



# Traffic Loads on Road Bridges and Footbridges

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EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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**Eurocode 1: Einwirkungen auf Tragwerke - Teil 2: Verkehrslasten auf Brücken**

**Eurocode 1: Actions on structures - Part 2: Traffic loads on bridges**

**Eurocode 1: Actions sur les structures - Partie 2: Actions sur les ponts, dues au trafic**

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## **FOREWORD**

### **SECTION 1**

### **GENERAL**

### **SECTION 2**

### **CLASSIFICATION OF ACTIONS**

### **SECTION 3**

### **DESIGN SITUATIONS**

### **SECTION 4**

### **ROAD TRAFFIC ACTIONS AND OTHER ACTIONS SPECIFICALLY FOR ROAD BRIDGES**

### **SECTION 5**

### **ACTIONS ON FOOTWAYS, CYCLE TRACKS AND FOOTBRIDGES**

### **SECTION 6**

### **RAIL TRAFFIC ACTIONS AND OTHER ACTIONS SPECIFICALLY FOR RAILWAY BRIDGES**

### **ANNEX A (INFORMATIVE)**

### **MODELS OF SPECIAL VEHICLES FOR ROAD BRIDGES**

### **ANNEX B (INFORMATIVE)**

### **FATIGUE LIFE ASSESSMENT FOR ROAD BRIDGES – ASSESSMENT METHOD BASED ON RECORDED TRAFFIC**



## GENERAL ORGANISATION FOR ROAD BRIDGES

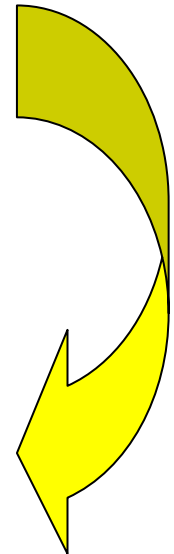
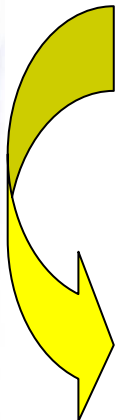
### Traffic load models

- Vertical forces : LM1, LM2, LM3, LM4
- Horizontal forces : braking and acceleration, centrifugal, transverse

### Groups of loads

- gr1a, gr1b, gr2, gr3, gr4, gr5
- characteristic, frequent and quasi-permanent values

**Combination with actions other than traffic actions**





## LOAD MODELS FOR LIMIT STATES OTHER THAN FATIGUE LIMIT STATES

**Field of application :** loaded lengths less than 200 m (maximum length taken into account for the calibration of the Eurocode – For very long loaded lengths, see National Annex)

### **Load Model Nr. 1**

Concentrated and distributed loads (main model – general and local verifications)

### **Load Model Nr. 2**

Single axle load (semi-local and local verifications)

### **Load Model Nr. 3**

Set of special vehicles (general and local verifications)

### **Load Model Nr. 4**

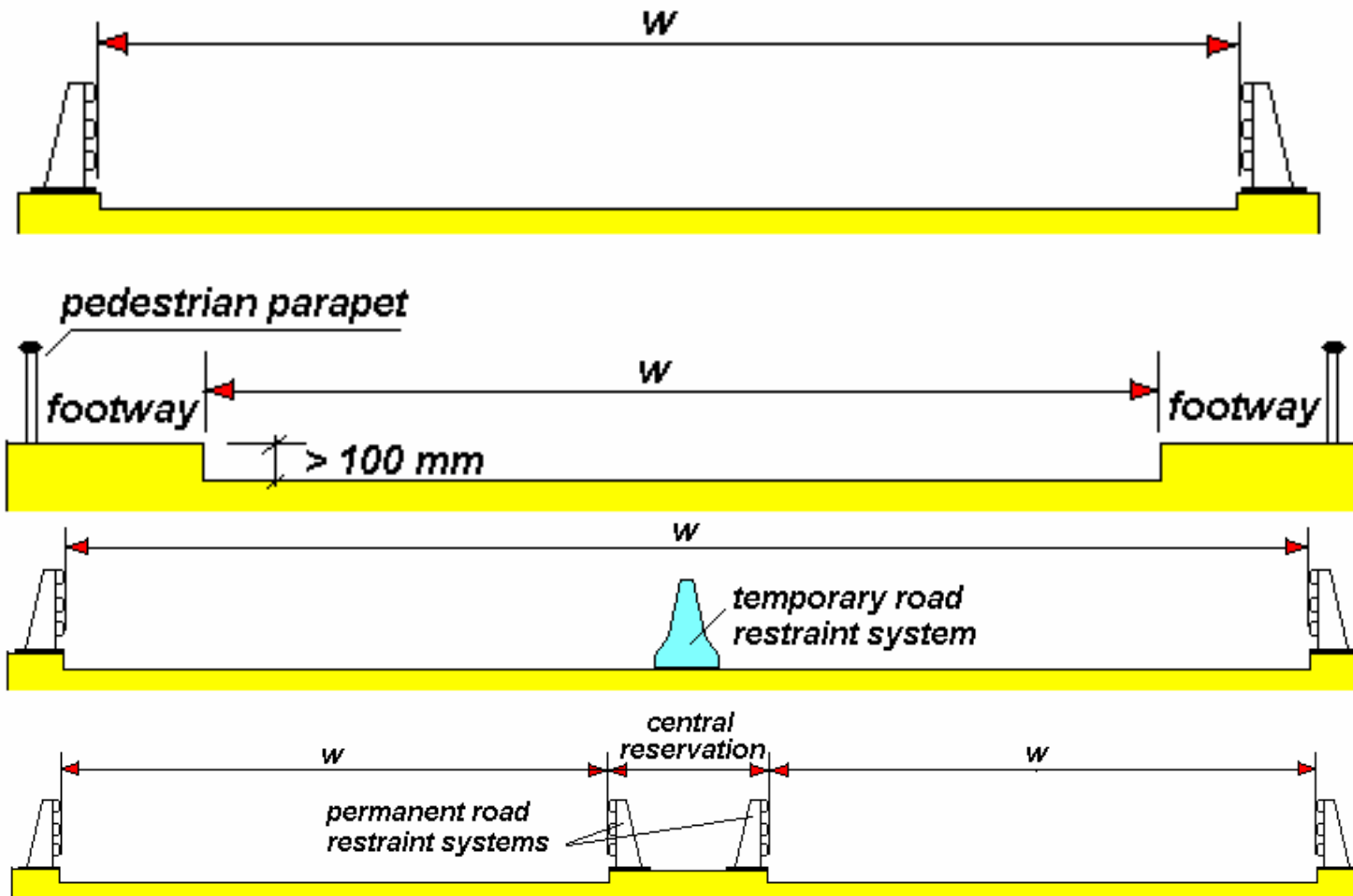
Crowd loading : 5 kN/m<sup>2</sup> (general verifications)



Traffic Load Models	Characteristic values	Frequent values	Quasi-permanent values
<b>Road bridges</b>			
<b>LM1 (4.3.2)</b>	1000 year return period (or probability of exceedance of 5% in 50 years) for traffic on the main roads in Europe ( $\alpha$ factors equal to 1, see 4.3.2).	1 week return period for traffic on the main roads in Europe ( $\alpha$ factors equal to 1, see 4.3.2).	Calibration in accordance with definition given in EN 1990.
<b>LM2 (4.3.3)</b>	1000 year return period (or probability of exceedance of 5% in 50 years) for traffic on the main roads in Europe ( $\beta$ factor equal to 1, see 4.3.3).	1 week return period for traffic on the main roads in Europe ( $\beta$ factor equal to 1, see 4.3.3).	Not relevant
<b>LM3 (4.3.4)</b>	Set of nominal values. Basic values defined in annex A are derived from a synthesis based on various national regulations.	Not relevant	Not relevant
<b>LM4 (4.3.5)</b>	Nominal value deemed to represent the effects of a crowd. Defined with reference to existing national standards.	Not relevant	Not relevant

## Carriageway width $w$

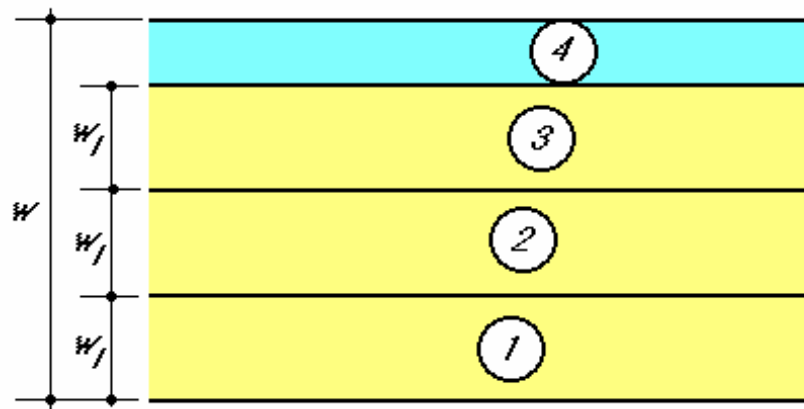
width measured between kerbs (height more than 100 mm – recommended value) or between the inner limits of vehicle restraint systems



## Division of the carriageway into notional lanes

Carriageway width $w$	Number of notional lanes	Width of a notional lane $w_l$	Width of the remaining area
$w < 5,4 m$	$n_1 = 1$	3 m	$w - 3m$
$5,4m \leq w < 6m$	$n_1 = 2$	$\frac{w}{2}$	0
$6m \leq w$	$n_1 = Int\left(\frac{w}{3}\right)$	3 m	$w - 3 \times n_1$

