

Steel & Wood Column Design

Design Aims

If we know the loads, we can select a section that is adequate for strength & buckling.

If we know the length, we can find the limiting load satisfying strength & buckling.

Design Code Methodologies

Allowable Stress Design (ASD): the stress in a member must be less than an allowable stress which is equal to the yield stress divided by a factor of safety.

Load and Resistance Factor Design: more efficient method that factors loads for importance and compares the summation to a nominal strength that has been adjusted by a reduction factor.

Allowable Stress Design - Steel

American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Manual of ASD, 9th ed:

Long and slender: [$L_c/r \geq C_c$, preferably < 200]

$$F_{allowable} = \frac{F_{cr}}{F.S.} = \frac{12\pi^2 E}{23(KL/r)^2}$$

The yield limit is idealized into a parabolic curve that blends into the Euler's Formula at C_c .

With $F_y = 36$ ksi, $C_c = 126.1$

$$C_c = \sqrt{\frac{2\pi^2 E}{F_y}}$$

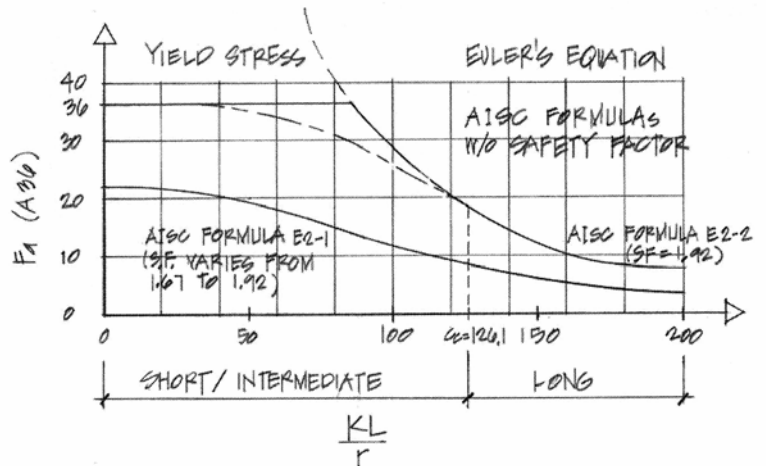
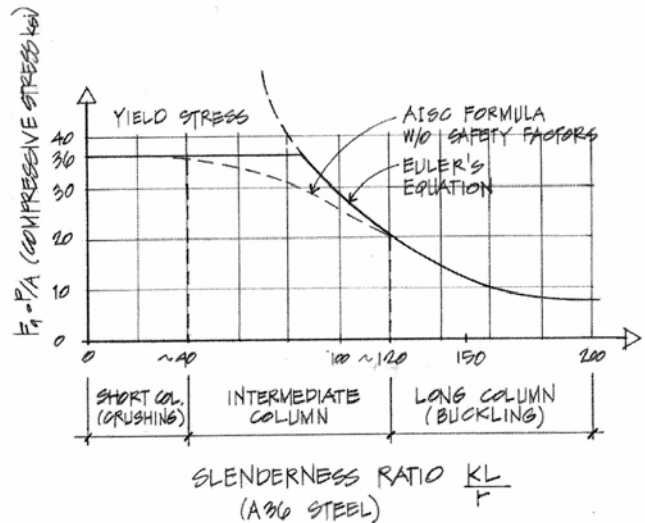
With $F_y = 50$ ksi, $C_c = 107.0$

Short and stubby: [$L_c/r < C_c$]

$$F_a = \left[1 - \frac{(KL/r)^2}{2C_c^2} \right] \frac{F_y}{F.S.}$$

with:

$$F.S. = \frac{5}{3} + \frac{3(KL/r)}{8C_c} - \frac{(KL/r)^3}{8C_c^3}$$



Procedure for Analysis

1. Calculate KL/r for each axis (if necessary). The largest will govern the buckling load.
2. Find F_a as a function of KL/r from Table 10.1 or 10.2 (pp. 361-364)
3. Compute $P_{\text{allowable}} = F_a \cdot A$ or alternatively compute $f_{\text{actual}} = P/A$
4. Is the design satisfactory?

Is $P \leq P_{\text{allowable}}$? \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, it is no good

or Is $f_{\text{actual}} \leq F_a$? \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, it is no good

Procedure for Design

1. Guess a size by picking a section.
2. Calculate KL/r for each axis (if necessary). The largest will govern the buckling load.
3. Find F_a as a function of KL/r from Table 10.1 or 10.2 (pp. 361-364)
4. Compute $P_{\text{allowable}} = F_a \cdot A$ or alternatively compute $f_{\text{actual}} = P/A$
5. Is the design satisfactory?

