

# 10 - Step Design of Post-Tensioned Floors



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**ADAPT**

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301 Mission Street  
San Francisco, California  
High Seismic Force Region



Four Seasons Hotel; Florida  
High Wind Force Region



Residential/Office Post-Tensioned Building in Dubai



Column supported multistory building  
Two-way flat slab construction



Multi-level parking structures  
One-way beam and slab design

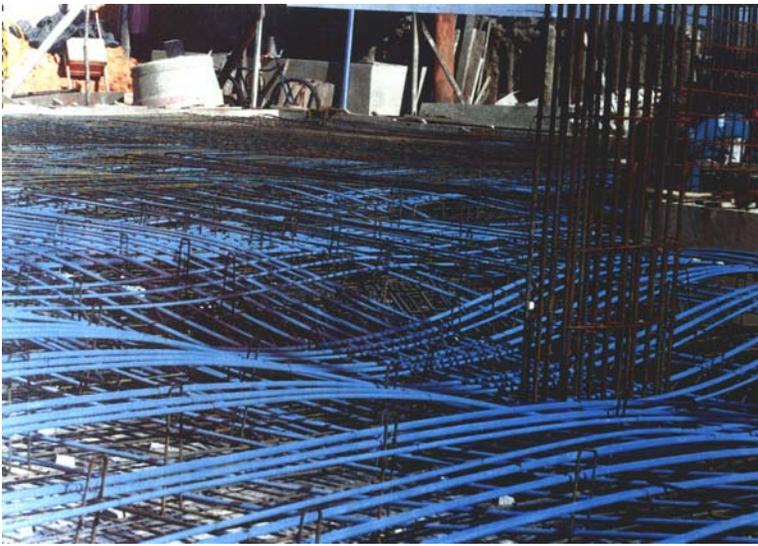


Hybrid Construction  
Post-tensioned podium slab supporting light framed structure above

Santana Row; San Jose, California



Post-Tensioned ground supported slab (SOG) is the largest application of post-tensioning in USA



Fortaleza, Brazil

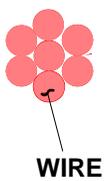
POST-TENSIONED MAT  
FOUNDATION USING UNBONDED  
TENDONS



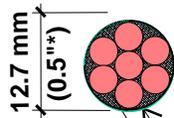
KSA

POST-TENSIONED MAT  
FOUNDATION USING GROUTED  
TENDONS

## Post-Tensioning Systems Unbonded System



WIRE



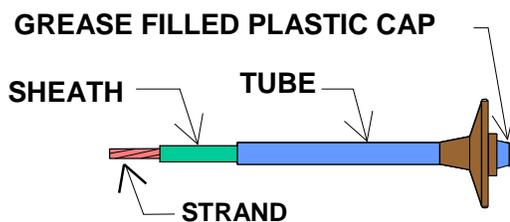
CORROSION  
INHIBITING  
COATING

PLASTIC  
SHEATHING

NOTE: \* NOMINAL DIAMETER

(a) STRAND

(b) TENDON



GREASE FILLED PLASTIC CAP

SHEATH

TUBE

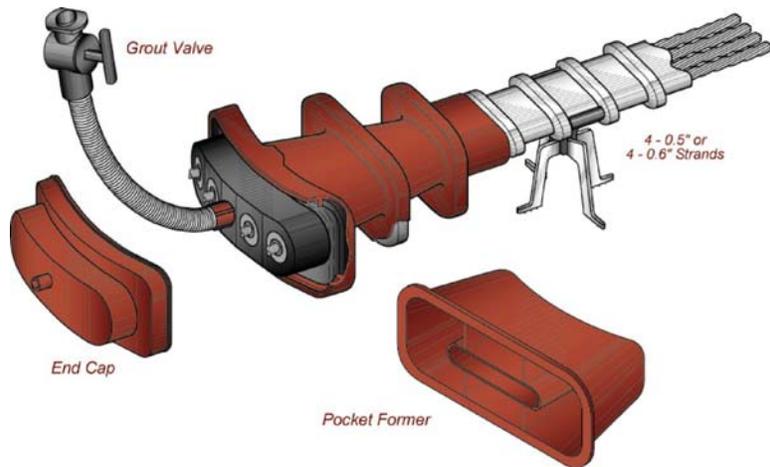
STRAND

(c) ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY

Example of a Floor System using the Unbonded  
Post-tensioning System

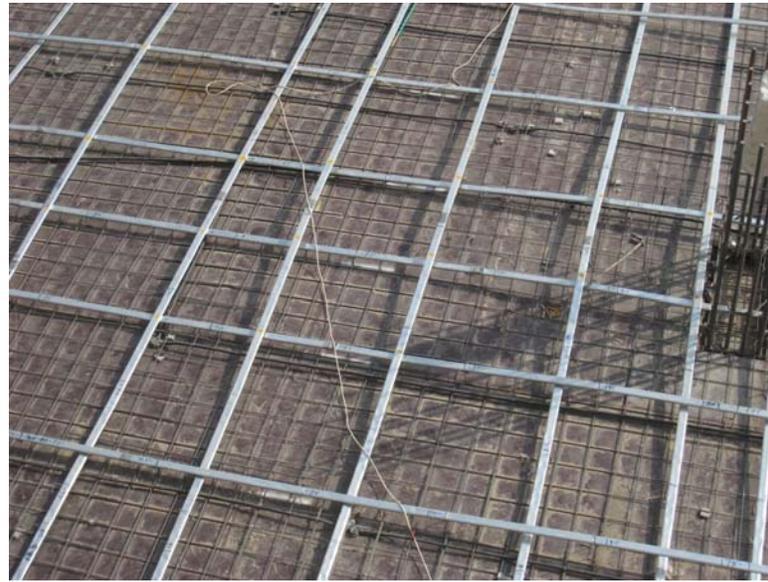


## Post-Tensioning Systems Grouted System



An example of a grouted system hardware with flat duct

## Example of a Floor System Reinforced with Grouted Post-Tensioning System



### Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

- ❖ **Dimensions** (sizing)
  - Optimum spans; optimum thickness
- ❖ **Structural system**
  - One-way/**two-way**; slab band/beam
- ❖ **Boundary conditions; connections**
  - Service performance; strength condition

**ADAPT**

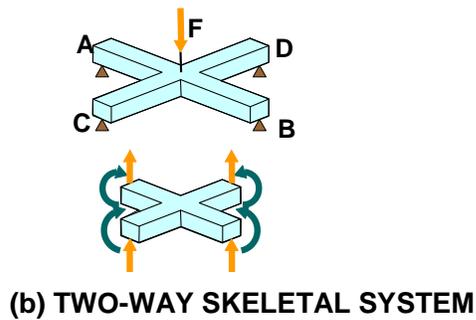
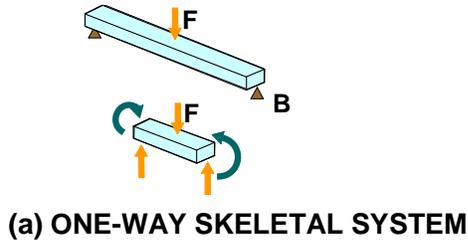
### Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

