

# New *fib*-handbook

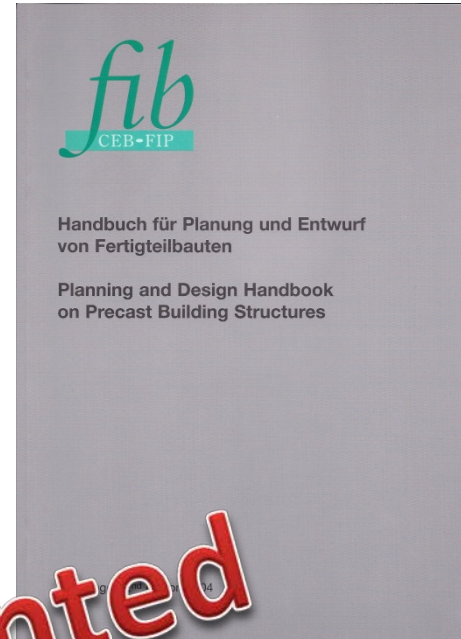
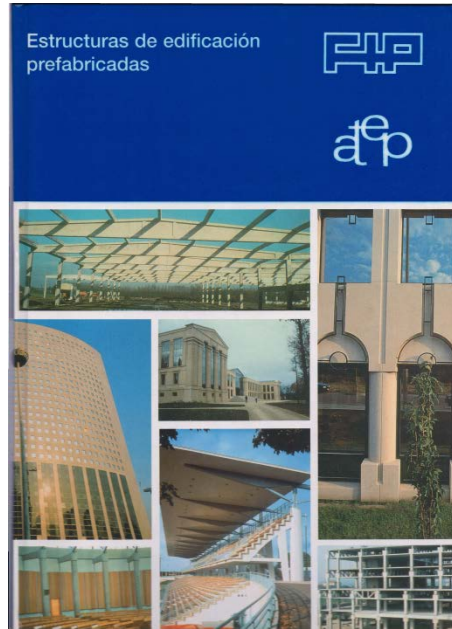
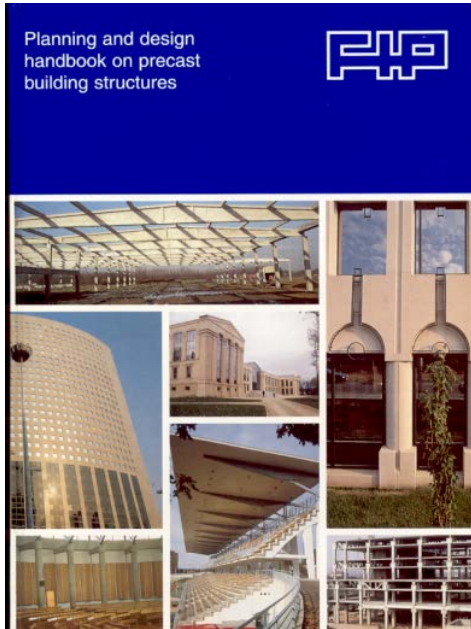
## Planning and design of precast concrete building structures

Arnold Van Acker  
Stef Maas

TG 6.12, *fib*-commission on prefabrication  
Precast Concrete Association FEBE, Belgium



# First edition in 1994



45000 books printed



# Scope

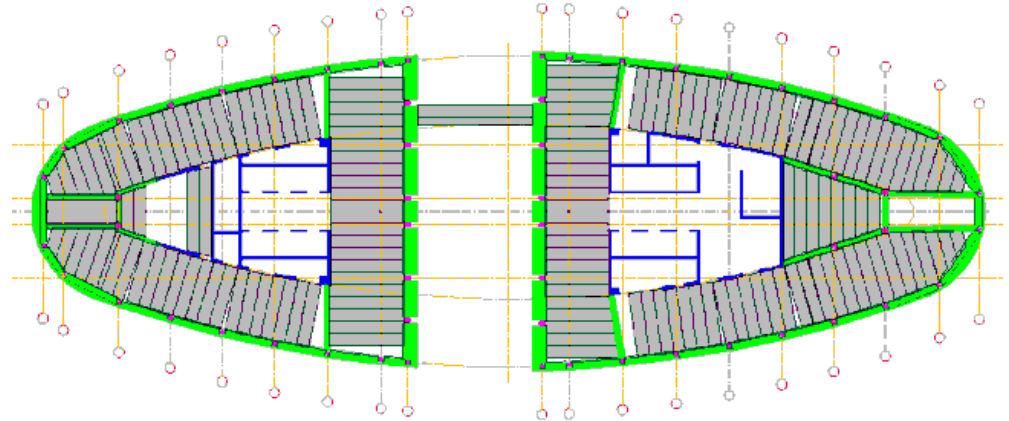
- Precast **building systems**
- Specific **design philosophy** precast construction
- No general concrete calculations but **specific aspects** related to prefabrication
- Principles and detailing of **connections**
- Specific construction **detailing**



# Content of the handbook

- Chapter 1 **Suitability** for precast construction
- Chapter 2 Preliminary **design considerations**
- Chapter 3 Precast building **concepts**
- Chapter 4 Structural **stability** precast buildings
- Chapter 5 Structural **connections**
- Chapter 6 **Portal** and **skeletal** structures
- Chapter 7 **Wall frame** structures
- Chapter 8 Precast **floors** and roofs
- Chapter 9 Architectural concrete **façades**
- Chapter 10 Constructional **detailing** and dimensional **tolerances**
- Chapter 11 **Fire** resistance





Chapter 1

# SUITABILITY PRECAST CONSTRUCTION



# Suitability precast construction

- **Advantages** and limitations
- **Differences** between precast and cast in-situ construction
- **Opportunities** with prefabrication
- **Quality** assurance and product certification
- **Best practices** with precast concrete

# Differences with cast in-situ

## Cast in-situ



- Traditional
- High labour
- Long construction delays
- Much waste
- Large finishing work
- Weather conditions

3D

## Precast



Industrialised construction system

- Modern technology
- Limited labour
- Fast construction
- Limited waste
- Finished surfaces
- No adverse weather conditions
- Easy
- Large design flexibility
- **Modern technology and organisation**

# Opportunities

Forerunner in development of construction



Architectural Concrete

Construction delay



Quality



Efficiency



Recycling

Environment

Concrete technology



Economy





# Best practices with precast concrete

- Overview typical realisations in market segments

Housing



Apartments



Tower buildings



Hotels



Office buildings





Chapter 2

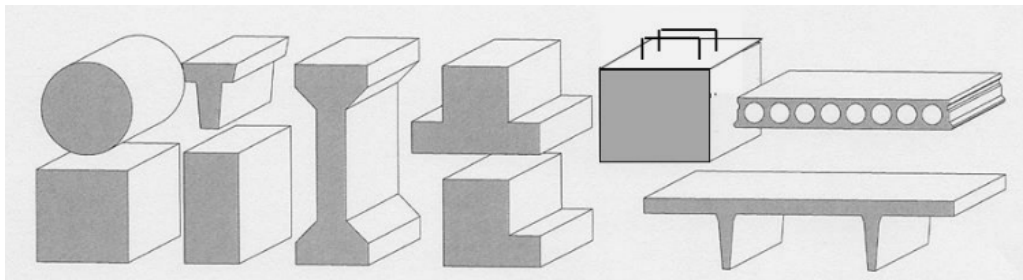
# PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

# Preliminary design considerations

- Basic design principles
- Conceptual design principles in earthquake regions
- Design stages
- Selection of structural precast system

# Basic design principles

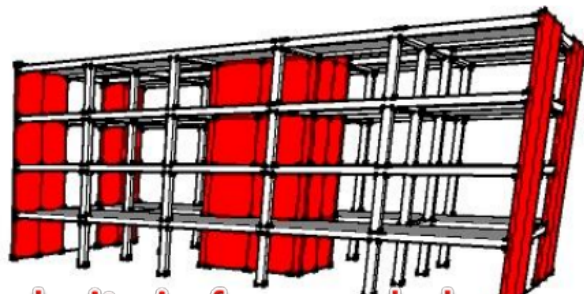
- Respect the **specific** precast design systems
- Use **standard solutions** whenever possible
- Details should be **simple**
- Take account of **dimensional tolerances**
- Take advantage of **industrialisation**
- **Modulation** is recommendable
- **Standardisation** of products and processes



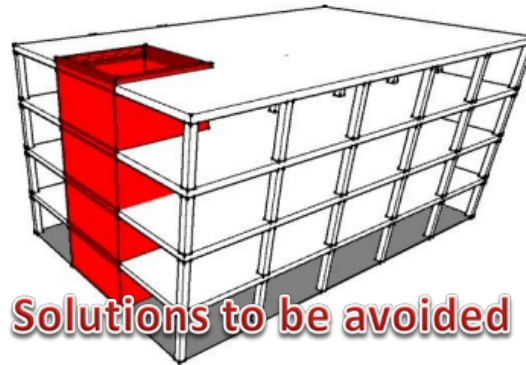


# Conceptual earthquake design principles

- Structural **simplicity**
- **Regularity** and uniformity in plan
- **Regularity** and uniformity in height
- Bi-directional resistance, torsional resistance and stiffness
- Adequate and secure connections in precast buildings
- Adequate foundation
- Effects of the contribution of infills, partitions, and claddings



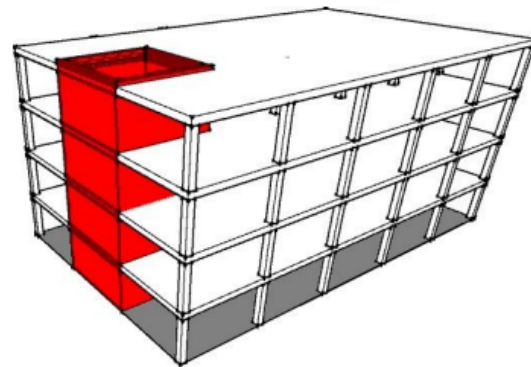
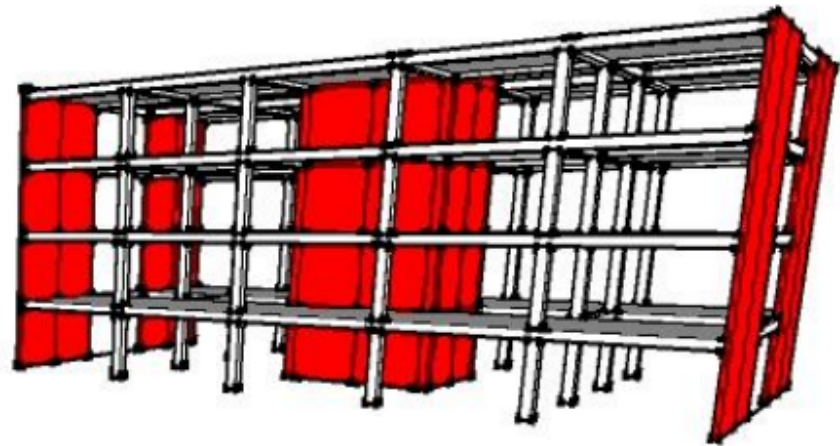
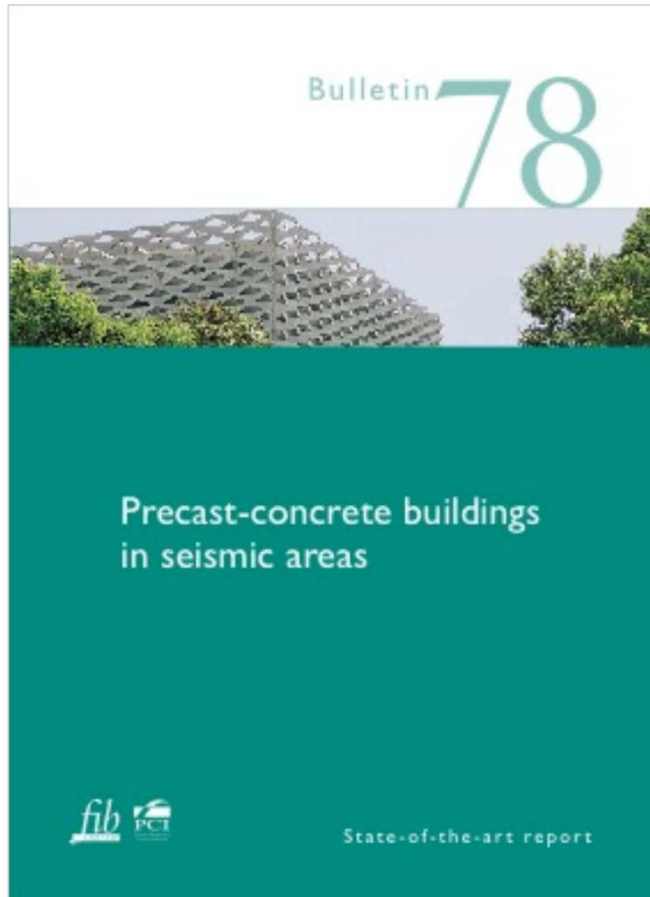
Regularity in form and plan



