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7-2010

# Load Rating of Complex Bridges

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# **Load Rating of Complex Bridges**



**July 2010**





# **Load Rating of Complex Bridges**

Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) Project Number: P329

# FINAL REPORT

# PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

George Morcous, Kromel Hanna, and Maher K. Tadros

# SPONSORED BY

Nebraska Department of Roads University of Nebraska - Lincoln

July 2010

### TECHNICAL REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE



The National Bridge Inspection Standards require highway departments to inspect, evaluate, and determine load ratings for structures defined as bridges located on all public roads. Load rating of bridges is performed to determine the live load that structures can safely carry at a given structural condition. Bridges are rated for three types of loads, design loads, legal loads, and permit loads, which is a laborious and time-consuming task as it requires the analysis of the structure under different load patterns. Several tools are currently available to assist bridge engineers to perform bridge rating in a consistent and timely manner. However, these tools support the rating of conventional bridge systems, such as slab, I-girder, box girder and truss bridges. In the last decade, NDOR has developed innovative bridge systems through research projects with the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. An example of these systems is tied-arch bridge system adopted in Ravenna Viaduct and Columbus Viaduct projects. The research projects dealt mainly with the design and construction of the new system, while overlooking the load rating. Therefore, there is a great need for procedures and models that assist in the load rating of these new and complex bridge systems.

The objective of this project is to develop the procedures and models necessary for the load rating of tied-arch bridges, namely Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts. This includes developing refined analytical models of these structures and performing rating factor (RF) calculations in accordance to the latest Load and Resistance Factored Rating (LRFR) specifications. Two-dimensional and three-dimensional computer models were developed for each structure and RF calculations were performed for the primary structural components (i.e. arch, tie, hanger, and floor beam). RFs were calculated assuming various percentages of section loss and using the most common legal and permit loads in the state of Nebraska in addition to AASHTO LRFD live loads. In addition, the two structures were analyzed and RFs were calculated for an extreme event where one of the hangers is fully damaged.



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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This project was sponsored by the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The support of the technical advisory committee (TAC) members is gratefully acknowledged. The design team at NDOR Bridge Division is also acknowledged, they spent considerable time and effort in coordinating this project, discussing its technical direction, and inspiring the university researchers. Special thanks to the graduate students participated in this project Eliya Henin and Afshin Hatami.

## **ABSTRACT**

The National Bridge Inspection Standards require highway departments to inspect, evaluate, and determine load ratings for structures defined as bridges located on all public roads. Load rating of bridges is performed to determine the live load that structures can safely carry at a given structural condition. Bridges are rated for three types of loads, design loads, legal loads, and permit loads, which is a laborious and time-consuming task as it requires the analysis of the structure under different load patterns. Several tools are currently available to assist bridge engineers to perform bridge rating in a consistent and timely manner. However, these tools support the rating of conventional bridge systems, such as slab, I-girder, box girder and truss bridges. In the last decade, NDOR has developed innovative bridge systems through research projects with the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. An example of these systems is tied-arch bridge system adopted in Ravenna Viaduct and Columbus Viaduct projects. The research projects dealt mainly with the design and construction of the new system, while overlooking the load rating. Therefore, there is a great need for procedures and models that assist in the load rating of these new and complex bridge systems.

The objective of this project is to develop the procedures and models necessary for the load rating of tied-arch bridges, namely Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts. This includes developing refined analytical models of these structures and performing rating factor (RF) calculations in accordance to the latest Load and Resistance Factored Rating (LRFR) specifications. Twodimensional and three-dimensional computer models were developed for each structure and RF calculations were performed for the primary structural components (i.e. arch, tie, hanger, and floor beam). RFs were calculated assuming various percentages of section loss and using the most common legal and permit loads in the state of Nebraska in addition to AASHTO LRFD live loads. In addition, the two structures were analyzed and RFs were calculated for an extreme event where one of the hangers is fully damaged.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**



