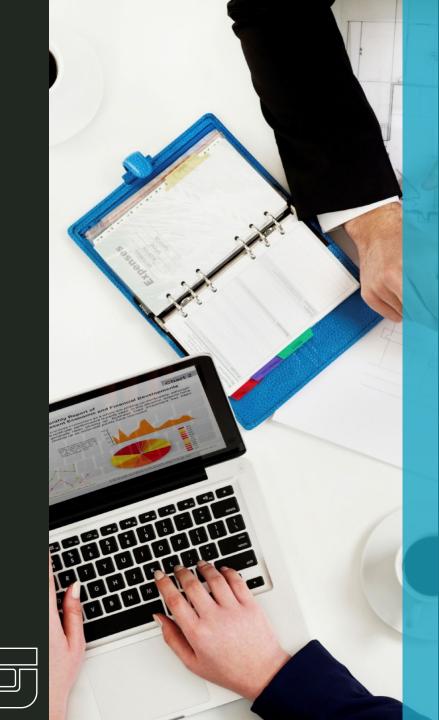


OBG PRESENTS:

Design for Fatigue of Structural Steel

By: Tim Kivisto, PE



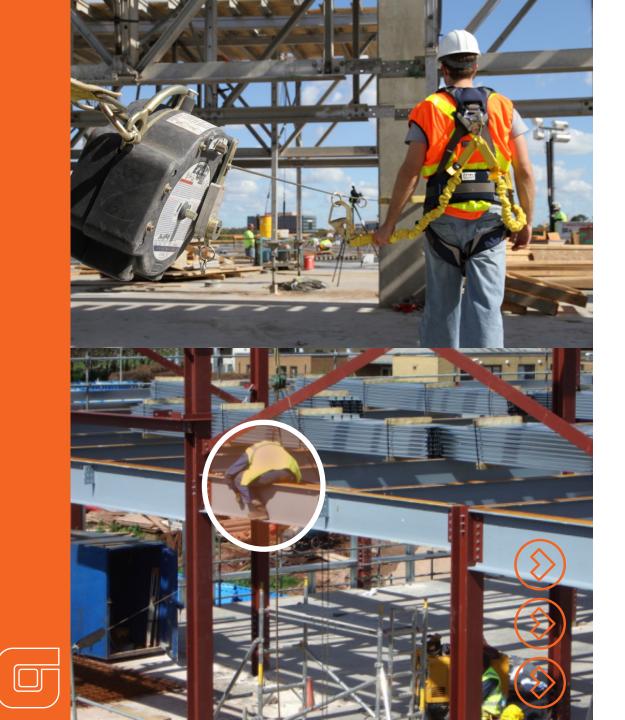
AGENDA

- What is fatigue?
 - Examples of steel subjected to fatigue
- What triggers fatigue design?
 - Illustration of the "Stress Range" concept
 - Explanation of the "Threshold Stress" term
- □ Allowable stress range equation (A-3-1) from AISC
 - Overview of Fatigue Design Parameter tables
- Considerations for bolted / welded connections
- G Worked Questions



Safety Moment





Structural Steel Erection

- Use of proper fall protection equipment is mandated by OSHA
- Recent changes in OSHA regulations regarding fall protection
- When on site, if you see something, say something

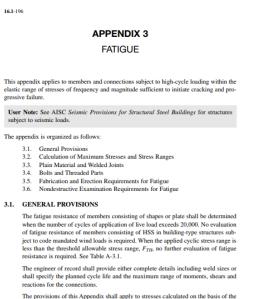


What is fatigue ?



What is fatigue?

- Applies to members and connections subject to high-cycle loading that induce sufficient stresses to initiate cracking and progressive failure from <u>service</u> <u>live loads</u>.
- Addressed in Appendix 3 of AISC 360-16 "Specification for Structural Steel Buildings" (and Commentary).



The provisions of this Appendix shall apply to stressec calculated on the basis of the applied cyclic load spectrum. The maximum permitted stress due to peak cyclic loads shall be 0.66F₉. In the case of a stress reversal, the stress range shall be computed as the numerical sum of maximum repeated tensile and compressive stresses or the numerical sum of maximum shearing stresses of opposite direction at the point of probable crack initiation.

The cyclic load resistance determined by the provisions of this Appendix is applicable to structures with suitable corrosion protection or subject only to mildly corrosive atmospheres, such as normal atmospheric conditions.

The cyclic load resistance determined by the provisions of this Appendix is applicable only to structures subject to temperatures not exceeding 300° F (150° C).

Specification for Structural Steel Buildings, July 7, 2016 AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION



What is fatigue?

- What about dead load, wind loads, seismic loads?
 - Dead load is not cyclic ' always present
 - Wind load is cyclic but not usually strong enough to initiate cracking
 - Seismic design events are very infrequent
- Does this work for LRFD design or only ASD?
 - This is a <u>service load</u> stress check
 - Treat similar to deflection checks





Examples of Steel Subjected to Fatigue



Examples of Steel Subjected to Fatigue

- Manufacturing sector with highly cyclic live loading:
 - Bridge Cranes, Crane Runways, Monorails, Manufacturing Equip.
- Transportation sector:
 - Steel Bridges

