

Steel Moment Frame Damage Predictions Using Low-Cycle Fatigue

Scott Campbell, PhD, PE

Ralph Richard, PhD, PE

James Partridge, PE



Background

- Fatigue is understood to be a significant cause of failures in steel structures
- Research dates back to the early 1900's
- 1960's & 70's: Renewed interest
 - Bertero and Popov (1965)
 - Srinivasan and Munse (1972)
 - Kasiraj (1972)
 - Suidan and Eubanks (1973)
 - Mizuhata et al. (1977)

Background

- 1980's: New methodologies
 - Proposed seismic damage measures
 - Park and Ang (1985)
 - McCabe and Hall (1987)
 - Proposed testing methods
 - Krawinkler, 1983
- Recent work
 - Taucer et al. (2000)
 - Barsom and Pellegrino (2002)
 - Stojadinovic (2003)

**“maximum ductility factors
alone are not an adequate
measure of performance”**

(Krawinkler et al. 1983)

Damage Calculation

ASCE 7

- Performance Criteria
 - Allowable damage not specified in code
 - It's there anyway - implicit
- Nonlinear Behavior
 - Not allowed under design loads
 - Expected under actual loads

FEMA 356/ASCE 41

- Performance Criteria
 - Explicit
 - Flexible – owner/jurisdiction decision
- Nonlinear Behavior
 - Directly modeled
 - Limits based on peak response
 - Account for cyclic indirectly

ASCE 7/41

- Advantages
 - Codified: Refer to documents
 - Accepted
- Disadvantages
 - Based on peak response only
 - Pass/Fail only

“New” Alternative Fatigue Damage Calculation

Directly account for the cumulative nature of
damage during earthquakes

“new” because this has been proposed
before – in different forms

Cumulative Damage Calculation

- Park and Ang (1985)
 - Combines peak response and energy dissipation damage
- McCabe and Hall (1989)
 - Positive and negative phase energy dissipation
- Chai (2005)
 - Duration dependent low-cycle fatigue response spectra

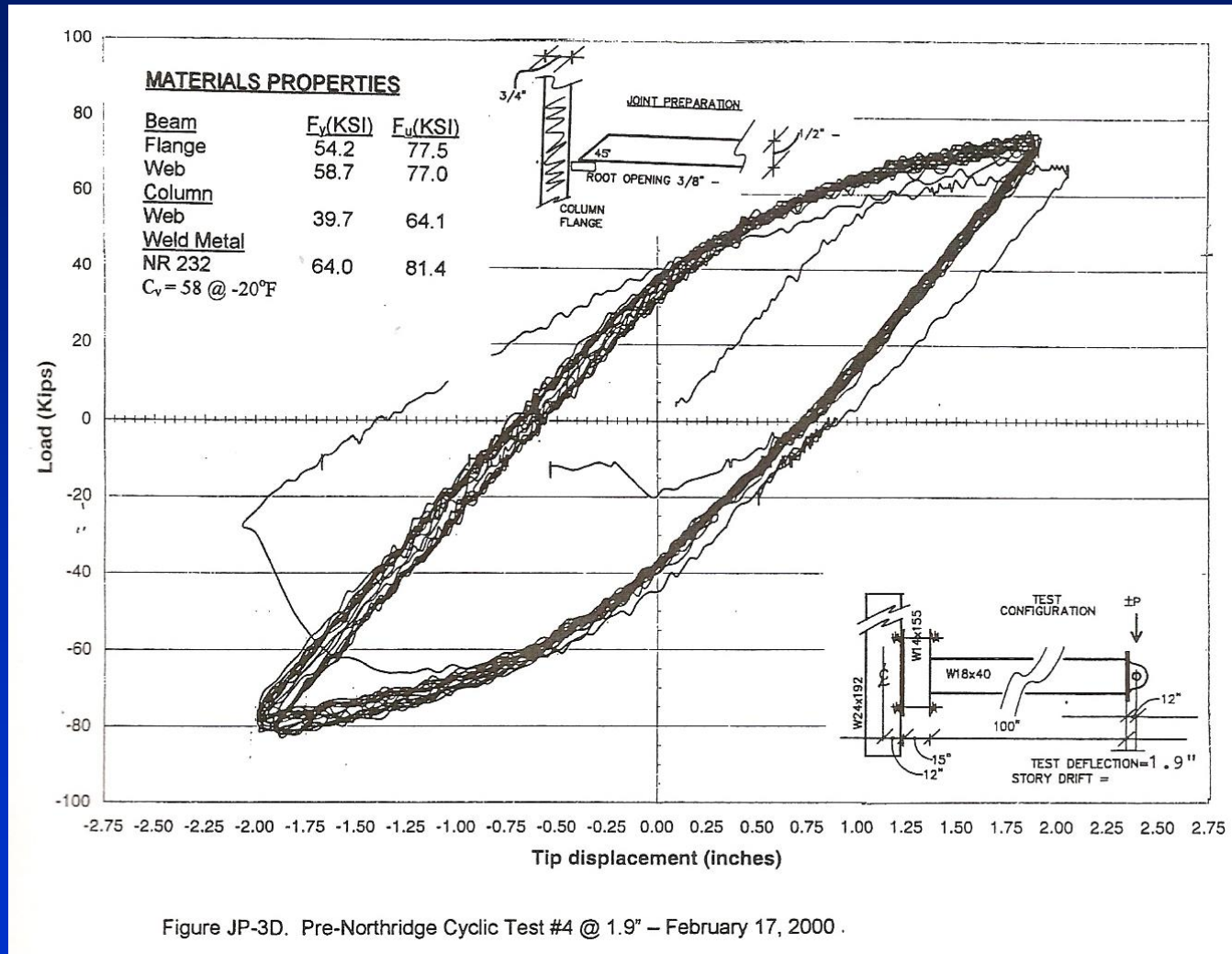
Why aren't these methods used?

