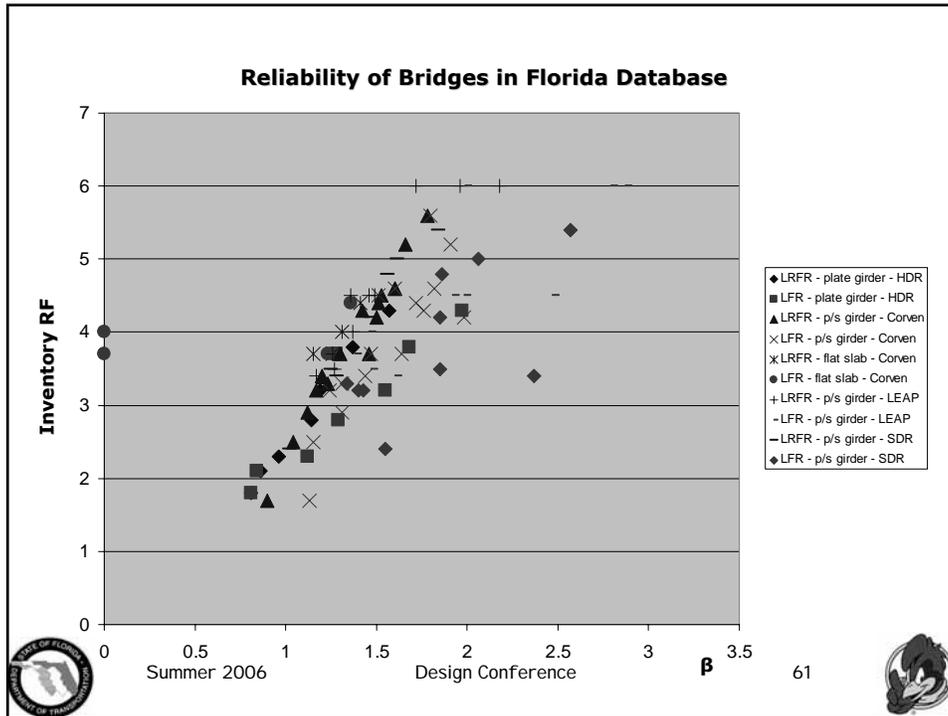
✓✓ analysis complete & results in spreadsheet  
✓ analysis complete


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### Florida's Database of Steel Bridges

| Bridge Type  | Span Type  | Bridge Number | Analysis |         |
|--------------|------------|---------------|----------|---------|
|              |            |               | Simple   | Refined |
| Plate Girder | Simple     | __0620        | ✓✓       | ✓✓      |
|              | Continuous | __0323        | ✓✓       | ✓✓      |
| Tub Girder   | Simple     | _____         |          | ✓       |
|              | Continuous | _____         |          | ✓       |


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## AASHTO LRFR makes service limit states optional acknowledging that:

- the rater should protect the bridge from damage, yet
- traditionally designed bridges may not rate at the service limit states for legal and permit loads.

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## FDOT LRFR calibrates the service limit states so that:

- the rater protects the bridge from damage, yet
- traditionally designed bridges will not rate so poorly at the service limit states for legal and permit loads.



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## The LRFR Equation (LRFR Eq 6-1)

$$RF = \frac{C - (\gamma_{DC})(DC) - (\gamma_{DW})(DW) \pm (\gamma_P)(P)}{(\gamma_L)(LL + IM)}$$

where

$$C = \phi_c \phi_s \phi R_n \quad \text{for strength}$$

$$C = f_R \quad \text{for service}$$



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# CONCEPT OF A NOTIONAL LIVE LOAD MODEL

A load model which does not necessarily “look” like a truck, but which produces force effects (for example, moments & shears) representative of actual trucks.



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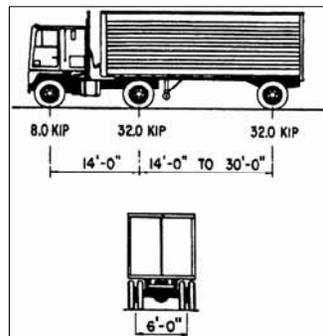
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## Design Vehicular Live Loads

### Design Truck



### Design Tandem

Two 25.0 KIP axles spaced 4.0 FT apart

### Design Lane Load

Uniformly distributed load of 0.64 KLF



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# Application of Design Vehicular LL

LRFD 3.6.1.2.1 and 3.6.1.3.1

Designation: HL-93

Service and Strength Limit States:

Design Truck OR Design Tandem  
AND  
Design Lane Load

The design lane load is not interrupted for the design truck or design tandem. Interruption is needed only where pattern loadings are used to produce maximum effects.



