

**Parametrix**



# Application of the Triage Evaluation Procedure for Gusset Plate Load Rating

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**Parametrix**

# Overview

- Background
- Triage Method
- Triage Spreadsheet
- Procedure
- Results/Challenges



# Background









# NTSB Findings & Recommendations (NTSB/HAR-08/03)

- Insufficient gusset plate design.
- Lack of guidance for gusset plate inspection.
- No guidance for load rating gusset plates.



# FHWA Technical Advisory - T5140.29

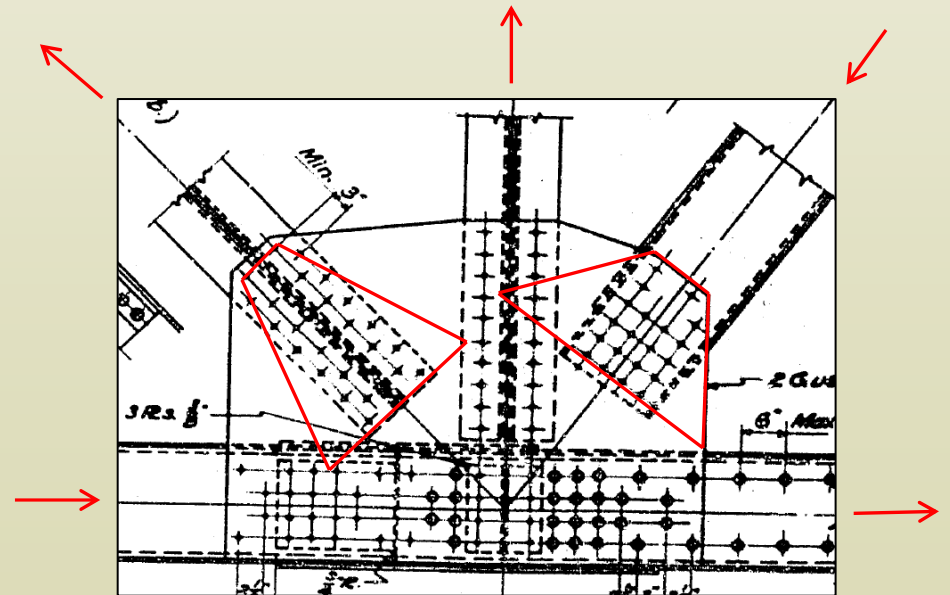
- *Load-carrying Capacity Considerations of Gusset Plates in Non-load-path Redundant Steel Truss Bridges*
  - *New Bridges - Check capacity of gusset PL's as part of initial load rating*
  - *Existing Bridges – Load rate gusset PL's due to change of condition*
- *Load Rating Guidance and Examples for Bolted and Riveted Gusset Plates in Truss Bridges (Pub. No. FHWA-IF-09-014)*
- *Manual for Bridge Evaluation (MBE) changes*



# Triage Spreadsheet

- Development of the Triage Method
  - Efficient
  - “Triage”- quick method of prioritization
  - Identify gusset PL's for further study
- Basic Assumptions
  - Whitmore widths
  - Service loads
  - Max member forces only
  - LFR Method used

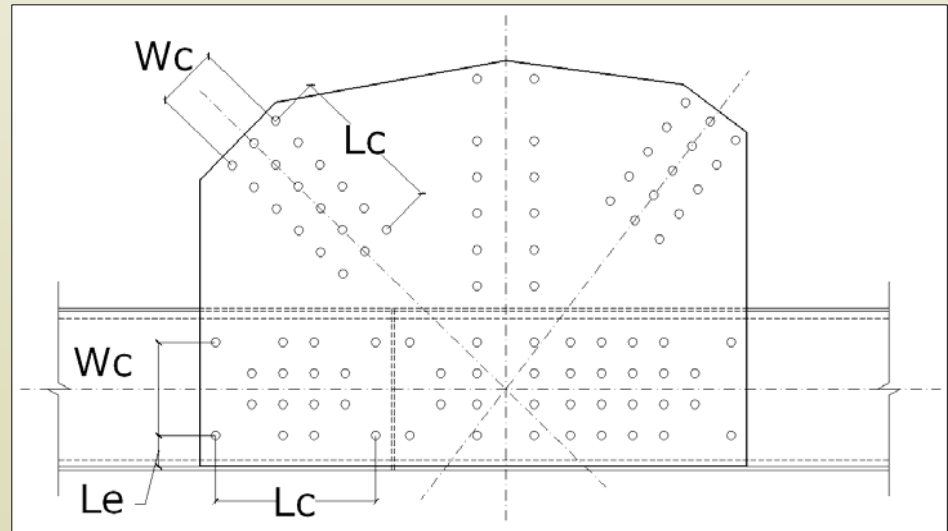
$$RF = \frac{\Phi C - \gamma_{DL} D \pm S}{\gamma_{LL} LL(1 + IM)}$$





# Required Input

- Calculated DL's and LL's
- Load Factors
- LL+I and DF's
- Condition Factors
- Material Properties
- Rivets/Bolts
- Plate Geometry