- ❑ **Dimensions** (sizing)
  - Optimum spans; optimum thickness
- ❖ An optimum design from standpoint of **material usage** is one in which the **reinforcement** determined for “service condition” is **used in its entirety** for “strength condition.”
- ❖ **PT amount** in service condition is governed mostly by:
  - Hypothetical **tensile stresses**
  - Tendon **spacing**
- ❖ Optimum spans: between 25 ft – 30 ft
- ❖ **Span/thickness ratios**
  - 40 for interior
  - 35 for exterior with no overhang

**ADAPT**

## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

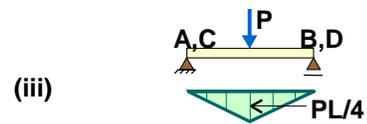
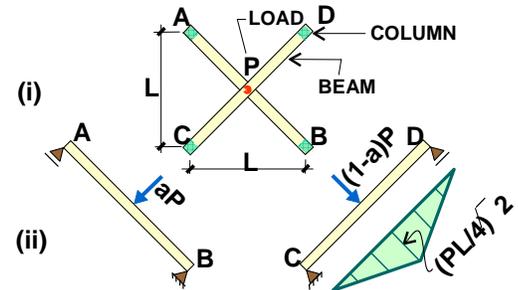
- ❖ **One-way** and **two-way** systems
  - Skeletal Systems **share** load
  - Slab systems **may not share** load, depending on **reinforcement layout**



Skeletal System

## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

- ❖ **One-way** and **two-way** systems
  - Skeletal Systems **share** load
  - Slab systems **may not share** load depending on reinforcement layout

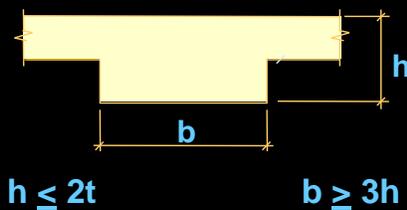


(b) BEAMS ON FOUR COLUMNS

**Capacity required** is for **100% of load** in each direction, if reinforcement is placed along AD, and AC

## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

- ❖ Structural system
  - One-way/two-way; **slab band**



### SLAB BAND

Slab band is treated as part of a two-way system. One-way shear design provisions meant for beams do not apply to slab bands

## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

❖ Selection of boundary conditions; connections

- Service performance
- Strength performance

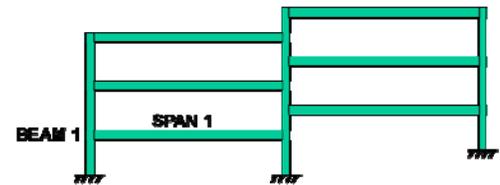
Detailing for service performance, such as the one shown below is to mitigate cracking from shortening of slab



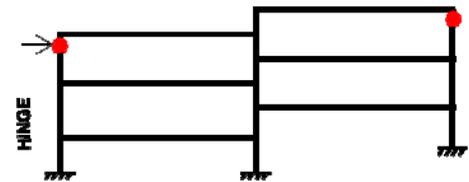
## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

**Assumption** of releases at connections, or reduced stiffness for selected members is made **prior to analysis** to achieve a more economical design.

In the following, the assignment of **reduced stiffness** for the uppermost columns, or **hinge assumption** at connection is not uncommon



(a) FRAME ELEVATION

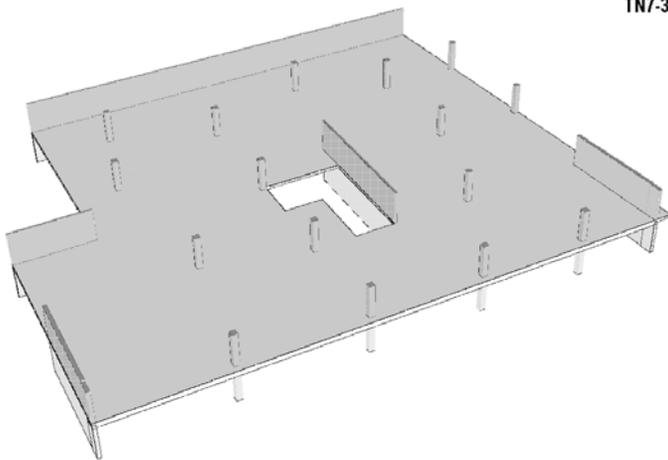


(b) STRUCTURAL MODEL

## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

❖ Selection of load path for two-way systems – **Design Strips**

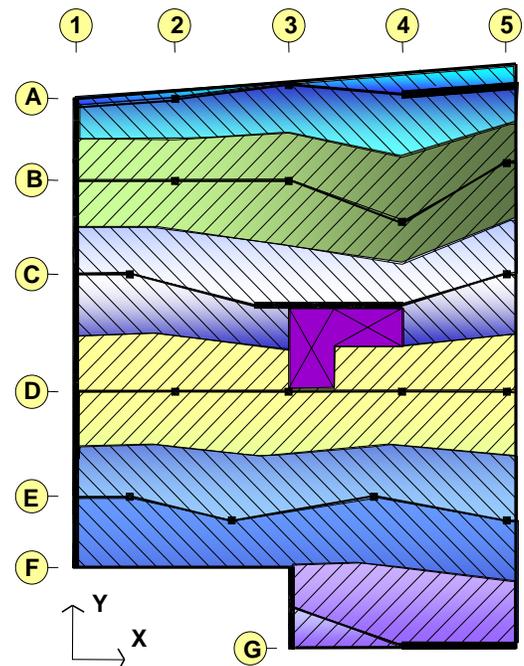
TN7-369



Subdivide the structure into design strips in two orthogonal directions  
(Nahid slab)

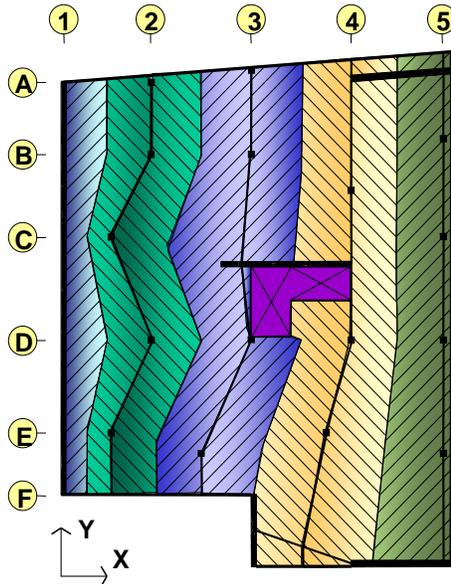
## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

**Subdivide** the floor along line of columns into **design strips**



## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

Subdivide floor along support lines in design strips in the **orthogonal direction**

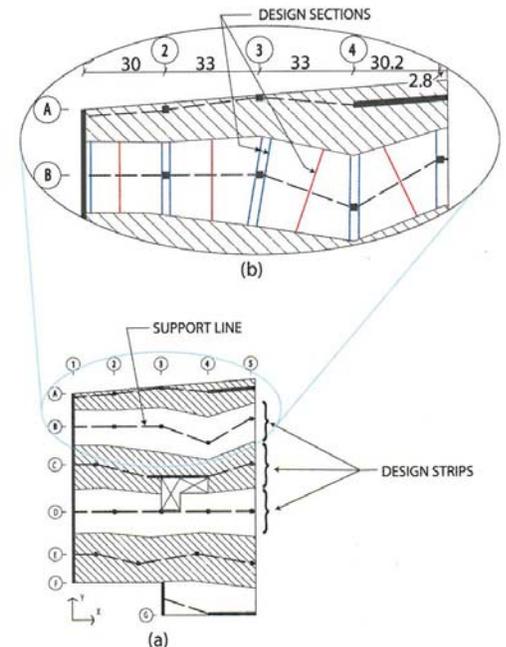


An important aspect subdivision of slab into design strips is that **every point** of the slab should be **covered by a design strip**. No portion of the slab should be left unassigned.

## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

### Design sections

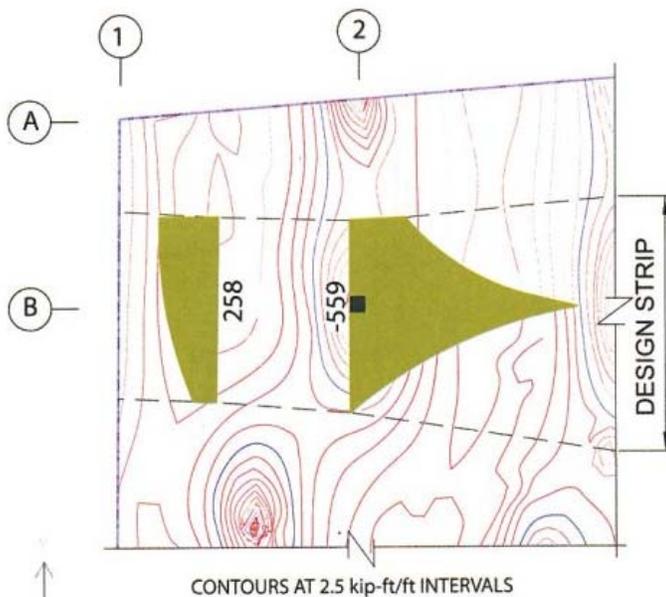
➤ Design sections extend over the **entire design strip** and are considered at critical locations, such as face of support and mid-span



## Preliminary Considerations Design of Post-Tensioned Floors

### ❖ Design values

➤ Actions, such as moments at each design section are reduced to a **“single” representative value** to be used for design



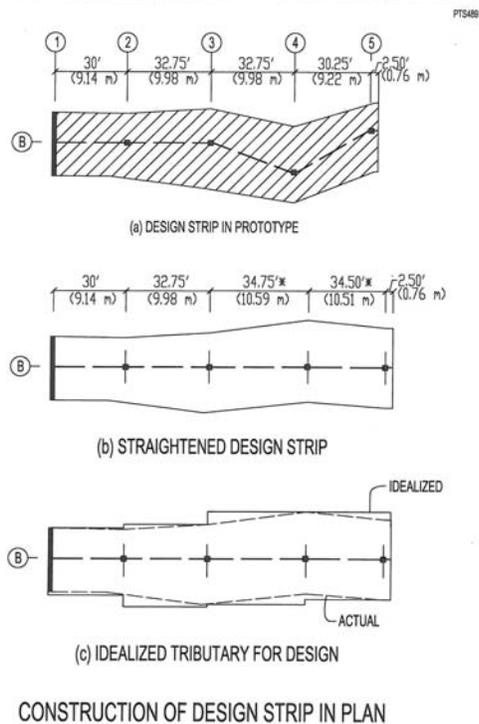
559 k-ft is the area (total) of bending moment at face of support

## 10- Steps Design of Post Tensioned Floors

1. **Geometry** and Structural System
2. **Material** Properties
3. **Loads**
4. Design **Parameters**
5. Actions due to Dead and Live Loads
6. Post-Tensioning
7. Code Check for **Serviceability**
8. Code Check for **Strength**
9. Check for **Transfer of Prestressing**
10. **Detailing**

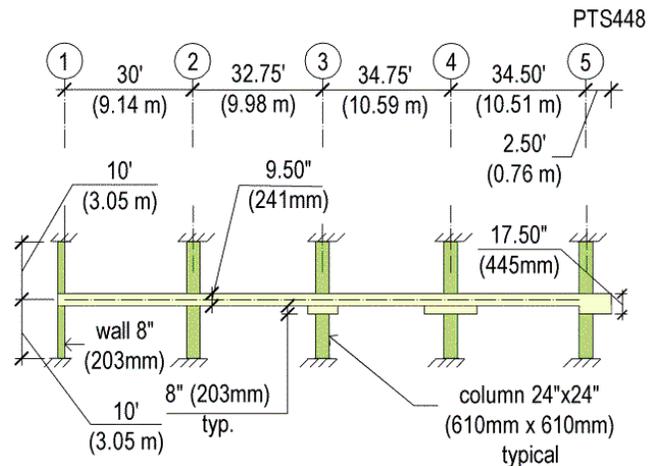
## Step 1 Geometry and Structural System

- ❖ Select design strip and **Idealize**
  - **Extract**; **straighten** the support line; **square** the boundary



## Step 1 Geometry and Structural System

- Select design strip and Idealize
  - Model the slab frame with a row of supports above and below. This represents an upper level of multi-story concrete frame.
    - Assume **rotational fixity** at the far ends;
    - Assume **roller** support at the far ends



## Step 2 Material Properties

### Concrete

- Weight 150 pcf
- 28 day cylinder 4000 – 6000 psi
- Elastic modulus 3,605 – 5,700 ksi
- Long-term deflection factor 2

### ❖ Non-Prestressed reinforcement

- $f_y$  60 ksi
- Elastic modulus 29,000 ksi

### ❖ Prestressing

- Strand diameter 0.5 in
- Strand area 0.153 in<sup>2</sup>
- Ultimate strength 270 ksi
- Effective stress 175 ksi
- Elastic modulus 28,000 ksi

## Step 3 Dead and Live Loads

### ❖ Selfweight

- Based on member volume

### ❖ Superimposed dead load

- Min (partitions) 20 psf

### ❖ Live load

- Residential 40 psf
- Office 50 psf
- Shopping mall 75 psf
- Parking structure 40 psf

### ❖ Lateral loads

- Wind
- Earthquake

## Step 4 Design Parameters

- ❖ Applicable code
  - ACI 318-14
  - IBC 2015
  - Local codes, such as California Building Code (CBC 2011)
- ☐ Cover for protection against corrosion
- ❖ Cover to rebar
  - Not exposed to weather 0.75 in
  - Exposed to weather 2.00 in
- ❖ Cover to tendon
  - Not exposed to weather 0.75 in.
  - Exposed to weather 1 in.

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## Step 4 Design Parameters

- ☐ Cover for fire resistivity
- ❖ Identify “restrained” and “unrestrained panels.”