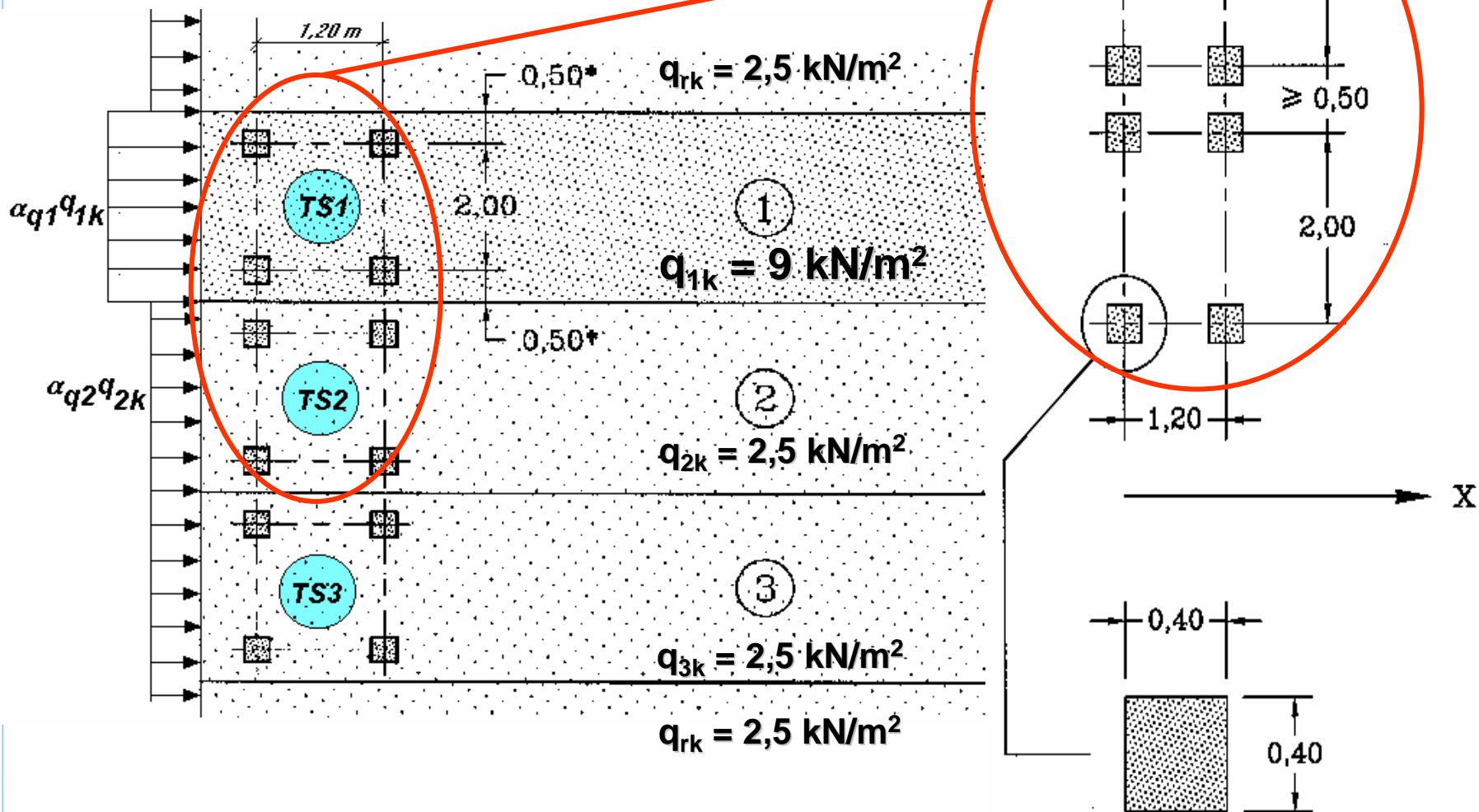
**NOTE** For example, for a carriageway width equal to 11m,  $n_1 = Int\left(\frac{w}{3}\right) = 3$ , and the width of the remaining area is  $11 - 3 \times 3 = 2m$ .



- 1 – Lane Nr. 1 (3m)
- 2 – Lane Nr. 2 (3m)
- 3 – Lane Nr. 3 (3m)
- 4 – Remaining area

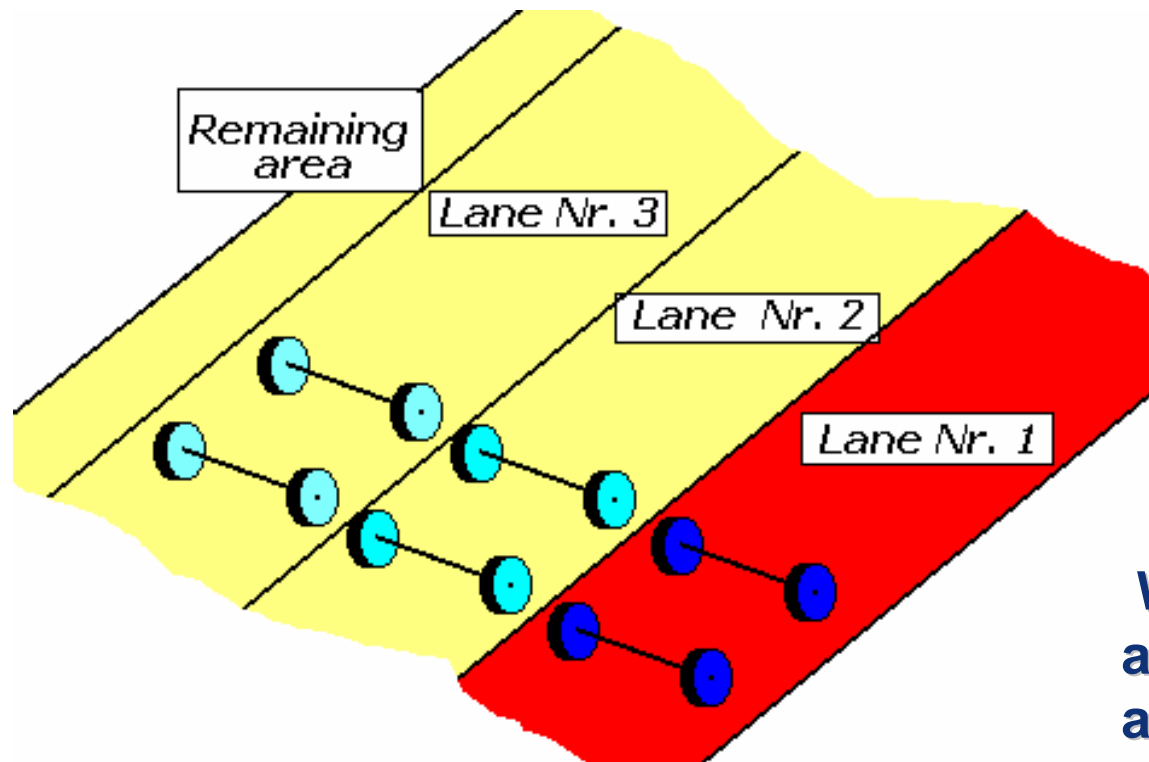


## The main load model (LM1)





## The main load model for road bridges (LM1) : diagrammatic representation



**For the determination of general effects, the tandems travel centrally along the axes of notional lanes**

**Where two tandems on adjacent notional lanes are taken into account, they may be brought closer, the distance between axles being not less than 0,50 m**

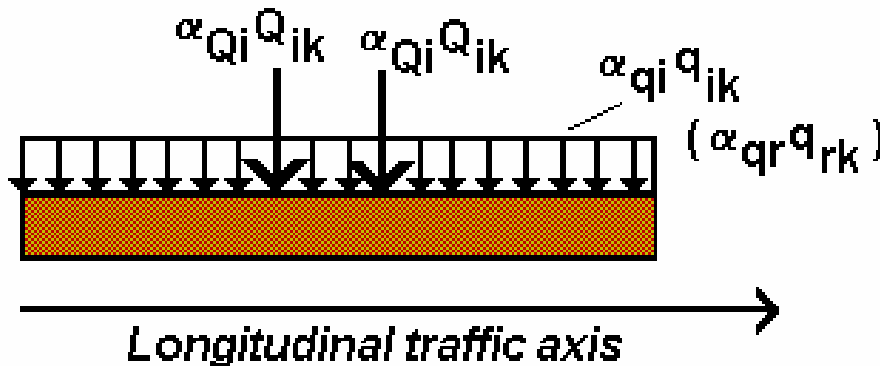
**For local verifications, a tandem system should be applied at the most unfavourable location.**

## The main load model (LM1)

$$Q_{1k} = 300 \text{ kN}$$

$$Q_{2k} = 200 \text{ kN}$$

$$Q_{3k} = 100 \text{ kN}$$



**Example of values for  $\alpha$  factors (National Annexes)**

**1<sup>st</sup> class : international heavy vehicle traffic**

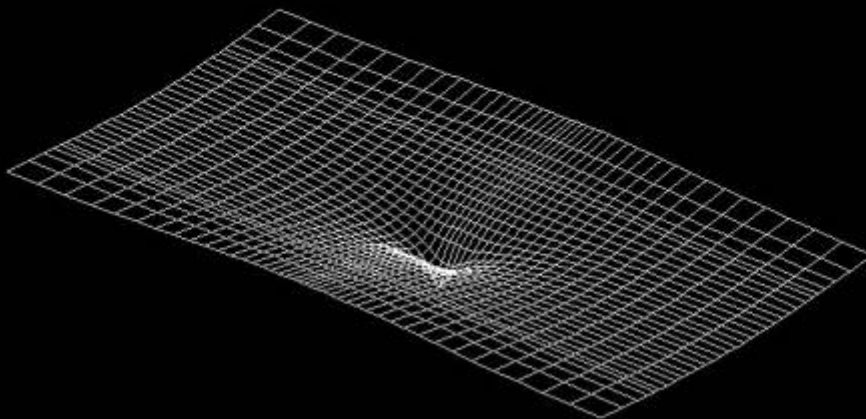
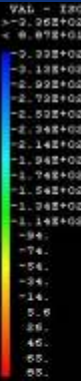
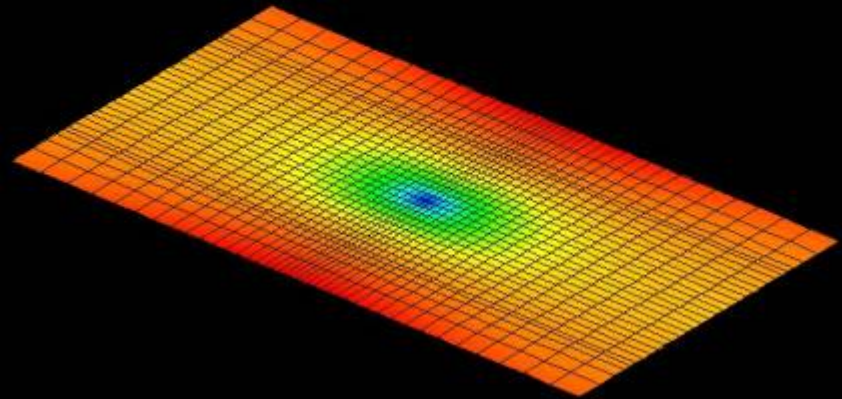
**2<sup>nd</sup> class : « normal » heavy vehicle traffic**