### **SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

The National Bridge Inspection Standards requires highway departments to inspect, assess the condition, and calculate load ratings for structures defined as bridges and located on all public roads. Load rating of bridges is performed to determine the live load that structures can safely carry at a given structural condition. According to the Recording and Coding Guide for Structure Inventory and Appraisal of the Nation's Bridges, bridges are rated at three different stress levels, referred to as Inventory Rating (items 65 and 66 of Structural Inventory and Appraisal sheet), Operating Rating (items 63 and 64 of SI&A sheet), and Posting Rating (item 70 of SI&A sheet). Inventory rating is the capacity rating for the vehicle type used in the rating that will result in a load level which can safely utilize an existing structure for an indefinite period of time. Inventory load level approximates the design load level for normal service conditions. Operating rating will result in the absolute maximum permissible load level to which the structure may be subjected for the vehicle type used in the rating. This rating determines the capacity of the bridge for occasional use. Allowing unlimited numbers of vehicles to subject the bridge to the operating level will compromise the bridge life. This value is typically used when evaluating overweight permit vehicle moves. The posting rating is the capacity rating for the vehicle type used in the rating that will result in a load level which may safely utilize an existing structure on a routine basis for a limited period of time. The posting rating for a bridge is based on inventory level plus a fraction of the difference between inventory and operating. Structural capacities and loadings are used to analyze the critical members to determine the appropriate load rating. This may lead to load restrictions of the bridge or identification of components that require rehabilitation or other modification to avoid posting of the bridge (DelDOT 2004).

Load rating is a laborious and time-consuming task as it requires the structural analysis of all primary structural components at different loading conditions. Several tools were developed to assist bridge engineers to perform bridge rating in a consistent and timely manner. Bridge Analysis and Rating System (BARS) is an AASHTO licensed product that is used to analyze and rate structures. This program was developed more than twenty years ago and the code was originally written in FORTRAN to run on Mainframe computers. A newer version BARS-PC

was developed in 1993 to be used on personal computers. Several states are using BARS to analyze and rate the bridges, while others are using different products, such as VIRTIS, BRASS, LARS, etc. In Nebraska, LARS and it companion program "Complex Truss" are being used for rating and super-load analyses. However, this program supports only the rating of conventional bridge systems, such as slab, I-girder, box girder and truss bridges.

In the last decade, NDOR has developed innovative bridge systems through research projects with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. An example of these systems is tied-arch bridge system used in Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts. The research projects dealt mainly with the design and construction issues of the new systems and not with their load rating. Therefore, there is a great need for procedures and models that assist NDOR bridge engineers in the load rating of such complex bridge systems that cannot be rated by the existing commercial programs.

# **1.2 Objective**

The objective of this project is to develop the analytical models required for load rating of tiedarch bridges and perform rating factor (RF) calculations for a given set of super-loads and section loss percentages. The primary structural components of the Ravenna Viaduct and Columbus Viaduct will be analyzed using three-dimensional models and rated for design loads, legal loads, and permit loads according to the latest AASHTO Load and Resistance Factor Rating (LRFR) procedures. The tables shown below summarize the outcome of the project.



# **1.3 Report Organization**

The report is organized as follows:

- Section 2 summarizes the load rating procedures followed in this project. These procedures are in accordance to the AASHTO Manual for Bridge Evaluation, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 2008. Description of the applied loads, load factors, and resistance factors is given.
- Section 3 presents the analytical models, capacity calculations, and load ratings of the Ravenna Viaduct.
- $\triangleleft$  Section 4 presents the analytical models, capacity calculations, and load ratings of the Columbus Viaduct
- $\div$  Section 5 summarizes the project outcomes
- Appendixes list the internal forces and moments in all the structural components of the two viaducts under all loading conditions.

