

# **Wind tunnel tests on plate girder bridges**

# **Prepared for Highways Agency**

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# **CONTENTS**



### **Background**

Simple criteria for assessing the susceptibility of bridges to aerodynamic effects first appeared in general form in a paper entitled 'Proposed British Design Rules' (Institution of Civil Engineers, 1981). The rules presented equations for determining critical wind speeds at which vortex shedding or aerodynamic instability (galloping, non-oscillatory divergence) would occur. The critical wind speeds could then be compared with design wind speeds to determine whether they were likely to occur. The rules also presented simplified formulae for the calculation of amplitudes of vibration and loading for vortex excitation and gave guidance on response to turbulence and fatigue assessment.

These simplified rules were used primarily to identify bridges that may be prone to aerodynamic effects without carrying out sophisticated dynamic analysis. Should aerodynamic problems be indicated, then the designer has the option of re-designing or testing in a wind tunnel.

The rules applied to a limited range of bridge size and types, based on the knowledge that existed at that time resulting from wind tunnel tests and practical experience. Further studies were subsequently carried out, including a calibration exercise to derive appropriate partial safety factors for vortex shedding loads, to make the rules applicable to a wider range of structures. The rules were modified accordingly and made available in TRL Contractor Report CR36 (Flint and Neill Partnership 1986), which was widely used in the assessment of bridge stability. The rules were developed further in TRL Contractor Report CR256 (Flint and Neill Partnership 1991) and were eventually published in Departmental Standard BD 49/93.

# **Scope of the project**

Because of the lack of wind tunnel test results, certain bridge types were beyond the scope of BD 49/93. One important category of bridges was omitted, ie, plate girder bridges, for which much of the standard was not applicable. It was also apparent from the many queries posed by bridge engineers using BD 49/93 that the geometric constraints imposed by the rules, particularly those relating to leading edge details, eliminated many typical structures from being covered by the standard. To widen the range of bridge types and configuration covered by the standard, a comprehensive wind tunnel testing programme was carried out. This report summarises the results and conclusions derived from these tests.

The wind tunnel tests were carried out by Flint and Neill Partnership in collaboration with BMT Fluid Mechanics Limited. As well as examining the critical wind speeds, vibration amplitudes and stability of plate girder bridges, other topics were investigated. These included the effect on aerodynamic behaviour of varying edge beam dimensions, parapet height and solidity. The effect of presence of solid parapet over short lengths of the span, as is required for bridges over railway-lines, was also investigated.

### **Summary**

Over 60 wind tunnel tests were carried out on section models of bridge decks of various configuration and edge detail. The tests covered a range of wind speeds and a variety of damping values. The models were mounted on elastic supports that enabled them to move in their fundamental bending and torsional modes of vibration. The tests were mainly carried out in smooth flow since this gives conservative estimates of vortex shedding response and critical wind speeds. Some tests in turbulent flow were included in the programme for reference.

The effect of different edge detail on the aerodynamic response was investigated using parapets of varying height and solidity that could be attached to the different models. Two basic fascia beam configurations were tested, as well as various fascia beam depth and overhang values. Other edge details, such as 'thickening' of the slab were also included.

The models and test configuration are described fully in this report. The report contains the data obtained from the wind tunnel tests and the main conclusions relevant to the 1993 version of BD 49. The tests were subsequently used to produce a revised version of BD 49 (published in 2001). The background to these revisions is presented in a separate report (TRL528).

The data obtained from the wind tunnel tests presented in this report can be used in conjunction with BD 49. This will enable designers to use the data directly rather than in the form of simplified rules, which are necessarily conservative. The data for critical wind speeds, amplitudes of vibration, for both bending and torsion, should only be used where deck configuration and edge details are similar. This may avoid the need for re-design or expensive wind tunnel tests.

# **Conclusion**

The wind tunnel testing programme was used to provide simple rules to determine the aerodynamic behaviour of plate girder bridges of various geometric configurations. These rules are applicable to typical situations and can be used to ascertain the stability of the structure or to identify the situations were more sophisticated studies are required, eg, full dynamic analysis or wind tunnel tests. Where appropriate, the wind tunnel data can be used directly for the assessment of aerodynamic behaviour.

There are still many areas which have not been fully investigated and it is important to note that the need for full dynamic analysis or wind tunnel tests has not been eliminated and is still required in certain situations.

# **1 Introduction**

Flint and Neill Partnership (FNP) in association with BMT Fluid Mechanics Limited (BMT) were awarded a commission by the Transport Research Laboratory (now TRL Limited) to undertake studies and wind tunnel tests on plate girder bridges. The purpose of the investigation was to confirm or extend the content of certain clauses in the simplified design rules for bridge aerodynamics (hereinafter referred to as the Rules), as published in BD 49/93 (Highways Agency, 1993).

During the study it was found that the results were particularly sensitive to edge beam depth and overhang. To address these problems a small programme of further tests was undertaken.

This report sets out the results of the study, proposed modifications to the Rules and general conclusions and recommendations regarding the Rules. As a consequence of this study, the equations used to evaluate critical wind speeds and amplitudes of response were revised. Rules were revised and published as BD 49/01 (Highways Agency 2001). Background to other revisions of BD 49 is presented by Smith *et al.* (2002)

# **2 Background**

All the wind tunnel tests, upon which the aerodynamic Rules have been based, were undertaken by BMT (formerly NMI) and a significant part of the codification of the test results was carried out by Flint and Neill Partnership. The original rules published by the Institution of Civil Engineers (1981) were extended as a result of a calibration study undertaken by Flint and Neill Partnership (1986). A further investigation (Flint and Neill Partnership 1991) modified certain clauses in the Rules and these were subsequently published by the Highways Agency as BD 49/93.

It was recognised however that certain aspects of the Rules required further investigation, particularly those associated with plate girder bridges. Accordingly these aspects were identified and formed the basis of the present investigation.

# **3 Wind tunnel test procedure**

# **3.1 General**

The purpose of the wind tunnel tests was to investigate the aerodynamic behaviour of plate girder bridges in a systematic way so that this category of bridge could be included within the scope of the Rules. The methodology used was to develop a basic matrix of tests covering the parameters to be investigated. The results of the basic matrix were examined as the results became available to assess the sensitivity of changing certain of these parameters. Where it became apparent that small changes had a significant effect on the results the matrix was modified to cover intermediate changes, or to exclude such parameters from the scope of the Rules. The modular form of the models allowed this flexibility. The range of tests

#### **Table 1 Matrix of tests, as undertaken**



*\* Tests marked thus undertaken in smooth and turbulent flow. All other tests in smooth flow only. Model M1 with parapet P1/a was used to assess the effect of solid*

within the matrix of configurations is shown in Table 1 and the definitions of the various parameters referred to therein are shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. The additional tests referred to in Section 1 are shown in Table 2.

*barriers over short lengths.*



**Basic model unit** dimensions are relative only



*Joint in model deck formed by screwing through to stiff backing plate in shadow zone* ------

# **Figure 1** Model configurations







**Figure 2** Edge details



**Type U<sup>1</sup>**

**Figure 3** Details of leading edge





*All tests undertaken in smooth flow †* Test with  $L/d_4 = 1.5$ 

# **3.2 The models**

The programme of wind tunnel tests was performed using a series of section models of representative plate girder bridge decks. The models were manufactured by BMT's workshop facilities and were constructed, on the whole, from carbon fibre. Two basic units were designed and these were assembled to give the family of models shown in Figure 1. This resulted in a series of deck configurations with constant depth, two overhang details and variable overall width.

Previous tests have shown that aerodynamic behaviour of bridge decks is very dependent on the leading edge detail of the structure. For this reason, parapets of various height and solidity were provided and made interchangeable between the various model decks. These are shown in Figure 2. The solidity  $\phi$  is defined as the ratio of solid area to overall area of the parapet.

In addition to parapet details, two basic fascia beam configurations were tested, named X and Y, as shown in Figure 3. The additional tests to investigate fascia beam depth and overhang concentrated on model M3 with overhangs varying from 0.25 to 1.0 times the depth of the beams. In addition, two edge details, types U and U<sup>1</sup>, representing thickening of the slab at the edge, were introduced. These details are commonly found in existing bridges, but were beyond the scope of the aerodynamic Rules due to the unavailability of wind tunnel test data. TRL was also concerned with a specific bridge whose configuration was similar to model M2, when mounted with one of the new edge details. Accordingly this was included in the matrix of tests.

The scale of the models was 1:30 based on 1 unit  $= 1.5$ m full scale or 1:40 for 1 unit =  $2m$  full scale. A large scale model is essential in providing reliable results, not only because of the need for sufficiently high Reynold's numbers, but also to enable the accurate representation of

small features such as the fascia beam detail at model scale. This is particularly important since slight changes in fascia beam, for example, can have a profound effect on the wind-induced response of a deck section.