# Results

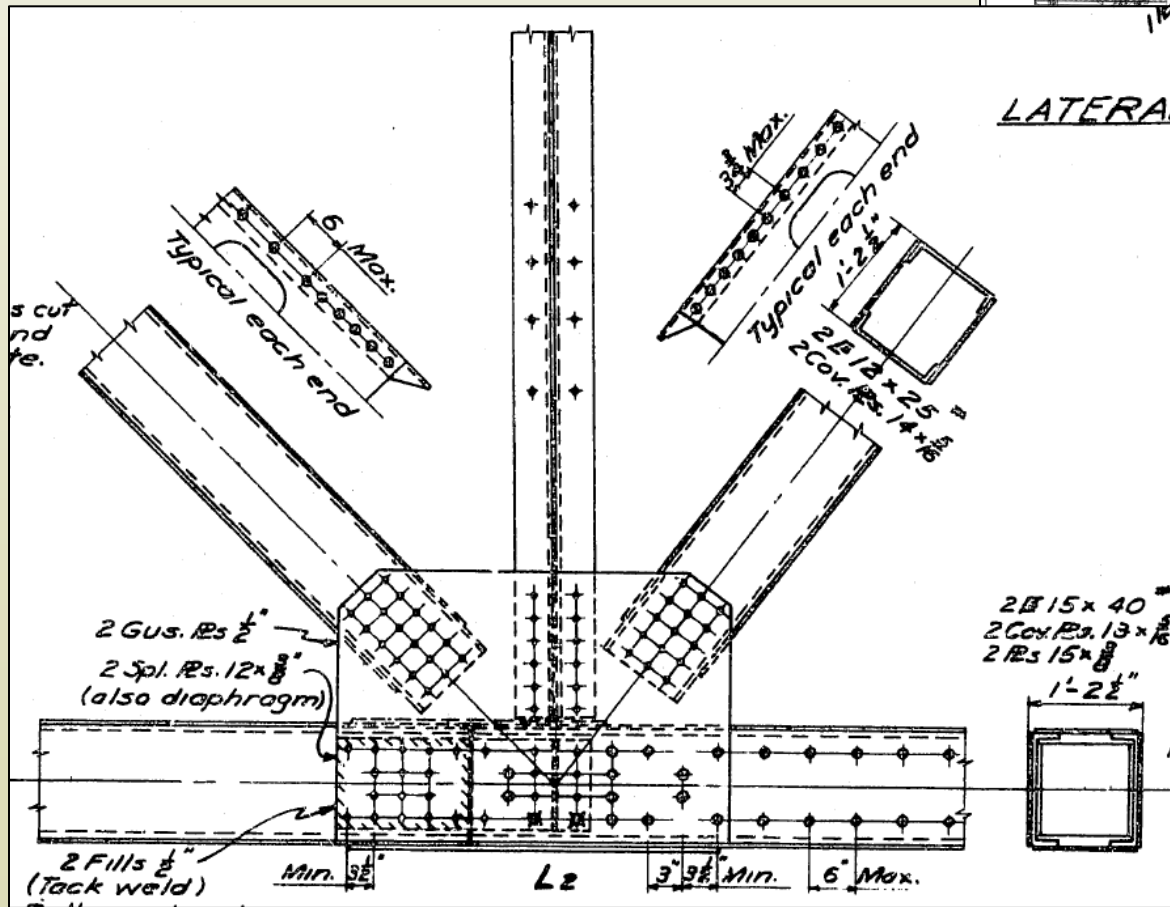
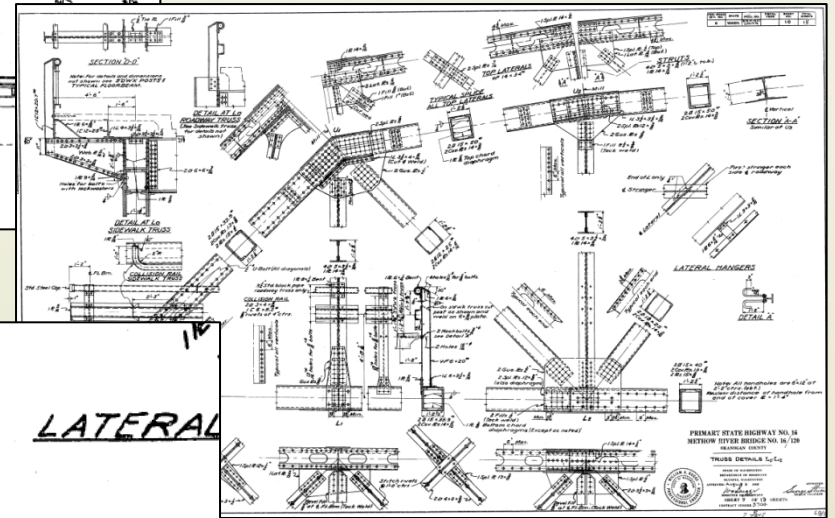
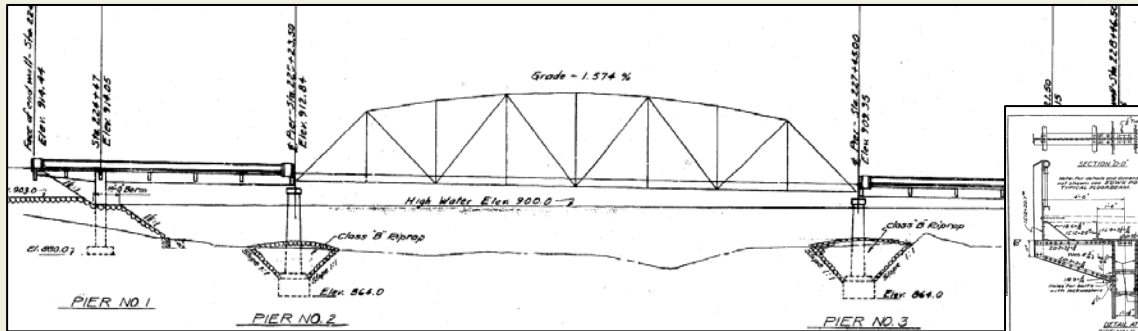
- Rating Factors for
  - HS-20, Legal Loads, Overload Trucks
  - Includes Operating and Inventory
- Rating Factors based on minimum of
  - Buckling
  - Yielding
  - Rivets

LL Input and RF Summary						Minimum RF	Controlling Connection ID	Controlling Resistance Type	Operating RF for LFR only	
Load Case ID	Live Loads								YLL	Minimum RF
	Truck Type	Overload?	yLL	Impact Factor ( I )	Rating Method					
1	HS20	N	2.17	0.118	LFR	0.67	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	1.12
2	A1	N	2.17	0.118	LFR	1.37	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	2.29
3	A2	N	2.17	0.118	LFR	1.01	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	1.68
4	A3	N	2.17	0.118	LFR	0.93	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	1.56
5	NRL	N	2.17	0.118	LFR	0.88	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	1.48
6	Legal Lane	N	2.17	0.118	LFR	0.87	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	1.45
7	OL1	Y	1.3	0.1	LFR	1.46	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	1.46
8	OL2	Y	1.3	0.1	LFR	0.75	L2-U3	Buckling	1.3	0.75