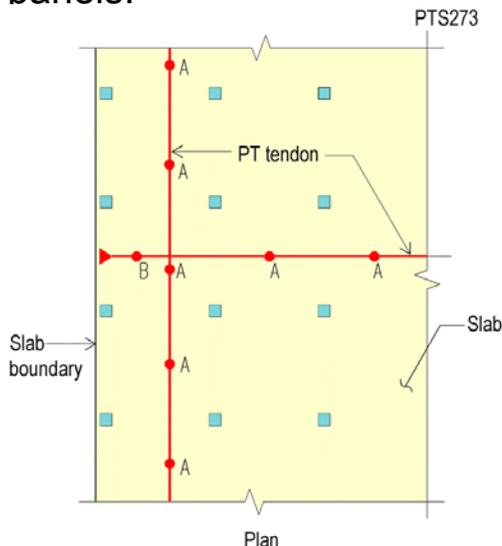
Restrained or Unrestrained	Aggregate Type	Cover Thickness, in. For Fire Endurance of				
		1 hr	1.5 hr	2 hr	3 hr	4 hr
Unrestrained	Carbonate	-	-	1.50	2.00	-
	Siliceous	-	-	1.50	2.00	-
	Lightweight	-	-	1.50	2.00	-
Restrained	Carbonate	-	-	0.75	1.00	1.25
	Siliceous	-	-	0.75	1.00	1.25
	Lightweight	-	-	0.75	1.00	1.25

- ❖ For 2-hour fire resistivity
  - Restrained 0.75 in.
  - Unrestrained 1.50 in

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## Step 4 Design Parameters

- ☐ Cover for fire resistivity
- ❖ Identify “restrained” and “unrestrained panels.”



A = bottom cover for restrained condition  
B = bottom cover for unrestrained condition

Bottom Cover to Tendon for Fire Resistivity

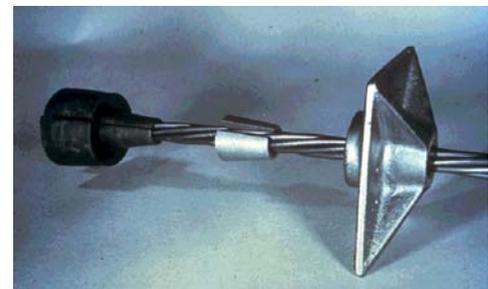
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## Step 4 Design Parameters

- ❖ Select post-tensioning system
  - For **corrosive** environment use “encapsulated system.”



- For **non-corrosive** environment, regular hardware may be used



## Step 4 Design Parameters

- Allowable stresses for two-way systems
- ❖ Service condition
  - Total (frequent) load case
    - Tension -----  $6\sqrt{f'_c}$
    - Compression -----  $0.6f'_c$
  - Sustained (quasi permanent) load case
    - Tension -----  $6\sqrt{f'_c}$
    - Compression -----  $0.45f'_c$
- ❖ Initial condition
  - Tension -----  $0.6\sqrt{f'_c}$
  - Compression -----  $0.45f'_c$

## Step 4 Design Parameters

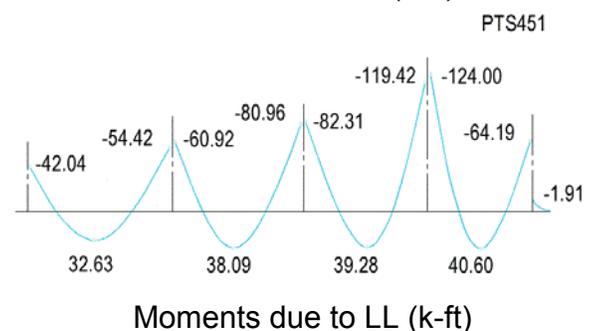
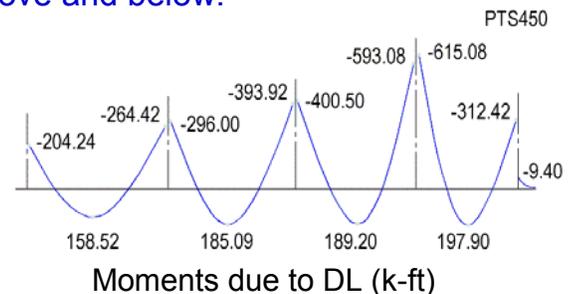
- Allowable deflections (ACI 318)
  - ❖ For **visual impact** use total deflection
    - **Span/240**
    - Use camber, if necessary
  - ❖ **Total** deflection subsequent to installation of members that are likely to be **damaged**
    - **Span/360**
  - ❖ **Immediate** deflection due to **live load**
    - **Span/480**
  - ❖ **Long-term** deflection magnifier 2. This brings the total long-term deflection to 3,

## Step 5 Actions due to Dead and Live Loads

- Analyze the design strip as a single level frame structure with one row of supports above and below, using
  - ❖ In-house **simple frame** program (Simple Frame Method; SFM); or
  - ❖ in-house **Equivalent Frame** Program (EFM);
  - ❖ Specialty **commercial software**
- ❖ All the three options yield **safe designs**. But, each will give a different amount of reinforcement.
- ❖ The **EFM** is suggested by **ACI-318**. To some extent, it accounts for biaxial action of the prototype structure.
- ❖ 3D **FEM** software can improve **optimization**.

## Step 5 Actions due to Dead and Live Loads

- Analyze the design strip as a single level frame structure with one row of supports above and below.



## Step 6 Post-Tensioning

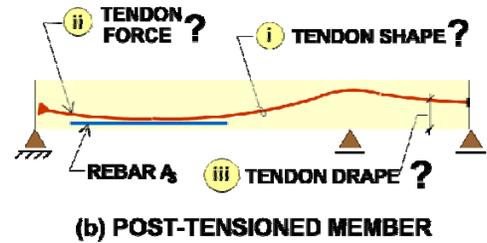
Selection of **design parameters**

- ❖ Selection of **PT force and profile**
- ❖ **Effective force** vs tendon selection option
  - Force selection option
- ❖ Calculation of **balanced loads**; adjustments for **percentage** of load **balanced**
- ❖ **Calculation of actions** due to balanced loads

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## Step 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ Selection of **PT force and profile**
  - **Two entry value** selections must be made to initiate the computations. Select **precompression** and **% of DL** to balance



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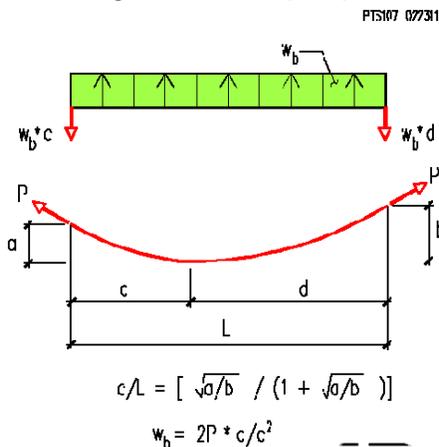
## Step 6 Post-Tensioning

Selection of **design parameters**

- Select average precompression **150 psi**
- Target to balance **60% of DL**

- ❖ Selection of **PT force and profile**
  - Assume **simple parabola** mapped within the bounds of top and bottom covers

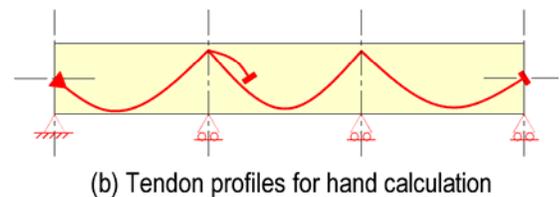
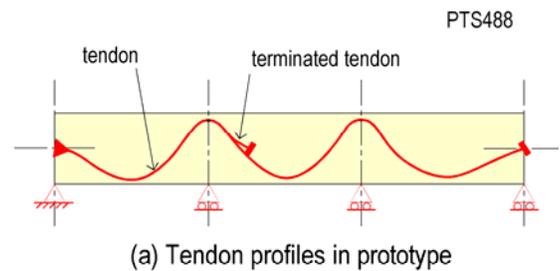
Force diagram of simple parabola