However it was still found necessary to use light crossbracing linking the bottom flanges of the beams, to prevent the sections from distorting.

#### **3.3 The wind tunnels**

The tests were undertaken in two of BMT's tunnels:

- 1 BMT's No 5 wind tunnel, which is regularly used for section model testing of bridge decks and has a test section of 2.74m wide, 2.14m high and 3.5m long and a top wind speed 65m/sec,
- 2 No 7 environmental wind tunnel, with a test section 4.8m wide, 2.4m high and 15m long, and a top wind speed of 45m/s. Due to the greater width of this wind tunnel, false walls were installed in the test section. These walls spanned the entire height of the test section and were located 2.74m apart. The front end of each wall had a streamlined nose to avoid flow separation at the leading edge. The walls were of suitable length to ensure two-dimensional flow conditions for a sufficient distance downstream of the model. The uniformity of the mean wind speed between the walls was generally better than  $\pm$  1%.

For both wind tunnels the dynamic test rig was mounted on the outside surfaces of the walls. All the components of the test rig were shielded from the flow to avoid any unwanted flow-induced excitation. The set up of the false walls and dynamic rig in wind tunnel No 7 is shown in Figure 4.

Cross-calibration of the two tunnels was undertaken to ensure consistency of the results, by repeat testing some of the configurations and good agreement was obtained.



**Figure 4** Test set-up in wind tunnel

#### **3.4 Dynamic response measurements**

The section models were elastically mounted in the wind tunnel on a dynamic rig incorporating a system of springs to provide two degrees of freedom, ie, vertical bending and torsion. The stiffness of the springs was carefully chosen to provide model scale natural frequencies that result in a convenient wind speed scaling in the wind tunnel. The frequency ratio was not set to a specific value since it was believed that coupled instabilities were unlikely, based on previous experience with plate girder bridge sections. The target values for the mass and inertia were based on full scale data for 22 existing steel plate girder bridges of various widths and spans.

Incorporated in the dynamic rig was an eddy current damping system, which allows the structural damping in both degrees of freedom to be controlled during the test. The dynamic rig also allowed the vertical angle of incidence of the wind relative to the deck to be varied.

In all cases, the test procedure generally consisted of first running through the required wind speed range to provide a general indication of the response. This was followed by measurements of the response amplitudes in bending and torsion at a sufficient number of wind speeds to accurately define any responses due to vortex shedding and the critical wind speeds for the onset of any divergent aeroelastic instabilities such as galloping or flutter. The response was measured using accelerometers mounted on the dynamic rig.

Tests were conducted according to the test matrix defined in Tables 1 and 2. They were generally performed at a wind incidence of 0°, although some measurements were made at  $\pm 5^{\circ}$ . Tests were performed at up to six levels of structural damping to cover the anticipated range of full scale values.

On the whole, measurements were made in low turbulence flow (nominally smooth flow). Tests in smooth flow are generally recognised to give conservative estimates of the vortex shedding responses and critical wind speeds for divergent instabilities. However, some tests were performed in turbulent flow as defined in the test options to demonstrate the effects of turbulence. Turbulent flow was generated in the wind tunnel using a grid of bars at the entrance to the working section of the wind tunnel.

For the smooth flow tests the longitudinal turbulence intensity (defines as the root mean square of the fluctuating component of the wind divided by the mean wind speed) was less than 1% whereas for the turbulent flow tests the longitudinal turbulence intensity was 7.6%. The longitudinal length scale was of the order of 0.30m.

# **4 Wind tunnel test results**

The results from the wind tunnel tests are presented in full in Appendix A. For each model, with its various fascia beam configurations, the results are tabulated for vortex shedding in bending, vortex shedding in torsion and divergent instability.

For vortex shedding the results are given for various damping values. These generally started at a logarithmic decrement  $(\delta)$  of 0.01 depending on the set up (eg, minimum  $\delta$  in torsion for model M3 was 0.0138) and increasing in 0.01 increments until no further response was measured or a maximum logarithmic decrement of 0.06 was reached. Both the non-dimensional critical wind speed and the maximum root mean square amplitude are tabulated.

For divergent instability the non-dimensional wind speed at the onset of instability is tabulated.

# **5 Assessment of results**

The matrix of tests was limited to three of the six possible models (M1, M3 and M5) to enable general trends in aspect ratio of plate girder bridges to be determined.

The matrix also concentrated initially on solid parapets, which unless they are very low in height were excluded from the simplified formulae given in BD 49/93. It was hoped that the scope for plate girder bridges could be widened, as a result of the tests, to enable such configurations to be assessed using the formulae in the Rules.

The tests pertaining to the effect of changes in the leading edge detail focused on the requirement in the Rules for factoring the predicted amplitudes by 3.0 (Clause 3.1.2 of BD 49/93) for 'bluff' configurations. It was felt that this was simplistic and over-conservative and that a factor dependent on edge detail parameters would be more realistic. These tests were used to develop such an approach.

#### **5.1 Vortex excitation**

The general trend of the results for model M1 mounted with solid barriers (ie, parapets with suffix d denoting a solidity of 100%) is shown in Figure 5. In these plots the non-dimensional amplitude for bending is plotted against



**Figure 5** Vortex shedding response in bending with solid parapets

the logarithmic decrement of damping. Figure 5a is for fascia beam X and Figure 5b is for fascia beam Y. As expected the amplitudes decrease with increasing damping. The initially surprising result was that the amplitudes decreased with increasing height of barrier, apart from the single results for P2d at low values of damping. It should be recognised that these results are for the model mounted with solid parapets, a configuration that is outside the scope of the BD 49/93 Rules. The results can probably be explained by the mechanism of vortex shedding which may create strong vortices due to the deep bluff leading face, but a relatively smaller forcing mechanism for higher height to in-wind depth ratios due to a reduction in the effective after-body length.

This trend for reduced amplitudes for higher barriers was reversed for the torsional response, which is plotted in Figure 6a for fascia beam X and in Figure 6b for fascia beam Y.



**Figure 6** Vortex shedding response in torsion with solid parapets

As may be seen from Figures 5 and 6, amplitudes were higher for positive angles of inclination and lower for negative angles, for an identical configuration (model P1d) for both bending and torsion. Wind inclination can be caused either by topographic effects or by super-elevation of the structure. The design rules have allowed for the effects of up to  $\pm 5^{\circ}$  inclination. Super-elevation beyond that angle would be extremely unlikely to occur over a long length of the bridge, particularly for the main span

which is of most concern. Wind inclination could occur for sites where an elevated bridge runs normal to the slope of a hill. Such cases are unlikely to occur in practice but bridge designers should be aware of such possibilities.

Results for bending, again for model M1, for open parapets (a and b with solidity 25% and 50% respectively) are given in Figures 7a for fascia beam X and 7b for fascia beam Y which show increased response for increased solidity. Equivalent results for torsion are given in Figures 8a and 8b. It can be seen from Figures 7 and 8 that increasing the height of the 50% porous parapet decreased both the bending and torsional response.





**Figure 7** Vortex shedding response in bending with open parapets

Bending results for model M3 with open parapets are summarised in Figure 9a (for fascia beam X) and Figure 9b (for fascia beam Y). For this model it can be seen that:

- a the response increases with increasing height of parapet, although negligibly for the lower solidity parapets;
- b the response increases with increasing solidity of parapet.

Both these trends are as expected, the width of the deck now probably providing an increased forcing mechanism.

Figure 10 shows the torsional results for model M3 with fascia beam Y where the response is higher for the lowest height parapet. However it can be seen that at practical



**Figure 8** Vortex shedding response in torsion with open parapets



**Figure 9** Vortex shedding response in bending with solid parapets



**Figure 10** Vortex shedding response in torsion with solid parapets

levels of damping the response is negligible. No torsional response was measured for model M3 with fascia beam X.

For model M3 with solid parapets, large amplitudes were recorded due to vortex shedding in both bending and torsion. For some configurations, the effects of vortex shedding in torsion merged with those of the divergent torsional instability, making the definition of the vortex shedding response almost impossible. Following these initial measurements with model M3, no further configurations were tested with solid parapets. For these reasons the results have not been plotted; the reader is referred to the data given in Appendix A for further details.

Results for the tests with the modified edge details followed the previous pattern in which the amplitudes decrease with increasing damping for both bending and torsion. This may be seen in Figures 11 and 12 for model M3. The amplitudes of vibration for these addition tests, for both bending and torsion, tended to show an increase with the solidity and height of the parapet and with increasing depth of the edge beam. One 'unusual' result was for model M3 with parapet 2b, an overhang of 0.5d and  $k/d_4 = 0.1$ . For this particular case high amplitudes were obtained from the test results, indeed as high as for the similar configuration with  $k/d_4 = 0.5$ .

