

Important Load Factor Design (LFD) Formulas PDF



Formulas Examples with Units

List of 28 Important Load Factor Design (LFD) Formulas

1) Load and Resistance Factor for Bridge Columns Formulas

1.1) Buckling Stress for Q Factor Less than or Equal to 1 Formula

Formula

$$F_{cr} = \left(1 - \left(\frac{Q_{\text{factor}}}{2} \right) \right) \cdot f_y$$

Example with Units

$$248.219 \text{ MPa} = \left(1 - \left(\frac{0.014248}{2} \right) \right) \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.2) Buckling Stress given Maximum Strength Formula

Formula

$$F_{cr} = \frac{P_u}{0.85 \cdot A_g}$$

Example with Units

$$248 \text{ MPa} = \frac{1054 \text{ kN}}{0.85 \cdot 5000 \text{ mm}^2}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.3) Buckling Stress when Q Factor is Greater than 1 Formula

Formula

$$F_{cr} = \frac{f_y}{2 \cdot Q}$$

Example with Units

$$260.4167 \text{ MPa} = \frac{250 \text{ MPa}}{2 \cdot 0.48}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.4) Column Gross Effective Area given Maximum Strength Formula

Formula

$$A_g = \frac{P_u}{0.85 \cdot F_{cr}}$$

Example with Units

$$5000 \text{ mm}^2 = \frac{1054 \text{ kN}}{0.85 \cdot 248 \text{ MPa}}$$

Evaluate Formula

1.5) Maximum Strength for Compression Members Formula

Formula

$$P_u = 0.85 \cdot A_g \cdot F_{cr}$$

Example with Units

$$1054 \text{ kN} = 0.85 \cdot 5000 \text{ mm}^2 \cdot 248 \text{ MPa}$$

Evaluate Formula



1.6) Q Factor Formula

Formula

$$Q_{\text{factor}} = \left(\left(k \cdot \frac{L_c}{r} \right)^2 \right) \cdot \left(\frac{f_y}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot \pi \cdot E_s} \right)$$

Evaluate Formula 

Example with Units

$$0.0142 = \left(\left(0.5 \cdot \frac{450 \text{ mm}}{15 \text{ mm}} \right)^2 \right) \cdot \left(\frac{250 \text{ MPa}}{2 \cdot 3.1416 \cdot 3.1416 \cdot 200000 \text{ MPa}} \right)$$

1.7) Steel Yield Strength given Buckling Stress for Q Factor Greater than 1 Formula

Formula

$$f_y = F_{cr} \cdot 2 \cdot Q$$

Example with Units

$$238.08 \text{ MPa} = 248 \text{ MPa} \cdot 2 \cdot 0.48$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.8) Steel Yield Strength given Buckling Stress for Q Factor Less than or Equal to 1 Formula

Formula

$$f_y = \frac{F_{cr}}{1 - \left(\frac{Q_{\text{factor}}}{2} \right)}$$

Example with Units

$$249.7794 \text{ MPa} = \frac{248 \text{ MPa}}{1 - \left(\frac{0.014248}{2} \right)}$$

Evaluate Formula 

1.9) Steel Yield Strength given Q Factor Formula

Formula

$$f_y = \frac{2 \cdot Q_{\text{factor}} \cdot \pi \cdot \pi \cdot \left(r^2 \right) \cdot E_s}{\left(k \cdot L_c \right)^2}$$

Evaluate Formula 

Example with Units

$$249.9949 \text{ MPa} = \frac{2 \cdot 0.014248 \cdot 3.1416 \cdot 3.1416 \cdot \left(15 \text{ mm}^2 \right) \cdot 200000 \text{ MPa}}{\left(0.5 \cdot 450 \text{ mm} \right)^2}$$

2) Load-Factor Design for Bridge Beams Formulas

2.1) Allowable Bearing Stresses on Pins for Buildings for LFD Formula

Formula

$$F_p = 0.9 \cdot f_y$$

Example with Units

$$225 \text{ MPa} = 0.9 \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}$$

Evaluate Formula 



2.2) Allowable Bearing Stresses on Pins not Subject to Rotation for Bridges for LFD Formula



Formula

$$F_p = 0.80 \cdot f_y$$

Example with Units

$$200 \text{ MPa} = 0.80 \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}$$