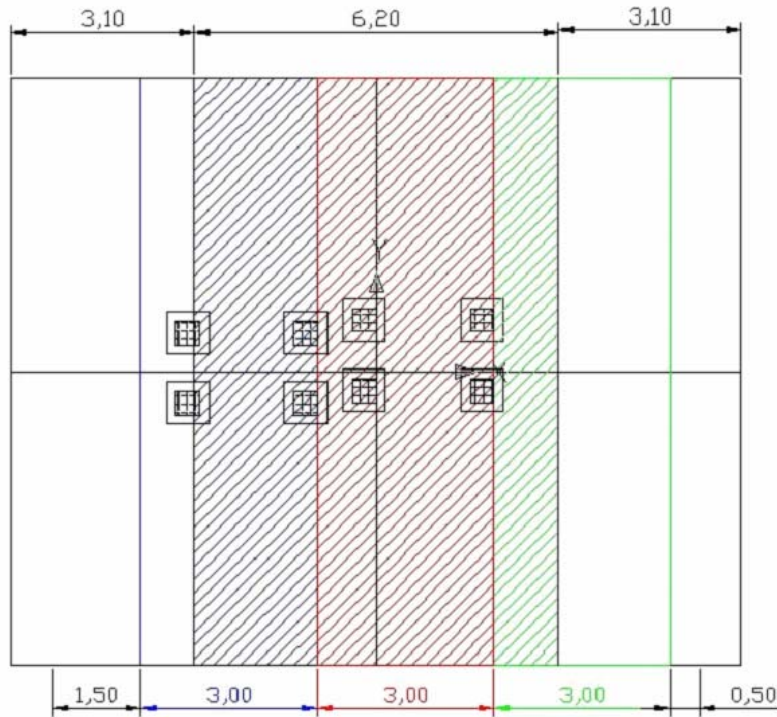


Classes	$\alpha_{Q1}$	$\alpha_{Qi} \quad i \geq 2$	$\alpha_{q1}$	$\alpha_{qi} \quad i \geq 2$	$\alpha_{qr}$
1 <sup>st</sup> class	1	1	1	1	1
2 <sup>nd</sup> class	0,9	0,8	0,7	1	1