Results for model M5, shown in Figures 13 and 14,

show no consistent trends. Figures 13a and 13b show the results for bending from which it can be seen that for fascia beam X, parapet P2b provides more severe results than P3a whereas for fascia beam Y this trend is reversed. For fascia beam X the lower parapet P2b provides more severe results than parapet P3b. In torsion the logical trends set out in a) and b) above are followed for fascia beam X but for fascia beam Y the parapet with the highest solidity (P3b) produces less onerous results than parapet P3a (see Figure 14.)

From these limited comparisons it can be seen that general and consistent trends could not always be developed, making codification extremely difficult.

Model M1 with open parapets was tested with a solid infill over the middle third of the model's length. Comparisons of critical wind speed and bending amplitudes with the same model without the infill are shown in Figures 15a and 15b. It can be seen that the critical wind speed is virtually unaffected but that the amplitude is increased by up to 30% at very low levels of damping. At realistic damping levels, however, the increase is less than 10%. The model without the infill was stable in torsion, whereas with the solid infill very small torsional amplitudes were recorded (see Appendix B Torsion M1X), some 10% of the current Rule value.



**Figure 11** Maximum vortex shedding amplitude in bending as a function of damping



**Figure 12** Maximum rotation due to vortex shedding in torsion as a function of damping



**Figure 13** Maximum vortex shedding amplitude in bending with open parapets



**Figure 14** Maximum rotation due to vortex shedding with open parapets



**Figure 15a** Critical wind speeds for vortex shedding response in bending. Comparison between open parapets and solid infill over 30%



**Figure 15b** Vortex shedding response in bending with solid parapets. Comparison between open parapets and solid infill over 30%

The effect of turbulent flow was examined on model M1 with fascia beam X and solid parapets P1d and P2d and model M3 with fascia beam X and porous parapet P2b. Results are shown in Figures 16a and 16b for bending and torsion respectively. The bending results show that for parapet P1d the turbulent flow results provide lower amplitudes, as expected, and of the order built into the design rules which allow for turbulent effects. The bending results for P2d only show a single value of response at very low damping, which is suppressed when δ exceeds 0.02.

Whilst the turbulent result figure is marginally higher than the smooth flow result it is not believed that this is a result which can be used for codification purposes. In torsion (see Figure 14b) the turbulence suppresses the response for models with both barriers P1 and P2. Model M3 with fascia beam X and parapet P2b was found to be stable with respect to vortex shedding in both bending and torsion in turbulent flow. In smooth flow, this configuration exhibited a vortex shedding response in bending, but was stable in torsion.



**Figure 16a** Vortex shedding response in bending with solid parapets. Comparison between smooth and turbulent flow



**Figure 16b** Vortex shedding response in torsion with solid parapets. Comparisons between smooth and turbulent flow

Model M3 exhibited bending response due to a subharmonic vortex shedding mode at low damping values. However the resulting amplitudes were extremely small some 10% of the main response. The cause of this phenomenon is believed to be associated with vortex formation due to reattachment of the separating shear layers from the leading edge of the deck. Other researchers in this field (Naudascher and Wang 1993) have observed similar responses with, on occasions, several sub-harmonic modes exciting the same natural frequency.

Model M5 similarly exhibited torsion response at a subharmonic with amplitudes less than half of the main response, at a non-dimensional wind speed of about 7.5 to 8.5. The particular configurations displaying this were:

- a fascia beam X with medium parapets (solidity 50%) and medium height  $(0.7 d<sub>4</sub>)$  (configuration XP2b);
- b fascia beam Y with open parapets (solidity 25%) and height  $(1.1 d<sub>4</sub>)$  (configuration YP3a).

Again no common aspect is apparent between these two configurations.

From a general review of these results it was found that the amplitudes, surprisingly in the light of earlier studies, were sensibly independent of the length of overhang. An effective depth could thus be considered taken as:

 $d_4 + k + \phi h$ 

which tended to reflect the variation of amplitude from the tests, and which could be considered as a useful parameter for codification.

#### **5.2 Divergent response**

The onset of large amplitude instabilities were detected and the wind speed at which this occurred was recorded. Such response was detected in bending for model M1 only and in torsion for models M1, M3 and M5.

As expected, no coupled mode response was detected, despite the adoption of relatively low frequency ratios ranging from approximately 1.4 to 1.9.

The reduced wind speeds at which large amplitude instabilities were detected are set out in Tables 3a and 3b, covering all fascia beams and parapet configurations within the range tabulated.

For bending there was very little effect of changes in parapet configuration and the critical speeds only increased marginally with increasing damping, up to a maximum of about 8% over a damping range from  $\delta = 0.02$  to  $\delta = 0.06$ .

The only exception was model M1/M2 with an overhang of one quarter the depth and with parapets P3b. For this case, for both  $k/d_4 = 0.3$  and 0.5, the galloping wind speed increased approximately linearly with damping, ie:



For torsion the critical speed increased by up to about 25% over the same damping range.

# **6 Application to design rules**

# **6.1 General**

In order to compare the results from the wind tunnel tests with the predictions from the Rules in the 1993 version of BD 49, all the results were tabulated and compared with these predictions. These comparisons are set out in Appendix B.

These figures were then used to plot the more significant findings and to highlight where the comparisons were satisfactory and/or where the 1993 version of the Rules would need modification.

#### **6.2 Vortex excitation - critical wind speed**

As may be seen from Appendix B sheets Vertical Bending/ M1X, M1Y, M3X, M3Y, M5X and M5Y, the critical wind speed for vertical bending was virtually independent of damping. The results are summarised in Figures 17a and 17b, where the non-dimensional wind speed is plotted against  $b*/d_4$  for fascia beams X and Y respectively. This parameter is used in the Rules and the design curve is also plotted on the figure appropriate to both bending and torsion. The results for each model are plotted over a band of  $b*/d_4$  for the sake of clarity; in reality the values are:



Each set of results, where relevant, contains values for differing damping values.

From this it can be seen that for model M1 the Rules provide a good lower bound to the predicted critical wind speed. For model M3 the Rules can be seen to be conservative but for model M5 they tend to over-estimate the critical wind speed. By comparing Figures 17a and 17b it can be seen that models with the differing fascia beams show very similar behaviour.

Figures 18a and 18b show the corresponding results for torsional response. Ignoring the sub-harmonics, described in Section 5.1, and shown in Figures 18a and 18b, the prediction of critical wind speeds by the Rules can be seen to be reasonable, although in this case the results for model M3 can be seen to straddle the design curve.

The effect of varying the leading edge details on the critical wind speeds are shown in Figures 19 and 20, where the non-dimensional critical wind speed is plotted against the overhang length for models M1 and M3. They tend to show that the critical wind speed is not sensitive to the leading edge detail, although as seen in Figure 19, the results for model M3 in bending again were consistently higher than those for model M1 (M2). The critical wind speeds for torsion however (see Figure 20), for those models which displayed some excitation, whilst again being constant for each basic model for the various edge details tested, showed a marginal decrease from model M1 to M3.



# **Table 3a Reduced wind speed for large amplitude instabilities**

*\*values at 0° with middle third solid*



# **Table 3b Reduced wind speed for large amplitude instabilities** (All tested at  $0^{\circ}$  inclination)



**Figure 17** Critical wind speeds for vortex excitation (bending)



**Figure 18** Critical wind speeds for vortex excitation (torsion)



**Figure 19** Critical wind speeds (bending)



**Figure 20** Critical wind speeds (torsion)

These results suggest therefore that it may be prudent to decrease the prediction of critical wind speed,  $V<sub>cr</sub>$ , in bending and torsion for higher  $b*/d_4$  ratios for plate girders using:

$$
V_{cr} = 6.5fd_4 \text{ for } b^*/d_4 < 5
$$
  
\n
$$
V_{cr} = fd_4 (0.7 b^*/d_4 + 3.0) \text{ for } 5 \le b^*/d_4 < 10
$$
  
\n
$$
V_{cr} = 10fd_4 \text{ for } b^*/d_4 \ge 10
$$

These revised values are shown on Figures 19 and 20.

#### **6.3 Vortex excitation - amplitudes**

## *6.3.1 Bending*

The vertical bending amplitudes for each model are shown in Figure 21a for fascia beam X and Figure 21b for fascia beam Y, plotted against the logarithmic decrement of damping. The relevant curves from the design rules, appropriate to each model are also plotted.

From these figures it can be seen that the amplitudes from many tests exceeded the predicted amplitudes, particularly at the higher levels of damping. However these plots show the results for all tests whereas many of the configurations do not comply with the restraints set out in the current Rules for edge geometry, and only within which the simplified formulae for amplitudes in the Rules apply.

By omitting all those configurations that do not conform to these restraints, the Rules can be seen to apply more satisfactorily, as shown in Figures 22a and 22b. Only the model with parapet heights of 0.7 times the depth and low solidity exceed the design curve at damping values greater than 0.03.

Figure 23 shows the ratio of measured amplitudes to predicted amplitudes for models M1 and M3 normalised to 1.0 at  $\delta$  = 0.03. This indicates the trend of the test results to increase more rapidly than the accepted linear factor against damping, as incorporated in the Rules.