## **SECTION 2: RATING PROCEDURES**

### **2.1 General**

Three load-rating procedures that are consistent with the load and resistance factor philosophy have been provided in Article 6A.4 of the 2008 AASHTO Manual for Bridge Evaluation for the load capacity evaluation of in-service bridges:

- Design load rating (first level evaluation)
- Legal load rating (second level evaluation)
- Permit load rating (third level evaluation)

Each procedure is geared to a specific live load model with specially calibrated load factors aimed at maintaining a uniform and acceptable level of reliability in all evaluations. The load rating is generally expressed as a rating factor for a particular live load model, using the general load-rating equation shown below:

$$
RF = \frac{C - (\gamma_{DC})(DC) - (\gamma_{DW})(DW) \pm (\gamma_P)(P)}{(\gamma_{LL})(LL + IM)}
$$
(6A.4.2.1-1)

For the Strength Limit States:

$$
C = \varphi_c \varphi_s \varphi_n \tag{6A.4.2.1-2}
$$

Where the following lower limit shall apply:

 $\varphi_c \varphi_s \geq 0.85$  $(6A.4.2.1-3)$ 

For the Service Limit States:

$$
C = f_R \tag{6A.4.2.1-4}
$$

where:

 $RF =$  Rating factor

 $\overline{c}$  $=$ Capacity

- Allowable stress specified in the LRFD code  $f_R =$
- $R_n =$ Nominal member resistance (as inspected)
- $DC =$  Dead load effect due to structural components and attachments
- $DW =$ Dead load effect due to wearing surface and utilities
- Permanent loads other than dead loads  $\bm{P}$  $\equiv$

$$
LL =
$$
Live load effect

- $IM =$  Dynamic load allowance
- LRFD load factor for structural components and  $\gamma_{DC}$  = attachments
- LRFD load factor for wearing surfaces and  $\gamma_{DW} =$ utilities
- LRFD load factor for permanent loads other than  $\gamma_p =$  $dead$  loads = 1.0
- $\gamma_{LL}$  = Evaluation live load factor
- $\varphi_c$  = Condition factor
- $\varphi$ <sub>s</sub> = System factor
- = LRFD resistance factor  $\circ$

The Rating Factor (RF) obtained may be used to determine the safe load capacity of the bridge in tons as follows:

$$
RT = RF \times W \tag{6A.4.4.4-1}
$$

where:

- $RT =$ Rating in tons for truck used in computing live load effect
- $W =$ Weight in tons of truck used in computing live load effect

When the lane-type load model (see Figures D6A-4 and D6A-5) governs the load rating, the equivalent truck weight W for use in calculating a safe load capacity for the bridge shall be taken as 80 kips.

Strength is the primary limit state for load rating. service and fatigue limit states are selectively applied in accordance with the provisions of this Manual. Applicable limit states and the corresponding load factors are summarized in Table 6A.4.2.2-1.

					Design Load		
		Dead Load	Dead Load	Inventory	Operating	Legal Load	Permit Load
Bridge Type	Limit State*	YDC	YDW	YLL	ΎL	YLL	YLL
Steel	Strength I	1.25	1.50	1.75	1.35	Tables 6A.4.4.2.3a-1	
						and 6A.4.4.2.3b-1	
	Strength II	1.25	1.50				Table 6A.4.5.4.2a-1
	Service II	1.00	1.00	1.30	1.00	1.30	1.00
	Fatigue	0.00	0.00	0.75			
Reinforced <b>Concrete</b>	Strength I	1.25	1.50	1.75	1.35	Tables 6A.4.4.2.3a-1	
						and 6A.4.4.2.3b-1	
	Strength II	1.25	1.50				Table 6A.4.5.4.2a-1
	Service I	1.00	1.00				1.00
Prestressed <b>Concrete</b>	Strength I	1.25	1.50	1.75	1.35	Tables 6A.4.4.2.3a-1	
						and 6A.4.4.2.3b-1	
	Strength II	1.25	1.50				Table 6A.4.5.4.2a-1
	Service III	1.00	1.00	0.80		1.00	
	Service I	1.00	1.00	—			1.00
<b>Wood</b>	Strength I	1.25	1.50	1.75	1.35	Tables 6A.4.4.2.3a-1	
						and 6A.4.4.2.3b-1	
	Strength II	1.25	1.50				Table 6A.4.5.4.2a-1

Table 6A.4.2.2-1-Limit States and Load Factors for Load Rating

\* Defined in the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications.