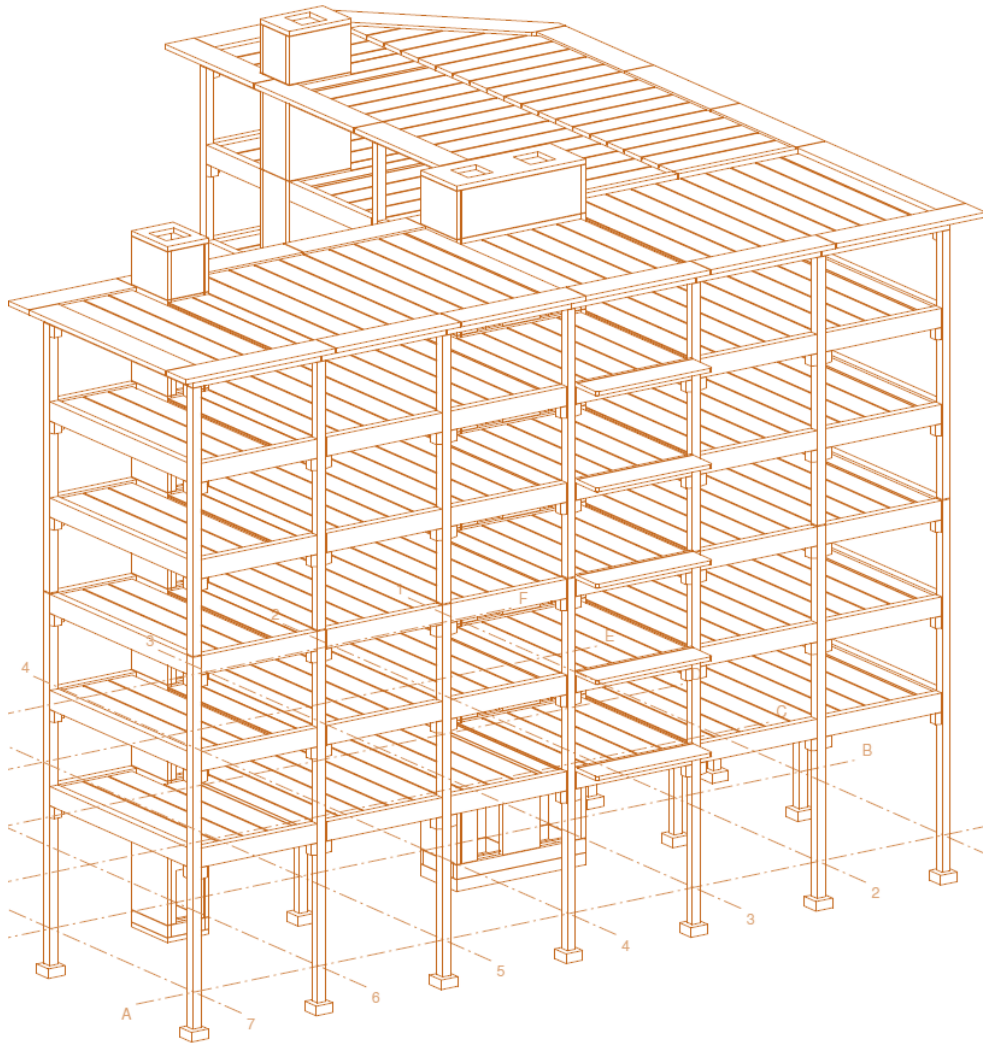
Solutions to be avoided



# Conceptual earthquake design principles



# Design stages



- **First step:** general layout of the floor plan and vertical and horizontal circulation
- **Second step:** selection of the precast structural system
- **Third step:** choice of the column grid and floor span
- **Fourth step:** choice and implantation of the stabilising components
- **Fifth step:** choice and preliminary dimensioning of the precast beam and floor units
- **Sixth step:** choice of the façade cladding



# Selection of precast system

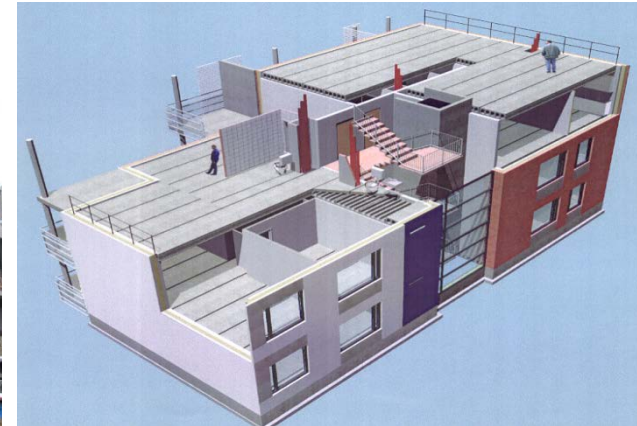
Portal structures



Skeletal structures



Bearing wall structures



Floors and roofs



Façade systems



Cell structures

Chapter 3

# PRECAST BUILDING SYSTEMS





# Precast building systems

- **Structural systems**
  - Portal and skeletal structures
  - Wall frame structures
  - Floor and roof structures
  - Precast façades
- **Applications**
  - Housing and apartments
  - Offices and administrative buildings
  - Hotels, hospitals
  - Educational buildings
  - Commercial buildings
  - Car parks
  - Sport facilities

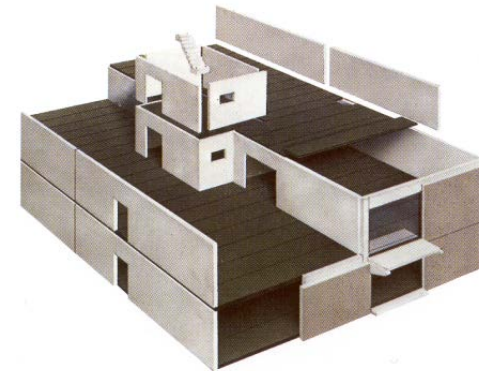


# Constructional systems

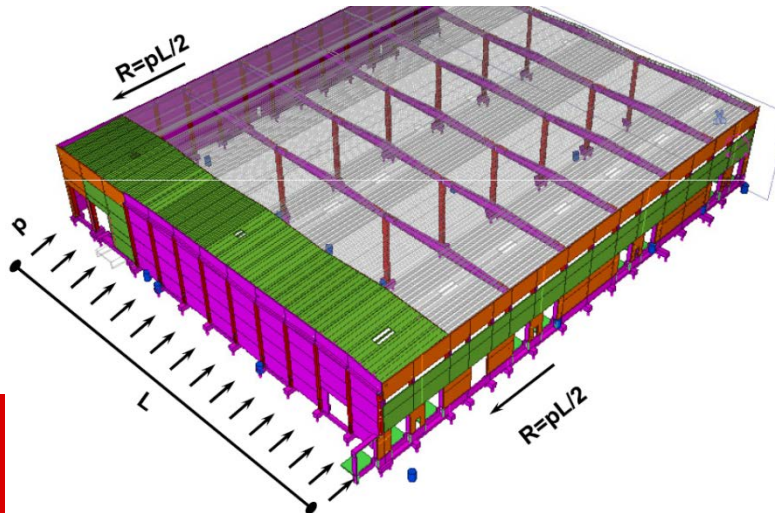
## load bearing systems



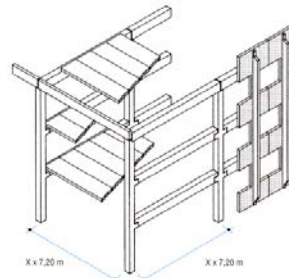
Portal structures



Wall frame structures



Skeletal structures



# Constructional systems

## Complementary systems



Floors



Stairs



Façades in precast concrete





# Examples of applications

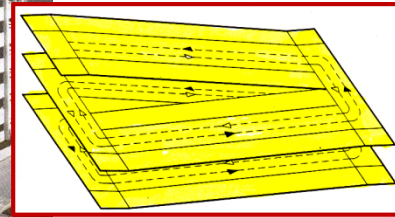
## Car parks



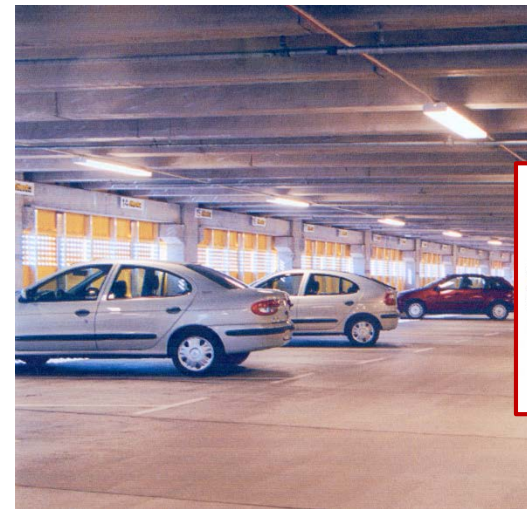
Underground park



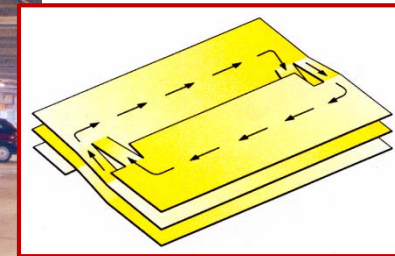
Sloping floor system

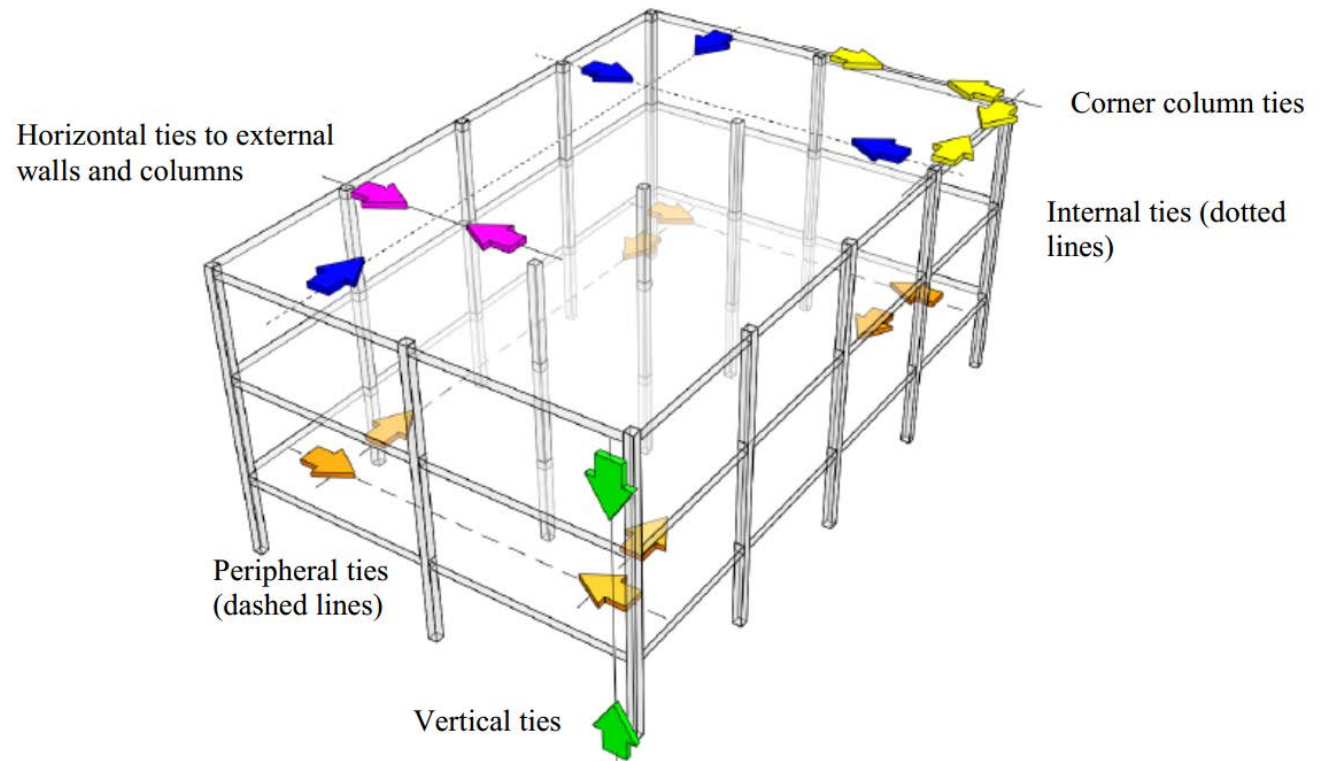


Flat parking deck



Split level system





Chapter 4

# STRUCTURAL STABILITY



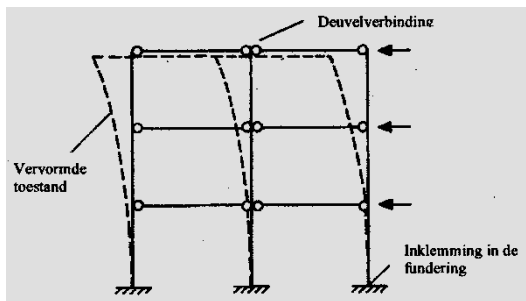
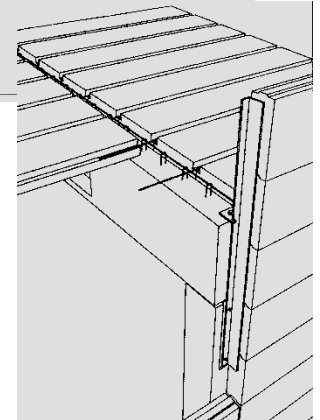
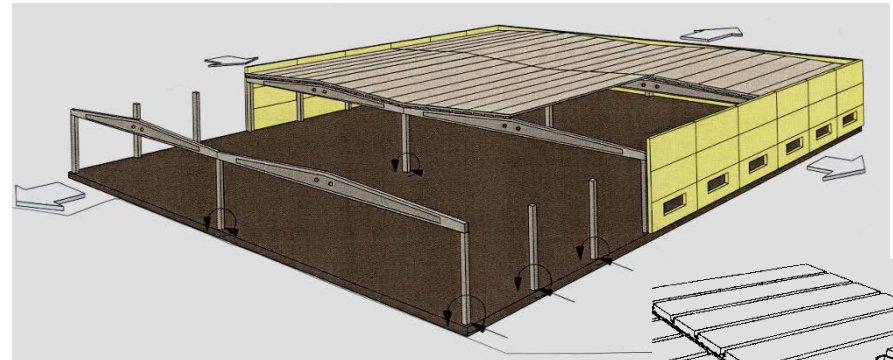
# Structural stability