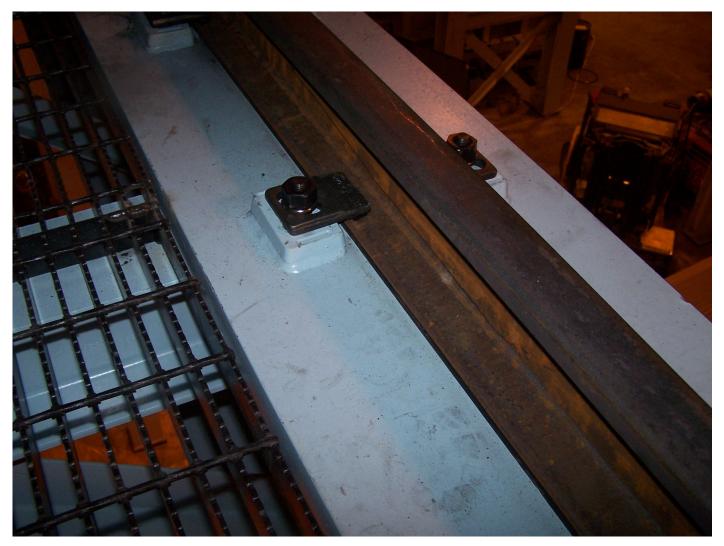


Bridge Crane



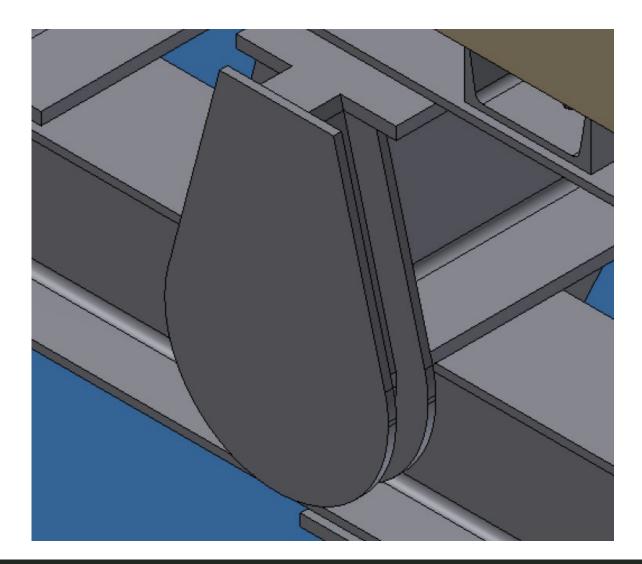


Bridge Crane





Lifting Eye

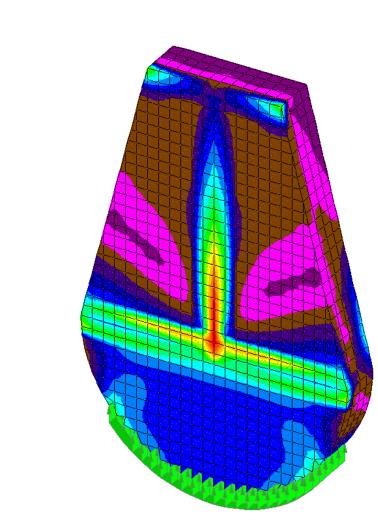




Lifting Eye

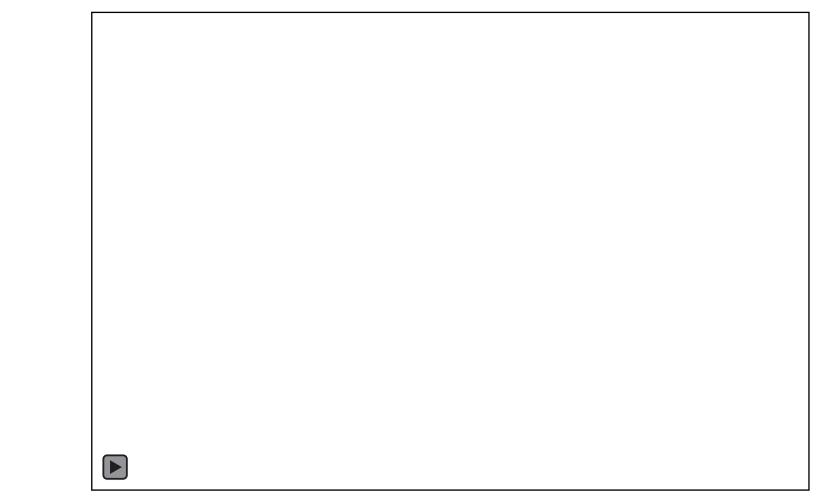
Sige/Von Mis ksi 0.202 0.372 0.542 0.712 0.882 1.05 1.22 1.39 1.56 1.73

1.7 1.9 2.07 2.24 2.58 >= 2.75



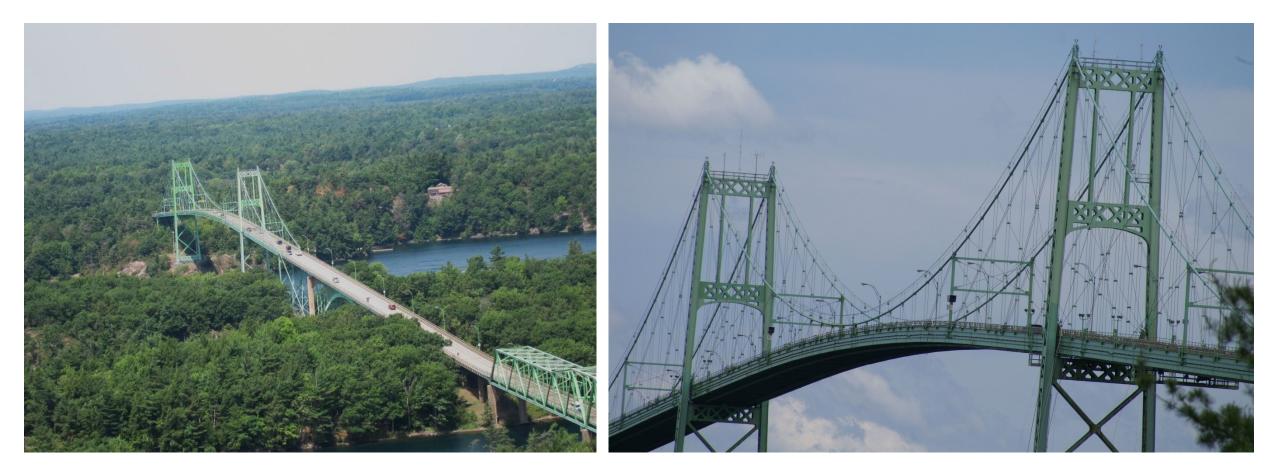


Lifting Eye (Video)





Steel Bridges







What Triggers Design for Fatigue (per AISC) ?



AISC Answer:

Steel members and connections subject to highcycle loading within the elastic range of stresses of frequency and magnitude sufficient to initiate cracking and progressive failure



What triggers fatigue design?

■ But....

□ If the number of lifetime live load cycles < 20,000

> fatigue consideration is <u>not</u> required

 \square If the live load stress range is less than the threshold stress, F_{TH}

- no fatigue evaluation required
- □ If the stress range is in full compression
 - no fatigue evaluation required
- Note that the provisions of Appendix 3 apply only to structures subject to temperatures less than 300°F.



Some Perspective on Load Cycles

- What does 20,000 live load cycles look like?
 - Design life of 25 years, crane is heavily loaded 1x per day x 5 days a week
 - = 6,500 cycles (*fatigue check <u>not required</u>*)
 - ▶ Design life of 25 years, crane is heavily loaded 3x per day x 5 days a week
 - = 19,500 cycles (fatigue check *not technically* required, < 20,000 cyles)
 - Design life of 50 years, crane is heavily loaded 15x per shift x 2 shifts x 5 days a week
 - = 390,000 cycles (fatigue check <u>required</u>!!)