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## Step 6 Post-Tensioning

- Assume **simple parabola** for **hand calculation**

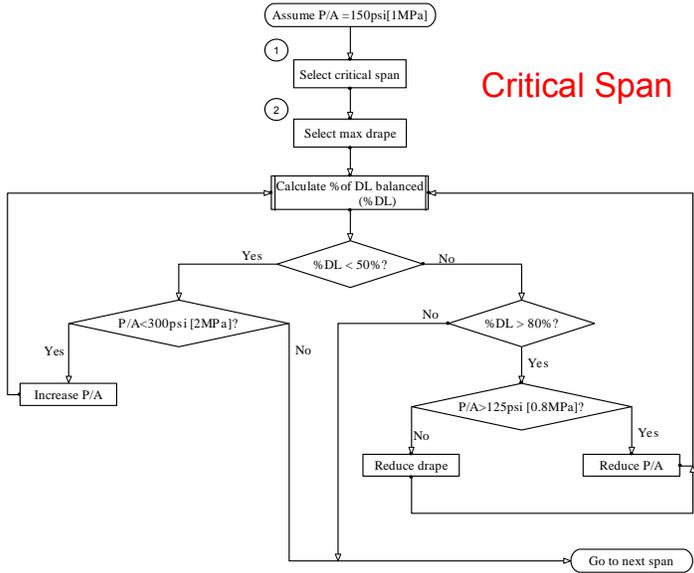


Tendon Profiles in Prototype and Hand Calculation

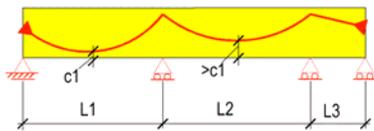
## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ **Flow chart** for Calculation of balanced loads and adjustment for % of DL balanced

F121\_ACI\_PT\_2\_way\_082012



**Critical Span**



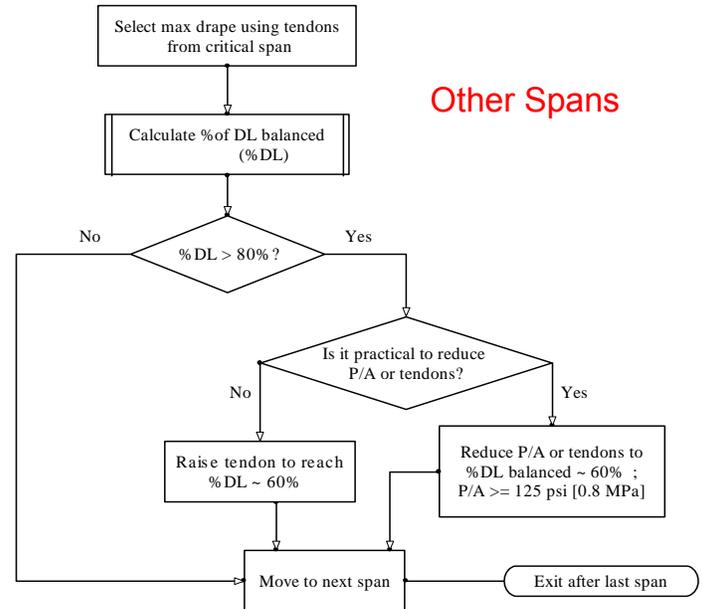
PTS526

Element with widely different spans

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ **Flow chart** for calculation of balanced loads and adjustment for % of DL balanced

F121\_ACI\_2-way\_PT\_force\_082012



**Other Spans**

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ **Effective force per strand**
  - **Unbonded:**  $0.153 \times 175 = 26.77$  k/tendon
  - Bonded:**  $0.153 \times 160 = 24.48$  k/tendon
- ❖ Estimate initial force for each span using the assumed **150 psi** precompression

Span 1

$$\text{Force} = (26.77 \times 12 \times 9.5) \times 150 / 1000 = 448.88 \text{ k}$$

$$\text{No of tendons} = 448.88 / 26.77 = 16.77$$

assume 17 strands

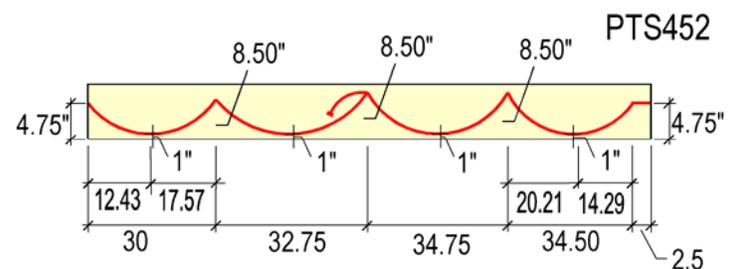
Similarly the required strands are:

	required	assumed
--	----------	---------

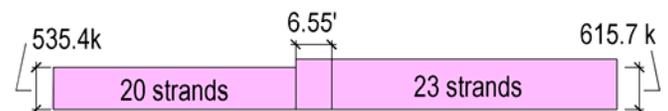
Span 1	17	20
Span 2	20	20
Span 3	23	23
Span 4	22	23

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ **Tendon selection**



(a) Assumed tendon profile (ft UNO)

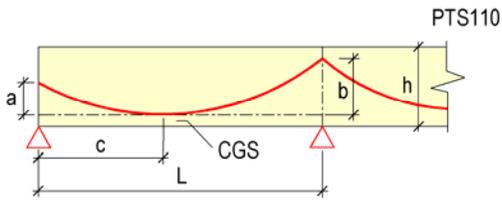


(b) Force diagram

Post Tensioning Profile and Force

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ Calculation of **balanced loads**
- ❖ Span 1



$$a = 3.73 \text{ in}$$

$$b = 7.5 \text{ in}$$

$$L = 30.00 \text{ ft}$$

$$c = \{[3.75/7.5]^{0.5}/[1 + (3.75/7.5)^{0.5}]\} * 30 = 12.43 \text{ ft}$$

$$P = 26.77 \text{ k/strand}$$

$$w_b = 2 P * a / c^2 = (2 * 26.77 * 3.75 / 12) / 12.43^2 = 0.108 \text{ klf per tendon}$$

Total uplift for 20 strands =  $20 * 0.108 = 2.16 \text{ klf}$

$$\% \text{ uplift} = (2.16 / 3.826) * 100 = 56\% < 60\%$$

but considered acceptable

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ Calculation of **balanced loads**
  - Span 2
  - Span 2 has 20 continuous tendons and 3 tendons from span 3 extending to span 2
- ❖ **Balanced loads** of span 2 consist of:
  - Lateral forced from **continuous tendons**
  - Lateral force from **terminated tendons**
  - **Moments from change in centroid** of member

Continuous strands:

