

# CIVIL 369: “Structural Stability”



**School of Architecture, Civil & Environmental Engineering**  
**Civil Engineering Institute**  
**Resilient Steel Structures Laboratory (RESSLab)**

## **Stability of Axially Loaded Members**

Instructor: Prof. Dimitrios G. Lignos

GC B3 485 (bâtiment GC)

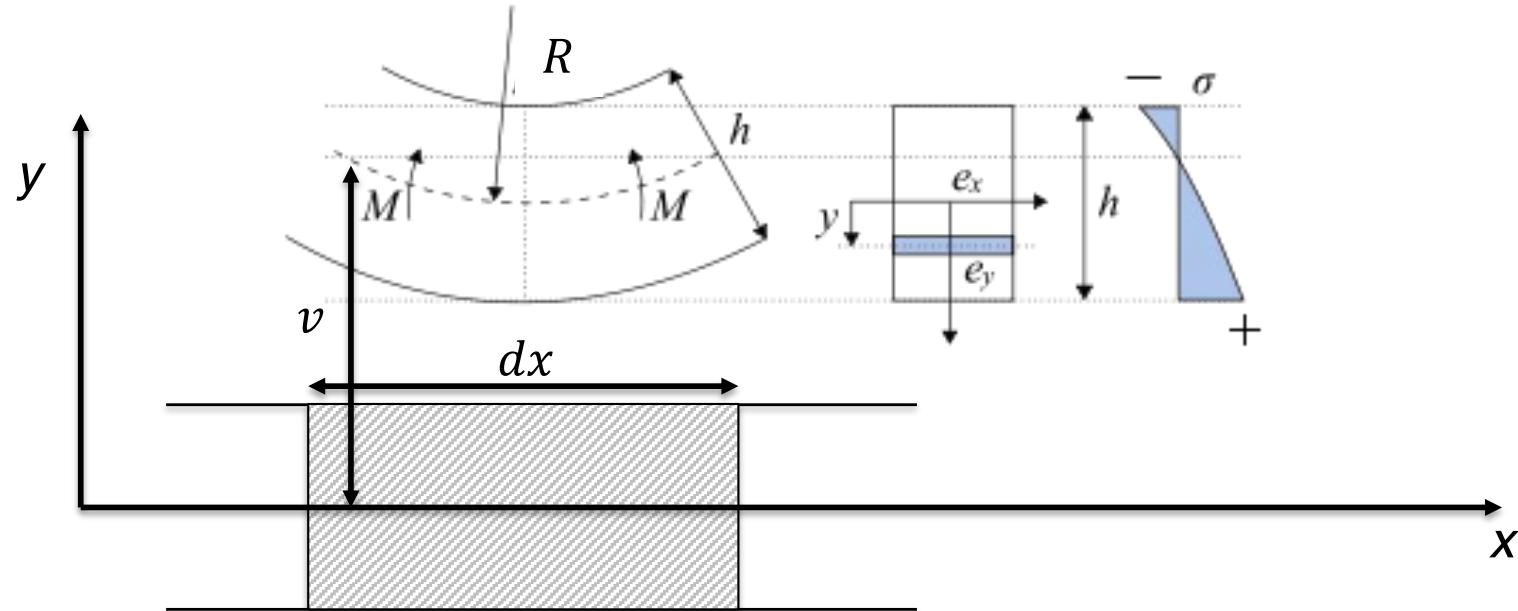
E-mail: [dimitrios.lignos@epfl.ch](mailto:dimitrios.lignos@epfl.ch)

# EPFL Objectives of This Week's Lecture

To introduce:

- ✧ General theory of beam-columns
  - ✧ Stability of continuous members
- ✧ Beam-column theory in axially loaded members
  - ✧ Buckling determinant
  - ✧ Effect of boundary conditions
  - ✧ Effect of residual stresses
  - ✧ Effect of imperfections
- ✧ Alignment charts for non-sway and sway frames
- ✧ Buckling resistance according to design standards

# EPFL Theory of Flexure from Structural Mechanics

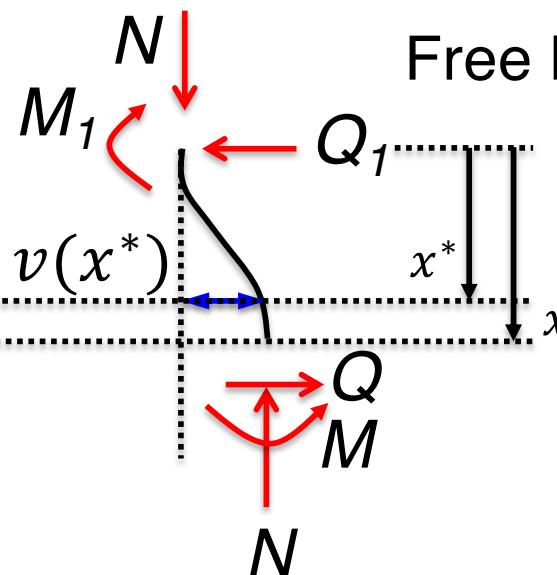
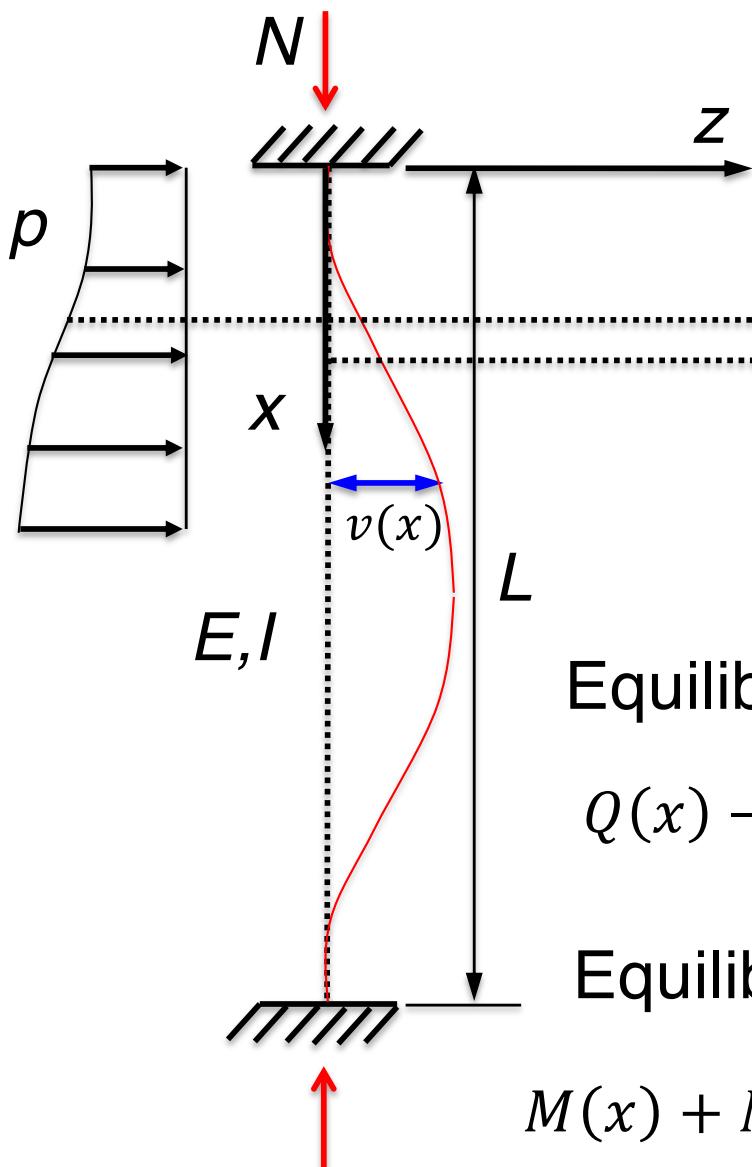


$$M = \int_A \sigma y dA = E \int_0^h y^2 dA / R \Rightarrow M = E \cdot I / R$$

$$I = \int_0^h y^2 dA \quad \frac{1}{R} = \frac{v''}{(1 + v'^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \cong v''$$

$$M = E \cdot I \cdot v''$$

# EPFL Equations of Equilibrium in Beam-Columns



Equilibrium of shear forces

$$Q(x) - Q_1 + \int_0^x p(x^*) dx^* = 0$$

Equilibrium of Moments

$$M(x) + N \cdot v(x) - M_1 + Q(x) \cdot x + \int_0^x p(x^*) x^* dx^* = 0$$

# EPFL Equations of Equilibrium in Beam-Columns

Equilibrium of a segment of the deflected column for shear & flexure,

$$Q(x) - Q_1 + \int_0^x p(x^*) dx^* = 0$$

$$M(x) + N \cdot v(x) - M_1 + Q \cdot x + \int_0^x p(x^*) x^* dx^* = 0$$

Differentiating the equations above,

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} + p(x) = 0 \quad \frac{\partial M}{\partial x} + N \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + Q = 0 \quad (1)$$

Equilibrium equations of beam-columns in terms of internal forces  $M$  &  $Q$

# EPFL Equations of Equilibrium in Beam-Columns

The term  $N \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$  can be neglected if  $N \ll N_{cr}$  (first order analysis)

Differentiating Equation (1) from previous slide,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial(N\partial v)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} + p(x) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial(N\partial v)}{\partial x^2} &= p \\ M &= EI \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2(EI\partial^2 v)}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial(N\partial v)}{\partial x^2} = p$$

# EPFL Equations of Equilibrium in Beam-Columns

Assume  $EI = \text{Constant}$  and  $N = \text{Constant}$

$$EI \frac{\partial^4 v}{\partial x^4} + N \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = p$$

for  $p = 0$  We have a homogeneous problem with solution,

$$v = e^{\lambda x}$$

$$(EI\lambda^4 + N\lambda^2)e^{\lambda x} = 0$$

Homogeneous problem with solution,

$$\left(\lambda^2 + \frac{N}{EI}\right)\lambda^2 = 0 \quad \left(\text{assume, } k^2 = \frac{N}{EI}\right)$$

$$(\lambda^2 + k^2)\lambda^2 = 0$$

# EPFL Differential Equation of Planar Flexure

If  $N > 0$  (compression)  $\lambda = \pm ik$  or  $\lambda = 0$

General solution is,

$$v(x) = A + Bx + C \sin kx + D \cos kx + v_p(x) \quad (N > 0)$$

$A, B, C, D$  are constants

$v_p(x)$  is a particular solution corresponding to the transverse distributed load  $p(x)$

If  $N < 0$  (tension)  $\lambda = \pm k$  or  $\lambda = 0, k^2 = \frac{|N|}{EI}$

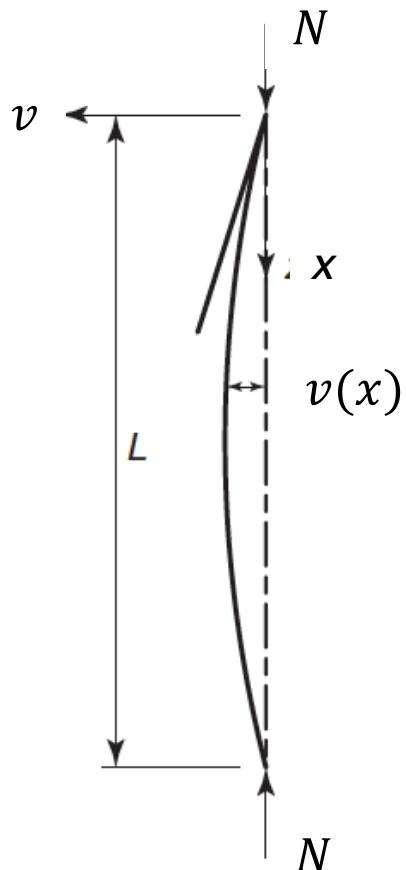
General solution is,

$$v(x) = A + Bx + C \sinh kx + D \cosh kx + v_p(x) \quad (N < 0)$$

# EPFL Boundary Conditions for Beam-Column Equation

Type of Boundary	Initial Conditions to be Imposed	
Fixed End	$v = 0$	$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = v' = 0$
Hinge	$v = 0$	$M = 0$ or $\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = v'' = 0$
Free End	$M = 0$	$V = 0$ or $\frac{\partial(EI\partial^2 v)}{\partial x^3} + \frac{N\partial v}{\partial x} = 0$
Sliding Restraint (pin)	$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} = v' = 0$	$V = 0$ or $\frac{\partial(EI\partial^2 v)}{\partial x^3} + \frac{N\partial v}{\partial x} = 0$

# EPFL Pin-Ended Column with Axial Load ( $p = 0$ )



$$EI \frac{\partial^4 v}{\partial x^4} + N \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad v(0) = v(L) = 0 \quad M(0) = M(L) = 0$$

General solution

$$v(x) = A + Bx + C \sin kx + D \cos kx \quad (N > 0)$$

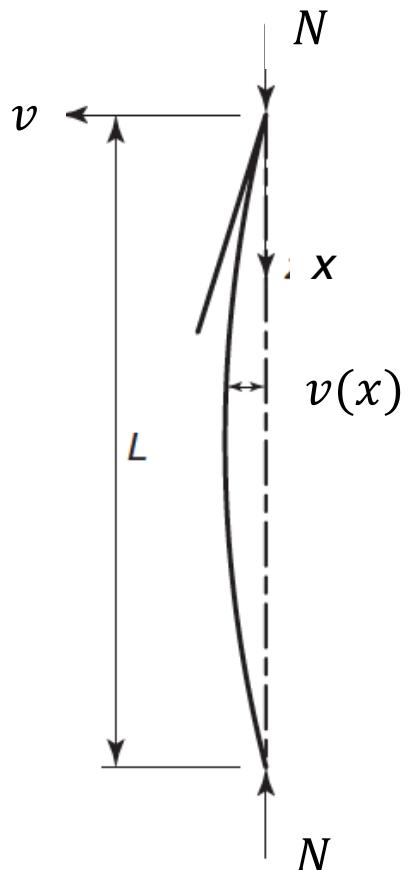
$$v(0) = A \cdot 1 + B \cdot 0 + C \cdot 0 + D = 0$$

$$v''(0) = A \cdot 0 + B \cdot 0 + C \cdot 0 + D(-k^2) = 0$$

$$v(L) = A \cdot 1 + B \cdot L + C \cdot \sin kL + D \cos kL = 0$$

$$v''(L) = A \cdot 0 + B \cdot 0 + C \cdot (-k^2 \sin kL) + D(-k^2 \cos kL) = 0$$

# EPFL Pin-Ended Column – Buckling Determinant



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & 0 & -k^2 \sin kL & -k^2 \cos kL \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \\ C \\ D \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Homogeneous system

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & 0 & -k^2 \sin kL & -k^2 \cos kL \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Buckling Determinant

# EPFL Pin-Ended Column – Buckling Determinant

## -Determination of Critical Load, $N_{cr}$

$$1 \times \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & -k^2 \sin kL & -k^2 \cos kL \end{vmatrix} - 0 \times \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ 1 & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & -k^2 \sin kL & -k^2 \cos kL \end{vmatrix} \\ + 0 \times \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ 1 & L & \cos kL \\ 0 & 0 & -k^2 \cos kL \end{vmatrix} - 1 \times \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL \\ 0 & 0 & -k^2 \sin kL \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\sin kL = 0 \Rightarrow kL = n\pi \Rightarrow N_{cr} = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 EI}{L^2}, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

# EPFL Pin-Ended Column – Buckling Determinant

## -Determination of Buckling Shape (Eigenvector)

Substitute  $kL = n\pi$  into the original simultaneous equations,

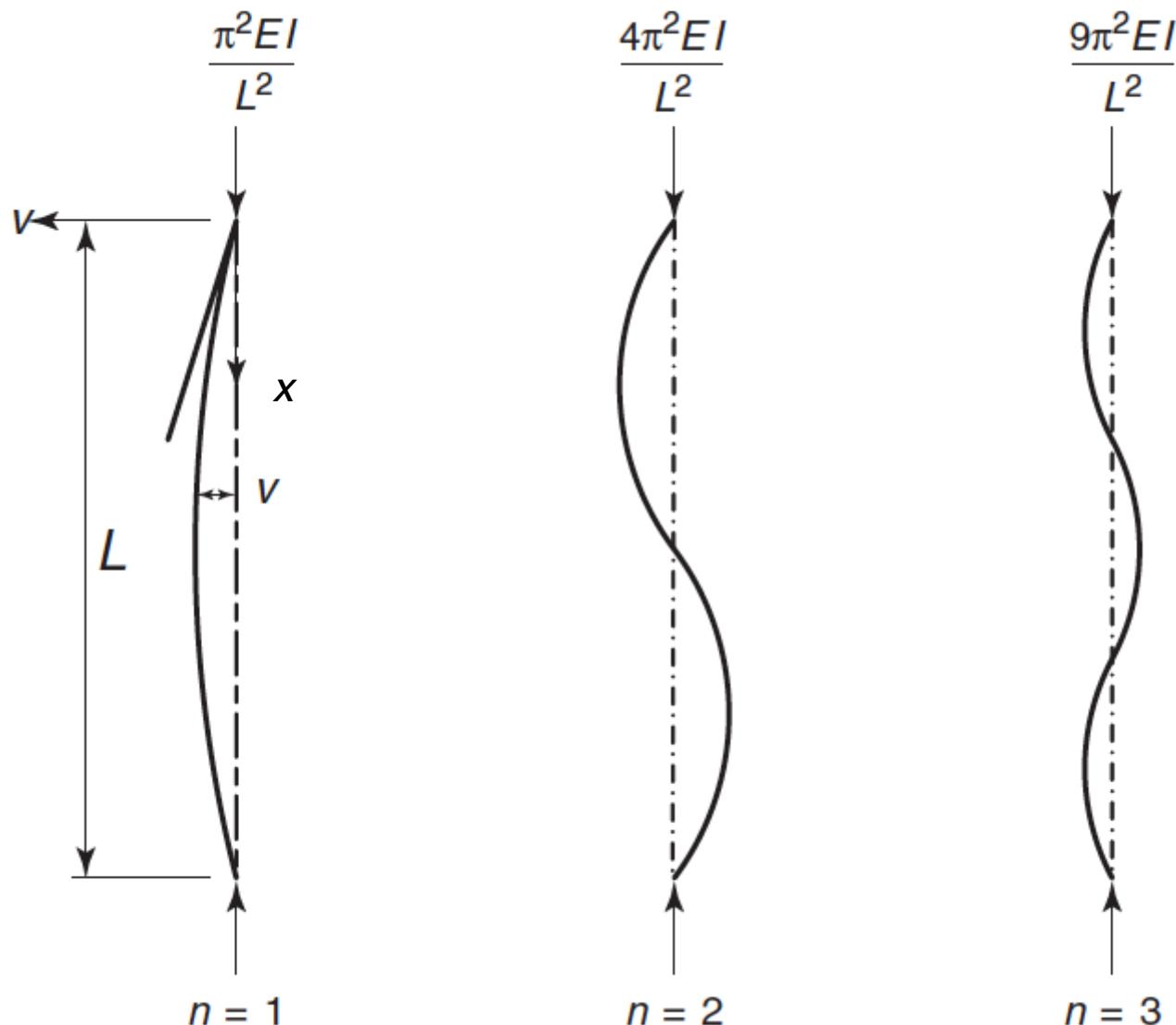
$$v = C \sin kL = 0 \Rightarrow v(x) = C \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

The exact value  $C$  cannot be determined (remember we are solving a homogeneous system).