Stress Range

For elements in complete compression or tension under cyclic loading or shear applied in single direction:

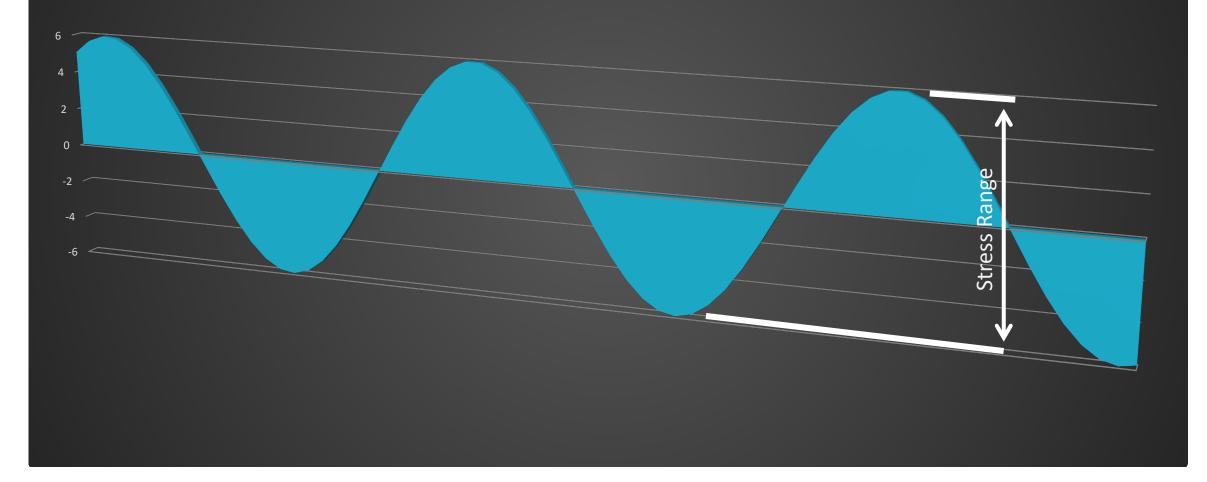
```
» Stress Range = (Tmax or Cmax or V_{max}) – 0
```

For elements that see both tension & compression or shear in opposing directions, the stress range is the absolute value of the difference of the extreme values (using negative for one and positive for the other):

» Stress Range =
$$|T_{max} - C_{max}|$$
 or $|V_{max, +ve} - V_{max, -ve}|$



Visualization of Stress Range





Threshold Stress

The Threshold Stress (F_{TH}) or <u>threshold allowable</u> <u>stress range</u> is the stress level below which fatigue design does not need to be considered.

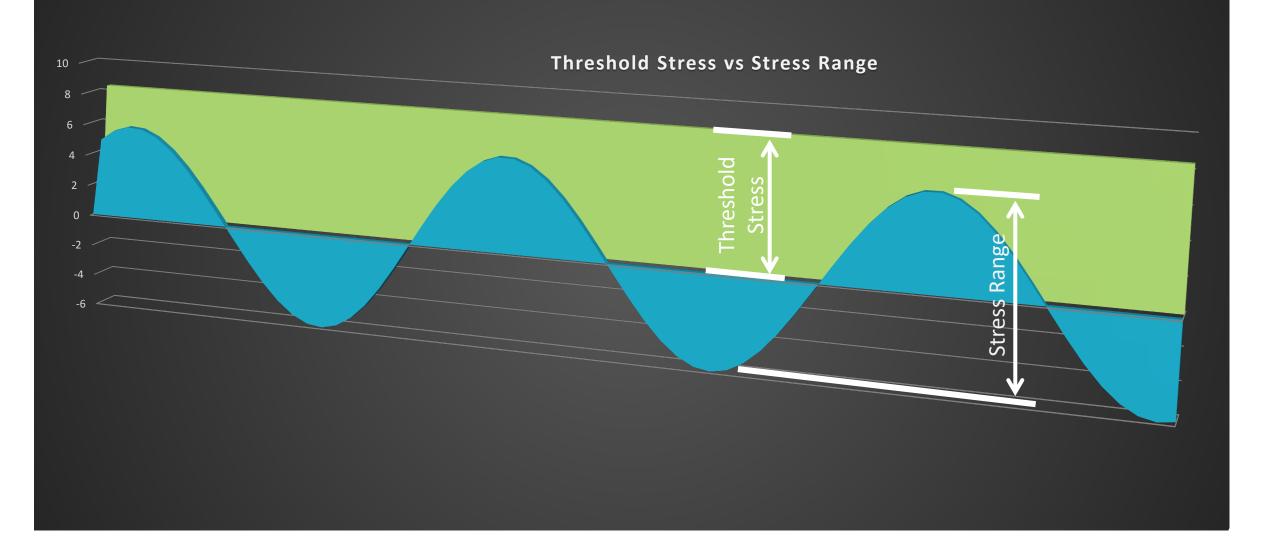
■ From Table A-3.1 (shown later), threshold stress varies for each type of component/connection and varies from 24 ksi → 2.6 ksi



Put it another way:

"Threshold allowable stress range is the maximum stress range for indefinite design life."







Allowable stress range equation



Allowable Stress Range

In plain material and welded joints, the range of stress due to the applied cyclic loads shall not exceed the allowable stress range computed as follows.

(a) For stress categories A, B, B', C, D, E and E', the allowable stress range, F_{SR} , shall be determined by Equation A-3-1 or A-3-1M, as follows:

$$F_{SR} = 1,000 \left(\frac{C_f}{n_{SR}}\right)^{0.333} \ge F_{TH}$$
(A-3-1)

$$F_{SR} = 6\,900 \left(\frac{C_f}{n_{SR}}\right)^{0.333} \ge F_{TH} \tag{A-3-1M}$$

where

 C_f = constant from Table A-3.1 for the fatigue category

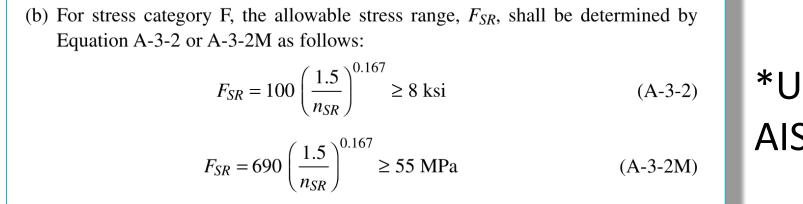
 F_{SR} = allowable stress range, ksi (MPa)

- F_{TH} = threshold allowable stress range, maximum stress range for indefinite design life from Table A-3.1, ksi (MPa)
- n_{SR} = number of stress range fluctuations in design life

*Updated in AISC 360-16



Allowable Stress Range



*Updated in AISC 360-16

Allowable Stress Range

PLAIN MATERIAL AND WELDED JOINTS

[App. 3.3.