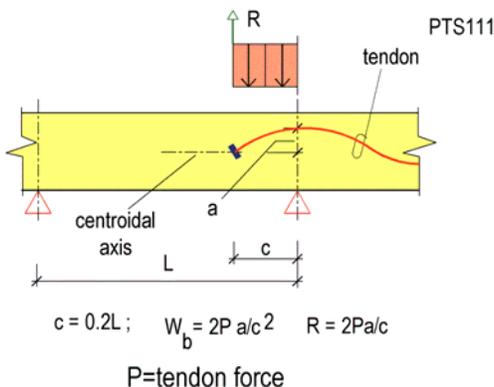
$$w_b = 8 P * a / L^2$$

$$= (8 * 26.77 * 7.5 / 12) / 32.75^2 = 0.125 \text{ klf}$$

$$\% \text{ of DL} = (20 * 0.125 / 4.482) * 100 = 56\% \text{ OK}$$

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ Calculation of **balanced loads**
  - Lateral force from **terminated tendons**



$$L = 32.75 \text{ ft} ; a = 3.75 \text{ in} ; P = 26.77 \text{ k/tendon}$$

$$c = 0.20 * 32.75 = 6.55 \text{ ft}$$

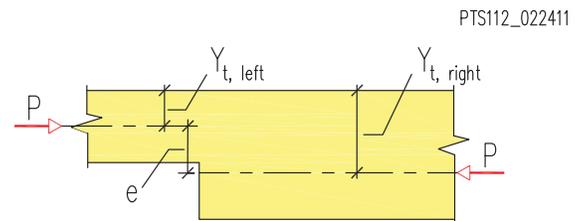
$$w_b = (2 * 3 * 26.77 * 3.75 / 12) / 6.55^2 = 1.17 \text{ k/ft} \downarrow$$

**Concentrated force** at dead end =

$$= 2 * 3 * 26.77 * 3.75 / 12 * 6.55 = 7.66 \text{ k} \uparrow$$

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ Calculation of **balanced loads up to here**
  - Lateral forced from continuous tendons
  - Lateral force from terminated tendons
  - Moments from **change in centroid** of member
- ❑ Example of force from **shift in member centroidal axis**



Moment at face of drop = M

$$M = P * \text{shift in centroid} = P * (Y_{t-Left} - Y_{t-Right})$$

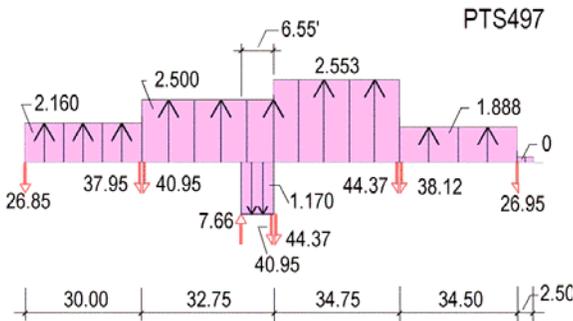
$$P = 23 * 26.77 = 615.71 \text{ k}$$

$$Y_{t-Left} = 4.75'' ; Y_{t-Right} = 5.80''$$

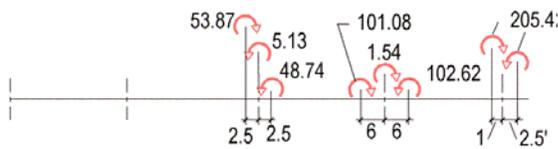
$$M = 615.71(4.75'' - 5.80'') / 12 = -53.87 \text{ k-ft}$$

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ Check balanced loads for **static equilibrium**
  - Sum of **forces** must **add up to zero**
  - Sum of **moments** must **add up to zero**
  - **Correct errors**, if equilibrium is not satisfied



(a) Loads normal to slab (k ; k/ft)



(b) Moment (k-ft)

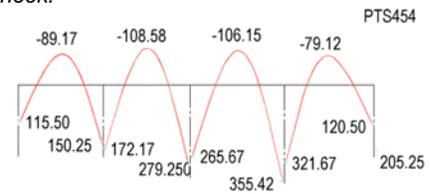
Balanced Loading

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

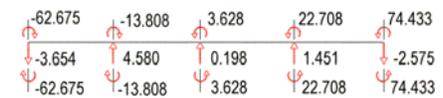
- ❖ Calculate **actions** from **balanced loads**
  - Obtain moments at face-of-supports and mid-spans
  - Note the **reactions**. The reactions are **hyperstatic** forces..

Comments:

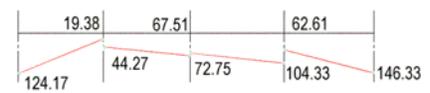
**Moments** will be used for **serviceability** check. **Reactions** will be used for **Strength** check.



(a) Post-tensioning moments (k-ft)



(b) Reactions due to balanced loading (k; k-ft)



(c) Hyperstatic moments (k-ft)

Post-Tensioning Actions on Design Strip

## STEP 7 Code Check for Serviceability

- ❖ ACI 318-14 requirements for serviceability
  - Stress check
  - Minimum reinforcement
  - Deflection check.

### ❖ Load combinations

- **Total** (quasi permanent)  
1.00DL + 1.00LL + 1.00PT
- **Sustained** (frequent)  
1.00DL + 0.30LL + 1.00PT

### ❖ Stress check

Using **engineering judgment**, select the locations that are likely to be critical. Typically, these are at the **face of support** and for hand calculation at **mid-span**

At each section selected for check, use the design actions applicable to the **entire design section** and apply them to the **entire cross-section** to arrive at **code-intended hypothetical** stresses used in code check.

$$\sigma = (M_D + M_L + M_{PT})/S + P/A$$

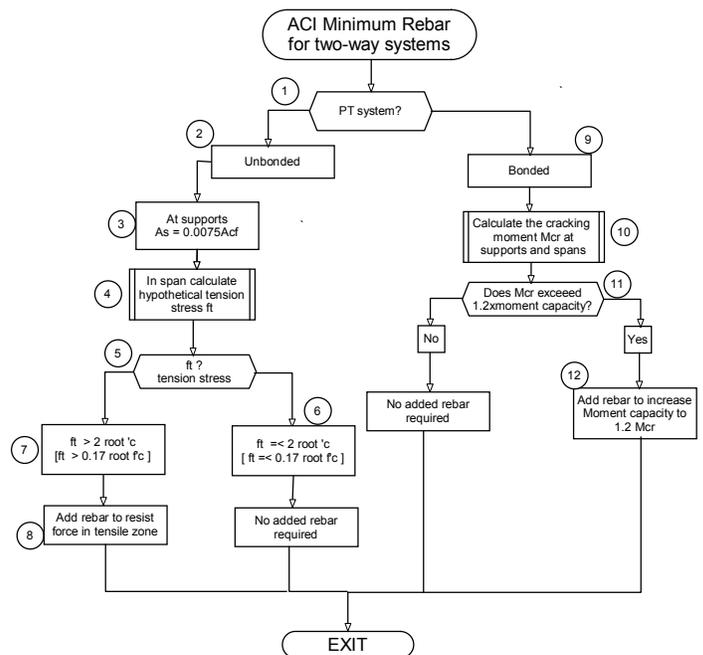
$S = I/Y_c$  ;  $I$  = second moment of area of ;

$Y_c$  = distance to farthest tension fiber

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

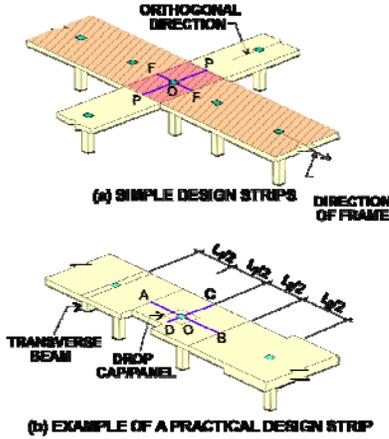
### ❖ ACI 318-14 Minimum Reinforcement

F114\_041112



## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

- ❖ ACI 318-14 Minimum Reinforcement
  - Rebar **over support** is function of **geometry** of the design strip and the strip in the orthogonal direction
  - Rebar in **span** is a function of the magnitude of the hypothetical **tensile stress**



$$A_s = 0.00075 * A_{cf}$$

$A_s$  = Area of steel required

$A_{cf}$  = **Larger of cross-sectional area** of the strip in direction of analysis and orthogonal to it.