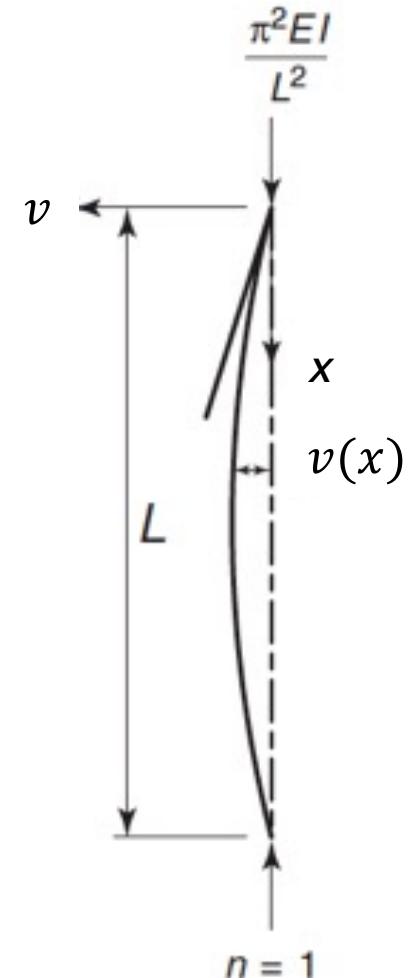
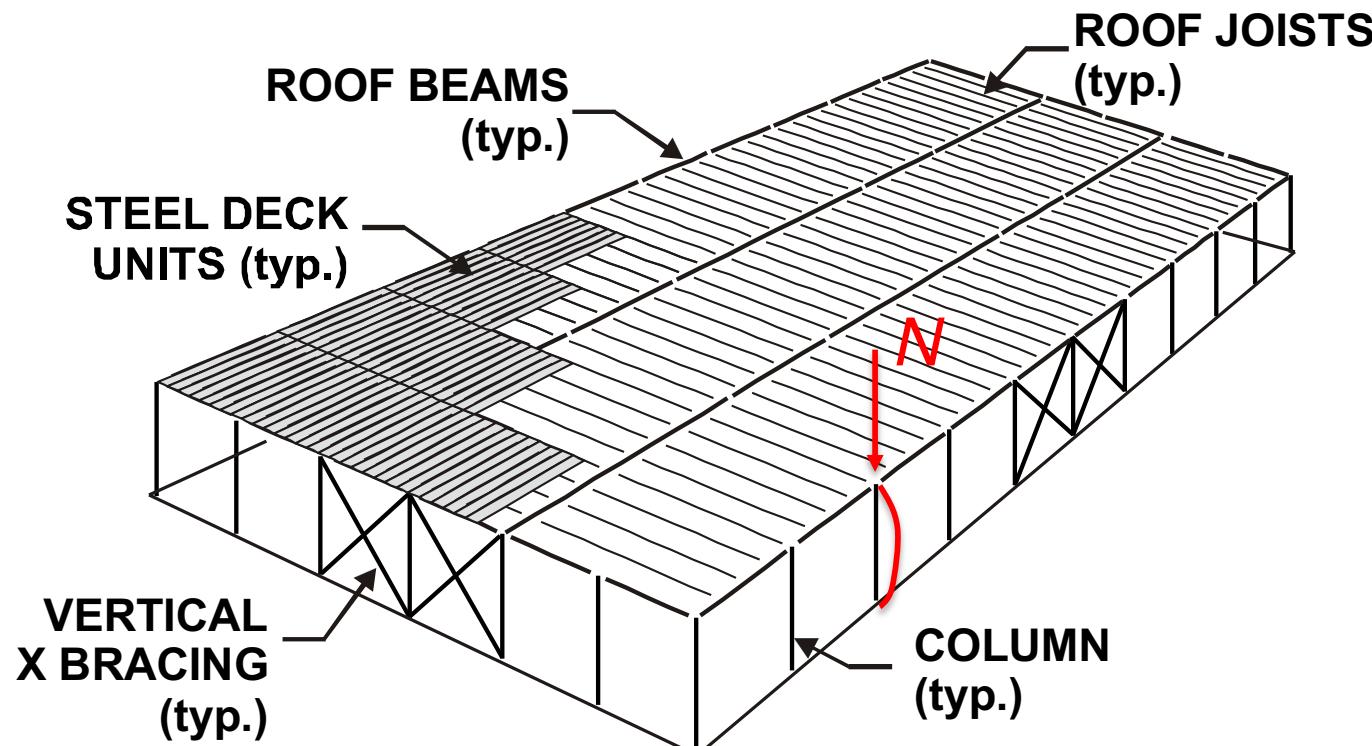
$C$  is the unknown amplitude of the sinusoidal deflected shape of the column subjected to compressive load  $N$ .

This is called *Eigenvector* or *Eigen mode* of the column. The first three *eigen modes* are shown in the next slide.

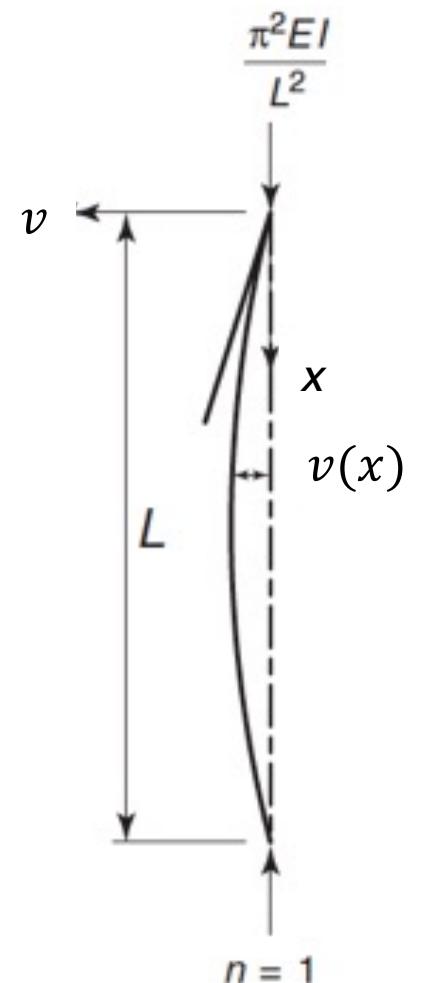
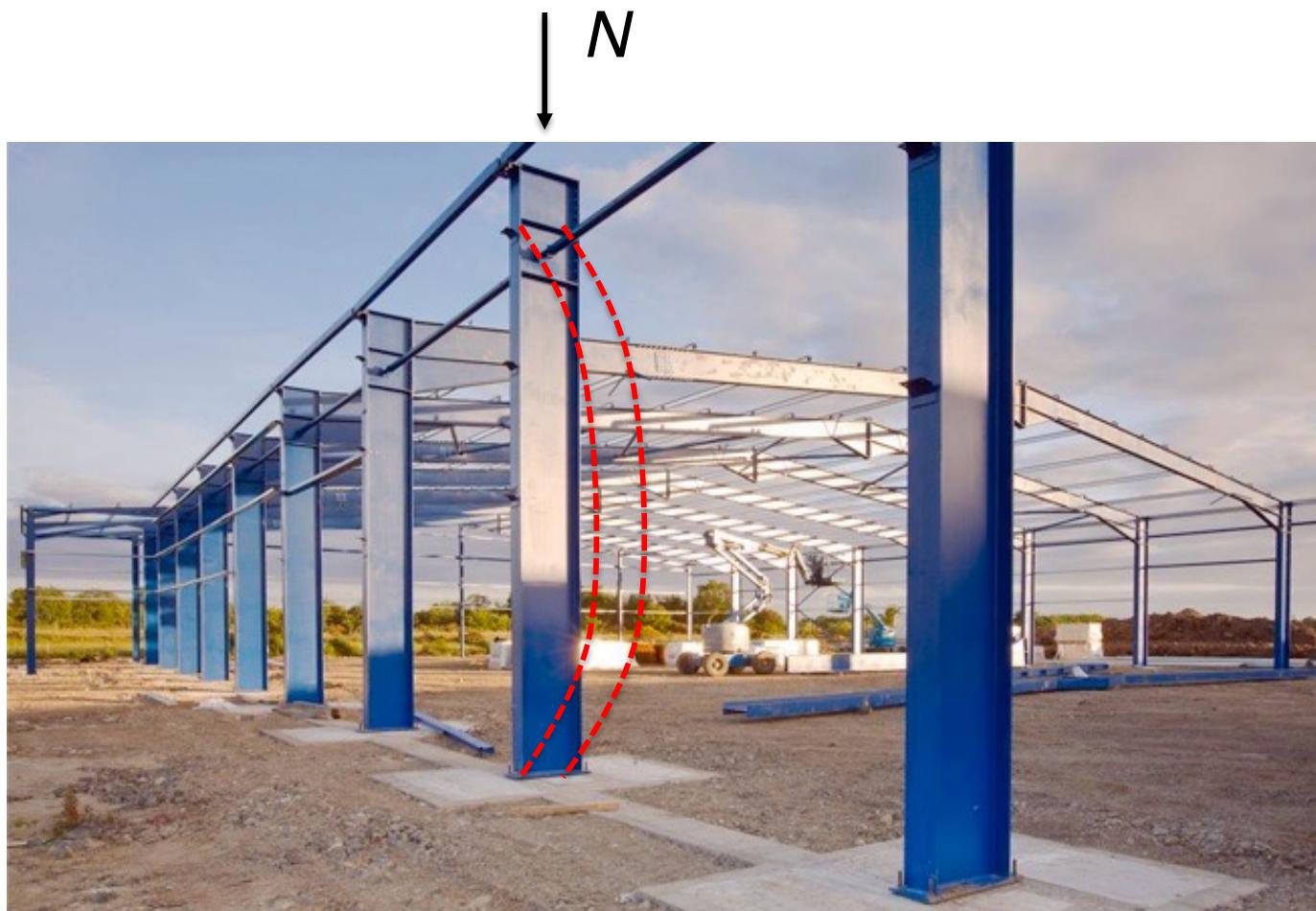
# EPFL Pin-Ended Column – Buckling Determinant



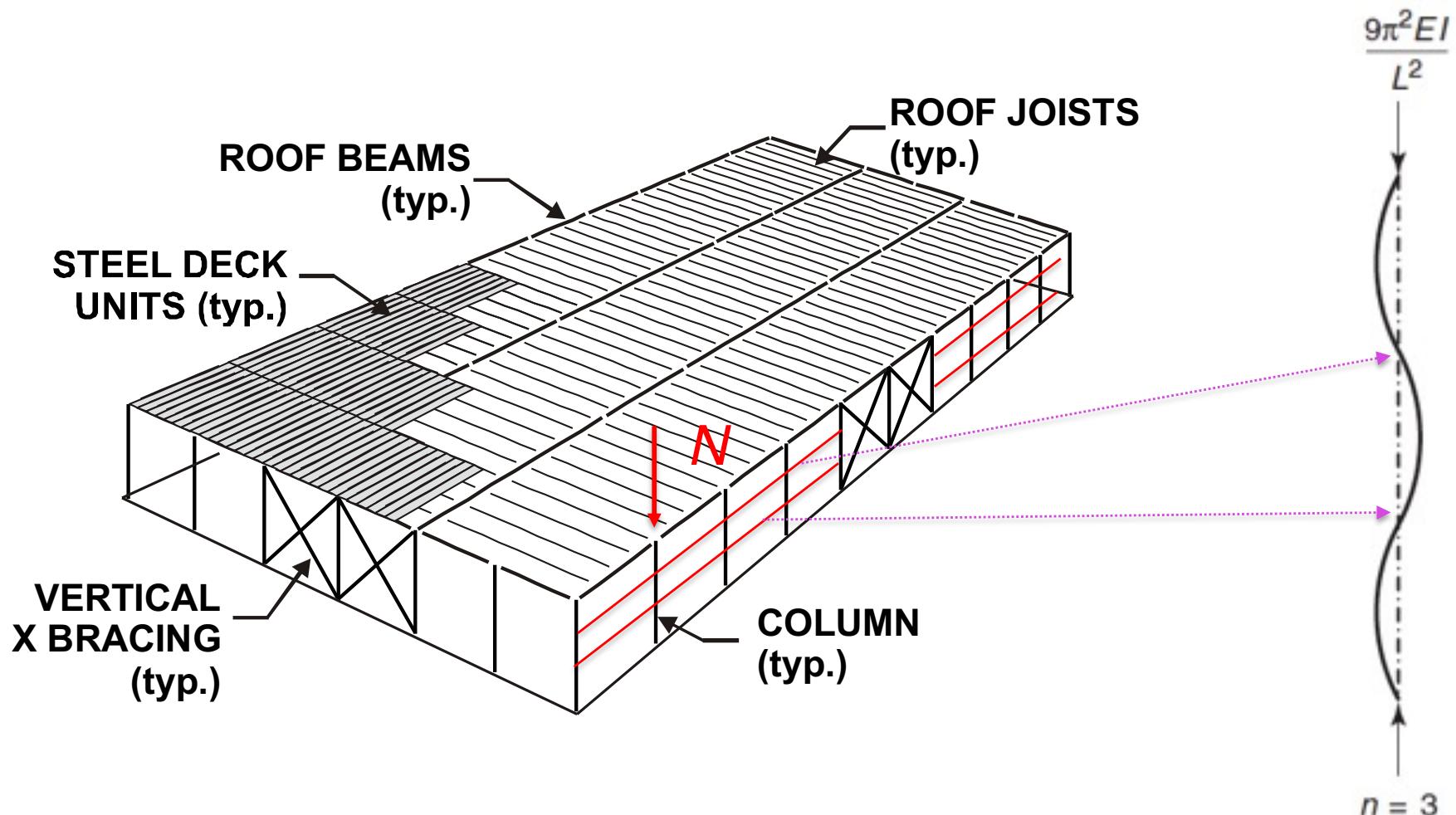
# EPFL Illustration in Real Buildings



# EPFL Illustration in Real Buildings



# EPFL Increase of Critical Buckling Load

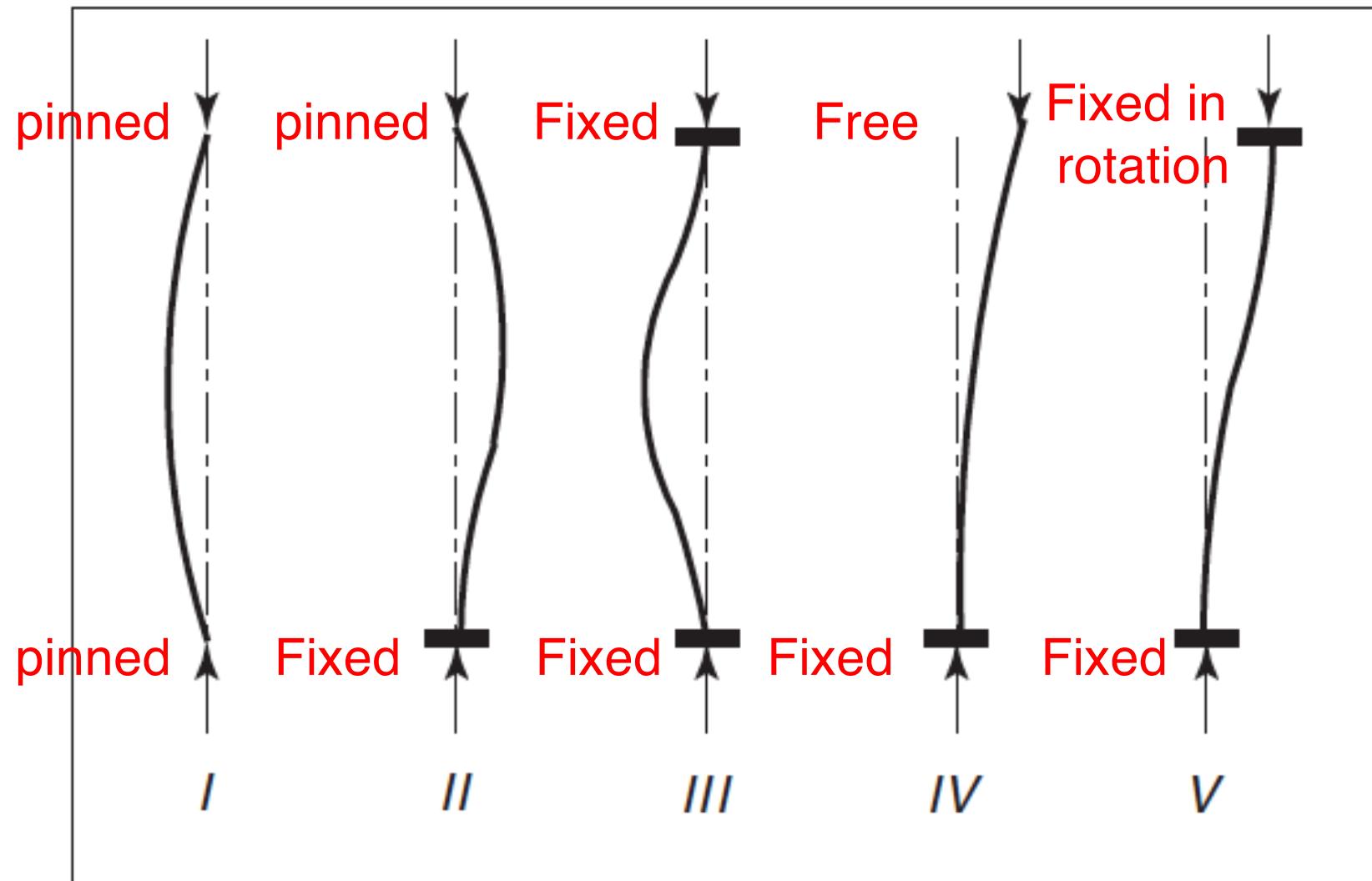


# EPFL Increase of Critical Buckling Load



Source: <http://www.timminsagricultural.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/BUILDING-1.jpg>

# Critical Buckling Loads of Columns with Various End Restraints (no imperfections)



# EPFL Critical Buckling Loads of Columns with Various End Restraints (no imperfections)

Case	Boundary Conditions	Buckling Determinant	Eigenfunction	Effective Length Factor
			Eigenvalue	
I	$v(0) = v''(0) = 0$ $v(L) = v''(L) = 0$	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & 0 & -k^2 \sin kL & -k^2 \cos kL \end{vmatrix}$	$\sin kL = 0$ $kL = \pi$ $N_{cr} = N_E$	1.0
II	$v(0) = v''(0) = 0$ $v(L) = v'(L) = 0$	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & 1 & k \cos kL & -k \sin kL \end{vmatrix}$	$\tan kl = kl$ $kl = 4.493$ $N_{cr} = 2.045 \cdot N_E$	0.7
III	$v(0) = v'(0) = 0$ $v(L) = v'(L) = 0$	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & k & 0 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & 1 & k \cos kL & -k \sin kL \end{vmatrix}$	$\sin \frac{kL}{2} = 0$ $kL = 2\pi$ $N_{cr} = 4 \cdot N_E$	0.5
IV	$v'''(0) + k^2 v' = v''(0) = 0$ $v(L) = v'(L) = 0$	$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -k^2 \\ 0 & k^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & 1 & k \cos kL & -k \sin kL \end{vmatrix}$	$\cos kL = 0$ $kL = \frac{\pi}{2}$ $N_{cr} = \frac{N_E}{4}$	2.0
V	$v'''(0) + k^2 v' = v'(0) = 0$ $v(L) = v'(L) = 0$	$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & k & 0 \\ 0 & k^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & 1 & k \cos kL & -k \sin kL \end{vmatrix}$	$\sin kL = 0$ $kL = \pi$ $N_{cr} = N_E$	1.0

$$N_E = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2}$$

Solution by trial and error  
(Newton-Raphson)

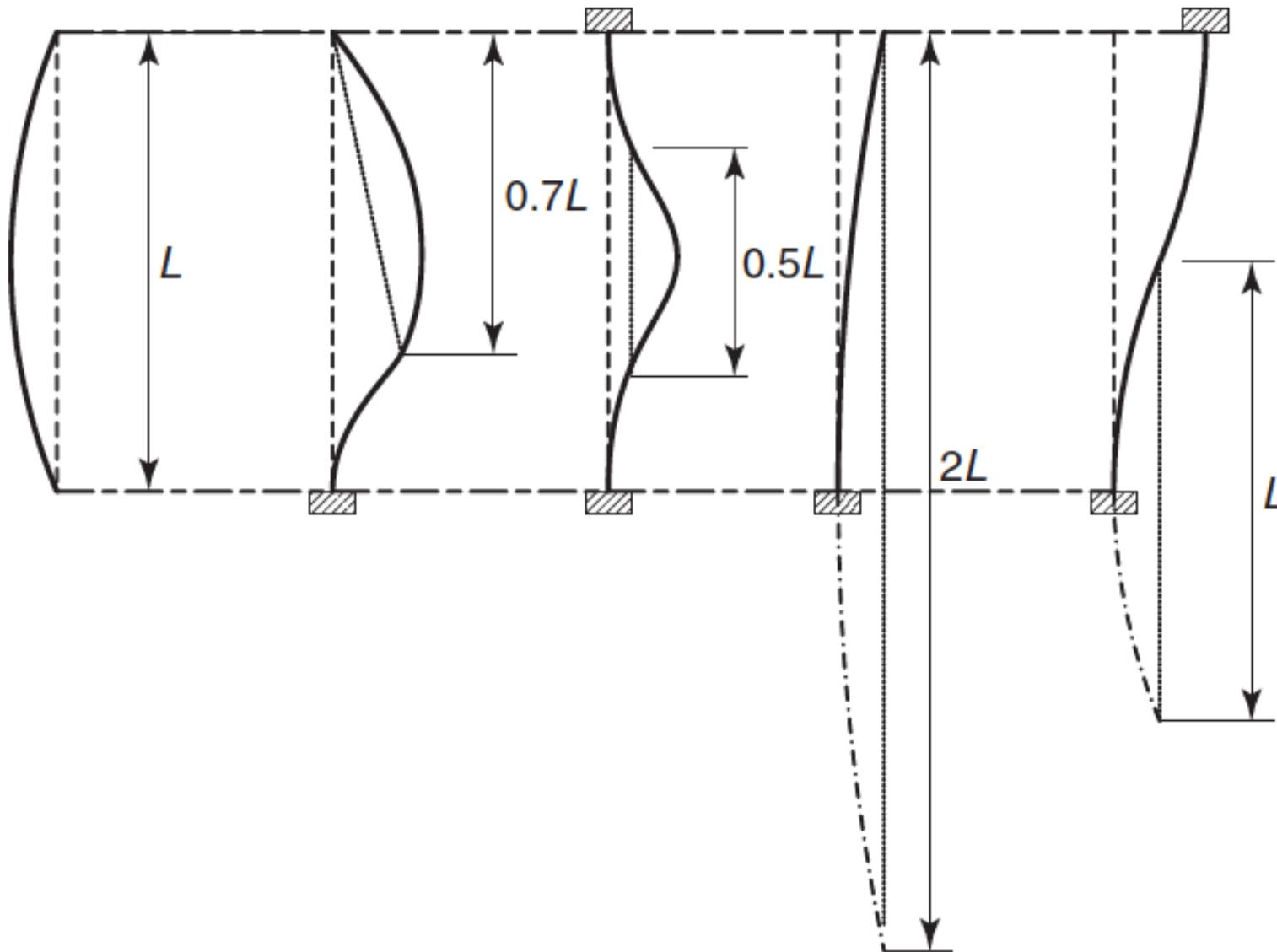
# EPFL The Concept of the Effective Length Factor

