

# Seismic Design of a Light Rail Transit Bridge with Fault Rupture Crossing

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Western Bridge  
Engineers' Seminar  
Reno, Nevada  
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# Presentation Outline

1. Project Overview
2. Site-Wide Fault Mapping
3. Field Exploration at Three Bridge Sites
4. Design Fault Rupture Displacements
5. Faulting Through Foundations
6. Bridge Design for Fault Rupture

# Project Overview

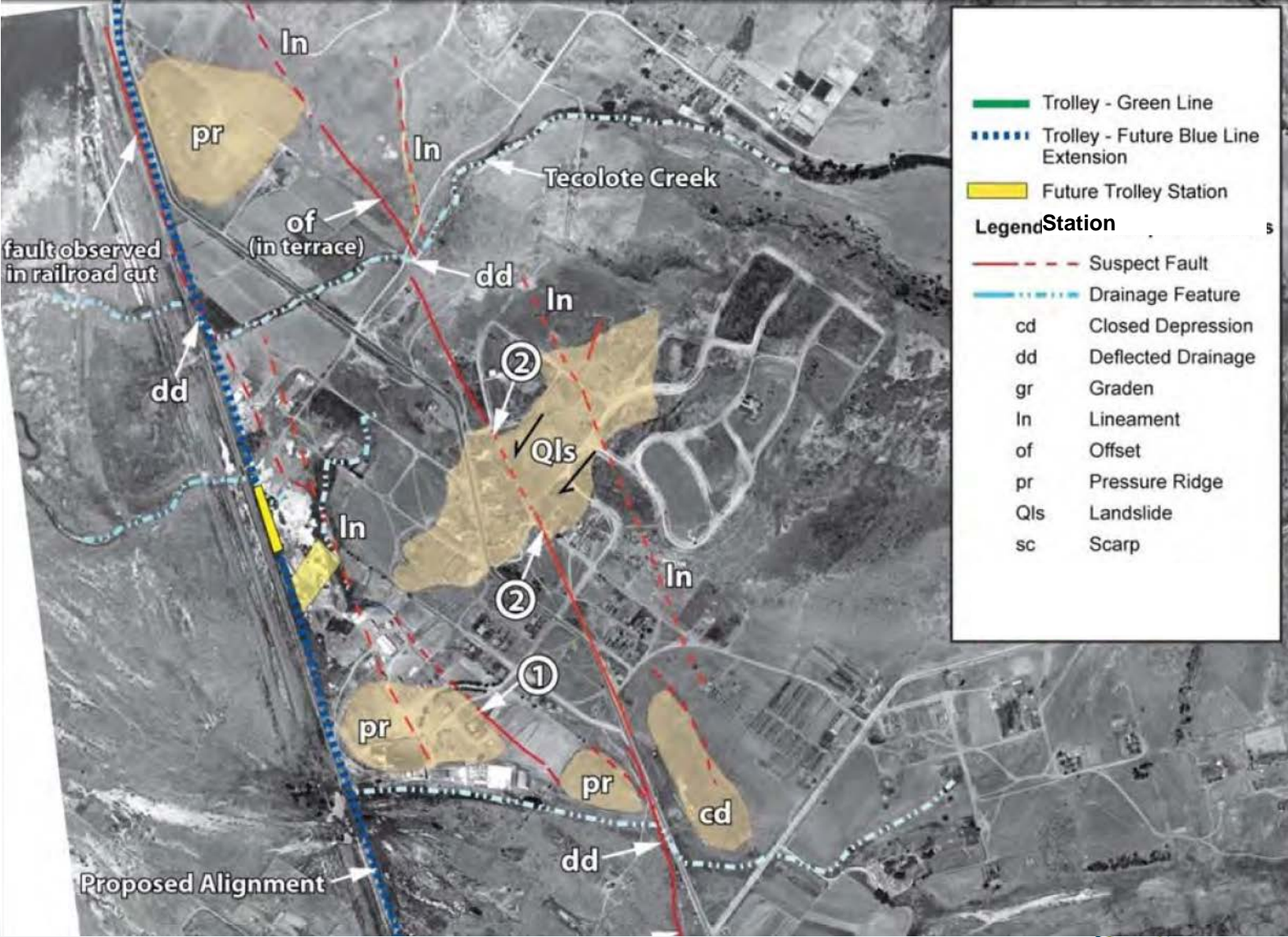
- 11 miles of new light rail in S. California
- 9 stations
- 7 bridges
- >4 miles of elevated viaduct
- Several miles of retaining walls
- \$2.1B total cost
- 4 kilometers of the alignment affected by surface fault rupture hazard

# Regional Faulting



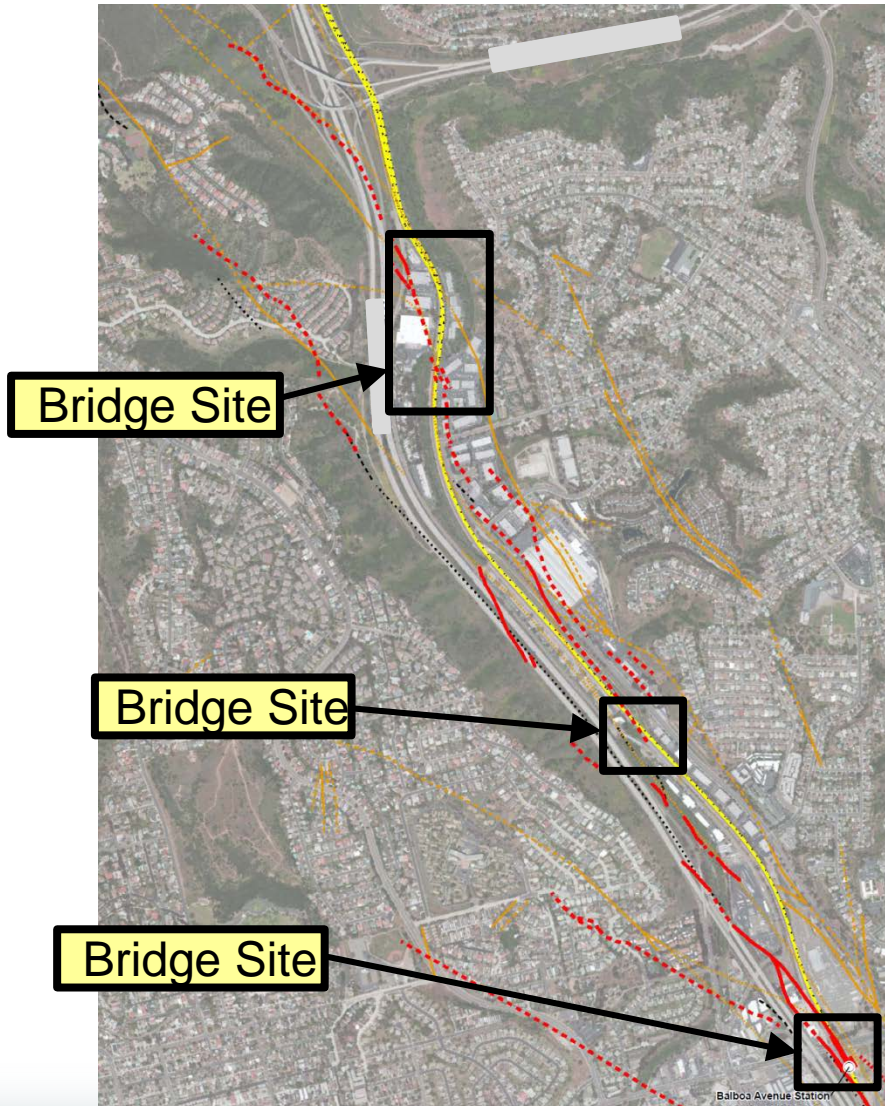


# Desk Top Study – Vintage Stereoscopic Aerial Photo Interpretation



Interpretations by Scott Rugg and Tom Rockwell (Kleinfelder 2013)


# Detailed Field Exploration Programs at Three Bridge Sites



## LEGEND

 Project Alignment

Interpreted Fault Locations:

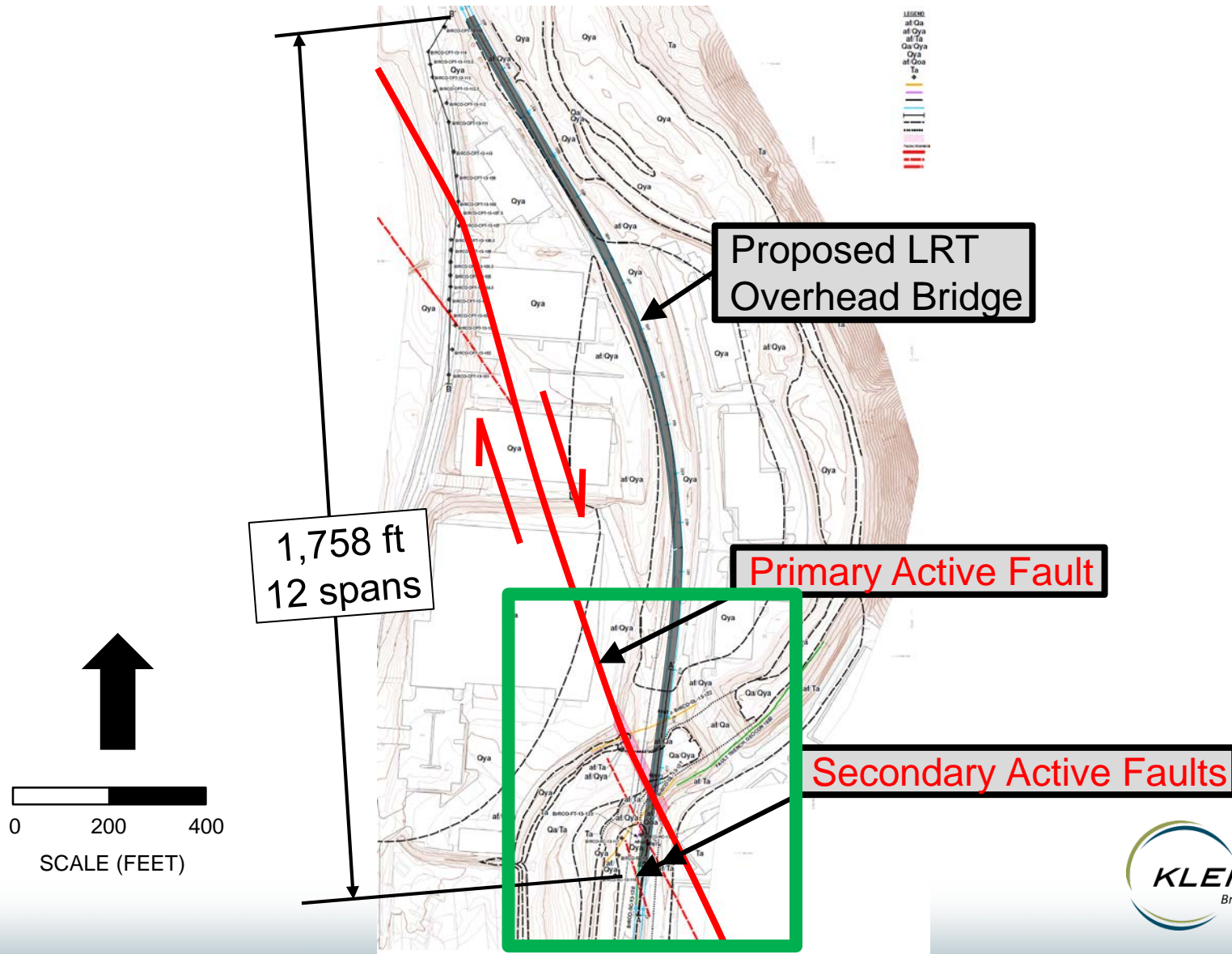
 Kleinfelder (2013)