- Complex
 - Difficult to incorporate into existing models
- Iterative
 - Require information about response as input
- Undefined
 - Some parameters aren't currently known

Proposed Method

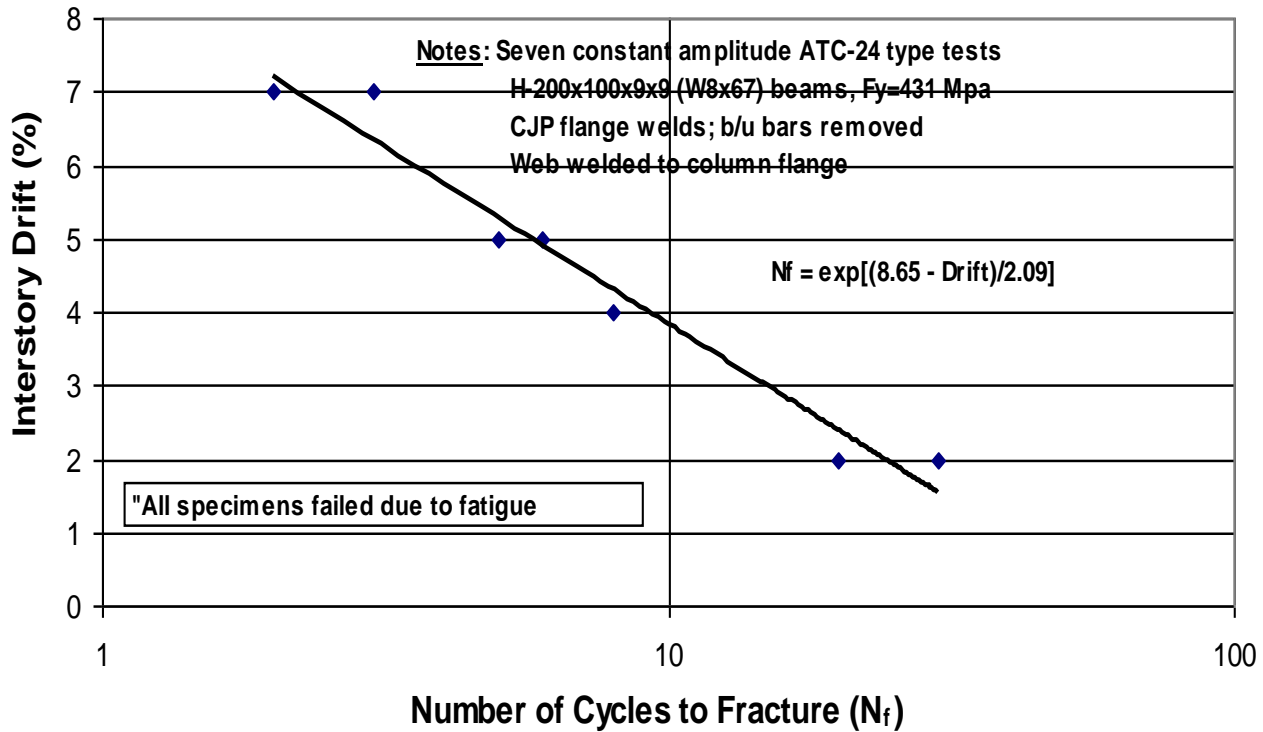
Use fatigue life calculation to
evaluate the structure

