

Low Gravity, High Stakes

Engineering Shake-Resistant Lunar Infrastructure

SOM



**Regolith as
Construction Material**



**Integration of Robotic
Construction**



Moonquakes



**Foundation
Systems**



**Lunar Building
Standards**



**Regolith as
Construction Material**



**Integration of Robotic
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Moonquakes



**Foundation
Systems**

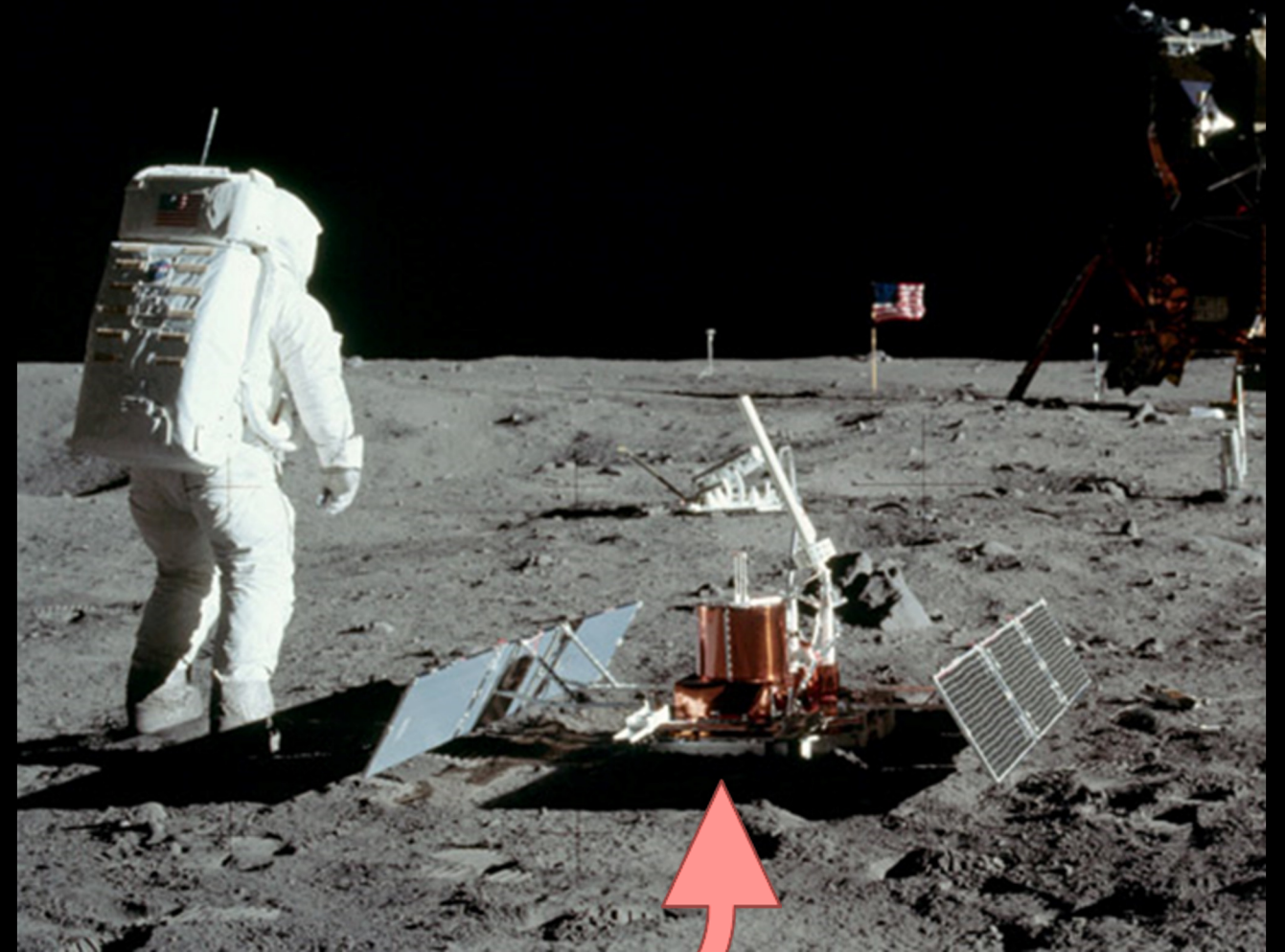
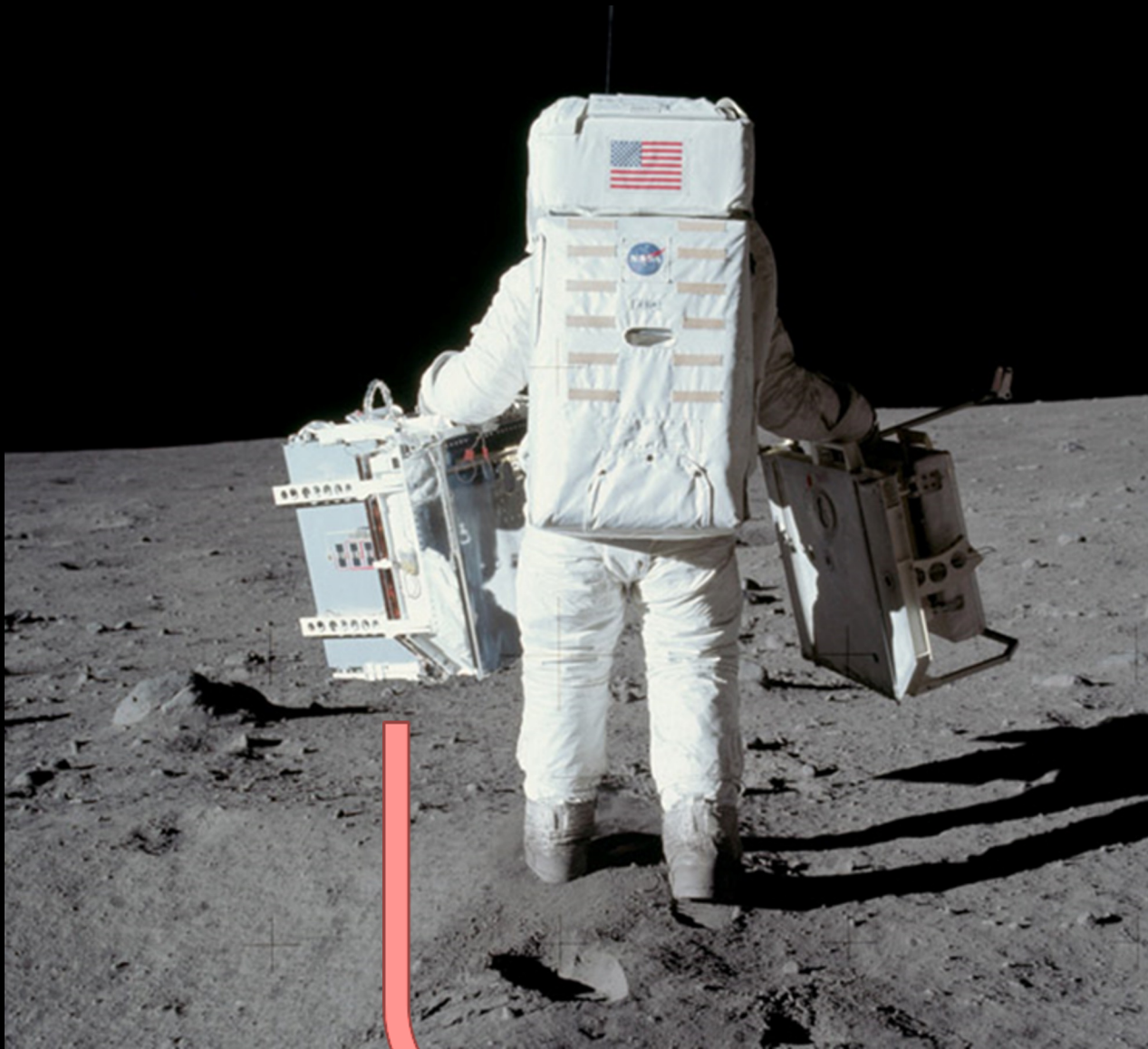