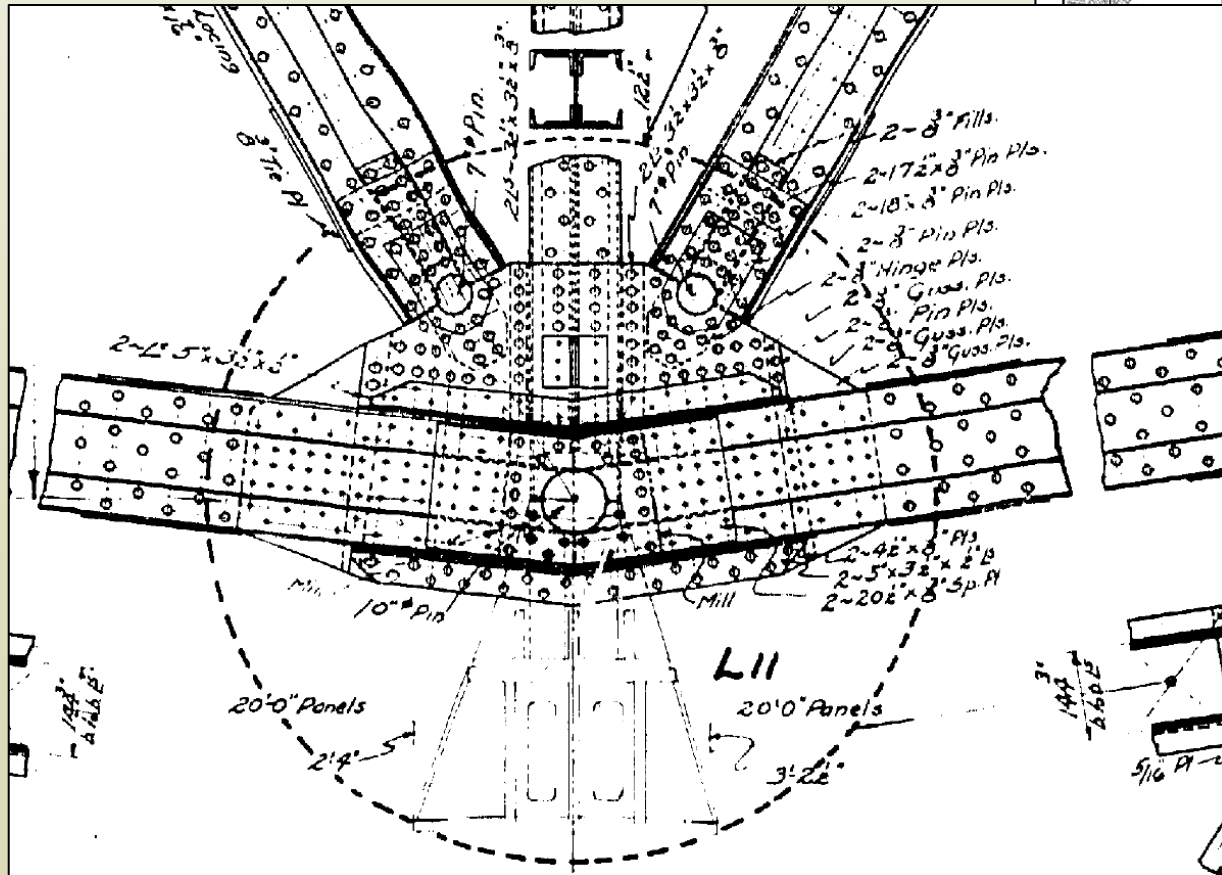
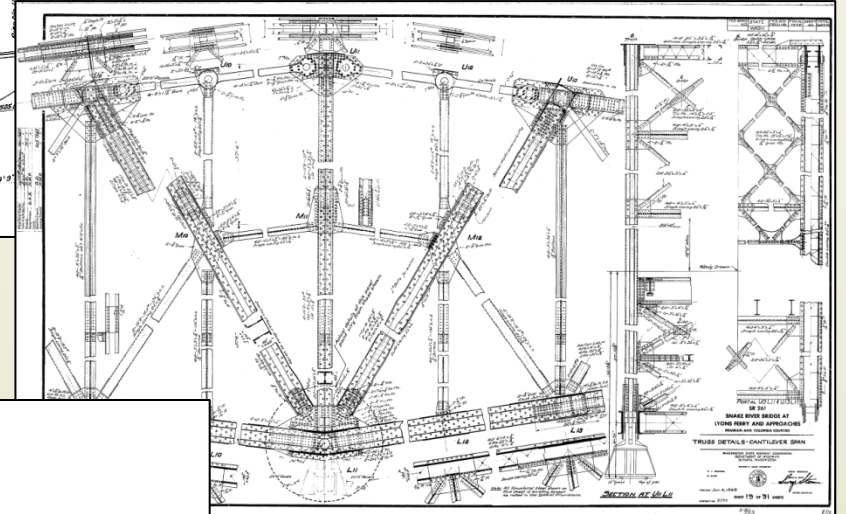
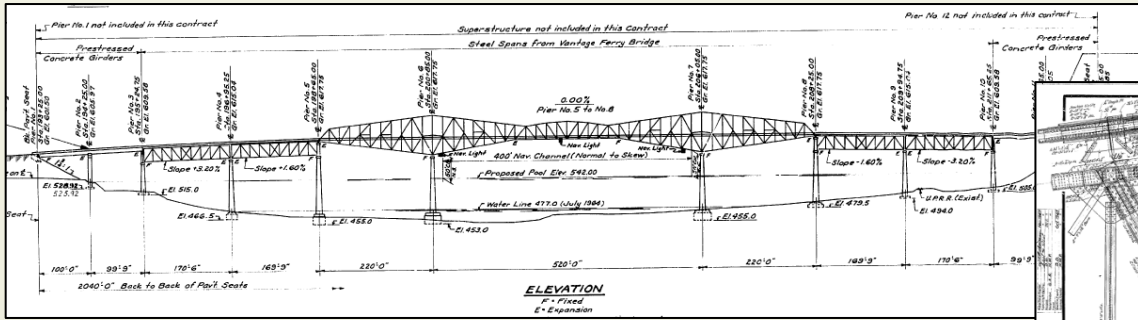
# WSDOT Triage Implementation

- Rated approximately 50 trusses
- WSDOT Inventory - 120 Truss Bridges
- Priority to bridges with lowest RF's
- Packaged similar trusses