Is $P \leq P_{\text{allowable}}$? \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, pick a bigger section and go back to step 2.

or Is $f_{\text{actual}} \leq F_a$? \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, pick a bigger section and go back to step 2.

6. Check design efficiency by calculating percentage of stress used = $\frac{P_{\text{actual}}}{P_{\text{allowable}}} \cdot 100\%$

If value is between 90-100%, it is efficient.

If values is less than 90%, pick a smaller section and go back to step 2.

The critical load with respect to the slenderness ratio is presented in chart format in ASD, 8th ed, as well as the allowable stress charts for compression members.

Allowable Stress Design - Wood

National Design Specification for Wood Construction (1992):

Any slenderness ratio, $L_c/d \leq 50$:

$$f_c = \frac{P}{A} \leq F'_c$$

$$F'_c = F_c (C_D)(C_M)(C_t)(C_F)(C_p)$$

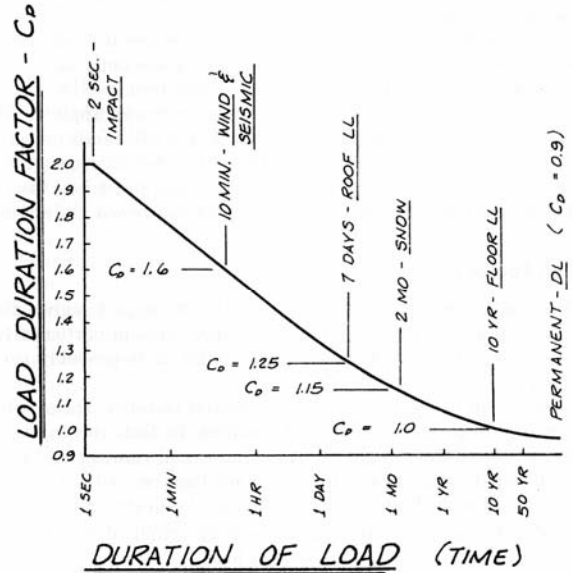
The curve uses factors to replicate the combination curve:

where:

- F'_c = allowable compressive stress parallel to the grain
- F_c = compressive strength parallel to the grain
- C_D = load duration factor
- C_M = wet service factor (1.0 for dry)
- C_t = temperature factor
- C_F = size factor
- C_p = column stability factor off chart

For preliminary column design:

$$F'_c = F_c^* C_p = (F_c C_D) C_p$$



Procedure for Analysis

1. Calculate L_e/d_{min}
2. Obtain F'_c
 compute $F_{cE} = \frac{K_{cE} E}{(l_e/d)^2}$ with $K_{cE} = 0.3$ for sawn, = 0.418 for glu-lam
3. Compute $F_c^* \cong F_c C_D$ with $C_D = 1$, normal, $C_D = 1.25$ for 7 day roof...
4. Calculate F_{cE}/F_c^* and get C_p from Appendix A, Table 14 (pp. 413-414)
5. Calculate $F'_c = F_c^* C_p$
6. Compute $P_{allowable} = F'_c \cdot A$ or alternatively compute $f_{actual} = P/A$
7. Is the design satisfactory?
 Is $P \leq P_{allowable}$? \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, it is no good
 or Is $f_{actual} \leq F'_c$? \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, it is no good

Procedure for Design

1. Guess a size by picking a section
2. Calculate L_e/d_{min}
3. Obtain F'_c
 compute $F_{cE} = \frac{K_{cE} E}{(l_e/d)^2}$ with $K_{cE} = 0.3$ for sawn, = 0.418 for glu-lam
4. Compute $F_c^* \cong F_c C_D$ with $C_D = 1$, normal, $C_D = 1.25$ for 7 day roof...
5. Calculate F_{cE}/F_c^* and get C_p from Appendix A, Table 14 (pp. 413-414)

6. Calculate $F'_c = F_c^* C_p$
7. Compute $P_{\text{allowable}} = F'_c \cdot A$ or alternatively compute $f_{\text{actual}} = P/A$
8. Is the design satisfactory?

Is $P \leq P_{\text{allowable}}?$ \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, pick a bigger section and go back to step 2.

or Is $f_{\text{actual}} \leq F'_c?$ \Rightarrow yes, it is; no, pick a bigger section and go back to step 2.