Popular artifice that connects any buckling load to the basic pin-pin case (pinned column) that we just solved:

$$N_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{(KL)^2}$$

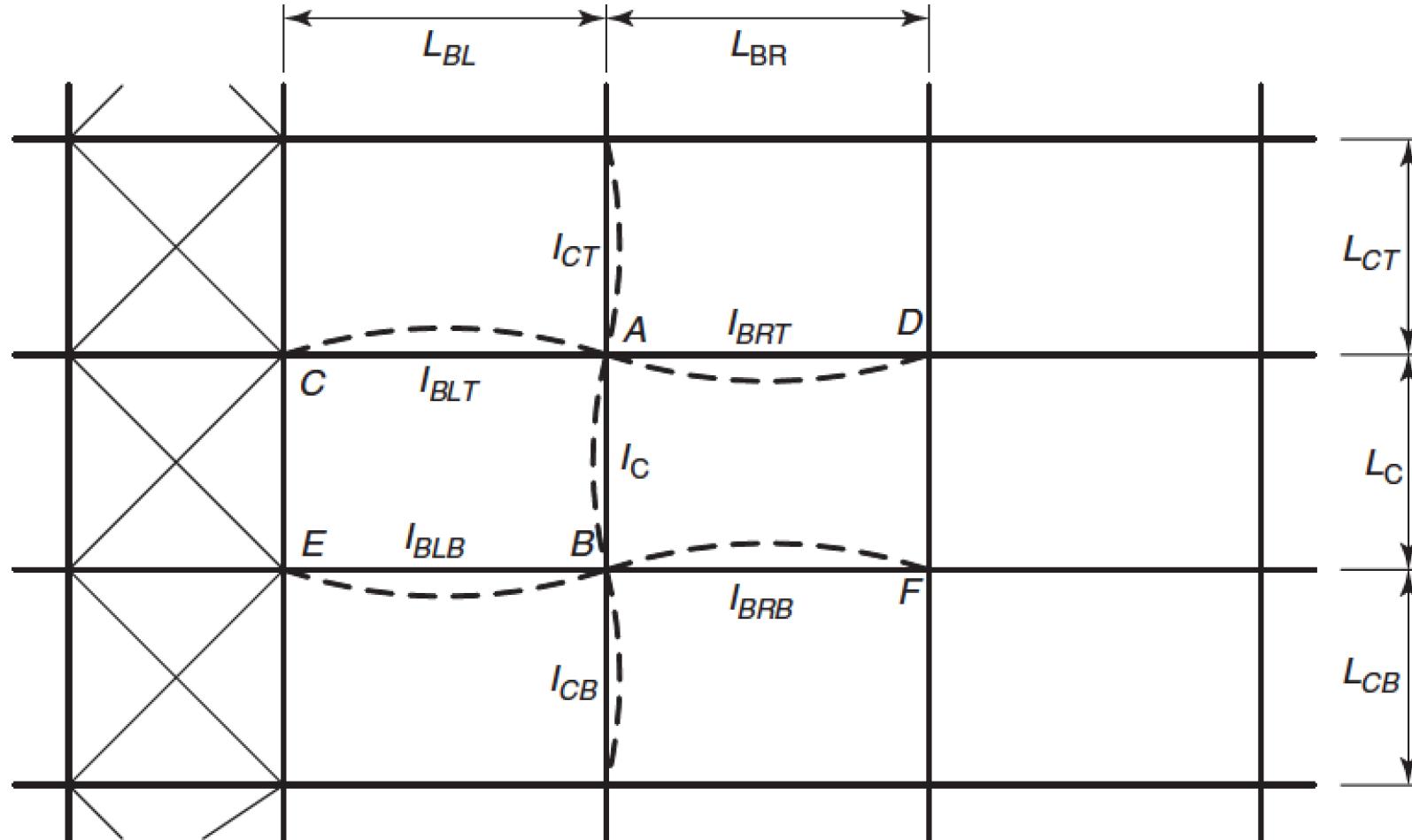
For the 5 elementary cases discussed above, one can visualize the effective length as the distance between points of inflection on the buckled shape of the column.

# EPFL Effective Length – Geometric Interpretation

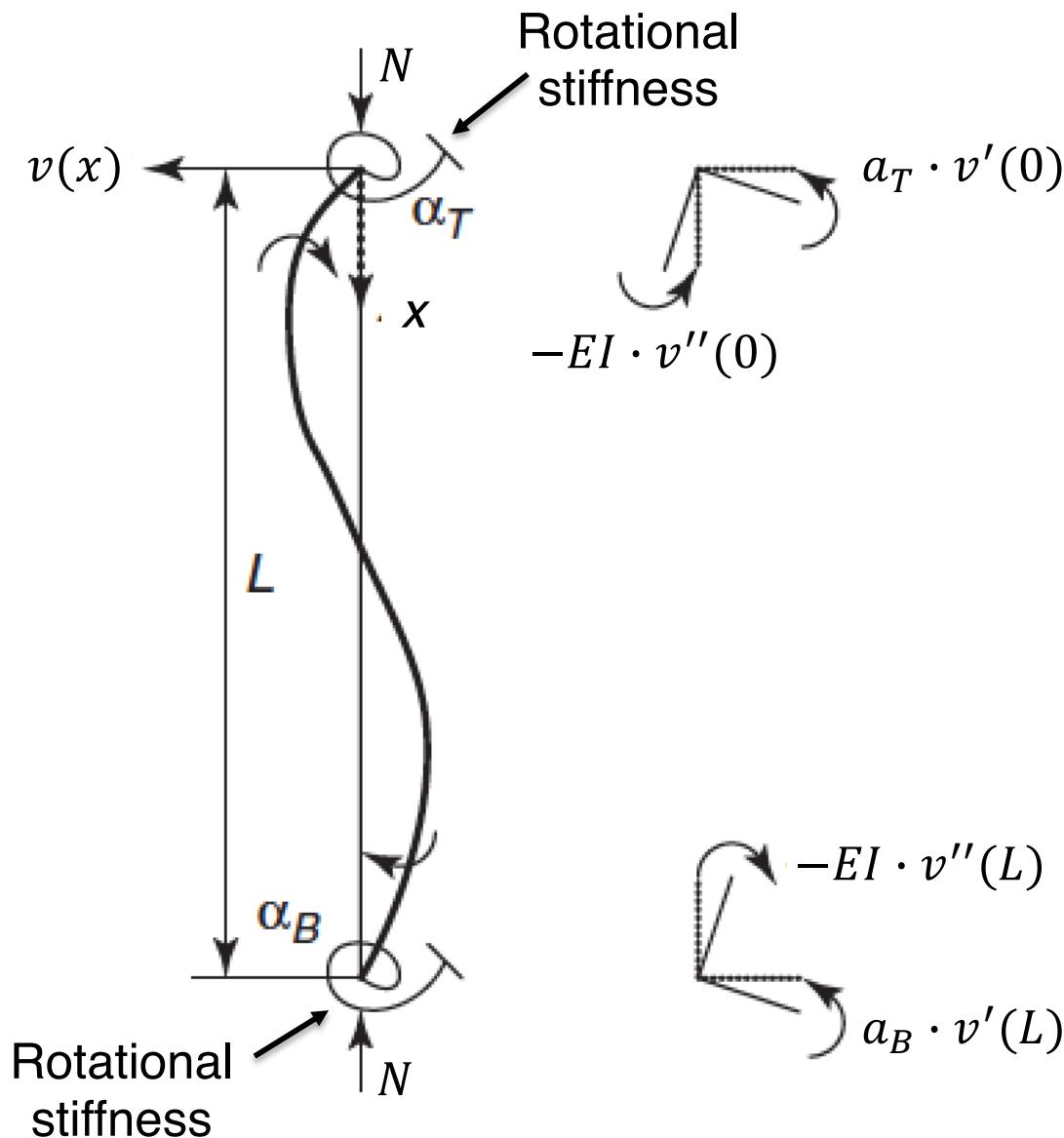


# EPFL End-Restrained Columns in Multi-Storey Frames

Characteristic in frames with bracings (often called non-sway)



# EPFL End-Restrained Columns in Multi-Storey Frames



Boundary conditions:

$$v(0) = 0$$

$$a_T \cdot v'(0) - EI \cdot v''(0) = 0$$

$$v(L) = 0$$

$$-a_B \cdot v'(L) - EI \cdot v''(L) = 0$$

# EPFL End-Restrained Columns in Multi-Storey Frames

## -General Solution and Boundary Conditions

General solution,

$$v(x) = A + Bx + C \sin kx + D \cos kx \quad (N > 0)$$

Buckling Determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & L & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & \alpha_T & \alpha_T k & EI k^2 \\ 0 & -\alpha_B & -\alpha_B k \cos kL + EI k^2 \sin kL & \alpha_B k \sin kL + EI k^2 \cos kL \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Introduce non-dimensional rigidities,

$$R_T = \frac{\alpha_T L}{EI} \quad R_B = \frac{\alpha_B L}{EI}$$

## -General Solution and Boundary Conditions

$$\begin{aligned} -2R_T R_B + \sin kL[R_T R_B kL - kL(R_T + R_B) - (kL)^3] & \quad (1) \\ + \cos kL[2R_T R_B + (kL)^2(R_T + R_B)] & = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Pinned Column

$$a_T = a_B = 0 \rightarrow R_T = R_B = 0$$

$$\sin kL = 0$$

Fixed Column

$$a_T = a_B = \infty \rightarrow R_T = R_B = \infty$$

$$\sin \frac{kL}{2} = 0$$

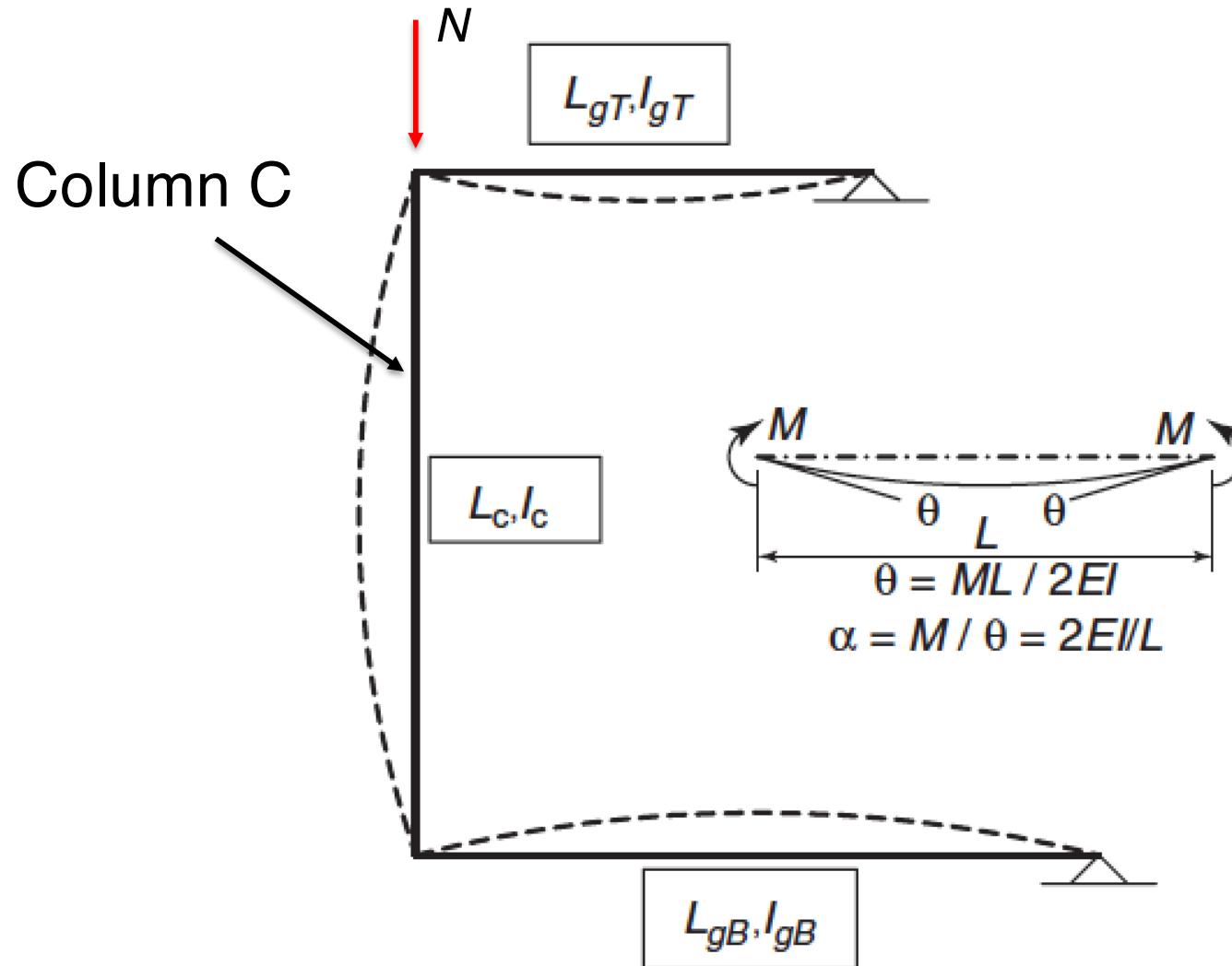
Eq. (1) encloses all the intermediate conditions between totally pinned and fixed ends. Therefore,

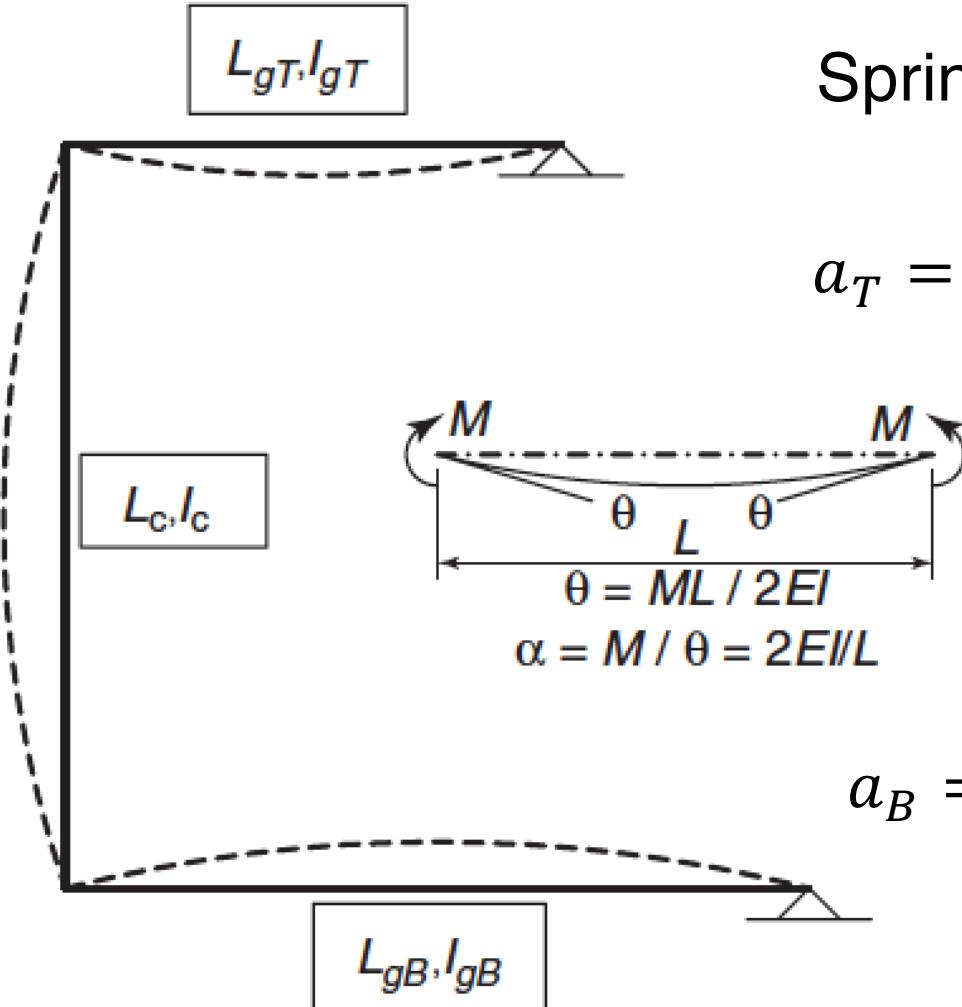
$$N_E \leq N_{Cr} \leq 4 \cdot N_E$$

$$0.5 \leq k \leq 1.0$$

If the elastic rotational spring constants  $a_T$  and  $a_B$  are known, then the buckling condition of Eq. (1) is directly applicable.