**Lunar Building
Standards**

Moonquake had me like



State of Moonquake Knowledge



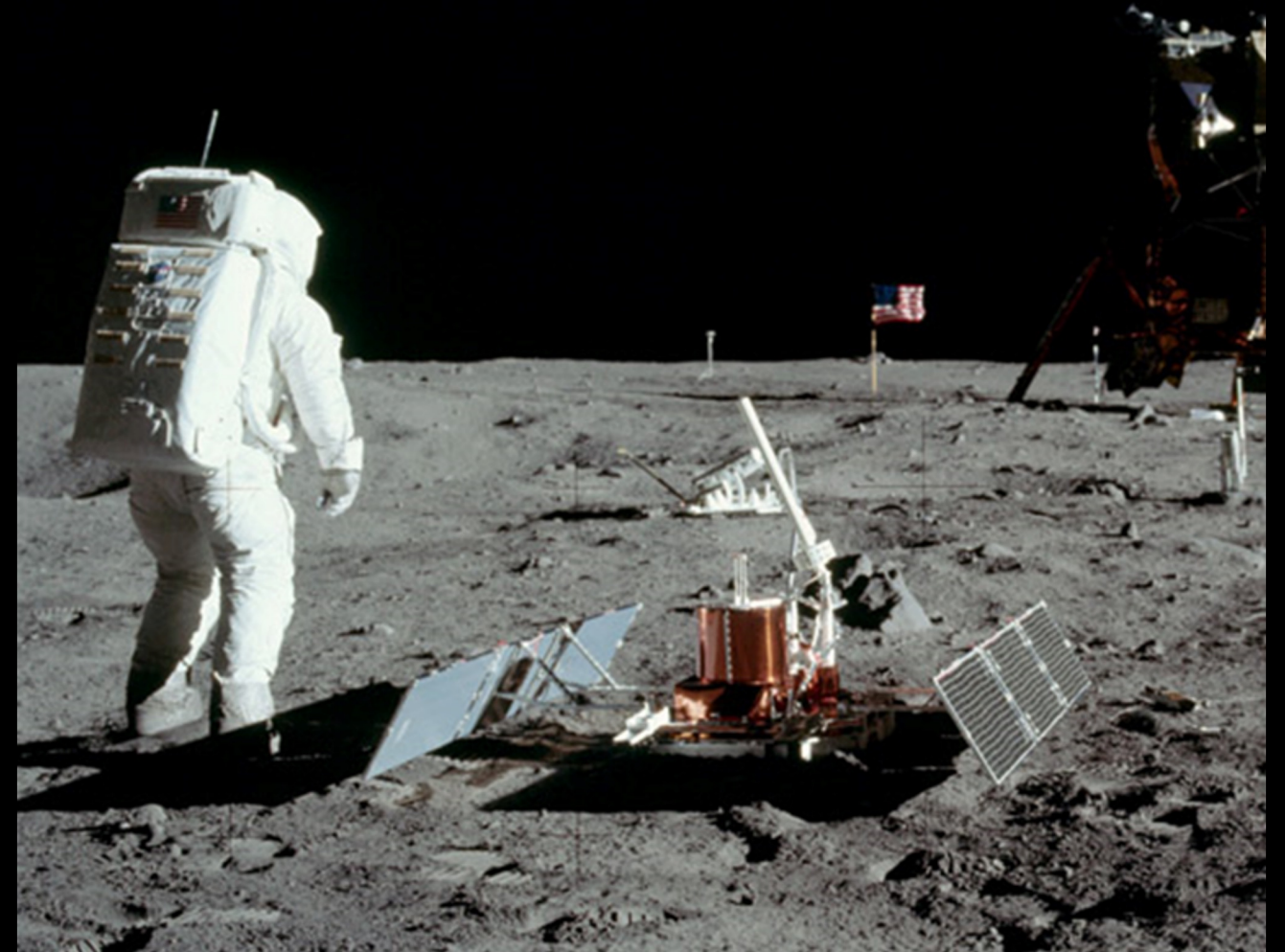
State of Moonquake Knowledge

Deep Moonquake

Thermal Moonquake

Meteorite Impact Moonquake

Shallow Moonquake



State of Moonquake Knowledge



Resemble Intraplate Earthquakes



High-Frequency Energy Content



Extended Duration



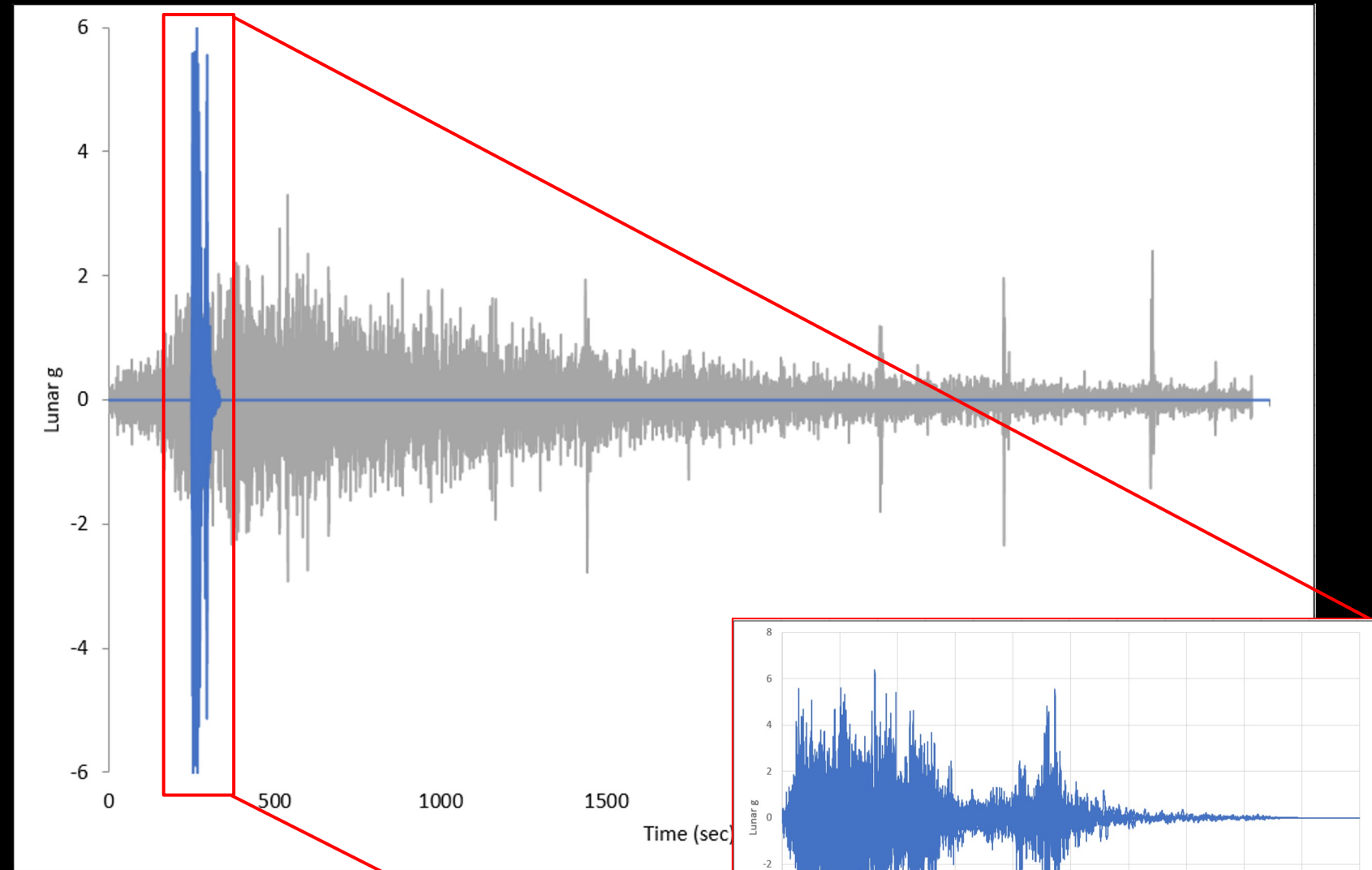
Impulsive P- and S-Wave Arrivals



Reduced Attenuation



Wider Energy Spread



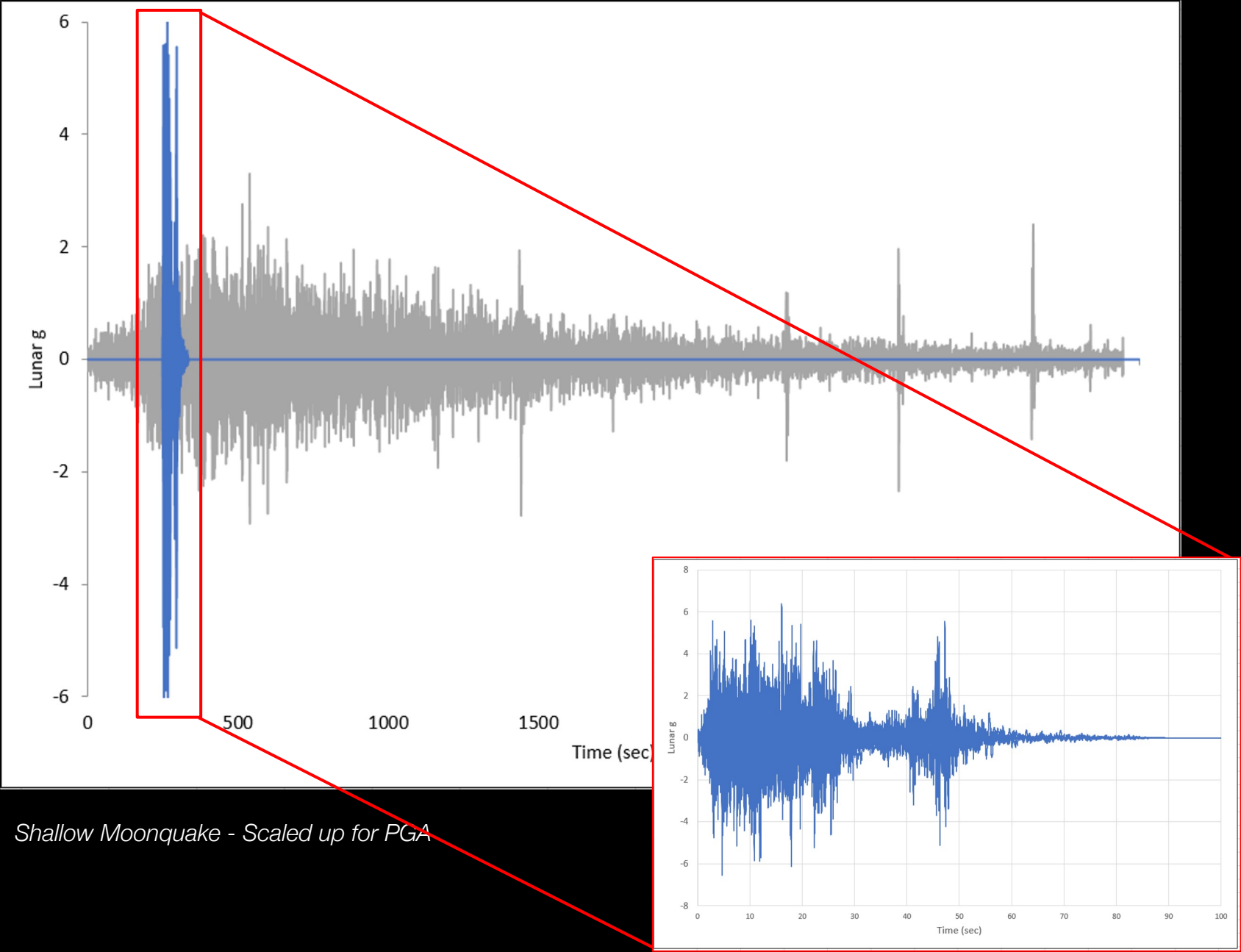
Shallow Moonquake - Scaled up for PGA

State of Moonquake Knowledge

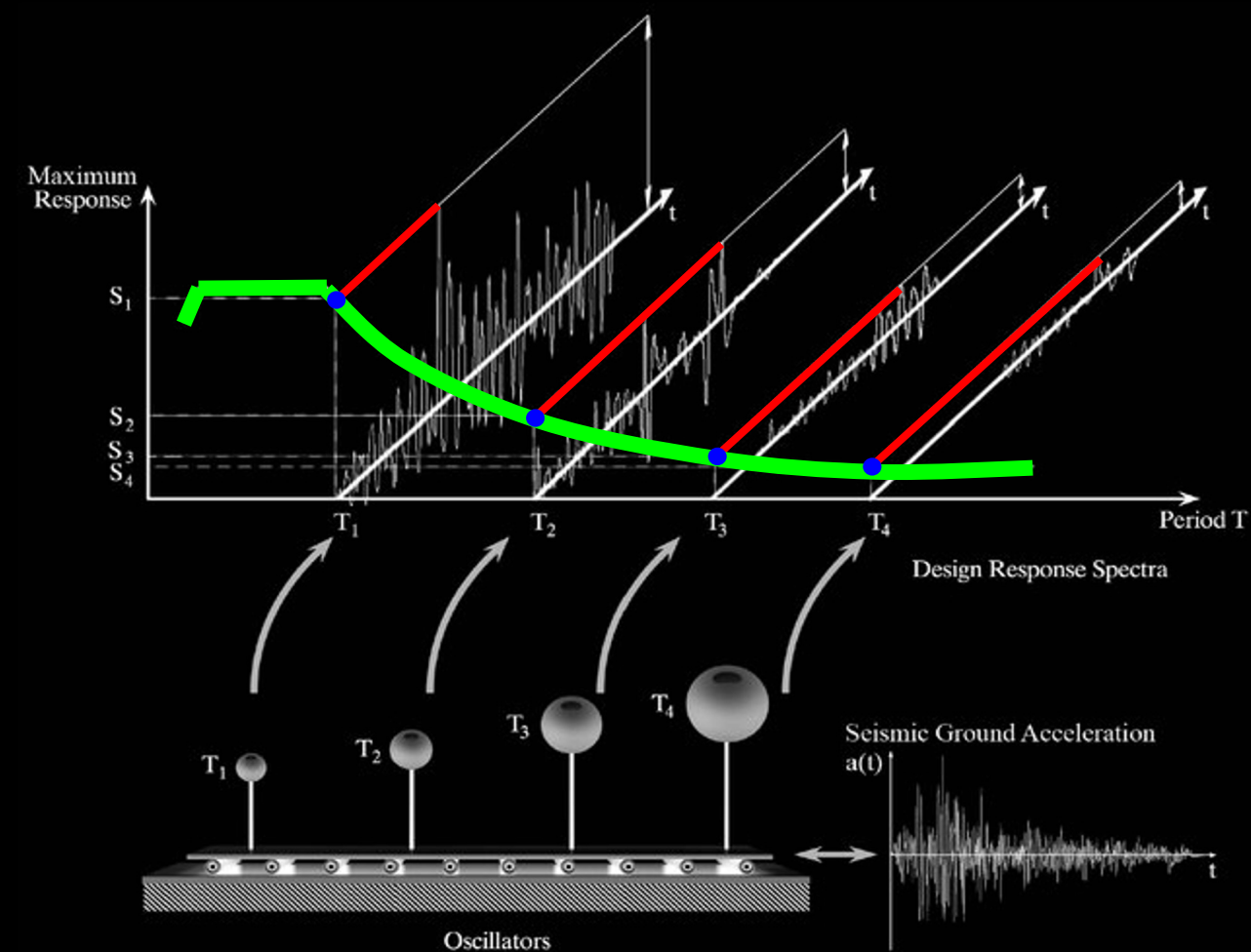
Shallow Moonquake Seismic Wave Properties

\approx

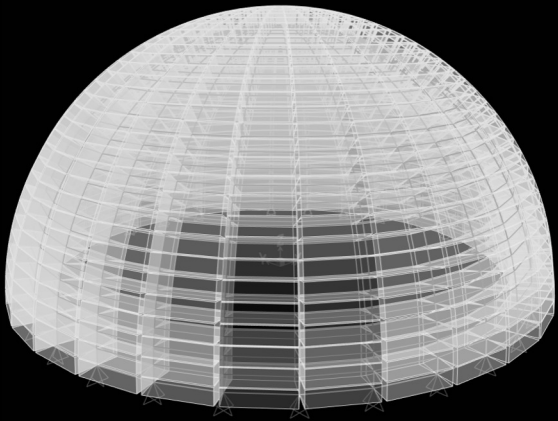
Earthquake Seismic Wave Properties



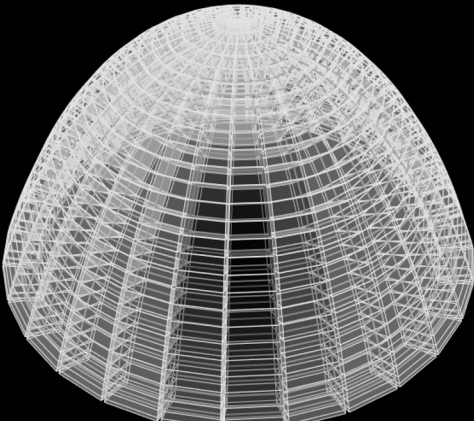
Moonquake Ground Motion Model



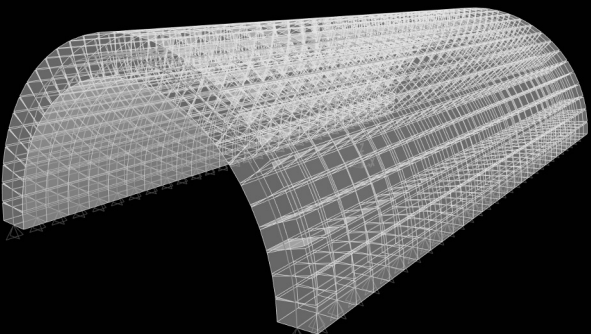
Vrochidou et al. (2014)



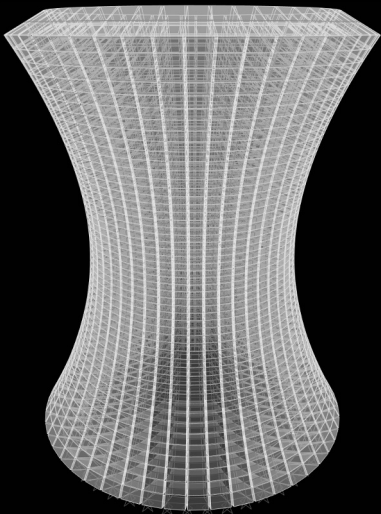
Cylindrical Dome



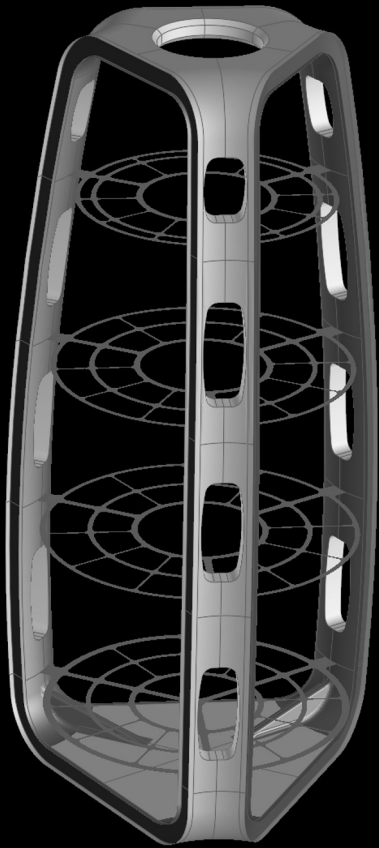
Catenary Dome



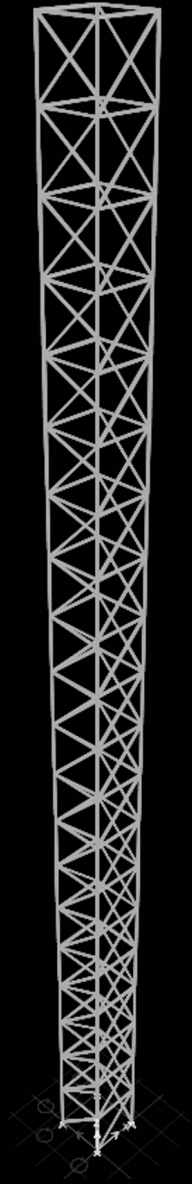
Half Cylinder



Pressurized Hyperboloid
(Marx-X House)



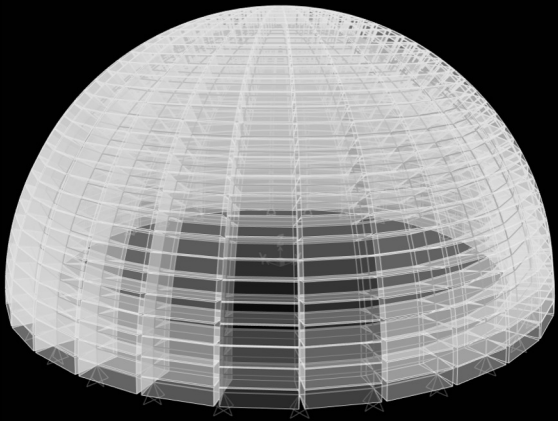
Prefabricated Habitat
(Moon Village - SOM)



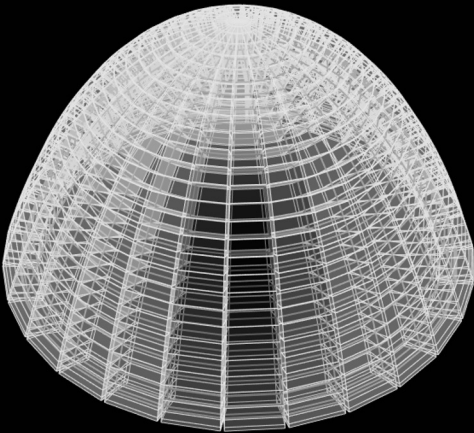
Tall Lunar Tower
(NASA Polar Project)

Moonquake Ground Motion Model

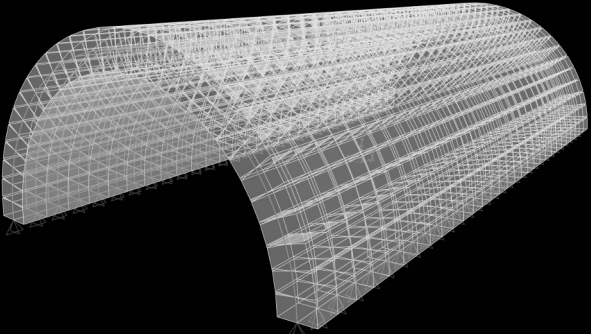
Structural System	Frequency Range (Hz)	Period Range (s)
Unpressurized Cylindrical Dome	5 Hz - 140 Hz	0.20 - 7.14E-3
Unpressurized Catenary Dome	6 Hz - 145 Hz	0.17 - 6.90E-3
Unpressurized Half Cylinder	1 Hz - 80 Hz	1.00 - 0.01
Pressurized Hyperboloid	11 Hz - 59 Hz	0.09 - 0.02
Prefabricated Habitat (Moon Village)	3 Hz - 14 Hz	0.33 - 0.07
Tall Lunar Tower	0.1 Hz - 80 Hz	10 - 0.01