 Alquist-Priolo (CDMG 1991)

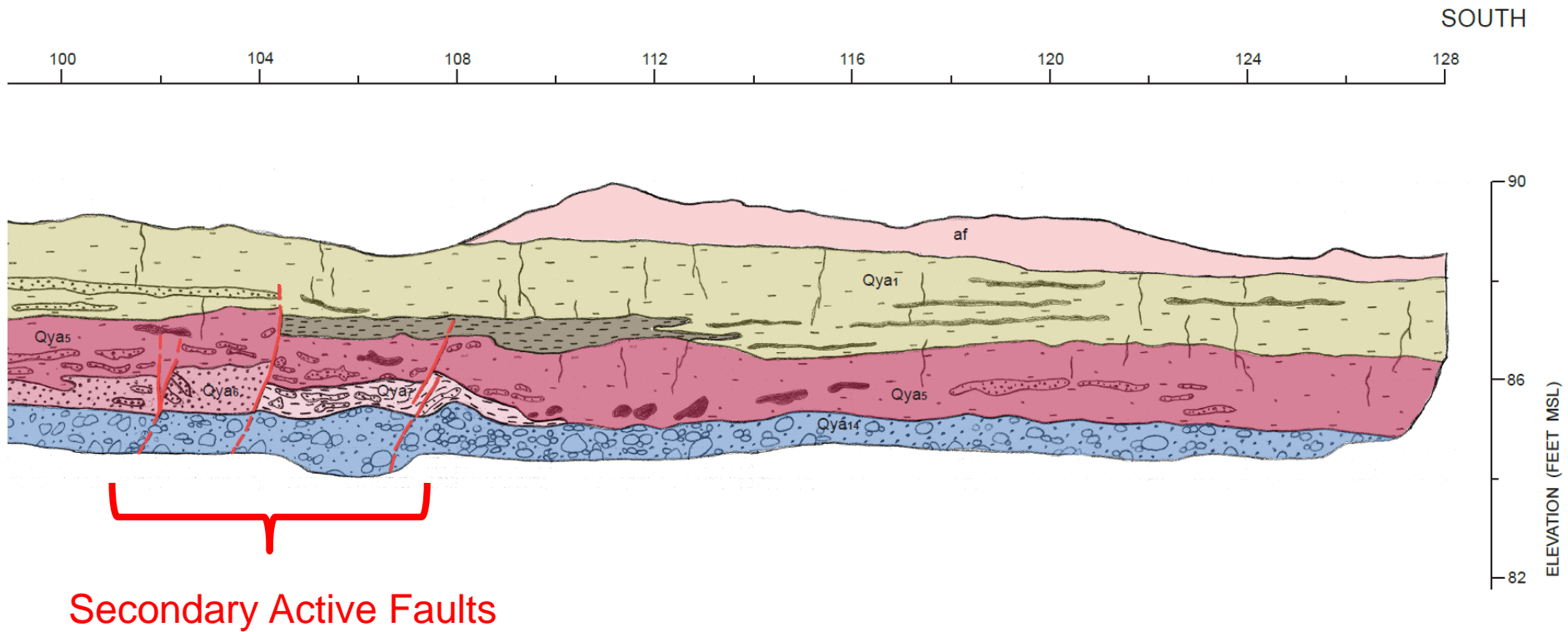
 City of San Diego (2008)