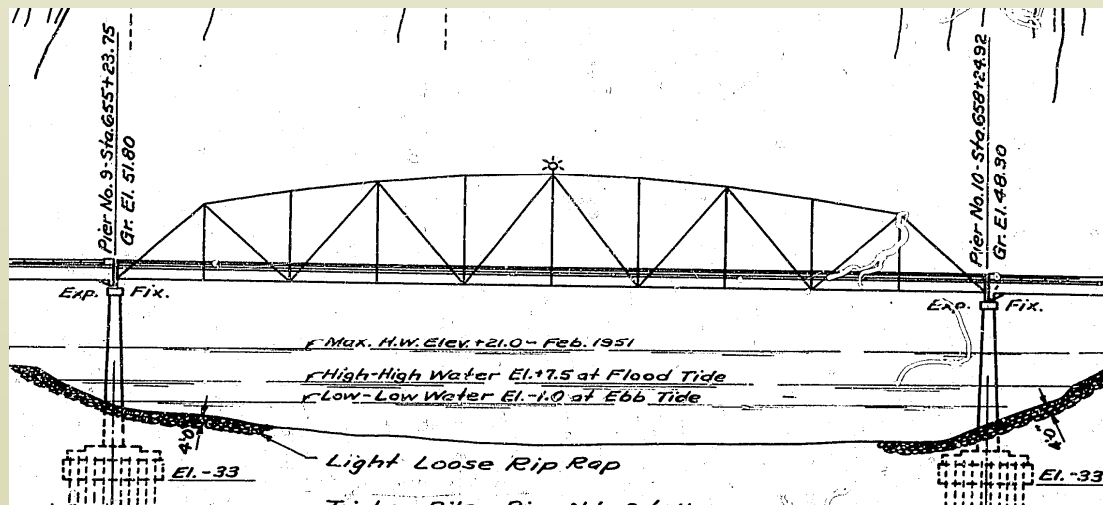






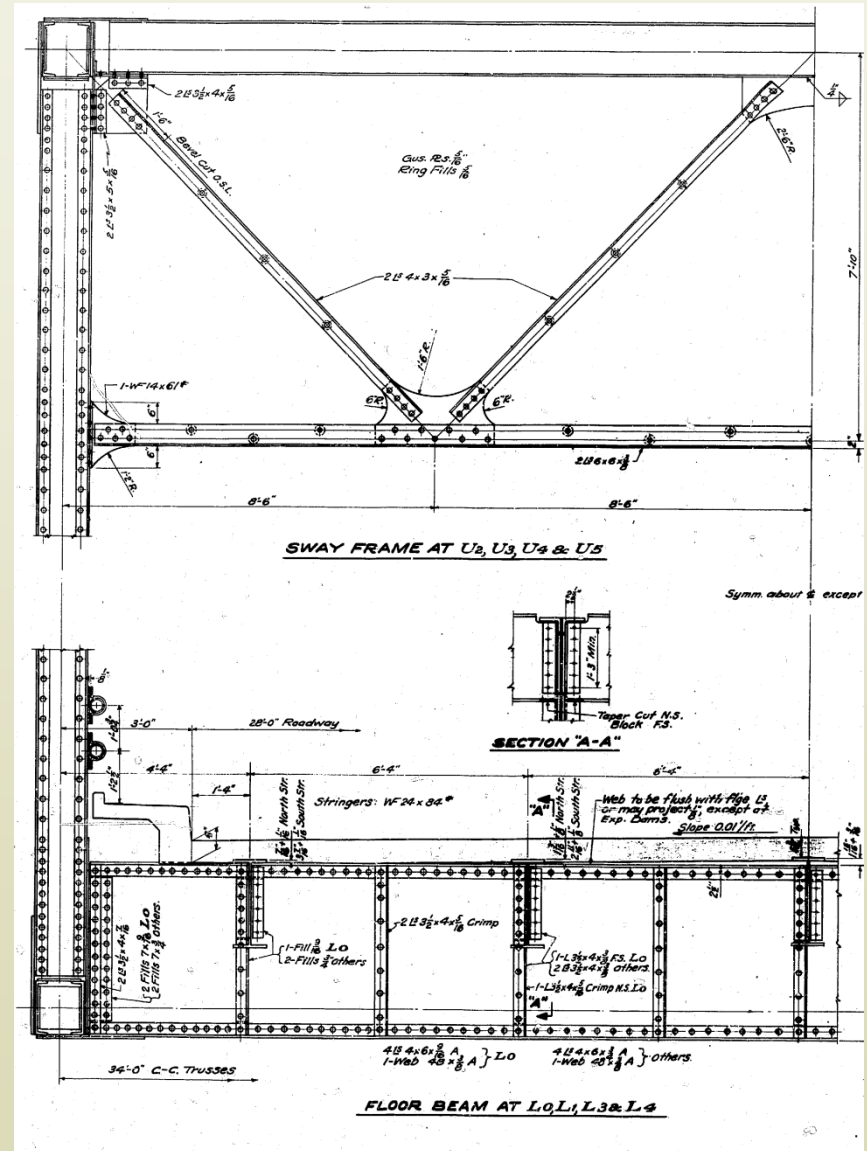
# Procedures for a Typical Truss

1. Determine Loads
2. Modeling the Structure in SAP2000
3. Triage Spreadsheet Input
4. Reporting Results



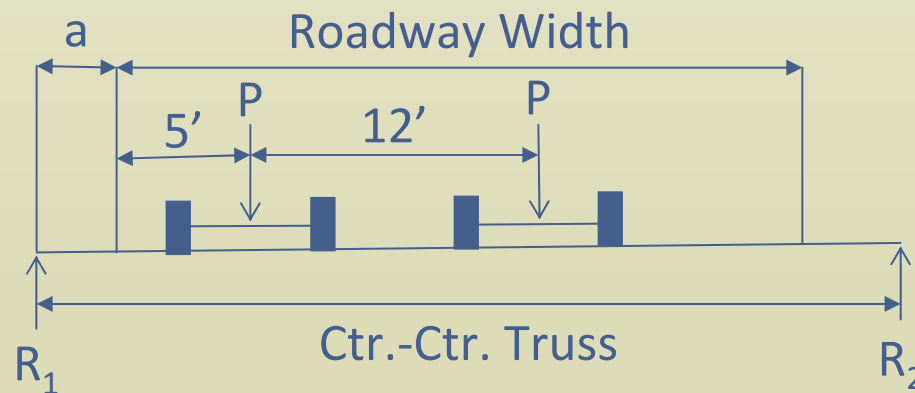
# 1. Determine Loads

- Dead Loads
  - Tributary Dead Loads
    - Deck
    - Barriers
    - Sidewalks
    - Utilities
    - Floor Beams
    - Stringers
    - Lateral Bracing
    - Sway Frames
  - Member Self Weight
    - Calculated by SAP