Strength I of prestressed concrete bridges was adopted for the load rating of the primary structural components of Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts in this report. According to equation 6A.4.2.1-2, the ultimate capacity of these components should be further multiplied by condition and system factors. The condition factor provides a reduction to account for the increased uncertainty in the resistance of deteriorated members and the likely increased future deterioration of these members during the period between inspection cycles. Since Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts are relatively new structures, this factor was taken 1.0 according to Table 6A.4.2.3-1

Table 6A.4.2.3-1-Condition Factor:  $\varphi_c$ 

Structural Condition of Member	
Good or Satisfactory	
air	
	୍ତ

System factors are multipliers applied to the nominal resistance to reflect the level of redundancy of the complete superstructure system. Bridges that are less redundant will have their factored member capacities reduced, and, accordingly, will have lower ratings. The system factors in Table 6A.4.2.4-1 are more conservative than the LRFD design values and may be used at the discretion of the evaluator until they are modified in the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications. Therefore, it was decided that a system factor of 1.0 be used in rating all the structural components of Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts.

Superstructure Type	$\varphi_{\mathcal{S}}$
Welded Members in Two-Girder/Truss/Arch	0.85
<b>Bridges</b>	
Riveted Members in Two-Girder/Truss/Arch	0.90
<b>Bridges</b>	
Multiple Eyebar Members in Truss Bridges	0.90
Three-Girder Bridges with Girder Spacing 6 ft	0.85
Four-Girder Bridges with Girder Spacing $\leq 4$ ft	0.95
All Other Girder Bridges and Slab Bridges	1.00
Floorbeams with Spacing >12 ft and	0.85
Noncontinuous Stringers	
Redundant Stringer Subsystems between	1.00
Floorbeams	

Table 6A.4.2.4-1-System Factor:  $\varphi$ , for Flexural and Axial **Effects** 

For rating concrete components subjected to both axial load and bending moment, the following steps were applied to obtain the rating factor:

- 1. Develop the interaction diagram, as shown below, using as-inspected section properties.
- 2. Locate point A that represents the factored dead load moment and axial force.
- 3. Using the factored live load moment and axial force for the rating live load, compute the live load eccentricity  $e_1$ .
- 4. Continue from Point A with the live load eccentricity to the intersection with the interaction diagram.
- 5. Read the ultimate moment and axial capacities from the diagram.



# **2.2 Design Load Rating**

Design load rating is a first-level assessment of bridges based on the HL-93 loading and LRFD design standards, using dimensions and properties of the bridge in its present as-inspected condition. It is a measure of the performance of existing bridges to current LRFD bridge design standards. Under this check, bridges are screened for the strength limit state at the LRFD design level of reliability (Inventory level), or at a second lower evaluation level of reliability (Operating level). Design load rating can serve as a screening process to identify bridges that should be load rated for legal loads per the following criteria:

- Bridges that pass HL-93 screening at the Inventory level will have adequate capacity for all AASHTO legal loads and State legal loads that fall within the exclusion limits described in the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications.
- Bridges that pass HL-93 screening only at the Operating level will have adequate capacity for AASHTO legal loads, but may not rate  $(RF < 1)$  for all State legal loads, specifically those vehicles significantly heavier than the AASHTO trucks.