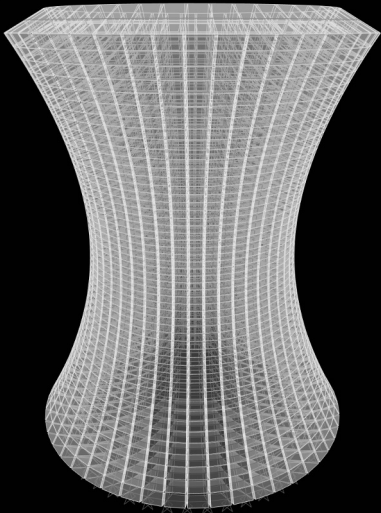
Cylindrical Dome



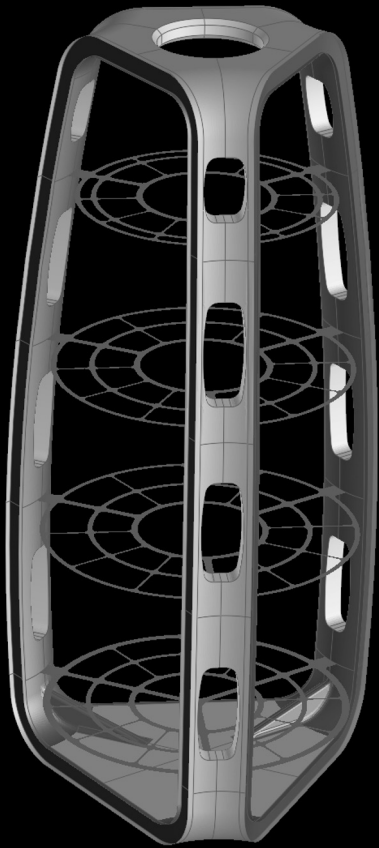
Catenary Dome



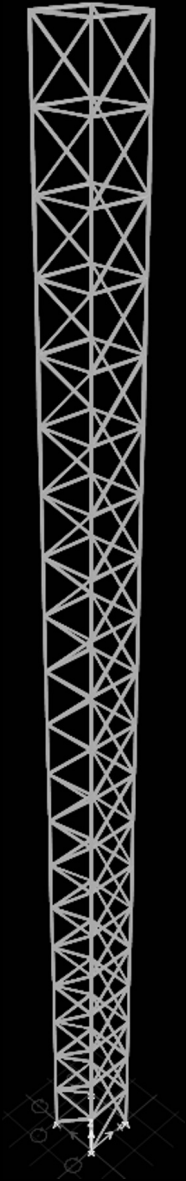
Half Cylinder



Pressurized Hyperboloid
(Marx-X House)



Prefabricated Habitat
(Moon Village - SOM)



Tall Lunar Tower
(NASA Polar Project)

Moonquake Ground Motion Model

Two Main Model Input Parameters:

Moment Magnitude (M)

Site-to-Source Rupture Distance (R_{rup})

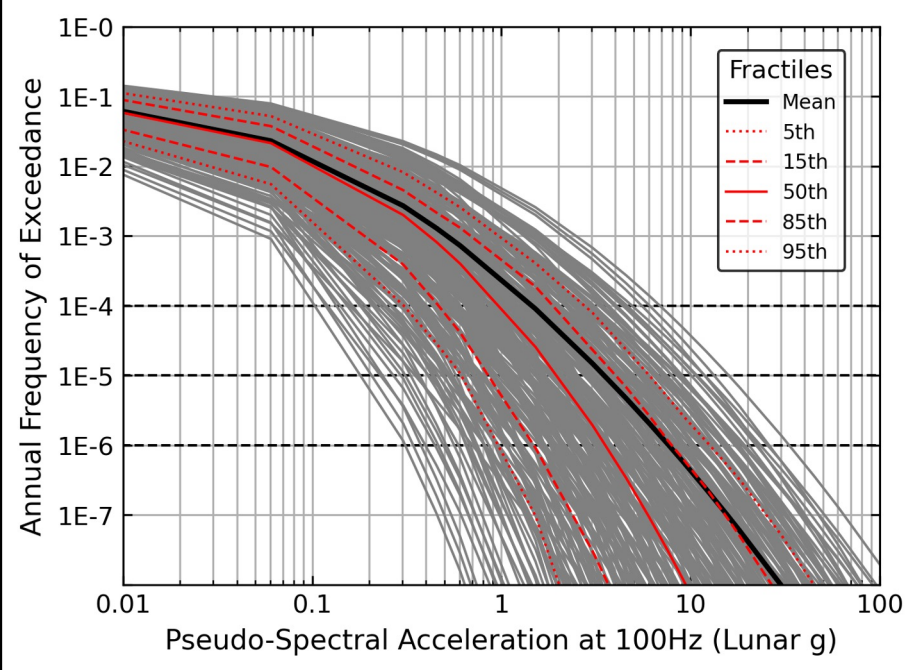
Preliminary PSHA Parameters:

Single Recurrence Curve = 28 Events

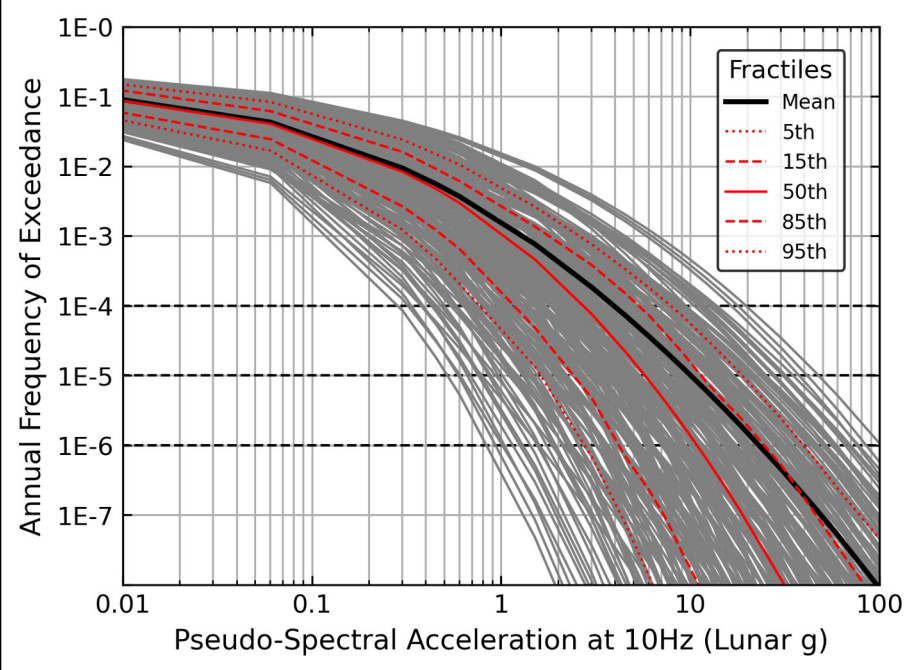
Observation Period = 6 years

Max Moment Magnitude = 5.0 - 7.0

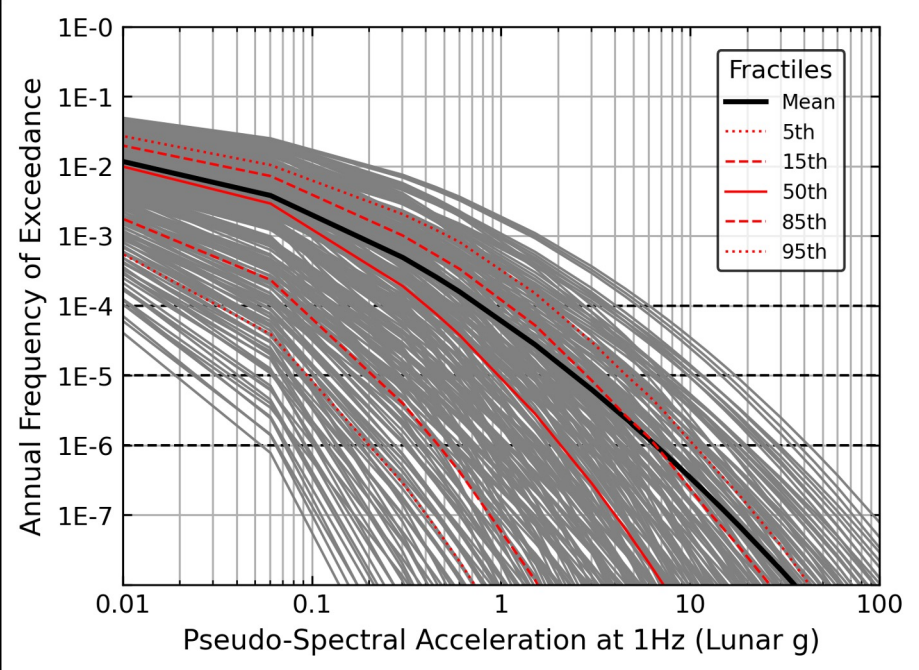
Depth of Top of Rupture (Z_{TOP}) = Varied



Mean Hazard Curve and Fractiles at 100Hz



Mean Hazard Curve and Fractiles at 10 Hz



Mean Hazard Curve and Fractiles at 1 Hz

Moonquake Ground Motion Model

Probability of Exceedance (PoE)

What is the probability that the ground motion will exceed certain level?

$$P(n \geq 1|T) = 1 - e^{-\lambda T}$$

λ - Mean Annual Rate of Exceedance

T - Time Period of Structure

Return Period (RP)

How frequent would we expect this level of shaking to occur?

$$\text{Return Period} = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

Moonquake Ground Motion Model

Probability of Exceedance (PoE)

What is the probability that the ground motion will exceed certain level?

$$P(n \geq 1|T) = 1 - e^{-\lambda T}$$

Return Period (RP)

How frequent would we expect this level of shaking to occur?

$$\text{Return Period} = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

Example:

- Return Period = 475-year
- Time Period of Structure = 50 years

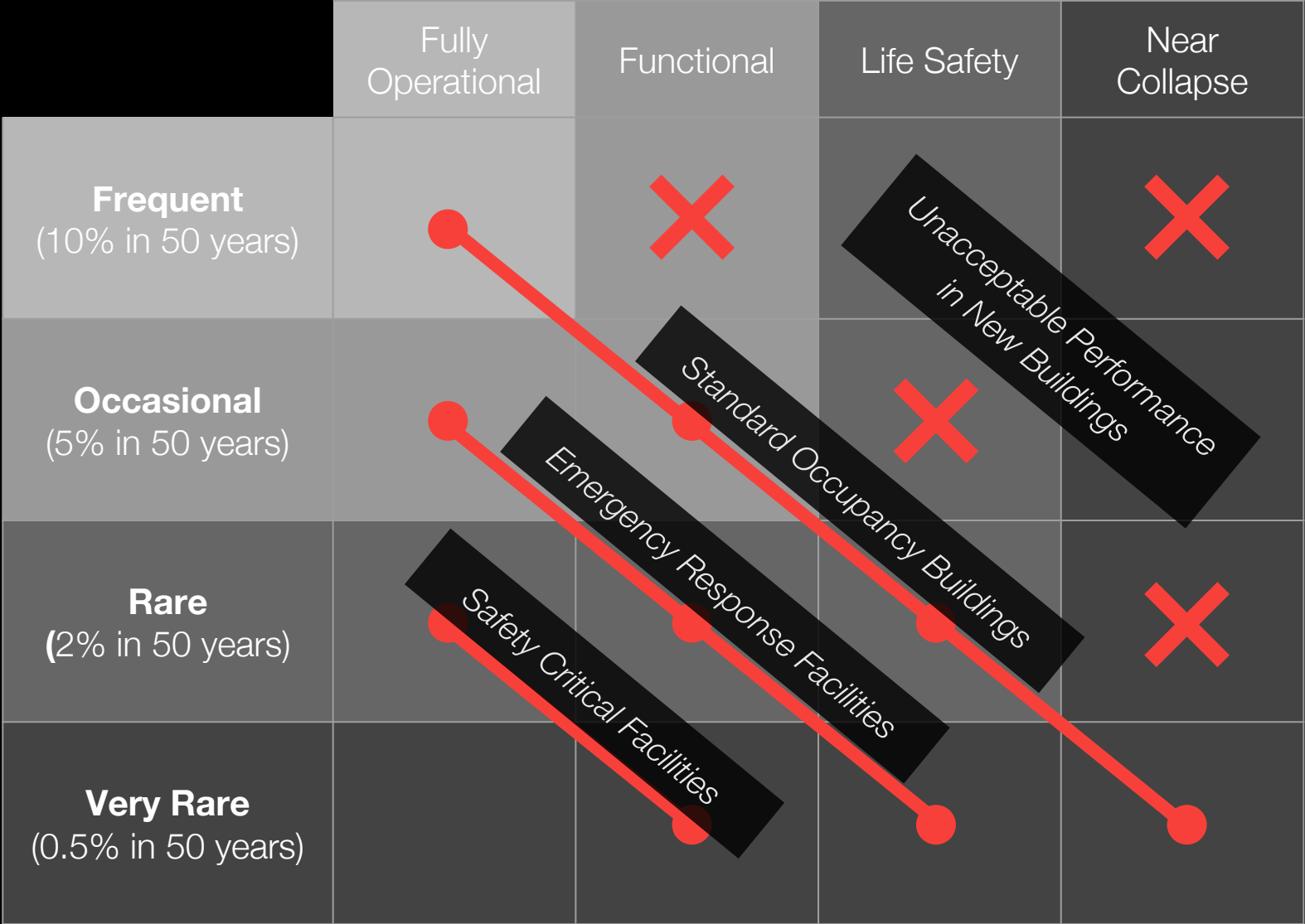
$$\boxed{475 \text{ years} = \frac{1}{\lambda}} \longrightarrow \boxed{\lambda = \frac{1}{475 \text{ years}}} \longrightarrow \boxed{P(n \geq 1|T) = 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{1}{475 \text{ years}}\right)(50 \text{ years})} \approx 10\%}$$

Moonquake Ground Motion Model

Service Life = 50 years

Four Return Periods:

- 475-year | 10% PoE
- 975-year | 5% PoE
- 2,475-year | 2% PoE
- 10,000-year | 0.5% PoE



Moonquake Ground Motion Model

Service Life = 50 years

Four Return Periods:

○ 475-year | 10% PoE

○ 975-year | 5% PoE

○ 2,475-year | 2% PoE ← High-Importance Terrestrial Buildings
(i.e., hospitals)