Effective length determination for column C





Spring Constants

$$a_T = \frac{2EI_{gt}}{L_{gt}}$$

Joint Rigidities

$$n_{sup} = \frac{I_c/L_c}{I_c/L_c + I_{gt}/L_{gt}}$$

$$a_B = \frac{2EI_{gb}}{L_{gb}}$$

$$n_{inf} = \frac{I_c/L_c}{I_c/L_c + I_{gb}/L_{gb}}$$

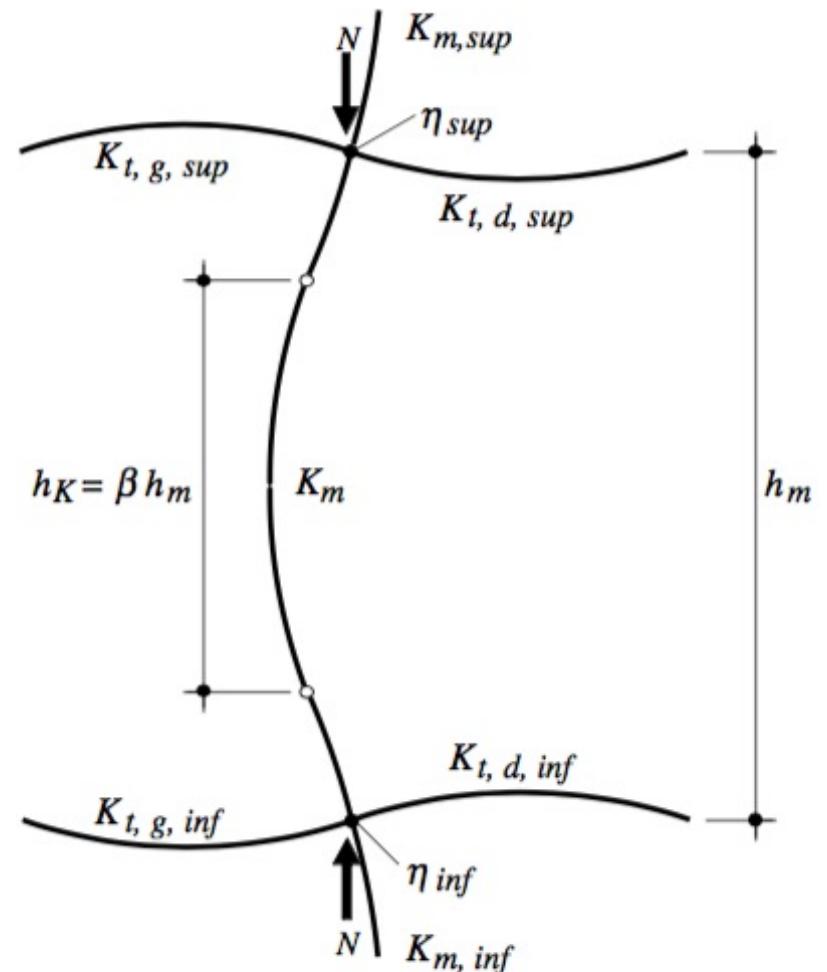
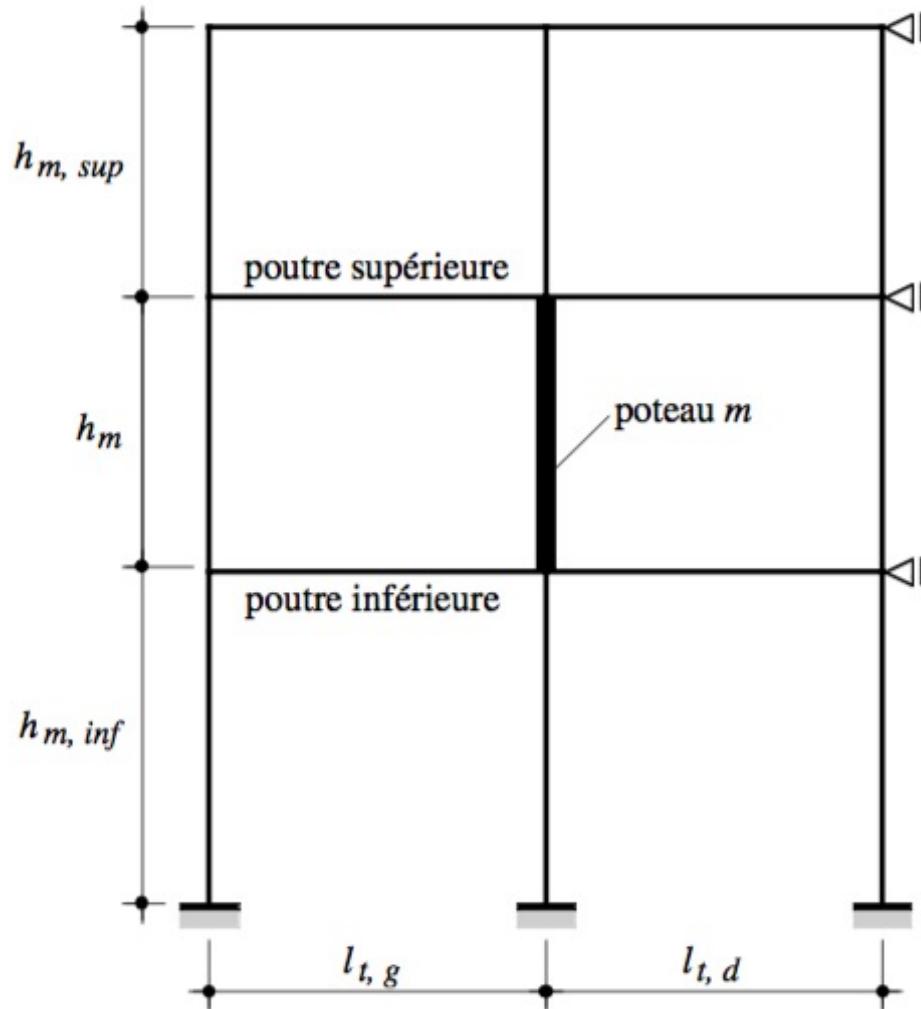
Eq. (1) Becomes

$$\frac{(kL)^2 n_{sup} \cdot n_{inf}}{4} - 1 + \frac{n_{sup} + n_{inf}}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{kL}{tan kL} \right) + 2 tan \frac{kL}{kL} = 0 \quad (2)$$

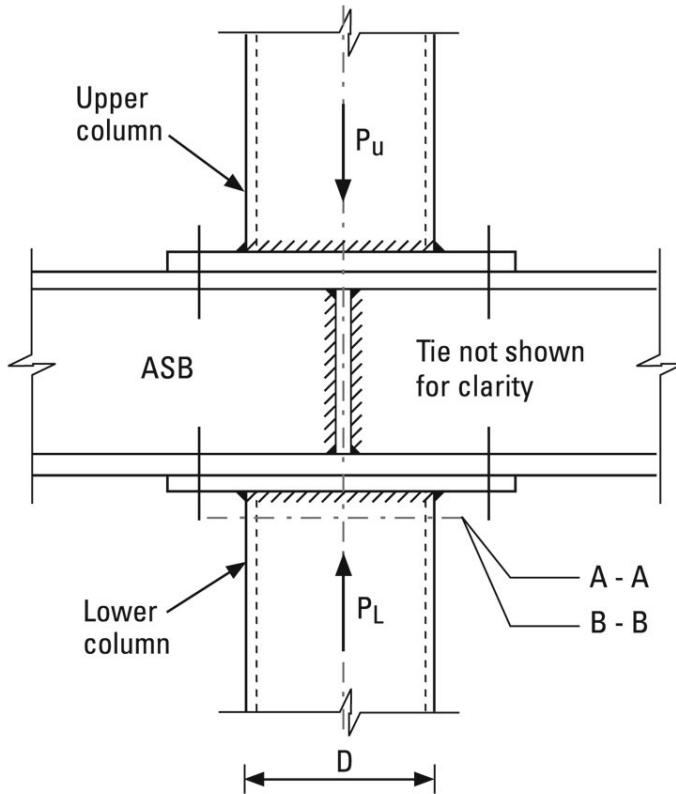
Assume that the effective factor is,  $K = \frac{\pi}{kL}$ , then Eq (2) becomes,

$$\frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{K}\right)^2 n_{sup} \cdot n_{inf}}{4} - 1 + \frac{n_{sup} + n_{inf}}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{\frac{\pi}{K}}{tan \frac{\pi}{K}} \right) + \frac{2 tan \frac{\pi}{2K}}{\frac{\pi}{K}} = 0 \quad (3)$$

The equation above is known as the non-sway *nomograph* (*alignment chart*) in all the design standards.

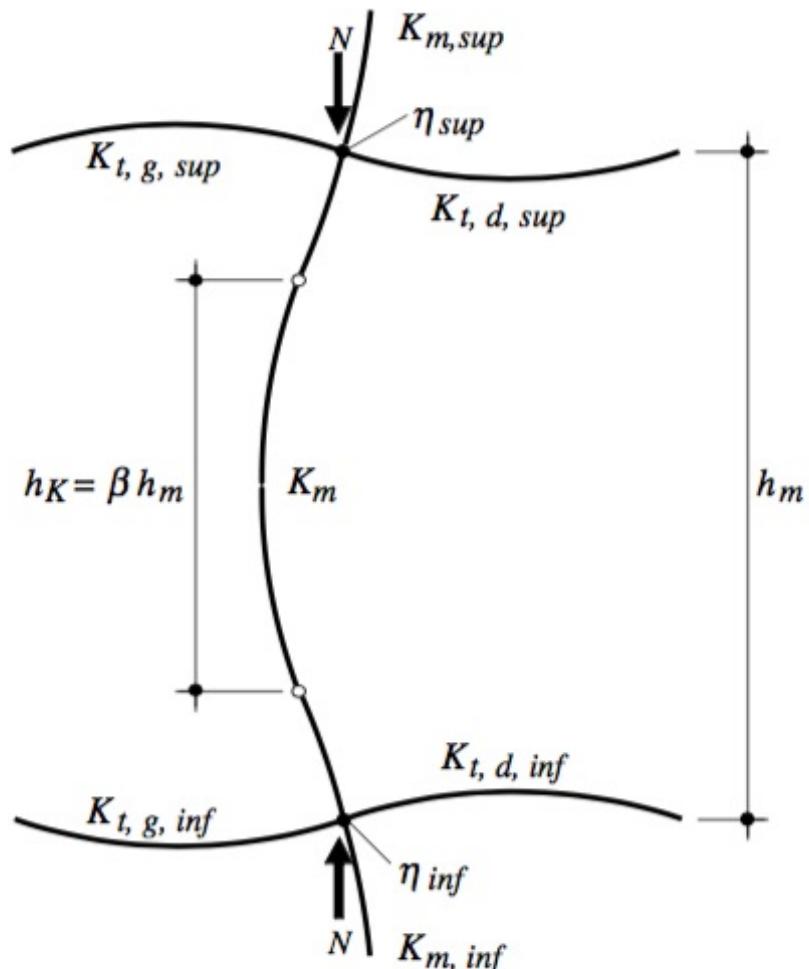


-Example: Planar Rigid Frame



**EPFL** End-Restrained Columns – Not Continuous between Floors  
 -Example: Planar Rigid Frame

By using the Cross method:



$$n_{sup} = \frac{K_m}{K_m + \sum K_{t,sup}} \quad n_{inf} = \frac{K_m}{K_m + \sum K_{t,inf}}$$

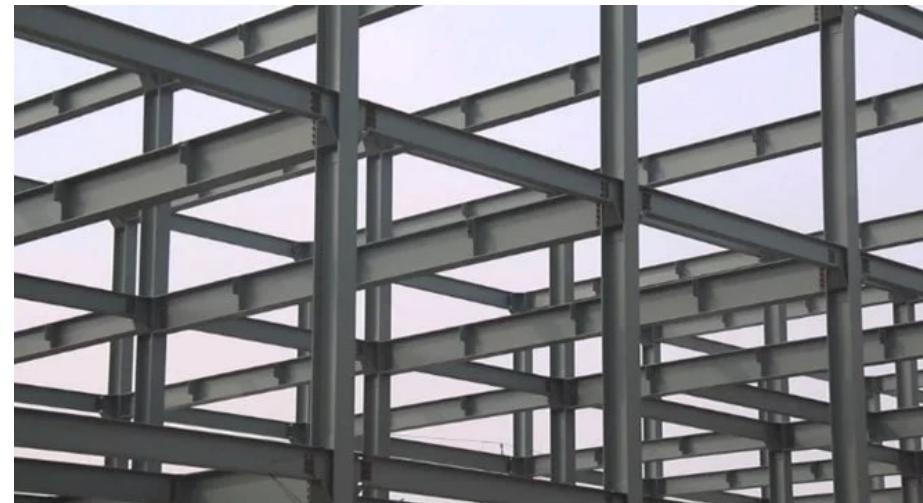
$K_m = EI_m/h_m$  Rigidity of considered column

$K_t = EI_t/l_t$  Rigidity of beam with moment of inertia,  $I_t$ , and length  $l_t$

$$\sum K_{t,sup} = K_{t,g,sup} + K_{t,d,sup}$$

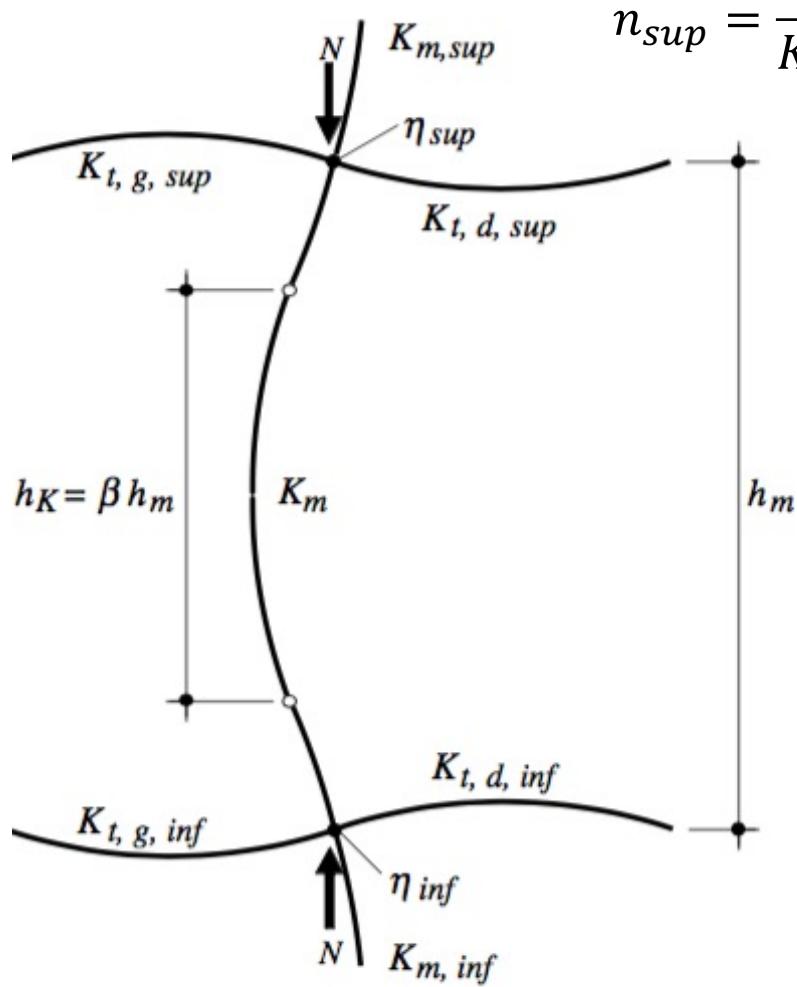
$$\sum K_{t,inf} = K_{t,g,inf} + K_{t,d,inf}$$

- $m$  : Column
- $t$  : Beam (cross beam)
- $sup$  : Top of the column
- $inf$  : Bottom of the column
- $d$  : Right of the column
- $g$  : Left of the column



**EPFL** End-Restrained Columns – Continuous between Floors  
 -Example: Planar Rigid Frame (General case)

By using the Cross method:



$$n_{sup} = \frac{K_m + K_{m,sup}}{K_m + K_{m,sup} + \sum K_{t,sup}} \quad n_{inf} = \frac{K_m + K_{m,inf}}{K_m + K_{m,inf} + \sum K_{t,inf}}$$

$K_m = EI_m/h_m$  Rigidity of considered column

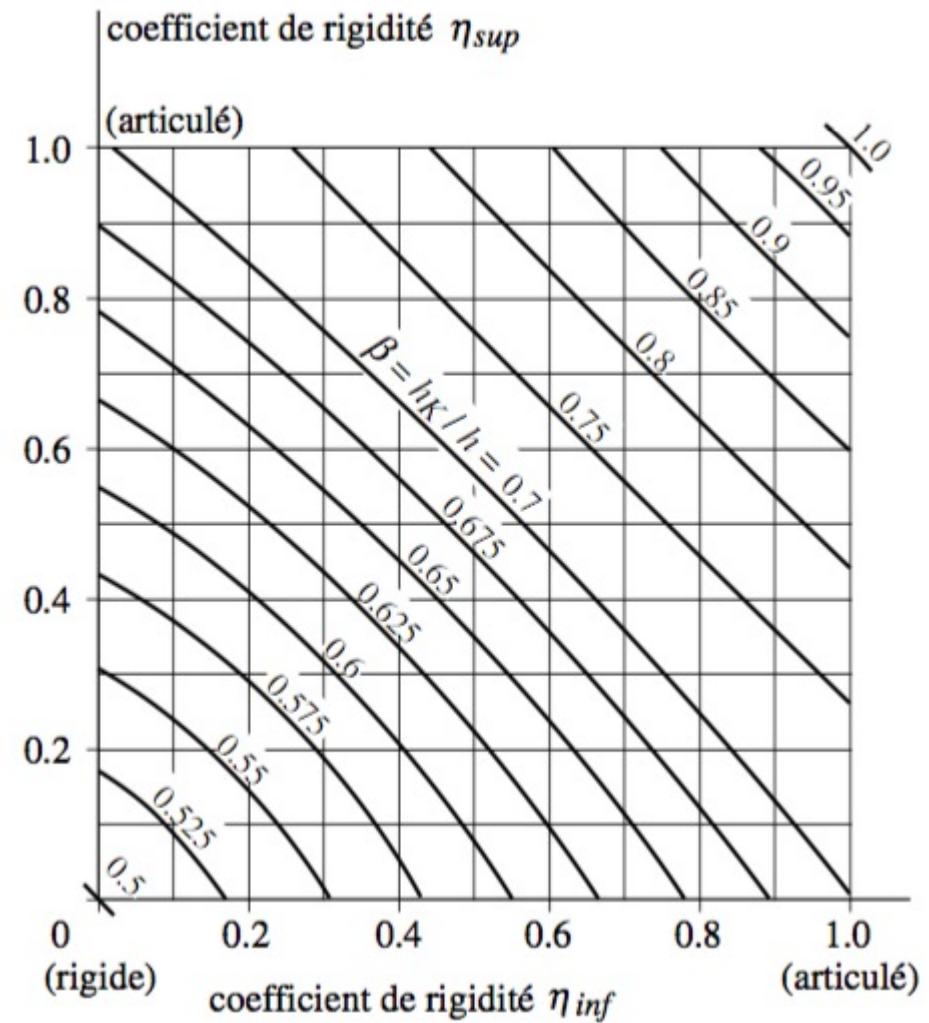
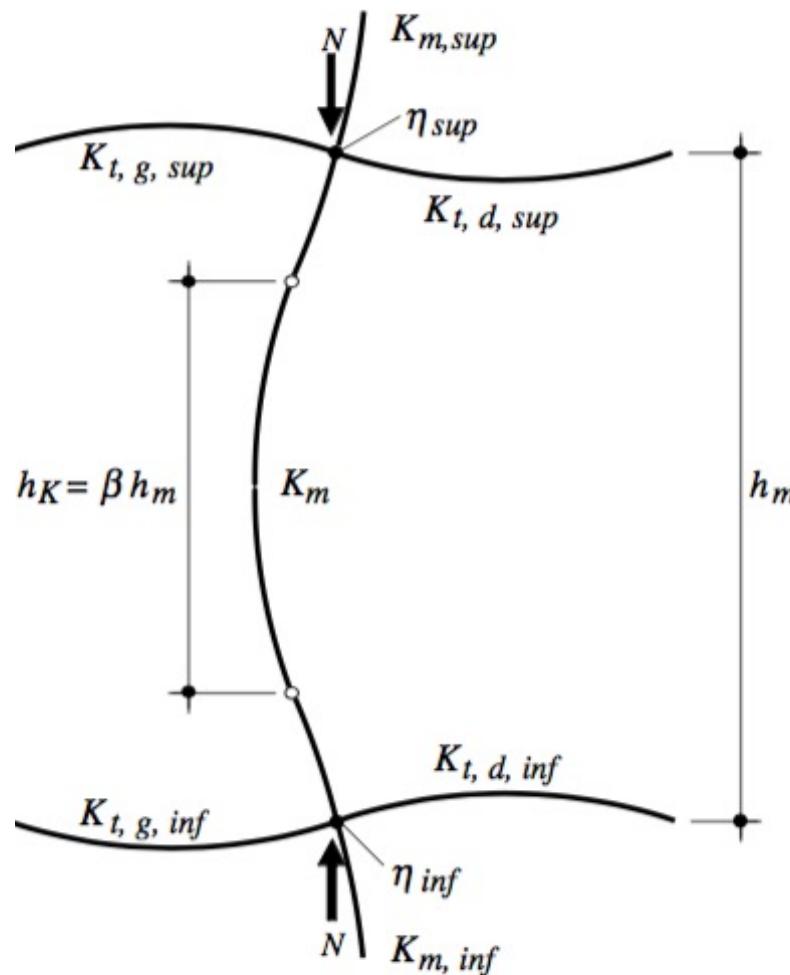
$K_t = EI_t/l_t$  Rigidity of beam with moment of inertia,  $I_t$ , and length  $l_t$