Load & Resistance Factor Design

American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Manual of LRFD, 3rd ed:

$$\sum \gamma_i Q_i \leq \phi P_n \quad \text{where}$$

γ is a load factor

Q is a load type

ϕ is a resistance factor

P_n is the nominal load capacity (strength)

Load combinations, ex: 1.4D (D is dead load)
 1.2D + 1.6L (L is live load)

For compression, $\phi_c = 0.85$ and $P_n = A_g F_{cr}$

where :

A_g is the cross section area and F_{cr} is the critical stress shown below (in Compact Sections).

Compact Sections

Compact sections are defined as sections with flanges continuously connected to the web or webs and the width-thickness ratios are less than limiting values given in the manual. This is to avoid local buckling of the flange or the web.

Formula parts depend on $\lambda_c = \frac{Kl}{r\pi} \sqrt{\frac{F_y}{E}}$ where $\frac{Kl}{r} = \frac{L_e}{r}$,

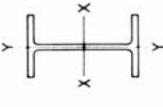
when $\lambda_c \leq 1.5$:

$$F_{cr} = (0.658^{\lambda_c^2}) F_y \quad \text{where } F_{cr} \text{ is the critical stress}$$

when $\lambda_c > 1.5$:

$$F_{cr} = \left[\frac{0.877}{\lambda_c^2} \right] F_y$$

Sample AISC Table for Allowable Axial Loads (ASD)



COLUMNS
W shapes
Allowable axial loads in kips

$F_y = 36 \text{ ksi}$
 $F_y = 50 \text{ ksi}$

Designation	WT12											
	36	50	36	50	36	50	36	50	36	50	36	50
Wt./ft.	0.674	0.936	0.609	0.846	0.553	0.768	0.501	0.696	0.456	0.633	0.413	0.573
F_y	637	872	575	788	522	715	473	647	430	589	389	533
	7	629	858	568	775	515	703	467	637	424	579	384
	8	620	844	560	762	508	691	460	626	418	568	378
	9	611	828	552	748	501	678	453	614	412	558	373
	10	602	812	544	733	493	665	446	601	406	547	367
	11	593	795	535	718	485	650	439	588	399	535	361
	12	583	777	526	701	477	636	431	575	392	522	354
	13	572	759	516	685	468	620	423	561	385	509	348
	14	561	740	506	667	459	604	415	546	377	496	341
	15	550	720	496	649	450	588	407	531	369	482	334
	16	539	699	486	630	440	570	398	515	361	468	326
	17	527	678	475	611	430	553	389	499	353	453	319
	18	514	656	464	591	420	534	379	482	344	438	311
	19	502	634	452	570	409	515	370	465	336	422	303
	20	489	611	440	549	398	496	360	447	328	406	294
	22	462	562	416	505	359	455	339	410	308	372	277
	24	433	511	390	458	352	412	317	371	288	336	259
	26	404	457	362	408	327	367	294	329	267	297	240
	28	372	399	334	356	301	319	270	285	245	258	220
	30	340	348	304	310	273	278	245	249	222	225	199
	32	305	306	272	273	244	244	219	219	197	197	176
	34	271	271	242	242	216	216	194	194	175	175	156
	36	241	241	215	215	193	193	173	173	156	156	139
	38	217	217	193	193	173	173	155	155	140	140	125
	40	196	196	175	175	156	156	140	140	126	126	113

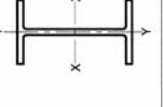
Properties	WT12											
	36	50	36	50	36	50	36	50	36	50	36	50
P_n (kips)	259	259	260	223	262	262	193	193	263	263	265	265
P_n (kips/in.)	185	257	161	223	139	193	122	169	106	148	92	128
P_n (kips)	588	693	431	508	354	417	269	317	206	243	154	181
P_n (kips)	221	306	182	253	148	205	122	169	101	140	82	114
L_c (ft)	12.9	10.9	12.8	10.9	12.8	10.9	12.8	10.8	12.7	10.8	12.7	10.7
L_c (ft)	43.3	31.2	39.9	28.7	36.2	26.0	33.3	24.0	30.5	21.9	27.7	20.0
L_c (in.)	31.2	28.2	25.6	23.2	21.1	19.1	17.0	15.6	14.6	13.1	11.7	10.5
L_c (in.)	933	833	740	662	597	533	475	425	391	348	307	
L_c (in.)	301	270	241	216	195	174	156	139	126	113	100	
L_c (in.)	3.11	3.09	3.07	3.05	3.04	3.03	3.02	3.01	3.00	2.99	2.98	
Ratio r_x/r_y	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	
Ratio r_x/r_y	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.217	0.217	0.217	0.217	0.217	0.217	0.217	0.217	
Ratio r_x/r_y	0.633	0.633	0.635	0.645	0.648	0.651	0.656	0.661	0.666	0.671	0.676	
Ratio r_x/r_y	139.1	124.3	110.4	98.6	88.6	79.3	71.5	64.8	59.1	54.1	49.6	
Ratio r_x/r_y	45.0	40.1	36.0	32.2	29.1	26.0	23.2	20.9	18.8	16.9	15.2	
Ratio r_x/r_y	310	307	300	296	292	289	286	283	280	277	274	
Ratio r_x/r_y	100	99.0	97.7	96.5	95.8	95.1	94.4	93.7	93.0	92.3	91.6	