## STEP 6 Post-Tensioning

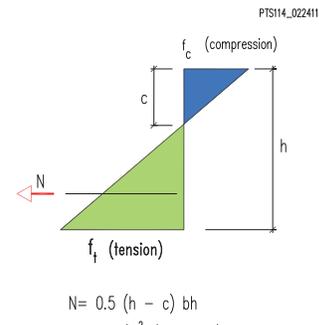
- ❖ ACI 318-14 Minimum Reinforcement
  - Rebar **over support** is function of **geometry** of the design strip and the strip in the orthogonal direction
  - Rebar in **span** is a function of the magnitude of the **hypothetical tensile stress**

In span, provide rebar if the hypothetical tensile stress **exceeds**  $2\sqrt{f'_c}$

The amount of reinforcement  $A_s$  is given by:

$$A_s = N / (0.5f_y)$$

where N is the tensile force in tension zone



$h$  = member thickness;  $b$  = design section width

## STEP 7 Deflection Check

- ❖ Read deflections from the frame analysis of the design strip for dead, live and PT; ( $\Delta_{DL}$ ,  $\Delta_{LL}$ , and  $\Delta_{PT}$ ).
- ❖ Make the following load combinations and check against the allowable values for each case
  - **Total Deflection**  
 $(1 + 2)(\Delta_{DL} + \Delta_{PT} + 0.3 \Delta_{LL}) + 0.7 \Delta_{LL} < \text{span}/240$   
 This is on the premise of **sustained load being 0.3** time the design live load. It is for visual effects; Provide **camber** to reduce value, where needed and practical
  - **Immediate deflection** from live load  
 $\Delta_{\text{immediate}} = 1.00\Delta_L < \text{span}/480$   
 This check is applicable, where non-structural members are likely to be damaged. Otherwise, span/240 applies
  - Presence of **members likely to be damaged** from sustained deflection  
 $(1 + 2)(0.3 \Delta_{LL}) + 0.7 \Delta_{LL} < \text{span}/360$

The above can be **exceeded**, if larger values are **acceptable** for the **specific application**

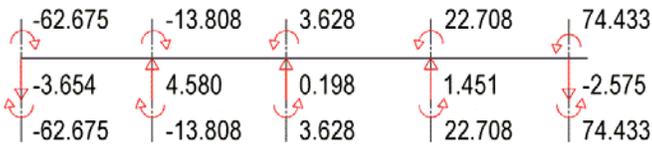
## STEP 8 Strength Check

- ❖ Steps in strength check
  - **Load combinations**
  - Determination of **hyperstatic** actions
  - Calculation of **design moments** ( $M_u$ )
  - Calculate **capacity/rebar** for design moment  $M_u$
  - Check for **punching shear**
  - Check/detail for **unbalanced moment** at support
- ❖ Load combinations  
 $U1 = 1.2DL + 1.6LL + 1.0HYP$   
 $U2 = 1.4DL + 1.0HYP$   
 where, HYP is moment due to hyperstatic actions from prestressing
- ❖ Determination of **Hyperstatic** actions
  - **Direct Method** – based on reactions from balanced loads
  - **Indirect Method** – Using primary and post-tensioning moments

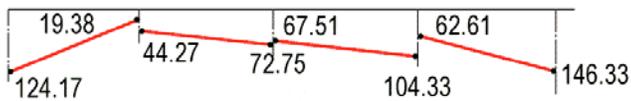
## STEP 8 Strength Check

- ❖ Determination of Hyperstatic actions
  - **Direct Method** – based on **reactions** from balanced loads

PTS458



(a) Reaction due to balanced loading (k; k-ft)

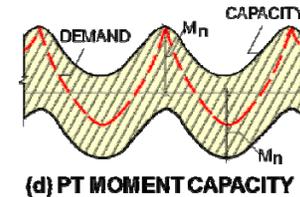
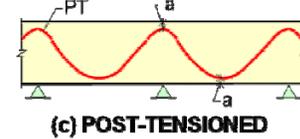
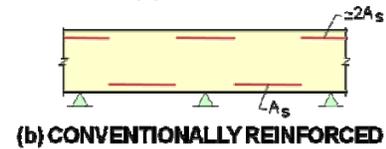
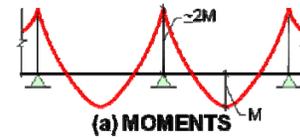


(b) Hyperstatic moments (k-ft)

Post-Tensioning Actions on Design Strip

## STEP 8 Strength Check

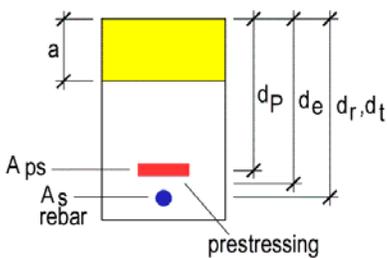
- ❖ A comment on **capacity** versus **demand**
  - Post-tensioned elements possess both **positive** and **negative moment capacity** along the **entire** element's length
  - Add rebar, where capacity falls short of demand
  - Find capacity and compare it with demand



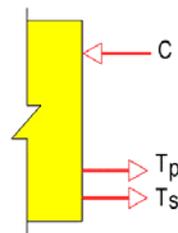
## STEP 8 Strength Check

- For **capacity** calculation use the **simplified** relationship applicable to common building structures reinforced with unbonded tendons

PTS435



(a) Section



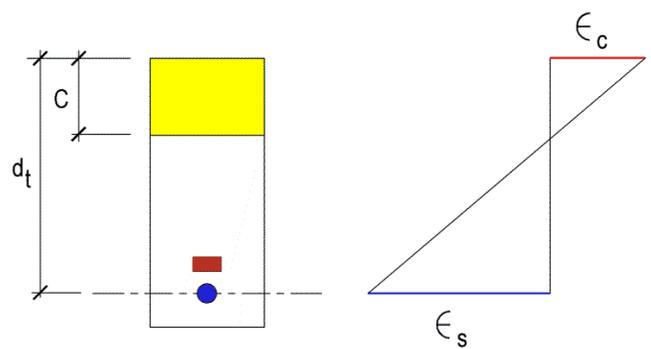
(b) Elevation

- $f'_c \geq 4000$  psi ;  $P/A \leq 250$  psi
- $c/d_t \leq 0.375$  ;  $d_t$  is distance from compression fiber to farthest tension rebar
- Tendon Length  $\leq 125'$  for single end stressing; if length  $\leq 250'$  double end stressing
- $f_{ps}$  is conservatively 215 ksi if span is less than 35 ft
- $f_{ps}$  is conservatively 195 ksi if span is greater than 35 ft

## STEP 8 Strength Check

- ❖ Check for **ductility**
  - Ductility is adequate, if  $c/d_t \leq 0.345$  dt. This condition guarantees that steel will yield, before concrete in compression crushes.
  - Add compression rebar if  $c/d_t > 0.345$  dt