16.1-198

(c) For tension-loaded plate elements connected at their end by cruciform, T or corner details with partial-joint-penetration (PJP) groove welds transverse to the direction of stress, with or without reinforcing or contouring fillet welds, or if joined with only fillet welds, the allowable stress range on the cross section of the tension-loaded plate element shall be determined as the lesser of the following: (1) Based upon crack initiation from the toe of the weld on the tension-loaded plate element (i.e., when $R_{PJP} = 1.0$), the allowable stress range, F_{SR} , shall be determined by Equation A-3-1 or A-3-1M for stress category C. (2) Based upon crack initiation from the root of the weld, the allowable stress range, FSR, on the tension loaded plate element using transverse PJP groove welds, with or without reinforcing or contouring fillet welds, the allowable stress range on the cross section at the root of the weld shall be determined by Equation A-3-3 or A-3-3M, for stress category C' as follows: $F_{SR} = 1,000 R_{PJP} \left(\frac{4.4}{n_{SP}}\right)^{0.333}$ (A-3-3) $F_{SR} = 6\,900R\,_{PJP} \left(\frac{4.4}{R_{en}}\right)^6$ (A-3-3M) R_{PIP}, the reduction factor for reinforced or nonreinforced transverse PJP groove welds, is determined as follows: $-0.65 - 0.59 \left(\frac{2a}{t_p}\right) + 0.72 \left(\frac{w}{t_p}\right)$ (A-3-4) $1.12 - 1.01 \left(\frac{2a}{t_p} \right) + \frac{1.24 \left(\frac{w}{t_p} \right)}{1.01} \le 1.0$ (A-3-4M) 2a = length of the nonwelded root face in the direction of the thickness of the tension-loaded plate, in. (mm) I_p = thickness of tension loaded plate, in. (mm) w = leg size of the reinforcing or contouring fillet, if any, in the direction of the thickness of the tension-loaded plate, in. (mm) If $R_{PJP} = 1.0$, the stress range will be limited by the weld toe and category C will control. (3) Based upon crack initiation from the roots of a pair of transverse fillet welds on opposite sides of the tension loaded plate element, the allowable stress range, FSR, on the cross section at the root of the welds shall be determined by Equation A-3-5 or A-3-5M, for stress category C" as follows: secification for Structural Steel Baildings, July 7, 2016 AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION App. 3.4.] BOLTS AND THREADED PARTS 16.1-199 $F_{SR} = 1,000R_{FIL} \left(\frac{4.4}{3}\right)^{0.5}$ (A-3-5) $F_{SR} = 6\,900R_{FIL} \left(\frac{4.4}{n_{exc}}\right)^{0.3}$ (A-3-5M) R_{FIL} = reduction factor for joints using a pair of transverse fillet welds $-\frac{0.06 + 0.72(w/t_p)}{1.0} \le 1.0$ (A-3-6) $0.103 + 1.24 (w/t_p) \le 1.0$ (A-3-6M) If $R_{FIL} = 1.0$, the stress range will be limited by the weld toe and category C will control

(c) For tension-loaded plate elements connected at their end by cruciform, T or corner details with partial-joint-penetration (PJP) groove welds transverse to the direction of stress, with or without reinforcing or contouring fillet welds, or if joined with only fillet welds, the allowable stress range on the cross section of the tension-loaded plate element shall be determined as the lesser of the following:

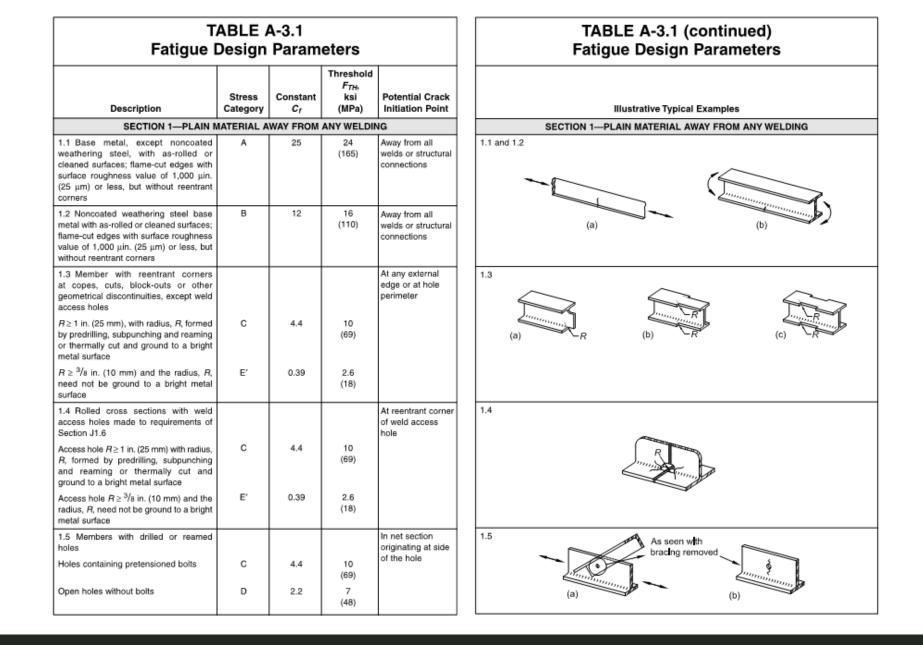
Fatigue Design Parameter Tables

■ See Table A-3.1 starting on page 16.1-196 *

(8 sections over 10 pages + accompanying diagrams)