Comparisons have been made with the earlier tests carried out at BMT (formerly NMI) on box girder bridges which formed the basis of the Rules. These showed that the Rules generally predicted amplitudes between about 100% and 300% of the measured values for those configurations meeting the geometric criteria of the Rules. Typical results, in the form provided for the plate girder results in Appendix B, are given for three models tested in Appendix C.

### *6.3.2 Torsion*

Torsional amplitudes for all test configurations are shown in Figure 24a for fascia beam X and Figure 24b for fascia beam Y. Once again several results are above the curve from the design rules. However when those configurations which do not meet the criteria for edge geometry to the Rules are omitted, as shown in Figures 25a and 25b, then it can be seen that the Rules provide very conservative values of torsional amplitudes. Note that only models M1 and M3 complied with the restraints, and for fascia beam X all the results showed stable behaviour.

#### **6.4 Large amplitude instabilities**

The Rules stipulate that plate girder bridges need not be considered for vertical galloping, the instability only

being considered appropriate for box girder sections of relatively narrow aspect ratio  $(b*/d < 4)$ . However the tests showed that vertical bending instability did occur for all configurations of model M1 with solid parapets as shown in Figure 26a for fascia beam X and Figure 26b for fascia beam Y.

The Rules, when applied, assume that the critical wind speed increases with structural damping, but this was not reflected in the test results, as can be seen from these figures. However these models, with solid barriers, would not conform with the geometric criteria of the Rules, so from the point of view of design this is irrelevant. Nevertheless this needs consideration and possibly further study to explain this apparently unexpected result.

Torsional motion was detected in all three models, the results for which are shown in Figures 27a and 27b, for fascia beams X and Y respectively. It can be seen that the Rules overestimate the critical wind speed, which would be non-conservative. However again the edge geometry for many of the test configurations, including that for all of model M5 sections, does not comply with the criteria in the Rules for which the formulation for critical wind speed applies. Figures 28a and 28b give the results for those configurations which do comply from which it can be seen that whereas the results for model M3 are close to the Rules, those for model M1 are significantly below the Rule.

The Rules provide more onerous criteria for box girder sections - particularly for relatively shallow configurations. For model M1, if treated as a box girder, this would produce a non-dimensional critical wind speed  $Vg/f$ <sub>r</sub>b of 2.6, thereby providing a lower bound to the measured wind speeds. However if applied to models M3 and M5, the values would be 1.3 and 0.9 thus providing very pessimistic estimates of critical wind speed.

In practice the Rules require the designer to undertake a calculation to predict the critical wind speed for classical flutter for all bridge types (Clause 2.1.3.3).

The lower bound non-dimensional wind speed from this calculation is 2.5, so it is possible that the use of the nonconservative clause for the single degree of freedom instability in torsion would be prevented by the value from Clause 2.1.3.3. However, Clause 2.1.3.2(b) should be altered to allow for plate girder bridges, with the value of non-dimensional wind speed obtained from Clause 2.1.3.3 only being used if it is the lower of the two.

# **7 Amendments to the rules**

#### **7.1 Vortex excitation - critical wind speeds**

For the plate girder bridge models tested, the critical wind speeds did not follow the trends of the Rules, although for model M1 the Rules provided an excellent lower bound to the results for bending and a reasonable lower bound for torsion. For model M3 the Rules were conservative for bending but marginally non-conservative for torsion. For model M5 they provided over-estimates (that is nonconservative values), compared with the tests, for certain configurations in bending.





Figure 21 Amplitudes for vortex excitation (bending)







**Figure 22** Amplitudes for vortex excitation (bending) – selected results



Figure 23 Ratio of test model to code amplitudes for vortex excitation (bending)



**Figure 25** Amplitudes for vortex excitation (torsion)

23



**Figure 26** Critical wind speeds for divergent amplitude (bending)



**Figure 27** Critical wind speeds for divergent amplitude (torsion)



**Figure 28** Critical wind speeds for divergent amplitude (torsion)



**Figure 29** Use of c factor for bending

For torsion one configuration of model M5 provided results below the design Rule prediction, but this appeared to be associated with a sub-harmonic vortex shedding mechanism. The amplitudes associated with this were very small (below the primary results obtained) and it is considered that, for codification purposes, this particular result could be ignored.

Accordingly, for plate girder bridges, the Rule for critical wind speeds is modified to:

$$
V_{cr} = 6.5 \text{ fd}_4 \text{ for } b^*/d_4 < 5
$$
  
\n
$$
V_{cr} = \text{ fd}_4 (0.7 \text{ b}^*/d_4 + 3.0) \text{ for } 5 \le b^*/d_4 < 10
$$
  
\n
$$
V_{cr} = 10 \text{ fd}_4 \text{ for } b^*/d_4 \ge 10
$$

In general terms, the equations for  $V_c$  in clause 2.1.1.2 may be written as:

For 
$$
b*/d_4 < 5
$$
:

$$
V_{cr} = 6.5fd_4
$$

For  $5 \leq b^*/d_4 < 10$ :

$$
V_{cr} = fd_4 (1.1 b* / d_4 + 1.0) \text{ for box girder bridges}
$$
  
(types 1, 1A, 3, 3A, 4, 4A)  

$$
= fd_4 (0.7 b* / d_4 + 3.0) \text{ for plate girder bridges}
$$
  
(types 2, 5 and 6)

For  $10 \le b^*/d_4$ :

$$
V_{cr} = 12fd_4 \text{ for box girder bridges}
$$
  
= 10fd\_4 for plate girder bridges

### **7.2 Vortex excitation - amplitudes**

The test results showed that the Rules provide upper bound predictions of amplitude for configurations whose edge

deck geometry complies with the restraints of the present Rules. However it was not feasible to relax these restraints as large amplitudes were recorded for several of such configurations, although no consistent pattern emerged.

The only possible relaxation for plate girders was to increase the limit of the product h $\phi$  in Clause 2.1.3.2(a)(ii) from  $0.25d_4$  as at present to  $0.35d_4$ . This relaxation would only apply to plate girders, but may be of value, particularly for shallow bridge sections.

Whilst undertaking the study it was pointed out that the restriction of edge beams to be less than  $0.2d_4$  deep (Clause  $2.1.3.2(a)(i)$ ) was leading to anomalies in design where, for example a 300mm deep slab on a 1m deep section was acceptable provided there was no upstand at the edge. However if the slab was thickened at the edge, to say 320mm, then the design would not meet this criteria, having to be treated as an 'edge beam'. It is proposed that for the purposes of defining such members, edge stiffening of the slab to, say, half the slab depth could be ignored.

The amplitudes in the current Rules need to be factored by 3.0 for beams without overhangs but no guidance is given concerning the minimum overhang which would qualify to escape this threefold multiplication of the response. For galloping behaviour the threshold for more severe behaviour was set when the overhang is less than 0.7d and the results of the tests were used to assess whether this limitation should be adopted for vortex excitation. The results of the tests with varying overhang and fascia beam depths which showed the variation of amplitude with 'effective depth', as noted in Section 6.1 above however, led to the consideration of a modification of the Rules which would incorporate both this parameter, and the above factor of 3.0.

The result of this study is that a factor on the predicted amplitudes could be adopted for *all* sections of:

$$
c = 3\left[\frac{k}{d_4} + \frac{h_{\phi}}{d_4}\right] but not less than 1.0
$$

where  $k =$  depth of fascia beam, or edge slab;

 $d_4$  = reference depth of the bridge;<br>h = height of paranet or other edge

- $=$  height of parapet or other edge member above normal deck level;
- $\phi$  = solidity ratio of parapet;

all as defined in Figures 2 and 3, with h,  $k$  and  $d_4$  in consistent units.

This would eliminate the necessity of the factor 3.0 and would allow dense, and even solid, barriers to come within the scope of the Rules. However as the tests did not comprehensively cover wind inclinations of up to  $\pm 5^{\circ}$ , which on previous studies had been shown to be critical, it is proposed that solid barriers are still excluded for the present.

The validity of this proposal is shown in Figure 29, for bending and Figure 30 for torsion for *all* tests undertaken on both box girder and plate girder bridges; the results are given for the range of damping, considered appropriate for steel or composite structures.

In Figure 29 the measured amplitude is plotted against the predicted amplitude incorporating the factor c. The rule is satisfied for all tests which lie below the 45° line shown on the graph. It can be seen that the rule is thus generally satisfied with outliers being either sections with solid parapets (which are not covered by the Rules) or where the factor c being not less than 1 would ensure the rule was satisfied.

An exception to this is the test on plate girder model M3 noted in 6.1 above and asterisked on the figure. This result was carefully re-examined, but appears to have been correctly tabulated. The high value may possibly be due to coupled motion between bending and torsion. Figure 30 shows the equivalent figure for torsion.