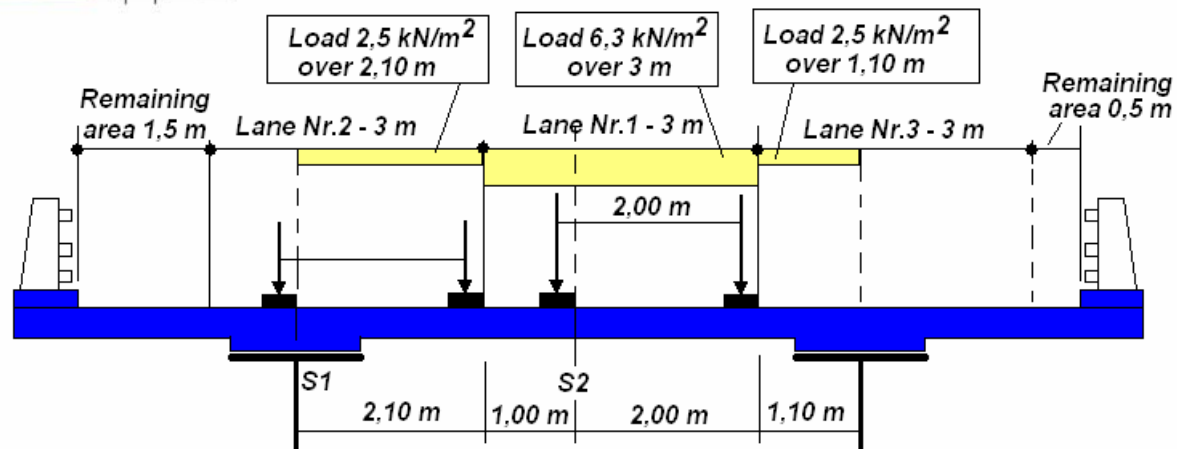


## Examples of influence surfaces (transverse bending moment) for a deck slab

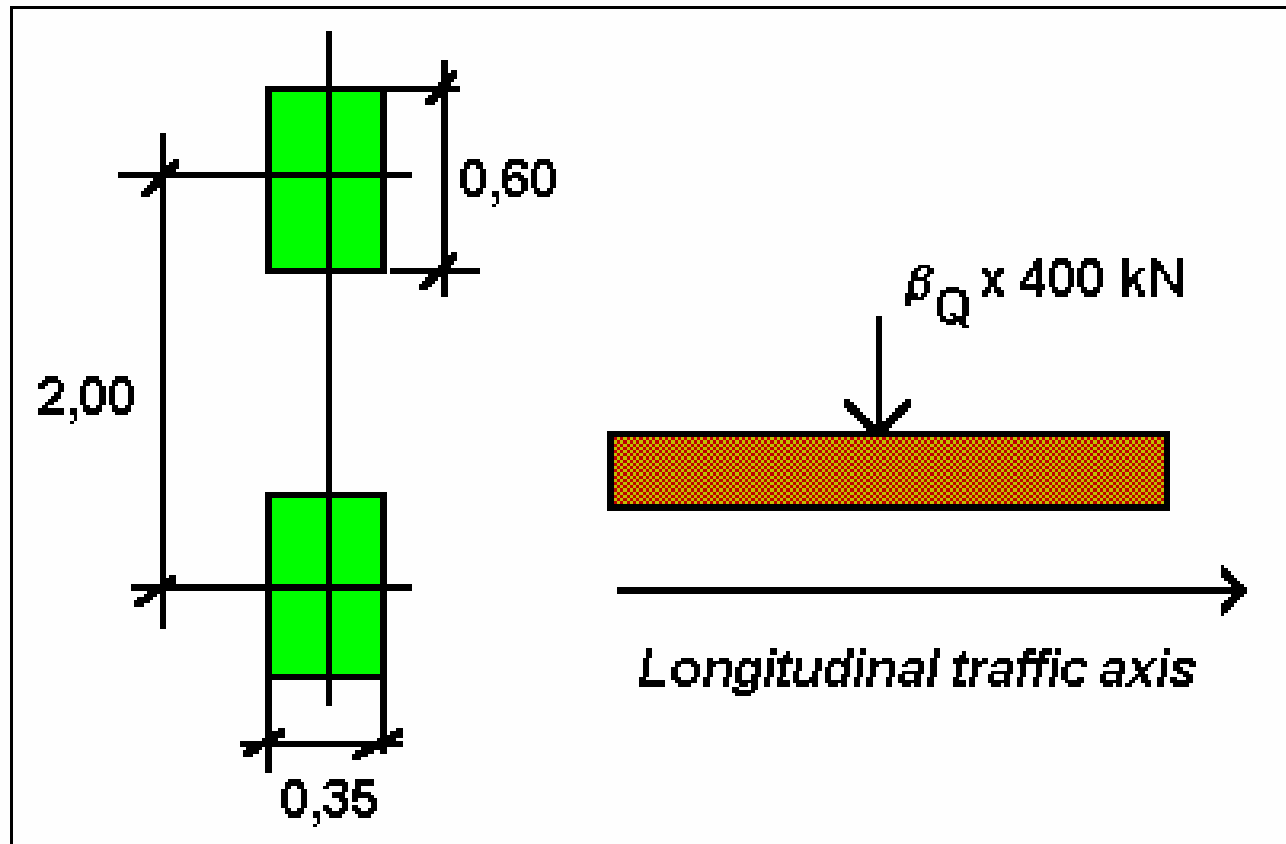




## Example of application of LM1 to the concrete slab of a composite bridge

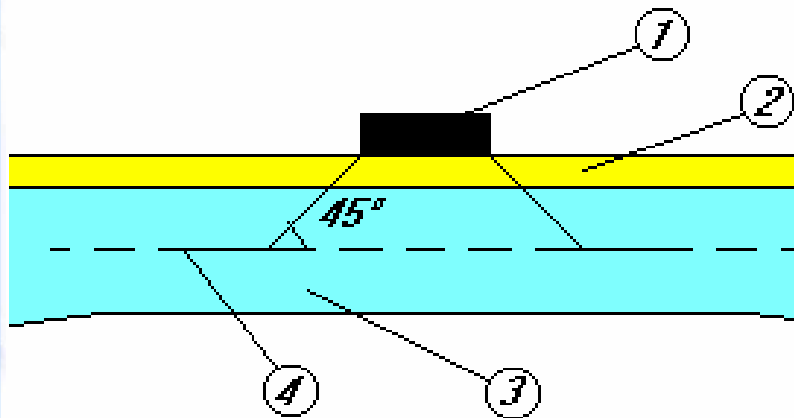


## Load model Nr. 2 (LM2)



**Recommended value :**  $\beta_Q = \alpha_{Q1}$  (National Annex)

## Dispersal of concentrated loads



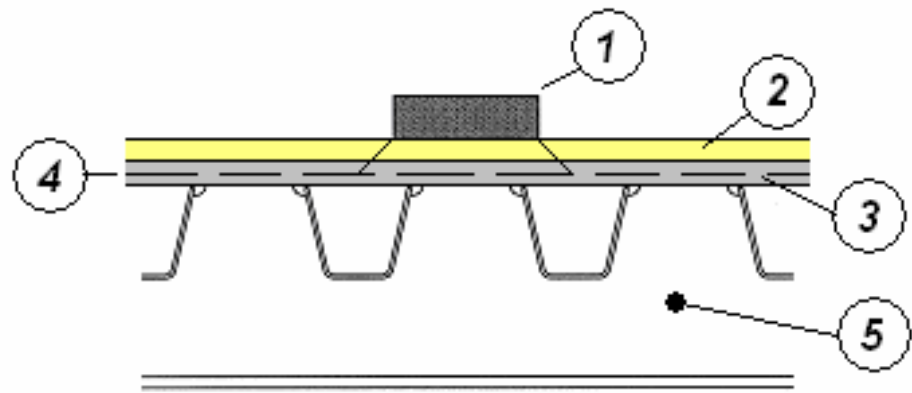
### a) Pavement and concrete slab

1 Wheel contact pressure

2 Pavement

3 Concrete slab

4 Middle surface of concrete slab



### b) Pavement and orthotropic deck

1 Wheel contact pressure

2 Pavement

3 Bridge floor

4 Middle surface of the bridge floor

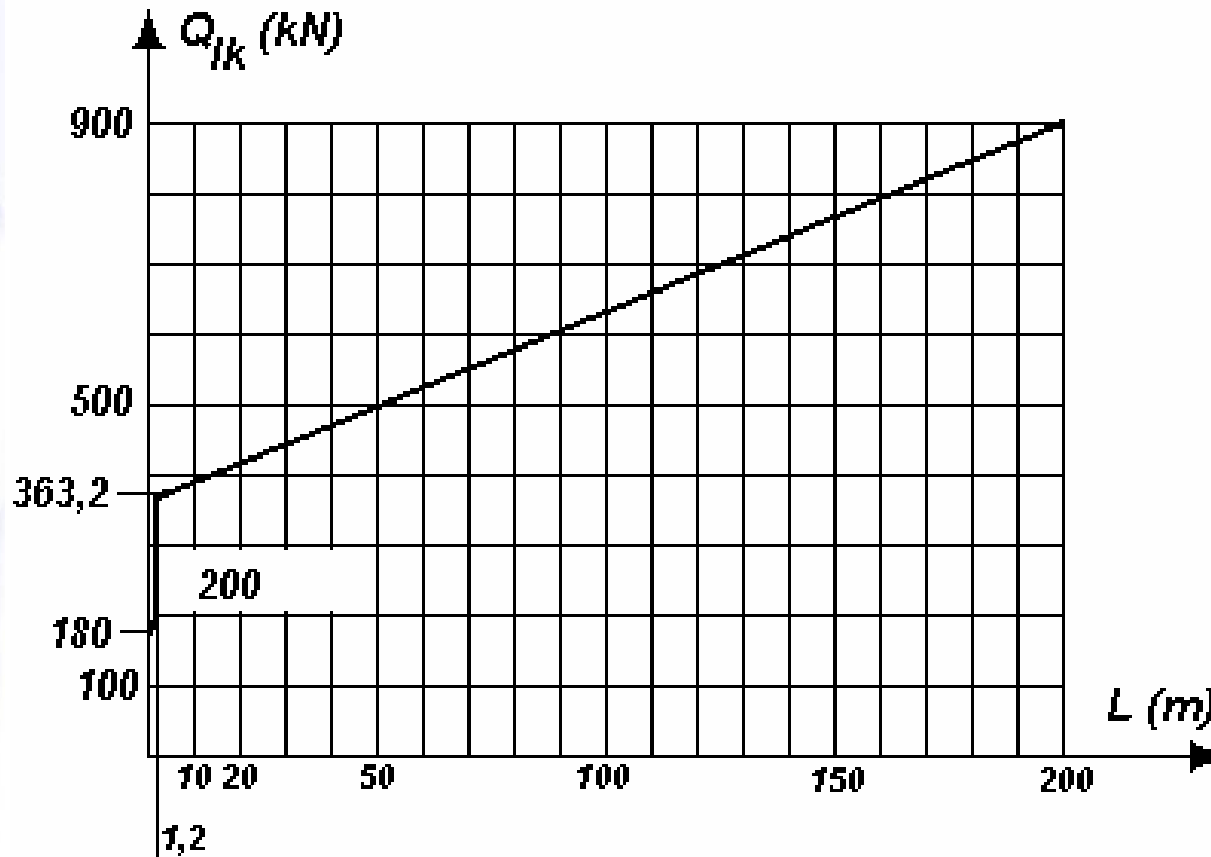
5 Transverse member



## HORIZONTAL FORCES : Braking and acceleration (Lane Nr. 1 )

$$Q_{lk} = 0,6\alpha_{Q1}(2Q_{1k}) + 0,10\alpha_{q1}q_{1k}w_1L$$

$$180\alpha_{Q1}kN \leq Q_{lk} \leq 900kN$$



$$\alpha_{Q1} = \alpha_{q1} = 1$$

$$Q_{lk} = 180 + 2,7L$$

For  $0 \leq L \leq 1,2$  m

$$Q_{lk} = 360 + 2,7L$$

For  $L > 1,2$  m



## HORIZONTAL FORCES : Centrifugal forces

$Q_{tk} = 0,2Q_v$ (kN)	if $r < 200$ m
$Q_{tk} = 40Q_v / r$ (kN)	if $200 \leq r \leq 1500$ m
$Q_{tk} = 0$	if $r > 1500$ m

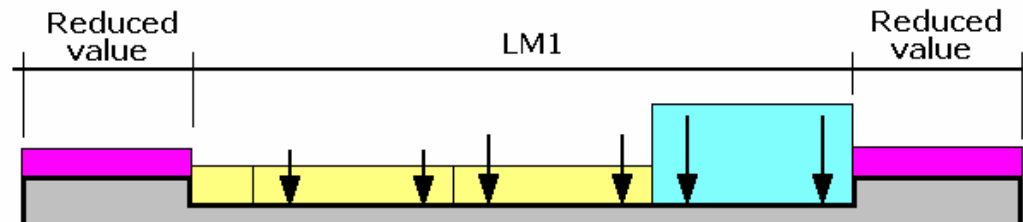
**r** : horizontal radius of curvature of the carriageway centreline [m]

**Q<sub>v</sub>** : total maximum weight of vertical concentrated loads of the tandem systems of LM1

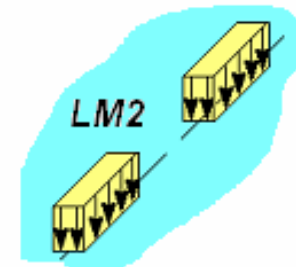
$$\sum_i \alpha_{Qi} (2Q_{ik})$$

## Groups of loads

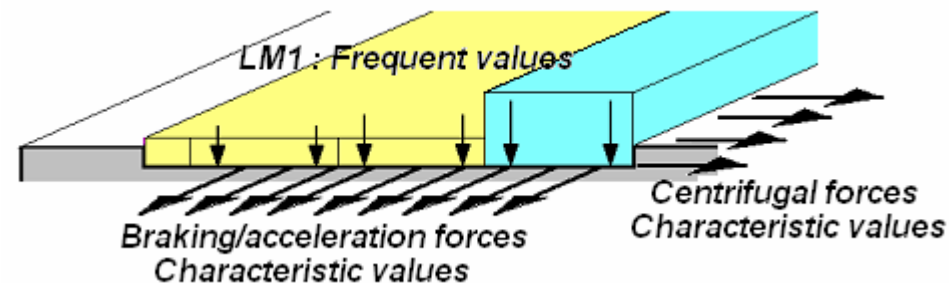
**Group of loads gr1a :**  
**LM1 + « reduced » value**  
**of pedestrian load on**  
**footways or cycle tracks**  
**(3 kN/m<sup>2</sup>)**



**Group of loads gr1b : LM2**  
**(single axle load)**



**Group of loads gr2 :**  
**characteristic values of**  
**horizontal forces, frequent**  
**values of LM1**





**Group of loads gr3 :  
loads on footways and  
cycle tracks**

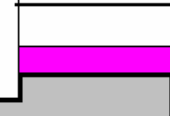
**Group of loads gr4 :  
crowd loading**

**Group of loads gr5 : special  
vehicles (+ special  
conditions for normal traffic)**

Characteristic  
value



Characteristic  
value



Crowds  
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## Table 4.4b – Assessment of groups of traffic loads (frequent values of the multi-component action)

		CARRIAGEWAY		FOOTWAYS AND CYCLE TRACKS
<b>Load type</b>		<b>Vertical forces</b>		
<b>Reference EN 1991-2</b>		<b>4.3.2</b>	<b>4.3.3</b>	<b>5.3.2(1)</b>
<b>Load system</b>		<b>LM1 (TS and UDL systems)</b>	<b>LM2 (single axle)</b>	<b>Uniformly distributed load</b>
<b>Groups of loads</b>	<b>gr1a</b>	<b>Frequent values</b>		
	<b>gr1b</b>		<b>Frequent values</b>	
	<b>gr3</b>			<b>Frequent value <sup>a)</sup></b>

<sup>a)</sup> See 5.3.2.1(3). One footway only should be considered to be loaded if the effect is more unfavourable than the effect of two loaded footways.