# Field Exploration and Fault Mapping at LRT Overhead Bridge Site – Plan View

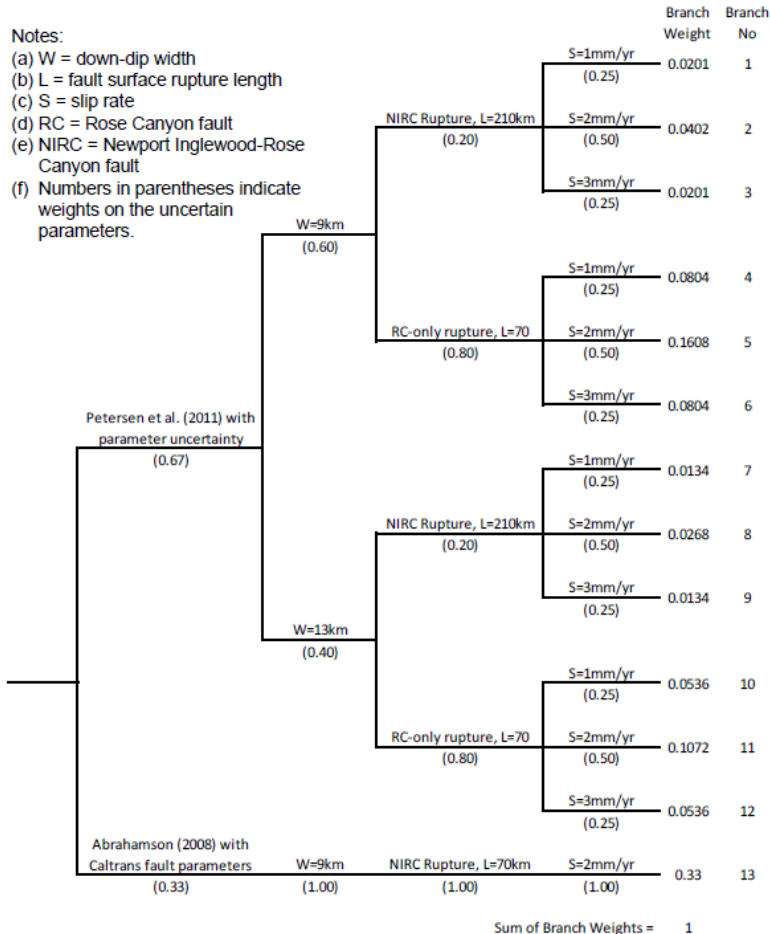


# Geologic Mapping of Cut Surface

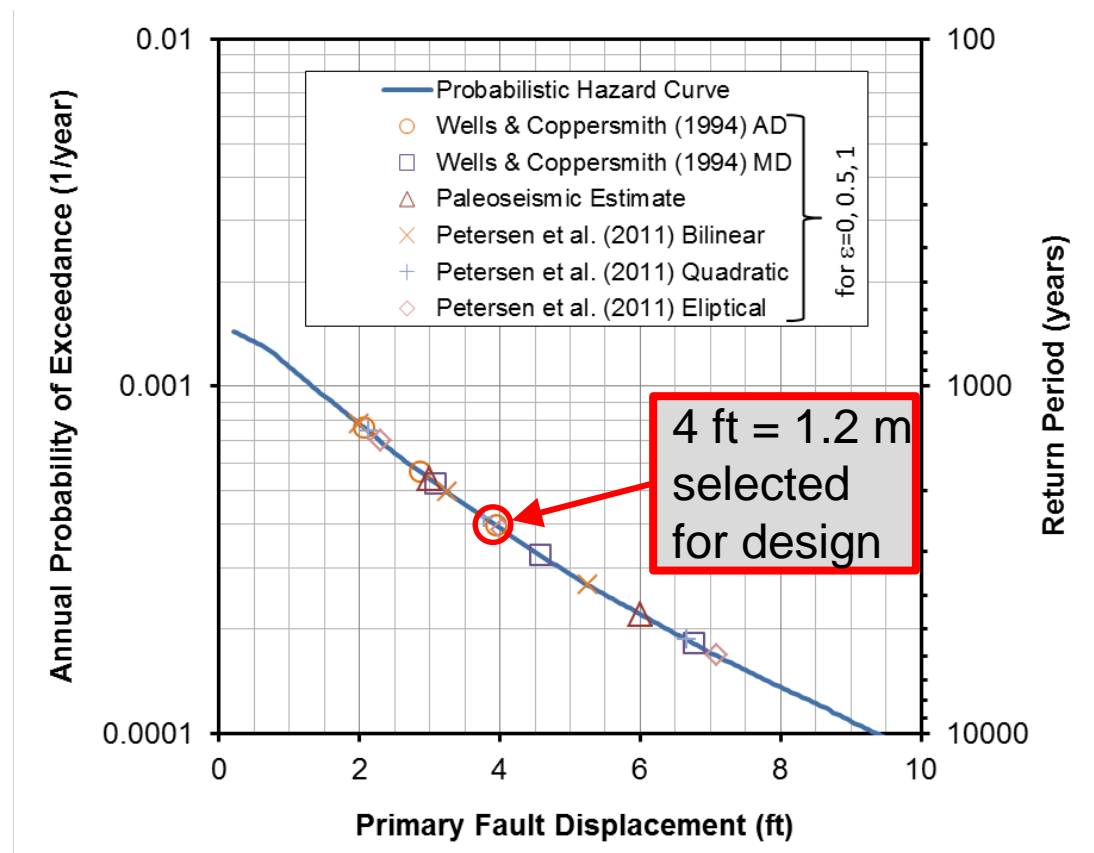




# Design Fault Displacements – Deterministic and Probabilistic Analyses

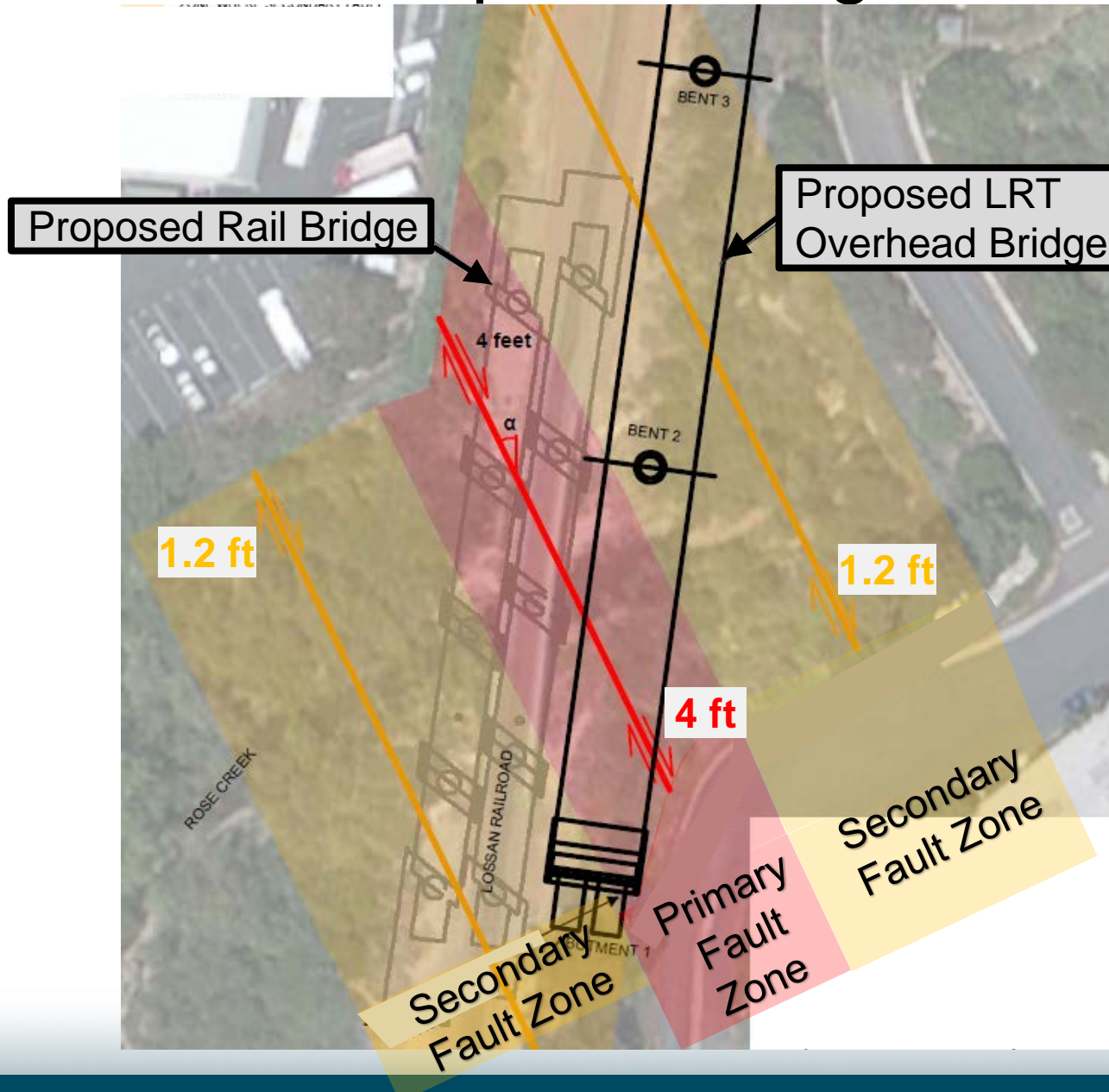


Logic tree used in  
PFDHA

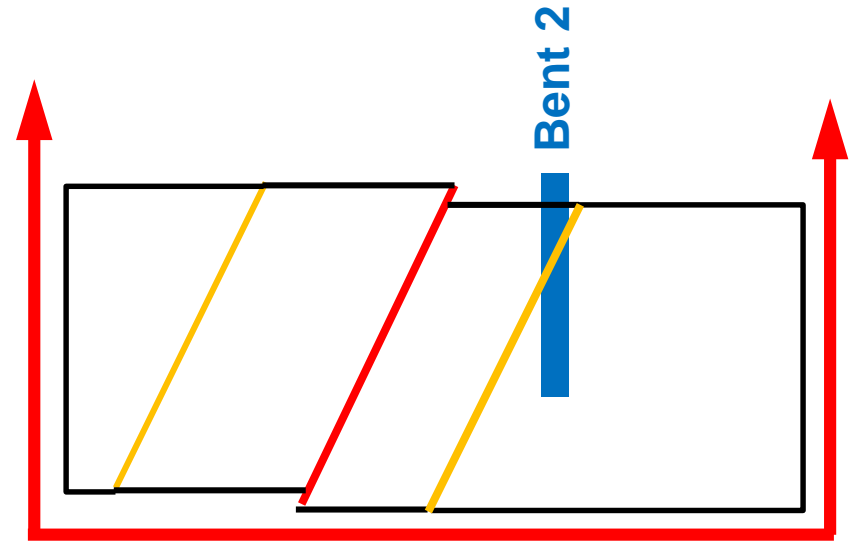
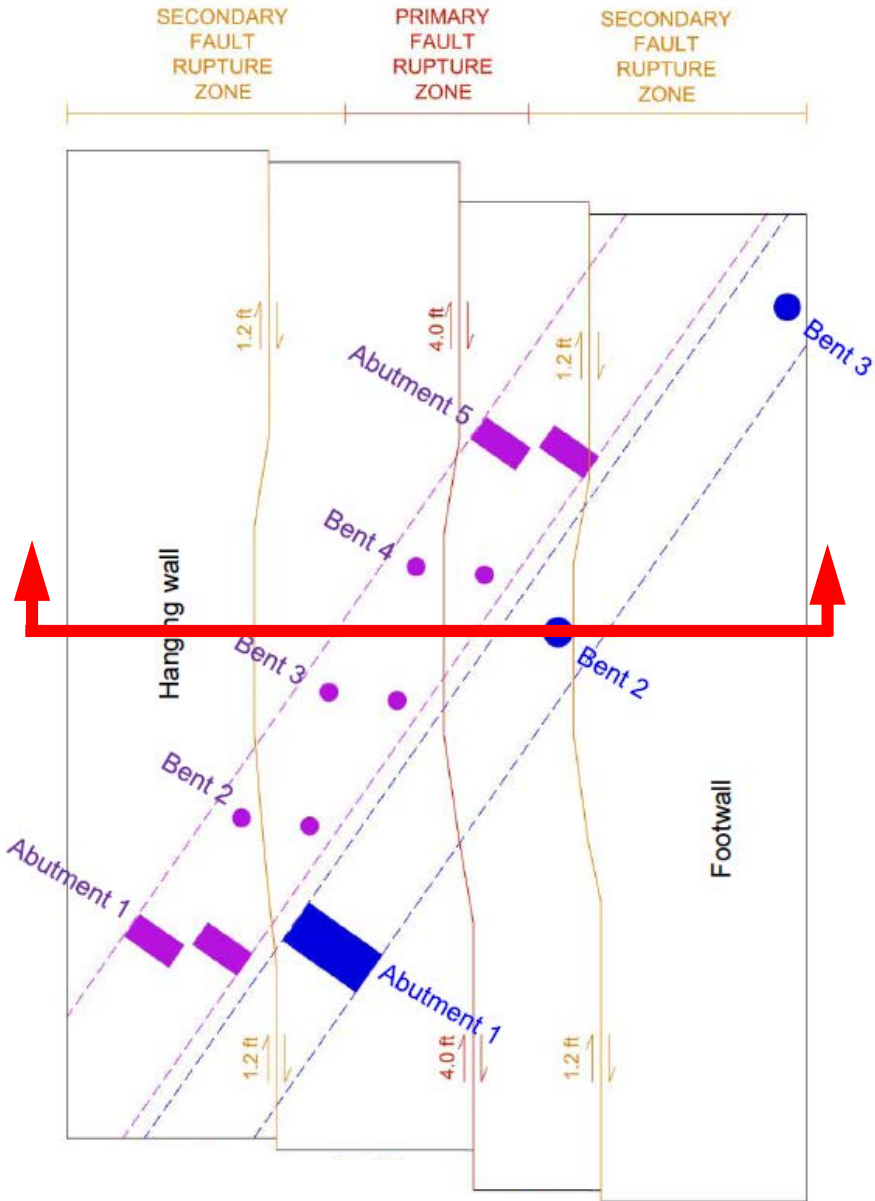


Hazard curve with  
deterministic values overlain

# Fault Rupture Design Scenario



# Fault Rupture Design Scenario





# Foundation Design Strategy

- Unusual situation of faulting through foundations
- Avoid primary fault where possible
- Large Diameter CIDH Piles or mat-footings
- Modeling to evaluate foundation behavior and displacements