- Prefabrication shall be designed according to a **specific philosophy** which is different from in-situ construction
- Stability concepts
  - Unbraced structures
  - Braced structures
- Floor **diaphragm action**
- Expansion joints
- **Structural integrity**
- Design with regard to accidental actions

# Unbraced structures

- Columns restrained into foundations
- Diaphragm action floors and roofs
- Diagonal bracing

Interaction between columns by diaphragm action of the roof



Schematic deflection of unbraced skeletal structure

Steel diagonal cross bracing



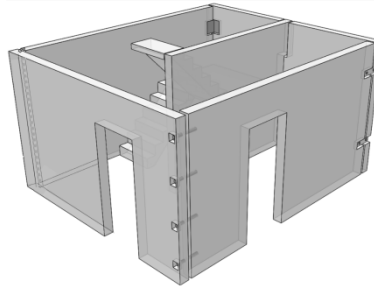
# Braced structures

- Principle
- Cross wall action
- Central core and lift shafts
- Diaphragm action floors
- Structural integrity
- Tying systems

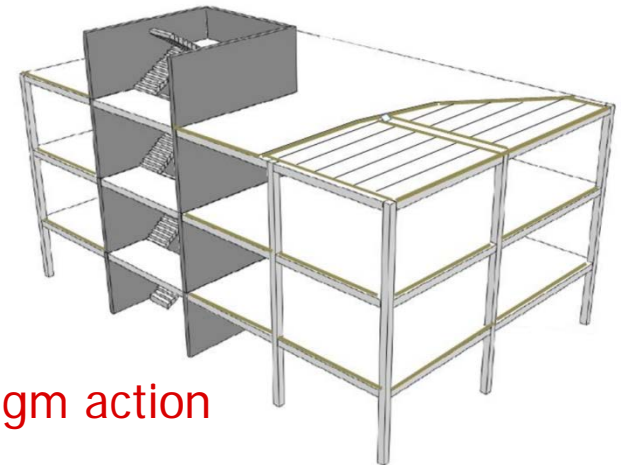
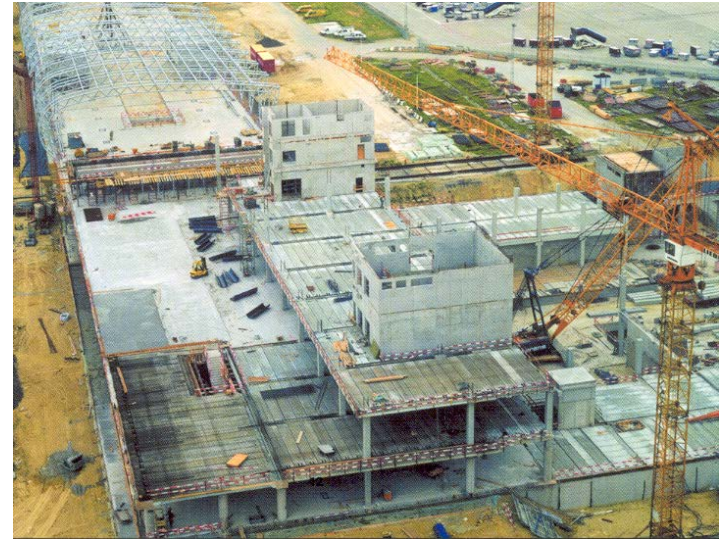


Stability through cross wall action

Stability through central cores

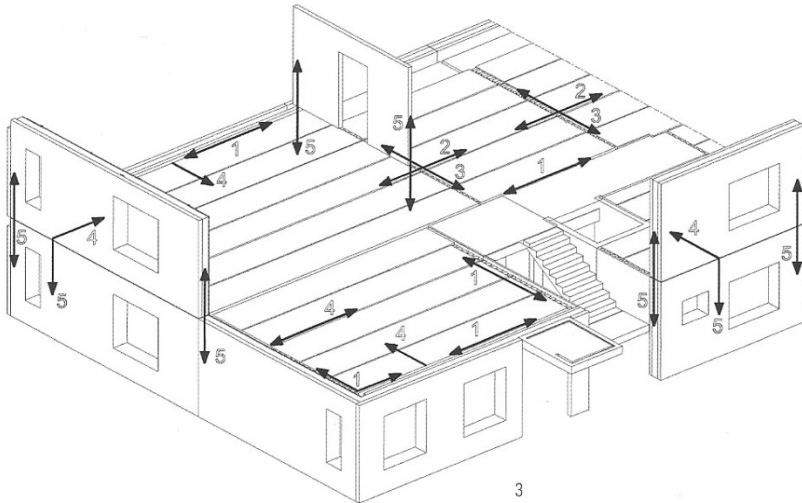


Precast central core

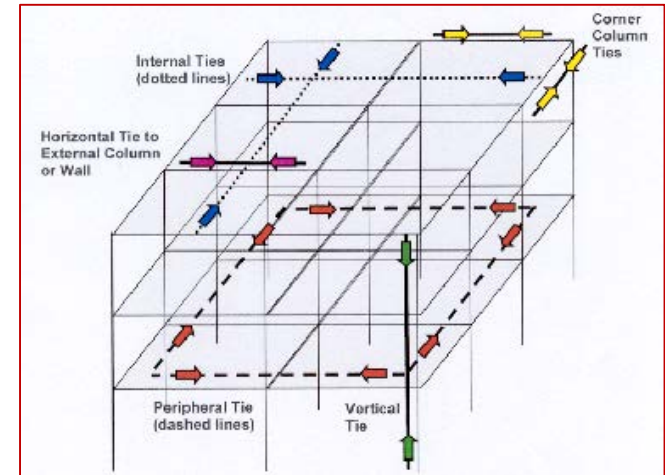
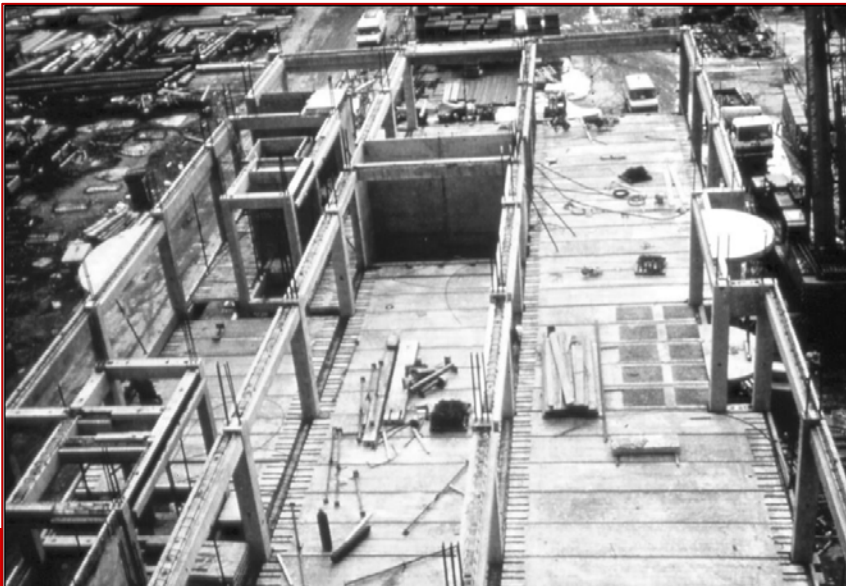
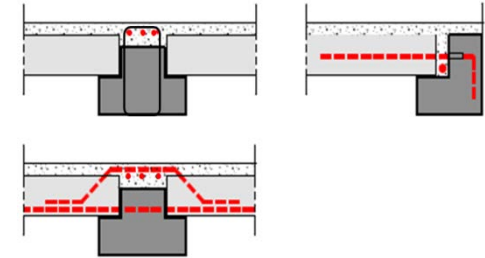


Floor diaphragm action

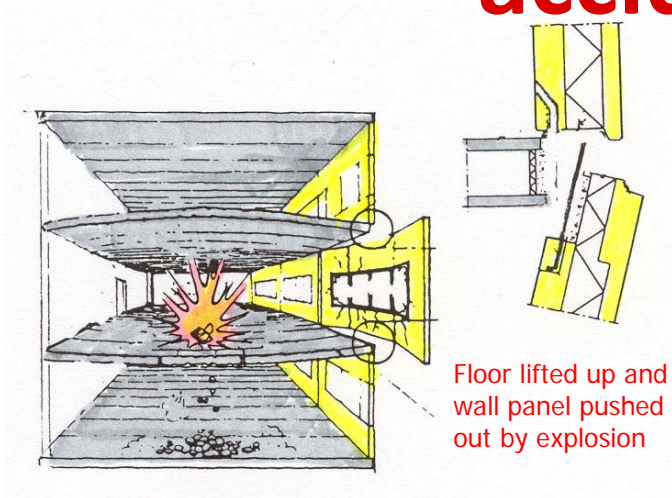
# Structural integrity



1. Peripheral floor ties
2. Longitudinal internal ties
3. Transversal internal ties
4. Floor to wall ties
5. Vertical ties

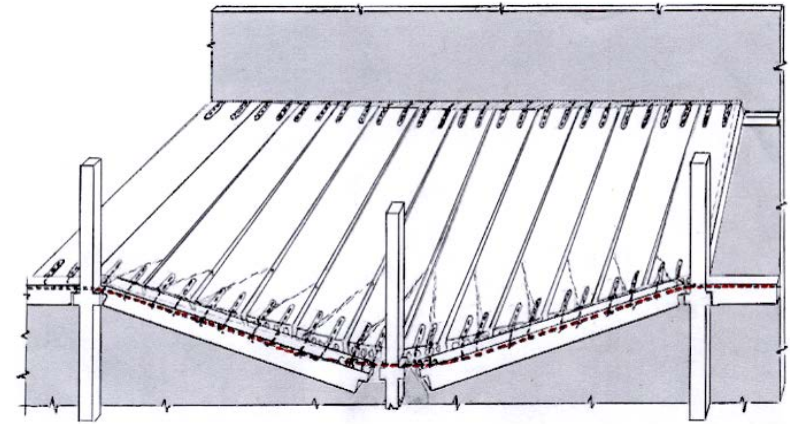


# Design with regard to accidental actions

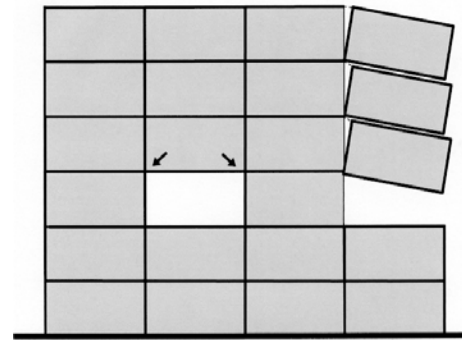


## Phenomenon

- Design strategies
- Tie force method
- Alternative load path method
- Specific load resistance method

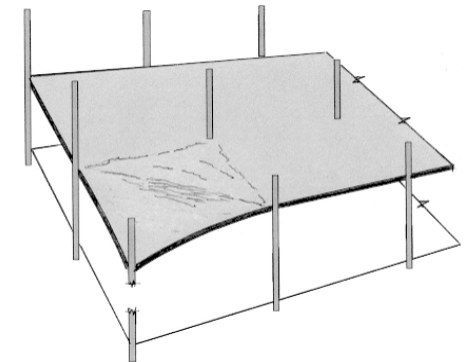


Catenary action



Beam or arch action

Cantilever action



Membrane action





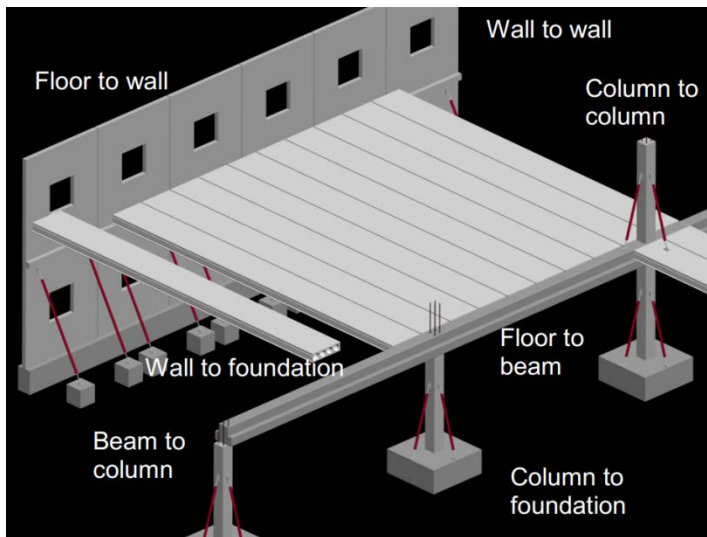
Chapter 5

# STRUCTURAL CONNECTIONS

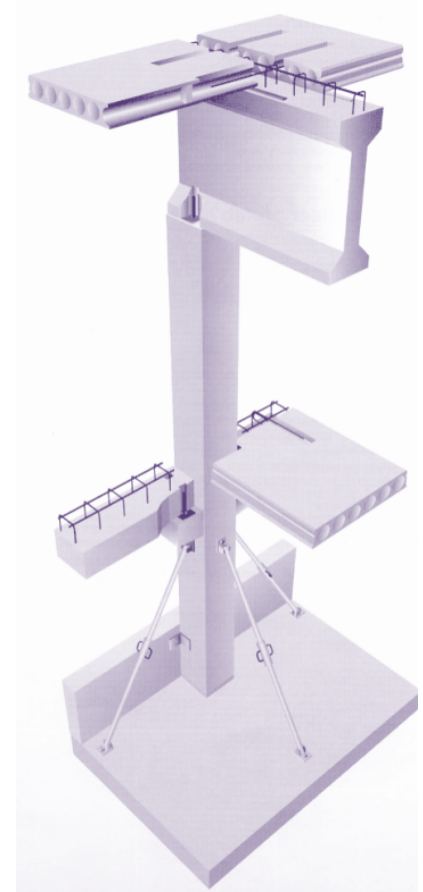


# Structural connections

- Objectives
- Design criteria
- Basic force transfer mechanisms
- Design of structural connections
- Other design criteria