The figure shown below describes the HL-93 load (truck/tandem and lane loads), while Table 6A.4.3.2.2-1 lists the live load factors for both inventory and operation rating levels. A dynamic load allowance of 33% (LRFD Design Article 3.6.2) was applied to the truck/tandem load only, while a multiple presence factor according to LRFD Design Article 3.6.1.1.2 was applied to both truck/tandem and lane loads. It should be noted that the design truck controlled the rating of all the primary structural components of Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts except the floor beams, where the design tandem controlled the rating.



Table 6A.4.3.2.2-1—Load Factors for Design Load:  $\gamma_L$ 



# **2.3 Legal Load Rating**

Bridges that do not have sufficient capacity under the design-load rating shall be load rated for legal loads to establish the need for load posting or strengthening. This second level rating provides the safe load capacity of a bridge for the AASHTO family of legal loads or State legal loads, whichever is greater. The figures shown below present Nebraska legal loads (Type 3, Type 3S2, and Type 3-3), which are heavier than AASHTO legal loads, in addition to the lanetype loading for spans greater than 200 ft (i.e. Columbus Viaduct only).



Figure D6A-4-Lane-Type Loading for Spans Greater than 200 ft

Strength is the primary limit state for legal load rating. Live load factors were selected based on the ADTT at the bridge as shown in Table 6a.4.4.2.3a-1. The traffic data listed on project drawings indicates that future ADTT on Ravenna Viaduct is 235 and on Columbus Viaduct is 2,087. Based on these data, the live load factor was estimated to be 1.45 for Ravenna Viaduct and 1.70 for Columbus Viaduct. The dynamic load allowance and multiple presence factor of design loads were also applied to the legal loads.

	Load Factor for Type 3,
Traffic Volume	Type 3S2, Type 3-3 and
(One direction)	Lane Loads
Unknown	1.80
$ADTT \geq 5000$	1.80
$ADTT = 1000$	1.65
$ADTT \leq 100$	140

Table 6A.4.4.2.3a-1-Generalized Live Load Factors,  $\gamma_L$  for **Routine Commercial Traffic** 

Linear interpolation is permitted for other ADTT.

### **2.4 Permit Load Rating**

Bridge Owners usually have established procedures and regulations which allow the passage of vehicles above the legally established weight limitations on the highway system. These procedures involve the issuance of a permit which describes the features of the vehicle and/or its load and, in most jurisdictions, which specifies the allowable route or routes of travel. Permits are issued by States on a single trip, multiple trip, or annual basis. Routine or annual permits are usually valid for unlimited trips over a period of time, not to exceed one year, for vehicles of a given configuration within specified gross and axle weight limits. Special permits are usually valid for a single trip only, for a limited number of trips, or for a vehicle of specified configuration, axle weights, and gross weight. Depending upon the authorization, these permit vehicles may be allowed to mix with normal traffic or may be required to be escorted in a manner which controls their speed, lane position, the presence of other vehicles on the bridge.

Permit load rating checks the safety of bridges in the review of permit applications for the passage of vehicles above the legally established weight limitations. This is a third level rating that should be applied only to bridges having sufficient capacity for legal loads. The figure below presents the configurations of the most common permit trucks in Nebraska, which were used in this report. For spans up to 200 ft, only the permit vehicle shall be considered present in the lane. For spans between 200 and 300 ft, an additional lane load shall be applied to simulate closely following vehicles. The lane load shall be taken as 0.2 klf in each lane superimposed on top of the permit vehicle (for ease of analysis) and is applied to those portions of the span(s) where the loading effects add to the permit load effects.