# Determine Loads (Continued)

- Live Loads for LFR Analysis
  - Loads
    - HS20 Design Truck
    - AASHTO Legal Trucks
    - WSDOT Overload Trucks
  - Distribution of Live Loads (Per Lever Rule)
    - HS20 and Legal Loads

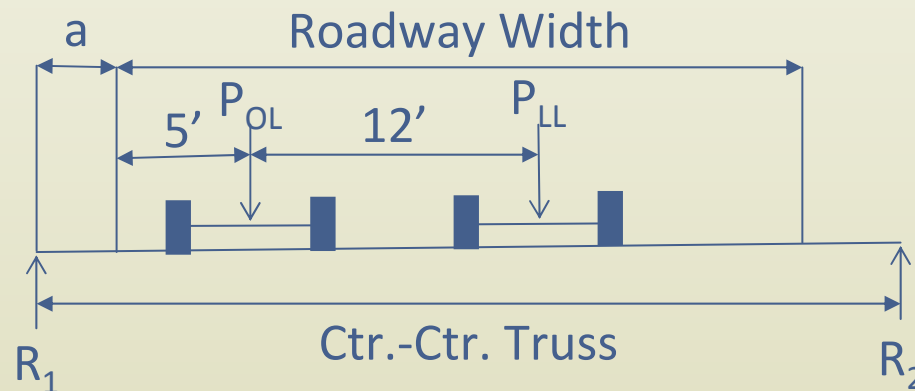


$$DF = R_1 / (2 * P)$$



# Determine Loads (Continued)

- Overloads with Legal Loads



$a$  = Distance From CL Truss to Face of Curb or Rail

$$R_{1\_OL} = P_{OL} * (\text{Ctr-Ctr Truss} - a - 5') / \text{Ctr-Ctr Truss}$$

$$R_{1\_LL} = P_{LL} * (\text{Ctr-Ctr Truss} - a - 17') / \text{Ctr-Ctr Truss}$$

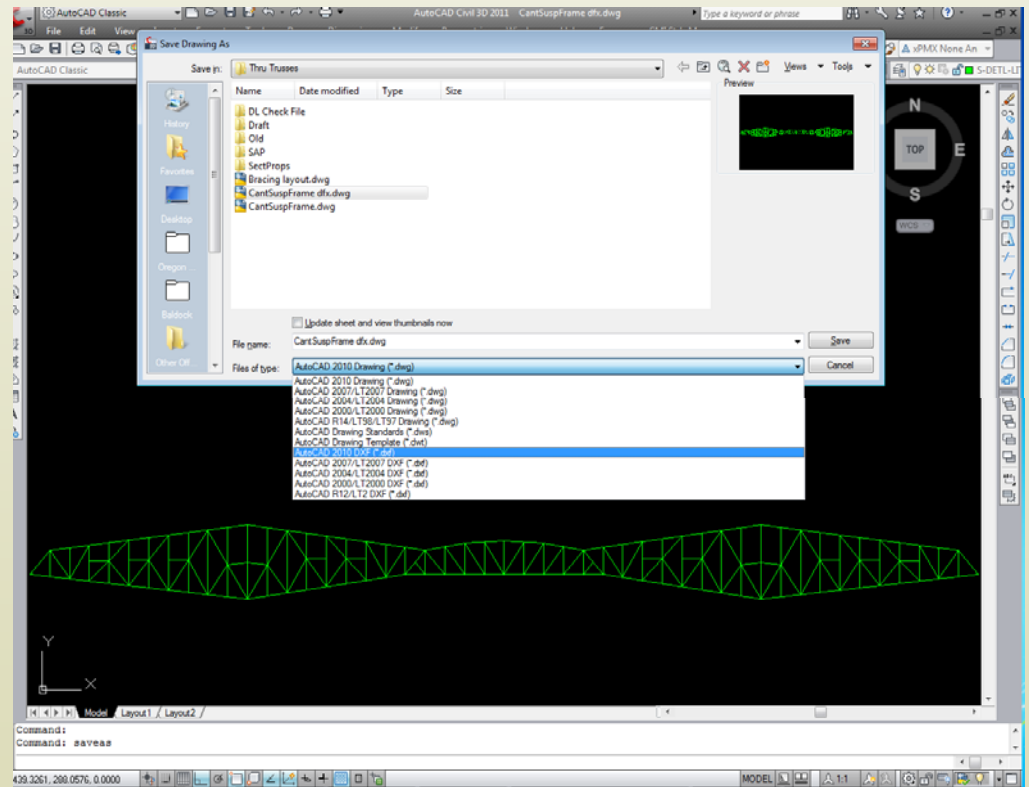
$$DF_{OL} = R_{1\_OL} / P_{OL} \quad DF_{LL} = R_{1\_LL} / P_{LL}$$

## 2. Modeling the Structure in SAP2000

- General Assumptions:
  - Truss Members are pin-connected at all gusset plates
  - Bridge deck and stringers act as simple span beams from floor beam to floor beam (panel pt to panel pt)
  - Only dead and vehicle live loads are analyzed
  - Load Factors, Impact Factors, and Live Load Distribution Factors **are not** incorporated into the SAP model

# Modeling the Structure (Continued)

- Define Geometry
  - Utilizing AutoCAD to create a DXF file of the truss geometry to import into SAP is convenient.
  - Draw elements on a defined layer other than the default “0” layer