Start with Experimental Data

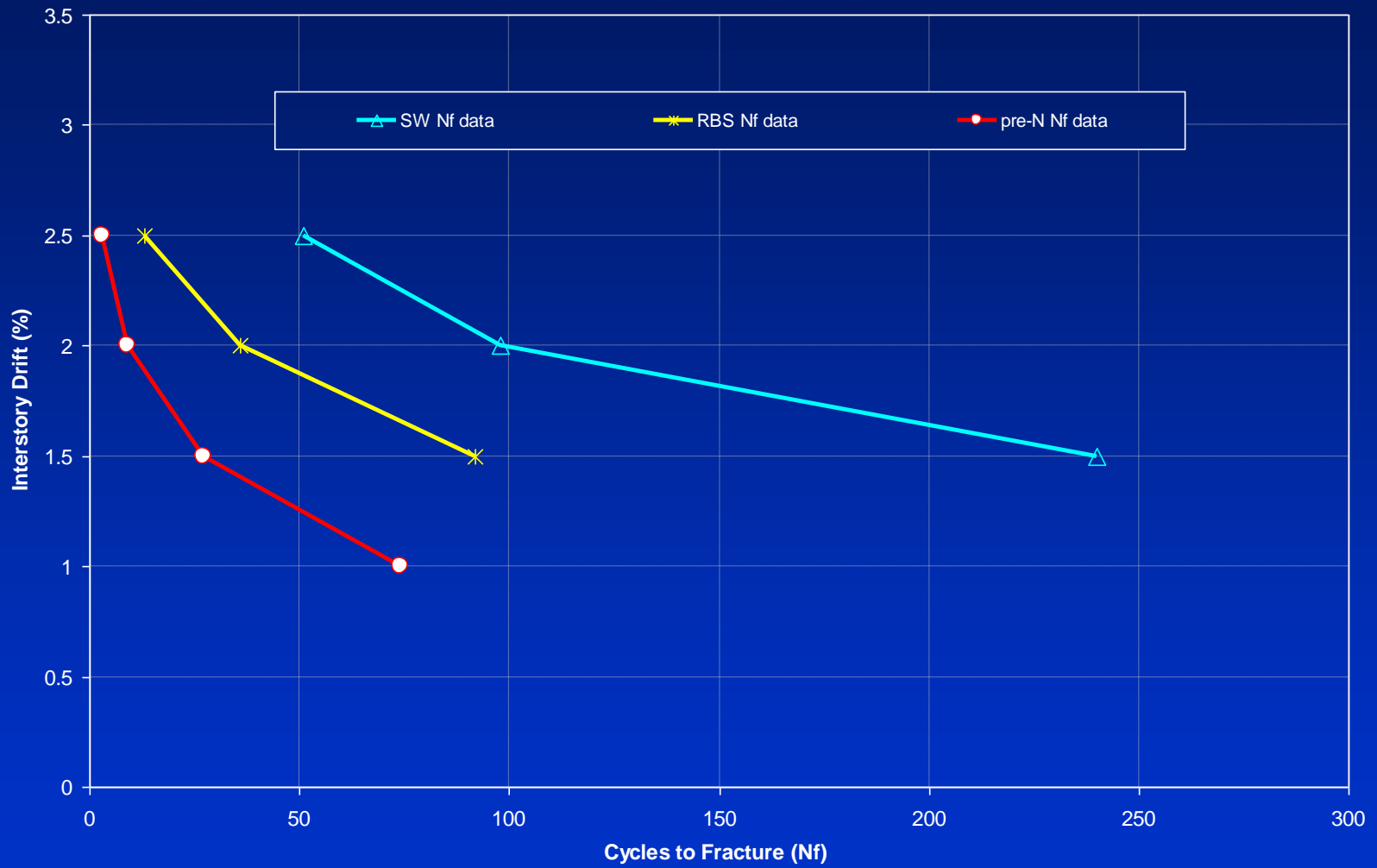


Fatigue Life Curve

Kuwamura LCF Tests (Japan - 1992)



Interstory Drift vs. Number of Cycles to Fracture



Lack of Data - Potential Solution

- Similitude equations (Kuwamura and Takagi, 2004)

- $$N_f = \frac{\eta_{pM}}{\mu_p} \left(\frac{\eta_{pM}}{\mu_p} - 1 \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} \quad \frac{\eta_{pM}}{\mu_p} \geq 2$$

- Predict fatigue life data based on monotonic test results
- Work currently underway to categorize monotonic failures

How do you calculate fatigue life?