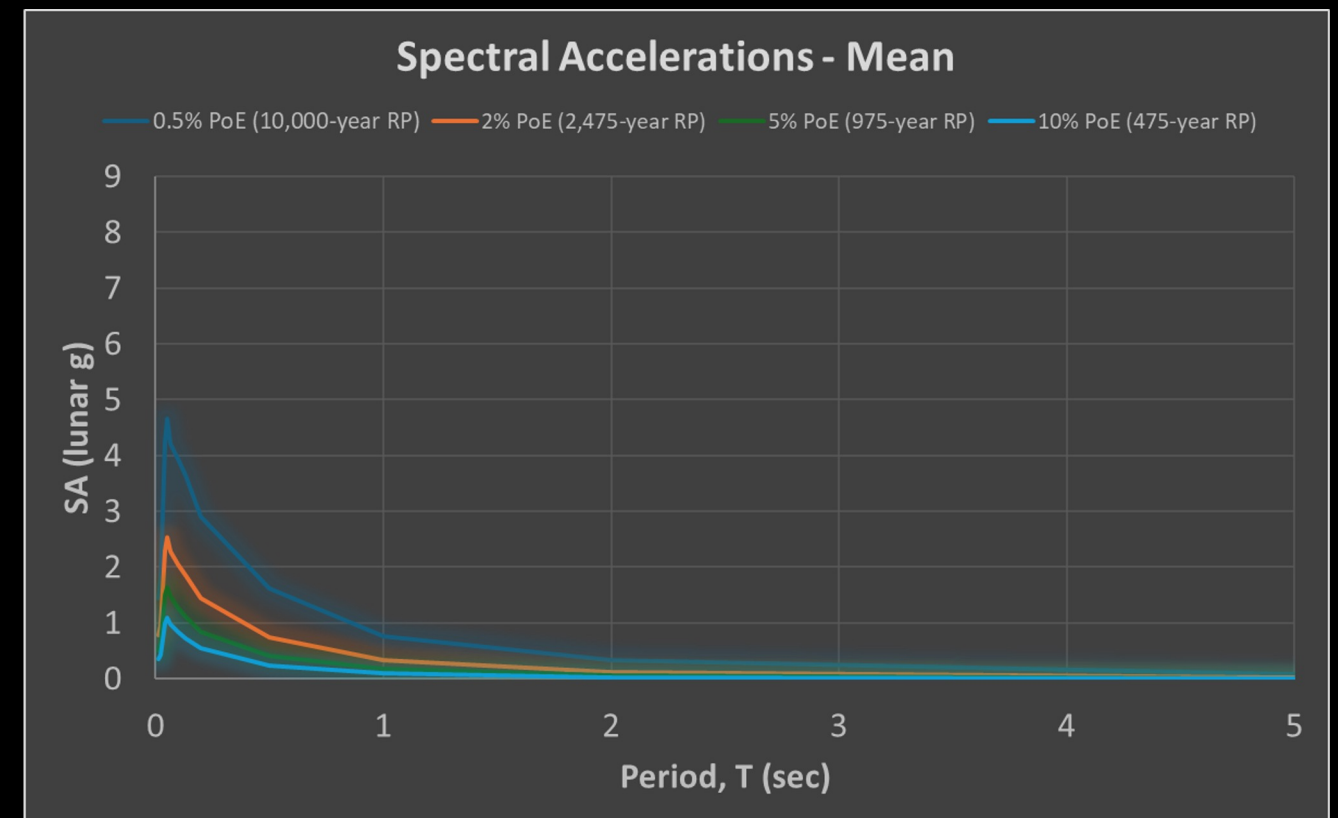
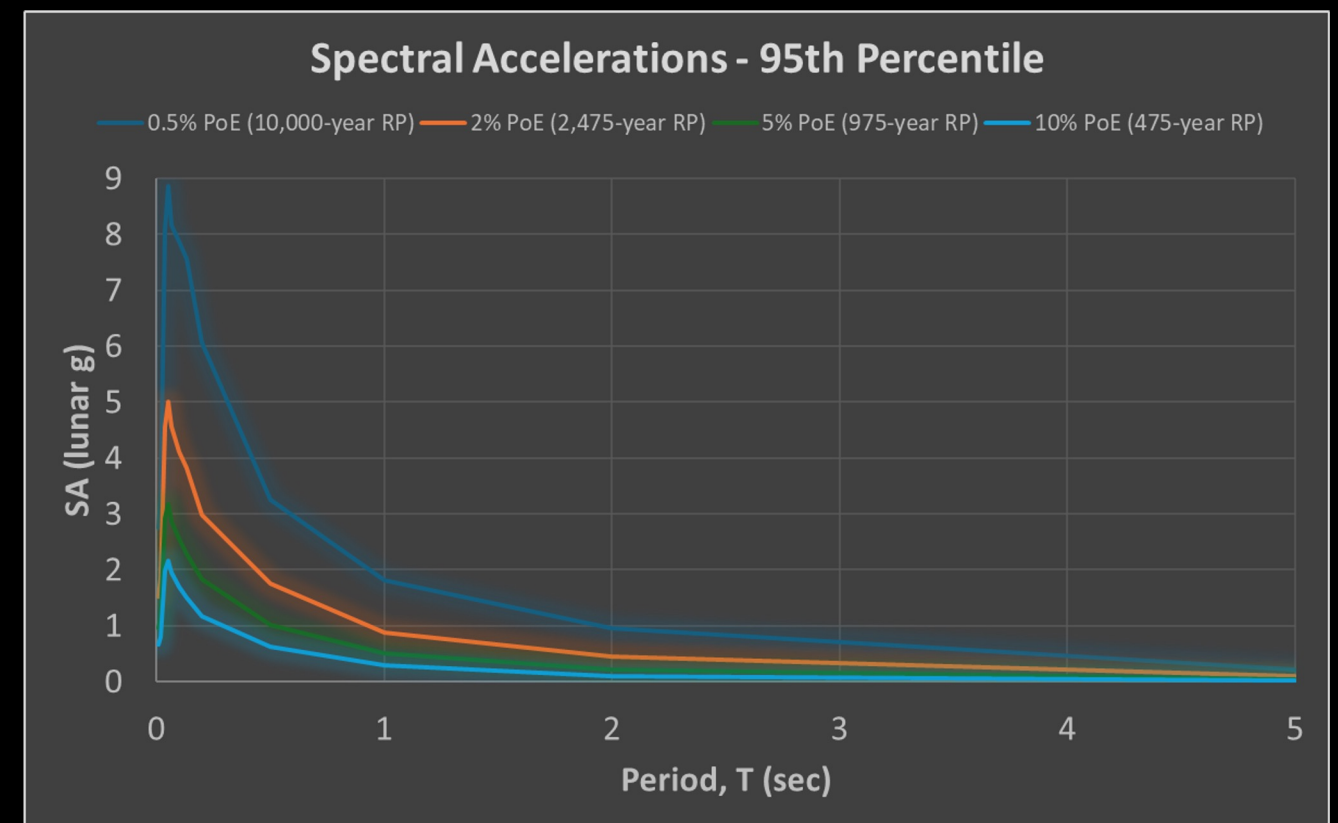
○ 10,000-year | 0.5% PoE ← Nuclear Facilities

Moonquake Ground Motion Model

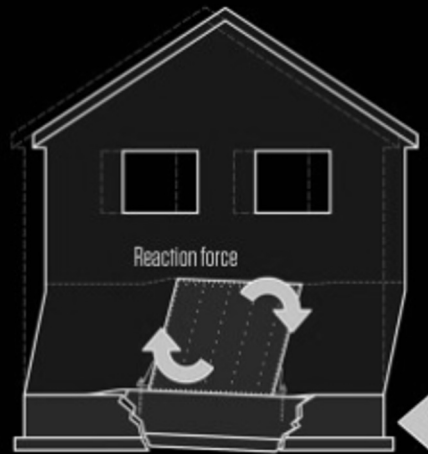
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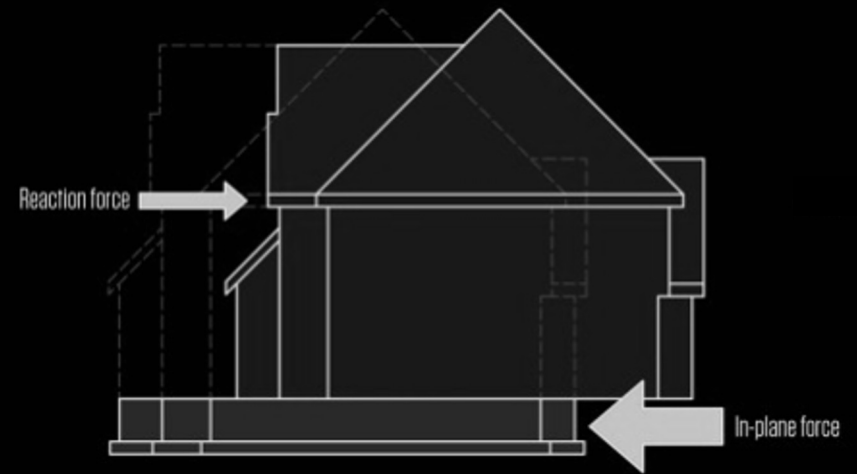


Effects of Seismic Force



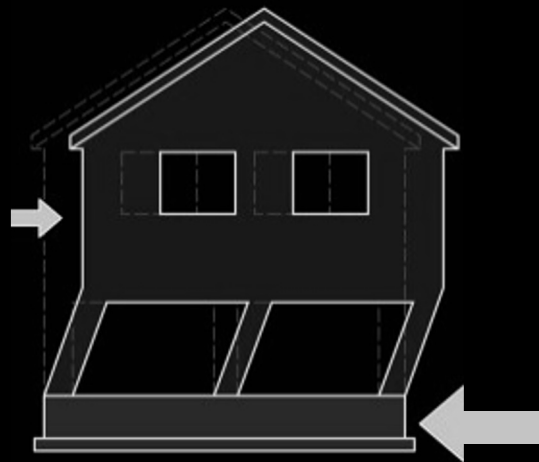
Overturning

Toppling from uplift.



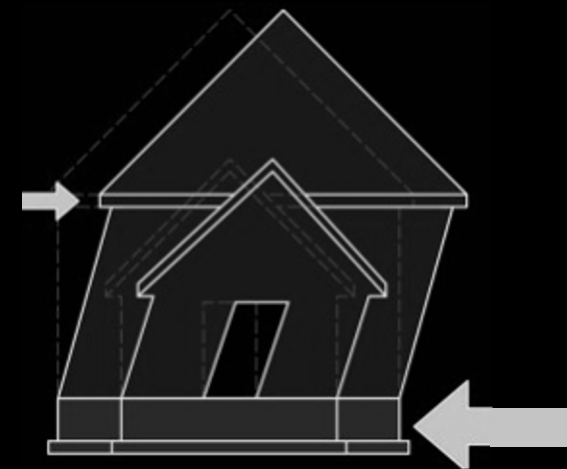
Sliding

Lateral movement at base.



Soft-Story Failure

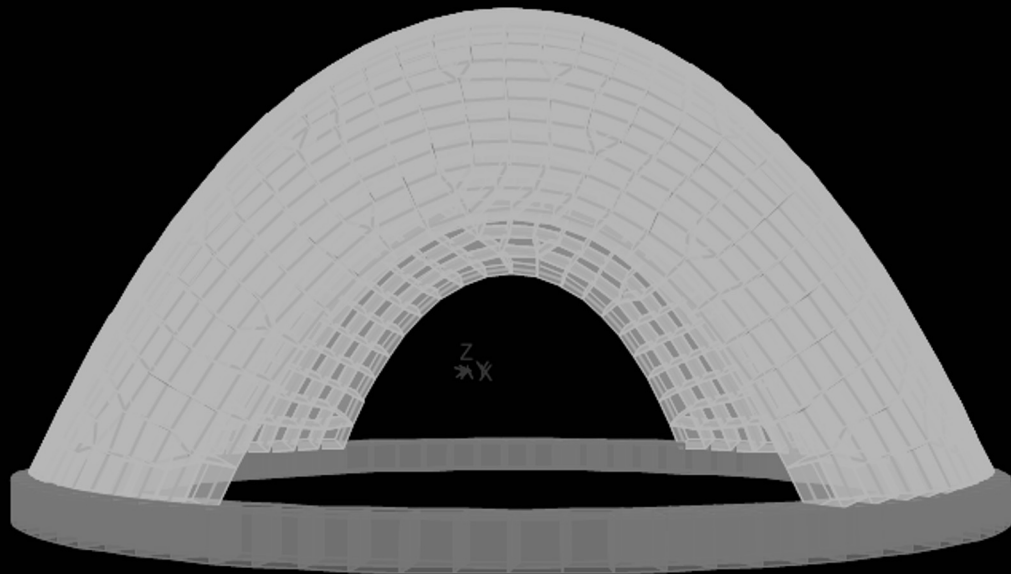
Weak lower level collapse



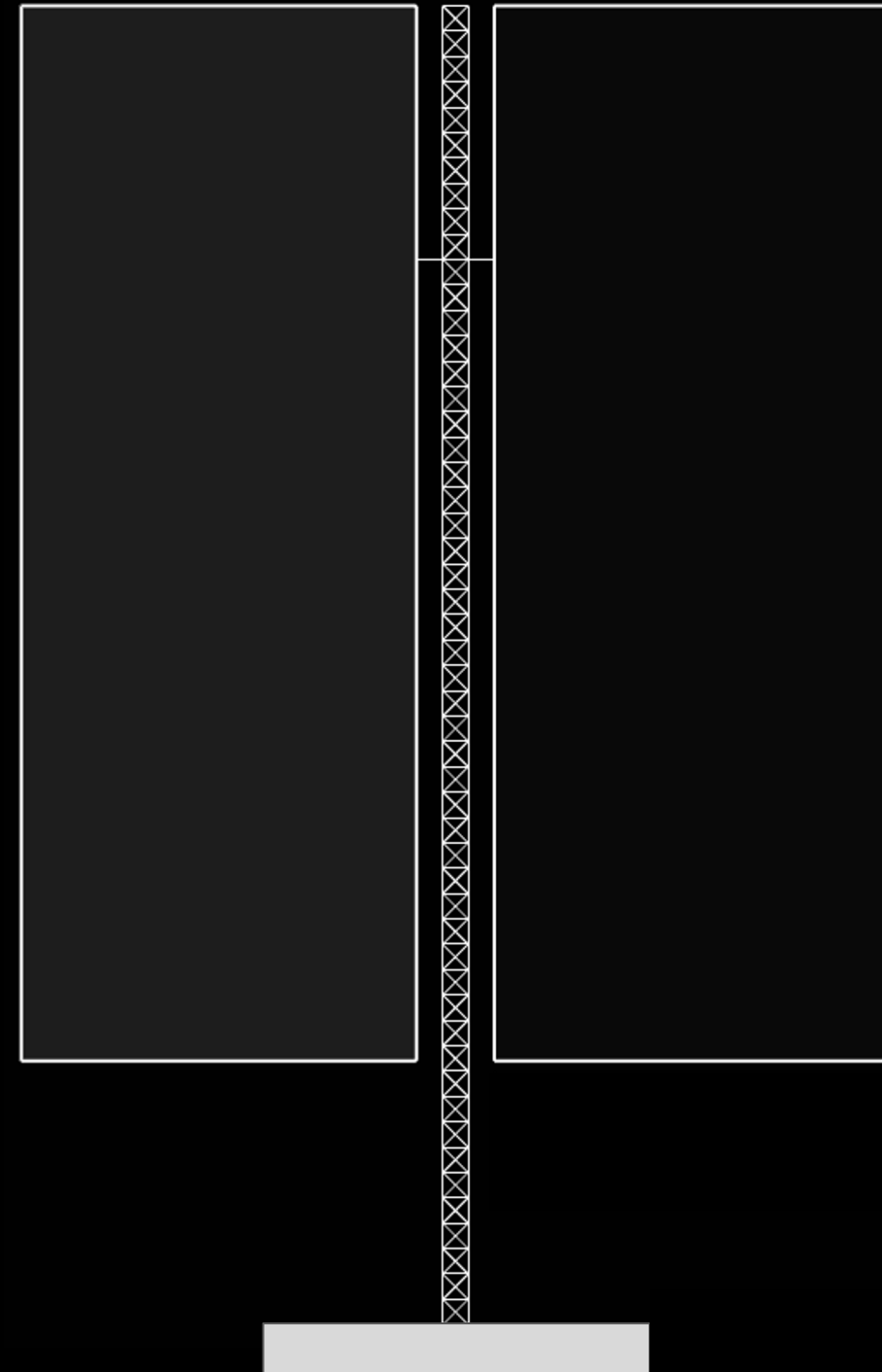
Racking

Distorted vertical frame.