## FATIGUE LOAD MODELS

**Load Model Nr. 1 (FLM1) : Similar to characteristic Load Model Nr. 1**  
 **$0,7 \times Q_{ik} - 0,3 \times q_{ik} - 0,3 \times q_{rk}$**

**Load Model Nr. 2 (FLM2) : Set of « fequent » lorries**

**Load Model Nr. 3 (FLM3) : Single vehicle**

**Load Model Nr. 4 (FLM4) : Set of « equivalent » lorries**

**Load Model Nr. 5 (FLM5) : Recorded traffic**

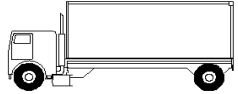

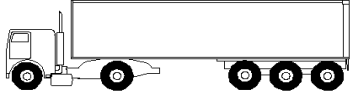
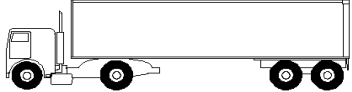
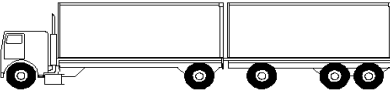


**Table 4.5 - Indicative number of heavy vehicles expected per year and per slow lane  
(FLM3 and FLM4 Models)**

Traffic categories		$N_{obs}$ per year and per slow lane
1	Roads and motorways with 2 or more lanes per direction with high flow rates of lorries	$2,0 \times 10^6$
2	Roads and motorways with medium flow rates of lorries	$0,5 \times 10^6$
3	Main roads with low flow rates of lorries	$0,125 \times 10^6$
4	Local roads with low flow rates of lorries	$0,05 \times 10^6$





1		2	3	4
LORRY SILHOUETTE		Axle spacing (m)	Frequent axle loads (kN)	Wheel type (see Table 4.8)
		4,5	90 190	A B
		4,20 1,30	80 140 140	A B B
		3,20	90	A
		5,20	180	B
		1,30	120	C
		1,30	120 120	C C
		3,40	90	A
		6,00	190	B
		1,80	140 140	B B
		4,80	90	A
		3,60	180	B
		4,40	120	C
		1,30	110	C
			110	C

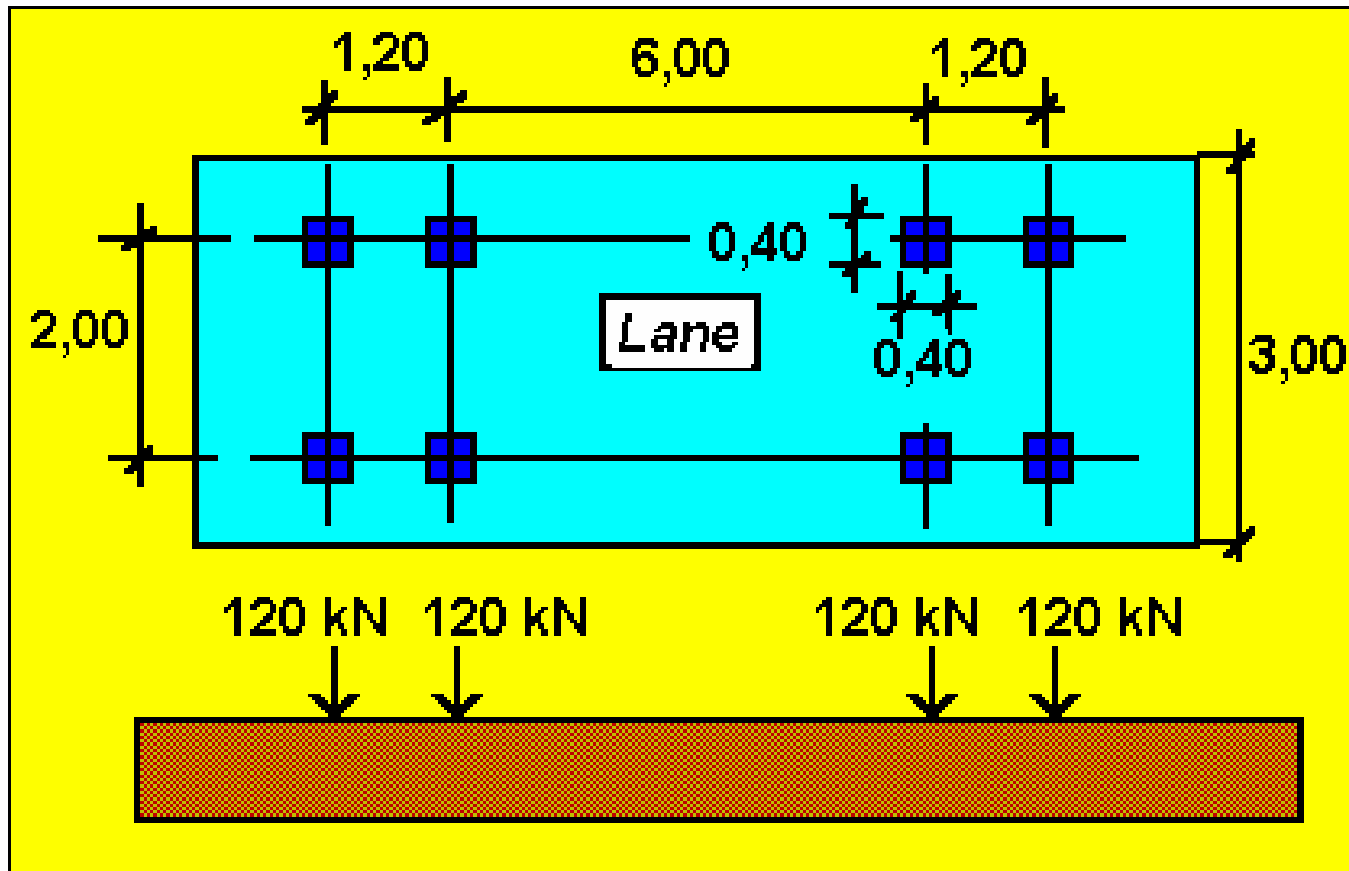
**FLM2**  
**Set of**  
**« frequent »**  
**lorries**



## FLM2 : Definition of wheels and axles (Table 4.8)

AXLE/WHEEL TYPES	GEOMETRICAL DEFINITION
<b>A</b>	<p>Diagram A shows two wheels. Each wheel has a height of 320 mm and a width of 220 mm. The distance between the centers of the two wheels is 2.00 m. An arrow labeled 'X' points upwards between the wheels.</p>
<b>B</b>	<p>Diagram B shows two double-wheel axles. Each axle has two wheels spaced 540 mm apart. The distance between the centers of the two wheels on each axle is 540 mm. The distance between the centers of the two axles is 320 mm. Each wheel has a height of 320 mm and a width of 220 mm. The total length of each axle is 2.00 m. An arrow labeled 'X' points upwards between the axles.</p>
<b>C</b>	<p>Diagram C shows two wheels. Each wheel has a height of 320 mm and a width of 270 mm. The distance between the centers of the two wheels is 2.00 m. An arrow labeled 'X' points upwards between the wheels.</p>

## Fatigue Load Model Nr.3 (FLM3)



**A second vehicle may be taken into account :**  
**Recommended axle load value  $Q = 36$  kN**  
**Minimum distance between vehicles : 40 m**



## Verification procedure with Load Model FLM 3

**Determination of the maximum and minimum stresses resulting from the transit of the model along the bridge**

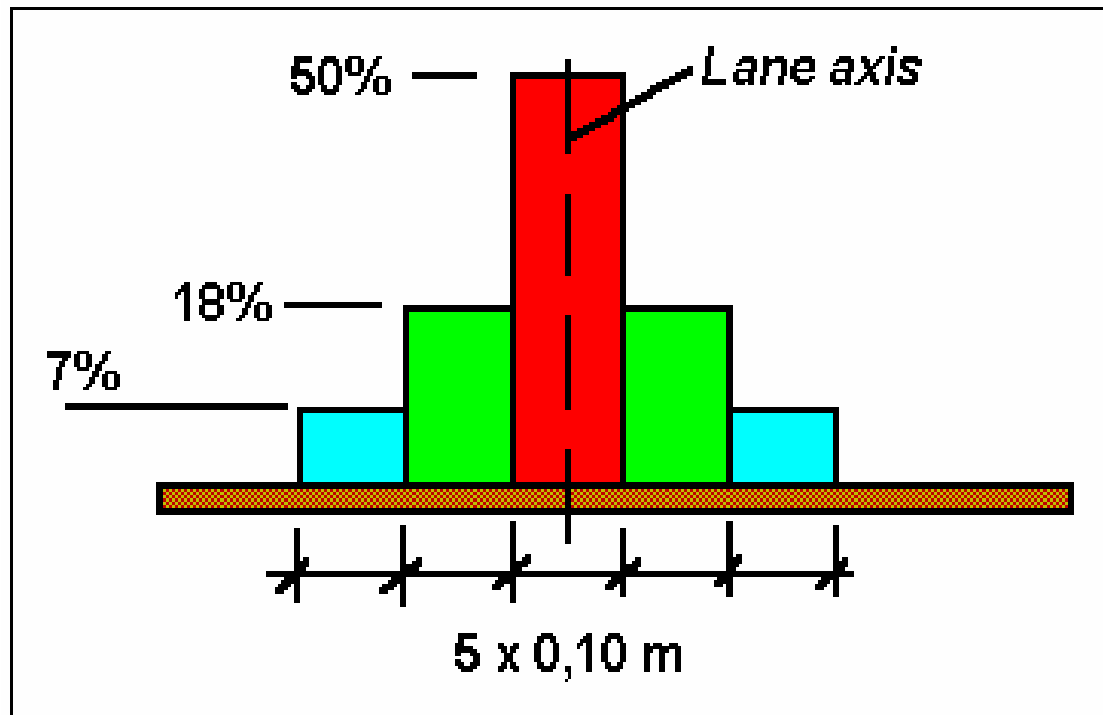
$$\Delta\sigma_{LM} = |Max\sigma_{LM} - Min\sigma_{LM}|$$