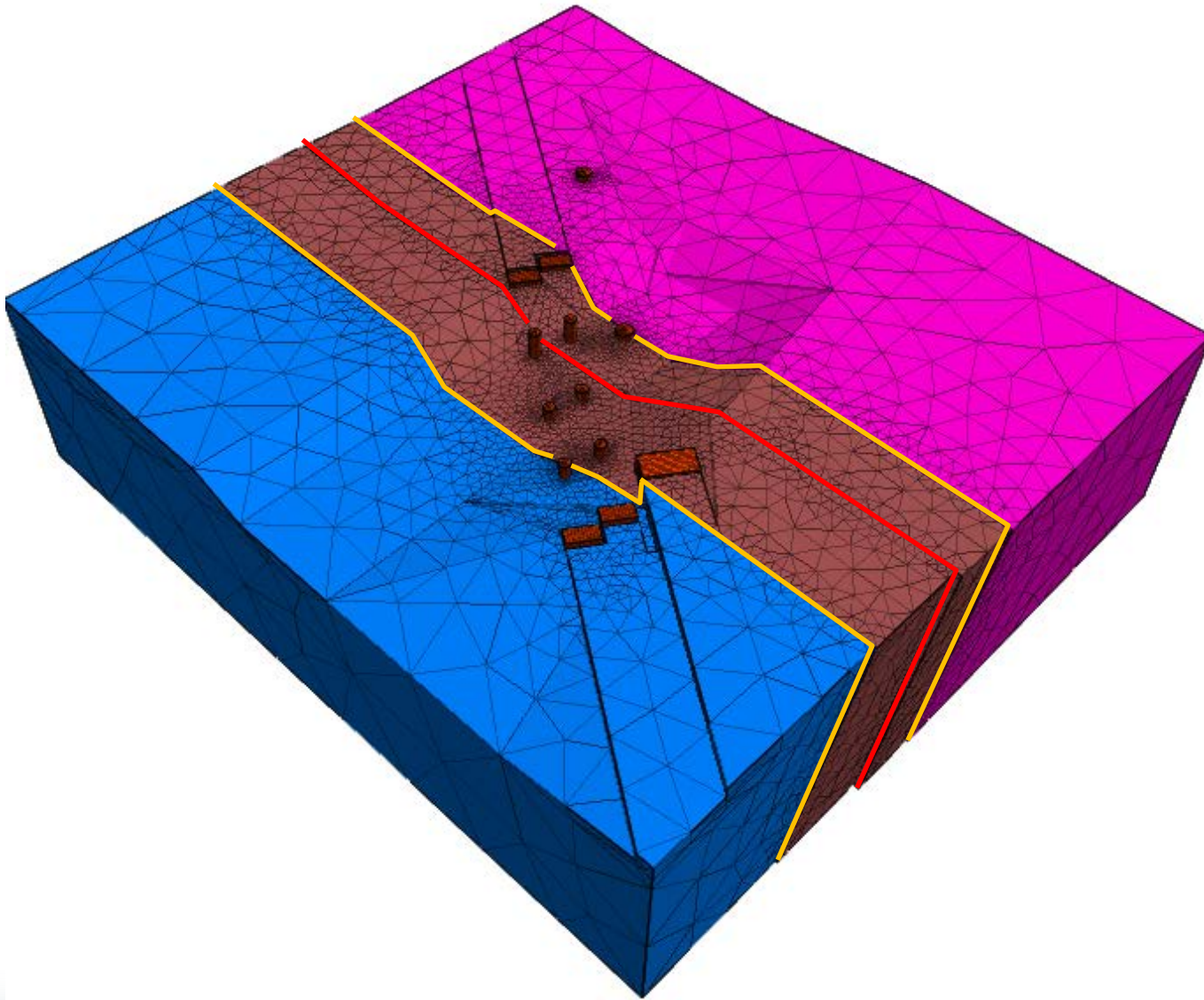


Desirable foundation behavior

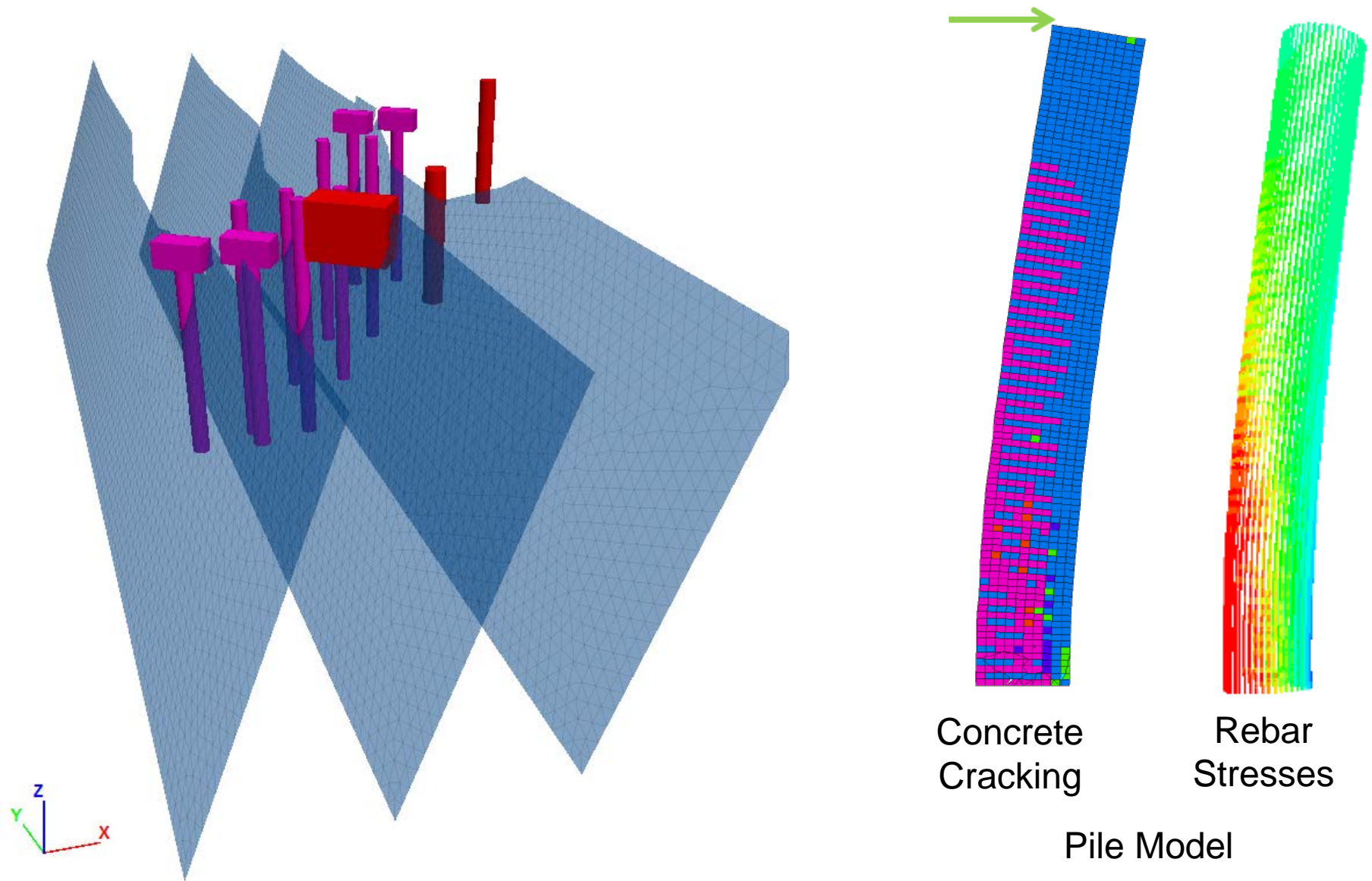


Undesirable behavior

# Modeling of Soil-Fault Foundation System

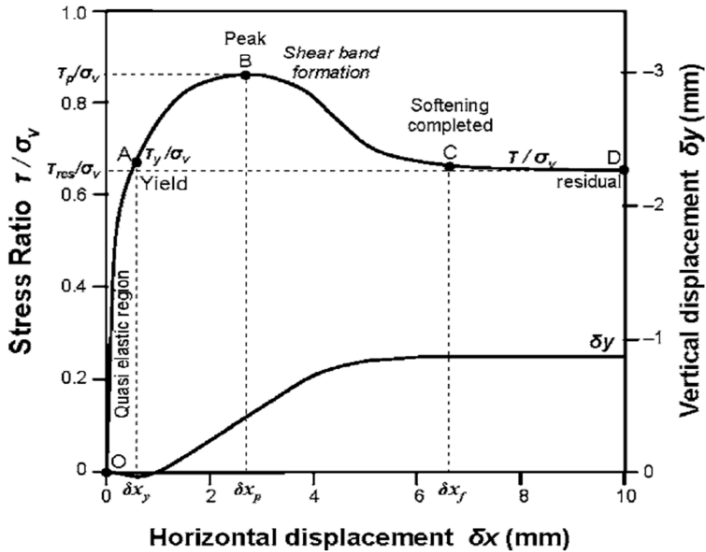
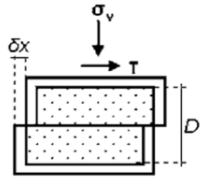


# Modeling of Soil-Fault Foundation System

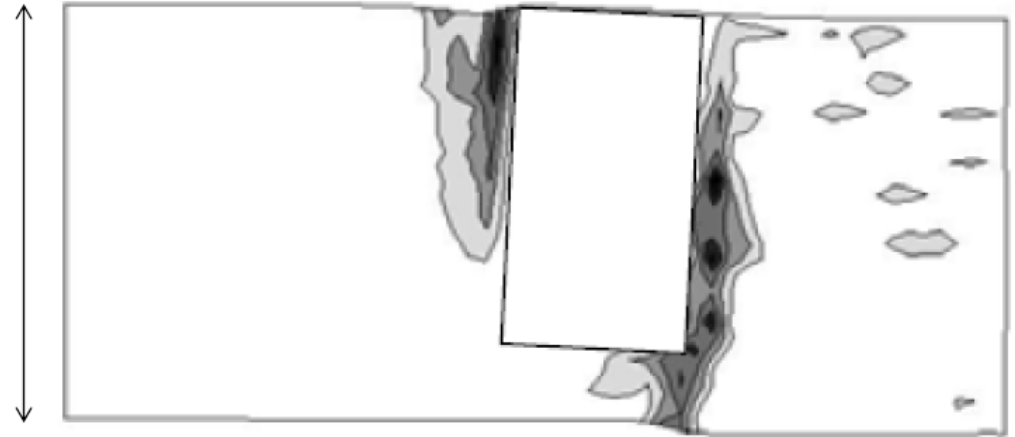




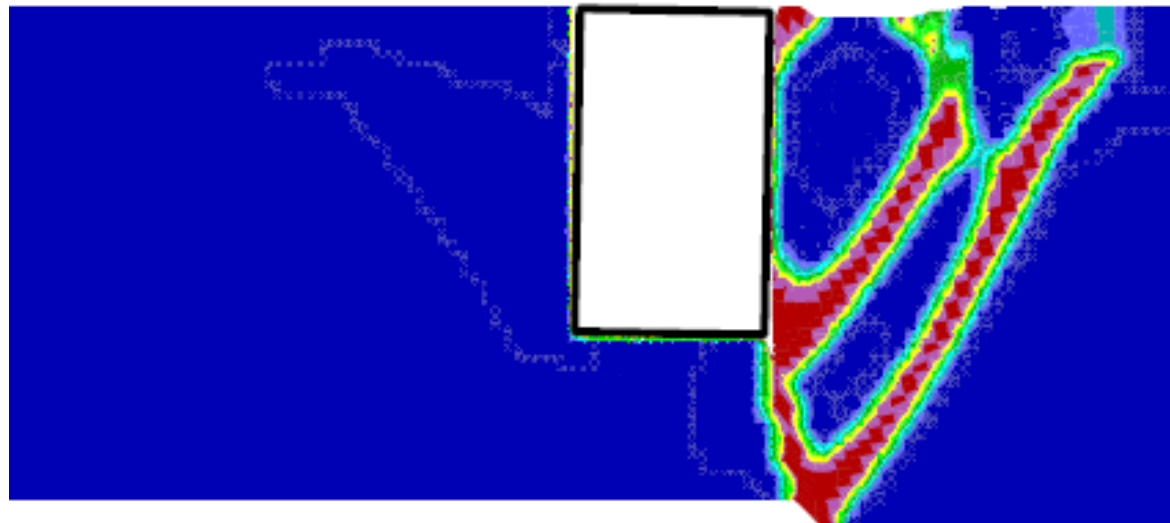
# Soil Model Calibration and Validation



Constitutive model approach  
of Anastasopoulos et al.  
(2007)