Structural Analysis



Unpressurized Catenary Dome



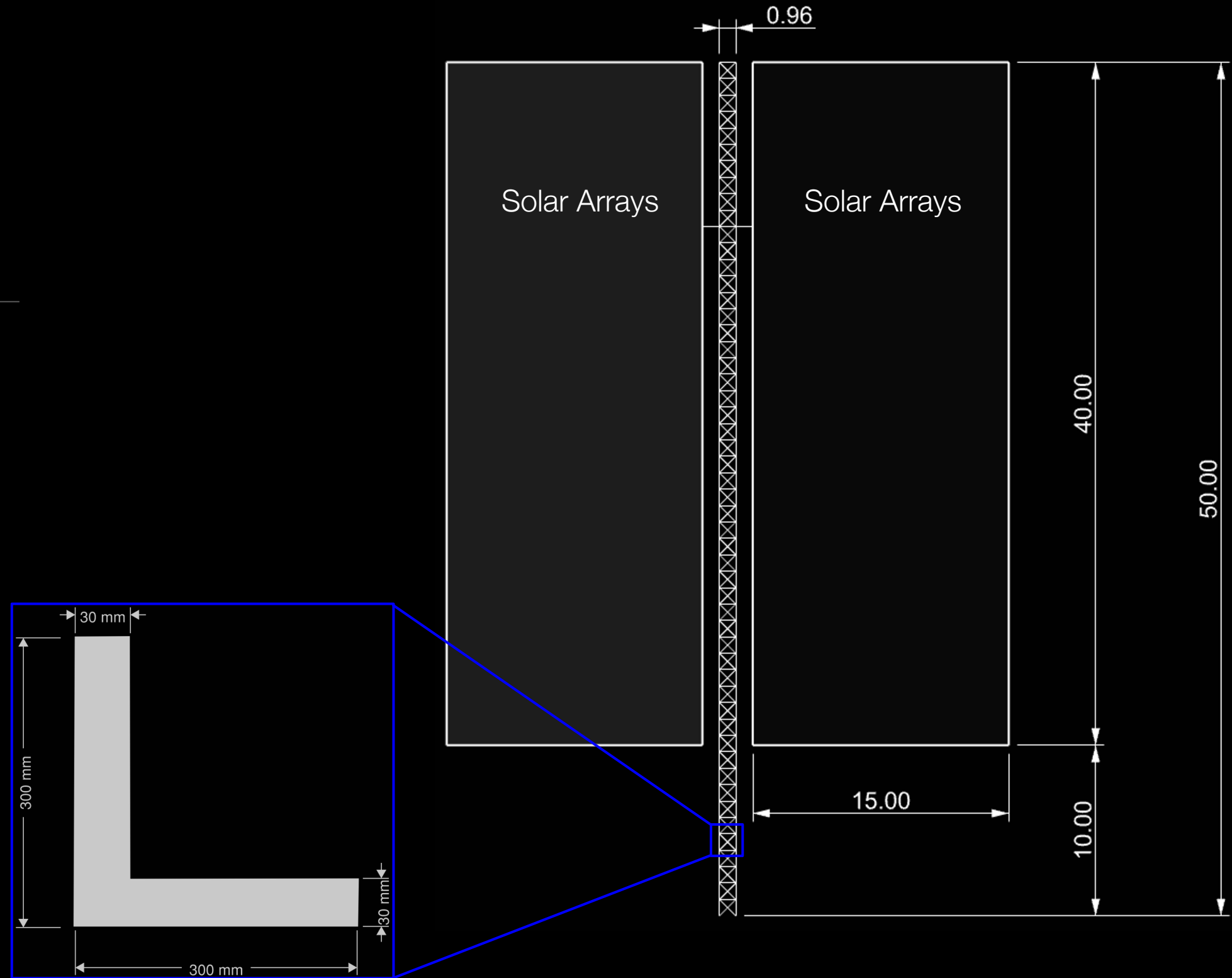
Tall Lunar Tower

Structural Analysis

Tall Lunar Tower

Structural Design Parameters

TLT Total Height (H) =	50 m
Width of Solar Panel (b_B) =	40 m
Height of Solar Panel (c_B) =	30 m
Standoff Height (a) =	10 m
Total Solar Panel Load =	2.78 kN



Structural Analysis

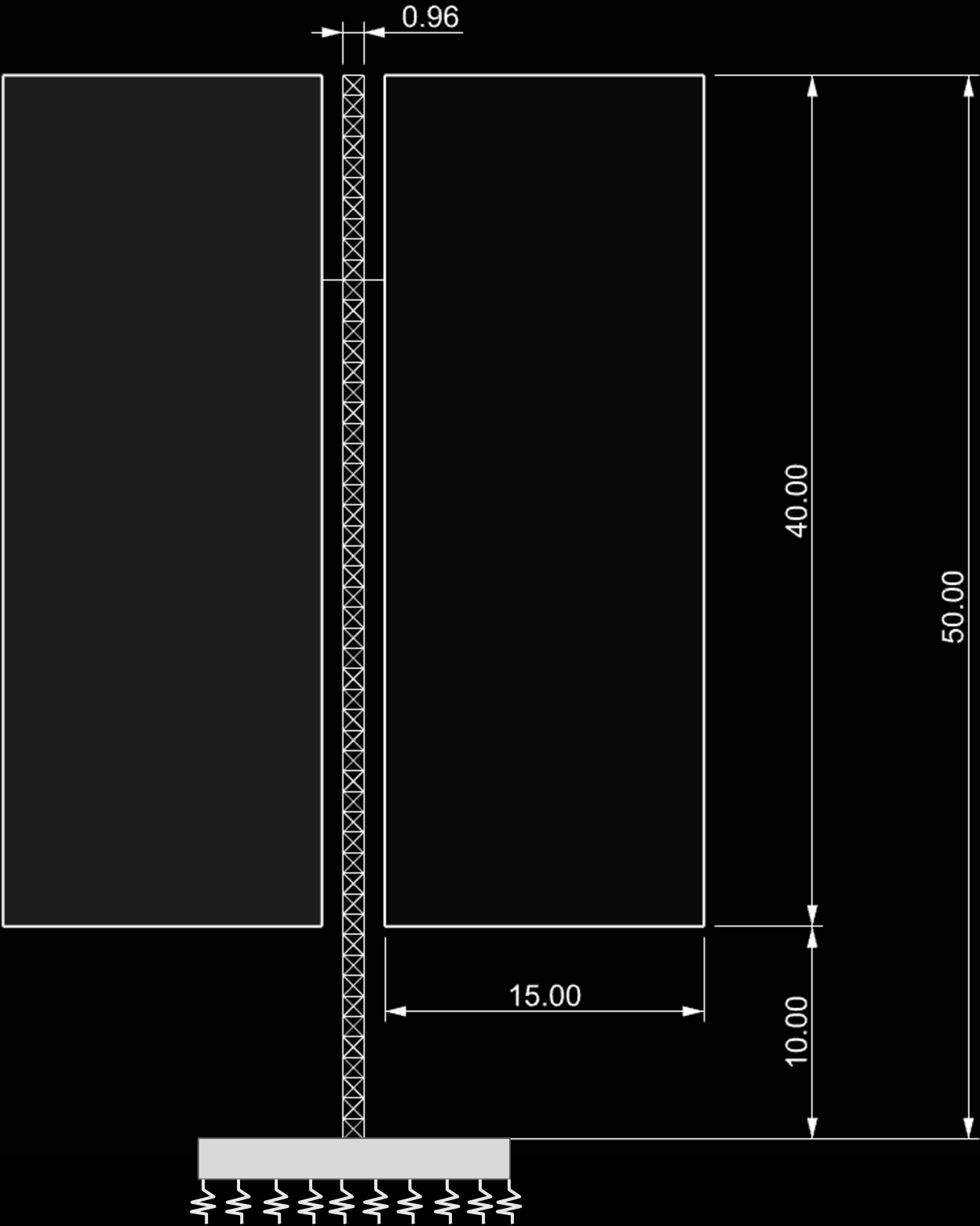
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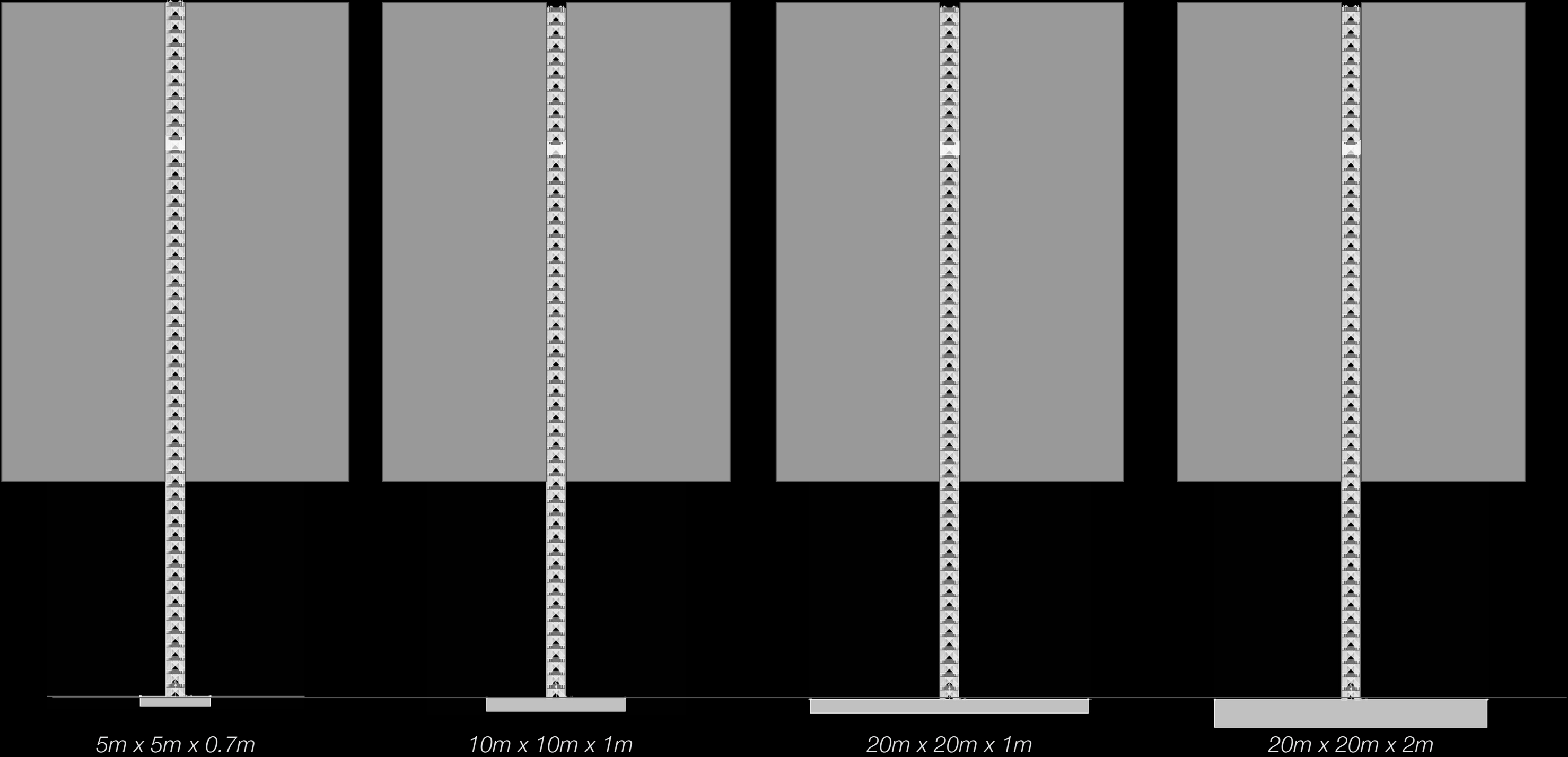
Foundation Properties

Foundation Type:	Mat Foundation
Material:	Sintered Regolith
Area Springs:	Vertical Subgrade Modulus (Regolith Stiffness)



Structural Analysis

Tall Lunar Tower



Structural Analysis

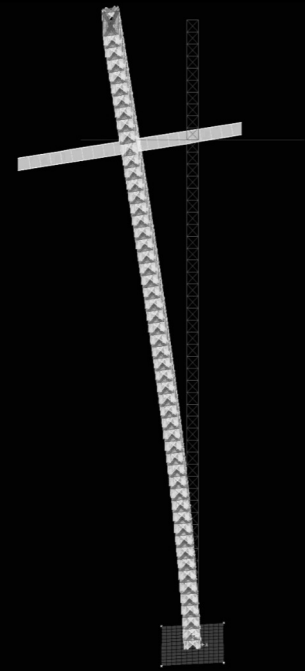
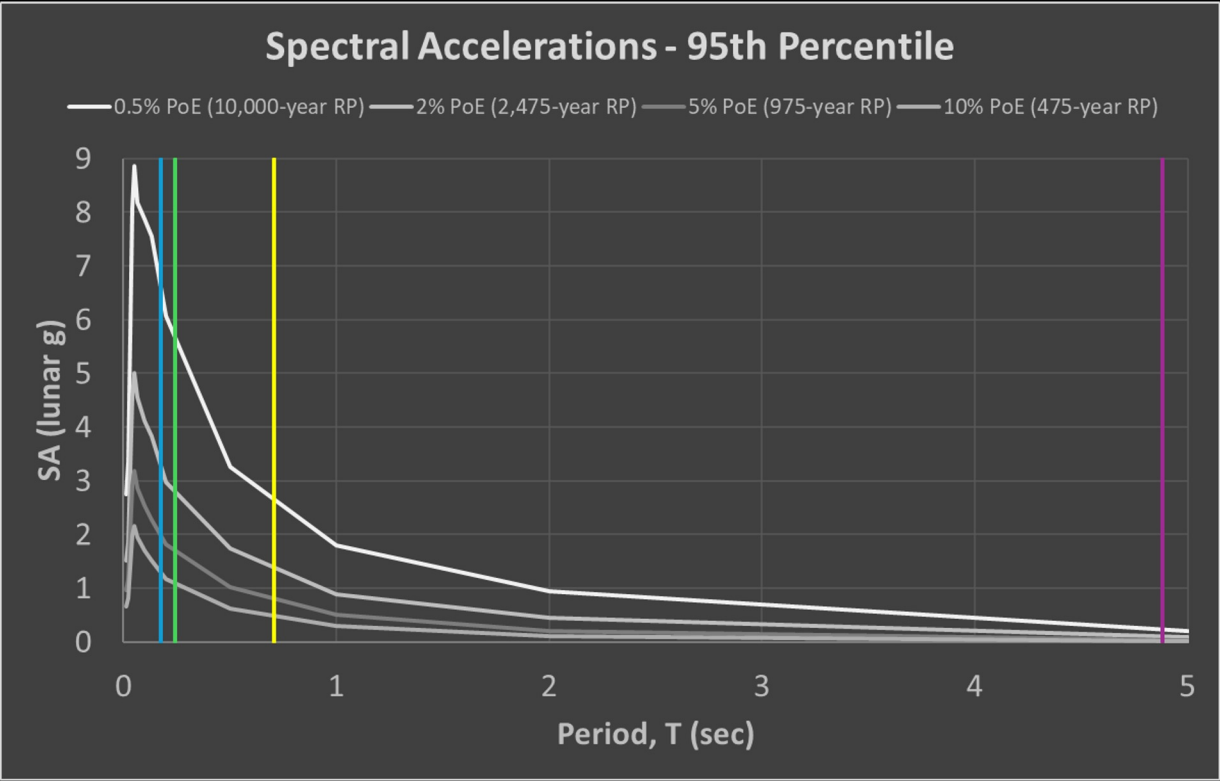
Tall Lunar Tower