$$\sum K_{t,sup} = K_{t,g,sup} + K_{t,d,sup}$$

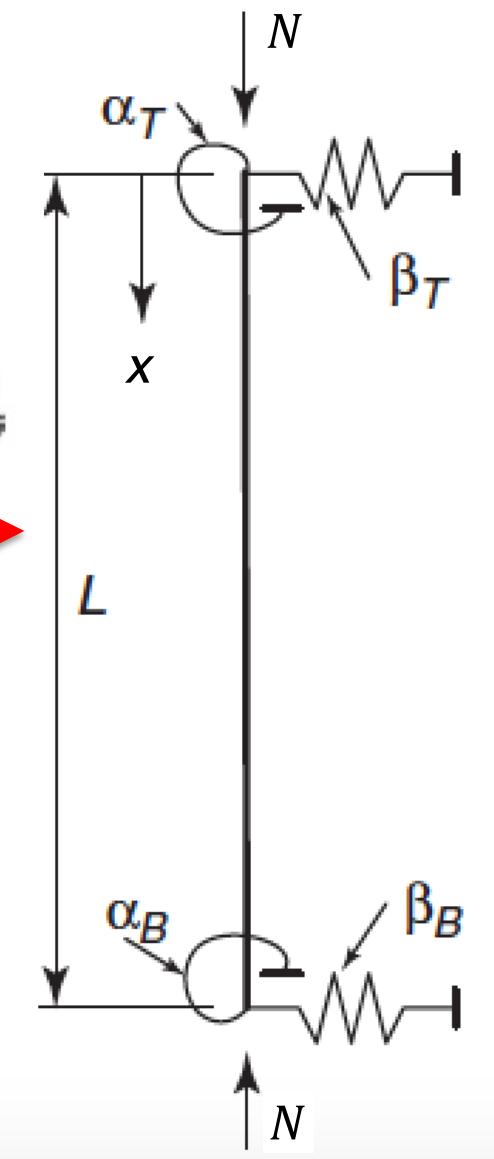
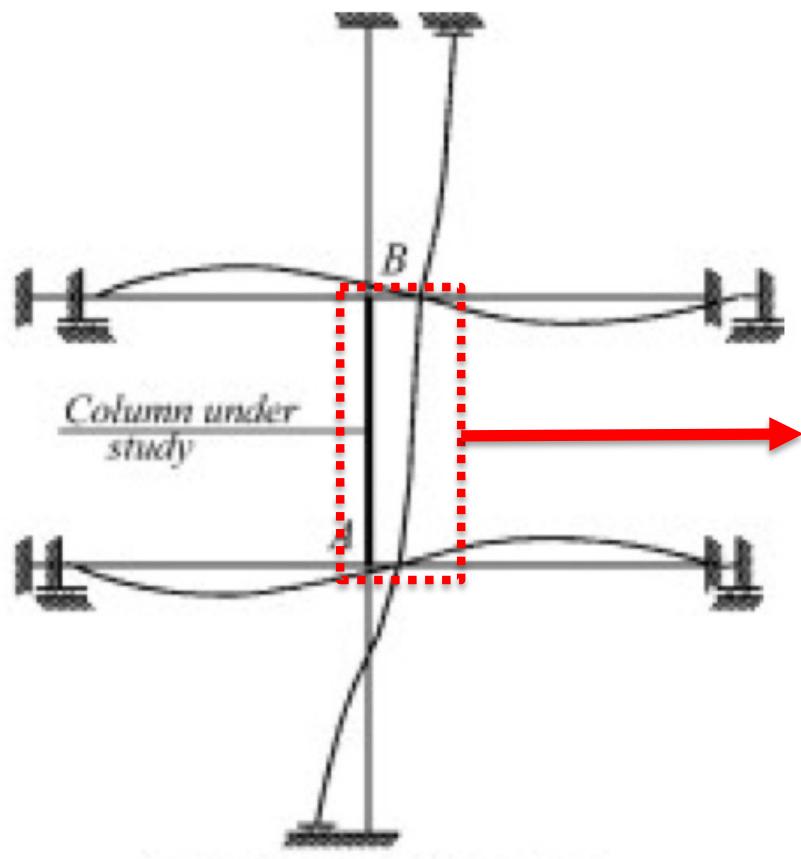
$$\sum K_{t,inf} = K_{t,g,inf} + K_{t,d,inf}$$

<i>m</i>	: Column
<i>t</i>	: Beam (cross beam)
<i>sup</i>	: Top of the column
<i>inf</i>	: Bottom of the column
<i>d</i>	: Right of the column
<i>g</i>	: Left of the column

# EPFL Alignment Chart for Non-Sway Frames



# EPFL Expansion of Stability Problem to Sway Frames



Boundary conditions

@ $x = 0$ :

$$-EIv''' - Nv' = \beta_T v$$

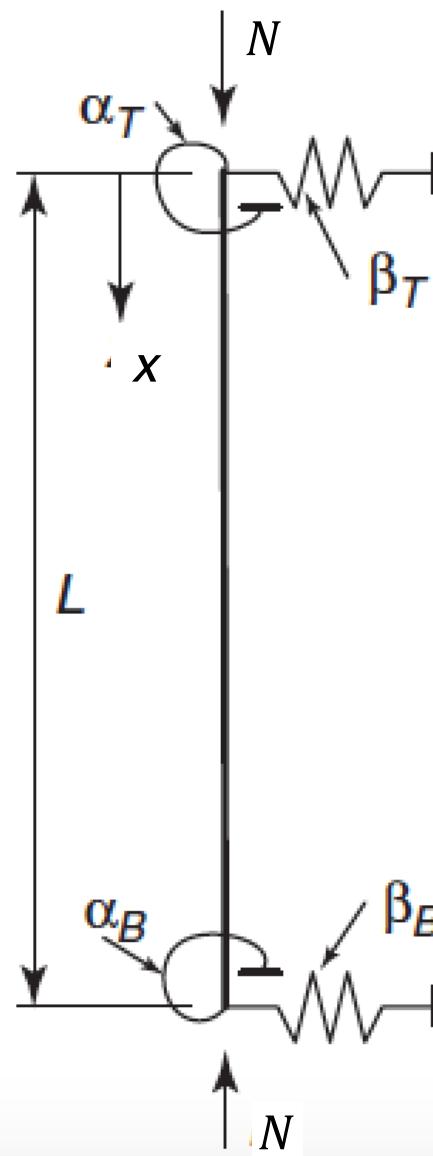
$$-EIv'' = -a_T v'$$

@ $x = L$ :

$$-EIv''' - Nv' = -\beta_B v$$

$$-EIv'' = a_B v'$$

# EPFL Expansion of Stability Problem to Sway Frames



Assume the non-dimensional restraint factors

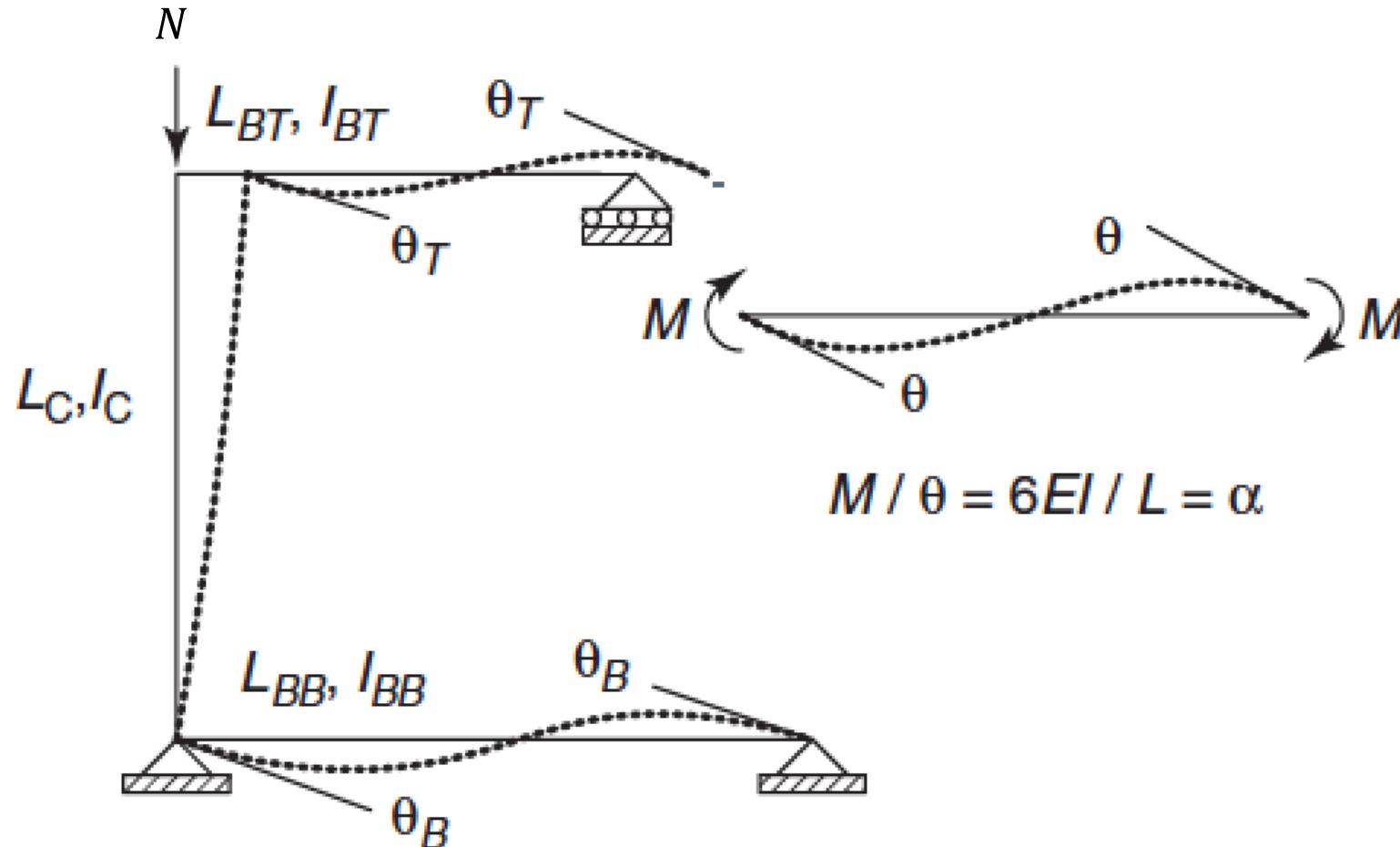
$$R_T = \frac{\alpha_T L}{EI} R_B = \frac{\alpha_B L}{EI} \quad T_T = \frac{\beta_T L^3}{EI} \quad T_B = \frac{\beta_B L^3}{EI} \quad k = \sqrt{\frac{N}{EI}}$$

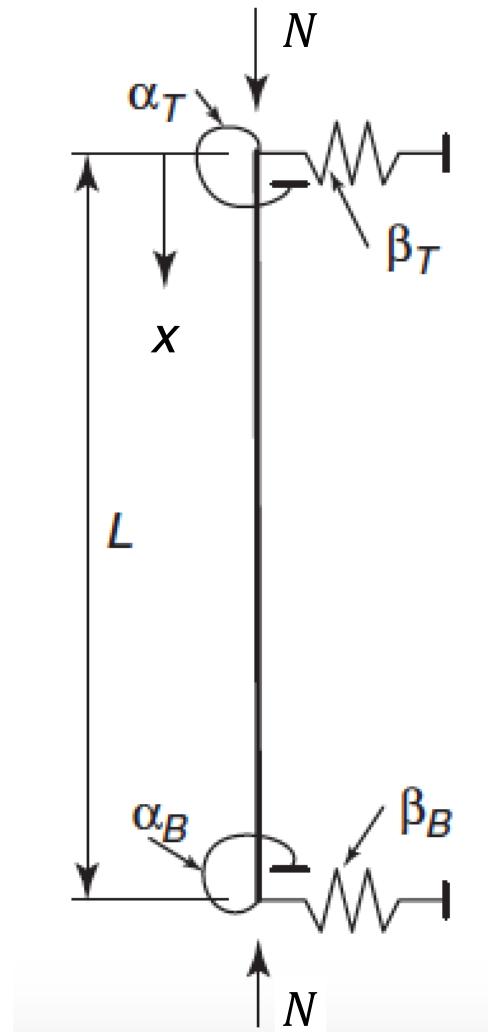
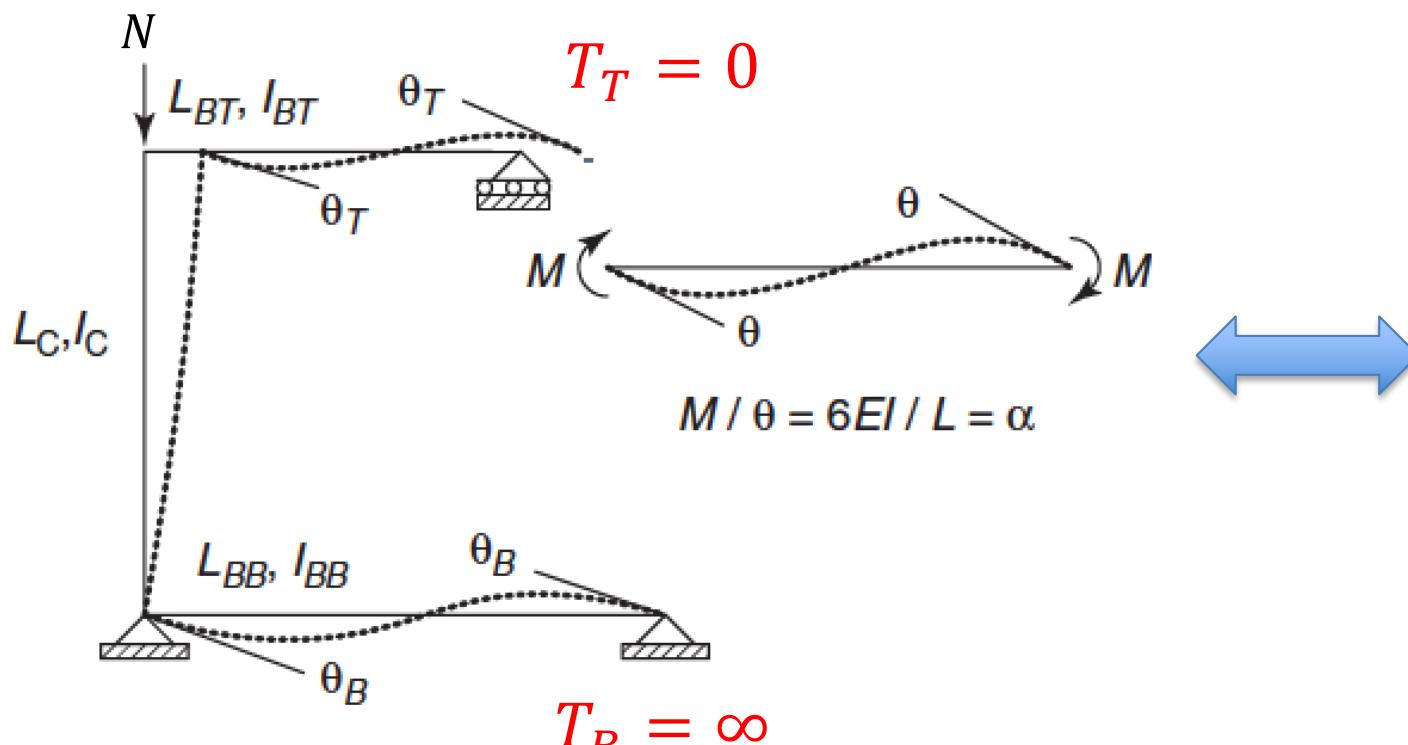
The general buckling determinant becomes

$$\begin{vmatrix} T_T & (kL)^2 & 0 & T_T \\ 0 & R_T & R_T kL & (kL)^2 \\ T_B & [T_B - (kL)^2] & T_B \sin kL & T_B \cos kL \\ 0 & R_B & [R_B kL \cos kL - (kL)^2 \sin kL] & [-R_B kL \sin kL - (kL)^2 \cos kL] \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

The buckling load ( $kL$ ) can be solved numerically (e.g., with Newton-Raphson iteration)

-Example: Sway Permitted Subassembly





In this case, the buckling determinant becomes:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & (kL)^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & R_T & R_T kL & (kL)^2 \\ 1 & 1 & \sin kL & \cos kL \\ 0 & R_B & [R_B kL \cos kL & [-R_B kL \sin kL \\ & & - (kL)^2 \sin kL] & - (kL)^2 \cos kL] \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Assume

$$a_T = \frac{6EI_{BT}}{L_{BT}} \rightarrow R_T = \frac{a_T L_C}{EI_C} = \frac{6EI_{BT}}{L_{BT}} \cdot \frac{L_C}{EI_C} = 6 \left( \frac{I_{BT}/L_{BT}}{I_C/L_C} \right) = \frac{6}{n_{sup}}$$

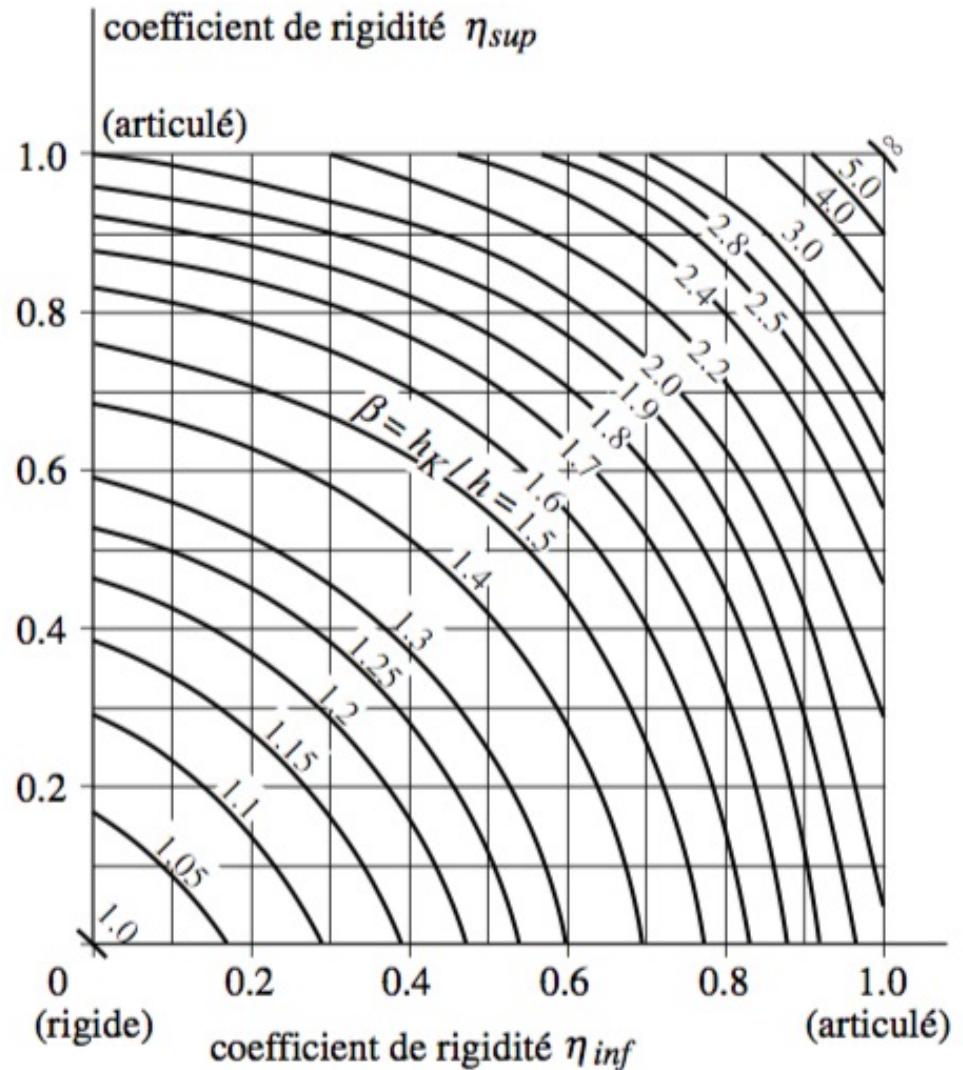
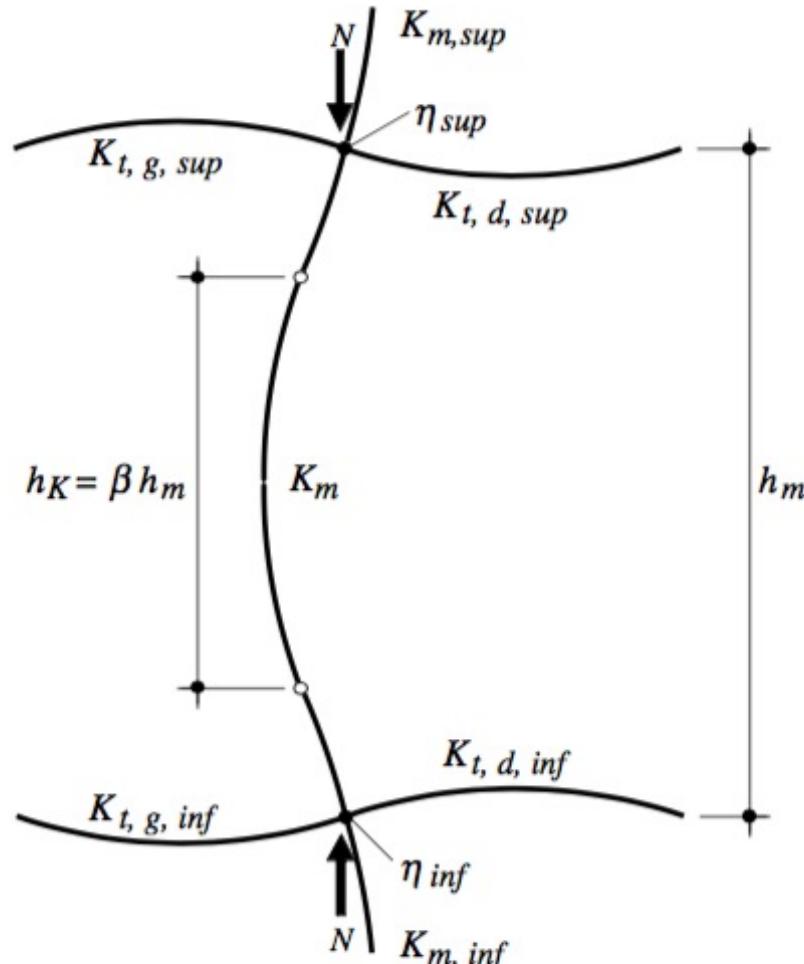
$$a_B = \frac{6EI_{BB}}{L_{BB}} \rightarrow R_B = \frac{a_B L_C}{EI_C} = \frac{6EI_{BB}}{L_{BB}} \cdot \frac{L_C}{EI_C} = 6 \left( \frac{I_{BB}/L_{BB}}{I_C/L_C} \right) = \frac{6}{n_{inf}}$$