 $2,0$ 

 $5'0''$ 

Weight: 140000



 $35^{\circ}$   $0^{\prime\prime}$ 

20000 20000 20000  $\begin{array}{cc} 20000 & 20000 \\ 20000 & \end{array}$ 

Weight: 180000



15' O" 28'0"  $6'0''$  $\begin{array}{cc} & 5^\circ\,0^{\prime\prime} \\ & \ddots \\ 5^\circ\,0^{\prime\prime} & & 5^\circ\,0^{\prime\prime} \end{array}$  $\mathbf{6.0}_{n}$  $6'0''$ 

20000  $-20000$   $-20000$   $-20000$  $-20000$   $20000$   $20000$   $20000$ 

Weight: 300000



PS

P<sub>4</sub>

 $\bar{z}$ 

P<sub>Z</sub>

P3

 $\begin{array}{ccccc}\n&\frac{1}{2} & 5^{\circ} & 0^{\circ\circ} \\
&\frac{1}{2} & 6^{\circ\circ} & 0^{\circ\circ} \\
&\frac{1}{2} & 6^{\circ\circ} & 14^{\circ} & 0^{\circ\circ}\n\end{array}$ 15' 0"

 $\begin{array}{cccc} 20000 & 20000 & 20000 & 20000 & 20000 & 20000 \\ 20000 & 20000 & 20000 & 20000 & 20000 & 20000 \end{array}$ 20000 20000<br>20000 20000

Table 6A.4.5.4.2a-1 specifies live load factors for permit load rating that are calibrated to provide a uniform and acceptable level of reliability. Load factors are defined based on the permit type, loading condition, and site traffic data. Permit load factors given in Table 6A.4.5.4.2a-1 for the Strength II limit state are intended for spans having a rating factor greater than 1.0 when evaluated for AASHTO legal loads. Permit load factors are not intended for use in load-rating bridges for legal loads. For the rating of the primary structural components of Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts, it was assumed that permit vehicles will have multiple trips on the bridge with only one lane loaded at a time and will be mixed with other traffic vehicles. Based on the traffic data, the live load factor was estimated to be 1.6 for Ravenna Viaduct and 1.80 for Columbus Viaduct. The dynamic load allowance of design loads was applied to the permit loads with a multiple presence factor of 1.0. For other loading condition, rating factors should be multiplied by the ratio of the new load factor to existing one.



#### Table 6A.4.5.4.2a-1-Permit Load Factors:  $\gamma_L$

 $DF = LRFD$  distribution factor. When one-lane distribution factor is used, the built-in multiple presence factor should be divided out.

For routine permits between 100 kips and 150 kips, interpolate the load factor by weight and ADTT value. Use only axle weights on the bridge.

### **2.5 Rating Assumptions**

Below is a summary of the assumptions adopted in rating factor calculations:

- All load rating analysis results include a dynamic load allowance of 33% applied to the truck load only and a multiple presence factors of 1.20 for one loaded lane, 1.0 for two loaded lanes, 0.85 for three loaded lanes, and 0.65 for four or more loaded lanes
- Section loss percentages represent the loss in the thickness of the structural steel, reinforcing steel, and prestressing steel. No loss in the concrete section is considered. For example, 20% section loss in the concrete-filled ½" thick arch pipe represents a concretefilled arch pipe that is 0.4 in. thick.
- The effect of steel confinement on the compressive strength of the filling concrete was considered in calculating the capacity of the arch. Below is an example of calculating the compressive strength of confined concrete. It should be noted that a reduced value of the hoop stress in the pipe is used due to the axial stresses in the pipe.



# **SECTION 3: RAVENNA VIADUCT**

# **3.1 Analysis Model**

The figures shown below present the general sectional elevation and plan view of Ravenna Viaduct. The analytical model was developed using the as-designed information available in the project specifications. The structural analysis of the viaduct was performed using the structural analysis software SAP2000 Advanced v.14.1.0.



**GIRDER LAYOUT** 

The viaduct was modeled as a 3-D structure using frame elements for ties, arches, cross beams; cable elements for hangers; and tendon elements for post-tensioning strands as shown below.



The analysis of the structure was performed in three stages that represent the construction sequence. The section properties and loads applied in each stage are as follows:

# **Stage I:**

- Structure: Arch (steel only), tie (steel only), hangers, and cross beams.
- Loads: Own weight steel structure, metal decking (4 psf) and filling concrete.