Figure 31 shows the results for both bending and torsion plotted non-dimensionally as the ratio of the maximum measured value to the predicted value by the current rule for the damping range  $\delta = 0.02$  to 0.05, against factor c. Here it can be seen that the use of the factor provides a good envelope to the majority of the results, but again highlighting the same test (denoted with an asterisk) as an outlier.

The proposed factor c for the configurations tested is shown in Table 4 from which it can be seen that a factor less than unity would be obtained for five configurations if a lower limit were not used. The lower value was 0.5, which still appeared to provide a satisfactory factor. Without testing values with a lower factor it is proposed to use this as a lower bound. In addition the factor is greater than 3 for several of the configurations in such cases specific tests could provide more beneficial results as the proposed rule becomes more penal.

What was significant was that the torsional amplitudes for configurations which comply with the Rules were almost negligible and it is suggested that torsional response due to vortex shedding for such plate girder bridges could be ignored.

The tabulated results from the series of tests can be used for design profiles that closely match a tested configuration, thereby avoiding the use of over-conservative design rules contained in BD 49.

# **7.3 General**

The wind tunnel test results for bending using solid parapets resulted in critical wind speeds for divergence which were, surprisingly, independent of damping. At the lowest value of damping  $d = 0.02$  the Rules provided a good estimate of the critical speed. However at higher values of damping the Rules predicted higher critical wind speeds (in inverse proportion to the damping). The Rules however, as written, do not require a check for plate girders in vertical bending divergence, and galloping



**Figure 30** Use of c factor for torsion



**Figure 31** Non-dimensional plot of c factor





*h*φ*/d4 may be taken as h*φ*/d4 + a*φ*<sup>b</sup> /b4 in cases where there are barriers of height a as well as parapets of height h.*

*Shows where factor is > 3.0 , where tests may be more appropriate, and may reap appreciable benefits when the factors are high. Note: the majority of these are with 'dense' barriers, which should be less common in practice.*

(particularly for the wider sections) seems unlikely. In any event these results were with solid parapets and are therefore outside the scope of the Rules. It is not believed at this stage that modifications to the Rules can be justified on the basis of these tests, but that further study of the mechanism causing this divergence is recommended.

For torsion the Rules tend to provide a non-conservative prediction of the critical wind speed. Whilst it is likely that this is being partly catered for by the need to calculate the wind speed for classical flutter (as detailed in Section 7.4), Clause 2.3.1.2(b) has been modified as follows:

 $V_g$  = 3.3 f<sub>r</sub>b, for plate girder bridges

 $V_g$  = 5.0 f<sub>T</sub>b, for all other bridges

# **8 Conclusions**

The wind tunnel tests described have provided, for the first time, a parametric study of the aerodynamic behaviour of plate girder bridges. Additional tests were undertaken on plate girder bridges with relatively short overhangs and edge details conforming more closely to typical highway bridges and footbridges. The results of the wind tunnel tests, whilst limited in scope from the complete matrix of tests for the models envisaged, have confirmed the general trend of the Rules and provided added confidence in their wider use to plate girder bridges. However there have been unexpected results and inconsistencies, making sound general design guidance extremely difficult.

Whereas it was hoped that some relaxation of the Rules could be produced for plate girder bridges, this has generally not been the case, apart from torsional vibrations due to vortex shedding which it is proposed could be ignored.

As a result of these tests, modified rules have been developed for the prediction of vortex excited amplitudes which provide better agreement with test results. These modified rules have now been incorporated into the revised version of BD 49 (Highways Agency 2001).

It should be noted however that this form of response is very sensitive to small changes in edge details, making codified rules very conservative in many cases. The BD 49 clauses provide reasonable rules which the majority of sections will satisfy. However, it must be recognised that a few sections which satisfy the rules may subsequently show some signs of response in service.

The study has shown the inconsistent patterns that can be obtained due to small changes in leading edge detail. Whilst some 61 different configurations were tested, this covered a wide range of parameters and frequently trends had to be predicted from only two tests on the variation of one of those parameters.

The matrix of tests undertaken as reported here provides a valuable set of data, which can be used in those cases where the design closely matches one of the tested configurations. This permits a much less conservative analysis to be used.

# **9 References**

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# **Definition of Terms**

- B Overall width of model (b in rules)
- $d_4$  Depth of girder (including deck slab)
- M Mass/m of model set-up (m in rules)
- I  $-$  Mass moment of inertia/m of model set-up (equivalent to mr<sup>2</sup> in rules)
- U Mean wind speed at model location (V in rules)
- $n_{z}$  Natural frequency in bending ( $f_B$  in rules)
- $n_{\theta}$  Natural frequency in torsion (f<sub>T</sub> in rules)
- z Maximum rms deflection due to vortex shedding  $(y<sub>max</sub>$  in rules)
- θ Maximum rms rotation due to vortex shedding (expressed in terms of  $y_{max}$  in rules)
- $δ$  Logarithmic decrement of structural damping  $(δ<sub>s</sub>$  in rules)
- ρ Density of air

Angle 0°

 $\begin{array}{l}\text{Model M1,}\\ \text{B}=\text{225mm}, \end{array}$ 

Parapet Pla, Edge Detail X,  $d_4$  = 50mm

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

# Divergent Instability

Torstonal Instability



Angle 0° Parapet P1b,

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Default X},\\ \mathrm{d}_4 = 50 \mathrm{mm} \end{array}$ 

 $Model M1,$   $B = 225mm,$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



# Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability


Parapet P1a (middle third solid)<br> $d_4 = 50$ mm

Edge Detail X,<br>B = 225mm,

Model M1,<br>Angle 0°

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Torstonal Instability



Angle 0°

Parapet P2b,

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Detail X},\\ \mathrm{d}_4=\mbox{50mm} \end{array}$ 

Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability



Angle-5°

Model M1,<br>B = 225mm,

Parapet P1d,  $Edge$  Detail X,<br> $d_4 = 50$ mm

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



Parapet P1d,

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Data X,}\\ \mathrm{d}_4 = \mbox{S0mm} \end{array}$ 

Angle 0°

Vortex Shedding in Bending



### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Galloping (Bending)



 $\frac{\text{Model M1}}{\text{B}} = 225 \text{mm},$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Default X},\\ \mathrm{d}_4 = \mbox{50mm} \end{array}$ Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

Parapet P1d,

Angle  $+5^\circ$ 

Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Deal} \; \mathbf{X}, \\ \mathbf{d_4} = \; \mbox{Summ} \end{array}$ 

Parapet P2d,

Angle 0°

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Galloping (Bending)





Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Galloping (Bending)



 $35$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{Model M1,} \\ \text{B} = 225 \text{mm}, \end{array}$  $36$ 

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Detail X,} \\ \text{d}_4 = \text{50mm} \end{aligned}$ 

Parapet P3d,

Angle 0°

Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

 $\begin{aligned} &\text{Edge Deal} \ X, \\ &\text{d}_4 = \ \text{Sum} \end{aligned}$ 

Parapet P4d,

Angle 0°

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Galloping (Bending)





0.0262<br>0.0164<br>0.0112<br>0.0072

88<br>6678<br>666

 $\begin{array}{@{}c@{\hspace{1em}}c@{\hspace{$ 

5888<br>0000

 $\mathbf{z}/\mathbf{d}_4$ 

 $U/n_xd_4$ 

 $\text{M\"ol}\rho\text{B}^2$ 

Logdec

Vortex Shedding in Bending

Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability



Angle 0° Parapet P2d,

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Default X},\\ d_4 = \text{Sum} \end{aligned}$ 

 $\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Model M1,} \\
\text{B} = 225 \text{mm},\n\end{array}$ 

Angle 0°

Parapet P1d,

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Death X,}\\ \mathsf{d_4}=\mbox{S0mm} \end{array}$ 

Model M1,<br>B = 225mm,

In Turbulent Flow

In Turbulent Flow

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



#### Divergent Instability

Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Torstonal Instability



Vortex Shedding in Bending



Parapet P1b,

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Detail Y,} \\ d_4 = 50 \text{mm} \end{aligned}$ 

Parapet P1a,

Angle 0°

Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Default Y},\\ d_4 = 50 \text{mm} \end{aligned}$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending



ន្ត<br>តំនួន ដូច និង<br>តំនួន តំនួន

 $8882255$ 

 $\frac{3}{20}$ <br> $\frac{3}{20}$ <br> $\frac{3}{20}$ <br> $\frac{3}{20}$ <br> $\frac{3}{20}$ <br> $\frac{3}{20}$ <br> $\frac{3}{20}$ 