†Flange is noncompact; see discussion preceding column load tables.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION

Sample AISC Table for LRFD Design Strength in Compression

Table 4-2 (cont.).
W-Shapes
Design Strength in Axial Compression, $\phi_c P_n$, kips



$F_y = 50 \text{ ksi}$
 $\phi_c P_n = 0.85 F_c A_g$

Shape	WT12-X											
	106	96	87	79	72	65	58	53	50	45	40	
0	1330	1200	1090	986	897	812	723	663	621	557	497	
6	1280	1150	1050	947	861	779	690	623	562	504	450	
7	1260	1140	1030	933	848	767	686	610	543	486	434	
8	1240	1120	1010	917	834	754	674	594	521	466	416	
9	1210	1100	994	900	818	739	651	577	497	445	396	
10	1190	1070	973	880	800	723	631	559	472	422	376	
11	1160	1050	950	860	781	706	620	549	465	415	370	
12	1130	1020	926	838	761	687	603	531	448	400	356	
13	1100	995	901	814	740	668	585	513	430	384	341	
14	1070	966	874	790	717	647	564	492	410	365	323	
15	1040	935	846	764	694	626	546	474	393	349	308	
16	1000	904	817	738	670	604	526	455	374	331	291	
17	968	871	788	711	645	581	504	433	352	310	270	
18	932	838	758	683	620	558	482	411	330	289	250	
19	895	805	727	655	594	535	460	389	308	268	230	
20	858	771	696	627	568	512	437	366	285	246	209	
22	783	703	634	570	517	464	392	320	240	202	166	
24	708	635	572	514	465	417	345	274	194	156	120	
26	635	569	511	459	415	372	301	230	150	112	76	
28	565	505	453	406	367	328	257	186	106	68	32	
30	497	443	397	355	321	287	216	145	92.3	54	18	
32	437	390	349	312	282	252	181	110	63.7	25	8	
34	387	345	309	277	250	223	152	88.9	50.5	30	11	
36	345	308	276	247	223	199	122	71.0	41.0	21	6	
38	310	276	248	221	200	179	110	61.0	34.0	17	4	
40	279	249	223	200	181	161	99.2	58.9	31.0	15	3	

Properties	WT12-X											
	106	96	87	79	72	65	58	53	50	45	40	
P_n (kips)	242	206	182	156	137	117	112	101	105	90.5	75.2	
P_n (kips/in.)	30.5	27.5	25.8	23.5	21.5	19.5	18.0	17.3	18.5	16.8	14.8	
P_n (kips)	609	445	365	278	213	159	125	110	133	98.6	67.4	
P_n (kips)	276	228	185	152	126	103	115	93.0	115	93.0	74.6	
L_c (ft)	11.0	10.9	10.8	10.8	10.7	11.9	8.87	8.76	6.92	6.89	6.85	
L_c (ft)	44.9	41.4	38.4	35.7	33.6	31.7	27.0	25.6	21.5	20.3	19.2	
L_c (in.)	31.2	26.2	25.6	23.2	21.1	19.1	17.0	15.6	14.6	13.1	11.7	
L_c (in.)	933	833	740	662	597	533	475	425	391	348	307	
L_c (in.)	301	270	241	216	195	174	156	139	126	113	100	
L_c (in.)	3.11	3.09	3.07	3.05	3.04	3.02	3.01	3.00	2.99	2.98	2.97	
Ratio r_x/r_y	1.76	1.76	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	
Ratio r_x/r_y	25700	23800	21200	18900	17100	15300	13600	12200	11200	9960	8790	
Ratio r_x/r_y	8620	7730	6900	6180	5580	4980	3060	2740	1610	1430	1260	

†Flange is noncompact.
Note: Heavy line indicates K/r equal to or greater than 200.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION

Example 1 (pg 367)

Example Problem 10.10 (Figure 10.41)

A 24-ft.-tall, A572 grade 50, steel column (W14×82) with an $F_y = 50$ ksi has pins at both ends. Its weak axis is braced at midheight, but the column is free to buckle the full 24 ft. in the strong direction. Determine the safe load capacity for this column.