# **Stage II:**

- Structure: Arch (filled with concrete), tie (filled with concrete), hangers, and cross beams.
- Loads: Post-tensioning of ties (2x19-0.6" strands) and weight of 8" thick concrete deck.



# **Stage III:**

- Structure: Arch (filled with concrete), tie (filled with concrete) and composite with 7.5" deck, hangers, end beams, cross beam composite with 7.5" concrete deck .
- Loads: Wearing surface (20 psf), barriers (0.4 k/ft), and live loads.





Analysis results for each member in the tied-arch shown below under each load case are given in a companion spreadsheet. The axial forces and bending moment at critical sections were used for load rating.



### **3.2 Capacity Charts**

The section capacity of primary structural components of the Ravenna Viaduct was determined assuming section loss percentages ranging from 0% to 50%. These percentages of section loss represent the corrosion that might occur in the steel portion of these components and, consequently reducing the thickness of structural steel and/or the diameter of prestressing strands. Reduction in the concrete dimensions and/or strength was considered negligible and was not included in these percentages. The following figures present the factored and nominal capacity charts for arch, tie, hanger, and floor beam sections respectively. These capacity charts were developed using the strain compatibility approach and the AASHTO LRFD strength reduction factors.









Nominal and Factored Capacity of Ravenna Tie

**Moment (kip.ft)** 



Factored Capacity of Ravenna Tie at vs. Section Loss



Nominal and Factored Capacity of Ravenna Floor Beams vs. **Section Loss** 



# **3.3 Rating Factors**

The table shown below lists the capacity of each of the primary structural component of Ravenna Viaduct as well as the demand at the most critical sections based on the 3D analysis.



The capacity and demand values were used to calculate the rating factor based on the equation 6A.4.2.1-1 presented in Section 2. The table shown below lists the rating factor in ratios and in tons. Section loss percentage, system factor and live load factors used in the calculations are highlighted in yellow and can be easily modified in the spreadsheet as needed.



Ravenna Viaduct was also analyzed in case of one of the hangers was totally damaged. This analysis was performed in a two dimensional model by eliminating the hanger at the location of the tie section with the highest bending moment. The next tables list the capacity and demand of each structural member as well as the calculated rating factors.







Below are the bending moment diagrams of the arch and tie due to deck weight only before and after the loss of one hanger. These diagrams show the significant increase in the arch moment.



## **SECTION 4: COLUMBUS VIADUCT**

## **4.1 Analysis Models**

The figures shown below present the general sectional elevation and plan view of Columbus Viaduct. The analytical model was developed using the as-designed information available in the project specifications. The structural analysis of the viaduct was performed using the structural analysis software SAP2000 Advanced v.14.1.0.



GENERAL FLEVATION

The viaduct was modeled as a 3-D structure using frame elements for ties, arches, cross beams; cable elements for hangers; and tendon elements for post-tensioning strands as shown below.



The analysis of the structure was performed in three stages that represent the construction sequence. The section properties and loads applied in each stage are as follows:

### **Stage I:**

- Structure: Arch (steel only), tie (steel only), hangers, and cross beams.
- Loads: Own weight steel structure, metal decking (4 psf) and filling concrete.























# **Stage II:**

- Structure: Arch (filled with concrete), tie (filled with concrete), hangers, and cross beams.
- Loads: Post-tensioning of ties (2x19-0.6" strands for outside ties and 2x37-0.6" strands for median ties) and weight of 8" thick concrete deck.



# **Stage III:**

- Structure: Arch (filled with concrete), tie (filled with concrete) and composite with 7.5" deck, hangers, end beams, cross beam composite with 7.5" concrete deck.
- Loads: Wearing surface (20 psf), barriers (0.4 k/ft), and live loads.