Response Spectrum

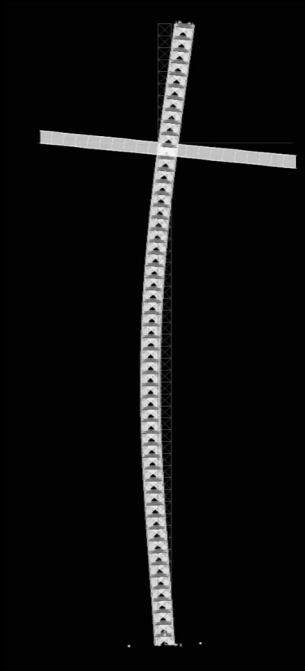
Dynamic Analysis

Dynamic Characteristics using Modal Analysis

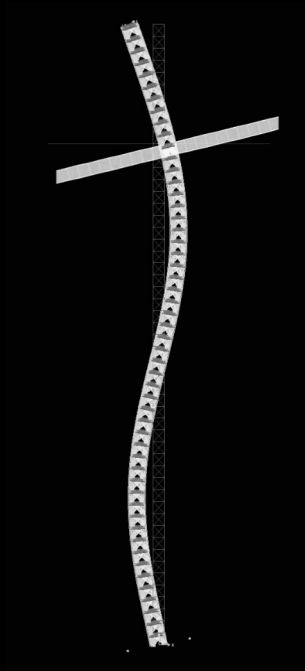
Geometric Nonlinearity Not Allowed



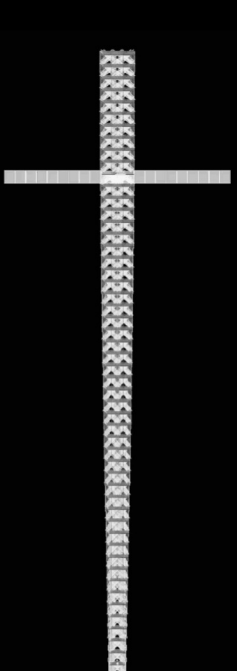
Mode 1/2



Mode 3/4



Mode 5/6



Mode 7

Structural Analysis

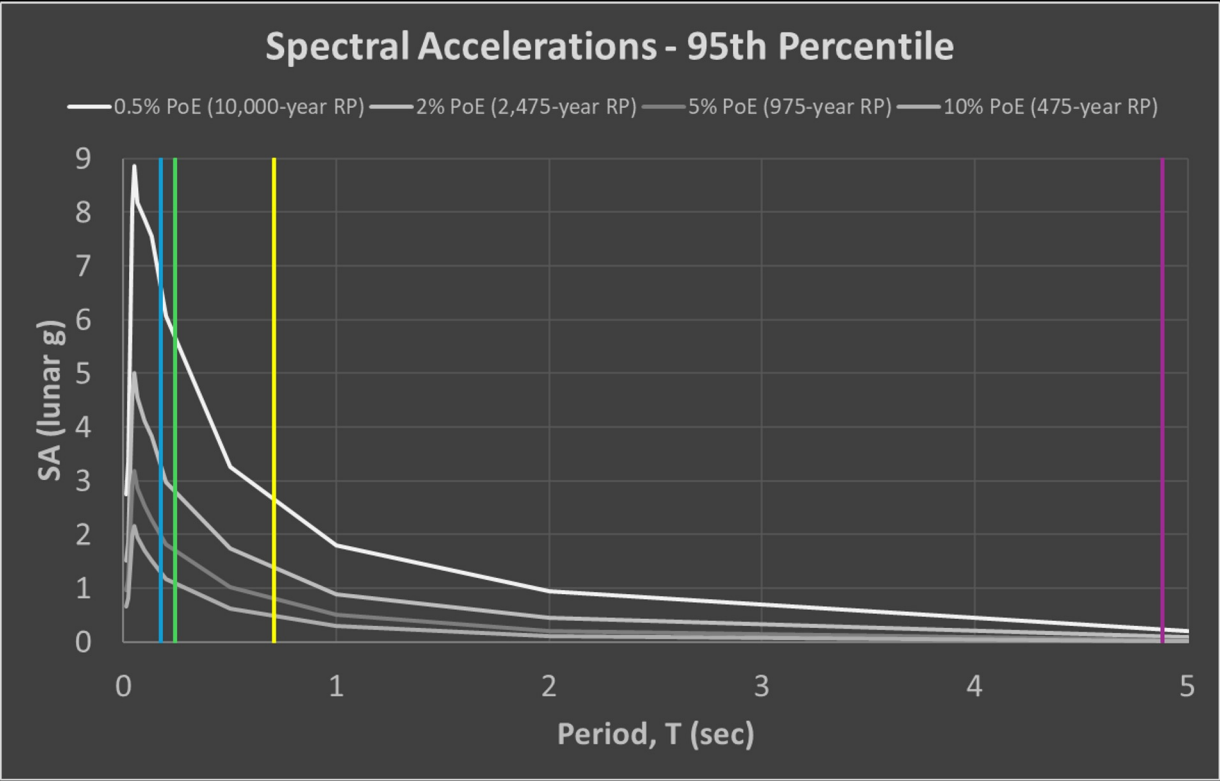
Tall Lunar Tower

Response Spectrum

Dynamic Analysis

Dynamic Characteristics using Modal Analysis

Geometric Nonlinearity Not Allowed

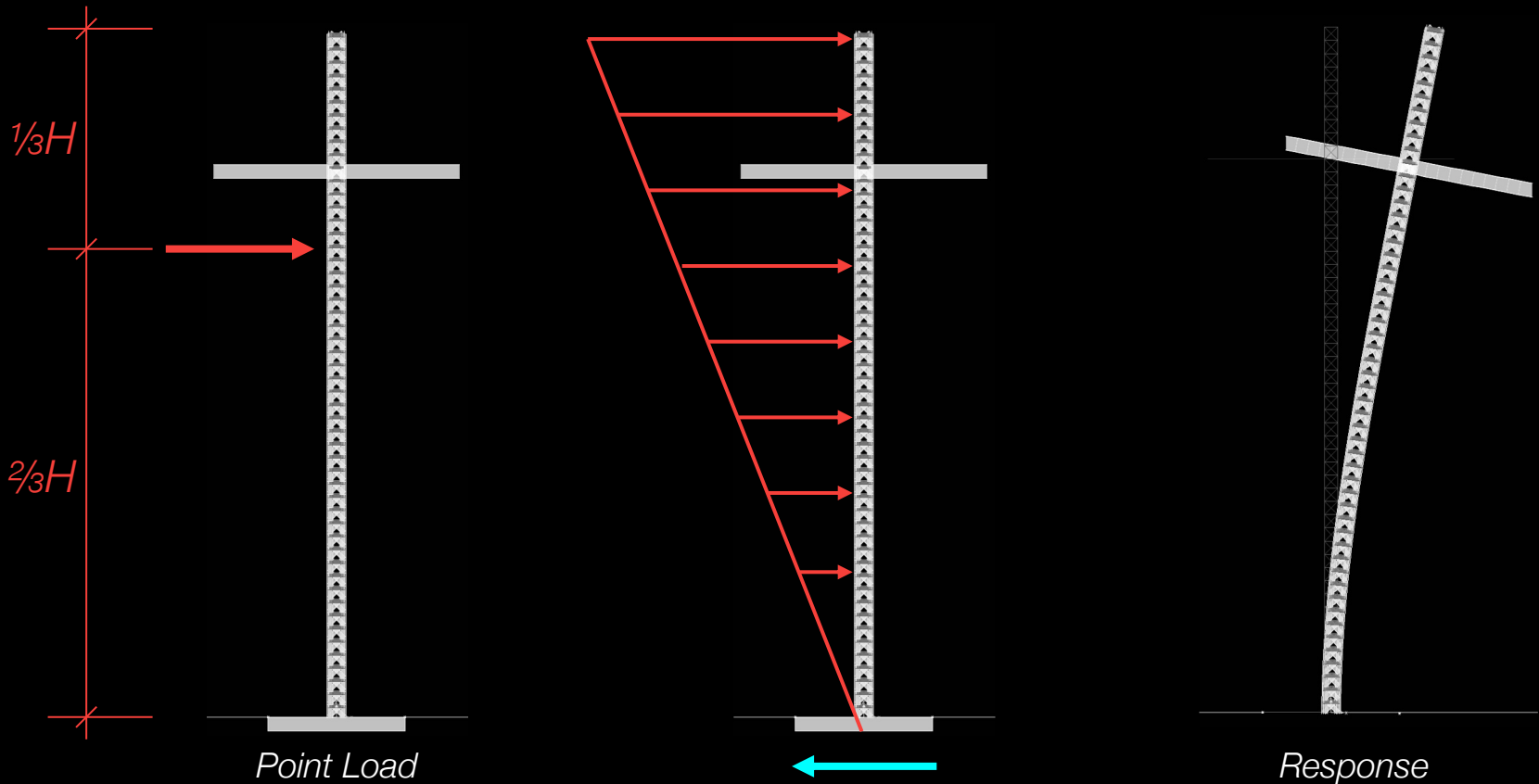


Equivalent Lateral Force (ELF)

Static Analysis

Approximation of Seismic Effect

Geometrical Nonlinearity Allowed



Structural Analysis

Tall Lunar Tower

Response Spectrum

Dynamic Analysis

Dynamic Characteristics using Modal Analysis

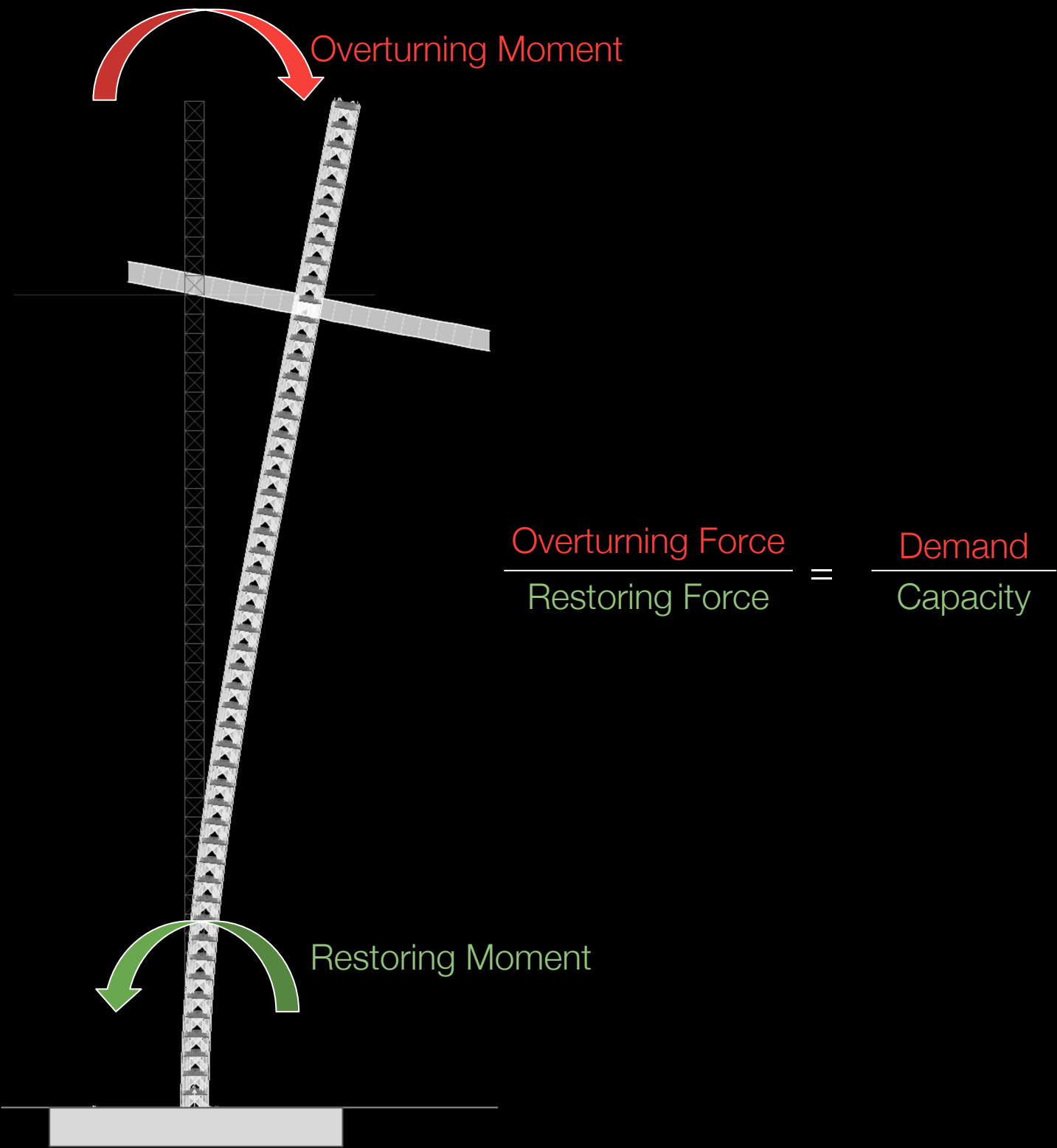
Geometric Nonlinearity Not Allowed

Equivalent Lateral Force (ELF)