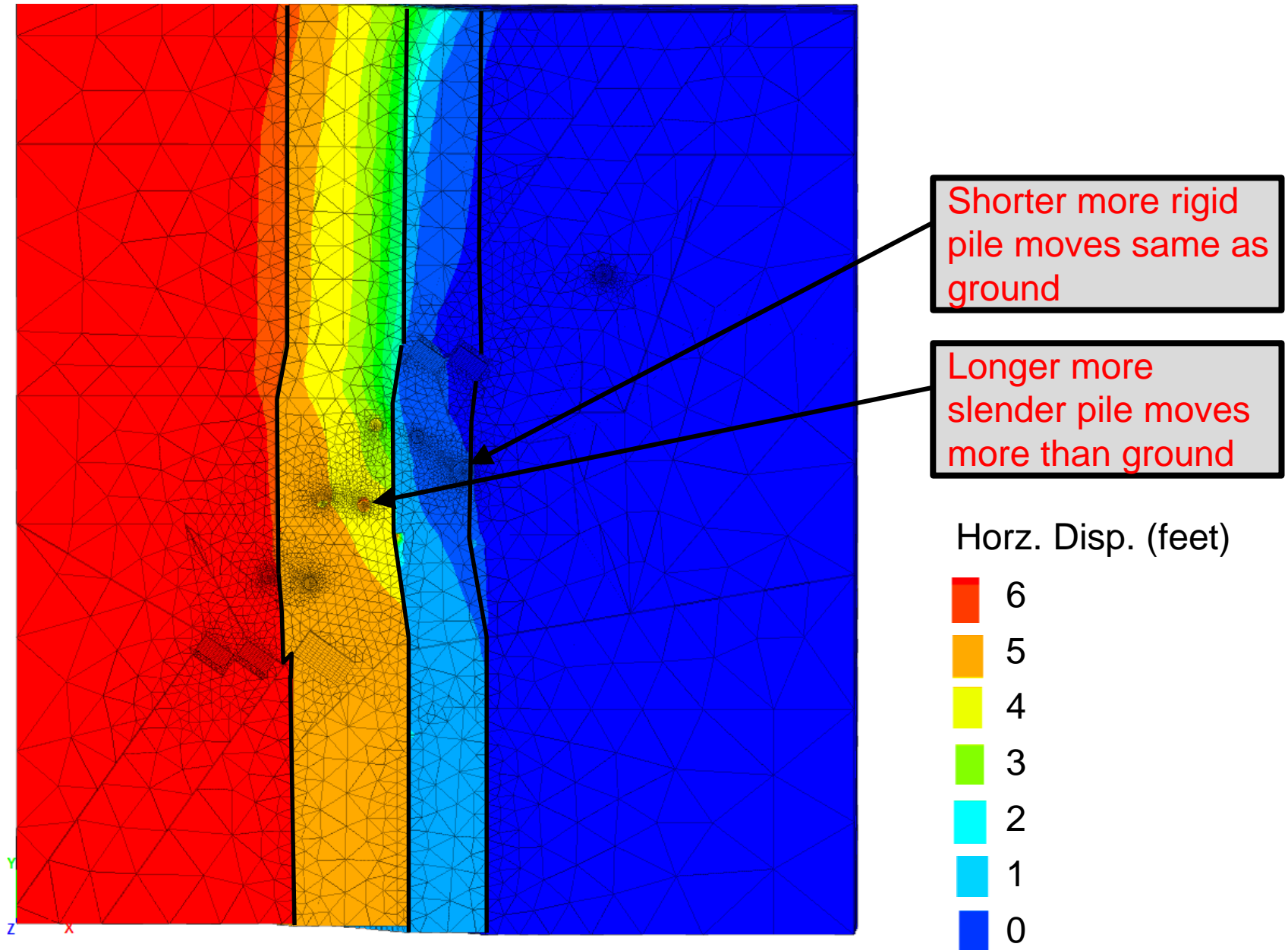


Centrifuge test data from Loli et al. (2009)

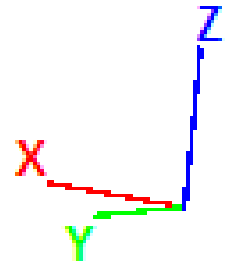
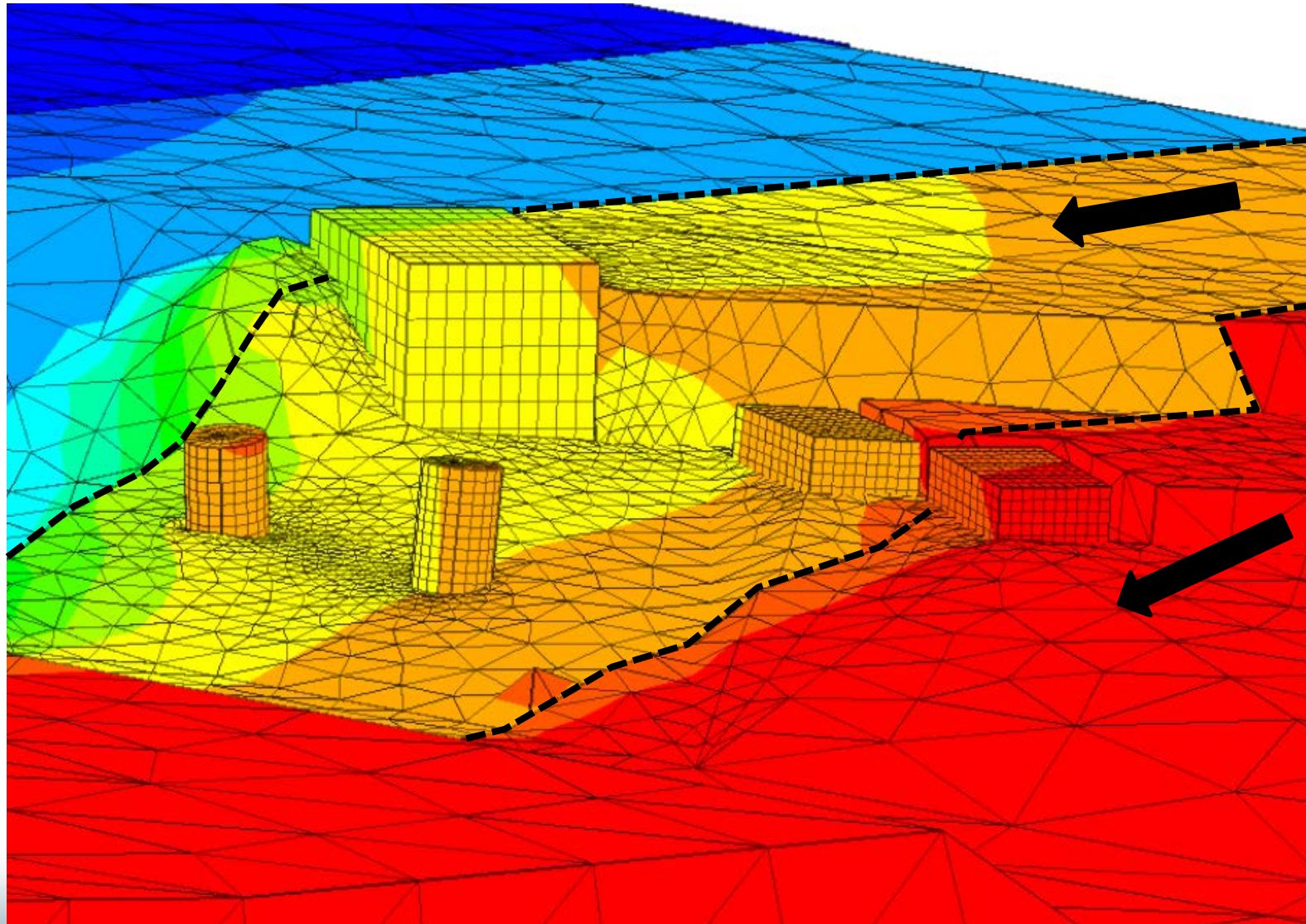


Model simulation results

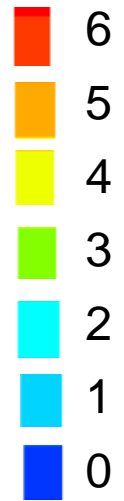
# Modeling of Soil-Fault Foundation System