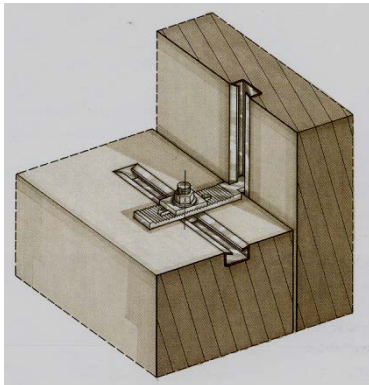


The purpose is to realise a coherent and robust structure out of individual units

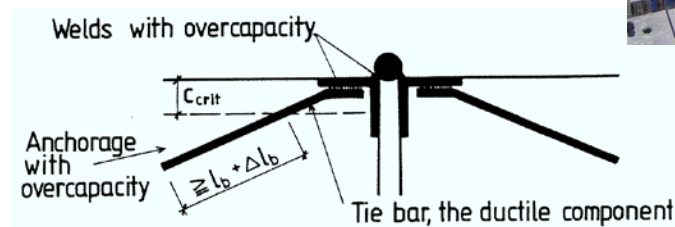


# Design criteria

- **Structural behaviour**
  - Strength: resist forces during whole lifetime. Consider also the possibility of accidental actions
  - Absorb possible volume changes :shrinkage, creep, temperature
  - Allow movements
  - Ductility
  - Durability
- **Dimensional tolerances**
  - Possibilities for adjustment during erection
- **Fire resistance**



3-dimensional adjustment



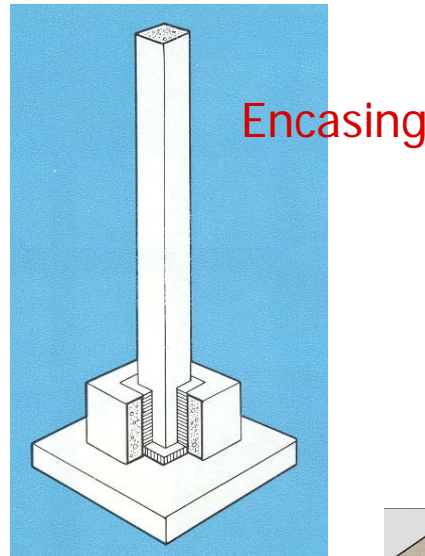
Ductility



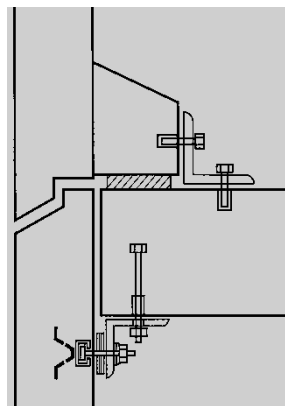
Coherent and robust structure

# Basic force transfer mechanisms

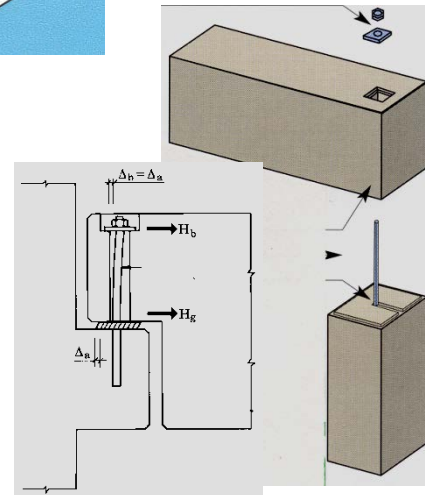
- Encasing
- Lapping of reinforcing bars
- Dowel action
- Bond
- Friction + shear interlock
- Shear keys
- Staggered joints
- Bolting
- Bars in grout ducts
- Welding
- Post tensioning



Lapping



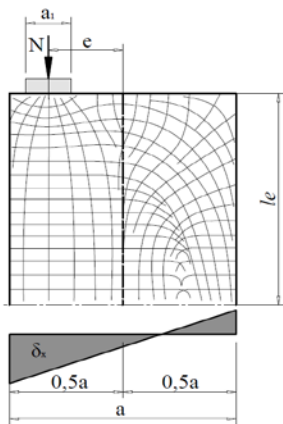
Bolting or  
welding



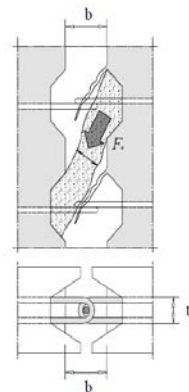
Dowel action

# Design of structural connections

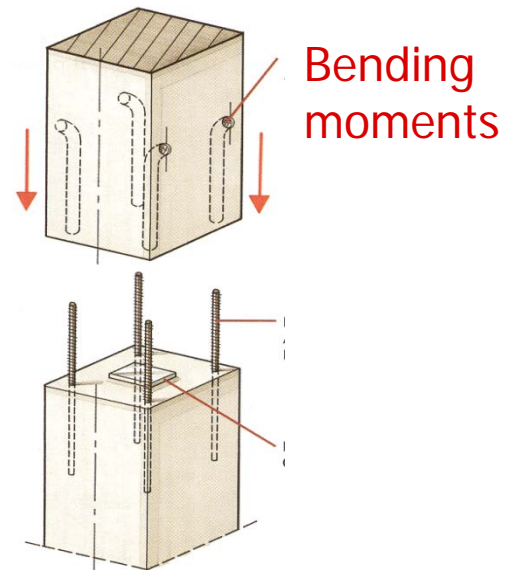
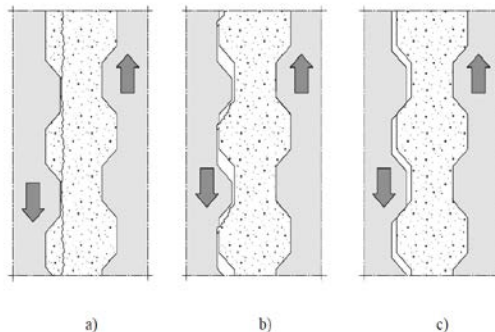
- Transfer of compressive forces
- Transfer of tensile forces
- Transfer of shear forces
- Transfer of bending and torsion



Compressive forces



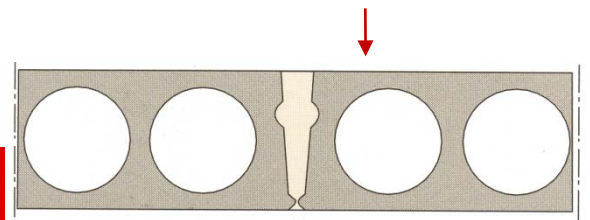
Force transfer and failure modes



Bending moments



Torsion



Shear forces





Chapter 6

# PORTAL & SKELETAL STRUCTURES

# Portal & skeletal structures

- Types of linear precast structures
- Lay-out and modulation
- Stability
- Elements
- Typical connections



Portal structures

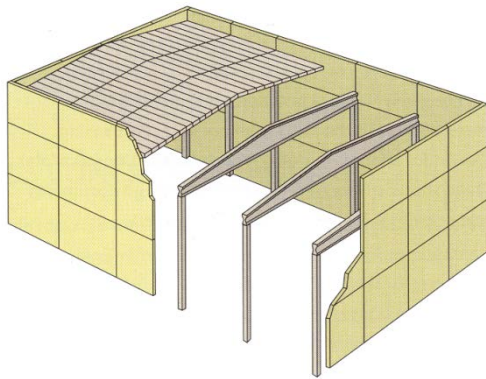


Skeletal structures



# Existing systems

## Portal structures (idem for skeletal)



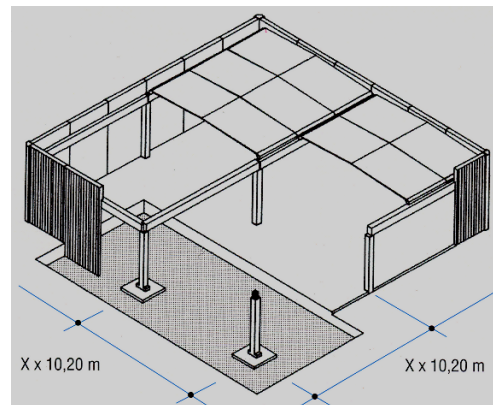
Simple portal frames



Portal frames with purlins



Portal frames with intermediate floor



Portal frames with saddle roof units



# Structural stability

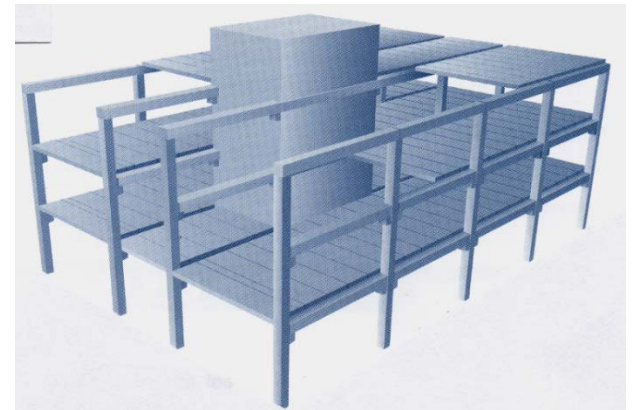
- Cantilevering columns from the foundation
- Cores and shear walls



~ 3 storeys



> 3 storeys



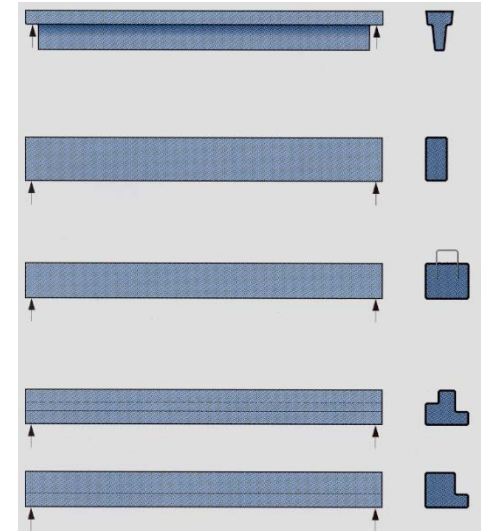


# Elements

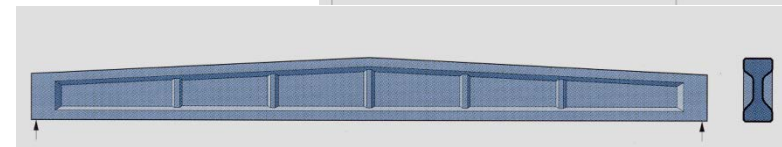
- Columns
- Roof beams
- Purlins
- Floor beams



Columns



Floor beams



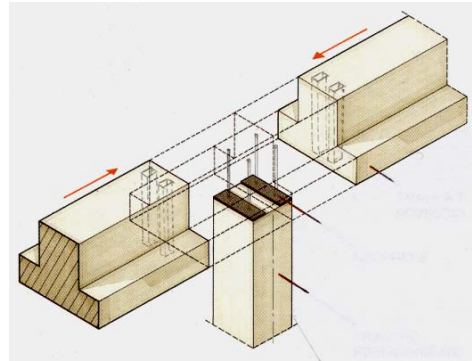
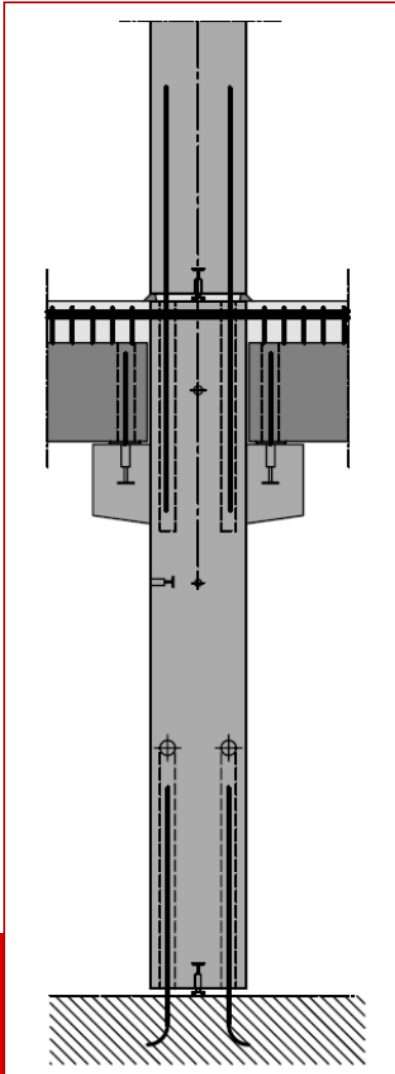
Spandrel beams