Structures

Start with Nonlinear Analysis

- Determine the response
 - Nonlinear, dynamic model of structure
 - Use FEMA 356/ASCE 41 modeling parameters
 - Output of interest: Time history of
 - Interstory drift
 - Plastic (or total) end rotation of beams

Calculate Fatigue Damage

Miner's Rule

- *Assume* damage per cycle is 1/# cycles to failure
- Sum damage over all cycles

$$- D = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{N_{fi}}$$

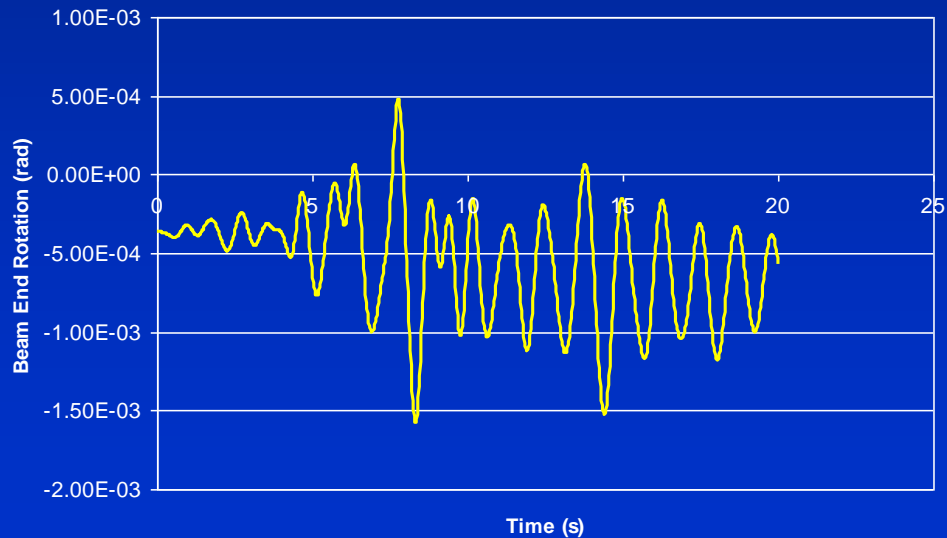
- N = number of cycles
- N_{fi} = cycles to failure for current cycle amplitude

Problem

Loading is not consistent
cycles as in testing or
mechanical parts.

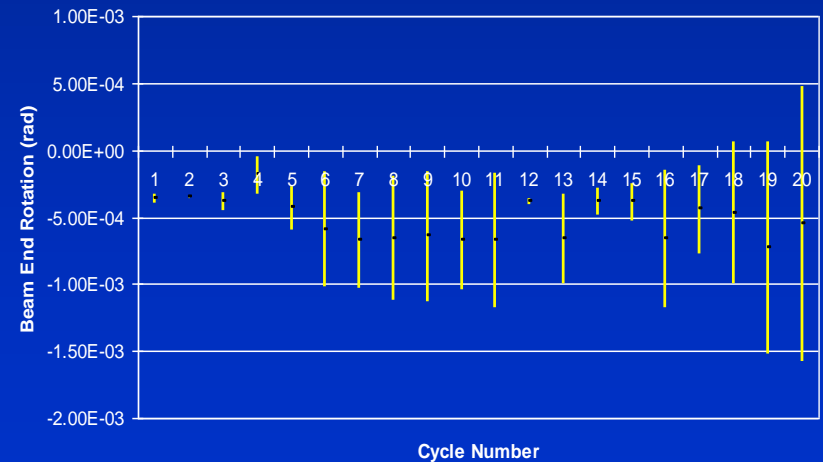
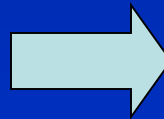
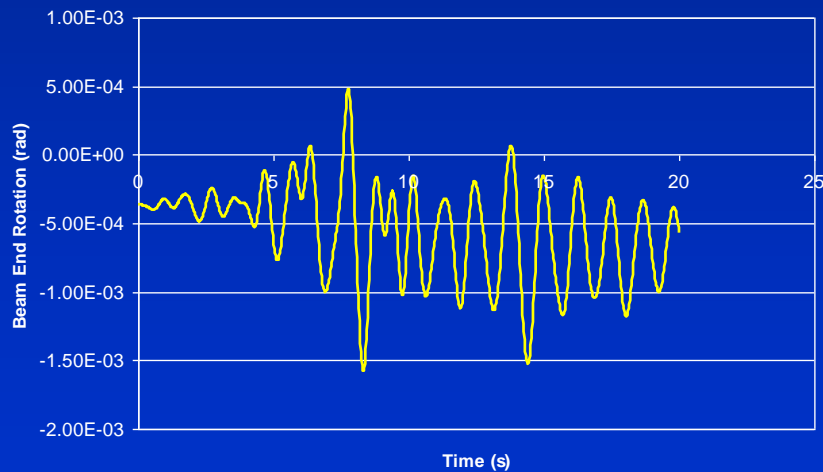
Earthquake “Cycles”

- What is a cycle in earthquake response?
- Amplitude is not constant
- Many partial cycles (do not cross axis)