# Abutment Modeling Results

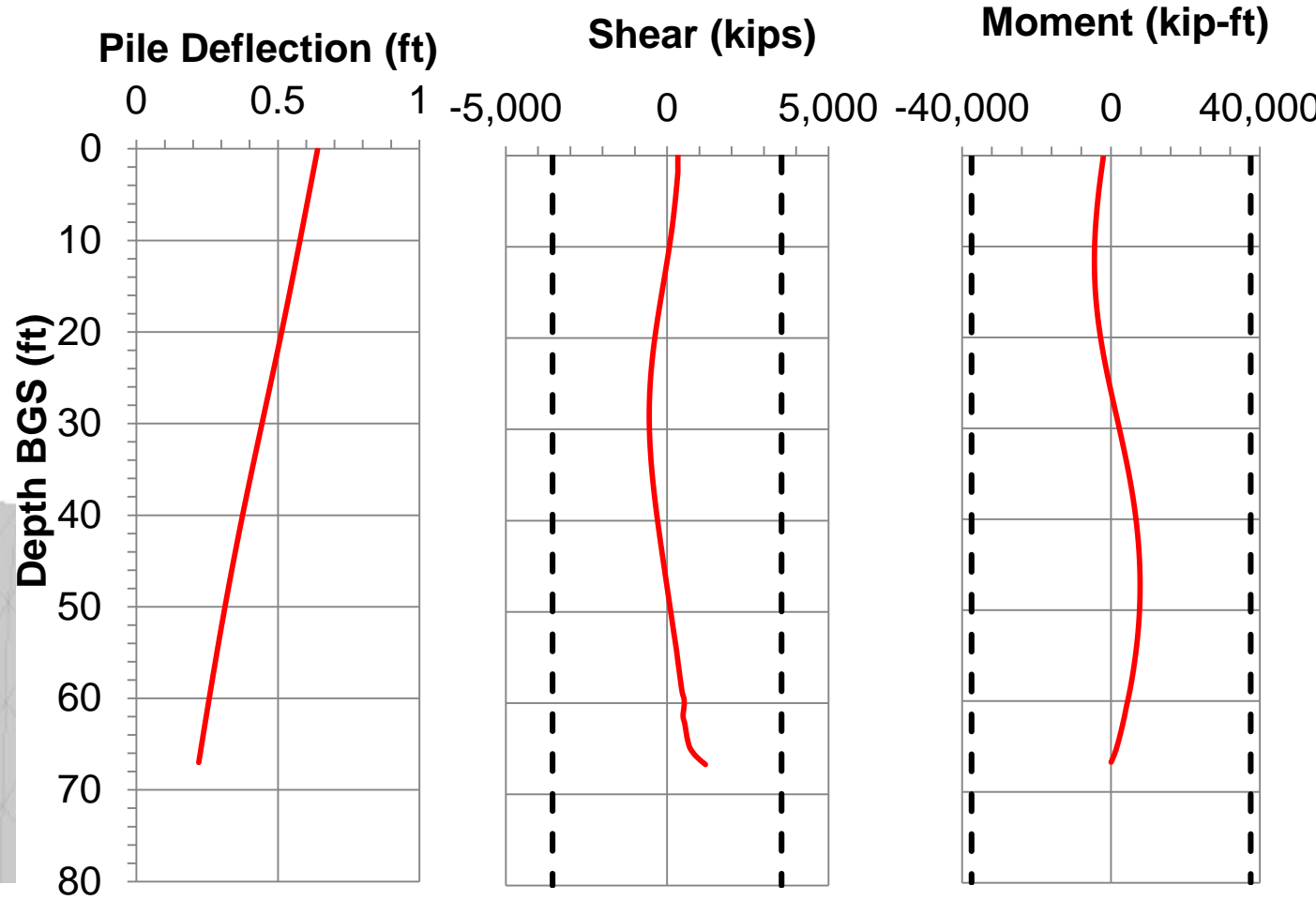
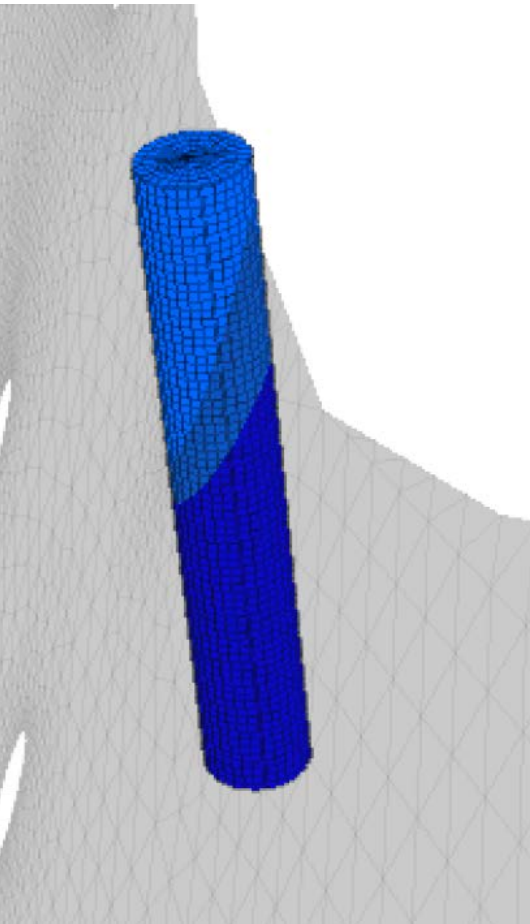


Horz. Disp.  
(feet)





# Pile Performance



# Fault Rupture Design Displacements

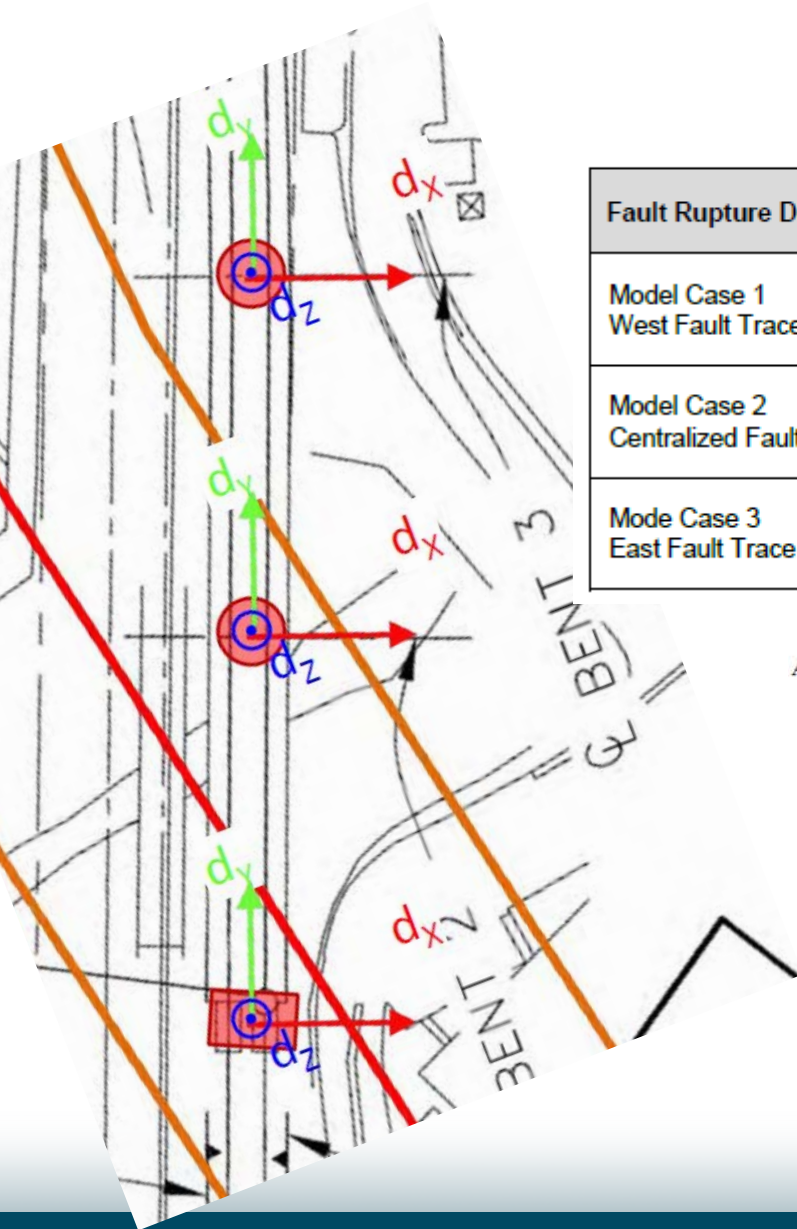
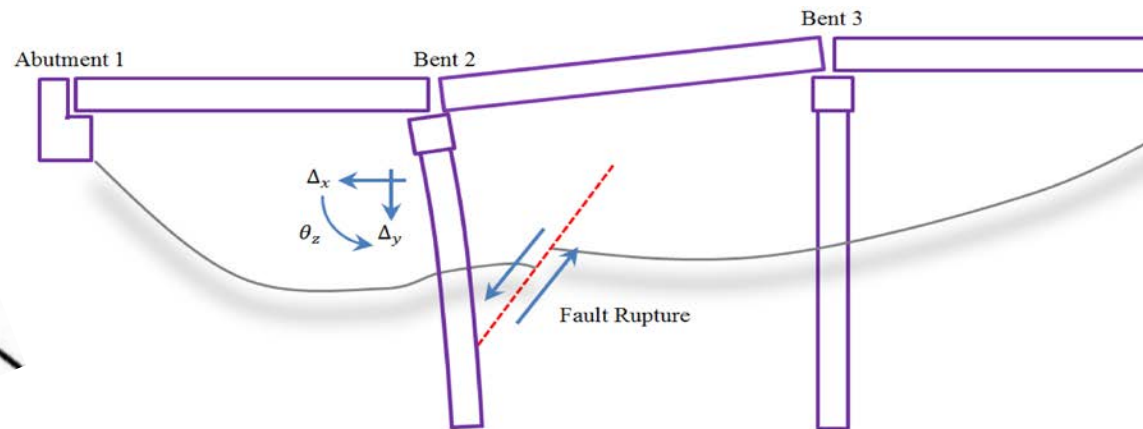


Table of Fault Rupture Design Scenarios

Fault Rupture Design Scenario	Foundation	$d_x$ (feet)	$d_y$ (feet)	$d_z$ (feet)	$\theta_x$ (deg)	$\theta_y$ (deg)	$\theta_z$ (deg)
Model Case 1 West Fault Trace Location	Abutment 1	-2.3	4.1	0.5	-0.9	0	-1.5
	Bent 2	-0.1	0.3	0	-0.1	0	-0.1
	Bent 3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Model Case 2 Centralized Fault Trace Location	Abutment 1	-2.7	4.4	0.5	-0.1	0	-0.1
	Bent 2	-0.3	0.6	0	-0.4	0.1	-0.6
	Bent 3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Model Case 3 East Fault Trace Location	Abutment 1	-3.0	5.0	0.6	0.1	-0.7	-1.1
	Bent 2	-0.7	1.1	0.1	0	0	-0.2
	Bent 3	-0.2	0.4	0	-0.1	0	-0.3



# Bridge Design

## ○ Performance Objectives:

### 1. Performance Level (No collapse)

- Higher Level Project-Specified Ground Motion (Caltrans Design Spectrum)

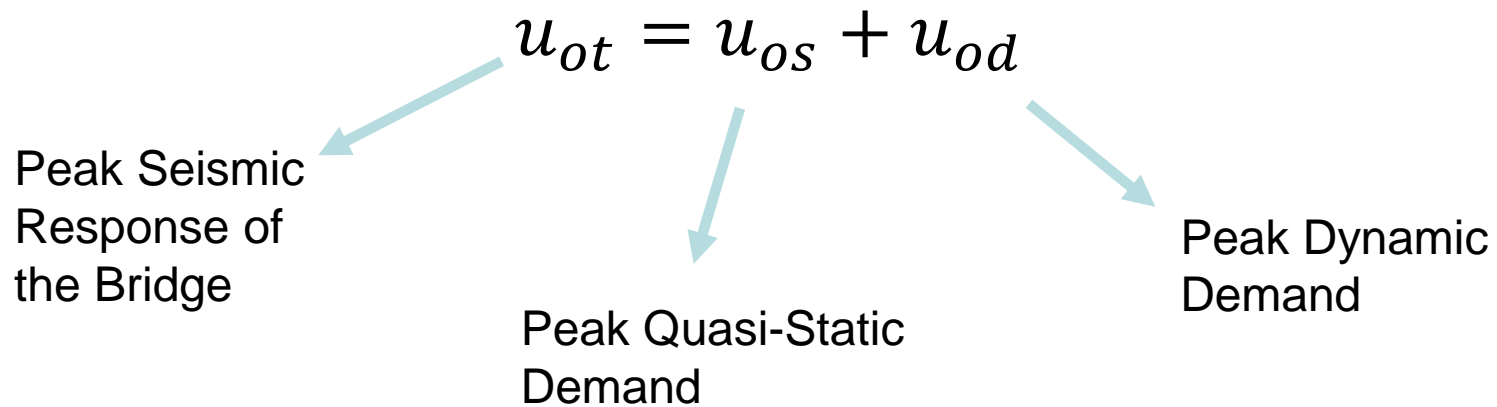
### 2. Service Level (Minimally serviceable to unserviceable after event)