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# Comparison of LRFD Notional v. HS20

The notional model produces live load moments and shears significantly greater than those caused by the HS20 loading especially for longer spans.

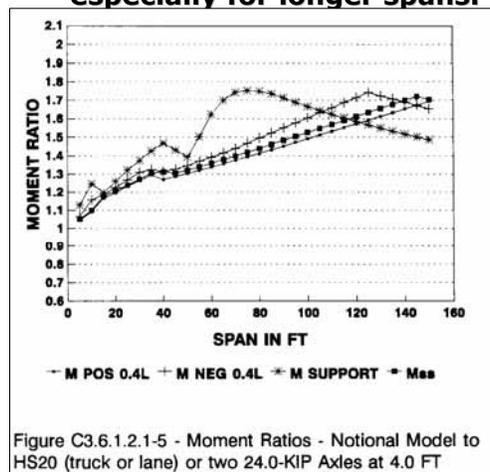


Figure C3.6.1.2.1-5 - Moment Ratios - Notional Model to HS20 (truck or lane) or two 24.0-KIP Axles at 4.0 FT



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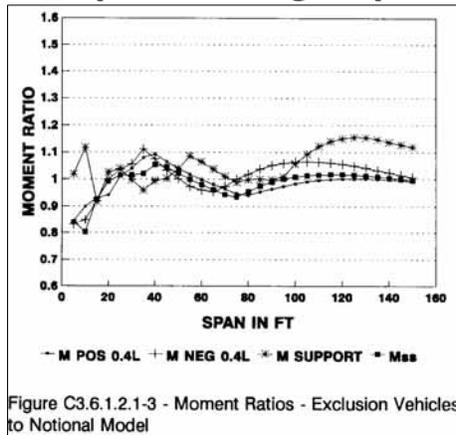
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## Justification for New LL

New "notional" live load model simulates the shear and moment effects of a group of "exclusion" vehicles currently allowed to routinely travel on highways in various states.



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## EFFECT OF SUPERPOSITION OF VEHICLES & LANE LOAD

- Short spans governed by wheels – lane load has little effect,
- Long spans governed by the lane load – the vehicle has little effect, but
- Intermediate length spans – the lane load amplifies the vehicle effect (without specifying a "super-legal" load).



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**Therefore, the HL-93 rating factor represents a ratio of the entire effect (in other words, the governing vehicle and the lane) not just the vehicle!**



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**The intent of the superposition explains the application of the dynamic load allowance (IM) to the vehicle force effects only.**



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# LONGITUDINAL V. TRANSVERSE ANALYSIS

- Longitudinal & transverse ratings for bridges with prestressed concrete decks (e.g., segmental boxes)
- Longitudinal ratings only for all others



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Loads for Longitudinal Rating

| LOADS    |   | DESIGN LOADS |     | LEGAL LOADS | PERMIT LOADS<br>(annual blanket permits with mixed traffic) |
|----------|---|--------------|-----|-------------|---|
|          |   | INV          | OPR | OPR         | OPR   |
| vehicles | HL93 notional live-load model   | ✓            | ✓   |             |   |
|          | SU4, C5 and ST5 trucks only (same truck in each lane, do not mix trucks)                  |              |     | ✓           |   |
|          | HL93 design truck (old HS-20) and T160 truck with coincident 0.20 kips per foot lane load |              |     |             | ✓   |



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**Loads for Transverse Rating**

| LOADS    |  | DESIGN LOADS |     | LEGAL LOADS | PERMIT LOADS (annual blanket permits with mixed traffic) |
|----------|--|--------------|-----|-------------|--|
|          |  | INV          | OPR | OPR         | OPR  |
| vehicles | HL93 truck or tandem without coincident lane load  | ✓            | ✓   | ✓           |  |
|          | SU4, C5, ST5 and HL93 truck or tandem (same truck in each lane, do not mix trucks)                             |              |     | ✓           |  |
|          | T160 in one lane and HL93 design truck or design tandem without coincident design lane load in the other lanes |              |     |             | ✓  |



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**Limit-State Load Combinations (dead load + live load)**

| BRIDGE TYPE | LIMIT-STATE LOAD COMBINATIONS | DEAD LOADS |      | LIVE LOAD         |      |                   |                   |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|
|             |                               | DC         | DW   | DESIGN LOAD       |      | LEGAL LOAD        | PERMIT LOAD       |
|             |                               |            |      | INV               | OPR  | OPR               |                   |
|             |                               | LL         |      |                   |      |                   |                   |
| All Bridges | Strength I                    | 1.25       | 1.50 | 1.75              | 1.35 | 1.35 <sup>1</sup> | na                |
|             | Strength II                   | 1.25       | 1.50 | na                |      |                   | 1.35 <sup>2</sup> |
| Steel       | Service II                    | 1.00       | 1.00 | 1.30              | 1.00 | 1.30              | 1.00              |
| R/C         | Service I                     | 1.00       | 1.00 | na                |      |                   | 1.00              |
| P/C         | Service III                   | 1.00       | 1.00 | 0.80 <sup>3</sup> |      |                   | 0.75 <sup>3</sup> |
|             | Service I                     | 1.00       | 1.00 | 1.00              |      |                   |                   |