The decomposed determinant becomes

$$\frac{kL}{\tan KL} - \frac{(kL)^2 n_{sup} \cdot n_{inf} - 36}{6(n_{sup} + n_{inf})} = 0 \quad (4)$$

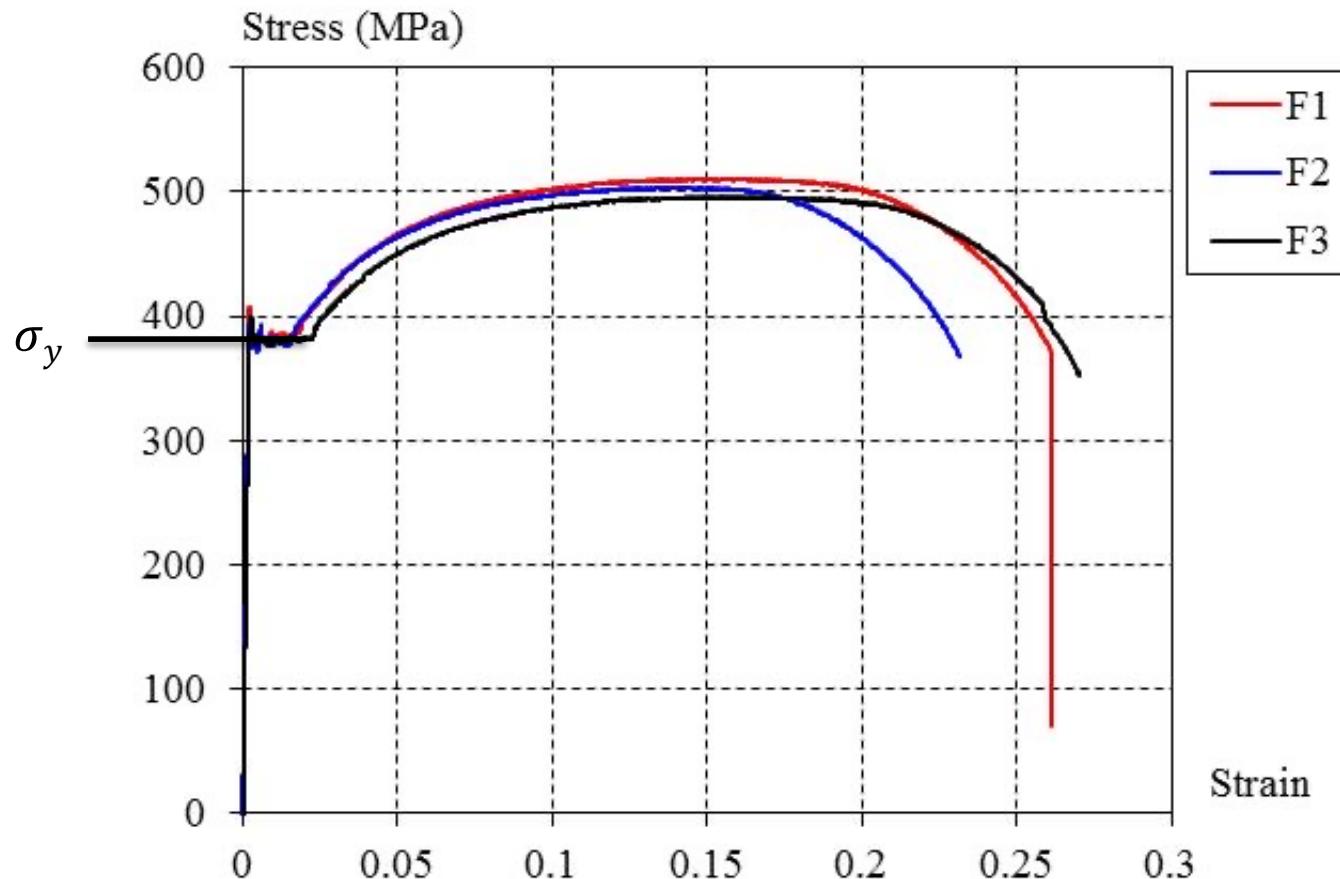
Eq. (4) provides the basis of the sway alignment chart in, design standards (see next page)

# EPFL Alignment Chart for Effective Length -Sway-Permitted Planar Rigid Frames



# EPFL Combining Yield and Buckling Resistance

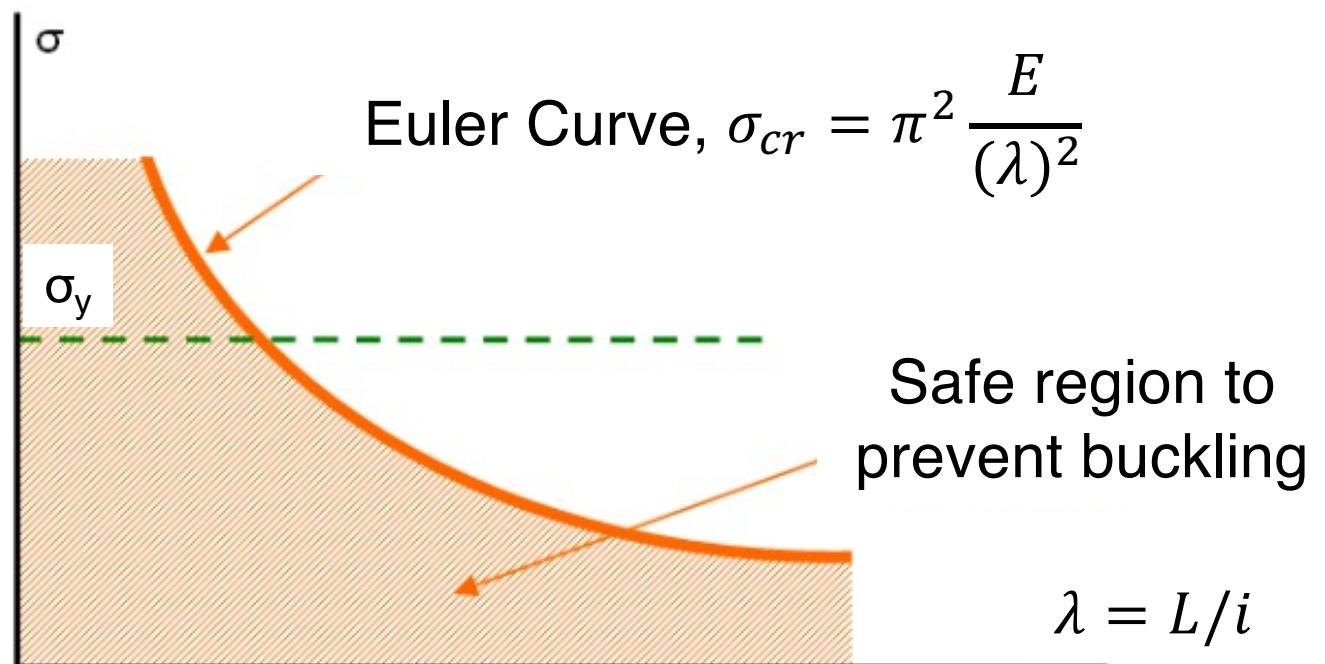
Depending on the member slenderness, the critical stress may be restricted by  $\sigma_y$  rather than  $\sigma_{cr} = N_{cr} / A$



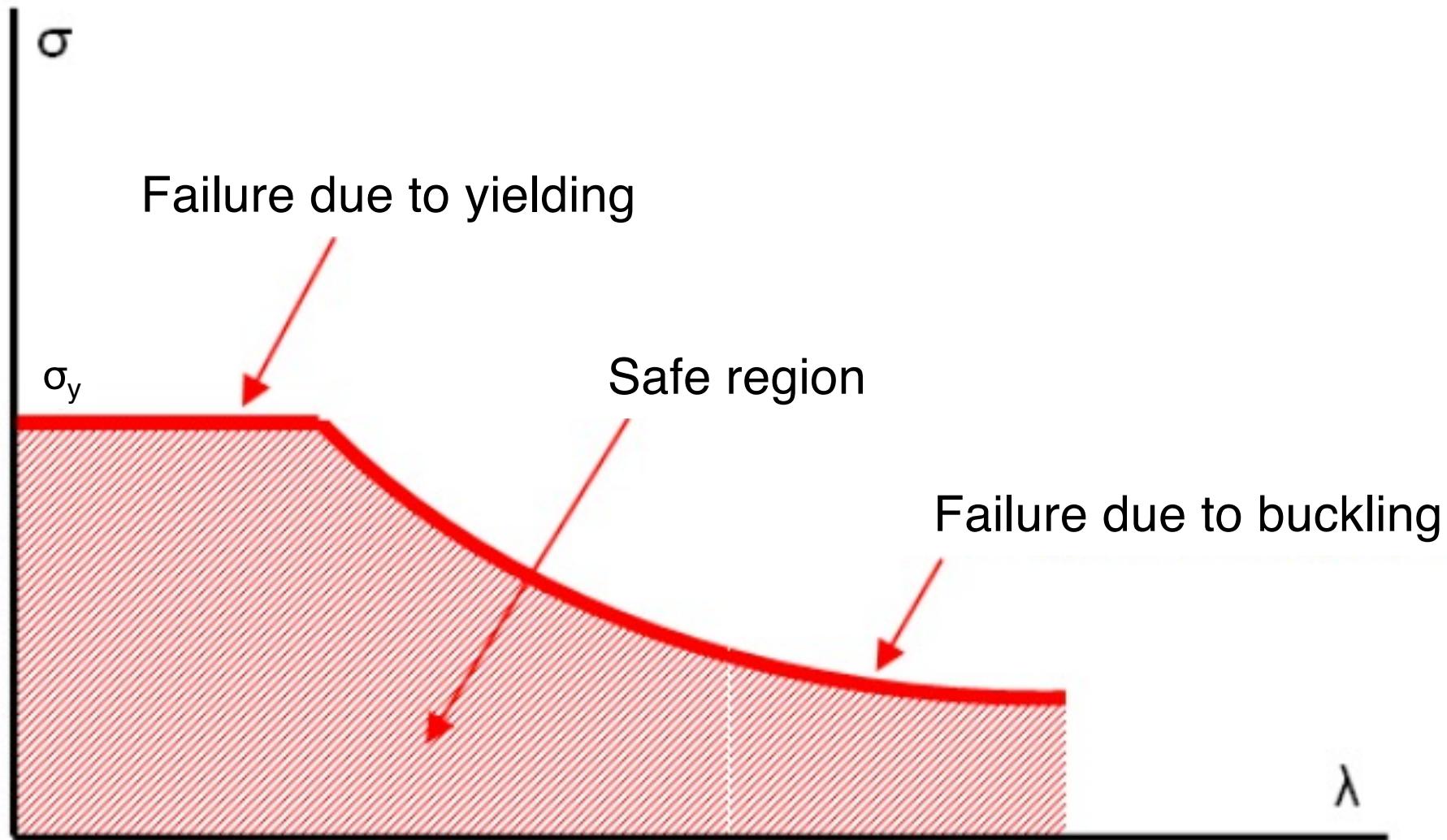
# EPFL Buckling Resistance of Steel Columns

$$N_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L^2} \Rightarrow \sigma_{cr} = \frac{N_{cr}}{A} = \pi^2 \frac{E \cdot I/A}{L^2} = \pi^2 \frac{E \cdot i^2}{L^2} = \pi^2 \frac{E}{(L/i)^2}$$

Member slenderness:  $\lambda = L/i$



# EPFL Interaction Curve for Elastic & Inelastic Buckling



# EPFL Buckling Experiments on Steel Columns

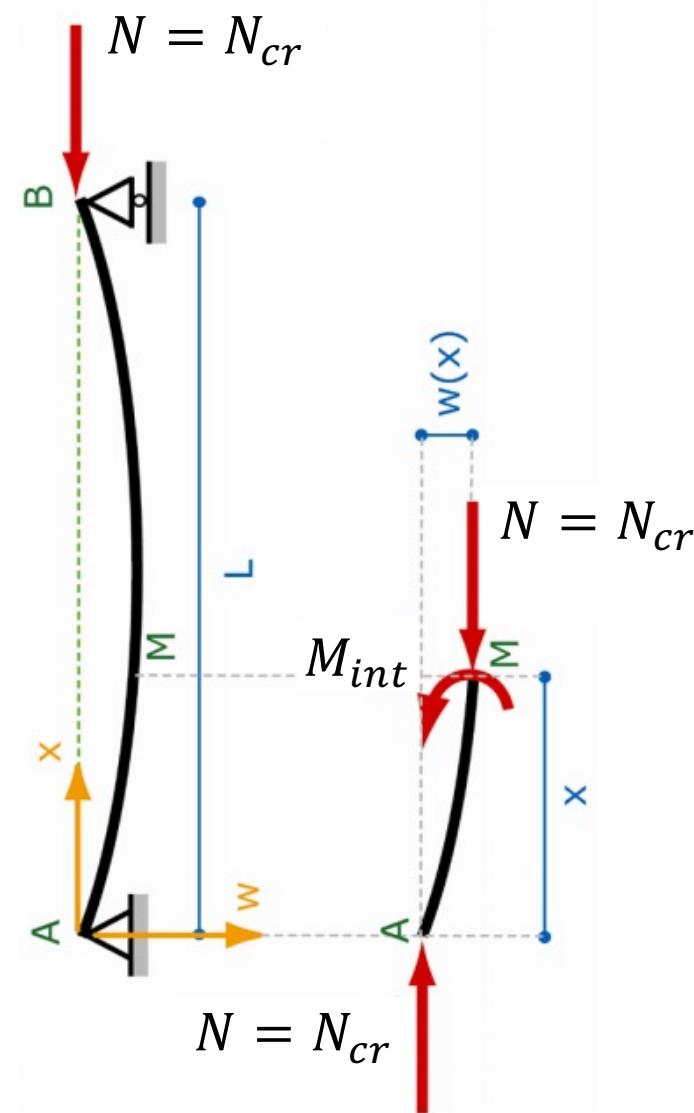
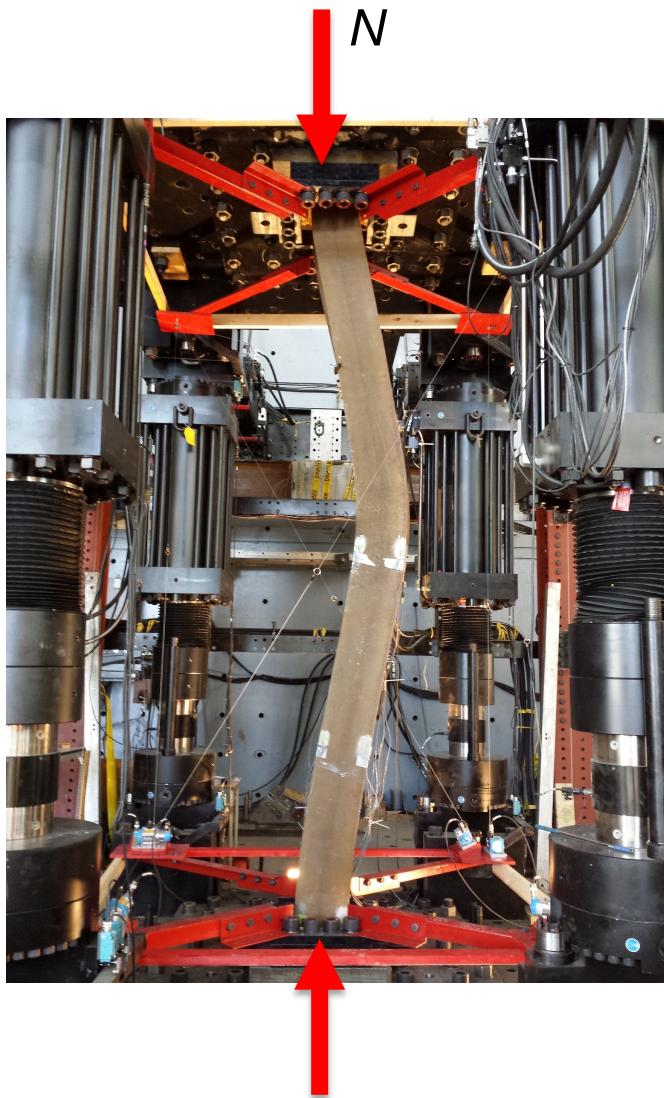
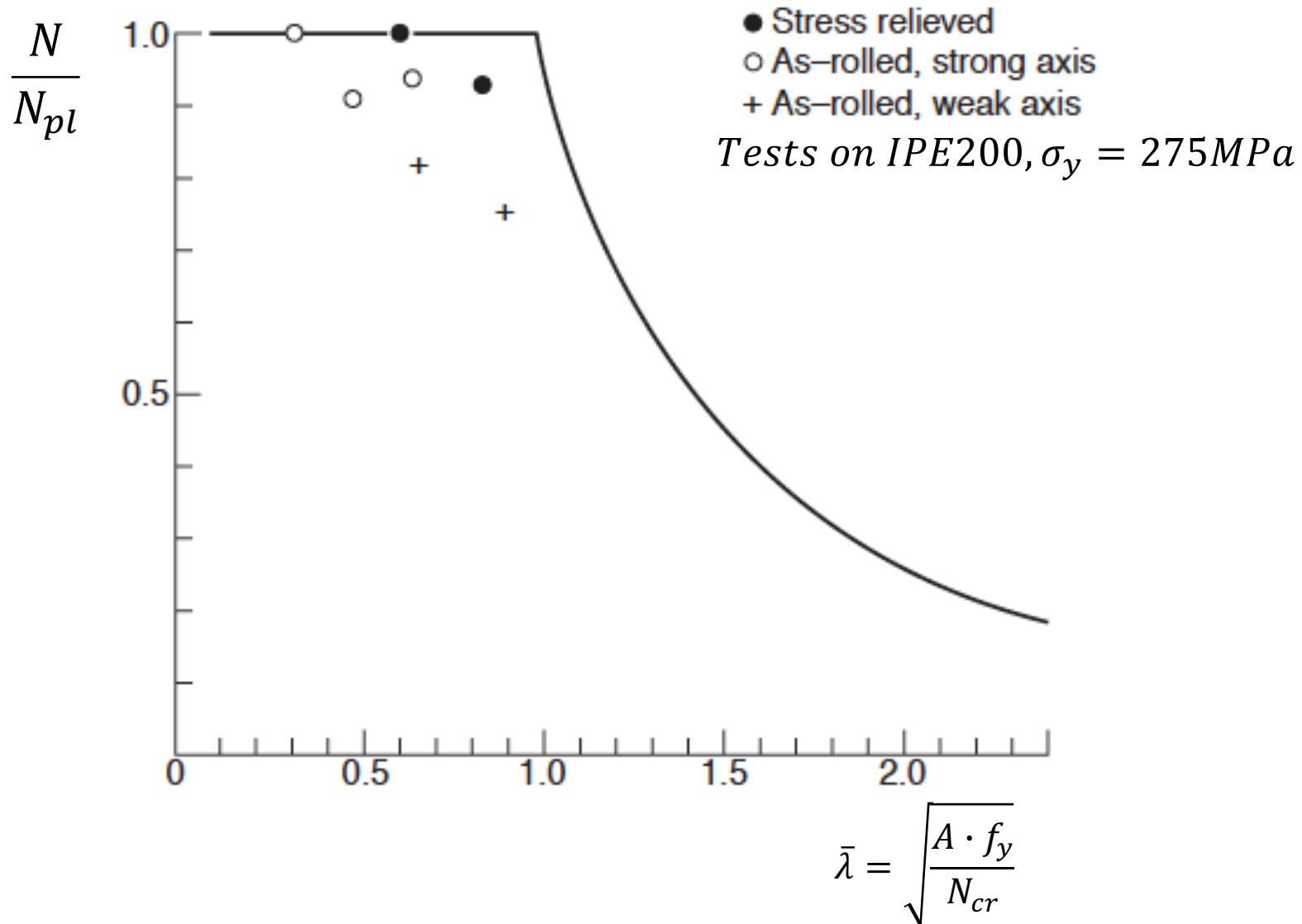