- Section 1 Plain material away from any welding
- Section 2 Connected material in mechanically fastened joints
- Section 3 Welded joints joining components of built-up members
- Section 4 Longitudinal filled welded end connections
- Section 5 Welded joints transverse to direction of stress
- Section 6 Base metal at welded transverse member connections
- Section 7 Base metal at short attachments
- Section 8 Miscellaneous







| TABLE Fatigue | | | | | TABLE A-3.1 (continued) Fatigue Design Parameters | |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Description | Stress Category | Constant <i>C</i> 1 | Threshold <i>F_{TH},</i> ksi (MPa) | Potential Crack Initiation Point | Illustrative Typical Examples | |
| SECTION 2—CONNECTED MA 2.1 Gross area of base metal in lap joints connected by high-strength bolts in joints satisfying all requirements for slip-critical connections | B | 12 | 16 (110) | ED JOINTS Through gross section near hole | 2.1 As seen with lap plate removed (b) (Note: Figures are for slip-critical bolted connections.) | |
| 2.2 Base metal at net section of high- strength bolted joints, designed on the basis of bearing resistance, but fabri- cated and installed to all requirements for slip-critical connections | В | 12 | 16 (110) | In net section originating at side of hole | 2.2 As seen with lap plate removed (a) (Note: Figures are for bolted connections designed to bear, meeting the requirements of sip-critical connections.) | |
| 2.3 Base metal at the net section of riveted joints | с | 4.4 | 10 (69) | In net section originating at side of hole | 2.3 As seen with lap plate removed (a) (Note: Figures are for snug-tightened bolts, rivets, or other mechanical fasteners.) | |
| 2.4 Base metal at net section of eyebar head or pin plate | E | 1.1 | 4.5 (31) | In net section originating at side of hole | | |

| TABLE Fatigue [| | | | | TABLE A-3.1 (continued) Fatigue Design Parameters | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| Description | Stress Category | Constant Cr | Threshold <i>F_{TH}, ksi (MPa)</i> | Potential Crack Initiation Point | Illustrative Typical Examples | | |
| SECTION 5—WELDED JOIN | TS TRANSV | ERSE TO DI | RECTION OF | STRESS | SECTION 5—WELDED JOINTS TRANSVERSE TO DIRECTION OF STRESS | | |
| 5.5 Base metal and weld metal in or adja- ent to transverse CJP groove welded utt splices with backing left in place fack welds inside groove | D | 2.2 | 7 (48) | From the toe of the groove weld or the toe of the weld attaching backing when applicable | 5.5 Category D | | |
| ck welds outside the groove and not oser than 1/2 in. (13 mm) to the edge of se metal | E | 1.1 | 4.5 (31) | | (a) (b) (c) Category E (d) (e) | | |
| 6 Base metal and weld metal at trans- rise end connections of tension-loaded ate elements using PJP groove welds butt, T or corner-joints, with reinforc- g or contouring fillets; F_{SR} shall be the naller of the toe crack or root crack lowable stress range | | | | | 5.6 Toe Crack Category C (a) (b) (c) Ste for potential crack Initiation due to bending tensile stress | | |
| k initiating from weld toe k initiating from weld root | с с | 4.4 See Eq. A-3-3 or A-3-3M | 10 (69) None | Initiating from weld toe extending into base metal Initiating at weld root extending into and through weld | Root Crack Category C' | | |
| Base metal and weld metal at trans- end connections of tension-loaded elements using a pair of fillet welds oposite sides of the plate; <i>F_{SR}</i> shall e smaller of the weld toe crack or root crack allowable stress range | | | | | 5.7 Toe Crack Category C | | |
| rack initiating from weld toe | с | 4.4 | 10 (69) | Initiating from weld toe extending into base metal | | | |
| Crack initiating from weld root | С" | See Eq. A-3-5 or A-3-5M | None | Initiating at weld root extending into and through weld | Root Crack Category C" | | |
| Base metal of tension-loaded plate ments, and on built-up shapes and ed beam webs or flanges at toe of isverse fillet welds adjacent to welded isverse stiffeners | С | 4.4 | 10 (69) | From geometrical discontinuity at toe of fillet extending into base metal | | | |

| TABLE Fatigue | | | | | TABLE A-3.1 (continued) Fatigue Design Parameters |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Description | Stress Category | Constant C1 | Threshold F _{TH} ksi (MPa) | Potential Crack Initiation Point | Illustrative Typical Examples |
| SECTION | ON 8-MISC | ELLANEOUS | S | | SECTION 8—MISCELLANEOUS |
| 8.1 Base metal at steel headed stud anchors attached by fillet weld or auto- matic stud welding | с | 4.4 | 10 (69) | At toe of weld in base metal | 8.1 (a) (b) (c) |
| 8.2 Shear on throat of any fillet weld, continuous or intermittent, longitudinal or transverse | F | See Eq. A-3-2 or A-3-2M | See Eq. A-3-2 or A-3-2M | Initiating at the root of the fillet weld, extending into the weld | 8.2 (a) (b) (c) |
| 8.3 Base metal at plug or slot welds | E | 1.1 | 4.5 (31) | Initiating in the base metal at the end of the plug or slot weld, extending into the base metal | 8.3 (a) (b) |
| 8.4 Shear on plug or slot welds | F | See Eq. A-3-2 or A-3-2M | See Eq. A-3-2 or A-3-2M | Initiating in the weld at the faying surface, extending into the weld | 8.4 (a) (b) |
| 8.5 High-strength bolts, common bolts, threaded anchor rods, and hanger rods, whether pretensioned in accordance with Table J3.1 or J3.1M, or snug-tight- ened with cut, ground or rolled threads; stress range on tensile stress area due to applied cyclic load plus prying action, when applicable | G | 0.39 | 7 (48) | Initiating at the root of the threads, extending into the fastener | 8.5 (a) Crack sites (b) (c) (d) |





Bolts and Threaded Parts

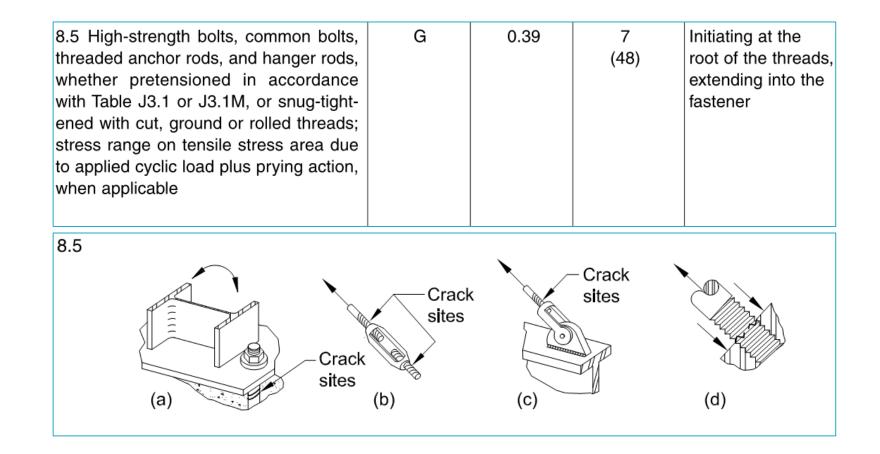


Bolts and Threaded Parts

- Section 3.4:
 - For mechanically fastened connections loaded in shear, use Section 2 of Table A-3.1
 - For bolts (or anchor rods), the maximum range of tensile stress from axial load + moment + prying action shall follow equation A-3-1 and use C_f and F_{TH} from Stress Category G, Case 8.5
 - > Use net tensile area from applied axial load, moment, and prying action