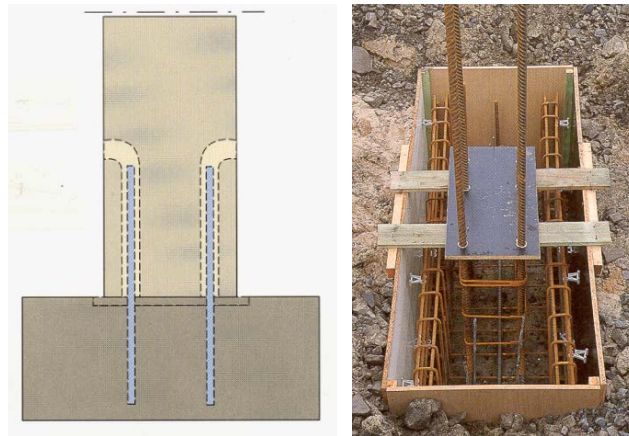
Roof beams

# Typical connections

Examples of connections in portal and skeletal structures



Floor beams to columns



Projecting bars from the foundation





Chapter 7

# WALL FRAME STRUCTURES



# Wall frame structures

- Structural wall frame systems
- Modulation
- Structural stability
- Elements
- Examples of connections



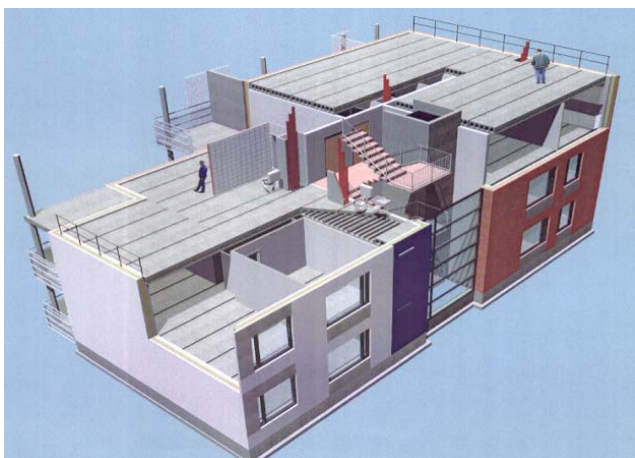
# Structural wall frame systems



Integral wall system



Enveloppe wall system



Cross wall system

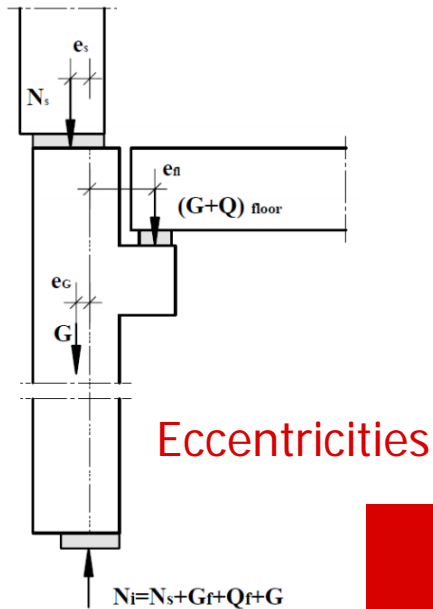


Spine wall system



# Structural stability

- Elements
  - Eccentricity of floor support
  - Eccentricities between superposed walls
  - Geometrical deviations
- Horizontal stability
- Robustness



Cores and lift shafts



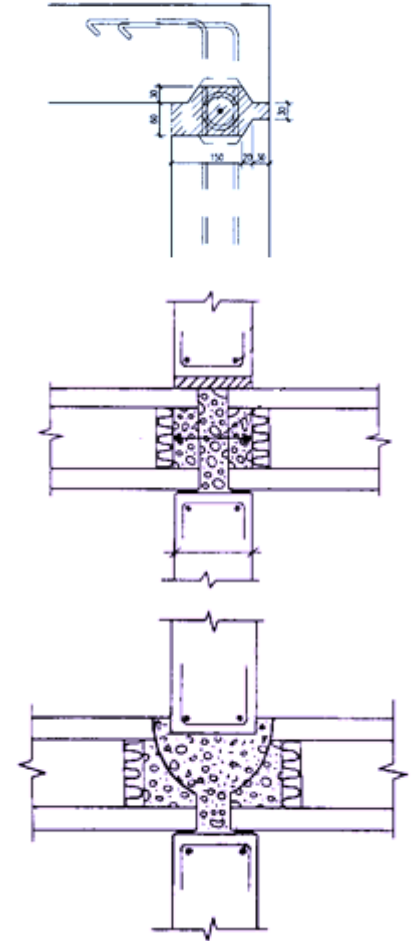
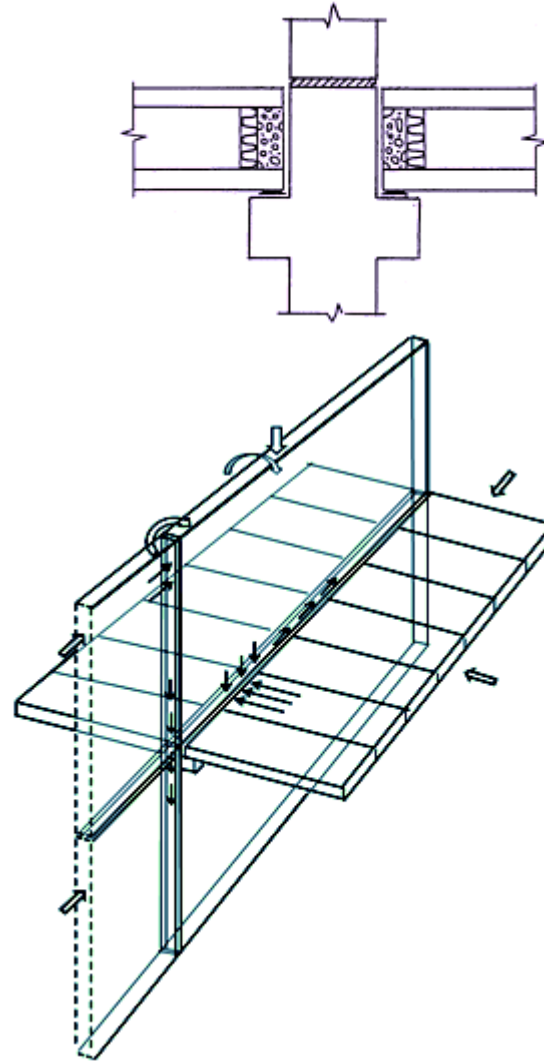
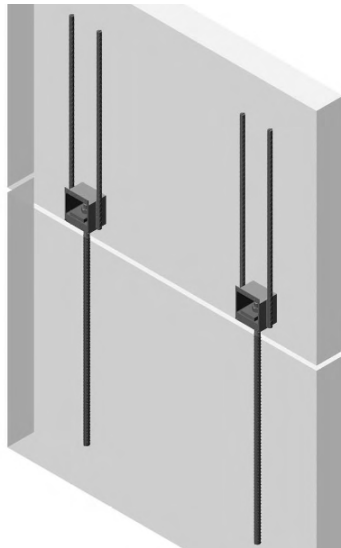
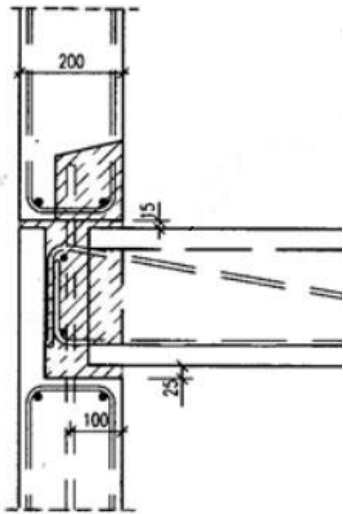
Tube action





# Typical connections

- Wall to wall connections
- Wall to floor connections



Chapter8

# FLOORS & ROOFS



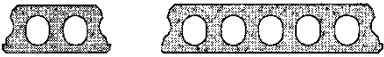






# Floors and roofs

- Main types of precast floors
- Concrete roof elements
- Stairs
- Modulation
- Design of the floor elements
- Design of the complete floor
- Transverse load distribution
- Examples of typical connections



# Overview

## types and characteristics

Floor and roof types	Max. span in m	Floor thickness mm	Unit width m	Unit weight kN/m <sup>2</sup>
	7	120 - 200	300 - 600	2,1 - 3,2
	20	120 - 500	600 - 1200 - 2400	2.2 - 5.2
	12	175 - 355	2400	1.2 - 1.8
	24 - 30	200 - 800	2400 - 3000	2.0 - 5.0
	6	100 - 200	300 - 600	0,7 - 3,0
	7 - 10	100 - 400	600 - 2400	2.4 - 4.8
	6	200 - 220	515 - 635	1,7 - 2,3

# Main types of floors and roofs

- Hollow core and ribbed floors
  - Types and dimensions
  - Modulation
- Concrete roof elements
- Floor plates
- Stairs
- Modulation



Hollow core floors



Ribbed floors



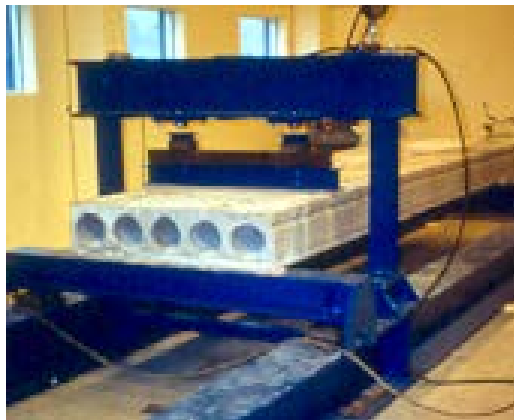
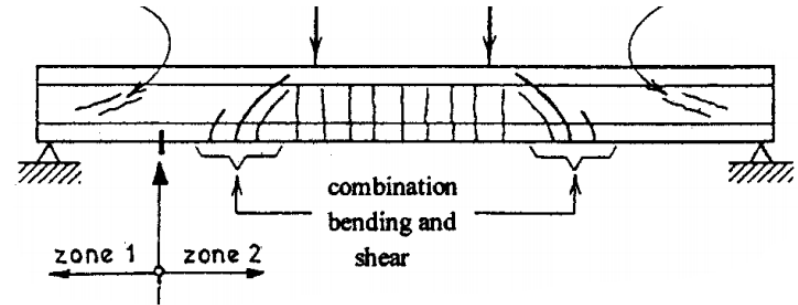
Floor-plate floors

Precast stairs

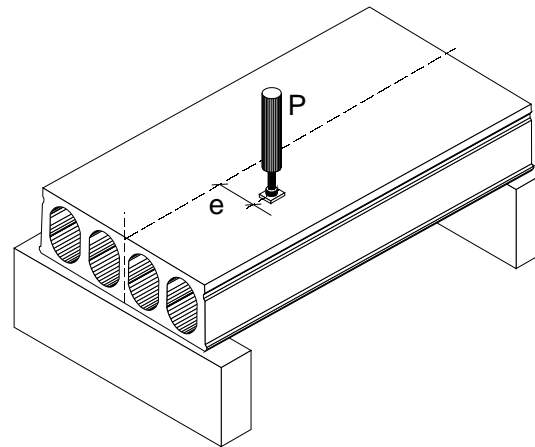


# Design of precast floor elements

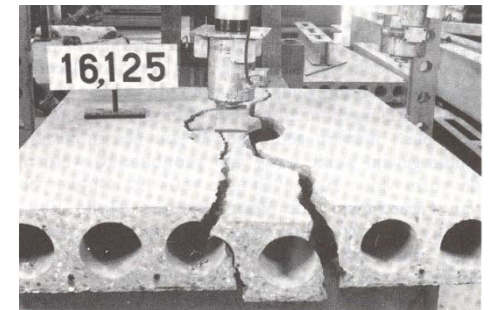
- Prestressed hollow core floors units
  - Shear capacity
  - Punching resistance
- Ribbed floor units
- Floor plates