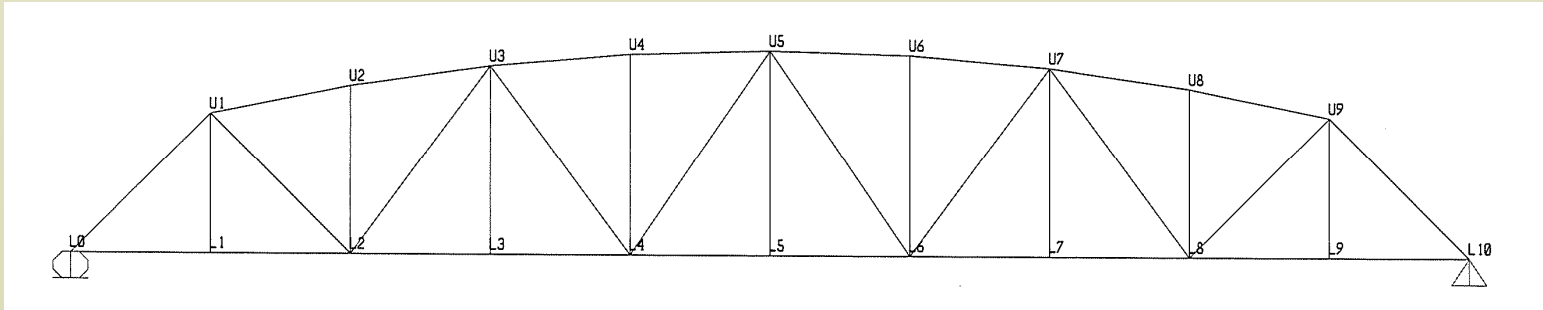
# Modeling the Structure (Continued)

- Frame Sections
  - Only member cross sectional areas are required
- Load Patterns & Assignments
  - Dead Point Loads (tributary loads)
  - Self Weight Loads (apply self weight multiplier)
  - Live Loads
    - Flow of forces
      - Wheel loads carried longitudinally by the deck and stringers to the floor beams and then distributed transversely to each truss as a dynamic point load at the nodes

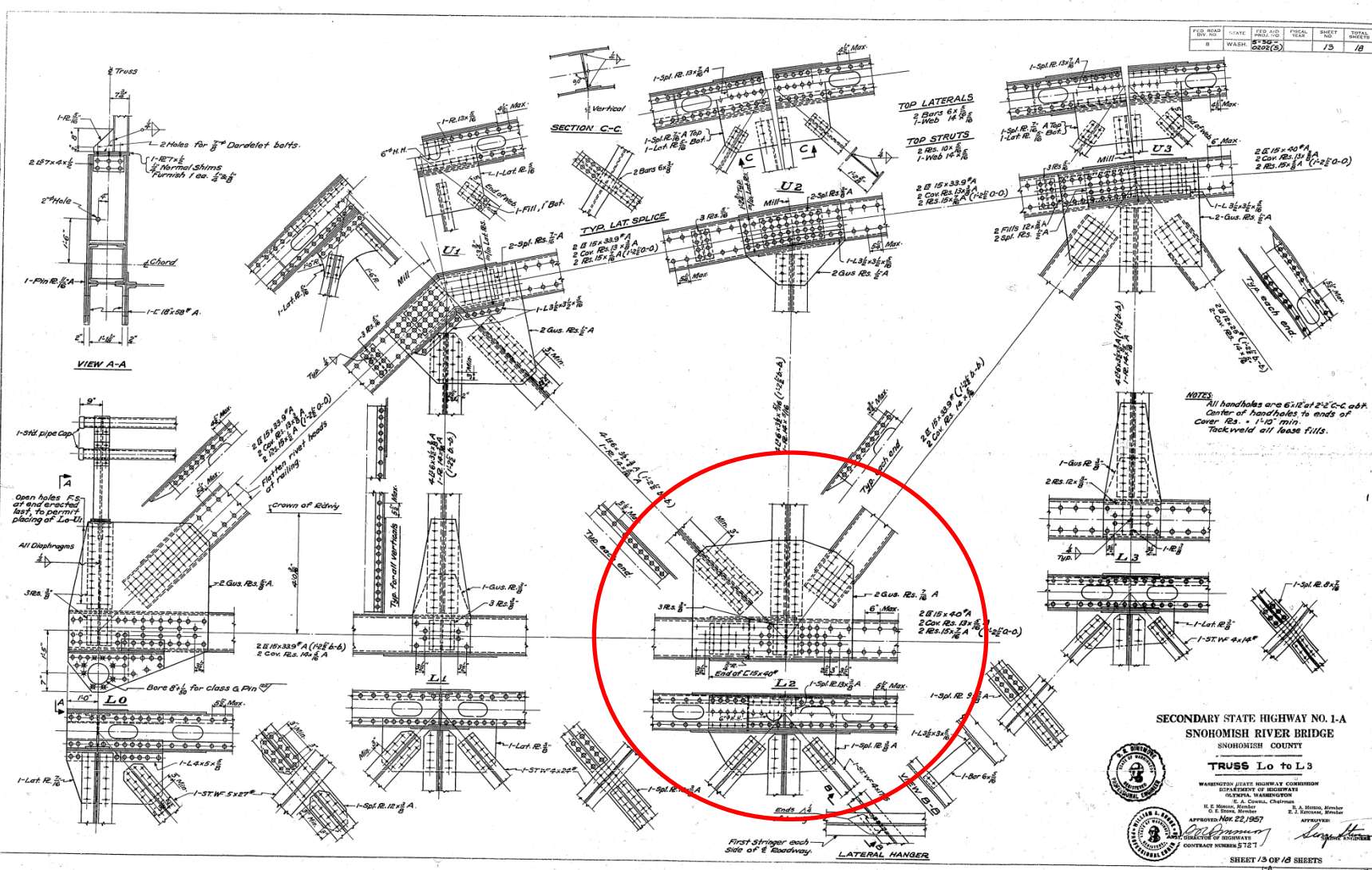


# Modeling the Structure (Continued)

- Use a weight less second member for the vehicle lane
  - Area of member = zero
- Run Analysis and Export Output
  - Export output to an Excel spreadsheet to use the auto filter, copy, and paste features to expedite inputting member loads in the Triage Spreadsheet