- Lower Level Project-Specified Ground Motion



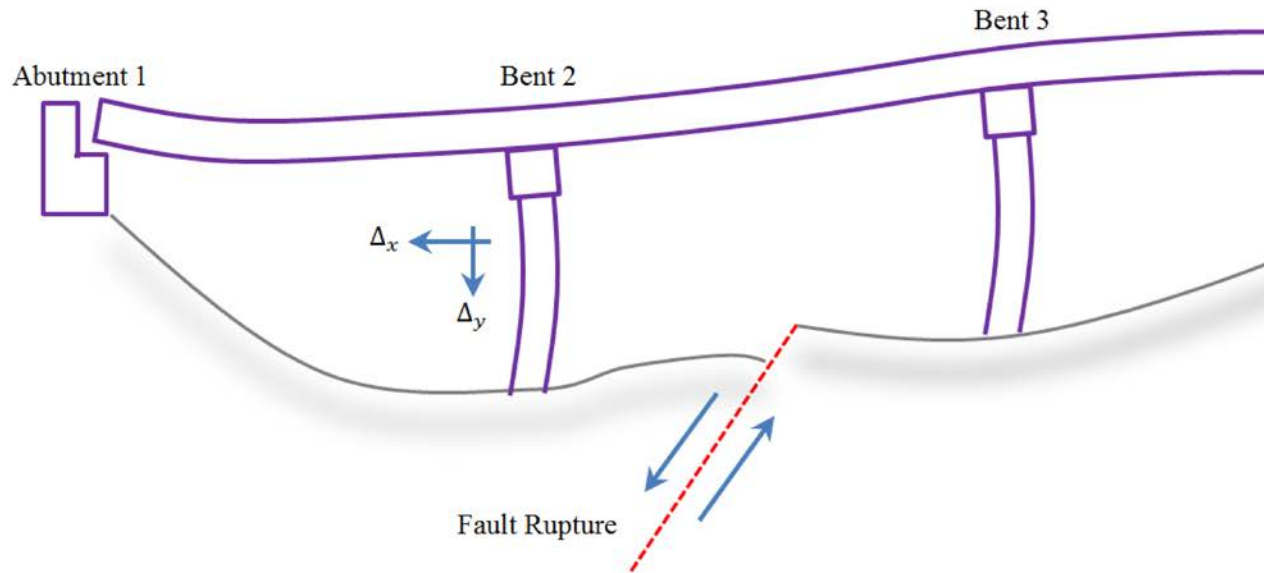
# Bridge Design

## ○ Bridge Demand:



# Bridge Design

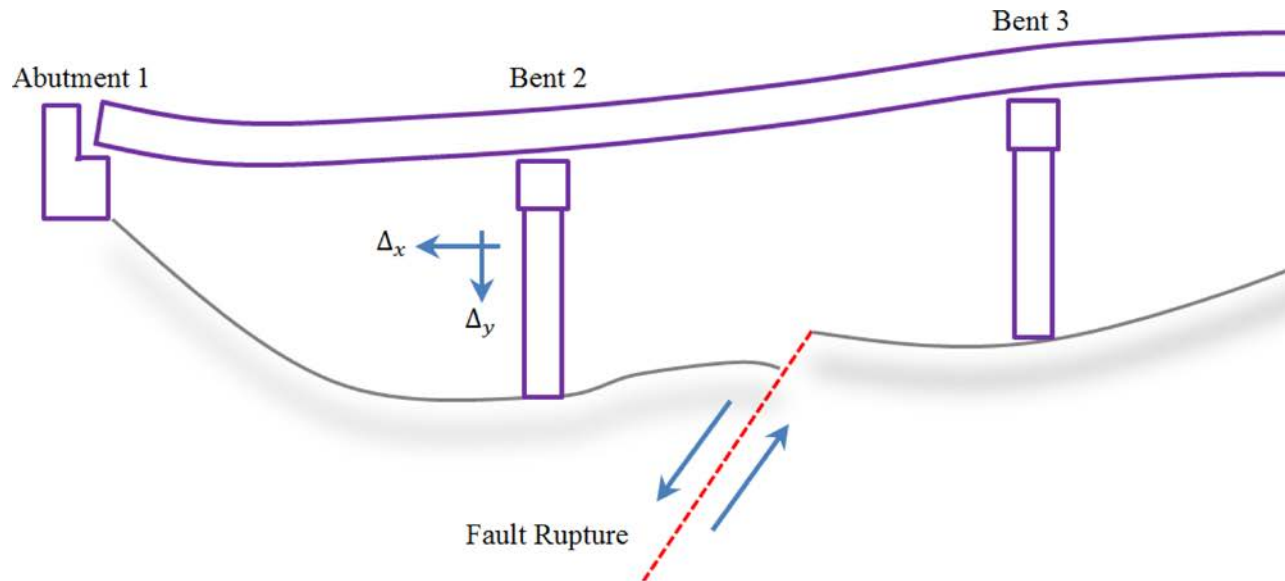
## ○ Bridge Alternatives



Deformed Shape of a Continuous Bridge Due to Surface Fault Rupture  
(Integral Bent Cap)

# Bridge Design

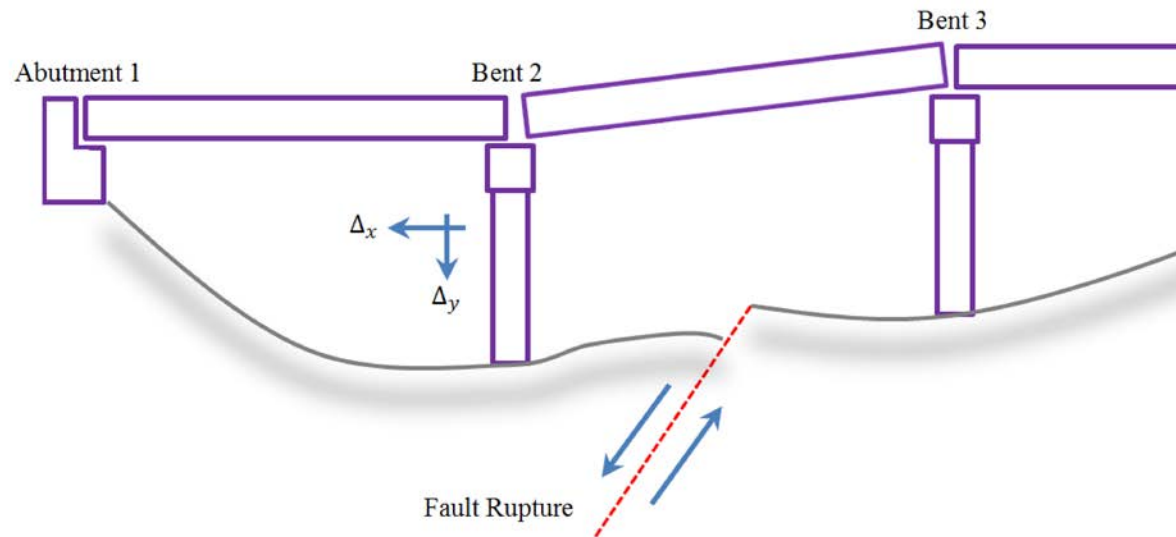
## ○ Bridge Alternatives



Deformed Shape of a Continuous Bridge Due to Surface Fault Rupture  
(Dropped Bent Cap)