Shear capacity



Shear & torsion

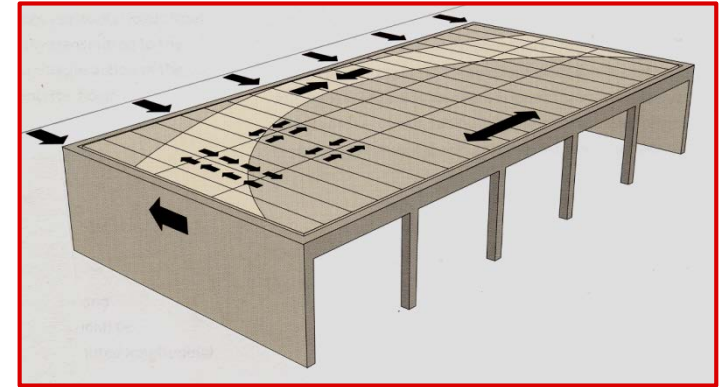


Punching resistance

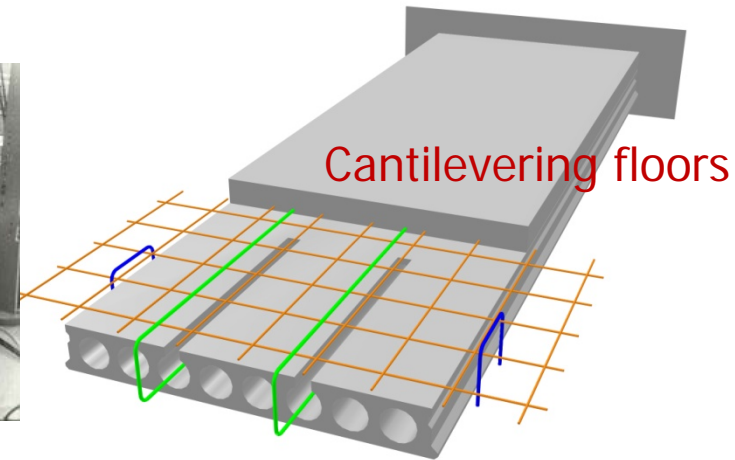
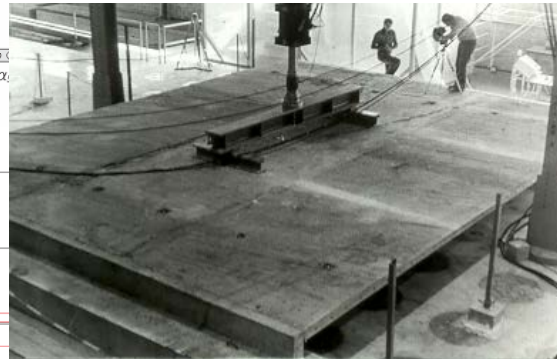
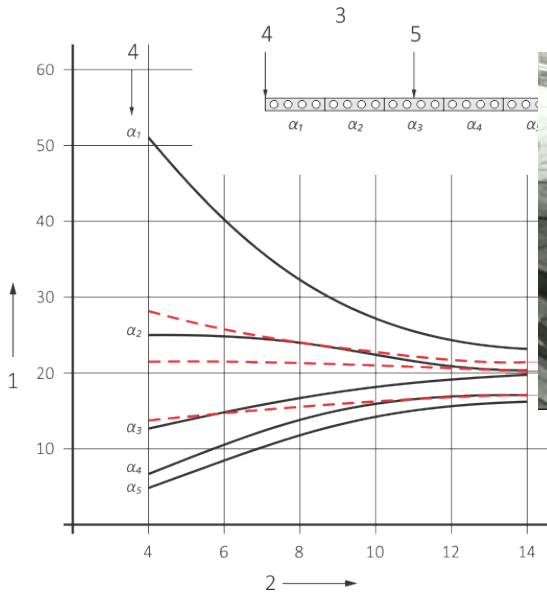


# Design of the complete floor

- Structural integrity
- Diaphragm action
- Transversal load distribution
  - Hollow core floors
  - Ribbed floors
  - Composite floors
- Cantilevering floors and balconies



Diaphragm action



Cantilevering floors

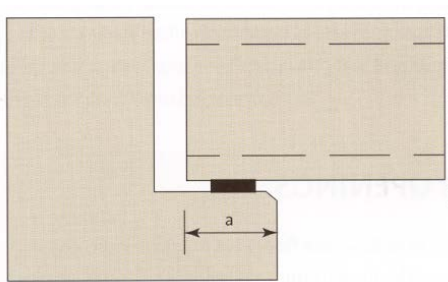
Transversal load  
distribution

# Typical connections

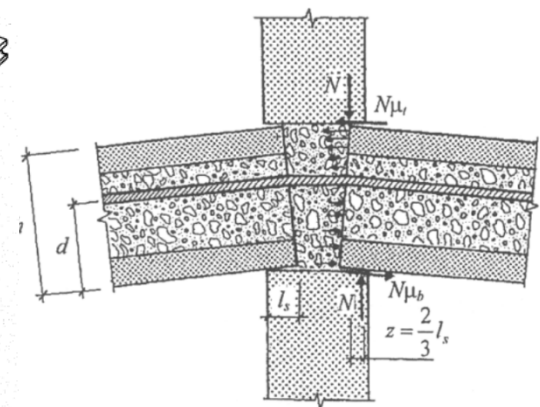
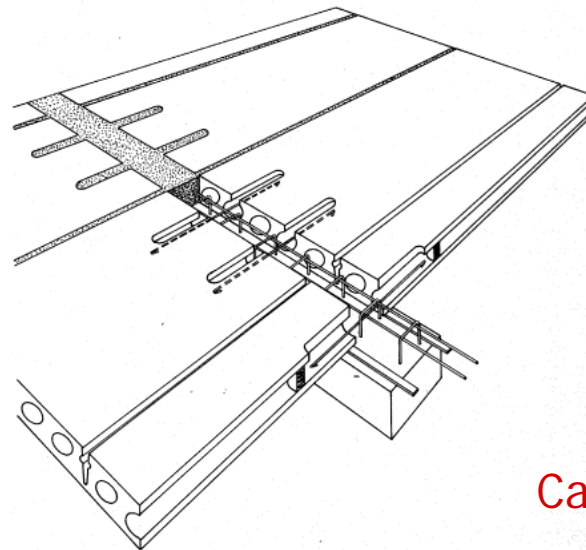
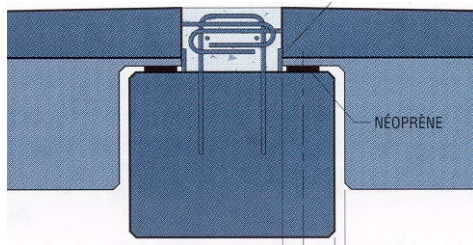
- Support connections
  - Support length
  - Tie arrangements
- Connections at lateral joints



Mixed structure



Support connection



Causes of unintended restraint

Support connection

Chapter 9

# ARCHITECTURAL CONCRETE FACADES





# Architectural concrete facades

- Precast façade systems
- Structural stability
- Principles of design and dimensioning of the units
- Other design aspects
- Shape and dimensions of the elements
- Surface finishing
- Thermal insulation
- Panel fixings
- Weathering joints

# Architectural concrete facades



# Examples of applications



Housing



Industry



Offices



Culture

Schools

Hotels Sport facilities



Shops

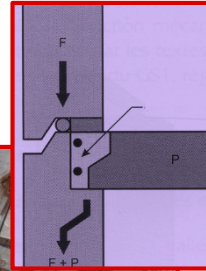


Shopping malls



# Structural systems

- Load bearing façades
- Non-load bearing façades
- Twin skin façades
- Cladding panels



Load bearing façades



Non-load bearing façades



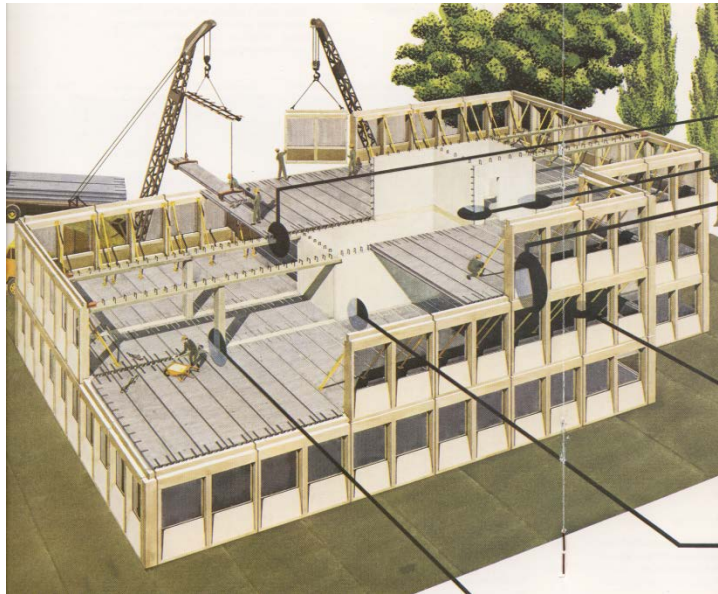
Cladding panels



Twin skin system

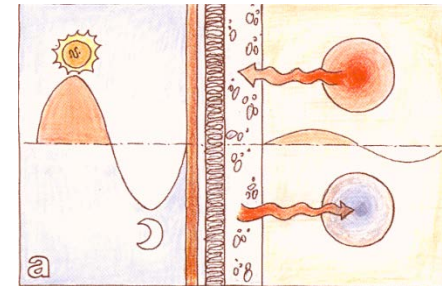
# Structural stability

- Stability provided by core and shear wall action
- Stability provided by the façade
- Differential deformations



Cores and shear walls

Load bearing façades



Differential thermal deformations

# Shape of the units and finishing

- Shape in relation to moulds
- Preferential dimensions
- Modulation
- Surface finishing
- Faced panels



Granite facing



Storey high panels

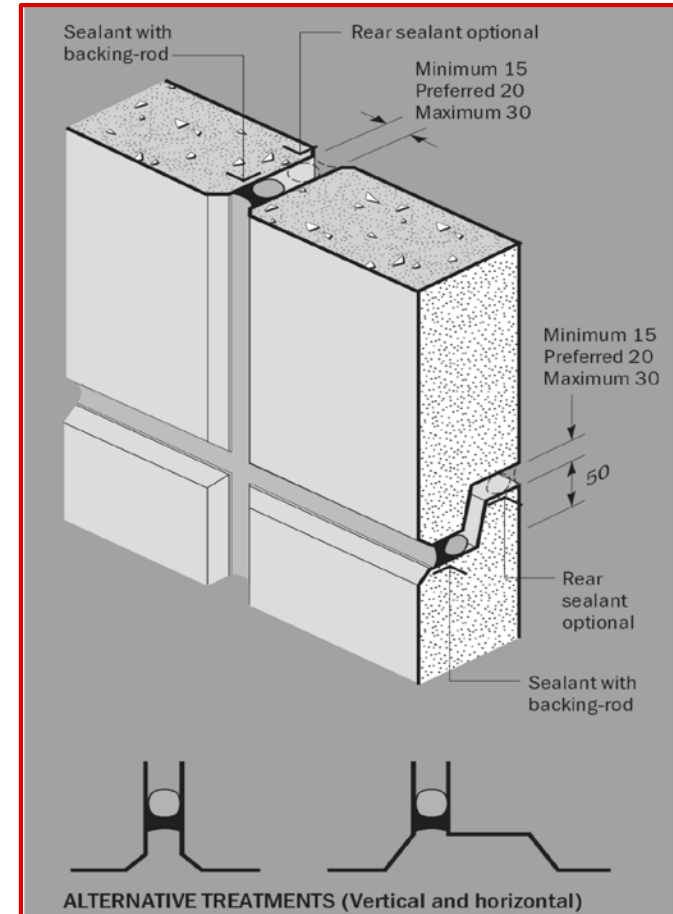
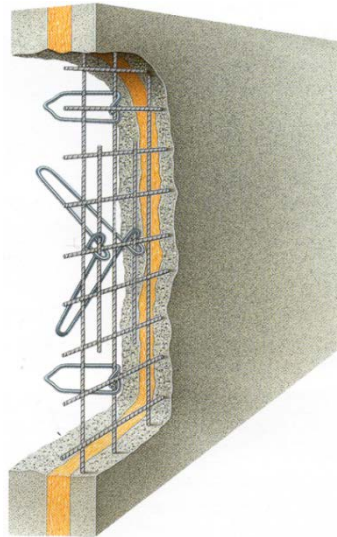
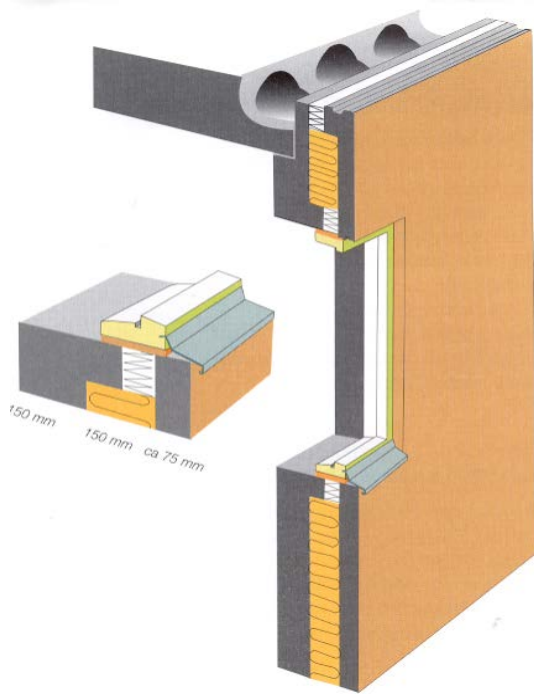