Evaluate Formula

2.3) Allowable Bearing Stresses on Pins Subject to Rotation for Bridges for LFD Formula



Formula

$$F_p = 0.40 \cdot f_y$$

Example with Units

$$100 \text{ MPa} = 0.40 \cdot 250 \text{ MPa}$$

Evaluate Formula

2.4) Area of Flange for Braced Non-Compact Section for LFD Formula



Formula

$$A_f = \frac{L_b \cdot f_y \cdot d}{20000}$$

Example with Units

$$4375 \text{ mm}^2 = \frac{1000 \text{ mm} \cdot 250 \text{ MPa} \cdot 350 \text{ mm}}{20000}$$

Evaluate Formula

2.5) Depth of Section for Braced Non-Compact Section for LFD given Maximum Unbraced Length Formula



Formula

$$d = \frac{20000 \cdot A_f}{f_y \cdot L_b}$$

Example with Units

$$350 \text{ mm} = \frac{20000 \cdot 4375 \text{ mm}^2}{250 \text{ MPa} \cdot 1000 \text{ mm}}$$

Evaluate Formula

2.6) Maximum Bending Strength for Symmetrical Flexural Braced Non-Compacted Section for LFD of Bridges Formula



Formula

$$M_u = f_y \cdot S$$

Example with Units

$$19.875 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{mm} = 250 \text{ MPa} \cdot 79.5 \text{ mm}^3$$

Evaluate Formula

2.7) Maximum Bending Strength for Symmetrical Flexural Compact Section for LFD of Bridges Formula



Formula

$$M_u = f_y \cdot Z$$

Example with Units

$$20 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{mm} = 250 \text{ MPa} \cdot 80 \text{ mm}^3$$

Evaluate Formula

2.8) Maximum Unbraced Length for Symmetrical Flexural Braced Non-Compact Section for LFD of Bridges Formula



Formula

$$L_b = \frac{20000 \cdot A_f}{f_y \cdot d}$$

Example with Units

$$1000 \text{ mm} = \frac{20000 \cdot 4375 \text{ mm}^2}{250 \text{ MPa} \cdot 350 \text{ mm}}$$

Evaluate Formula



2.9) Maximum Unbraced Length for Symmetrical Flexural Compact Section for LFD of Bridges

Formula 

Formula

Example with Units

Evaluate Formula 

$$L = \frac{\left(3600 - 2200 \cdot \left(\frac{M_1}{M_u} \right) \right) \cdot r}{f_y}$$

$$183 \text{ mm} = \frac{\left(3600 - 2200 \cdot \left(\frac{5 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{mm}}{20 \text{ kN} \cdot \text{mm}} \right) \right) \cdot 15 \text{ mm}}{250 \text{ MPa}}$$

2.10) Minimum Flange Thickness for Symmetrical Flexural Braced Non-Compact Section for LFD of Bridges Formula

Formula

Example with Units

Evaluate Formula 

$$t_f = \frac{b' \cdot \sqrt{f_y}}{69.6}$$

$$283.9689 \text{ mm} = \frac{1.25 \text{ mm} \cdot \sqrt{250 \text{ MPa}}}{69.6}$$

2.11) Minimum Flange Thickness for Symmetrical Flexural Compact Section for LFD of Bridges Formula

Formula

Example with Units

Evaluate Formula 

$$t_f = \frac{b' \cdot \sqrt{f_y}}{65}$$

$$304.0652 \text{ mm} = \frac{1.25 \text{ mm} \cdot \sqrt{250 \text{ MPa}}}{65}$$

2.12) Minimum Web Thickness for Symmetrical Flexural Braced Non-Compact Section for LFD of Bridges Formula

Formula

Example with Units

Evaluate Formula 

$$t_u = \frac{h}{150}$$

$$9 \text{ mm} = \frac{1350 \text{ mm}}{150}$$

2.13) Minimum Web Thickness for Symmetrical Flexural Compact Section for LFD of Bridges Formula

Formula

Example with Units

Evaluate Formula 

$$t_u = d \cdot \frac{\sqrt{f_y}}{608}$$

$$9.102 \text{ mm} = 350 \text{ mm} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{250 \text{ MPa}}}{608}$$