**The stress variation is multiplied by a local dynamic amplification factor in the vicinity of expansion joints**

$$\Delta\varphi_{fat}$$

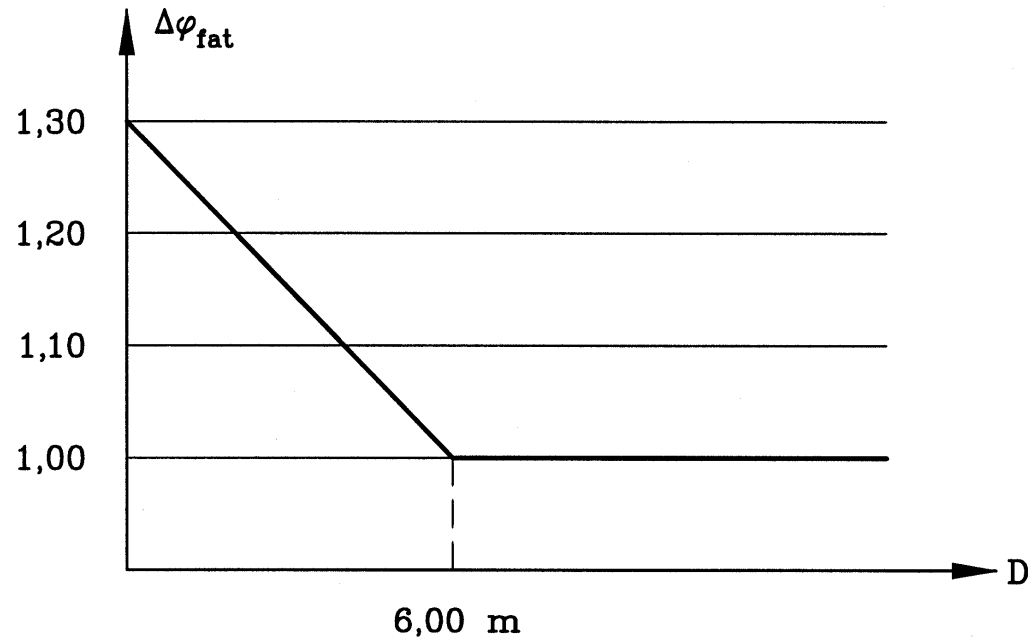
**The model is normally centered in every slow lane defined in the project specification. But where the transverse position is important, a statistical distribution of this position should be taken into account.**

**Finally :** 
$$\Delta\sigma_{fat} = \lambda\Delta\varphi_{fat}\Delta\sigma_{LM}$$



**Frequency distribution of transverse location of a vehicle (Models 3 to 5)**

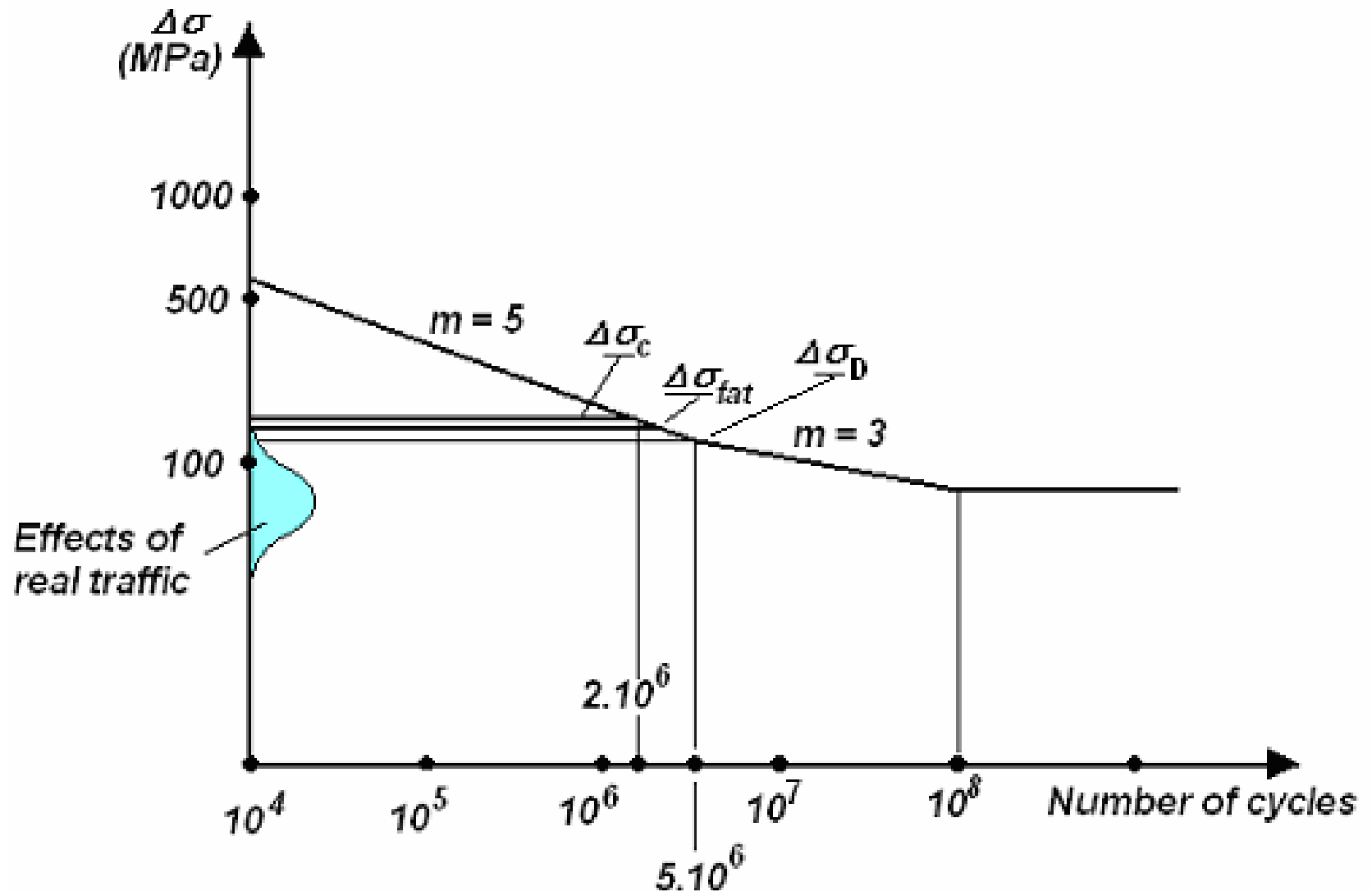
## Fatigue Load Models for road bridges Representation of the additional amplification factor





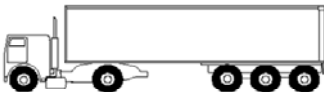


$\Delta\varphi_{fat}$  : Additional amplification factor

$D$  : Distance of the cross-section under consideration from  
the expansion joint

