

swaying in unison, jumping to their feet, or stomping. Designers are cautioned that the possibility of such loads should be considered.

Elevator loads are changed in the standard from a direct 100% impact factor to a reference to ASME A17.1. The provisions in ASME A17.1 include the 100% impact factor, along with deflection limits on the applicable elements.

## C4.7 REDUCTION IN LIVE LOADS

### C4.7.1 General

The concept of, and methods for, determining member live load reductions as a function of a loaded member's influence area,  $A_I$ , was first introduced into this standard in 1982 and was the first such change since the concept of live load reduction was introduced over 40 years ago. The revised formula is a result of more extensive survey data and theoretical analysis (Harris et al. 1981). The change in format to a reduction multiplier results in a formula that is simple and more convenient to use. The use of influence area, now defined as a function of the tributary area,  $A_T$ , in a single equation has been shown to give more consistent reliability for the various structural effects. The influence area is defined as that floor area over which the influence surface for structural effects is significantly different from zero.

The factor  $K_{LL}$  is the ratio of the influence area ( $A_I$ ) of a member to its tributary area ( $A_T$ ), that is,  $K_{LL} = A_I/A_T$ , and is used to better define the influence area of a member as a function of its tributary area. Figure C4-1 illustrates typical influence areas and tributary areas for a structure with regular bay spacings. Table 4-2 has established  $K_{LL}$  values (derived from calculated  $K_{LL}$  values) to be used in Eq. 4-1 for a variety of structural members and configurations. Calculated  $K_{LL}$  values vary for column and beam members having adjacent cantilever construction, as is shown in Fig. C4-1, and the Table 4-2 values have been set for these cases to result in live load reductions that are slightly conservative. For unusual shapes, the concept of significant influence effect should be applied.

An example of a member without provisions for continuous shear transfer normal to its span would be a precast T-beam or double-T beam that may have an expansion joint along one or both flanges, or that may have only intermittent weld tabs along the edges of the flanges. Such members do not have the ability to share loads located within their tributary areas with adjacent members, thus resulting in  $K_{LL} = 1$  for these

types of members. Reductions are permissible for two-way slabs and for beams, but care should be taken in defining the appropriate influence area. For multiple floors, areas for members supporting more than one floor are summed.

The formula provides a continuous transition from unreduced to reduced loads. The smallest allowed value of the reduction multiplier is 0.4 (providing a maximum 60 percent reduction), but there is a minimum of 0.5 (providing a 50 percent reduction) for members with a contributory load from just one floor.

### C4.7.3 Heavy Live Loads

In the case of occupancies involving relatively heavy basic live loads, such as storage buildings, several adjacent floor panels may be fully loaded. However, data obtained in actual buildings indicate that rarely is any story loaded with an average actual live load of more than 80 percent of the average rated live load. It appears that the basic live load should not be reduced for the floor-and-beam design, but that it could be reduced a flat 20 percent for the design of members supporting more than one floor. Accordingly, this principle has been incorporated in the recommended requirement.

### C4.7.4 Passenger Vehicle Garages

Unlike live loads in office and residential buildings, which are generally spatially random, parking garage loads are due to vehicles parked in regular patterns, and the garages are often full. The rationale behind the reduction according to area for other live loads, therefore, does not apply. A load survey of vehicle weights was conducted at nine commercial parking garages in four cities of different sizes (Wen and Yeo 2001). Statistical analyses of the maximum load effects on beams and columns due to vehicle loads over the garage's life were carried out using the survey results. Dynamic effects on the deck due to vehicle motions and on the ramp due to impact were investigated. The equivalent uniformly distributed loads (EUDL) that would produce the lifetime maximum column axial force and midspan beam bending moment are conservatively estimated at 34.8 psf. The EUDL is not sensitive to bay-size variation. In view of the possible impact of very heavy vehicles in the future such as sport-utility vehicles, however, a design load of 40 psf is recommended with no allowance for reduction according to bay area.

Compared with the design live load of 50 psf given in previous editions of the standard, the design load contained herein represents a 20 percent