Bolts and Threaded Parts







Welded Components



Welded Components

Welds frequently feature in fatigue design

4 out of 8 sections of Table A-3.1 have "weld" in the title and the misc. section has 4 weld sub-sections



Fatigue Design Parameter Tables (Review)

■ See Table A-3.1 starting on page 16.1-196 *

(8 sections over 10 pages + accompanying diagrams)

- Section 1 Plain material away from any welding
- Section 2 Connected material in mechanically fastened joints
- Section 3 Welded joints joining components of built-up members
- Section 4 Longitudinal filled welded end connections
- Section 5 Welded joints transverse to direction of stress
- Section 6 Base metal at welded transverse member connections
- Section 7 Base metal at short (welded) attachments
- Section 8 Miscellaneous (4 out of 5 sub-categories are welded connections)



Welded Components

Good design practice for weld design is to remain below the threshold stress in the weld and in the connected parts near the weld

3.1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The fatigue resistance of members consisting of shapes or plate shall be determined when the number of cycles of application of live load exceeds 20,000. No evaluation of fatigue resistance of members consisting of HSS in building-type structures subject to code mandated wind loads is required. When the applied cyclic stress range is less than the threshold allowable stress range, F_{TH} , no further evaluation of fatigue resistance is required. See Table A-3.1.

The engineer of record shall provide either complete details including weld sizes or shall specify the planned cycle life and the maximum range of moments, shears and reactions for the connections.

The provisions of this Appendix shall apply to stresses calculated on the basis of the applied cyclic load spectrum. The maximum permitted stress due to peak cyclic loads shall be $0.66F_{y}$. In the case of a stress reversal, the stress range shall be computed as the numerical sum of maximum repeated tensile and compressive stresses or the numerical sum of maximum shearing stresses of opposite direction at the point of probable crack initiation.

The cyclic load resistance determined by the provisions of this Appendix is applicable to structures with suitable corrosion protection or subject only to mildly corrosive atmospheres, such as normal atmospheric conditions.

The cyclic load resistance determined by the provisions of this Appendix is applicable only to structures subject to temperatures not exceeding 300° F (150° C).

"EOR shall provide complete details including weld sizes or shall specify the planned cycle life and max. range of moments, shears and reactions for the connections."





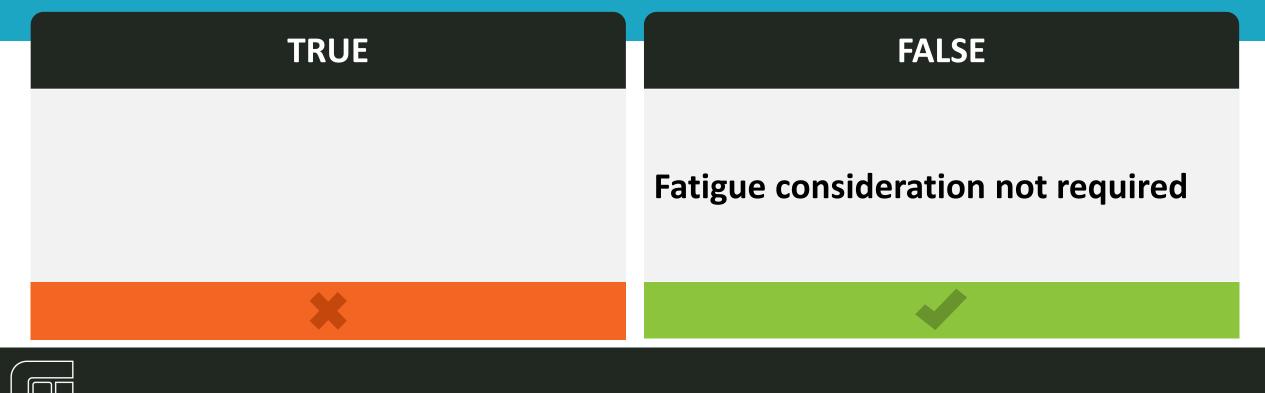
Worked Questions (6)





A component will be cyclically loaded 5 times per day, every day, for 10 years. Design for fatigue is required, true or false? (Why / Why not?)

n_{sr} = 5 x 365 x 10 = 18,250



What triggers fatigue design? (Review)

■ But....

▶ If the number of lifetime live load cycles < 20,000,

fatigue consideration is *not* required

► If the live load stress range is less than the threshold stress, F_{TH}, <u>no fatigue</u> <u>evaluation is needed</u>

Stress ranges that are full in compression require

no fatigue evaluation

■ Note that the provisions of Appendix 3 apply only to structures subject to temperatures less than 300°F.



A compression-only column will be cyclically loaded 5 times per day for 25 years. Design for fatigue is required, true of false? Why / Why not?

n_{sr} = 5 x 365 x 25 = 45,625

| TRUE | FALSE |
|------|------------------------------------|
| | Fatigue consideration not required |
| | |
| | |

What triggers fatigue design? (Review)

- But....
 - ▶ If the number of lifetime live load cycles < 20,000,
 - fatigue consideration is <u>not</u> required
 - ► If the live load stress range is less than the threshold stress, F_{TH}, <u>no fatigue</u> <u>evaluation is needed</u>
 - Stress ranges that are full in compression require
 - no fatigue evaluation
- Note that the provisions of Appendix 3 apply only to structures subject to temperatures less than 300°F.





The threshold stress for a steel component is 16 ksi with 50,000 cycles of loading over its lifetime. The stress of the component fluctuates between 5 ksi in compression and 14 ksi in tension. Design for fatigue is required, true or false? Why / why not?