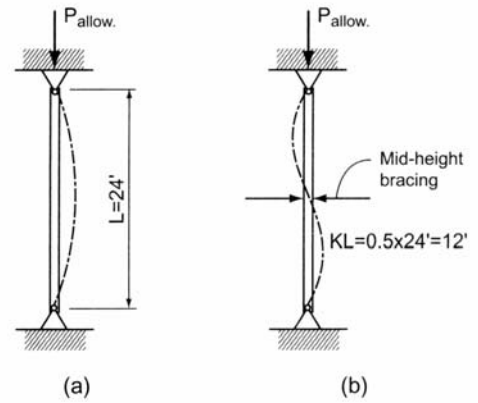


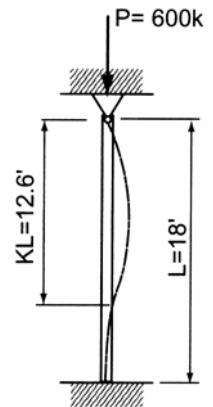
Figure 10.41 (a) Strong axis buckling.
(b) Weak axis buckling.

Example 2 (pg 371) + chart method

Example Problem 10.14: Design of Steel Columns (Figure 10.48)

Select the most economical W12 × column 18' in height to support an axial load of 600 kips using A572 grade 50 steel. Assume that the column is hinged at the top but fixed at the base.

ALSO: Select the column using the ASD design charts, and the LRFD charts assuming that the load is a dead load (factor of 1.4)



Example 3 (pg 379)

Example Problem 10.18 (Figures 10.60 and 10.61)

An 18' tall 6x8 Southern pine column supports a roof load (dead load plus a 7-day live load) equal to 16 kips. The weak axis of buckling is braced at a point 9'6" from the bottom support. Determine the adequacy of the column.

$$F_c = 975 \text{ psi}, E = 1.6 \times 10^6 \text{ psi}$$

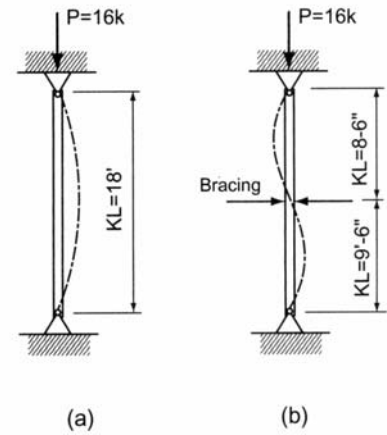
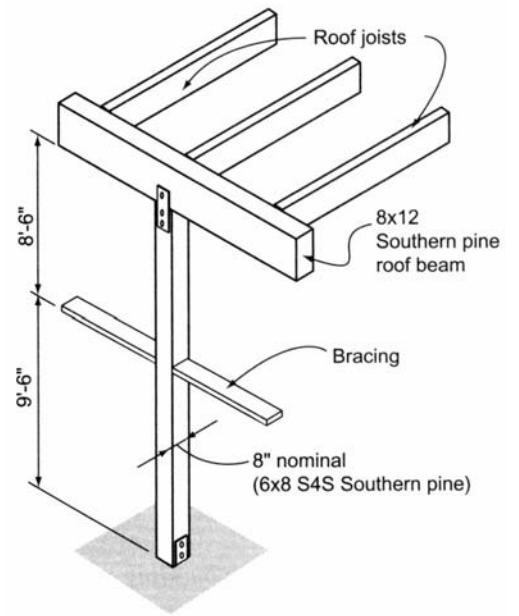


Figure 10.61 (a) Strong axis. (b) Weak axis.

Example 4 (pg 381)**Example Problem 10.20:
Design of Wood Columns(Figure 10.66)**

A 22'-tall glu-lam column is required to support a roof load (including snow) of 40 kips. Assuming $8\frac{3}{4}$ " in one dimension (to match the beam width above), determine the minimum column size if the top and bottom are pin supported.

Select from the following sizes:

$$8\frac{3}{4}" \times 9" (A = 78.75 \text{ in.}^2)$$

$$8\frac{3}{4}" \times 10\frac{1}{2}" (A = 91.88 \text{ in.}^2)$$

$$8\frac{3}{4}" \times 12" (A = 105.00 \text{ in.}^2)$$