 $z\ell d_z$ 

 $U/n_xd_4$ 

 $\text{M\"ol}\rho\text{B}^2$ 

Logdec

Vortex Shedding in Bending

Vortex Shedding in Torsion



 $0.022$ 

9.35

 $\theta(^\circ)$ 

 $\mathrm{U}/\mathrm{n}_\mathrm{d} \mathrm{d}_4$ 

 $18/\rho B^4$ 0.119

Logdec

0.0223

Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability

 $U/n<sub>4</sub>B$ 

 $1\tilde{\alpha}/\rho B^4$ 

Logdec

Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability

 $3.32$ <br> $-4.15$ 

0.119<br>0.214<br>0.321

 $0.0223$ <br>0.04<br>0.06



38

Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

Angle 0°

Parapet P1d,

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Deal} \ Y, \\ \mathbf{d}_4 = \text{50mm} \end{aligned}$ Model MI,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

Parapet P2b,

Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm, Angle 0°

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Default Y},\\ d_4 = 50\text{mm} \end{aligned}$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending

ľ

I



0.0154<br>0.0062<br>0.0044

9.63<br>19.93<br>11.10

**388**<br>0.983<br>1.313

0.0128<br>0.03<br>0.03<br>0.04

 $z/d_4$ 

 $\mathbf{U}/\mathbf{n}_z\mathbf{d}_4$ 

 $\text{M\"ol}\rho\text{B}^2$ 

Logdec

Vortex Shedding in Bending

Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torstonal Instability



### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instabilities



Angle-5<sup>a</sup>

Parapet P1d,

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Death Y,}\\ \mathrm{d}_4 = \mbox{S0mm} \end{array}$ Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

Parapet P1d,

 $\begin{array}{c}\n\text{Model M1,} \\
\text{B} = 225 \text{mm},\n\end{array}$ Angle  $+5^\circ$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge DealI Y},\\ \mathrm{d}_4 = \mbox{50mm} \end{array}$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending



 $\begin{array}{c} 88.37 \\ 83.38 \\ 63.68 \\ 64.68 \\ 65.69 \\ 66.69 \\ 66.69 \\ 66.69 \\ 67.69 \\ 68.69 \\ 69.69 \\ 60$ 

**253536** 

5385588

588388

 $z/\mathrm{d}_4$ 

 $\mathbf{U}/\mathbf{n}_z\mathbf{d}_4$ 

 $M\delta/\rho B^2$ 

Logdec

Vortex Shedding in Bending

Vortex Shedding in Torsion



 $\frac{1.120}{0.731}$ 

8.81<br>8.81<br>8.99

0.206<br>0.274<br>0.343

838<br>000

 $\mathfrak{g}_\infty$ 

 $\mathbf{U}/\mathbf{n}_{\theta}\mathbf{d}_{4}$ 

 $18/\rho B^4$ 

Logdec

Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Divergent Instability

Torstonal Instability



#### Divergent Instability



Angle $0^\circ$ 

Parapet P3d,

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Data Y}, \\ \text{d}_4 = \text{Sum} \end{aligned}$ Model M1,<br> $B = 225$ mm,

Parapet P2d,

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Galloping (Bending)



Angle 0°

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge detail Y},\\ \text{d}_4 = \text{Sum} \end{aligned}$  $\frac{\text{Model M1}}{\text{B}} = 225 \text{mm},$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability



Edge Detail Y.<br> $d_4 = 50$ mm Model M1,<br>B = 225mm,

Parapet P4d,

Angle 0°

Parapet P2a, Edge Detail X,  $d_4$  = 50mm Model M3,<br> $B = 450$ mm,

Angle 0°

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



0.518<br>1.035<br>1.553<br>2.071 ត្តខ្លួខ្លួ<br>ទំនុំទំនុំ

0.0352<br>0.0194<br>0.0130<br>0.0092

 $5.78$ <br>  $6.78$ <br>  $6.6$ <br>  $6.6$ 

 $z/\mathrm{d}_4$ 

 $\mathbf{U}/\mathbf{n}_2\mathbf{d}_4$ 

 $M\delta/\rho B^2$ 

Logdec

Vortex Shedding in Bending

Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability



Parapet P2b,  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Data X},\\ \mathrm{d}_4 = \mbox{S0mm} \end{array}$ Model M3,<br> $B = 450$ mm,

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



Angle 0°

Angle 0° Parapet P2b,  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Default X},\\ d_4=50\mbox{mm} \end{array}$ Model M3,<br> $B = 450$ mm,

In Turbulent Flow

Vortex Shedding in Bending

Stable

Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

ą,

Divergent Instability



Angle 0°

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Deal X},\\ \mathtt{d_4}=\mbox{S0mm} \end{array}$ Model M3,<br> $B = 450$ mm,

Angle 0°

Parapet P3a,

Edge Detail X,<br> $d_4 = 50$ mm

Model M3,<br>B = 450mm,

Parapet P3b,

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



0.0148  $z/\mathrm{d}_4$ 

 $\text{U}/\text{n}_\text{z}\text{d}_\text{z}$  $6.67$ 

 ${\rm M\ddot{o}V\rho B^2}$ 

Logdec  $0.01$ 

0.283

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending

2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability





2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Divergent Instability

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Deal } \mathbf{X}, \\ \mathbf{d_4} &= \text{Sum} \end{aligned}$ Model M3,<br>B = 450mm,

Angle 0°

Parapet P2d,

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



## 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Angle 0° Parapet P<sub>24</sub>  $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Deral Y,} \\ \text{d}_4 = 50 \text{mm} \end{aligned}$ Model M3,<br> $B = 450$ mm,

### 1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



ſ

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Deal} \ Y, \\ \mathbf{d_4} = \mbox{Sum} \end{array}$ Model M3,<br>B = 450mm.

Angle 0° Parapet P2b,

Angle 0° Parapet P3a,  $\begin{aligned} &\text{Edge Detail Y},\\ &d_4 = \text{S0mm} \end{aligned}$ Model M3,<br>B = 450mm,

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

#### Divergent Instability



Edge Detail Y,<br> $d_4 = 50$ mm Model M3,<br> $B = 450$ mm,

Parapet P3b,

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



Angle 0°

Angle 0° Parapet P2d,  $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Desil Y,} \\ \text{d}_4 = \text{Summ} \end{aligned}$ Model M3,<br>B = 450mm,

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Parapet P3d, Edge Detail Y,<br> $d_4 = 50$ mm Model M3,<br>B = 450mm,

Angle 0°

Angle 0<sup>°</sup> Parapet P4d,  $\begin{aligned} \text{Edge Default } \textbf{Y}, \\ \textbf{d}_4 = \text{Sum} \end{aligned}$ Model M3,<br>B = 450mm,

## 1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



0.0156<br>0.0068

7.38

0.283

0.01

 $z/d_4$ 

 $\mathbf{U}/\mathbf{n}_x\mathbf{d}_4$ 

 $M\bar{a}/\rho B^2$ 

Logdec

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending

ĺ

## 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



885845<br>2885245

8888578

588388<br>000000

 $z/d_4$ 

 $\mathbf{U}/\mathbf{n}_x\mathbf{d}_z$ 

 $\rm M\ddot{o}/\rho B^2$ 

Logdec

2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending

### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



 $0.357$ <br> $0.357$ 

9.15<br>9.65<br>9.42

 $0.0393$ <br> $0.0569$ <br> $0.0854$ 

 $\begin{array}{c} 0.0138 \\ 0.02 \\ 0.03 \end{array}$ 

 $\mathcal{W}$ 

 $\mathbf{U}/\mathbf{n}_\theta\mathbf{d}_\theta$ 

 $15/\rho B^4$ 

Logdec

Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Angle U<sup>-</sup> rarapet r.co.  $\log e$  Detail A,<br> $d_a = 50$ mm Nodel MD,<br> $B = 675$ mm,

#### Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 1st Vortex Shedding in Torsion



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability





### Vortex Shedding in Bending



### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability



Parapet P3b, Edge Detail X,<br> $d_4 = 50$ mm Model M5,<br> $B = 675$ mm,

Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



Angle 0°

Angle 0° Parapet P2b, Edge Detail Y,  $d_4 = 50$ mm Model M5,<br> $B = 675$ mm,

### Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

Stable

Divergent Instability



Parapet P3a, Edge Detail Y,  $d_4 = 50$ mm Model M5,<br> $B = 675$ mm,

Angle 0°

Vortex Shedding in Bending



## Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability





## Vortex Shedding in Bending

Stable

## Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability



Parapet P3b Overhang  $1/d_s = 0.25$ <br>Edge Detail  $1/d_s = 0.3$  (Y type)

Model M1

Angle 0°

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{B} &= 150\text{mm}\\ \mathbf{d}_* &= 50\text{mm} \end{array}$ 

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending

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### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Divergent Instability

Galloping



# PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Angle 0° Parapet P2a  $\mathbb{S}$ Model M1

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{B}\ =\ 150\text{mm}\\ \mathbf{d}_\text{e}=\ 54.6\text{mm} \end{array}$ 

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending





Divergent Instability

Galloping





Parapet P<sub>2</sub>a Overhang  $1/d_A = 0.25$ <br>Edge Detail kid<sub>4</sub> = 0.5 (Y-type)