1: n_{sr} =50,000

2: Actual stress range = difference between 14 ksi (tension) and 5 ksi (compression).

| TRUE | FALSE |
|---|-------|
| True, number of cycles > 20,000 and stress range (19 ksi) > threshold stress range (= 16 ksi) | |
| | |





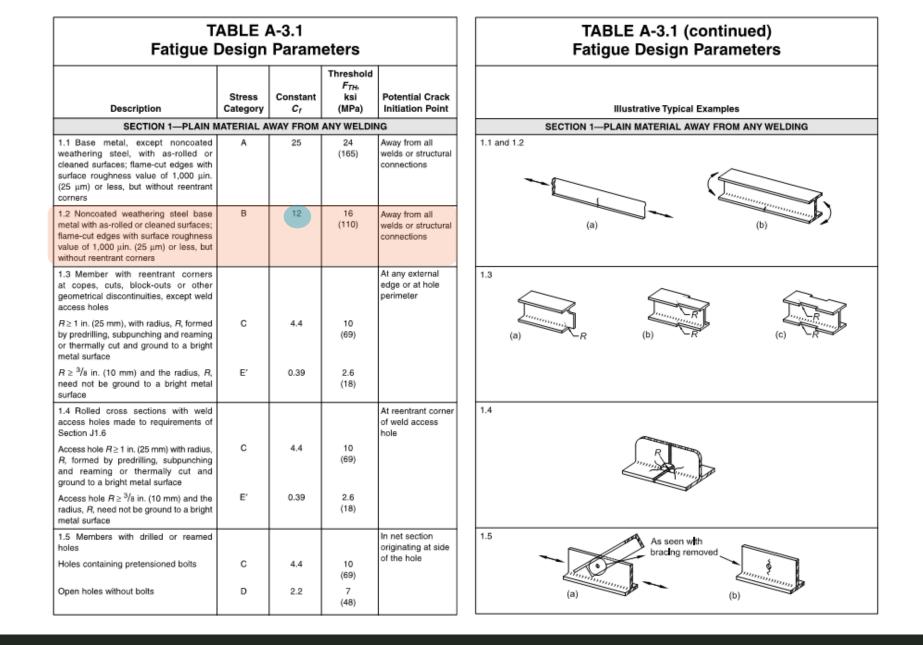
For the previous question, what is the allowable design stress range according to equation A-3-1 assuming the component is plain material in Stress Category B?



For the previous question, what is the allowable design stress range according to equation A-3-1 assuming the component is plain material in Stress Category B?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, C_f







For the previous question, what is the allowable design stress range according to equation A-3-1 assuming the component is plain material in Stress Category B?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, $C_f = 12$



For the previous question, what is the allowable design stress range according to equation A-3-1 assuming the component is plain material in Stress Category B?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, $C_f = 12$ 2: Recall that N = 50,000 (from previous question) $F_{SR} = (C_f / N)^{0.333} = 62$ ksi (!!)...note the small "N"





For the previous question, what is the allowable design stress range according to equation A-3-1 assuming the component is plain material in Stress Category B?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, $C_f = 12$ 2: Recall that $n_{SR} = 50,000$ (from previous question)

 \rightarrow F_{SR} = 1000 x (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333} = 62 ksi (!!)...note the small "n_{SR}"

*Note that the maximum permitted stress due to peak cyclic loads is 0.66 F_{v}



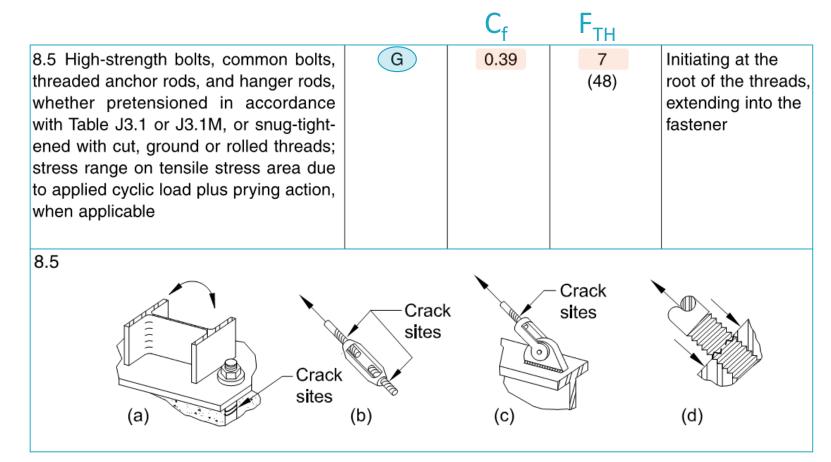


What is the design stress range for a ³/₄" dia. A325 bolt that is loaded 300,000 times cyclically? The bolt takes up to 5 kips in tension (3 kips from direct tension and 2 kips from moment)

Is the bolt OK?



Bolts and Threaded Parts (Review)







What is the design stress range for a ³/₄" dia. A325 bolt that is loaded 300,000 times cyclically? The bolt takes up to 5 kips in tension (3 kips from direct tension and 2 kips from moment)

Is the bolt OK?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \text{ x} (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, $C_f = 0.39$, $F_{TH} = 7$ ksi, $n_{SR} = 300,000$





What is the design stress range for a ³/₄" dia. A325 bolt that is loaded 300,000 times cyclically? The bolt takes up to 5 kips in tension (3 kips from direct tension and 2 kips from moment)

Is the bolt OK?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, $C_f = 0.39$, $F_{TH} = 7$ ksi, $n_{SR} = 300,000$ 2: $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333} = 10.9$ ksi





What is the design stress range for a ³/₄" dia. A325 bolt that is loaded 300,000 times cyclically? The bolt takes up to 5 kips in tension (3 kips from direct tension and 2 kips from moment)

Is the bolt OK?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, $C_f = 0.39$, $F_{TH} = 7$ ksi, $n_{SR} = 300,000$ 2: $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / N)^{0.333} = 10.9$ ksi 3: Actual bolt stress range = 5 kips / $A_{bolt} = 11.3$ ksi



?

What is the design stress range for a ³/₄" dia. A325 bolt that is loaded 300,000 times cyclically? The bolt takes up to 5 kips in tension (3 kips from direct tension and 2 kips from moment)

Is the bolt OK?

Recall that $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / n_{SR})^{0.333}$ 1: Look up Constant, $C_f = 0.39$, $F_{TH} = 7$ ksi, $n_{SR} = 300,000$ 2: $F_{SR} = 1000 \times (C_f / N)^{0.333} = 10.9$ ksi 3: Actual bolt stress range = 5 kips / $A_{bolt} = 11.3$ ksi

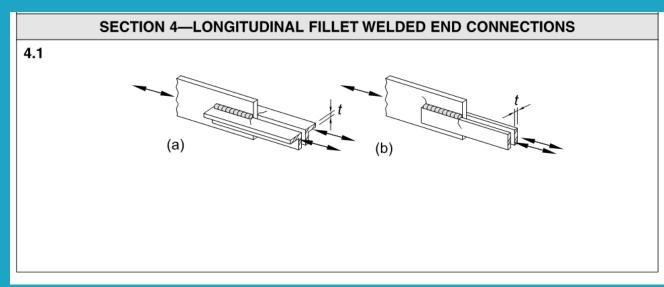
 \rightarrow Since actual stress = 11.3 ksi > F_{SR} BOLT NOT OK !



?

A diagonal brace on a piece of equipment experiences 1 ksi in compression and 2 ksi in tension. It is loaded approximately 5 times per minute, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The desired minimum design life is 10 years (n_{SR} = 26,280,000).