## Principle of the fatigue verification with FLM 3



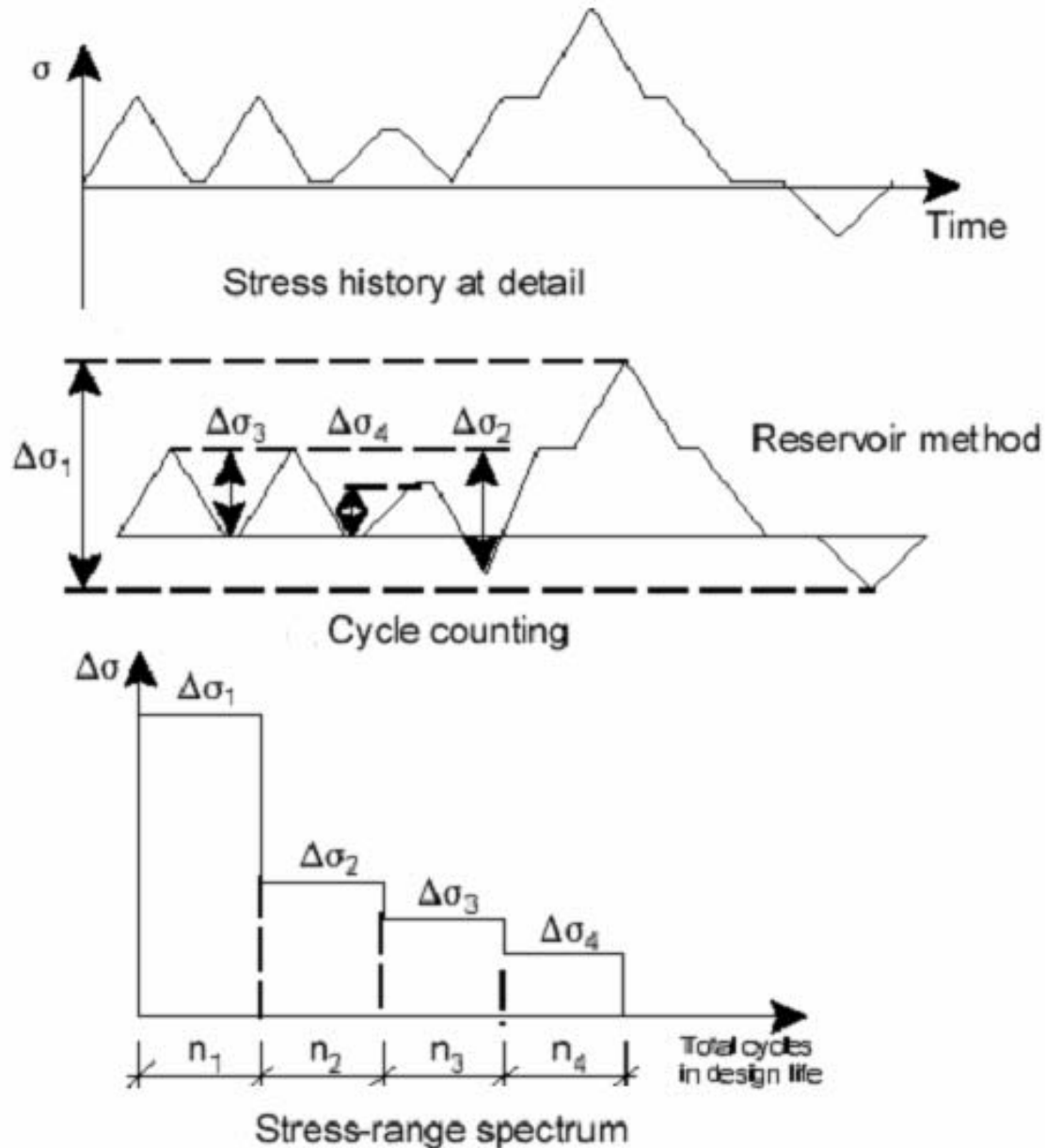


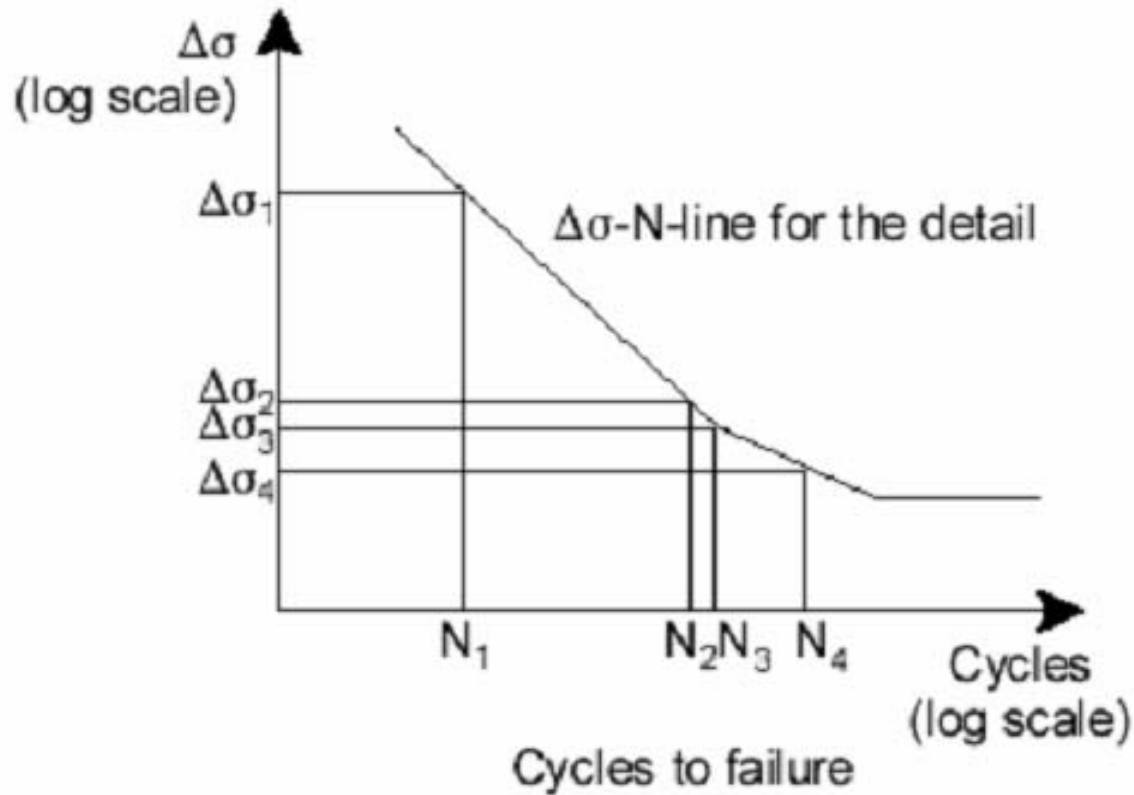
VEHICLE TYPE			TRAFFIC TYPE			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			Long distance	Medium distance	Local traffic	
<b>LORRY</b>	Axle spacing (m)	Equivalent axle loads (kN)	Lorry percentage	Lorry percentage	Lorry percentage	Wheel type
	4,5	70 130	20,0	40,0	80,0	A B
	4,20 1,30	70 120 120	5,0	10,0	5,0	A B B
	3,20 5,20 1,30 1,30	70 150 90 90 90	50,0	30,0	5,0	A B C C C
	3,40 6,00 1,80	70 140 90 90	15,0	15,0	5,0	A B B B
	4,80 3,60 4,40 1,30	70 130 90 80 80	10,0	5,0	5,0	A B C C C

**FLM4**

**Set of  
« equivalent »  
lorries.**





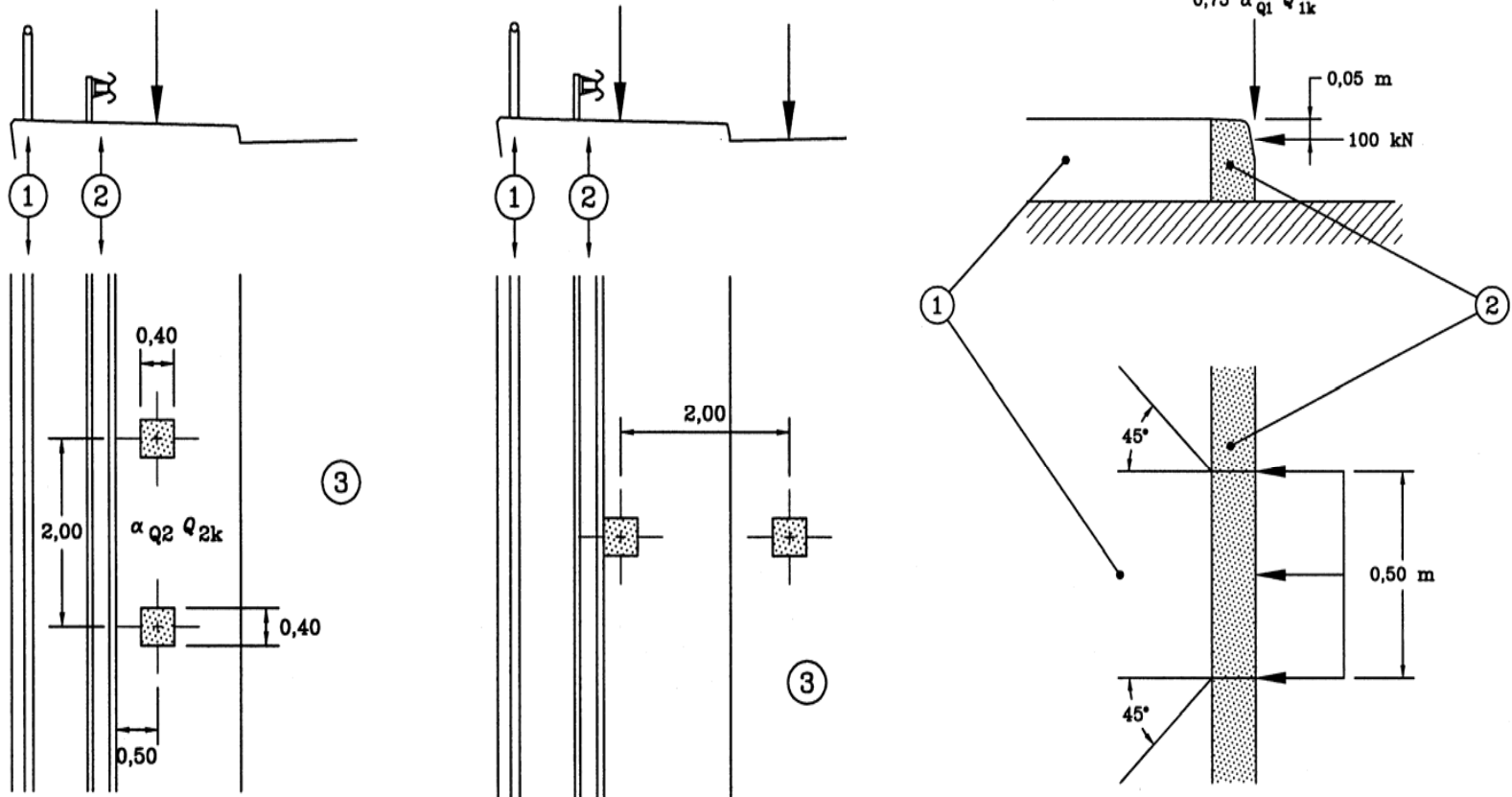


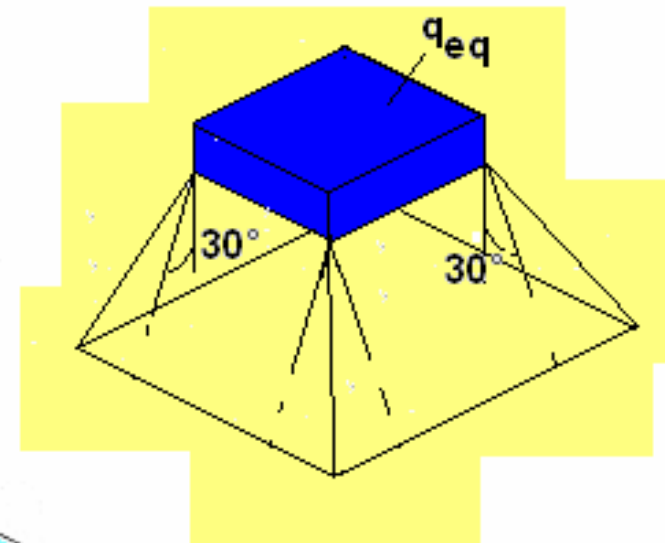
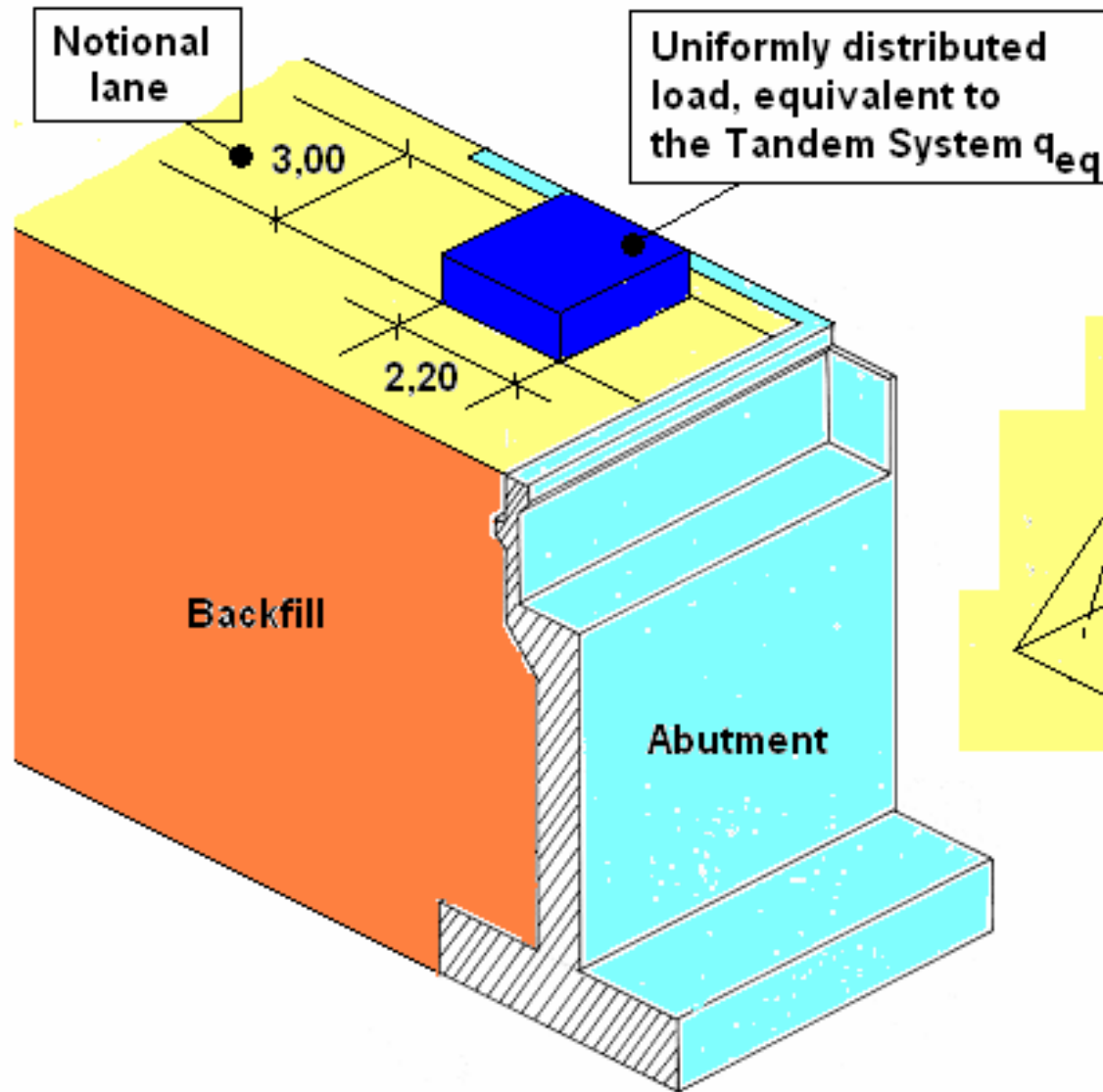
$$\sum \frac{n_i}{N_i} = \frac{n_1}{N_1} + \frac{n_2}{N_2} + \frac{n_3}{N_3} + \frac{n_4}{N_4} \leq D_L$$