Angle 0°

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{B} = 150\text{mm} \\ \mathbf{d}_\text{s} = 50\text{mm} \end{array}$ 

Model M1

### 1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Gallophug



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# PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK



 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{B=150mm}\\ \mbox{d}_4=\mbox{50mm} \end{array}$ 

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending

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Divergent Instability

Galloping

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Parapet P<sub>2</sub>a Overhang  $1/d_A = 0.50$  Par<br>Edge Detail kid<sub>4</sub> = 0.5 (Y-type) Model M1

Angle 0°

 $B = 175 \text{mm}$ d, =  $50 \text{mm}$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Gallaying



## PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Angle 0\* Parapet P<sub>2</sub>a  $\mathbbmss{b}$  $B = 175 mm$   $d_4 = 54.6 mm$ Model M1

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending

1



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Galloping



Parapet P3a Overhang  $1/d_A = 0.50$ <br>
Edge Detail  $k/d_A = 0.5$  (Y-type) Model M1

Angle 0°

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{B=175mm}\\ \mbox{d}_4=\mbox{50mm} \end{array}$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Galloping



# PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Angle 0° Parapet P3a Þ Model M1

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{B} = 175\text{mm}\\ \mathbf{d}_4 = 54.6\text{mm} \end{array}$ 

Vortex Shedding in Bending



### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Galloping

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Angle 0° Overhang  $1/d_{\star}=0.25$  Paraget P2a Edge detail k/d<sub>4</sub> = 0.30 (Y-type) Model M3

 $\mathbf{B} = 375 \text{mm}$   $\mathbf{d}_\star = 50 \text{m}$ 

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

**Torstonal Instability** 



## PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

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Angle 0° Parapet P2a Overhang  $1/d_4 = 0.25$ <br>Edge detail k/d<sub>4</sub> = 0.50 (Y-type)  $B = 375mm$  $d_4 = 50$  mm Model M3

### Ist Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending





#### Divergent Instability



Angle 0° Parapet P<sub>2</sub>a  $\ddot{a}$ Model M3

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{B=}\ 375\mbox{mm}\\ \mbox{d}_4=54.6\mbox{mm} \end{array}$ 

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



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Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

Torrional Instability



# PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Angle 0° Parapet P2b Overhang  $1/d_4 = 0.25$  Pa<br>Edge detail  $k/d_4 = 0.50$  (Y-type) Model M3

 $B = 375 \text{mm}$  d<sub>4</sub> = 50m

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Angle 0\* Overhang  $1/d_{\star}=0.25$  Parapet P2b Edge detail  $\rm k/d_{\star}=0.50$  (Y-type)  $B = 375mm$ Model M3  $d_{\rm s} = 50 \rm m$ 

#### Divergent Instability

Torstonal Instability



## PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

S

Parapet P2a Angle 0°  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Data} \ k = 0.1 \mbox{d} (X \mbox{-type}) \\ \mbox{d}_4 = 50 \mbox{mm} \end{array}$ Model M3<br> $B = 400$ mm

### 1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending

1





#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



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Parapet P2a Angle 0°  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Domi k = 0.3d_{\rm s}(Y\mbox{-}\rm{type})}\\ \mbox{d}_{\rm s} = \mbox{S0mm} \end{array}$ Model M3<br> $B = 400$ mm

### 1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torstonal Instability



## PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Parapet P2a Angle 0°  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Death k = 0.5d_{\rm s}(Y\mbox{-type})}\\ d_{\rm s} = 50\mbox{mm} \end{array}$ Model M3<br>B = 400mm

### 1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability



Parapet P<sub>2</sub>a U $d_4 = 54.6 \mathrm{mm}$ Model M3<br>B = 400mm

Angle 0°

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

**STABLE** 

Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



## PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Parapet P<sub>28</sub>  $\mathbf{U}^\prime$   $\mathbf{d_4} = 54.6\text{mm}$ Model M3<br>B = 400mm

Angle 0°

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



**STABLE** 

Divergent Instability



 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Dexall}\ k = 0.1 d_{\rm s} (\rm X\text{-type})\\ d_{\rm s} = 50\mbox{mm} \end{array}$ Model M3<br> $B = 400$ mm

Parapet P2b Angle 0°

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



Divergent Instability

**Torsional Instability** 



## PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Parapet P2b Angle 0° Edge Detail $k=0.5d_{\rm s}(Y\mbox{-type})$   $d_{\rm s}=$  S0<br>nm Model M3<br> $B = 400$ mm

1st Vortex Shedding in Bending

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### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability





Parapet P2a Angle 0°  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge D  
tail\ k = 0.3\ d\Lambda Y\cdot\text{type)}\\ d_4 = 50\text{mm} \end{array}$ Model M3<br> $B = 450$ mm

Vortex Shedding in Bending

**STABLE** 

### Ist Vortex Shedding in Torsion



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



# PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK



### Vortex Shedding in Bending



### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability



Parapet P2a Angle 0°  $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Edge Details} \ k = 0.5 \ \mbox{d}_4 \mbox{Y} \cdot \mbox{type)} \\ \mbox{d}_4 = \mbox{S0min} \end{array}$ Model M3<br> $B = 450$ mm

#### Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 1st Vortex Shedding in Torsion



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

**Torsional Instability** 



## PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

Parapet P2a Angle 0°  $U = 54.6$  mm Model M3<br>B = 450mm

#### Vortex Shedding in Bending



### 1st Vortex Shedding in Torsion



### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torstonal Insubility





Parapet P2a Angle 0°  $U^* = 54.6 \text{mm}$   $d_4 = 54.6 \text{mm}$  $\frac{\text{Model M3}}{\text{B} = 450 \text{mm}}$ 

Vortes Shedding in Bending

**STABLE** 

### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

**Torstonal Instability** 



# PLATE GIRDER BRIDGES - FURTHER WORK

#### Repeat Tests



1st Vortex Shedding in Bending



1

### 2nd Vortex Shedding in Bending



#### Divergent Instability





 $\rm B=275mm$ 

 $\mathrm{d}_4 = 50\mathrm{mm}$ 

#### Vortex Shedding in Bending

**STABLE** 

#### Vortex Shedding in Torsion



#### Divergent Instability

Torsional Instability



Angle -5° Edge Detail $\mathbf{k}=0.4~\mathbf{d}_\mathrm{t}$ Vortex Shedding in Bending Model M2

**STABLE** 

Vortex Shedding in Torsion

#### **STABLE**

#### Divergent Instability



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Vortex Shedding in Bending



Vortex Shedding in Torsion

**STABLE** 

#### Divergent Instability

**Torstonal Instability** 

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#### $\sim$  NOTE:





 $3$  without 3.0 factor

 $^4\;$  with c factor

#### Further Test Results v. Current Rules - Galloping - Table M1F1





#### NOTE:


### Futher Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M1F1





### NOTE:



 $^{1}$  c.f. 6.50<br> $^{2}$  still 6.50

 $3$  without 3.0 factor<br> $4$  with c factor

# Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M1F2





#### NOTE:  $\overline{\phantom{a}}$





 $^{1}$  c.f. 6.5<br> $^{2}$  still 6.5

 $3$  without  $3.0$  factor

 $^4$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Galloping - Table M1F2

$EP$ ref. = Edge / Parapet reference						
Edge	K/d.	Parapet	h/d <sub>4</sub>	ziffix		
	0.05	Pl	03	а		
	U.N.O	P2	0.7	b		
	0.20	P3	LЛ	е		
	N.0	P4				





Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M1F2

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	K/d.	Parapet	h/d,	suffix			
x	0.05	Þt	03	$\mathbf{a}$			
	U.N.O	PZ	0.7	b			
Ÿ	0.20	m	1.1				
	U.N.O						





 $1$  c.f. 6.5  $<sup>2</sup>$  still 6.5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> without 3.0 factor  $4$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Divergent TI - MIX & Y (continued)

$EP$ ref. $= Edge / Parameter$						
Edge	KG.	arapet.	h/d <sub>4</sub>	staffix		
x	0.05	P1.	0.3			
		P2.	0.7			
Ÿ	0.20	P3	u.			
		P <sub>4</sub>				





Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M1X

$EP$ ref. = $Edge / Parameter$						
Edge	K/d4	Parapet	h'd.	uiffix		
х	0.05		0.3			
		P2	0.7			
Y	0.20	P3	1.1			
		₽₫	1.3	đ		





 $\frac{1}{2}$  c.f. 6.50<br> $\frac{2}{3}$  still 6.50

<sup>3</sup> without 3.0 factor

 $^{\mbox{{\scriptsize 4}}}$  with c factor

\* Note  $\angle = +5^\circ$ 

Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table MIX (continued)

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	K/d,	Parapet	lvd,	auffix			
	0.05		0.3				
		P٦		b			
Y	0.20	P3					
		Pм					