2.14) Width of Projection of Flange for Compact Section for LFD given Minimum Flange Thickness Formula

Formula

Example with Units

Evaluate Formula 

$$b' = \frac{65 \cdot t_f}{\sqrt{f_y}}$$

$$1.2086 \text{ mm} = \frac{65 \cdot 294 \text{ mm}}{\sqrt{250 \text{ MPa}}}$$



2.15) Steel Yield Strength Formulas

2.15.1) Steel Yield Strength for Braced Non-Compact Section for LFD given Maximum Unbraced Length Formula

Formula

$$f_y = \frac{20000 \cdot A_f}{L_b \cdot d}$$

Example with Units

$$250 \text{ MPa} = \frac{20000 \cdot 4375 \text{ mm}^2}{1000 \text{ mm} \cdot 350 \text{ mm}}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.15.2) Steel Yield Strength for Compact Section for LFD given Minimum Flange Thickness Formula

Formula

$$f_y = \left(65 \cdot \frac{t_f}{b} \right)^2$$

Example with Units

$$233.7229 \text{ MPa} = \left(65 \cdot \frac{294 \text{ mm}}{1.25 \text{ mm}} \right)^2$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.15.3) Steel Yield Strength on Pins for Buildings for LFD given Allowable Bearing Stress Formula

Formula

$$f_y = \frac{F_p}{0.90}$$

Example with Units

$$194.4444 \text{ MPa} = \frac{175 \text{ MPa}}{0.90}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.15.4) Steel Yield Strength on Pins not Subject to Rotation for Bridges for LFD given Pin Stress Formula

Formula

$$f_y = \frac{F_p}{0.80}$$

Example with Units

$$218.75 \text{ MPa} = \frac{175 \text{ MPa}}{0.80}$$

Evaluate Formula 

2.15.5) Steel Yield Strength on Pins subject to Rotation for Bridges for LFD given Pin Stress Formula

Formula

$$f_y = \frac{F_p}{0.40}$$

Example with Units

$$437.5 \text{ MPa} = \frac{175 \text{ MPa}}{0.40}$$

Evaluate Formula 



Variables used in list of Load Factor Design (LFD) Formulas above

- **A_f** Flange Area (Square Millimeter)
- **A_g** Gross Effective Area of Column (Square Millimeter)
- **b'** Width of Projection of Flange (Millimeter)
- **d** Depth of Section (Millimeter)
- **E_s** Modulus of Elasticity (Megapascal)
- **F_{cr}** Buckling Stress (Megapascal)
- **F_p** Allowable Bearing Stresses on Pins (Megapascal)
- **f_y** Yield Strength of Steel (Megapascal)
- **h** Unsupported Distance between Flanges (Millimeter)
- **k** Effective Length Factor
- **L** Max Unbraced Length for Flexural Compact Section (Millimeter)
- **L_b** Maximum Unbraced Length (Millimeter)
- **L_c** Length of Member between Supports (Millimeter)
- **M_1** Smaller Moment (Kilonewton Millimeter)
- **M_u** Maximum Bending Strength (Kilonewton Millimeter)
- **P_u** Strength of Column (Kilonewton)
- **Q** Q Factors
- **Q_{factor}** Factor Q
- **r** Radius of Gyration (Millimeter)
- **S** Section Modulus (Cubic Millimeter)
- **t_f** Flange Minimum Thickness (Millimeter)
- **t_u** Web Minimum Thickness (Millimeter)
- **Z** Plastic Section Modulus (Cubic Millimeter)

Constants, Functions, Measurements used in list of Load Factor Design (LFD) Formulas above

- **constant(s):** π , 3.14159265358979323846264338327950288
Archimedes' constant
- **Functions:** **sqrt**, sqrt(Number)
A square root function is a function that takes a non-negative number as an input and returns the square root of the given input number.
- **Measurement: Length** in Millimeter (mm)
Length Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Volume** in Cubic Millimeter (mm³)
Volume Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Area** in Square Millimeter (mm²)
Area Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Pressure** in Megapascal (MPa)
Pressure Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Force** in Kilonewton (kN)
Force Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Moment of Force** in Kilonewton Millimeter (kN*mm)
Moment of Force Unit Conversion 
- **Measurement: Stress** in Megapascal (MPa)
Stress Unit Conversion 



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