Damage summation  
(Palmgren-Miner rule)

## ACTIONS FROM VEHICLES ON THE BRIDGE

- Vehicles on footways and cycle tracks
- Impact forces on kerbs
- Impact forces on safety barriers

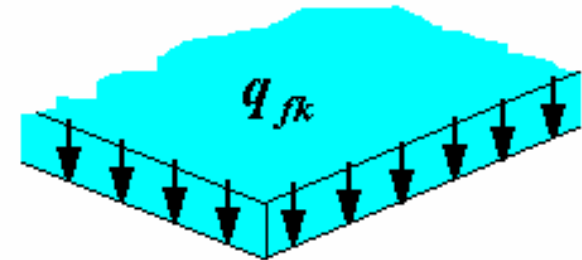




## LOAD MODELS FOR FOOTWAYS AND FOOTBRIDGES (Section 5)

### LOAD MODEL Nr.1

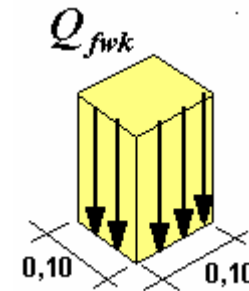
Uniformly distributed load  $q_{fk}$



### LOAD MODEL Nr.2

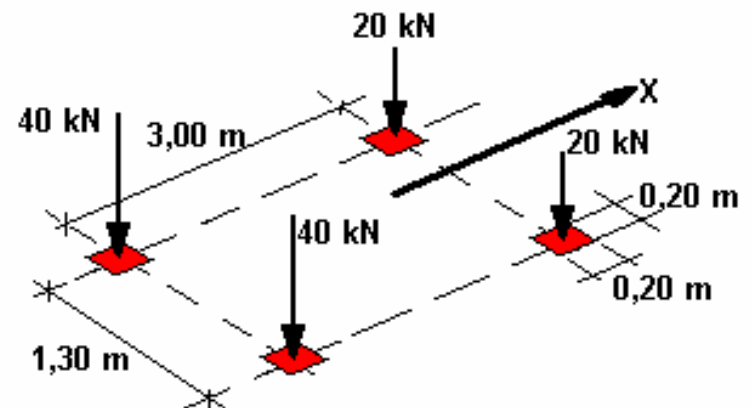
Concentrated load  $Q_{fwb}$

(10 kN recommended)



### LOAD MODEL Nr.3

Service vehicle  $Q_{serv}$



- Recommended characteristic value for :**
- footways and cycle tracks on road bridges,
  - short or medium span length footbridges :

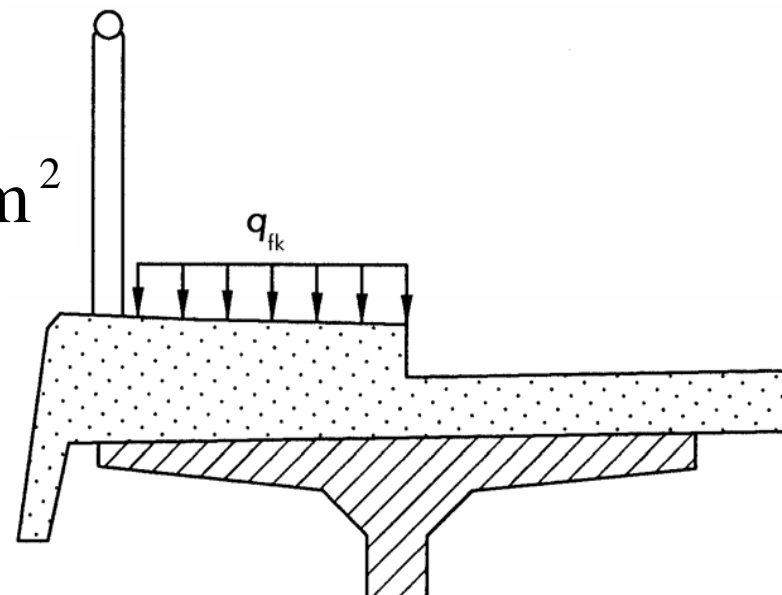
$$q_{fk} = 5,0 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

**Recommended expression for long span length footbridges :**

$$q_{fk} = 2,0 + \frac{120}{L + 30} \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$q_{fk} \geq 2,5 \text{ kN/m}^2 \quad q_{fk} \leq 5,0 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

**L is the loaded length [m]**





**For footbridges only, a horizontal force should be taken into account, to be applied along the deck axis at the surfacing level**

**$Q_{flk}$**

**Its characteristic value, which may be altered in the National Annex, is equal to the higher of the two following values :**

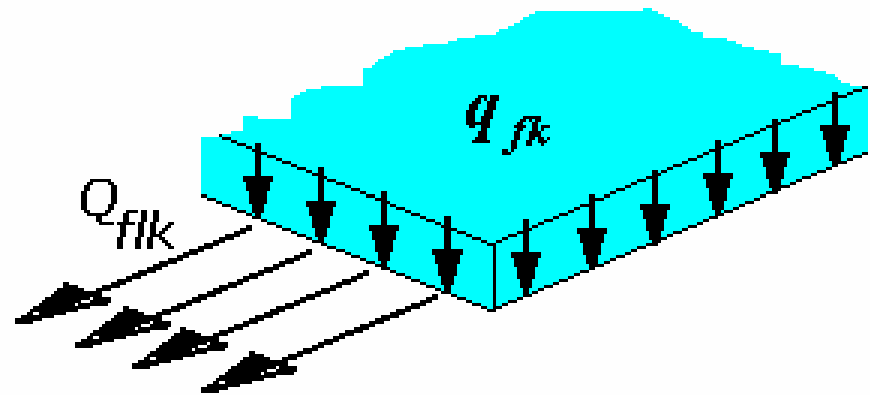
- 10% of the total uniformly distributed load as defined in 5.3.2.1,**
- 60% of the total service vehicle load where relevant (5.3.2.3-(1)P).**

**The horizontal force is applied simultaneously with the vertical load, but not with the concentrated load.**

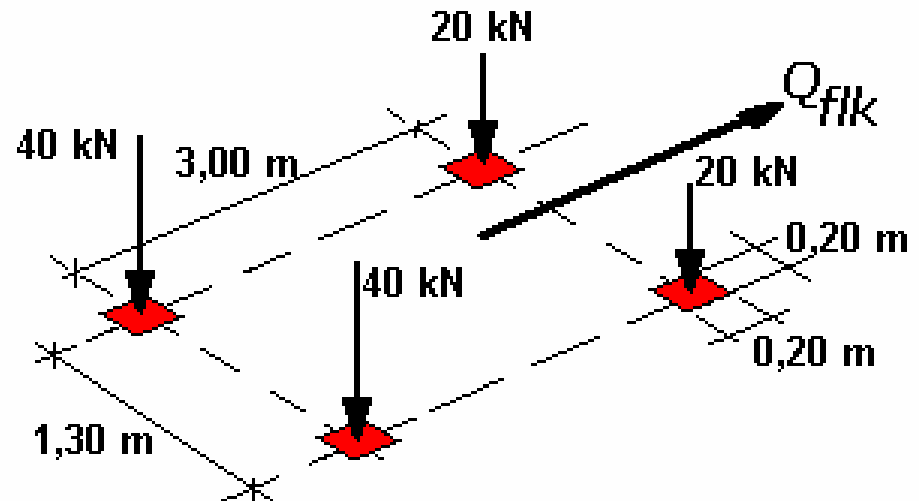


## Groups of loads for footbridges

### Group of loads gr1



### Group of loads gr2



A photograph of a cable-stayed bridge at night. The bridge deck is illuminated, and several large trucks are visible on the road. A prominent pylon with a red and white striped top is on the left. The text "Thank you for your attention" is overlaid in the center in a large, bold, blue font.

**Thank you for your  
attention**