PTS117

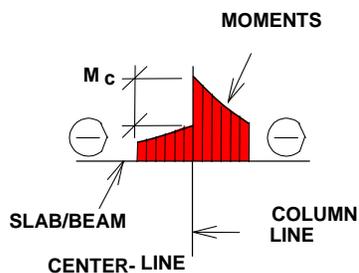


(a) Section

(b) Strains

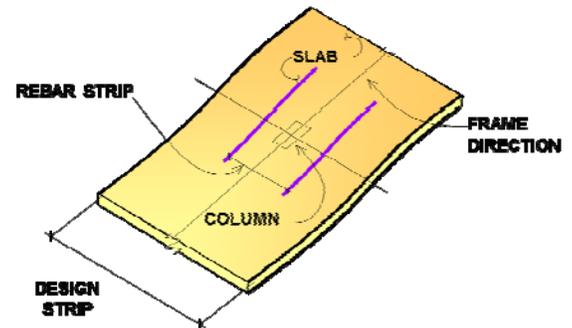
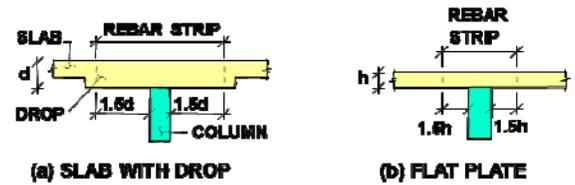
## STEP 8 Strength Check

- ❖ Verify adequacy (**detail**) of the design for **transfer of unbalanced moment** at supports
- Unbalanced moment ( $M_c$ ) is defined as the **difference** between the design moments on the **opposite sides** of a column support. This is the moment that is resisted by the support.
- The **reinforcement** associated with the transfer of unbalanced moment must be placed over a **narrow band** at the support (next slide)
- In most cases, this **provision leads to a "detailing"** requirement, as opposed to added rebar, since the reinforcement for **slab design is in excess** of that needed for transfer of unbalanced moment.



## STEP 8 Strength Check

- ❖ Transfer of unbalanced moment



(c) VIEW OF A SLAB JOINT

Place the **reinforcement** within the narrow **band** identified as rebar strip

## Punching Shear Design

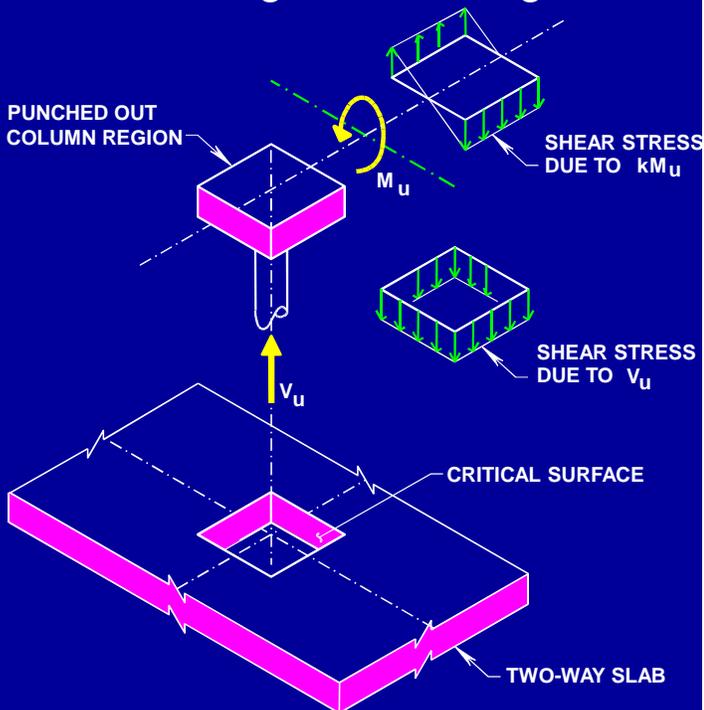


ILLUSTRATION OF CRITICAL SURFACE  
FOR THE EVALUATION OF PUNCHING SHEAR STRESSES

Definition based on ACI 318

## STEP 9 Check for Transfer of Prestressing

At stressing:

- Tendon has its **maximum force**;
- Concrete is at its **weakest strength**; and
- Live load** to counteract prestressing is **absent**



## STEP 9

### Check for Transfer of Prestressing

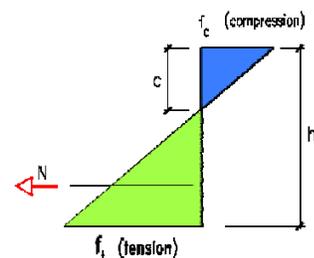
- Add **rebar** where “representative” (hypothetical) **tension stresses exceed** the allowable threshold
- Do not exceed “representative” hypothetical **compressive stresses**. **Wait** until concrete gains **adequate strength**



## STEP 9

### Check for Transfer of Prestressing

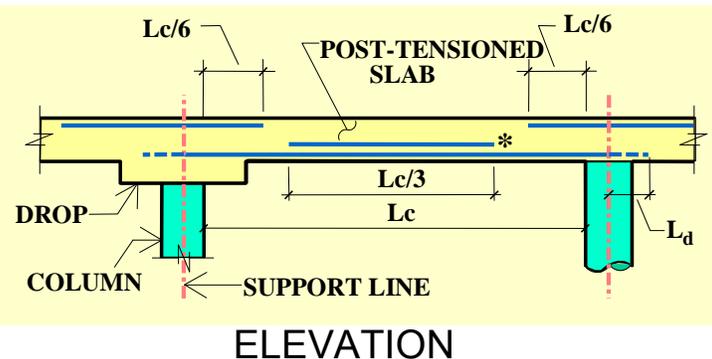
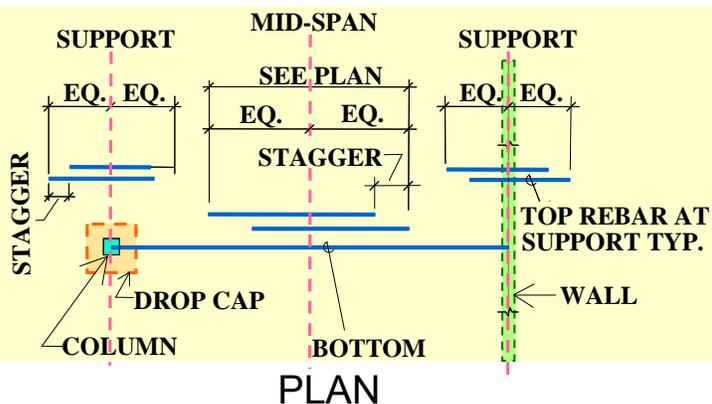
- ❖ Load combination
    - $U = 1.00 \cdot \text{Selfweight} + 1.15 \cdot \text{PT}$
  - ❖ Allowable stresses
    - Tension  $3\sqrt{f'_{ci}}$ ;
    - Compression  $0.60f'_{ci}$
    - If **tension exceeds**, add **rebar** in tensile zone to resist  $N$
- $A_s = N / (0.5 f_y)$
- ✓ If **compression exceeds**, **wait** until concrete gains adequate strength



## STEP 10

### Detailing

#### ❖ Position of rebar



Thank you for listening

QUESTIONS ?

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