Cycle Counting

- Use “rainflow” method – ASTM E-1049
- Calculate cycle range and mean value
- Does not preserve time-ordering of cycles



Fatigue Damage Calculation

Once cycles are determined
go back to damage equation

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{N_{fi}}$$

Fatigue Damage Calculation

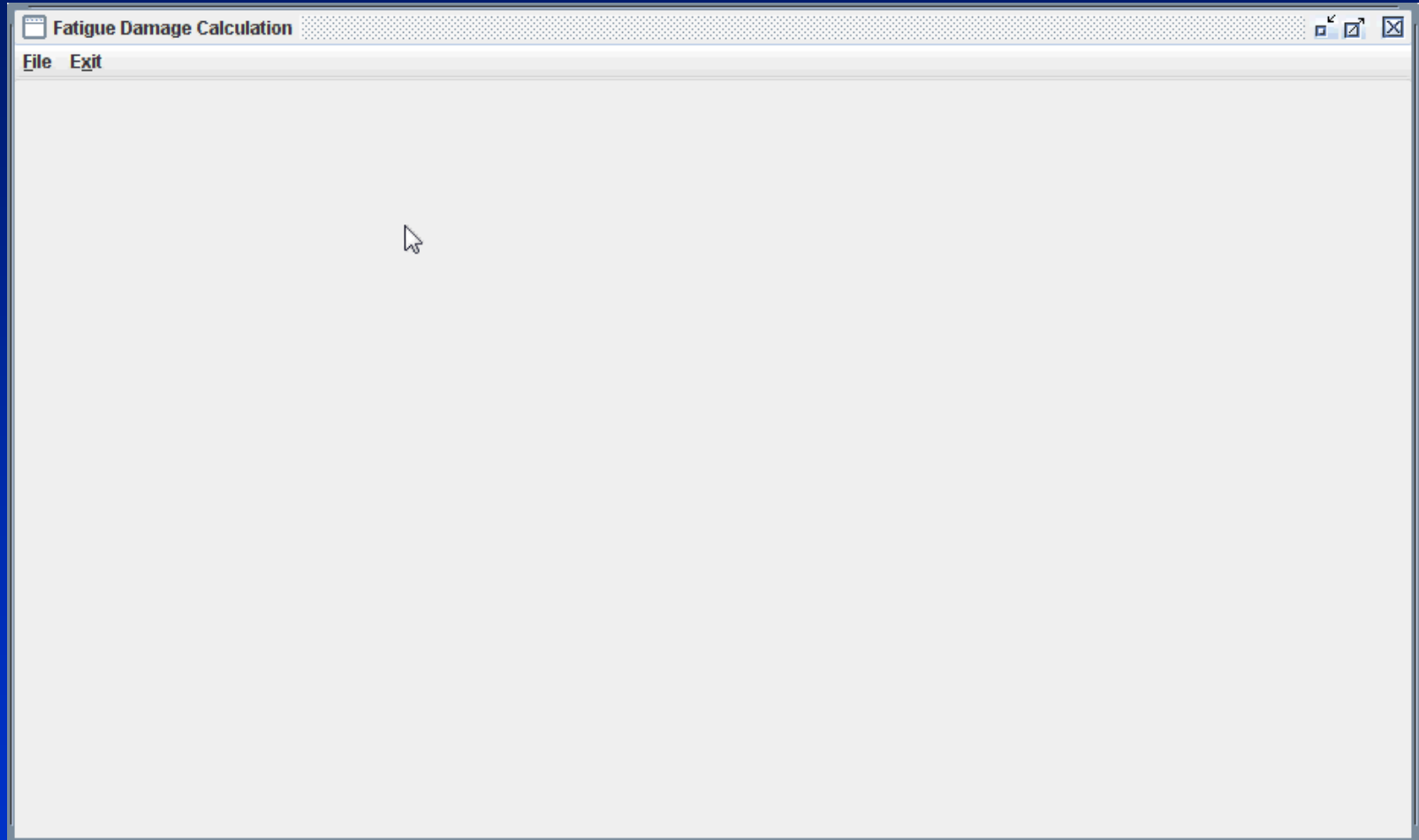
- Accepts output from PERFORM
 - Beam end rotations
 - Story drifts
- Calculates fraction of fatigue life
 - Determine cycle magnitude and number
 - Calculate damage from each cycle then sum

Output Interpretation

- Fatigue damage index >1 indicates failure
 - Cannot tell *when* failure occurs
 - Same as ASCE 7/41
- Fatigue damage index <1
 - Fraction of fatigue life “used” by earthquake
 - Estimate of remaining fatigue life