 $c.f. 6.50$ <sup>®</sup> middle third solid  $3$  without 3.0 factor

 $2$  still 6.50 (proposed rule averaged 1/3 & 2/3)  $4$  with c factor

\* Note turbulent flow

3

or  $-5^{\circ}$   $\angle$ 

# Test Results v. Current Rules - Galloping - M1X















still 6.5

with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M1X(continued)

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	K/da	Parapet	h d.	siffix			
	0.05		0.3				
		m		b			
Y	0.20	P3	ĿП				





 $^2$ still 6.5

 $^4$  with c factor

\* middle third solid (prposed rule averaged 1/3 & 2/3)

# Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M1Y (continued)





#### NOTE:



 $^3$  without 3.0 factor  $4$  with c factor

# Test Results v. Current Rules - Galloping - Table M1Y





#### NOTE:



Torsion cases shown T

Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M1Y

$EP$ ref. = $Edge / Parameter$							
Edge	KG.	Parapet	h/d,	staffix			
	0.05	P1	0.3				
			0.7	ь			
	0.20	P3	IJ				
		Da	1.5	đ			





 $2$  still 6.5

 $^\ast$  with c factor \* Note:  $\angle +5^{\circ}$ 

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Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M1Y(continued)

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	KG.	Parapet	h/d.	saffix			
	0.05	P١	03				
		P2	0.7	b			
	0.20	P3	L.				
		P4	1.5				





 $\ensuremath{\mathrm{^3}}\xspace$  without 3.0 factor  $\ensuremath{\mathrm{^4}}\xspace$  with c factor

\* Note:  $\angle$  -5°

Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M3E1

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edpe	K/d.	Parapet	h/d.	suffix			
	0.05	PI	0.3				
	U.N.O	P <sub>2</sub>	0.7	b			
	0.20	Р3	LI.				
	U.N.C		1.5				





 $2$  c.f. 8.25

 $^{\text{4}}\,$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M3E2

$EP$ ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge		K/d <sub>4</sub> Parapet	h/d.	artis			
	0.05						
			0.7				
	$_{0.20}$	P3	LI				





<sup>1</sup> c.f. 9.25<br><sup>2</sup> c.f. 8.25

without 3.0 factor

 $^{\rm 4}$  with c factor

# Test Results v. Current Rules - Divergent TI - Table M3E2







Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M3E2

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge		K/d <sub>4</sub> Parapet	hid,	suffix			
	0.05		0.3				
	U.N.O	PT	0.7				
	0.20	P3	1.1				
	U.N.O	PА	1.5				





 $2$  c.f. 8.25

 $^4$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M3E3

$EP$ ref. = Edge / Parapet reference								
Edge	K/d <sub>e</sub>	Parapet.	h/d.					
	0.05		0.3					
	UN.O	P2	0.7	h				
$\mathbf{Y}$	0.20	P3	1.1	c				
	U.N.O		L.B					







 $2$  c.f. 8.25

with c factor

### Test Results v. Current Rules - Divergent TI - Table M3E3















 $^{1}$  c.f. 9.25<br> $^{2}$  c.f. 8.25

without 3.0 factor

 $^{\rm 4}$  with c factor

Futher Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M3F1

	EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge		K/d. Parapet	$h/d_a$	suffix				
$\mathbf{X}$ .	0.05	P1	0.3	а				
	U.N.O	P <sub>2</sub>	0.7	b				
	0.20	P3	1.1	с				







 $1^{\circ}$  c.f. 9.25  $2$  c.f. 8.25  $\frac{3}{4}$  without 3.0 factor<br> $\frac{4}{4}$  with c factor

Further Test Results v. Current Rules - Divergent TI - Table M3F1

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	K/d <sub>s</sub>	Parapet	h/d,	suffix			
х	0.05	P1.	03	а			
	U.N.O	P <sub>2</sub>	0.7	ь			
Y.	0.20	P3	1.1	c	و 1		
	U.N.O	P4					







# Futher Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M3F1





### $-NOTE:$



 $\frac{1}{2}$  c.f. 9.25

 $3$  without 3.0 factor<br> $4$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Divergent TI - Table M3X & Y

$EP$ ref. = $Edge / Parameter$							
Edge -	K/d <sub>4</sub>	Parapet	h'd,	suffix			
	0.05	14	63	а			
		P2	0.7	h			
	0.20	P3	ш				
		P4	1.5				





Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M3X & Y

$EP$ ref. = $Edge / Parameter$							
Edge	K/d,	Paranet	h/d.	xiffix			
	0.05		0.3				
		P <sub>2</sub>	0.7	b			
Y	0.20	P3	1.1	r			
		рд					







 $^{1}$  c.f. 9.25<br> $^{2}$  c.f. 8.25

without 3.0 factor

 $4$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M3X

$EP$ ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	K/d <sub>s</sub>	Parapet	h/d.	xiffix			
	0.05	Рī	0.3				
		P2	0.7				
Y	0.20	P3	1.1	r			





 $2$  c.f. 8.25

<sup>4</sup> with c factor

# Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M3Y





### $-NOTE:$



without 3.0 factor

<sup>5</sup> Note: for M3:YP4d see table M5Y

 $^{\rm 4}$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Divergent TI - Table M5X & Y

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
专	K/d.		h/d <sub>a</sub>	ıffix			
	0.05						
		47					
¥.	0.20		LI				







Test Results v. Current Rules - Divergent TI - Table M5X & Y

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	K/d.	Parapet	h/d.	suffix			
	0.05	PI	03	а			
		P2	0.7	ь			
	0.20	P3	1.1				
		P4	1.5	а			





Test Results v. Current Rules - Torsion - Table M5X & Y

EP ref. = Edge / Parapet reference						
Edge	K/d.	arapet.	h/d <sub>a</sub>	suffix		
	0.05	Ρl	0.3			
		P2	0.7			
	0.20	P3	1.1			
		P4				



#### $-$  NOTE:



 $^{\mbox{{\tiny 4}}}$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M5X

$EP$ ref. = Edge / Parapet reference								
Edge	K/d1	Parapet	h/d.	uffis				
		P1	0.3					
		P2	0.7	h				
	0.20		1.1	n				
			1.5					





 $4$  with c factor

Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table M5Y

$EP$ ref. = Edge / Parapet reference							
Edge	K/d.	Parapet.	h/d.				
	0.05		0.3				
		P2	0.7	h			
٧	0.20	P3	Ħ				
		P4					





 $^{1}$  c.f. 12.0  $2$  c.f. 10.0

### Additional M3Y Test - See Table M3Y



<sup>3</sup> without 3.0 factor

 $4$  with c factor









\* Note  $c = 0.375$  - very low - see table 3

Box Girder Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table 8B

BR ref. = Barrier / Railing reference								
Barrier	b/d.	Railing	h/d	zifius				
BO	NG lamier							
BI	0.15	R1	0.2	а	0.15			
B2	0.34	R <sub>2</sub>	0.5	ь	0.21			
B3	0.37	R3	0.7	c	0.50			
<b>B4</b>	0.50			d	1.00			





 $\degree$  Note c = 0.375 - very low - see table 3

Box Girder Test Results v. Current Rules - Vertical Bending - Table 8B

BR ref. = Barrier / Railing reference								
Barrier	h/d <sub>s</sub>	Railing	$h/d_k$	suffix	Φ			
BO	Nα Barrier							
Bi	0.15	R1	0.2	ä	0.15			
Bž	0.34	R2	$0.5 -$	b	0.21			
B3	0.37	R3	0.7	c	0.50			
<b>B4</b>	0.5				1.00			





\* Note  $c = 0.375$  - very low - see table 3
## **Abstract**

Highways Agency Standard BD 49: *Design rules for aerodynamic effects on bridges* was first published in 1993 and contains simplified methods for determining the susceptibility of bridge decks to aerodynamic instability. The standard was devised based on information available at that time. However, it contained a number of caveats for some deck configurations and geometry, particularly in relation to plate girder bridges. Following later studies, experience of application and additional wind tunnel data, some of the clauses of BD 49 were revised and the document was re-published in 2001. The background to this update is reported in TRL Report TRL528.

This report describes a programme of wind tunnel tests that was carried out on plate girder bridges to provide information for this revision. Over 60 different configurations were tests, using different parapets and leading edge details. The report describes the models, the wind tunnel characteristics and the conclusions from the tests. The wind tunnel data are presented in a form that can be used directly by engineers to assess the susceptibility different bridge forms to aerodynamic instability in cases were the simplified rules in BD 49 indicate the possibility of aerodynamic effects.

## **Related publications**



- CR256 *A re-appraisal of certain aspects of the design rules for bridge aerodynamics* by Flint and Neill Partnership. 1992 (price £25, code E)
- CR36 *Partial safety factors for bridge aerodynamics rules and requirements for wind tunnel testing* by Flint and Neill Partnership. 1986 (price £35, code H)

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