Image courtesy of Prof. Tremblay

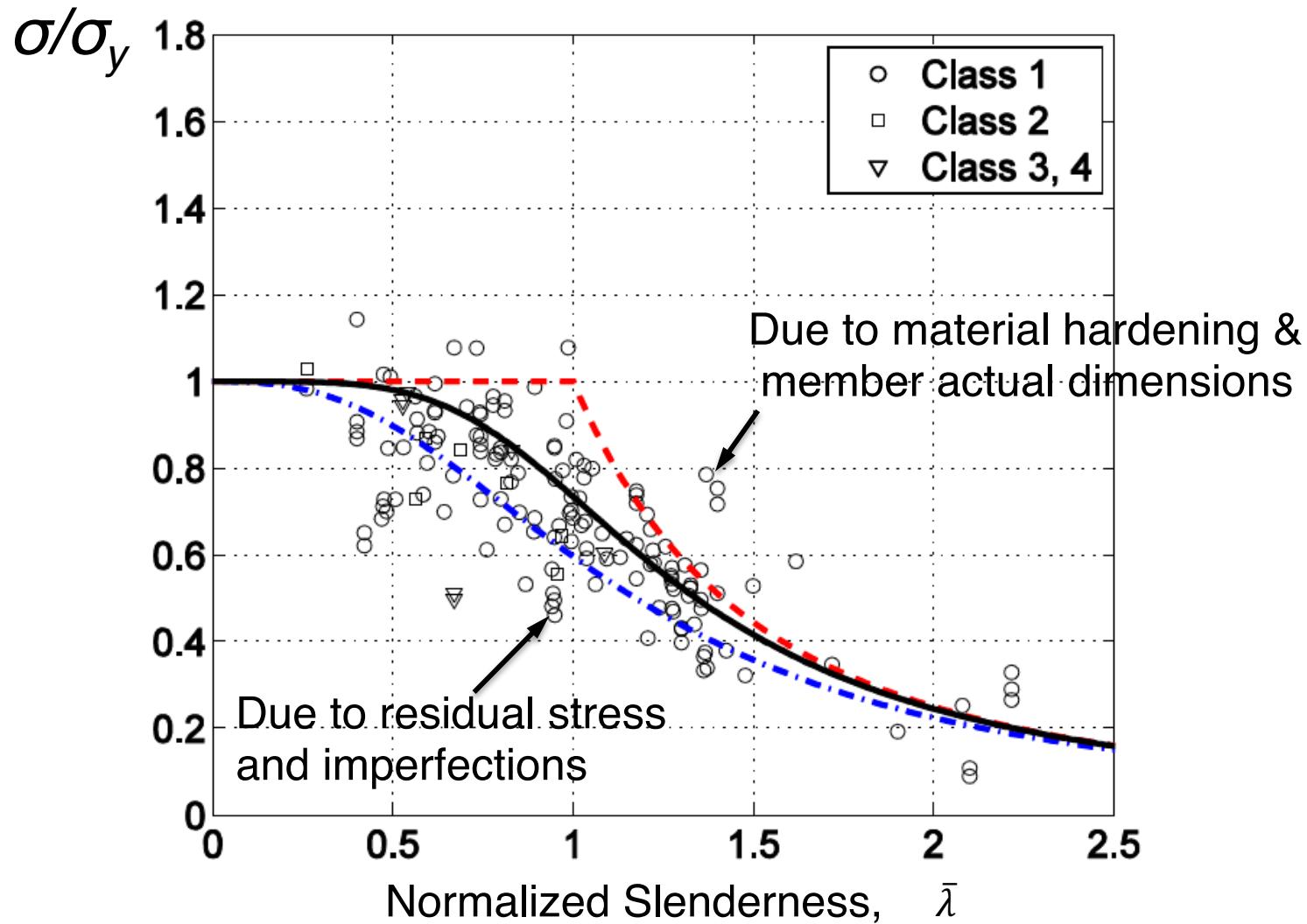
# EPFL Buckling Experiments on Steel Columns

## -Comparison with Theoretical Solution



# EPFL Buckling Experiments on Steel Columns

## -Comparison with Theoretical Solution



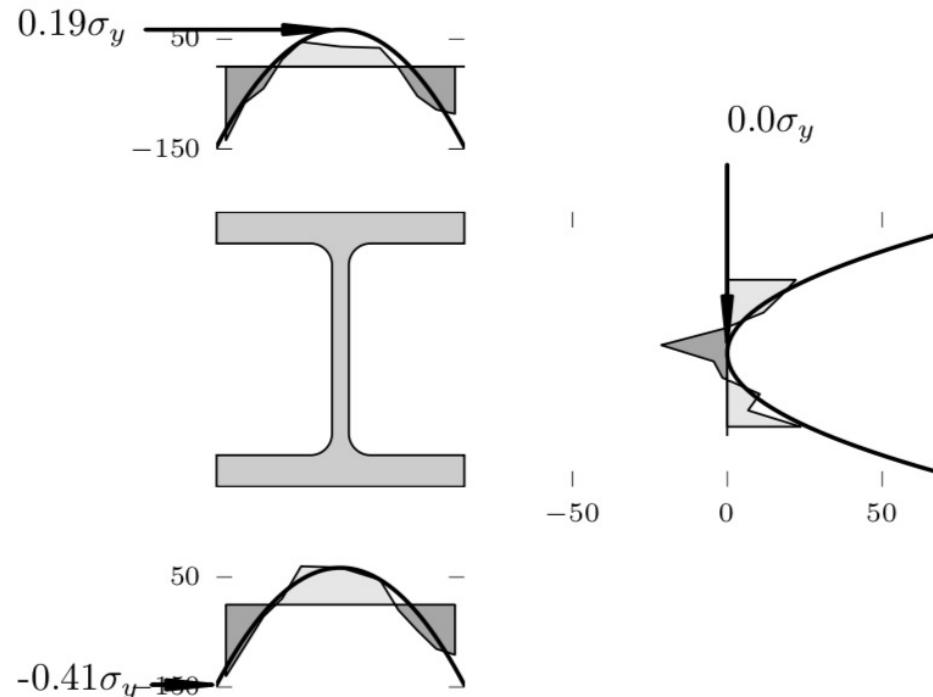
Source: Karamanci and Lignos (2011)

# EPFL Effect of Residual Stresses on Buckling Resistance

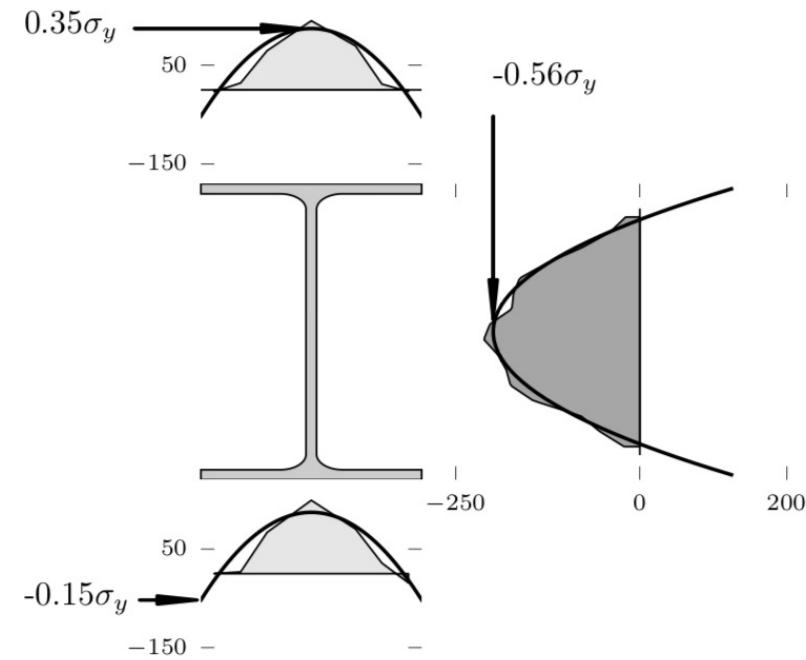
- ☆ Residual stresses could be held accountable for the lower resistance of steel members with intermediate length
- ☆ Confirmed by research at Lehigh University on residual stress measurements (Beedle and Tall 1960)
- ☆ Residual stresses are caused by:
  - ☆ Manufacturing process of steel profiles
  - ☆ Welding (common in built-up sections)
- ☆ For stress-relieved columns, deviations are only due to initial out-of-straightness of the members (see slide 52)

# EPFL Residual Stresses due to Manufacturing

Residual Stress Distribution HEM300

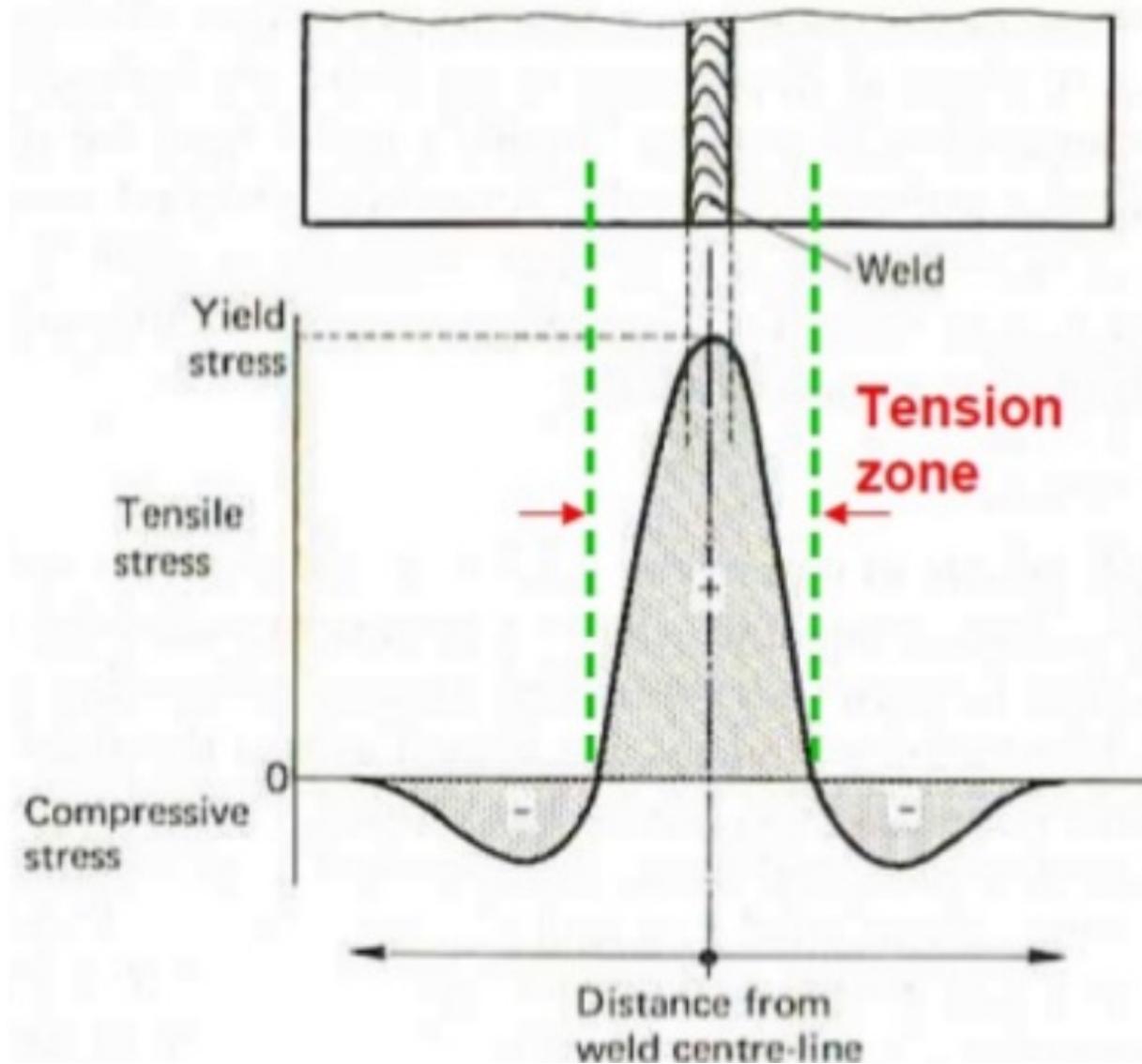


Residual Stress Distribution IPE400



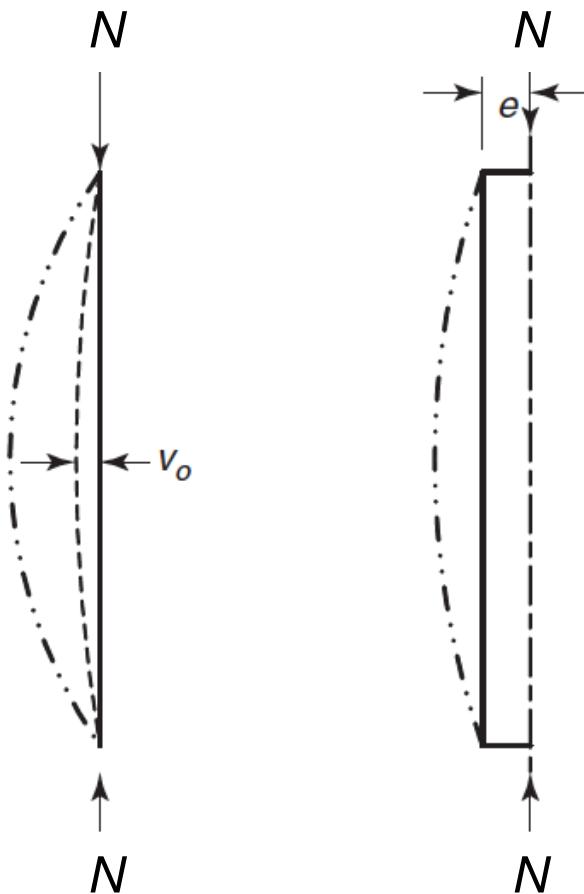
Source: Sousa and Lignos 2017

# EPFL Residual Stresses due to Welding



# EPFL The Effect of Imperfections

In a real column, imperfections affect the behaviour near  $N_{cr}$ . Imperfections may be due to out-of-straightness of the column axis or small load eccentricity.



**EPFL** The Effect of Imperfections  
-Out-of-Straightness

Assumed initial shape due to out-of-straightness:

$$v_i = v_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$$

Internal and external moments at location  $x$ ,

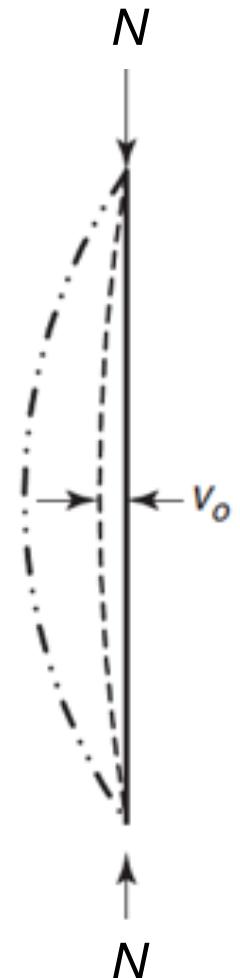
$$M_{int} = -EIv'' \quad M_{ext} = N(v_i + v)$$

$$EIv'' + Nv = -Nv_i \quad \left(\text{assume } k^2 = \frac{N}{EI}\right)$$

$$v'' + k^2v = -k^2v_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (2)$$

Homogeneous solution  $v_H = A \sin kx + B \cos kx$

Particular solution  $v_P = C \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + D \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$



# EPFL The Effect of Imperfections -Out-of-Straightness

Substituting to Eq. (2):

$$-C \frac{\pi^2}{L^2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) - D \frac{\pi^2}{L^2} \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + Ck^2 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + Dk^2 \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) = -k^2 v_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$$
$$C \left[ k^2 - \frac{\pi^2}{L^2} \right] = -v_0, D = 0$$

Total deflection due to axial load  $N$ ,

$$v = v_H + v_P = A \sin kx + B \cos kx + \frac{N/N_E}{1 - N/N_E} v_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$$

Initial Conditions:  $v(0) = v(L) = 0 \Rightarrow A = B = 0$

Therefore,

$$v = \frac{N/N_E}{1 - N/N_E} v_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$$

# EPFL The Effect of Imperfections

## -Out-of-Straightness

$$v_{total} = v_i + v = \frac{v_0 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)}{1 - N/N_E} \leq \frac{v_0}{1 - N/N_E}$$

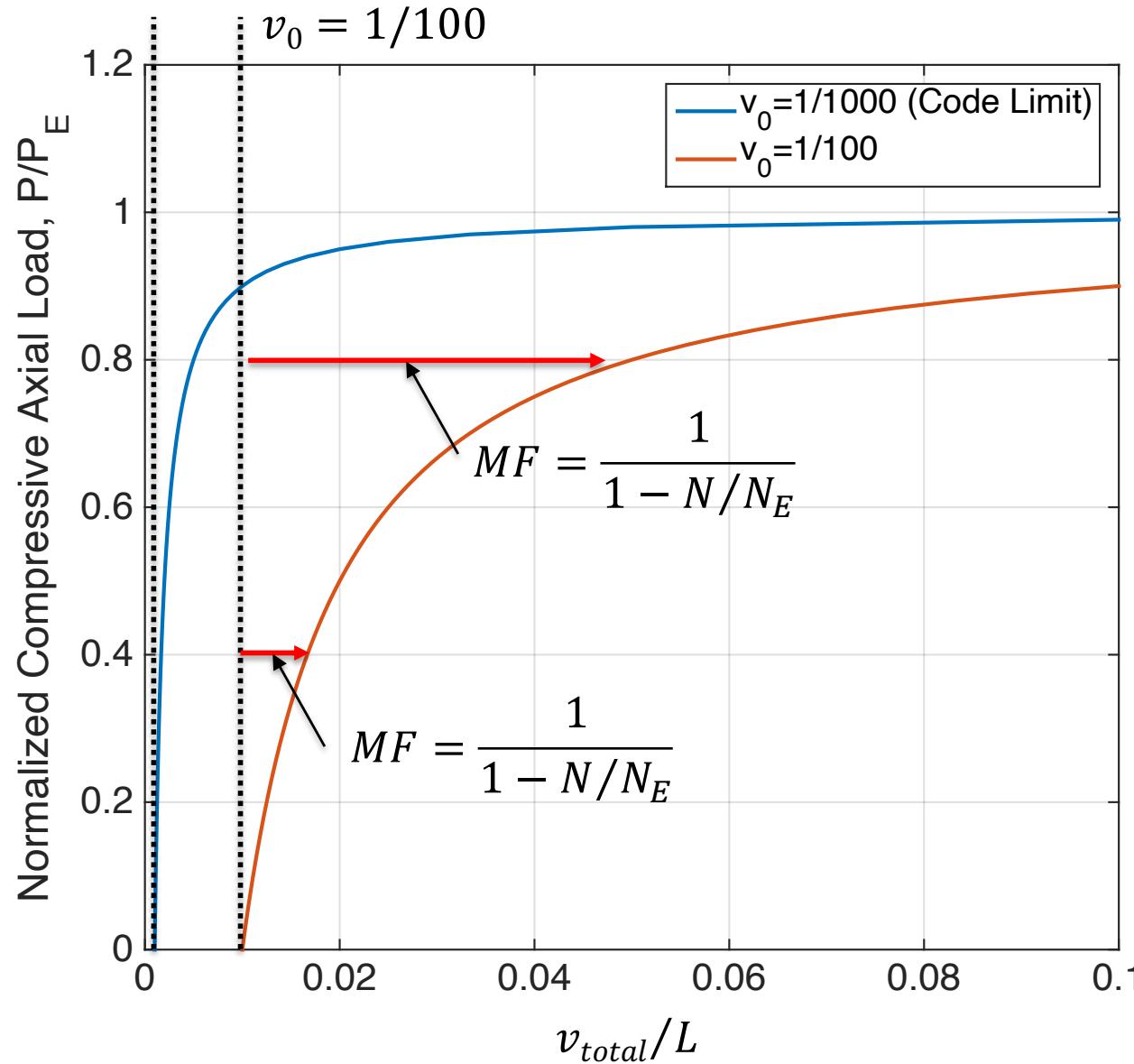
At the center :  $\frac{v_{total}}{L} = \frac{v_0/L}{1 - N/N_E} = v_0/L \frac{1}{1 - N/N_E}$