# Bridge Design

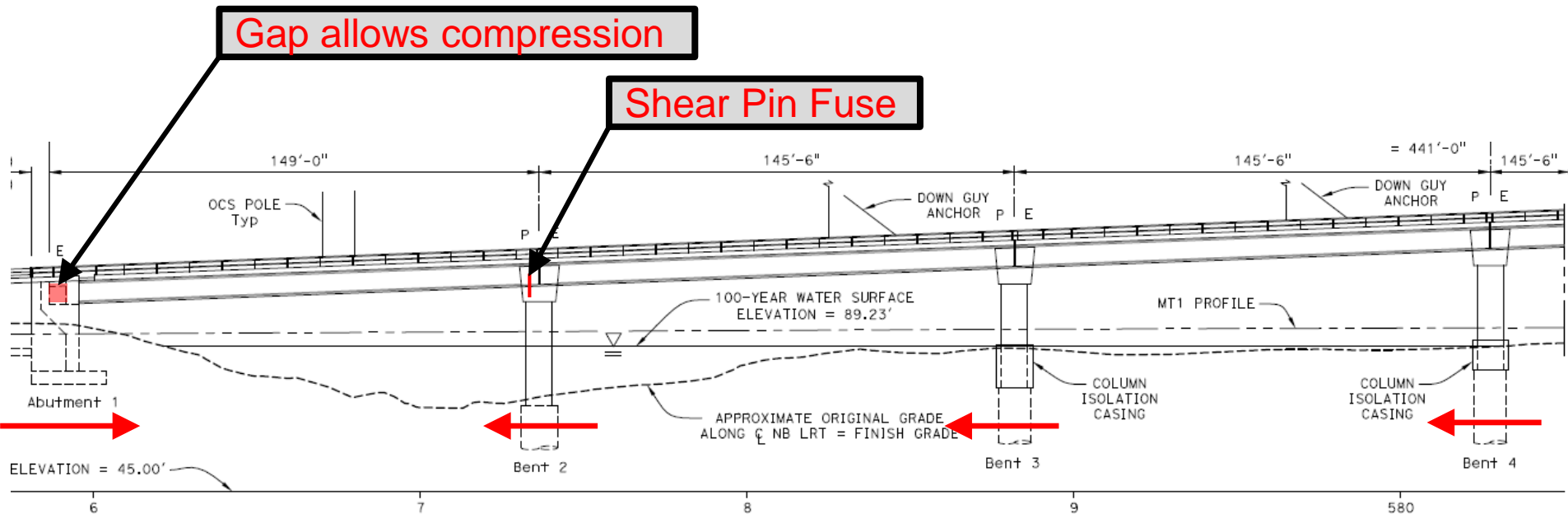
## ○ Bridge Alternatives



Deformed Shape of a Simply Supported Bridge Due to Surface Fault Rupture



# Bridge Design

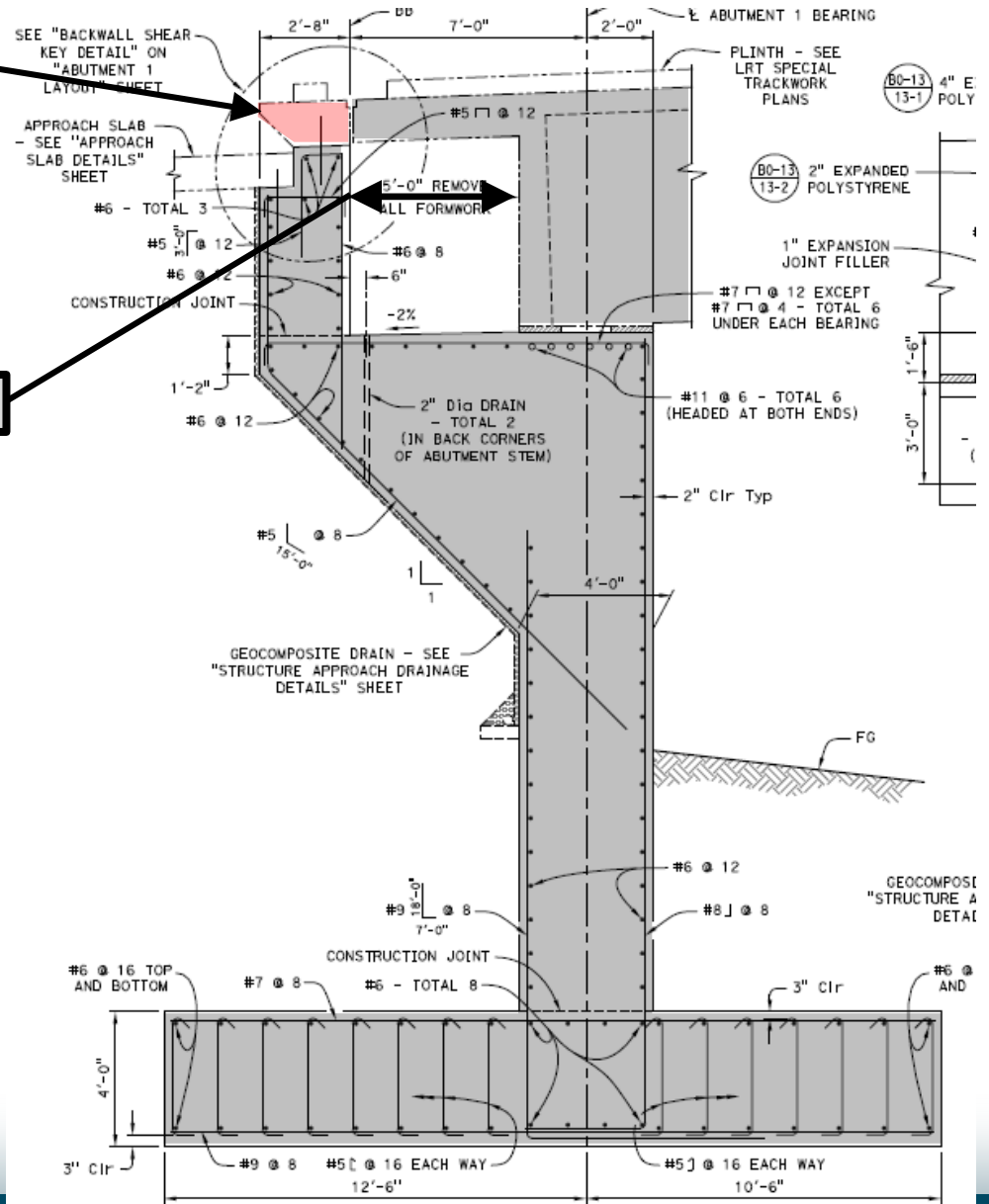


- Simple spans with pre-cast girders
- Widened seats
- Articulation
- Compression: gap at Abut + Pin Fuse at B2

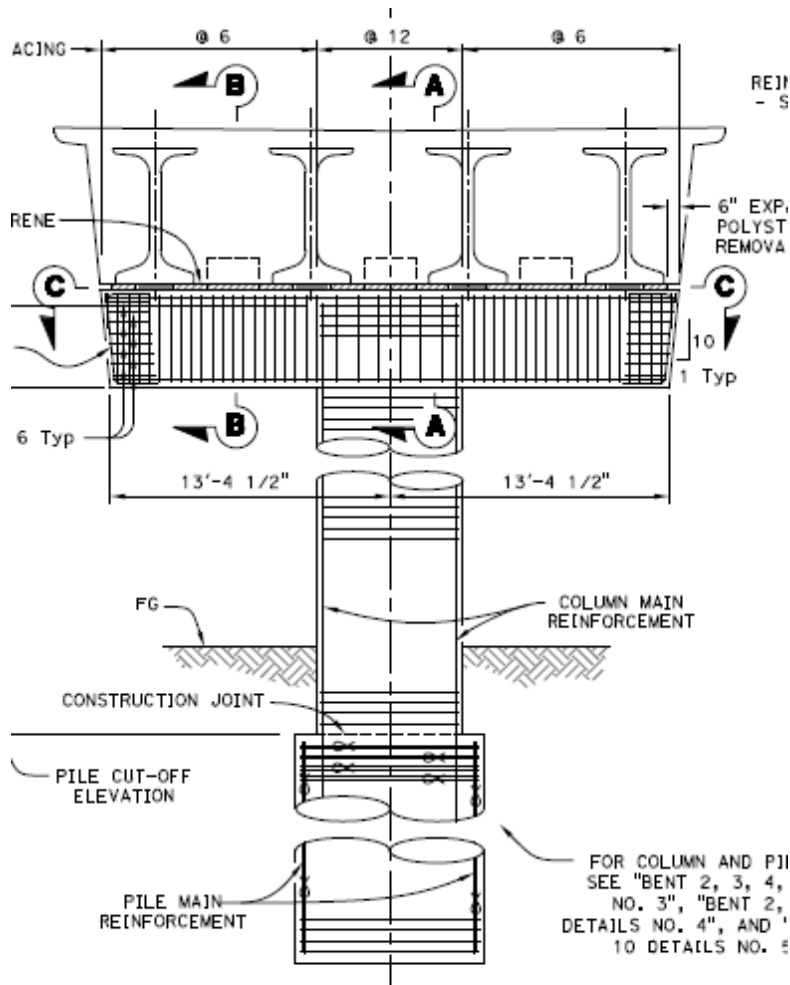
# Abutment Design

Shear Key

5 ft compression vault



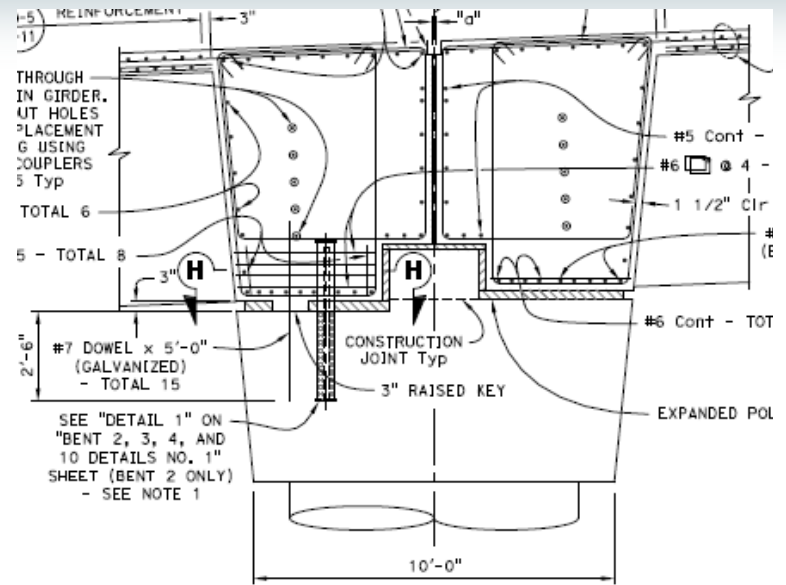
# Details at Bent 2



NOTE: Bent 10 shown, Bents 2, 3, and 4 similar.

## ELEVATION

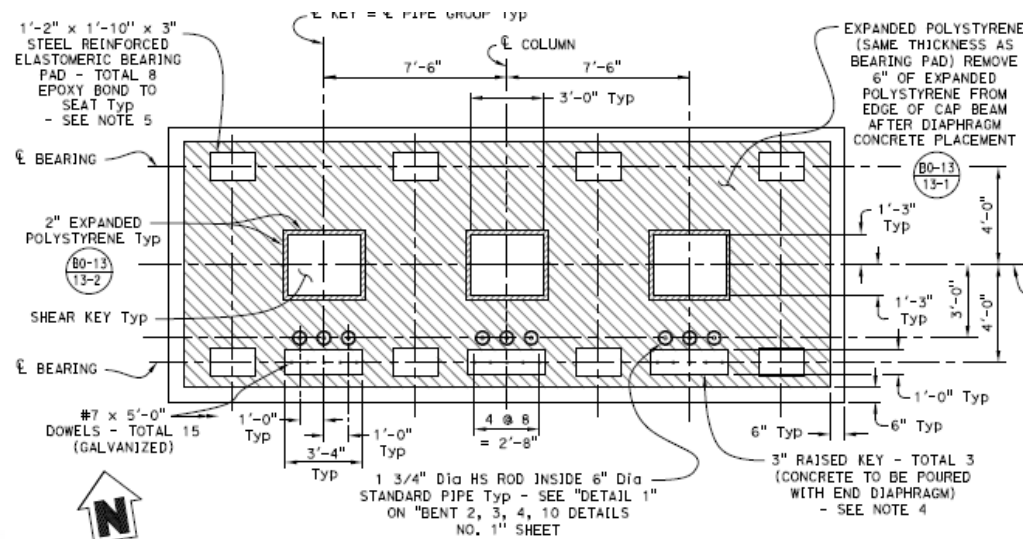
1/4" = 1'-0"



NOTE: Bent 2 shown, Bents 3, 4, and 10 similar, see Note 1.

## SECTION G-G

1/2" = 1'-0"



## SECTION C-C AT BENT 2

3/8" = 1'-0"

# Conclusions

- Surface fault rupture hazard assessment and mitigation requires multi-discipline approach
- Translation of hazard into design scenarios requires engineering insight and judgment
- Foundations intersected by faults can be designed for ductile behavior and to perform satisfactorily despite severe fault load demands
- Bridge can be designed for no-collapse using articulation and ductility, but severe damage should be expected.



# THANK YOU