Static Analysis

Approximation of Seismic Effect

Geometrical Nonlinearity Allowed

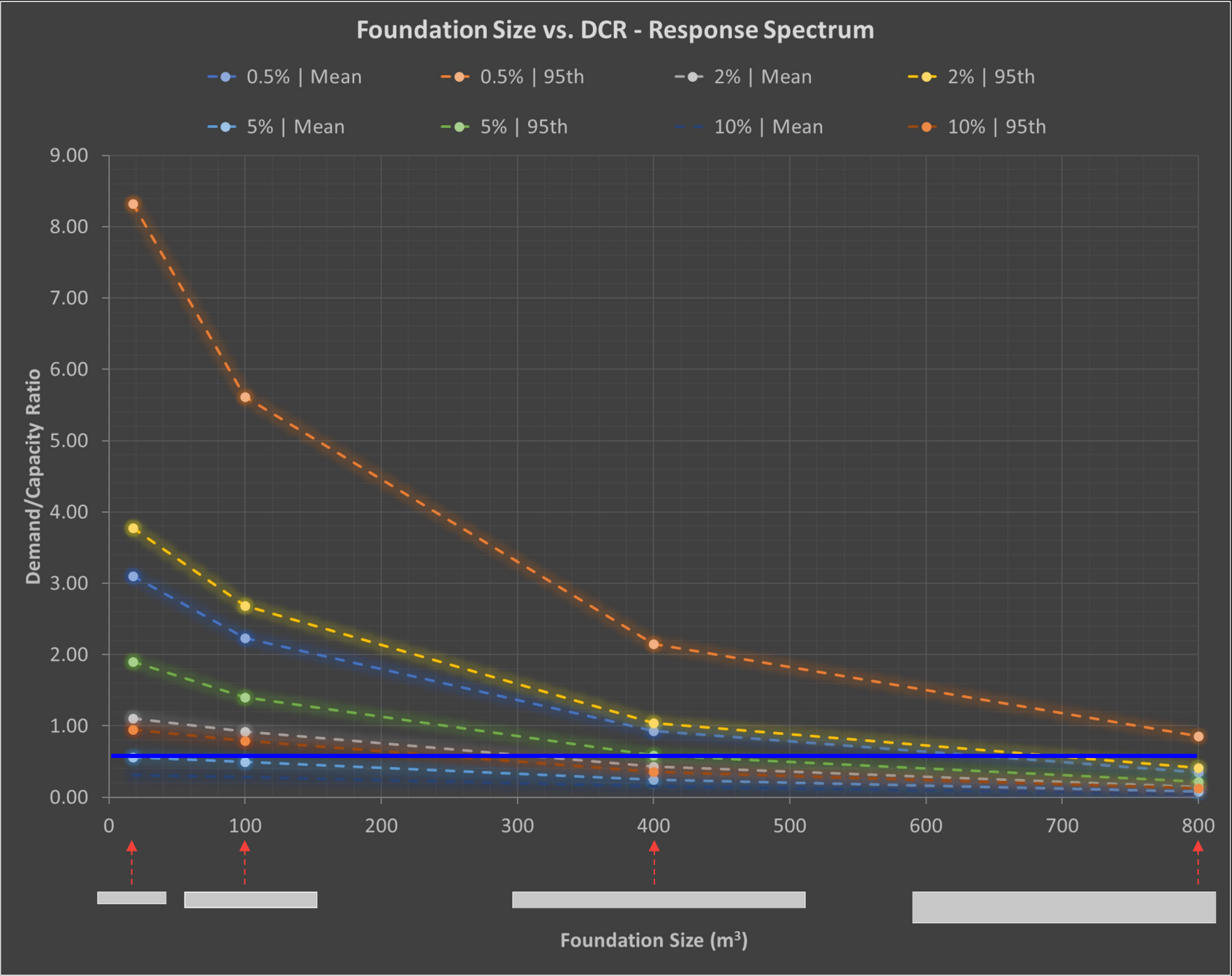


Structural Analysis

Tall Lunar Tower

Response Spectrum - Results

- Idealized Structure
- Insufficient Lever Arm
- Low Rotational Stiffness
- Increased Overturning Risk
- Safety Factor ≥ 2.0 ($DCR \leq 0.5$)

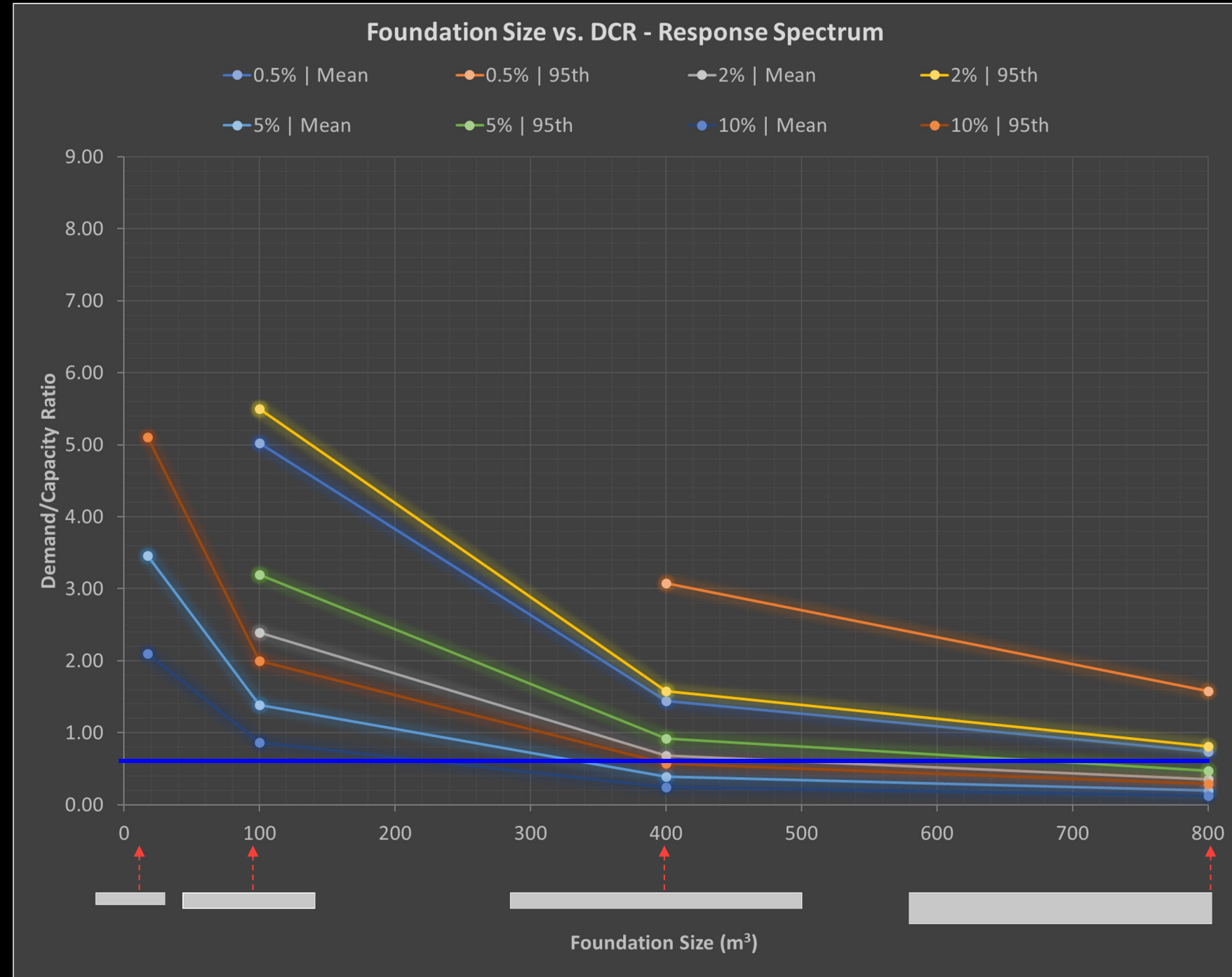


Structural Analysis

Tall Lunar Tower

Equivalent Lateral Force - Results

- Idealized Structure
- Insufficient Lever Arm
- Low Rotational Stiffness
- Increased Overturning Risk
- Safety Factor ≥ 2.0 ($DCR \leq 0.5$)
- Instability due to Geometrical Nonlinearity



Structural Analysis

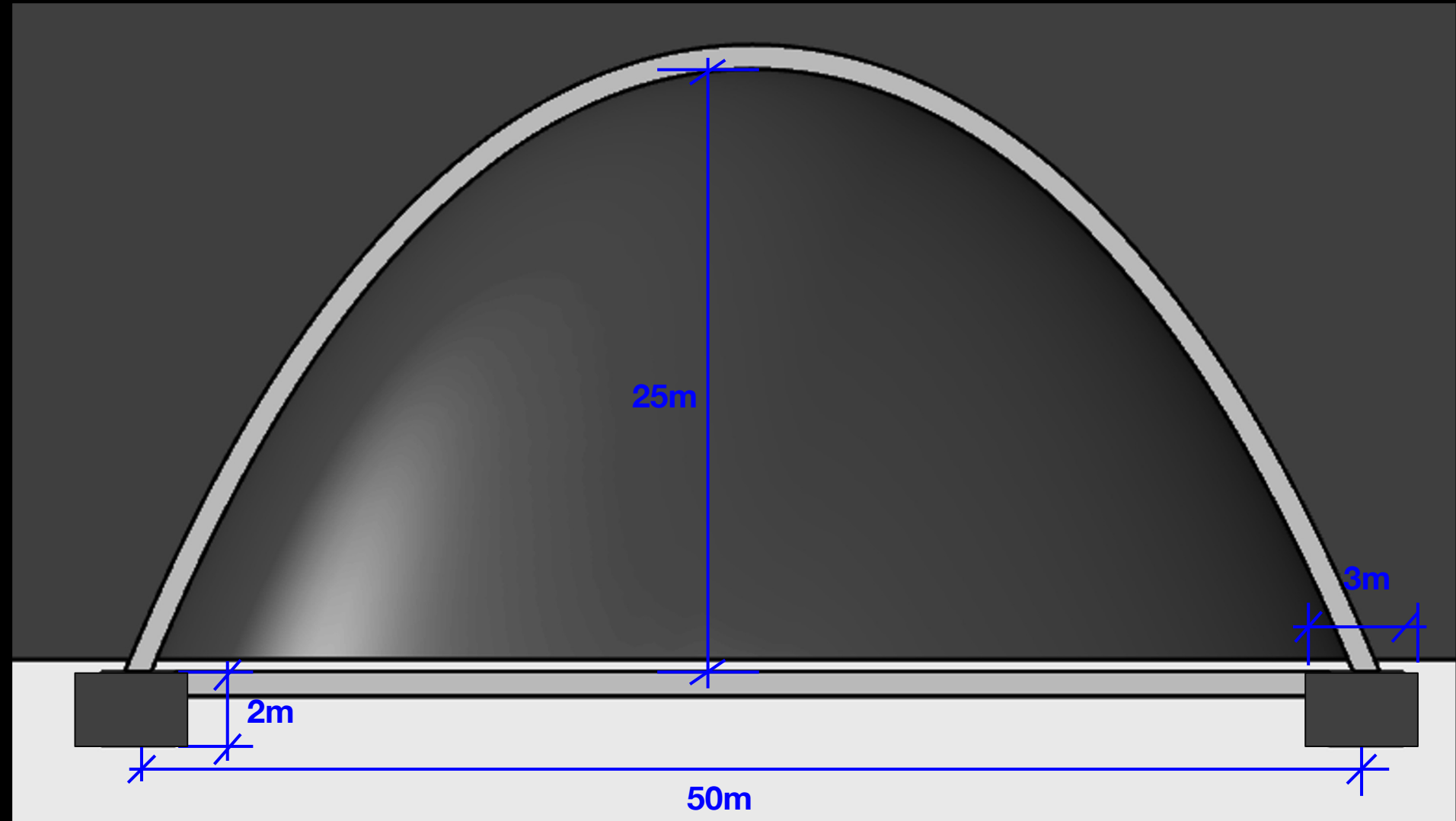
Catenary Dome

Structural Design Parameters

Dome Height (H_d) =	25m
Dome Central Diameter (D) =	50 m
Dome Shell Thickness (t_d) =	1.5 m
Foundation Height (H_f)=	2 m
Foundation Width (t_f) =	3m