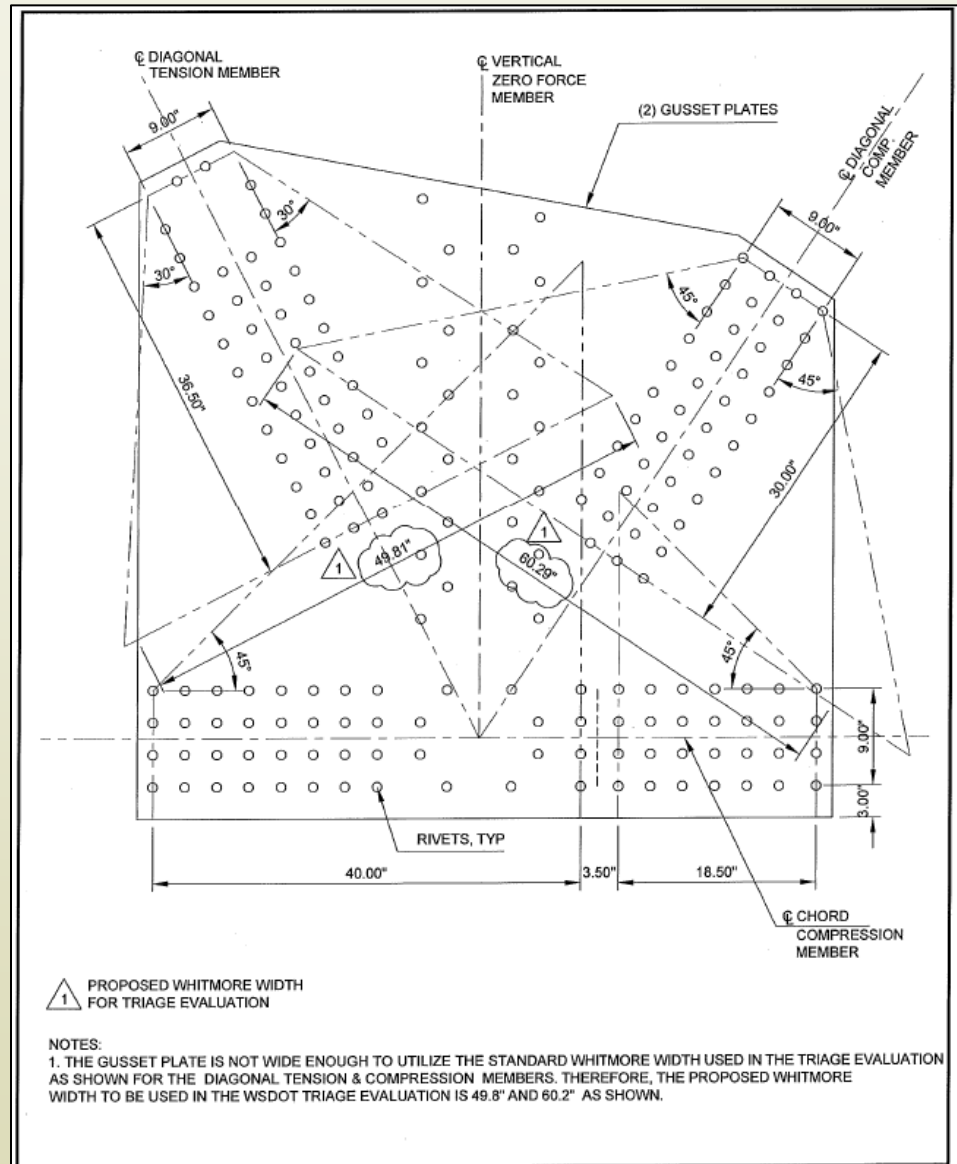
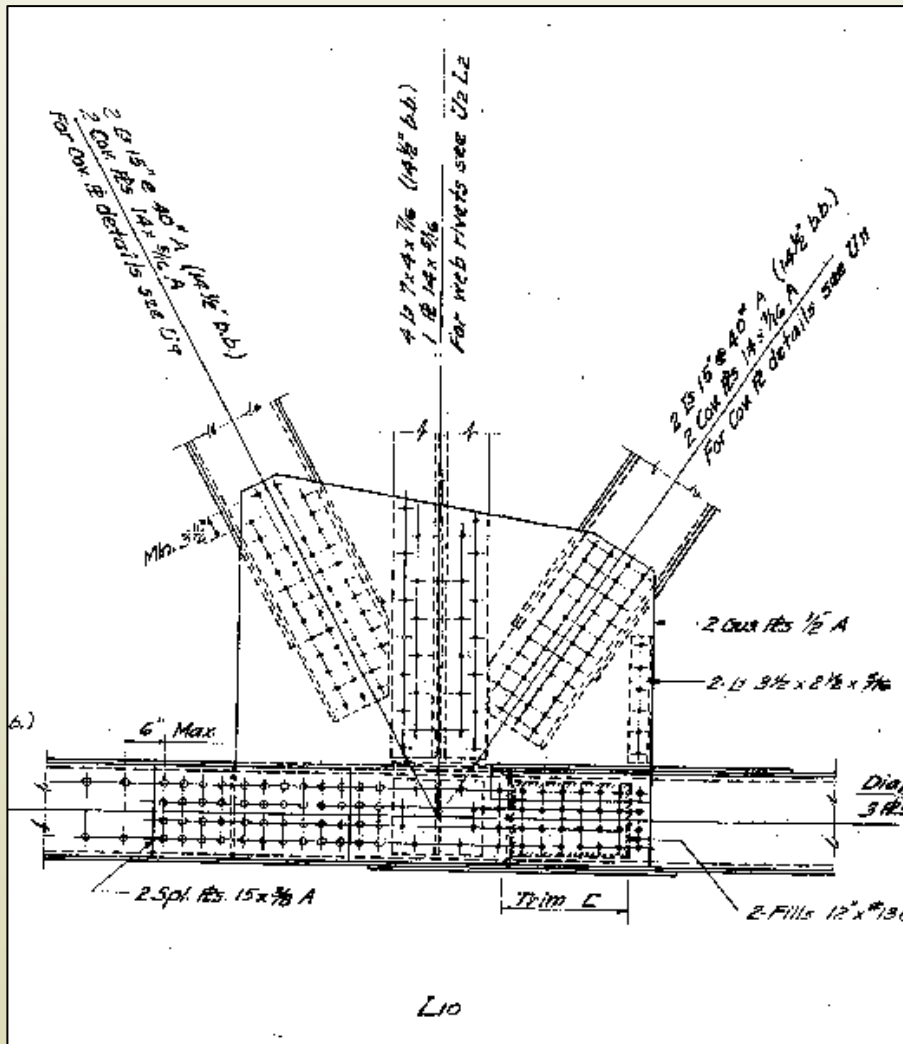