<sup>1</sup>For all traffic volumes

<sup>2</sup>For all types and frequencies of permit

<sup>3</sup>For longitudinal analysis of post-tensioned bridges use striped lanes



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# REDUNDANCY

**LRFD – load modifier,  $\eta_R$**

**LRFR – system factor,  $\phi_s$**



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# REDUNDANCY

- **Structural redundancy,**
- **Load-path redundancy, &**
- **Internal redundancy.**



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## REVISED LRFR SYSTEM FACTORS BASED UPON:

- **NCHRP Report 406 (Ghosen & Moses),**
- **Observed bridge behavior, &**
- **Liberal doses of engineering judgment.**



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### General System Factors

| Superstructure Type   | System Factors ( $\phi_s$ ) |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Welded Members in Two Truss/Arch Bridges  | 0.85                        |
| Riveted Members in Two Truss/Arch Bridges   | 0.90                        |
| Multiple Eyebars Members in Truss Bridges   | 0.90                        |
| Floorbeams with Spacing > 12 feet and Non-continuous Stringers & Deck                   | 0.85                        |
| Floorbeams with Spacing > 12 feet and Non-continuous Stringers but with Continuous Deck | 0.90                        |
| Redundant Stringer subsystems between Floorbeams  | 1.0                         |
| All beams in non-spliced concrete girder bridges  | 1.0                         |



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**General Steel-Bridge System Factors ( $\phi_s$ )**

| Superstructure Type  | System Factors ( $\phi_s$ ) |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Welded Members in Two Truss/Arch Bridges   | 0.85                        |
| Riveted Members in Two Truss/Arch Bridges  | 0.90                        |
| Multiple Eyebars Members in Truss Bridges  | 0.90                        |
| Floorbeams with Spacing > 12 feet and Non-continuous Stringers   | 0.85                        |
| Floorbeams with Spacing > 12 feet and Non-continuous Stringers but with Continuous Composite Concrete Deck | 0.90                        |
| Floorbeams with Spacing > 12 feet and Non-continuous Stringers but with Continuous Metal Deck              | 0.95                        |
| Redundant Stringer subsystems between Floorbeams   | 1.0                         |
| All beams in non-spliced concrete girder bridges   | 1.0                         |



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**System Factors ( $\phi_s$ ) for Post-Tensioned Concrete Beams**

| Number of Girders in Cross Section | Span Type | Number of Hinges Required for Mechanism | System Factors ( $\phi_s$ ) |      |      |      |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------------------------|------|------|------|
|                                    |           |   | Number of Tendons per Web   |      |      |      |
|                                    |           |   | 1                           | 2    | 3    | 4    |
| 2                                  | Interior  | 3                                       | 0.85                        | 0.90 | 0.95 | 1.00 |
|                                    | End       | 2                                       | 0.85                        | 0.85 | 0.90 | 0.95 |
|                                    | Simple    | 1                                       | 0.85                        | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.90 |
| 3 or 4                             | Interior  | 3                                       | 1.00                        | 1.05 | 1.10 | 1.15 |
|                                    | End       | 2                                       | 0.95                        | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.10 |
|                                    | Simple    | 1                                       | 0.90                        | 0.95 | 1.00 | 1.05 |
| 5 or more                          | Interior  | 3                                       | 1.05                        | 1.10 | 1.15 | 1.20 |
|                                    | End       | 2                                       | 1.00                        | 1.05 | 1.10 | 1.15 |
|                                    | Simple    | 1                                       | 0.95                        | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.10 |

The above tabularized values may be increased by 0.05 for spans containing more than 3 intermediate, evenly spaced diaphragms in addition to the diaphragms at the end of each span.