Polishing



# Building physics

- Thermal insulation (sandwich panels)
- Weathering joints

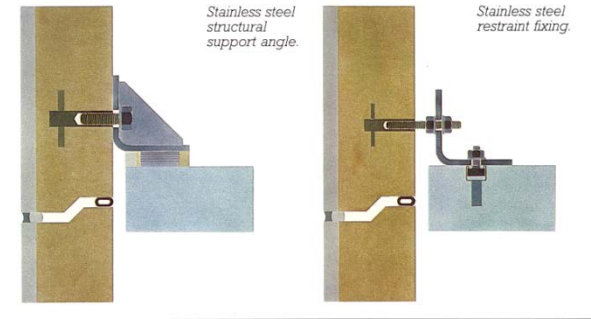


Joint sealants

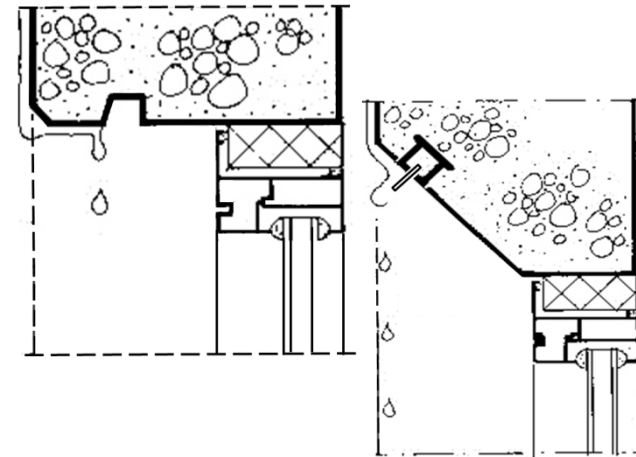
Sandwich Panels

# Typical connections

- Projecting bars
- Bolted and welded connections
- Durability



Bolted connections



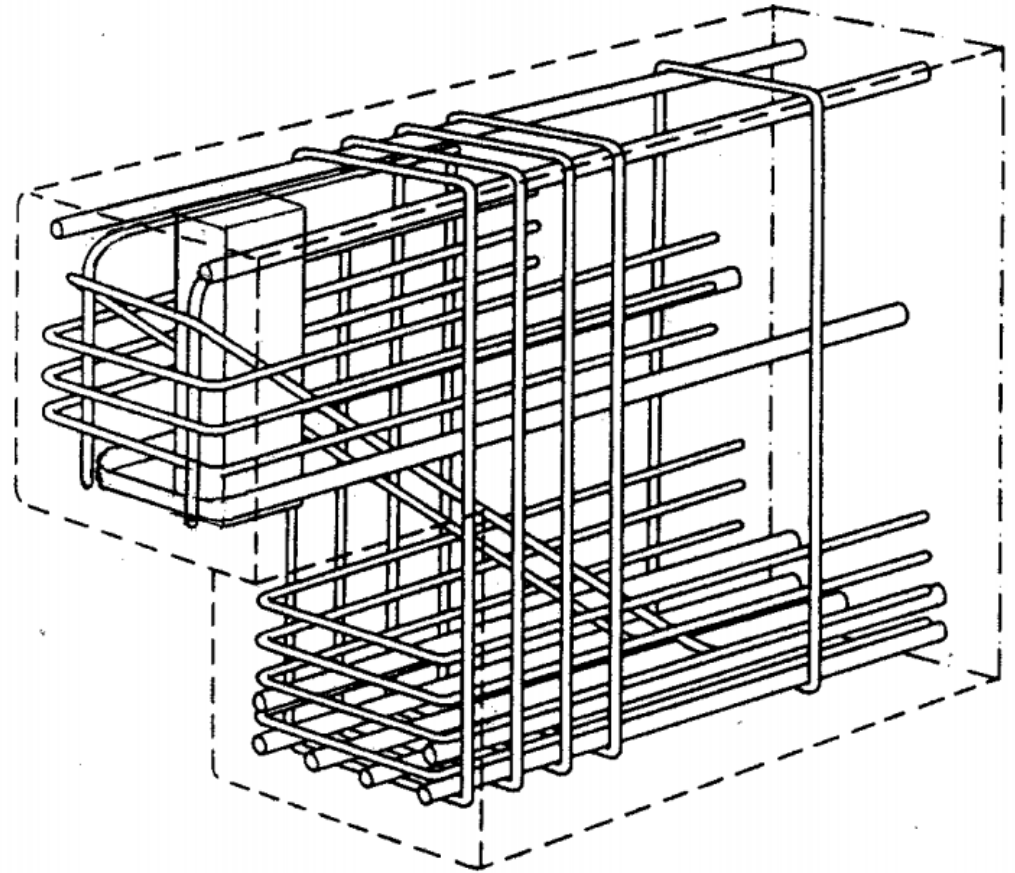
Weathering joints



Projecting bars with in-situ concrete



Projecting bars in grout holes



Chapter 10

# CONSTRUCTIONAL DETAILING AND DIMENSIONAL TOLERANCES



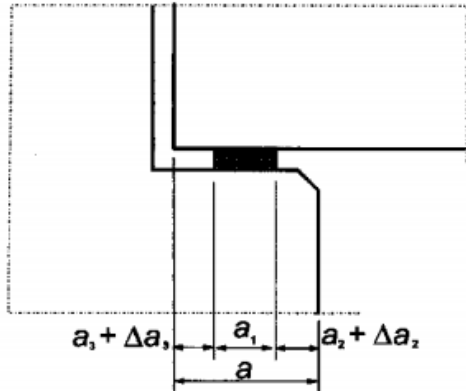
# CONSTRUCTIONAL DETAILING

## and dimensional tolerances

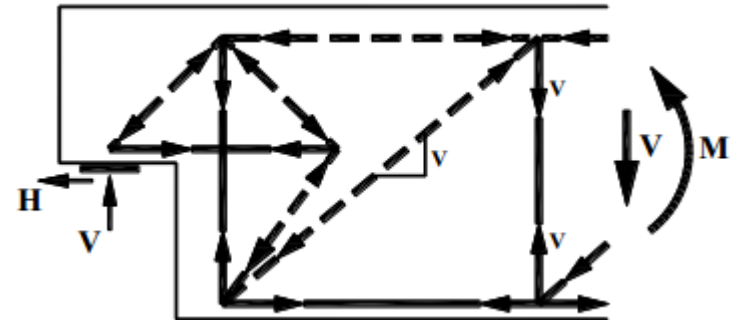
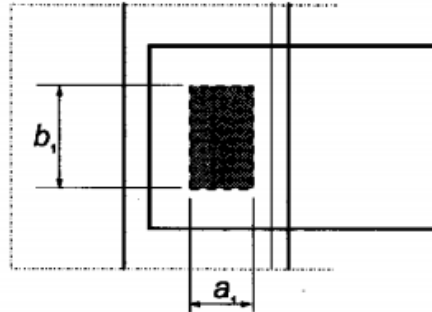
- Support connections
- Concrete corbels
- Openings and voids
- Inserts
- Special reinforcement detailing

# Supports

- Support length



Normal support



Half joints

$$a = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \sqrt{\Delta a_2^2 + \Delta a_3^2}$$

-> Table with practical values for nominal support length

# Nominal support length “a”

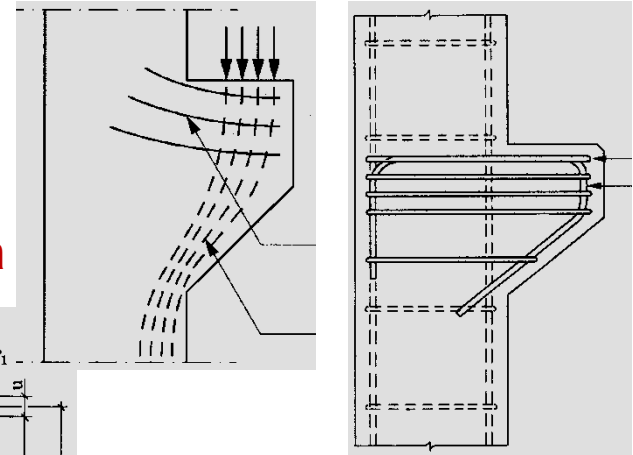
Supported element	Supporting structure	Slab thickness h or beam length l	Minimum nominal support length	
Hollow core floors	concrete/steel	$h \leq 300$ mm	60 - 80 mm	
		$h > 300$ mm	100 - 120 mm	
	masonry	$h \leq 250$ mm	100 mm	
		$h > 250$ mm	120 mm	
Floor planks	concrete	-	30 mm	
		-	50 mm	
	masonry	-	40 mm	
		-	50 mm	
	Ribbed floors	concrete	$\ell \leq 15$ m	150 mm
			$\ell \leq 8$ m	140 mm
Secondary roof beams	concrete	$\ell = 12 - 20$ m	200 - 230 mm	
Floor beams	concrete	$\ell \leq 24$ m	195 mm	
Roof beams	concrete	$\ell \leq 40$ m	225 mm	



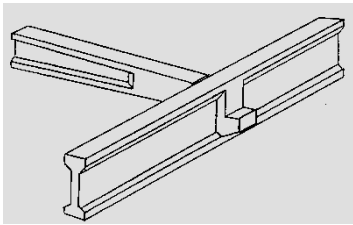
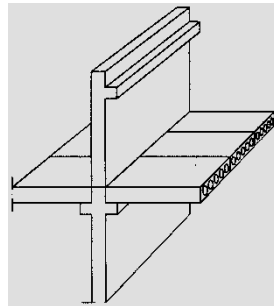
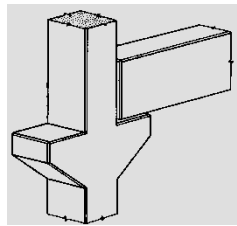
# Concrete corbels

- Types of corbels
- Corbel design
- Detailing of corbel reinforcement
- Two-step corbels
- Hidden corbels

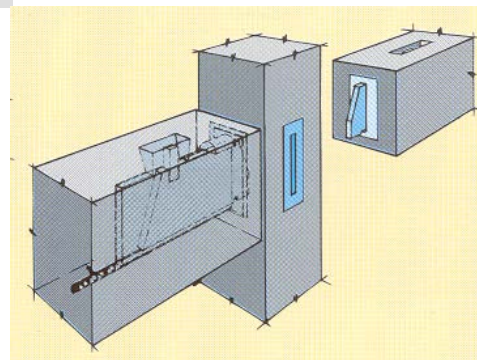
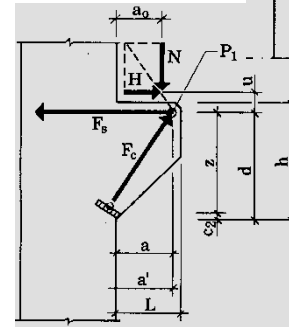
Stress trajectories



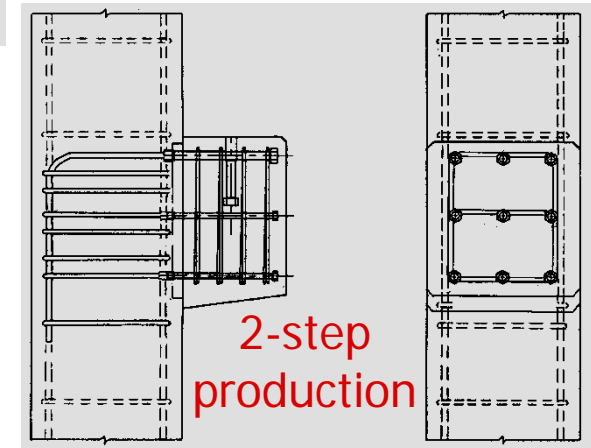
Detailing of reinforcement



Types of corbels



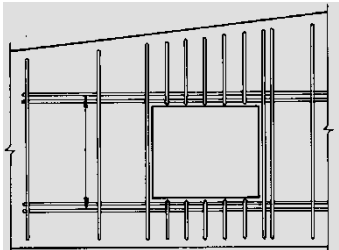
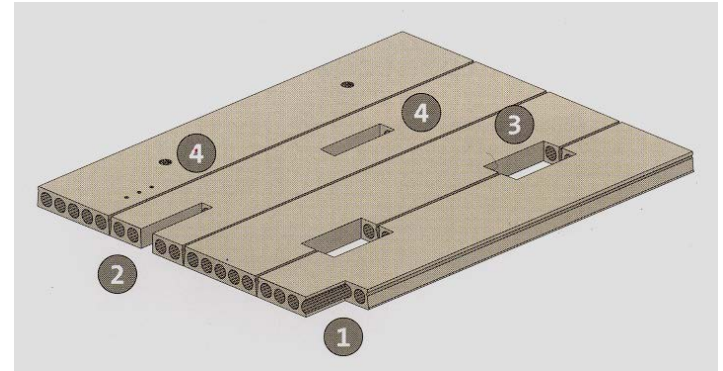
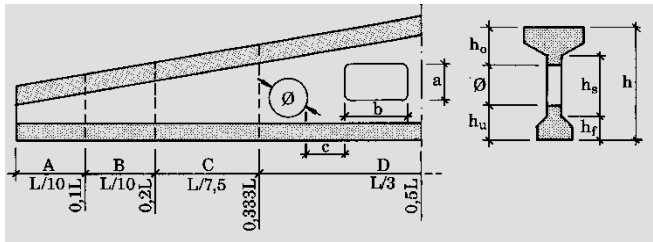
Hidden corbel



2-step production

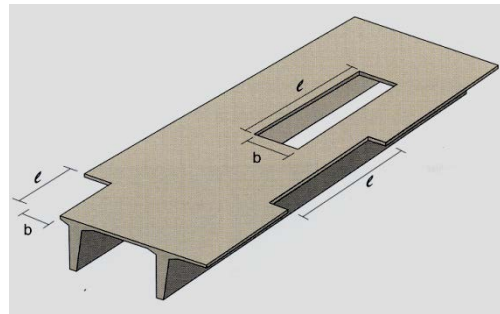
# Openings and cut-outs

- Design and dimensions of openings in floors and beams



Openings in roof beams

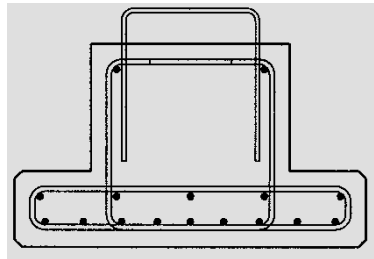
Openings in HC floors



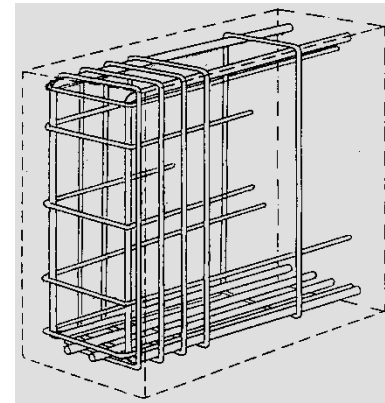
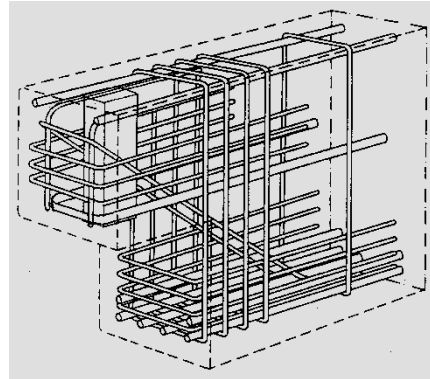
Openings in ribbed elements