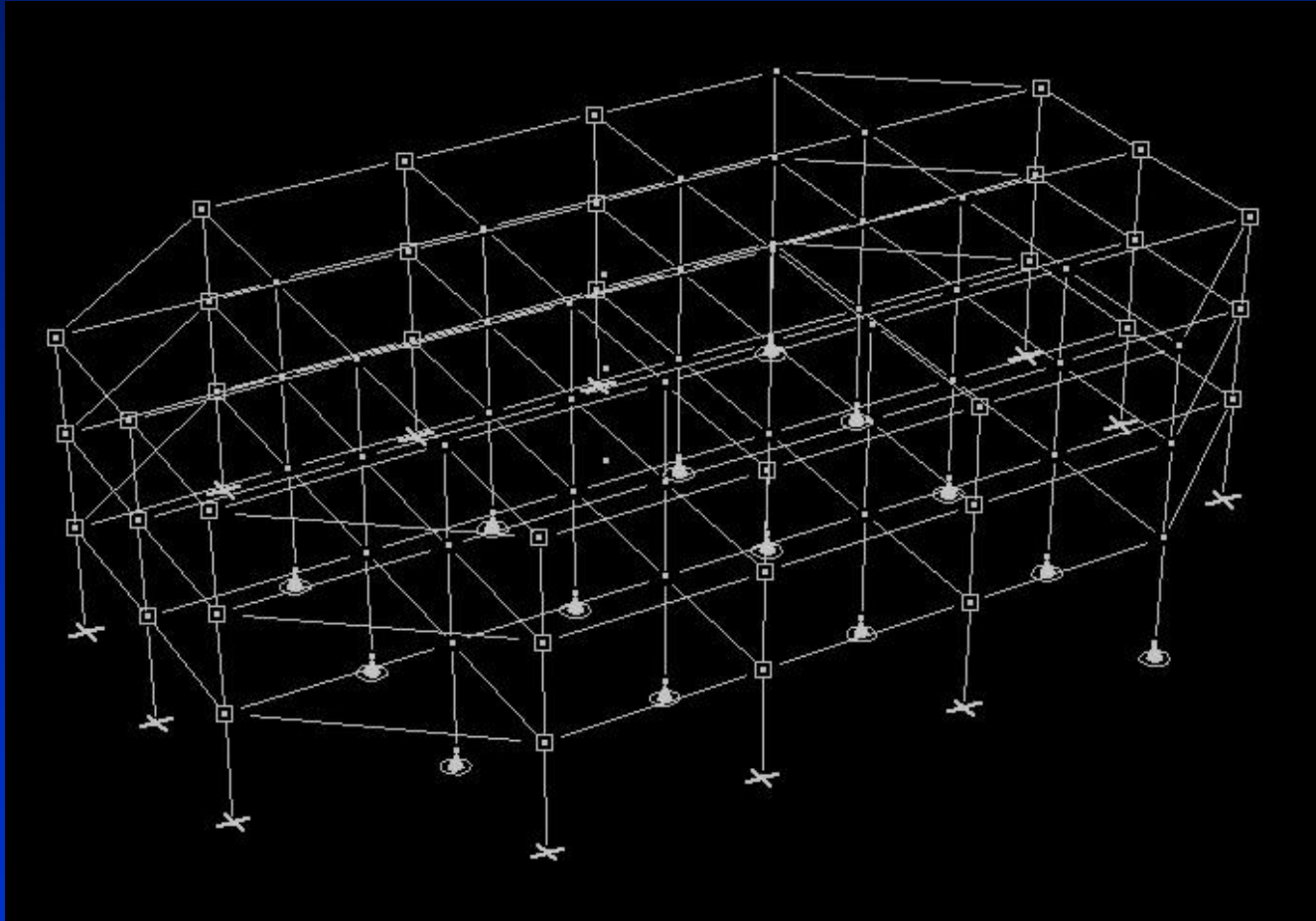
Fatigue Damage Calculation Program

Sample



Example

Example Structure



Properties

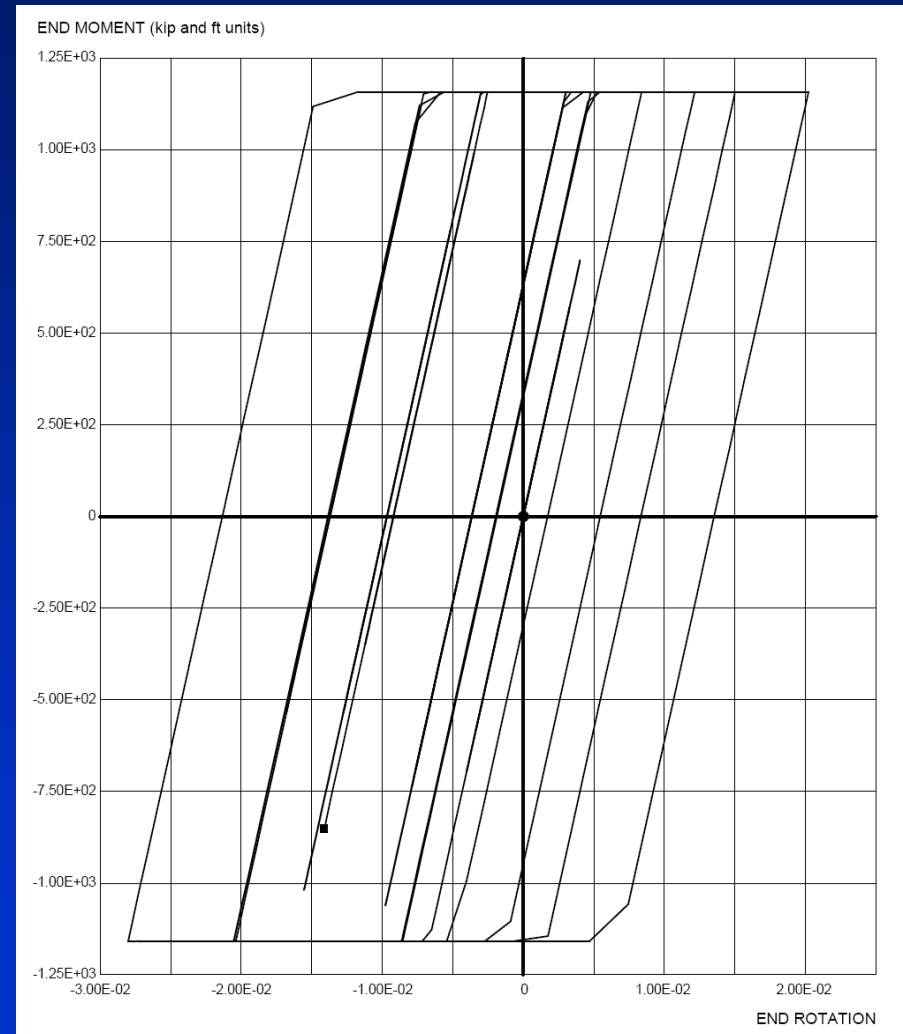
- Moment Resisting Frame
 - Girders: W27x94 (1)
 - Columns: W14x159
 - Panel Zones: Doubler plates added
- Loading
 - Gravity: DL + 0.25LL
 - Earthquake: Peak Acceleration = 0.632g

Results – One Beam (Worst Case)

ASCE-41 Usage Ratios			Fatigue Damage Index		
IO	LS	CP	Pre-N	RBS	SW
4.2	0.7	0.53	1.24	0.40	0.13

Key Point

- LS Ductility = 6
- Multiple cycles at ductilities of 3, 4, 5
- These cycles damage the connection
 - Not accounted for directly in single value from ASCE 41



Interpretation

- FEMA 356/ASCE 41
 - Structure fails IO performance criteria
 - Structure passes LS/CP performance criteria
- Fatigue Damage
 - Pre-Northridge has fractures present
 - RBS has used up 40% of it's fatigue life
 - SWC has used up 13% of it's fatigue life