Magnification Factor (MF)

The initial out-of-straightness  $v_0$  is the fabrication tolerance for straightness in the rolling mill, and in steel design practice it is usually 1/1000 of the respective column length. **It is not detectable by eye. If it is then you have a big problem!**

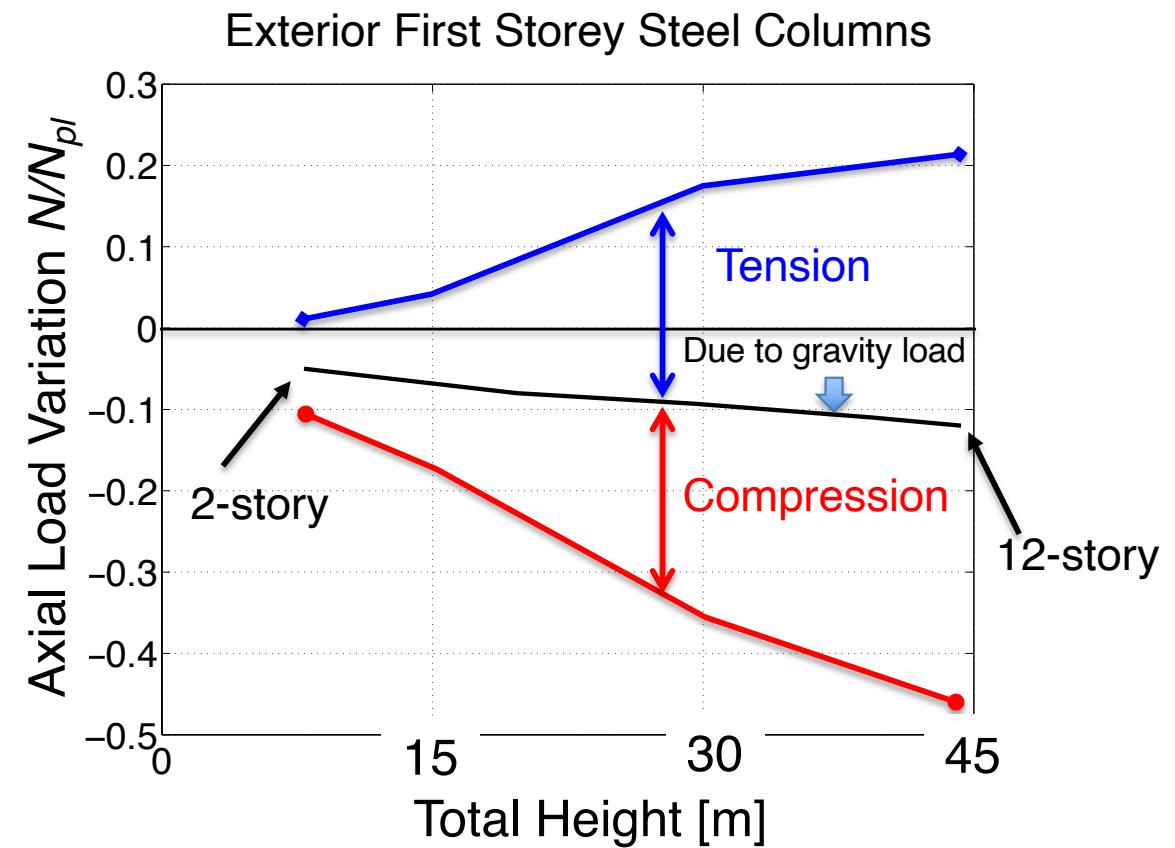
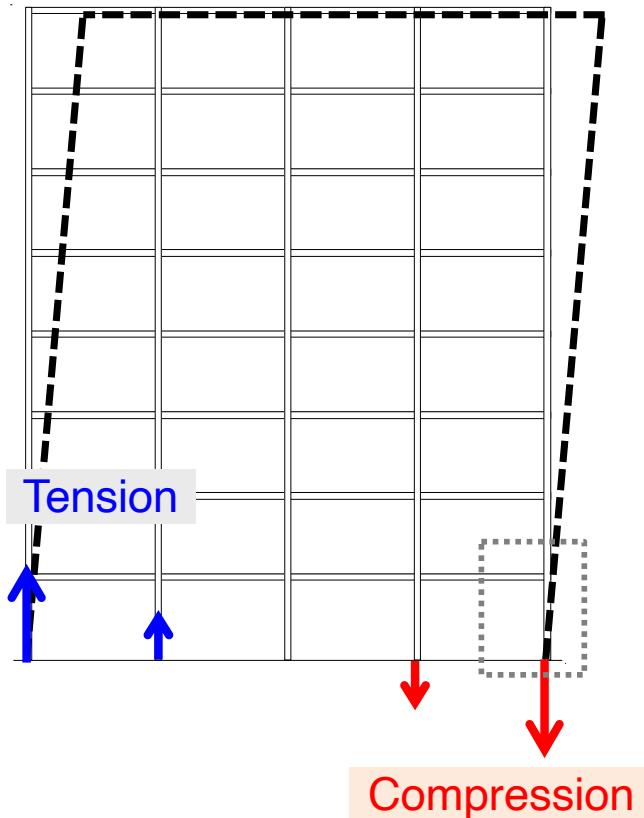
# EPFL The Effect of Imperfections

## -Out-of-Straightness



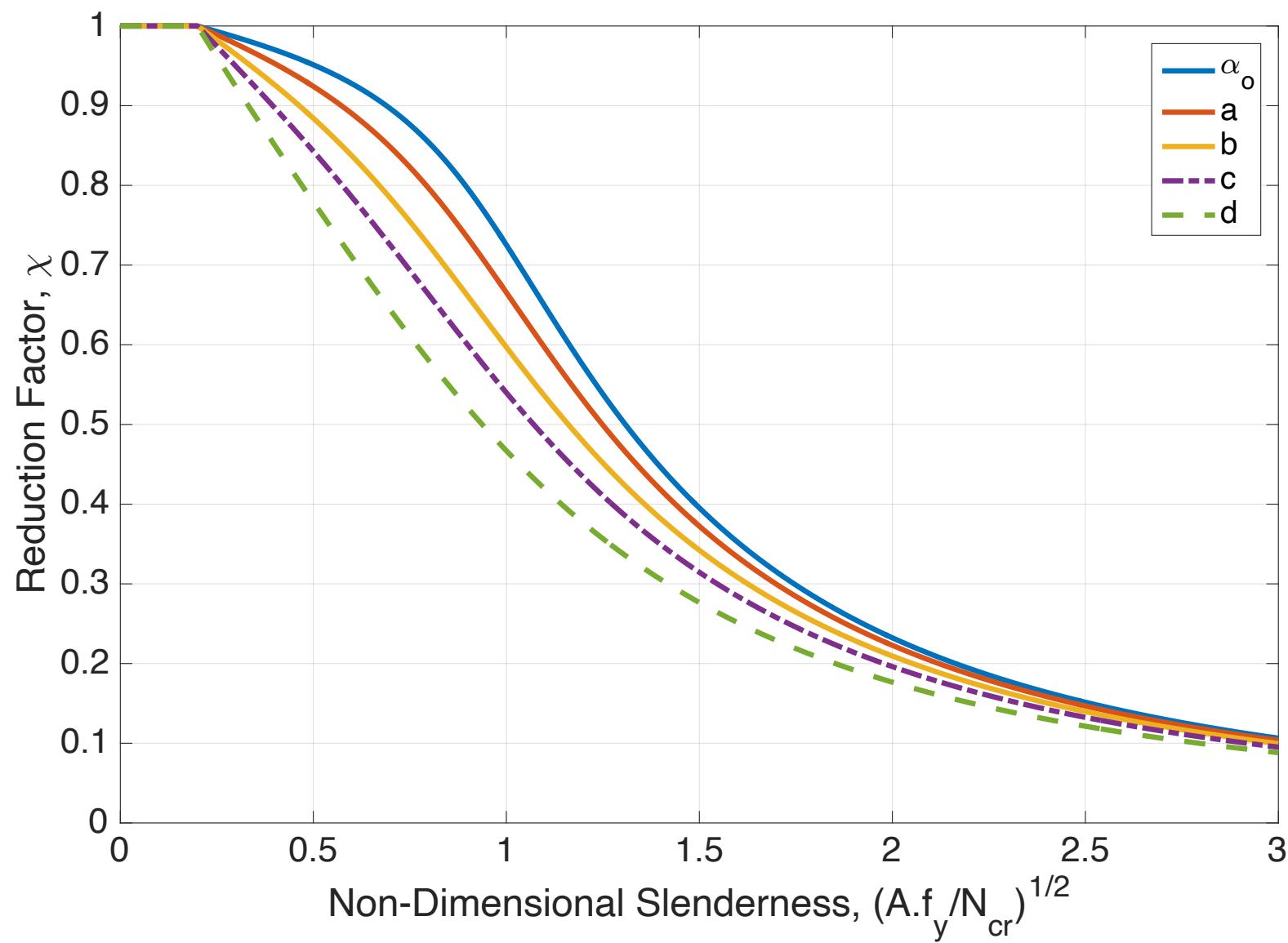
# EPFL The Effect of Imperfections

## -One Important Example (Frame under Seismic Load)



Source: Suzuki and Lignos (2014)

# EPFL Buckling Curves in SIA 263 or EC3-1-1



# EPFL Steel Column Design

-Buckling Resistance (EC3-Part 1-1 Section 6.3)

General Condition:

$$\frac{N_{Ed}}{N_{b,Rd}} \leq 1$$

Class 1 & 2 members: Buckling resistance in compression:

$$N_{b,Rd} = \frac{\chi \cdot A \cdot f_y}{\gamma_{M1}} \quad \text{Assume } \gamma_{M1} = 1.0$$

Buckling factor:

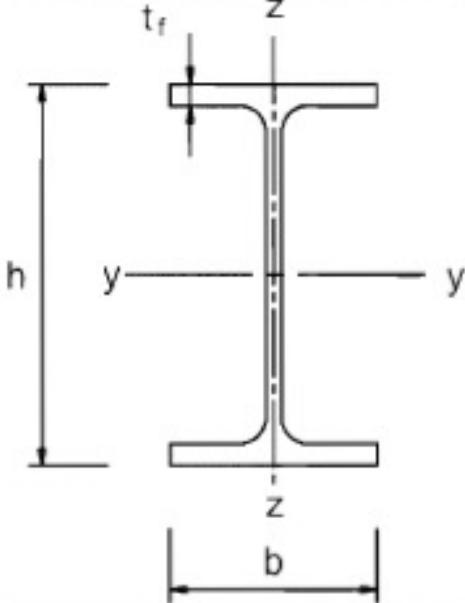
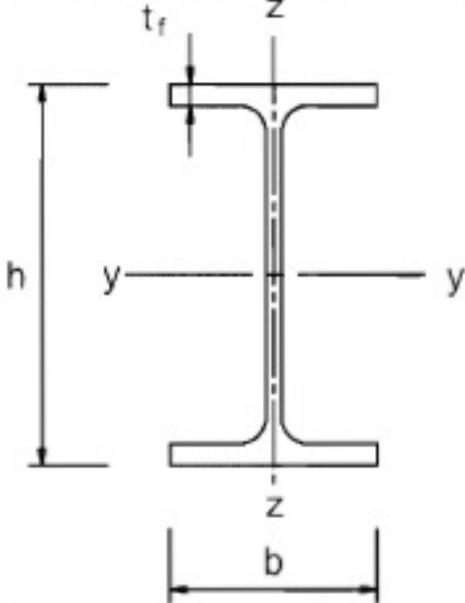
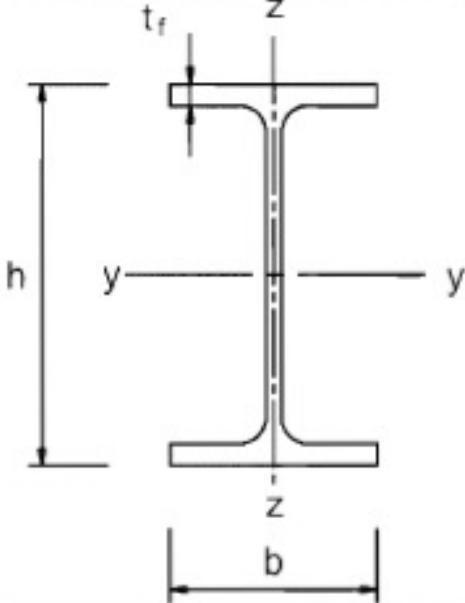
$$\chi = \frac{1}{\Phi + \sqrt{\Phi^2 - \bar{\lambda}^2}} \leq 1.0$$

$$\Phi = 0.5 \cdot [1 + a \cdot (\bar{\lambda} - 0.2) + \bar{\lambda}^2] \quad \bar{\lambda} = \sqrt{\frac{A \cdot f_y}{N_{cr}}}$$

*a* → Imperfection factor  
(depends on shape, steel material, thickness)

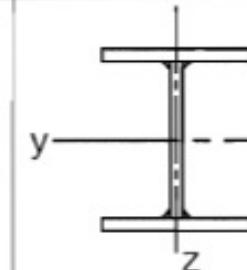
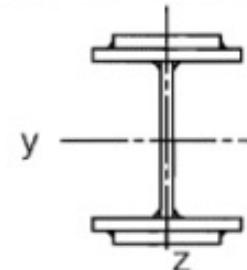
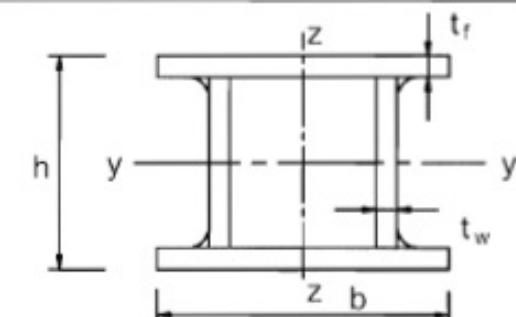
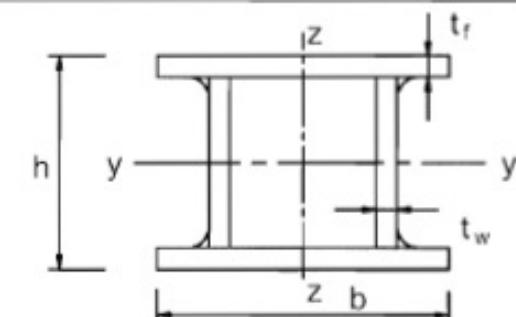
# EPFL Steel Column Design

## -Buckling Resistance (EC3-Part 1-1 Section 6.3)

Cross section	Limits	Buckling about axis	Buckling curve	
			S 235	S 275
	$h/b > 1,2$	$t_f \leq 40 \text{ mm}$	$y - y$	$a$
		$40 \text{ mm} < t_f \leq 100 \text{ mm}$	$y - y$	$b$
		$t_f \leq 100 \text{ mm}$	$z - z$	$c$
		$t_f > 100 \text{ mm}$	$z - z$	$a$
	$h/b \leq 1,2$	$y - y$	$a$	$a_0$
		$z - z$	$b$	$a_0$
		$y - y$	$b$	$a$
		$z - z$	$c$	$a$
	$t_f > 100 \text{ mm}$	$y - y$	$d$	$c$
		$z - z$	$d$	$c$
		$y - y$	$d$	$c$
		$z - z$	$d$	$c$

# EPFL Steel Column Design

## -Buckling Resistance (EC3-Part 1-1 Section 6.3)

Cross section		Limits	Buckling about axis	Buckling curve	
Welded I-sections	Hollow sections			S 235	S 460
 		$t_f \leq 40 \text{ mm}$	$y - y$ $z - z$	b c	b c
		$t_f > 40 \text{ mm}$	$y - y$ $z - z$	c d	c d
		hot finished	any	a	$a_0$
		cold formed	any	c	c
		generally (except as below)	any	b	b
		thick welds: $a > 0,5t_f$ $b/t_f < 30$ $h/t_w < 30$	any	c	c

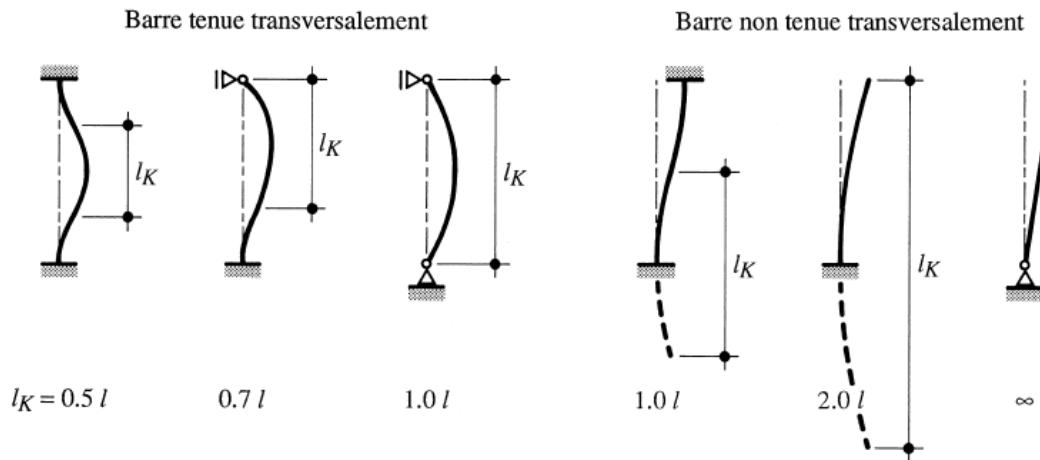
## Normalized Member Slenderness

$$\bar{\lambda} = \sqrt{\frac{A \cdot f_y}{N_{cr}}}$$

## Critical Load

$$N_{cr} = \pi^2 \cdot \frac{E \cdot I}{(l_k)^2}$$

$l_k$ : Distance between two points that moment becomes zero within the column



Code Authority	Resistance Factor $\phi$	Column formula $\frac{P_{cr}}{P_y}$	Comments										
AISC, AISI, AASHTO USA	0.9	$0.658^{\lambda^2}$	$\lambda \leq 1.5$										
		$\frac{0.877}{\lambda^2}$	$\lambda > 1.5$										
CSA, CANADA, SOUTH AFRICA	0.9	$\frac{1}{[1 + \lambda^{2n}]^{\frac{1}{n}}}$	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>SSRC Curve</th> <th><math>n</math></th> </tr> <tr> <td>I</td> <td>2.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>II</td> <td>1.34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>II</td> <td>1.00</td> </tr> </table>	SSRC Curve	$n$	I	2.24	II	1.34	II	1.00		
SSRC Curve	$n$												
I	2.24												
II	1.34												
II	1.00												
EC, EUROPE	0.909	$\frac{1}{Q + \sqrt{Q^2 - \lambda^2}} \leq 1.0$	$Q = 0.5[1 + \alpha(\lambda - 0.2) + \lambda^2]$ <table border="1"> <tr> <th>European Column Curve</th> <th><math>\alpha</math></th> </tr> <tr> <td>a</td> <td>0.21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b</td> <td>0.34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>c</td> <td>0.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>d</td> <td>0.76</td> </tr> </table>	European Column Curve	$\alpha$	a	0.21	b	0.34	c	0.49	d	0.76
European Column Curve	$\alpha$												
a	0.21												
b	0.34												
c	0.49												
d	0.76												
AS, AUSTRALIA	0.9	$\xi \left[ 1 - \sqrt{1 - \left( \frac{90}{\xi \bar{\lambda}} \right)^2} \right]$	$\bar{\lambda} = \pi \lambda \sqrt{800}$ $\eta = 0.00326(\bar{\lambda} - 13.5) \geq 0$ $\xi = \frac{(\bar{\lambda}/90)^2 + 1 + \eta}{2(\bar{\lambda}/90)^2}$										
AIJ, JAPAN	0.9	1.0	$\lambda \leq 0.15$										
		$0.9 - 0.05 \left[ \frac{\lambda - 0.15}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{0.6}} - 0.15} \right]$	$0.15 < \lambda \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{0.6}}$										
		$1.0 - 0.5 \left[ \frac{\lambda - 0.15}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{0.6}} - 0.15} \right]$											
	0.85	$\frac{1.0}{1.2\lambda^2}$	$\lambda \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{0.6}}$										

# Exercise Figures