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### System Factors ( $\phi_s$ ) for Steel Girder Bridges

| Number of Girders in Cross Section | Span Type | # of Hinges Required for Mechanism | System Factors |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|----------------|
|                                    |           |                                    |                |
| 2                                  | Interior  | 3                                  | 0.85           |
|                                    | End       | 2                                  | 0.85           |
|                                    | Simple    | 1                                  | 0.85           |
| 3 or 4                             | Interior  | 3                                  | 1.00           |
|                                    | End       | 2                                  | 0.95           |
|                                    | Simple    | 1                                  | 0.90           |
| 5 or more                          | Interior  | 3                                  | 1.05           |
|                                    | End       | 2                                  | 1.00           |
|                                    | Simple    | 1                                  | 0.95           |

- The above tabularized values may be increased by 0.10 for spans containing evenly spaced intermediate diaphragms in addition to the diaphragms at the end of each span.
- The above tabularized values may be increased by 0.05 for riveted members



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### System Factors ( $\phi_s$ ) for Post-Tensioned Segmental Concrete Bridges

| Bridge Type                               | Span Type              | # of Hinges to Failure | System Factors ( $\phi_s$ ) |      |      |      |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|
|   |                        |                        | No. of Tendons per Web      |      |      |      |
|   |                        |                        | 1                           | 2    | 3    | 4    |
| Precast Balanced Cantilever Type A Joints | Interior               | 3                      | 0.90                        | 1.05 | 1.15 | 1.20 |
|   | End or Hinge           | 2                      | 0.85                        | 1.00 | 1.10 | 1.15 |
|   | Statically Determinate | 1                      | na                          | 0.90 | 1.00 | 1.10 |
| Precast Span-by-Span Type A Joints        | Interior               | 3                      | na                          | 1.00 | 1.10 | 1.20 |
|   | End or Hinge           | 2                      | na                          | 0.95 | 1.05 | 1.15 |
|   | Statically Determinate | 1                      | na                          | na   | 1.00 | 1.10 |
| Precast Span-by-Span Type B Joints        | Interior               | 3                      | na                          | 1.00 | 1.10 | 1.20 |
|   | End or Hinge           | 2                      | na                          | 0.95 | 1.05 | 1.15 |
|   | Statically Determinate | 1                      | na                          | na   | 1.00 | 1.10 |
| Cast-in-Place Balanced Cantilever         | Interior               | 3                      | 0.90                        | 1.05 | 1.15 | 1.20 |
|   | End or Hinge           | 2                      | 0.85                        | 1.00 | 1.10 | 1.15 |
|   | Statically Determinate | 1                      | na                          | 0.90 | 1.00 | 1.10 |

(For box girder bridges with 3 or more webs, table values may be increased by 0.10)



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## **APPLICATION OF SYSTEM FACTORS**

**These system factors shall apply for flexural and axial effects at the Strength limit states.**

**Higher values than those tabulated may be considered on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the Department.**

**System factors need not be less than 0.85. In no case shall the system factor exceed 1.25.**



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## **PRECISION OF RATINGS**

**Is a rating factor of 0.95 acceptable?**

**How accurate are our models? How precise are they?**

**Is conservatism precise?**



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# **Part 3**

## **FUTURE CHALLENGES**



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## **EXTREME EVENTS & LOAD COMBINATIONS**

### **Turkstra's Rule**

**"Bad things do not happen  
all at once."**



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# SCOUR

- **Not a load, but a change in foundation conditions**
- **Clear-ware v. live-bed scour**



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# HURRICANES

- **Buoyancy,**
- **Horizontal wave attack,**  
**or**
- **Combinations of both?**



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# HURRICANES

- **Extreme-event, or**
- **Strength limit state?**



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# LOAD COMBINATIONS WITH SCOUR

- **Vessel collision & scour**
- **Hurricanes & scour**



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# **SYSTEM PRESERVATION**

**Distribution of Trucks  
including blanket permits  
v.  
LRFD & LRFR  
assumed live-load models**



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# **SYSTEM PRESERVATION**

**Standard Specifications'  
50 to 60-year design life  
v.  
LRFD Specifications'  
75-year design life**



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# **CALIBRATION OF THE SERVICE LIMIT STATES**

- **Service I,**
- **Service II, &**
- **Service III**



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## **THE SERVICE LIMIT STATES GENERALLY GOVERN THE PROPORTIONS OF SUPERSTRUCTURE MEMBERS.**

**Positive-moment regions of steel  
girders are governed by the  
service II load combination.**

**Prestressed concrete members are  
governed by the service I or III  
load combinations.**



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**The *LRFD Specifications*  
& the new *Condition  
Evaluation Manual*  
(including LRFR) are far  
from perfect and are  
works in progress, but  
they remain the best  
framework for future  
development.**



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**QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?  
Thank you for your attention.**

**Questions or comments beyond:  
[mertz@ce.udel.edu](mailto:mertz@ce.udel.edu)**

**FOR STRICT APPLICATION OF  
FDOT'S PROCEDURES SEE:  
[www.dot.state.fl.us](http://www.dot.state.fl.us)**



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