# Triage Spreadsheet Input









Parametrix DATE: February 21, 2011 FILE: TRUSSGEOMETRY

**BRIDGE: BR 12\_512N  
THRU TRUSS GUSSET PLATE: L10**



WSDOT STEEL TRUSS BRIDGE GUSSET PLATE EVALUATION  
PMX PROJECT #: 214-1631-084



# Triage Spreadsheet Input (Continued)

Rating Factors								
Controlling Resistance (k)	Resistance Type							
1278.8	Yielding							
Dead Load Rating Method				Controlling Legal Load for DL rating				
Rating Method	LFR			Factored DL (k)	Maximum Legal Load	76.2	Maximum force due to legal load based on one lane distribution	
yDL	1.3	»		555.3664496				
Dead Load (k)	427.2							
Rating Method				Controlling RF				
Rating Method	LRFR			Factored DL (k)				
yDL_C		»		0				
DL_C (k)								
yDL_W								
DL_W (k)								
LL Input and Connection RF Summary								
Live Loads						Resistance Type		
Load Case ID	Truck Type	yLL	Impact Factor (I)	Rating Method	Member LL (k)	Yielding RF	Buckling RF	Rivets RF
1	H520	2.17	0.118	LFR	109.8	2.22	N/A	2.81
2	A1	2.17	0.118	LFR	43.8	5.56	N/A	7.05
3	A2	2.17	0.118	LFR	60.3	4.03	N/A	5.11
4	A3	2.17	0.118	LFR	65.6	3.71	N/A	4.70
5	NRL	2.17	0.118	LFR	68.3	3.56	N/A	4.51
6	Legal Lane	2.17	0.118	LFR	76.2	3.19	N/A	4.05
7	OL1	1.3	0.1	LFR	82.5	7.26	N/A	9.33
8	OL2	1.3	0.1	LFR	164.0	3.65	N/A	4.70



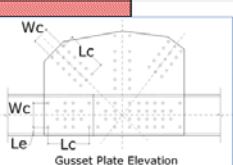
# Triage Spreadsheet Input (Continued)

**Triage Procedure Connection Inputs**

Connection Information					
Connection ID	Chord or Web?	Splice PL's?	Wind Bracing GP?	Comp. or Tension?	Milled to Bear, Y/N?
L2-U3	Web	N	N	Compression	

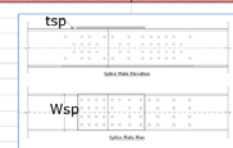
Rated By: SB  
 Company: Parametrix  
 Date: 5/11/2011  
 Bridge ID: 9\_118

Gusset Plate Connection			
Wc (in)	9	$2 * Lc \tan 30 + Wc$	26.32
Lc (in)	15	Is Plate Width <	N
Le (in)		$2 * Lc \tan 30 + Wc$ ?	
Plate Width (in)		Plate Width valid only for web members and when < $2 * Lc \tan 30 + Wc$	

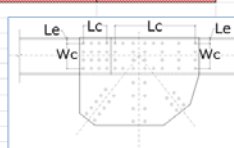


Gusset Plate Elevation

Individual Splice Plate Dimensions			Wind Brace GP Dimensions				
Splice ID	Wsp (in)	tsp (in)	Brace ID	Wc (in)	Lc (in)	Le (in)	twp (in)



Splice Plate Diagram

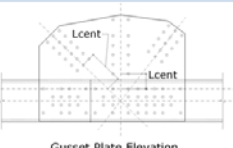


Wind Brace Elevation

Summary of Yielding Resistance Calculations			
App_wb (in^2)	23.03		Rn (k)
Awp (in^2)	0.00	»	664.8
Aspi (in^2)	0.00		

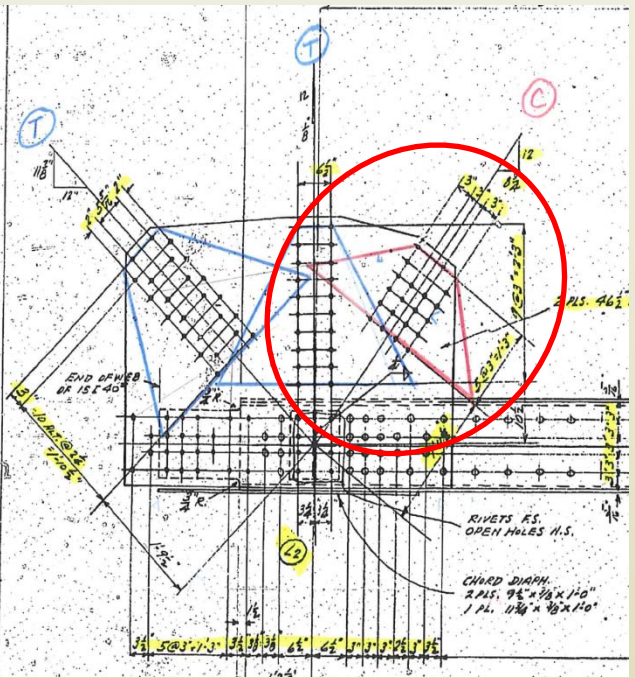
**Buckling Resistance Inputs**

Buckling Input		Summary of Buckling Resistance Calculations			
Centroidal Length, L_cent (in)	L_Whit45 (in)	lg (in^4)	Ag (in^2)	phi_c	Rn (k)
17.93	34.50	0.482	30.19	0.9	
Whitmore Length Manual Input (in)	rs (in)	L_cent (in)	lambda	K	399.5
34.50	0.126	17.930	3.521	1.0	
Does the L_Whit45 exceed the actual width of the plate?	Y				



Gusset Plate Elevation

Rivet Input			Rivet Resistance
Rivet Diameter, D_r (in)	# of Single Shear Rivets, nss	# of Double Shear Rivets, nds	Rn (k)
0.875	40		577.3







# Challenges

- Multi-span trusses
- Nested Plates
- Whitmore Widths
- Bugs

# Future

- Spreadsheet Updates
- Comparison w/FHWA method