# Special reinforcement

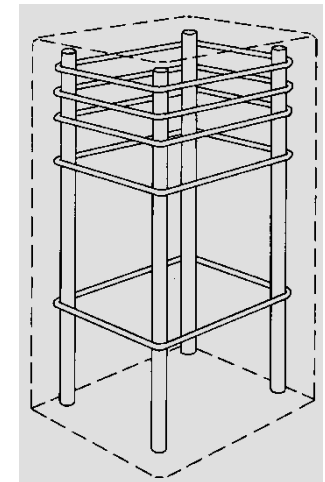
- Anchorage zones of prestressed components
- Column ends
- Boot beams



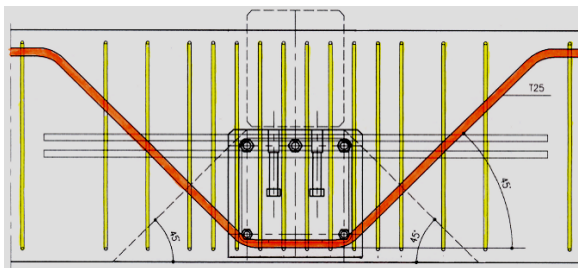
Boot beam reinforcement



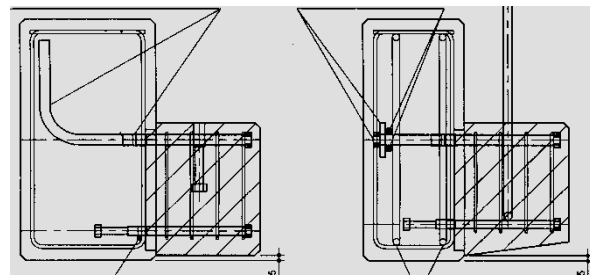
Transfer zone of prestressing



Hooing reinforcement



Beam corbel reinforcement





Chapter 11

# FIRE RESISTANCE

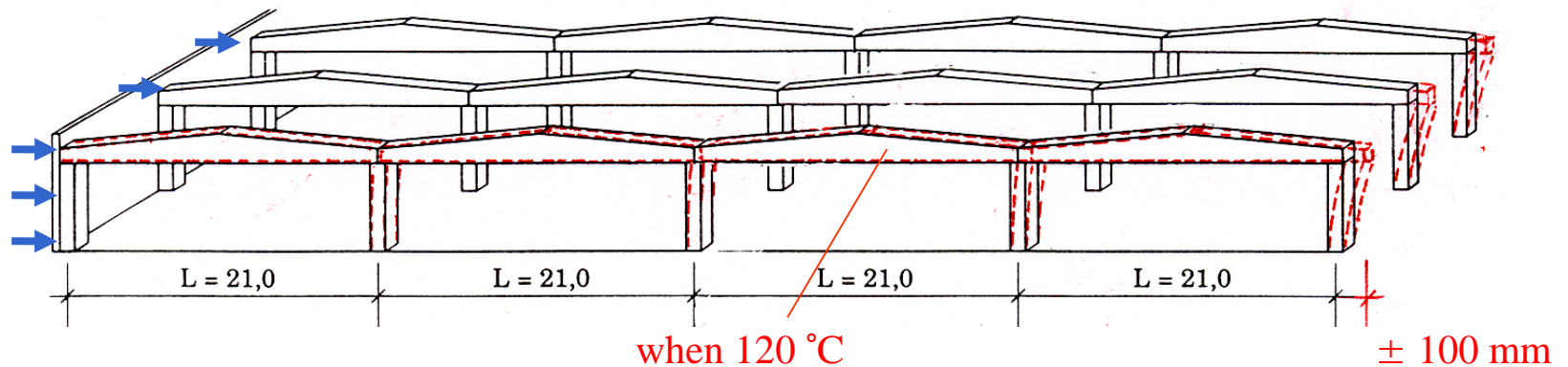


# Fire resistance

- Basic requirements
- Fire actions
- Global structural analysis
- Member analysis
- Fire resistance of precast concrete elements
- Fire resistance of structural connections

# Fire actions

- Reduction of material performances
- Thermal expansion
- Transverse deformation of the cross-section



Large expansion may lead to incompatibility of connections

# Structural fire design

- Global analysis
- Member analysis

## Fire is an accidental action

- Design only for ULS
- Quasi permanent values for actions
- Partial safety factors = 1.0

## Failure modes

Depending on the type of structure, four theoretical failure mechanisms may appear in precast concrete structures exposed to severe fire

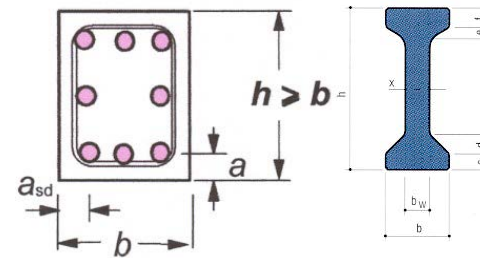
- 1) Bending failure for columns, beams and floors
- 2) Shear and anchorage failure, mainly for beams and floors
- 3) Excessive compression in the bottom section specifically for flat floors
- 4) Spalling of concrete; in this Lecture, spalling is not dealt with since it is a material property independent of structural calculations.



# Member analysis

## Tabulated data

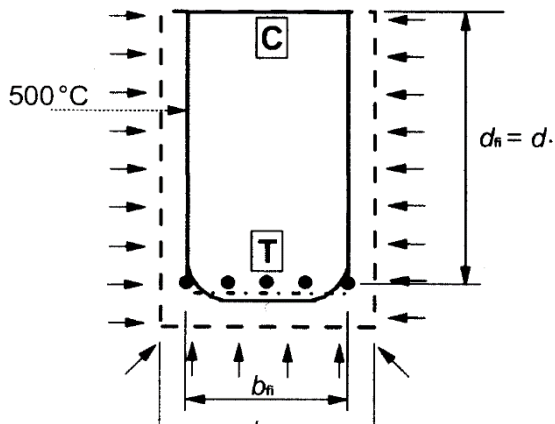
Standard fire resistance	Minimum dimensions (mm) Possible combinations of a and b <sub>min</sub> where a is the average axis distance and b <sub>min</sub> the width of the beam				Web thickness b <sub>w</sub>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
R60	b <sub>min</sub> = 120 a = 40 etc.	b <sub>min</sub> = 160 a = 35 etc.	b <sub>min</sub> = 200 a = 30 etc.	b <sub>min</sub> = 300 a = 25 etc.	80
R90					
R120					
R180					
R240					



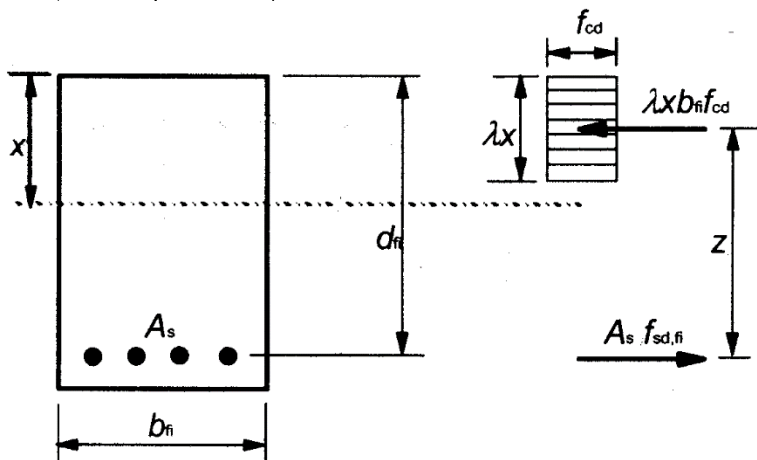
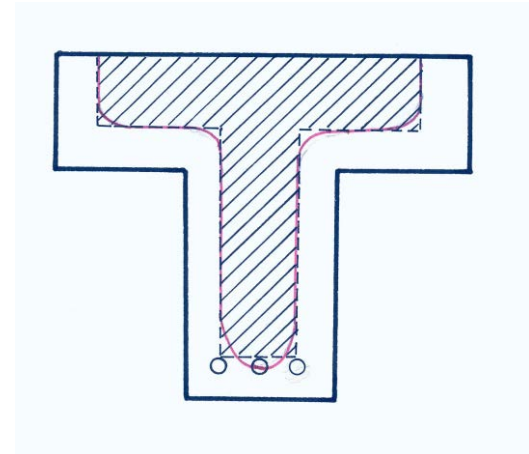
Typical lay-out of Table

# Member analysis

## simple calculation method



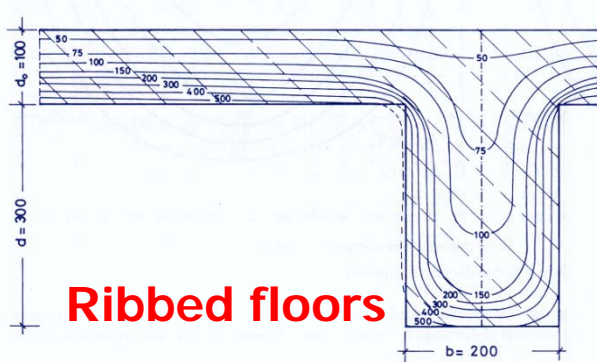
Calculation of the bending capacity



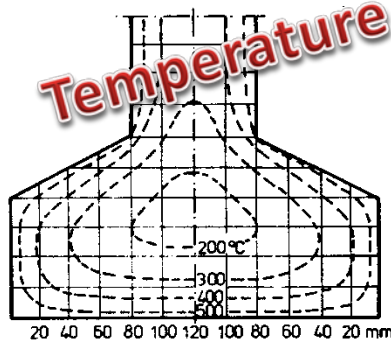
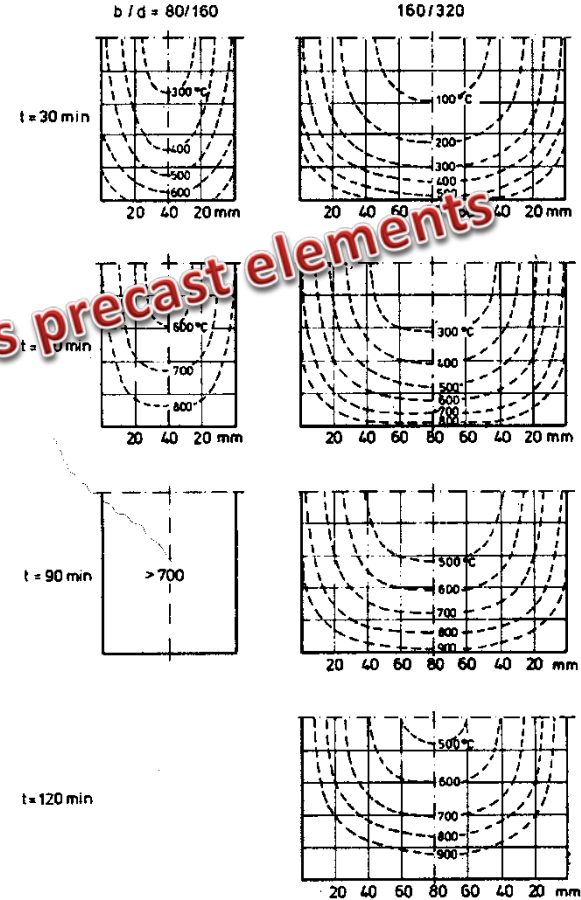
Fire resistance	R60	R90	R120	R180	R240
Minimum width b	90	120	160	200	280

# Simple calculation method

## determination of material characteristics

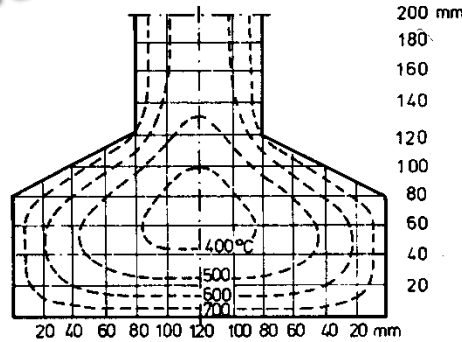


Ribbed floors



t = 30 min

I - beams



t = 60 min

Rectangular beams

# Fire resistance precast elements

- Columns
- Beams
- Walls
- Prestressed HC floors



Test on precast industrial hall



Failure test roof beam after repair







# Thank you... ...for choosing Precast.



The software company **Nemetschek Scia** headquartered in Belgium, kindly offered to redraft all technical drawings in order to get a uniform presentation for the whole Handbook.