Analysis results for each member in the tied-arch shown below under each load case are given in a companion spreadsheet. The axial forces and bending moment at critical sections were used for load rating.



**Outside Arch** Outside Arch





### **4.2 Capacity Charts**

The section capacity of primary structural components of the Columbus Viaduct was determined assuming section loss percentages ranging from 0% to 50%. These percentages of section loss represent the corrosion that might occur in the steel portion of these components and, consequently reducing the thickness of structural steel and/or the diameter of prestressing strands. Reduction in the concrete dimensions and/or strength was considered negligible and was not included in these percentages. The following figures present the factored and nominal capacity charts for arch, tie, hanger, and floor beam sections respectively. These capacity charts were developed using the strain compatibility approach and the AASHTO LRFD strength reduction factors.



Nominal and Factored Capacity of Columbus Median Arch





Nominal and Factored Capacity of Columbus Outside Arch













фMn (kip.ft)



Nominal and Factored Capacity of Columbus Outside Tie









Nominal and Factored Capacity of Columbus Hanger vs. Section Loss



Nominal and Factored Capacity of Columbus Floor Beams vs **Section Loss** 4000 3500 3000 Moment (kip.ft) 2500 2000 1500 - Nominal 1000 Factored 500  $\mathbf 0$  $\mathbf 0$  $10\,$ 20 30 40 50 Section Loss (%)

# **4.3 Rating Factors**

The table shown below lists the capacity of each of the primary structural component of Columbus Viaduct as well as the demand at the most critical sections based on the 3D analysis.



The capacity and demand values were used to calculate the rating factor based on the equation 6A.4.2.1-1 presented in Section 2. The table shown below lists the rating factor in ratios and in tons. Section loss percentage, system factor and live load factors used in the calculations are highlighted in yellow and can be easily modified in the spreadsheet as needed.



Columbus Viaduct was also analyzed in case of one of the hangers was totally damaged. This analysis was performed in a two dimensional model by eliminating the hanger at the location of the tie section with the highest bending moment. The next tables list the capacity and demand of each structural member as well as the calculated rating factors.





# **SECTION 5: CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the analysis results of Ravenna and Columbus Viaducts, and the calculation of rating factors according to the 2008 AASHTO Manual for Bridge Evaluation, the following conclusions are made:

- The primary structural components of Ravenna Viaduct (i.e. arches, ties, hangers, and floor beams) have  $RF > 1$  under all design loads, legal loads, and permit loads using load factors of 1.75, 1.45, and 1.6 respectively, and assuming a system factor of 1.0 and section loss of 0%.
- In an extreme event that results in a complete damage of one hanger in Ravenna Viaduct, the RF of the arch will be less than 1 and the bridge need to be closed or posted until the damaged hanger is replaced.
- The primary structural components of Columbus Viaduct (i.e. arches, ties, hangers, and floor beams) have RFs > 1 under all design loads, legal loads, and permit loads except P5 using load factors of 1.75, 1.7, and 1.8 respectively, and assuming a system factor of 1.0 and section loss of 0%.
- In an extreme event that results in a complete damage of one hanger in Columbus Viaduct, the RF of the median tie under design load will be less than 1 and the bridge need to be closed or posted until the damaged hanger is replaced. It should be noted that RFs will remain greater than 1 in case of a complete damage of one hanger in the outside arch.

# **REFERENCES**

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- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Official (AASHTO) "LRFD Bridge Design Specifications", 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2007
- Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) "Concrete Filled Steel Tube Arch", Technical Report SPR-1 (03) 560, July 2006.
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- Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) "Bridge Design Manual", April 2004.
- K. Sakino, H. Nakahara, S. Morino and I. Nishiyama, (2004) "Behavior of Centrally Loaded Concrete-Filled Steel-Tube short columns", ASCE Journal of Structural Engineering, 130(2).

# **APPENDIX A: LOAD RATING SUMMARY SHEETS**