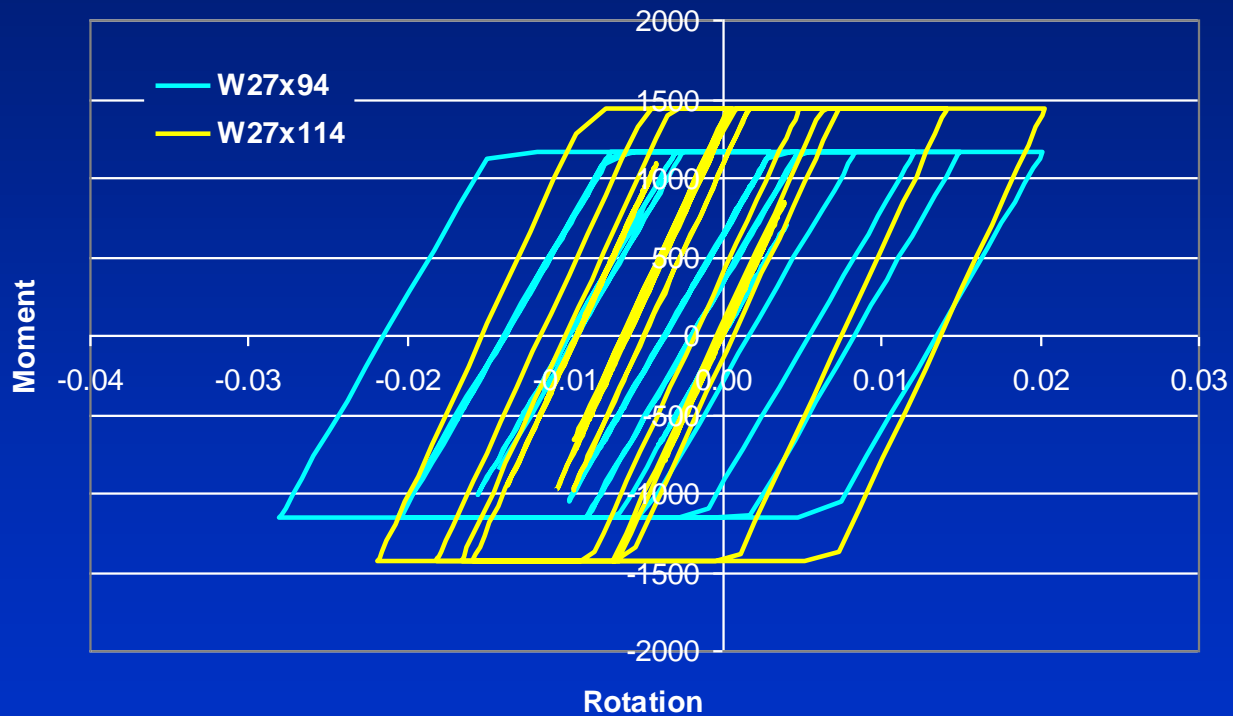
Now Change the Properties

- Girders: W27x114

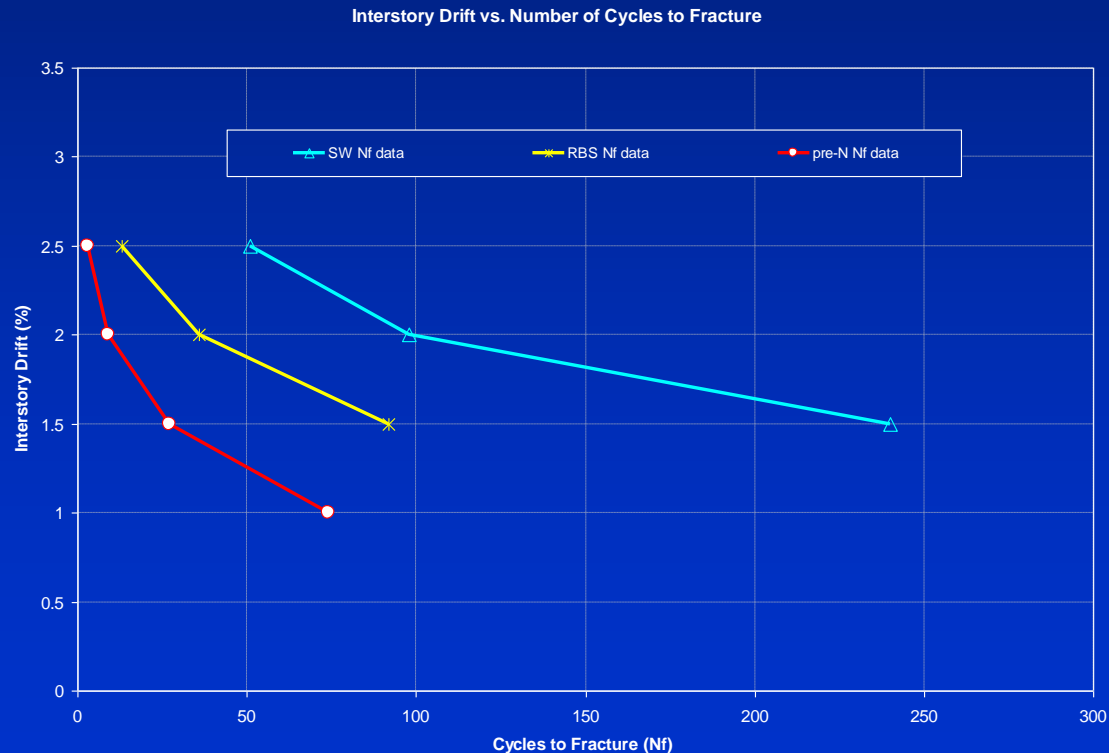
	ASCE-41 Usage Ratios			Fatigue Damage Index		
	IO	LS	CP	Pre-N	RBS	SW
	3.3	0.55	0.41	0.47	0.15	0.06
Difference w/W27x94 (%)	21	21	18	62	62	54

Why the difference?

Changes in Cycles



Not only does the peak rotation decrease, all other cyclic rotations also decrease
This has a large effect on the damage.



Conclusions

- It is possible to predict fatigue damage in steel structures
- Calculations are straightforward and require little additional effort
- Provide further insight into behavior