The brace (2L 6x4x7/8") is longitudinally welded in an end connection to a gusset plate. What is the allowable stress range? Is the member sufficient at this connection?



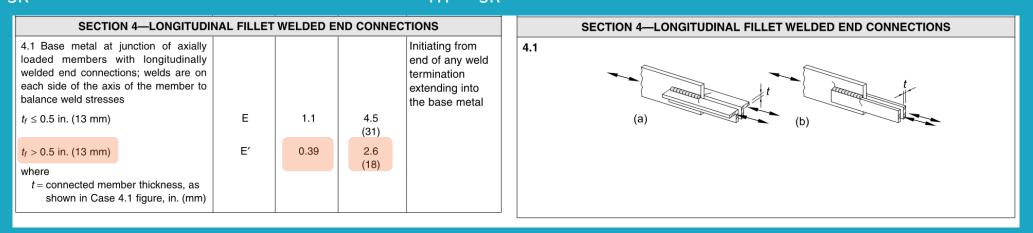


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Is the brace adequately sized?

 \rightarrow NO! Since actual stress range = 3 ksi > F_{SR} = 2.6 ksi



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Metal Fatigue in Engineering

Second Edition



16.1-523

APPENDIX 3

FATIGUE

When the limit state of fatigue is a design consideration, its severity is most significantly affected by the number of load applications, the magnitude of the stress range, and the severity of the stress concentrations associated with particular details. Issues of fatigue are not normally encountered in building design; however, when encountered and if the severity is great enough, fatigue is of concern and all provisions of this Appendix must be satisfied.

3.1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

This Appendix deals with high cycle fatigue (i.e., > 20,000 cycles); this behavior occurs when elastic stresses are involved. In situations where inelastic (plastic) stresses are involved, fatigue cracks may initiate at far fewer than 20,000 cycles—perhaps as few as a dozen. However, unlike the conditions preseribed in this Appendix, low cycle fatigue involves cycle; inelastic stresses. This is because the applicable cycle ladowabe stress range will be limited by the static allowable stress. At low levels of cyclic tensile stress, a point is reached where the stress range is so low that fatigue cracking will not initiate regardless of the number of cycles of loading. This level of stress is defined as the fatigue threshold, F_{TP} .

Extensive test programs using full-size specimens, substantiated by theoretical stress analysis, have confirmed the following general conclusions (Fisher et al., 1970; Fisher et al., 1974):

- Stress range and notch severity are the dominant stress variables for welded details and beams.
- (2) Other variables such as minimum stress, mean stress and maximum stress are not significant for design purposes.
- (3) Structural steels with a specified minimum yield stress of 36 to 100 ksi (250 to 690 MPa) do not exhibit significantly different fatigue strengths for given welded details fabricated in the same manner.

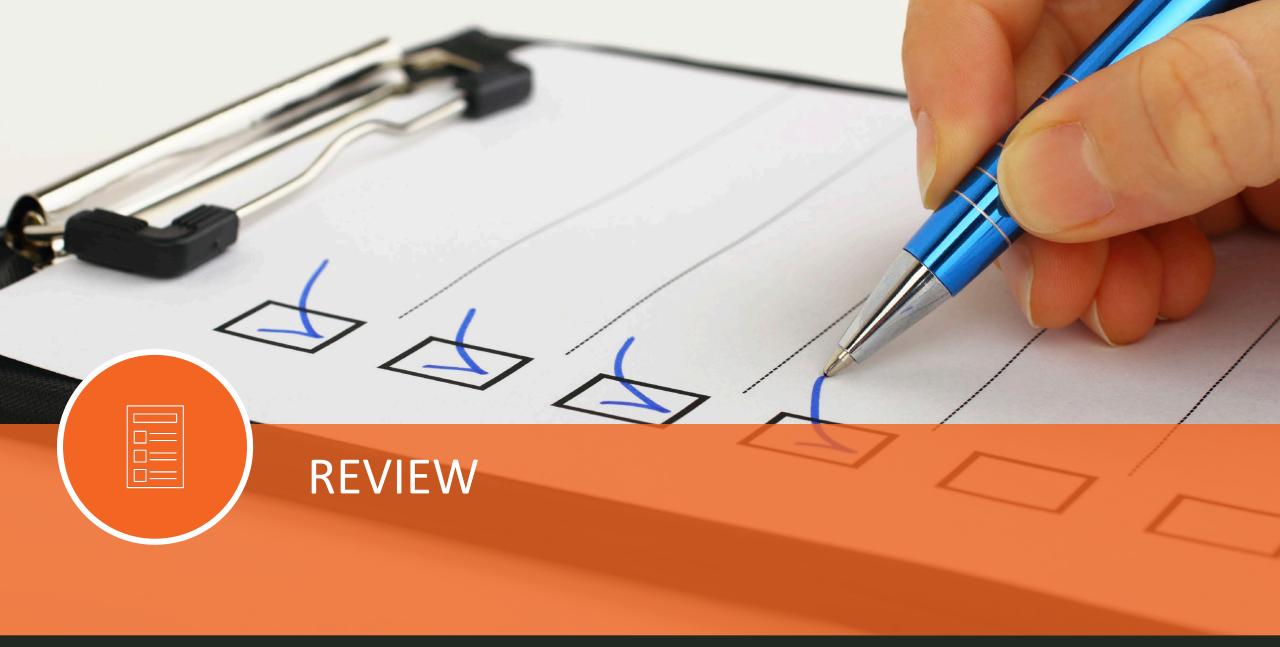
Fatigue crack growth rates are generally inversely proportional to the modulus of elasticity and therefore, at higher temperatures, crack growth rates increase. At 500°F (260°C), crack growth rates on ASTM A212B steel (ASTM, 1967) are essentially the same as for room temperature (Hertzberg et al., 2012). The Appendix is conservatively limited to applications involving temperatures not to exceed 300°F (150°C). Elevated temperature applications may also have corrosion effects that are not considered by the Appendix.

The Appendix does not have a lower temperature limit because fatigue crack growth rates are lower. Fatigue tests as low as -100° F (-75° C) have been conducted with no observed change in crack growth rates (Roberts et al., 1980). It should be recognized

Specification for Structural Steel Buildings, July 7, 2016 AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES







- What is fatigue and where does it typically occur?
- What triggers fatigue design?
 - Illustration of the "Stress Range" concept
 - Explanation of the "Threshold Stress" term
- □ Allowable stress range equation (A-3-1) from AISC
 - Overview of Fatigue Design Parameter tables
- Considerations for bolted / welded connections
- Example questions

REVIEW

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