Non-Structural Slab

Thickness = 1m
Spanning between Ring Foundation



Structural Analysis

Catenary Dome

Response Spectrum

Dynamic Analysis

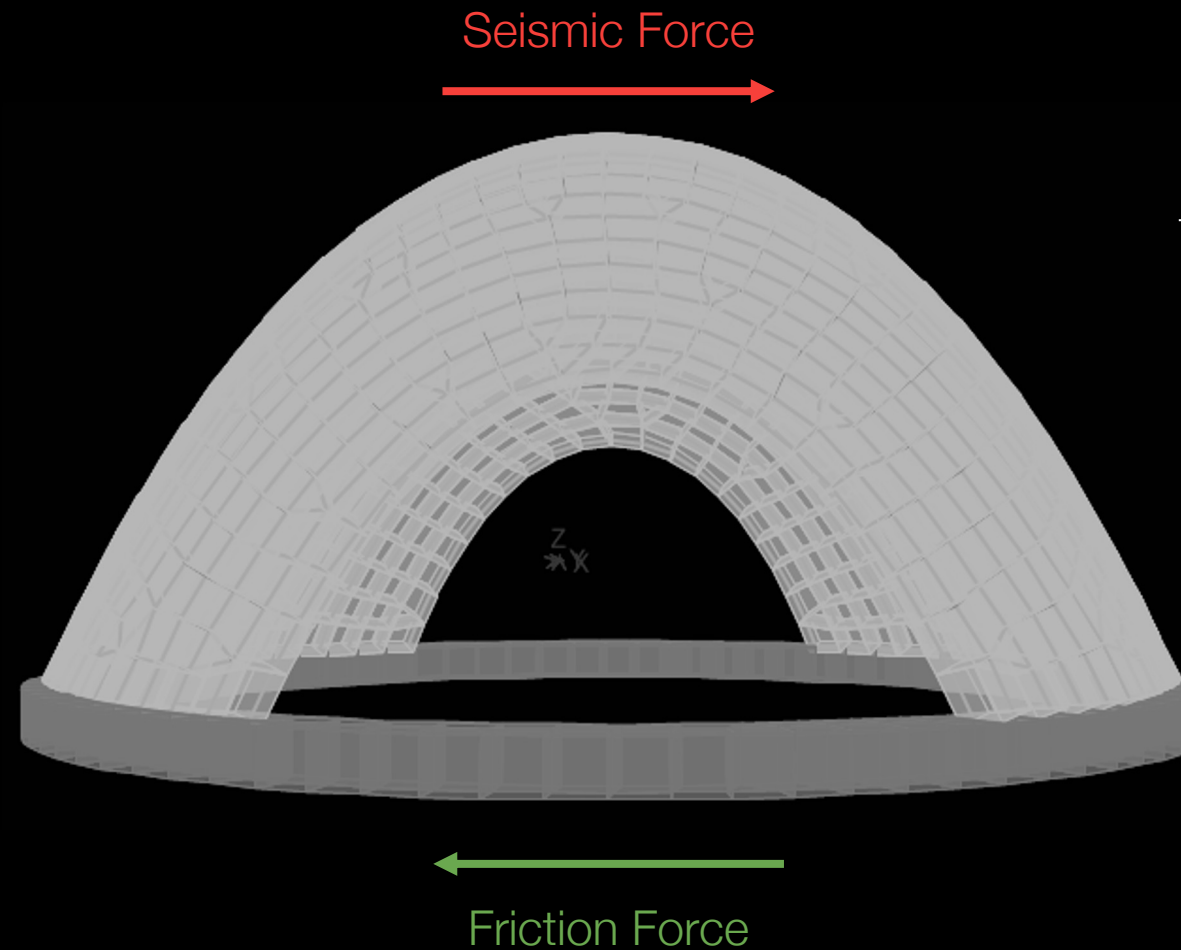
High Frequency/Short Period Structure

Geometrical Nonlinearity not included

Bearing Pressure due to Structural Weight

Structural Sliding

Assumed Regolith Coefficient of Friction = 0.2



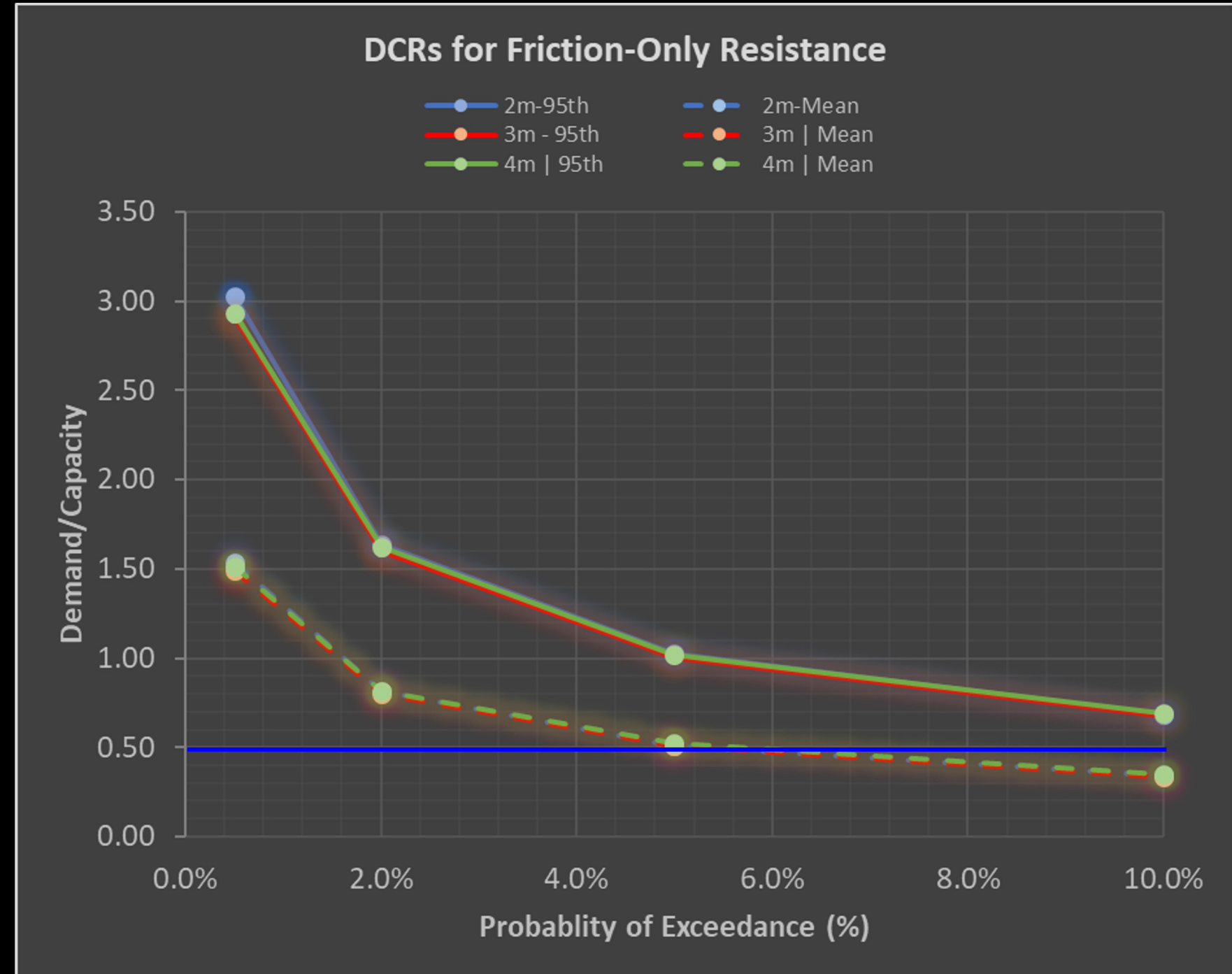
$$\frac{\text{Seismic Force}}{\text{Friction} + \text{Force}} = \frac{\text{Demand}}{\text{Capacity}}$$

Structural Analysis

Catenary Dome

Response Spectrum - Results

- Insufficient Friction Resistance
- Base Shear Offsets Foundation Depth Effect
- Safety Factor ≥ 2.0 (DCR ≤ 0.5)



Structural Analysis

Catenary Dome

Response Spectrum

Dynamic Analysis

High Frequency/Short Period Structure

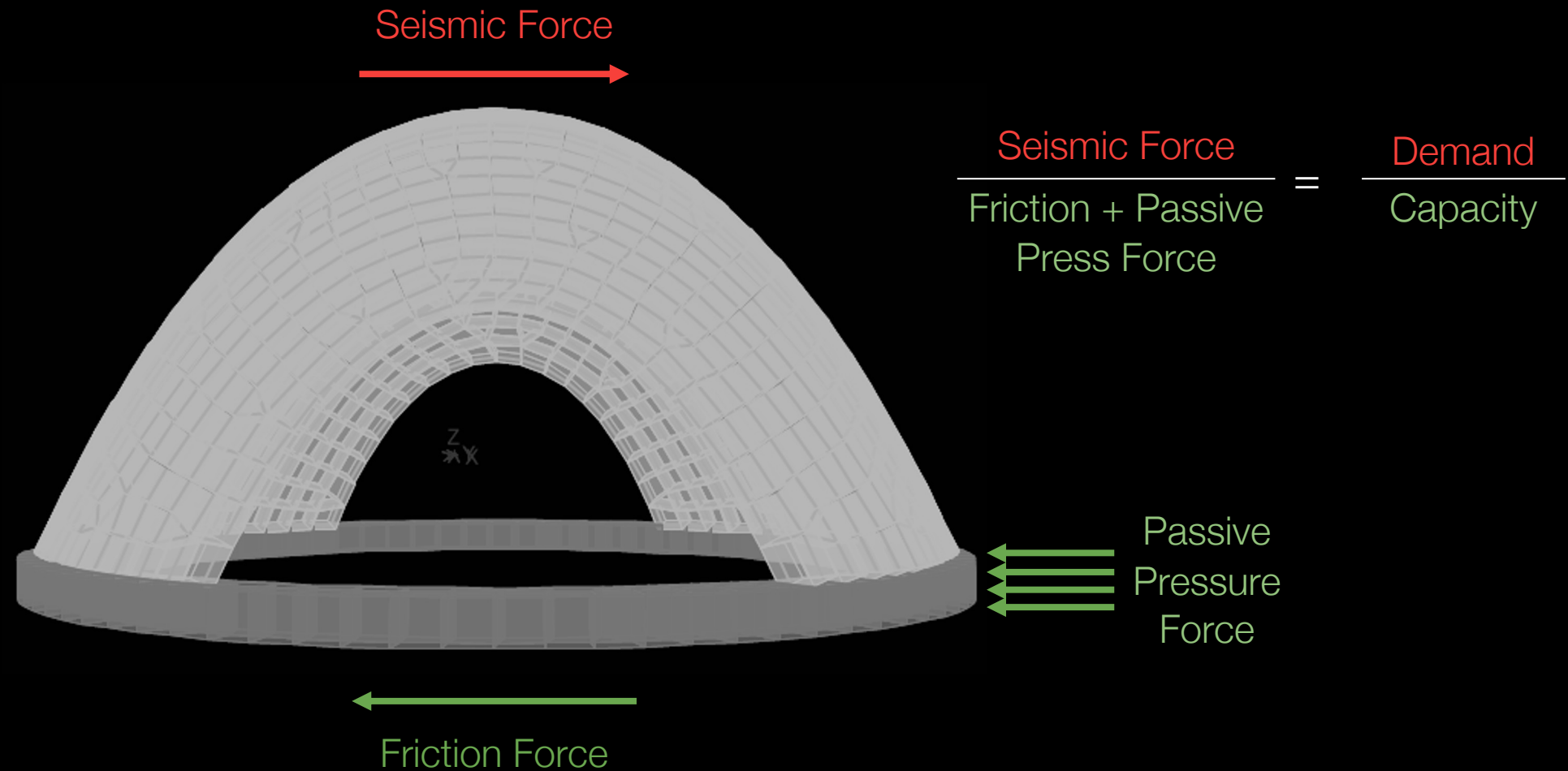
Geometrical Nonlinearity not included

Bearing Pressure due to Structural Weight

Structural Sliding

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Passive Pressure Force

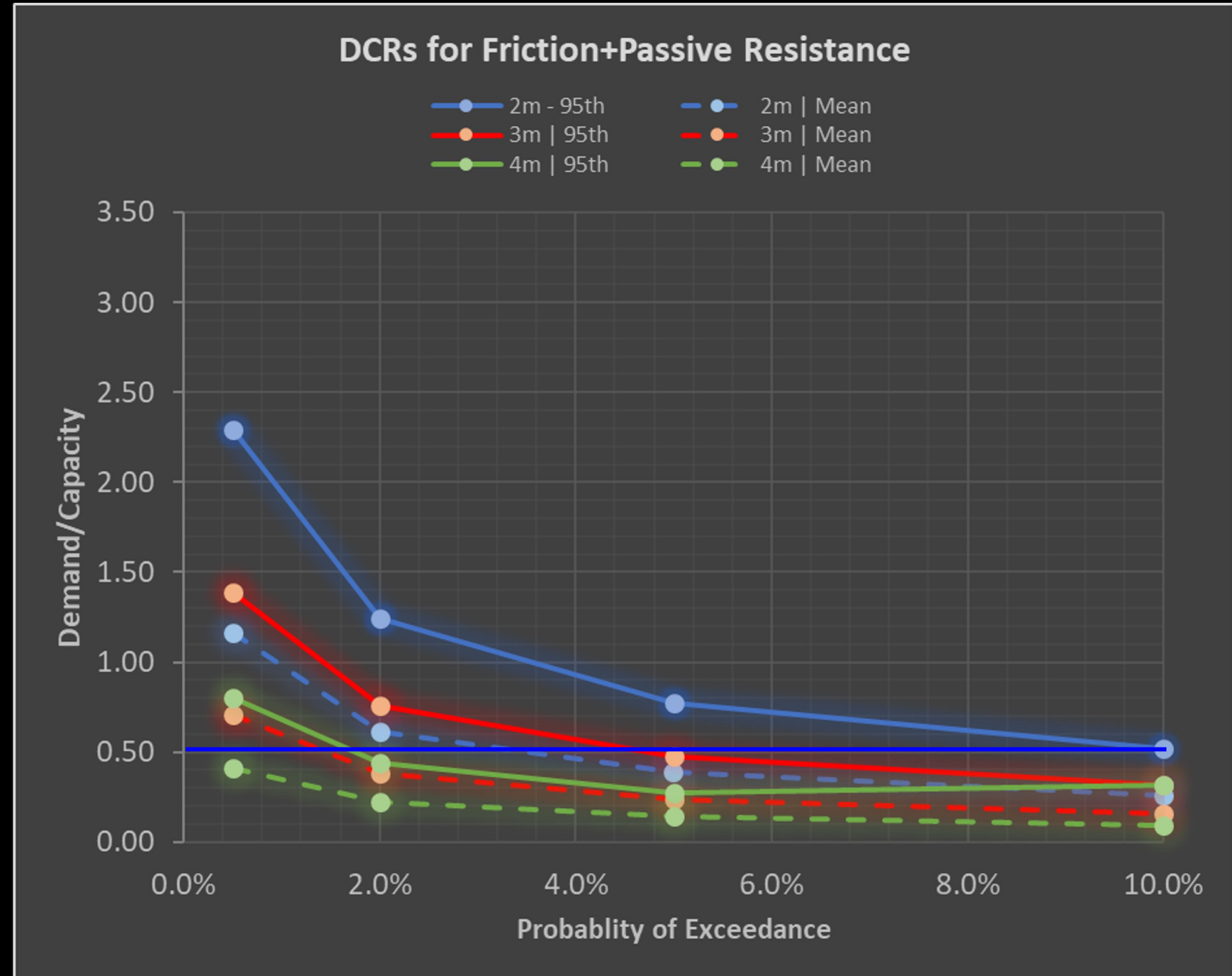


Structural Analysis

Catenary Dome

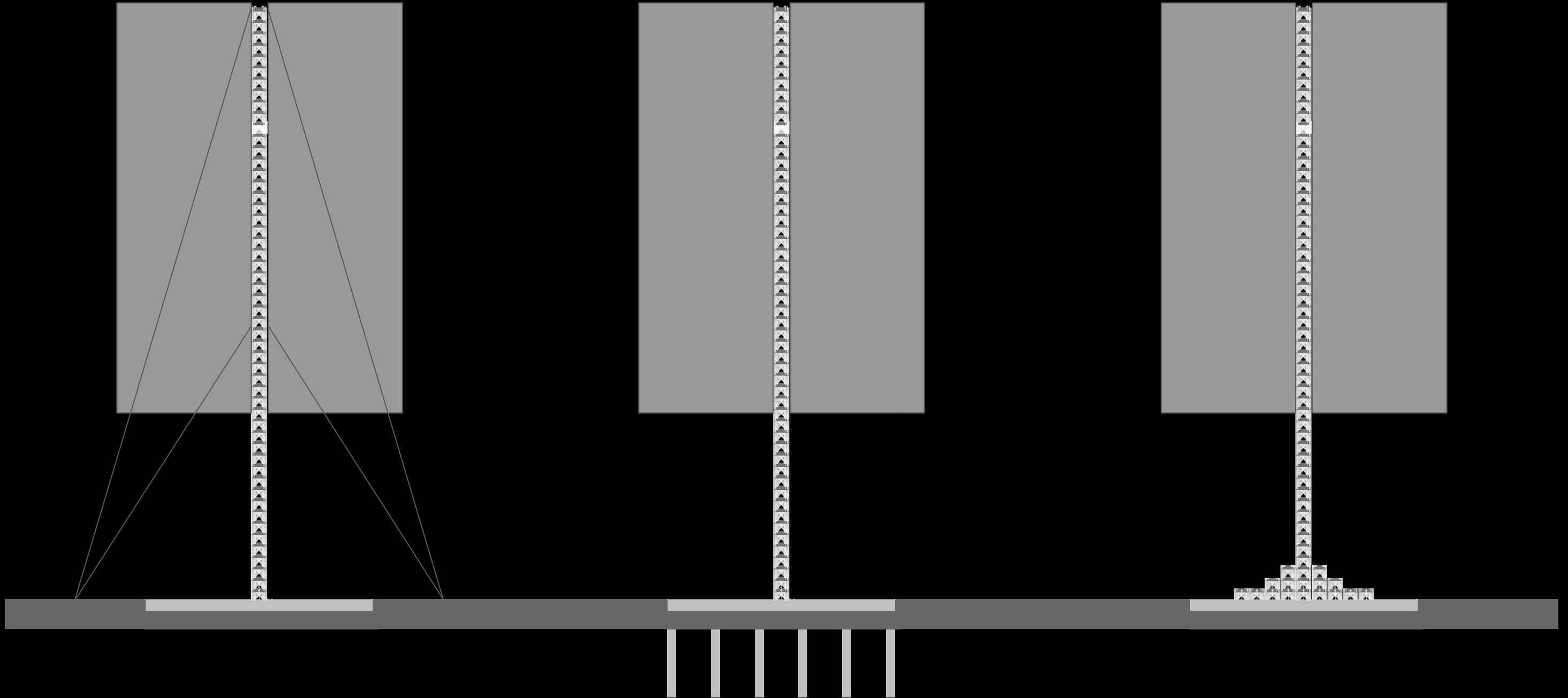
Response Spectrum - Results

- Combination of Friction and Passive Resistance
- Passive Resistance Depth Dependent
- Safety Factor ≥ 2.0 ($DCR \leq 0.5$)



Structural Analysis

Potential Solutions - Tall Lunar Tower



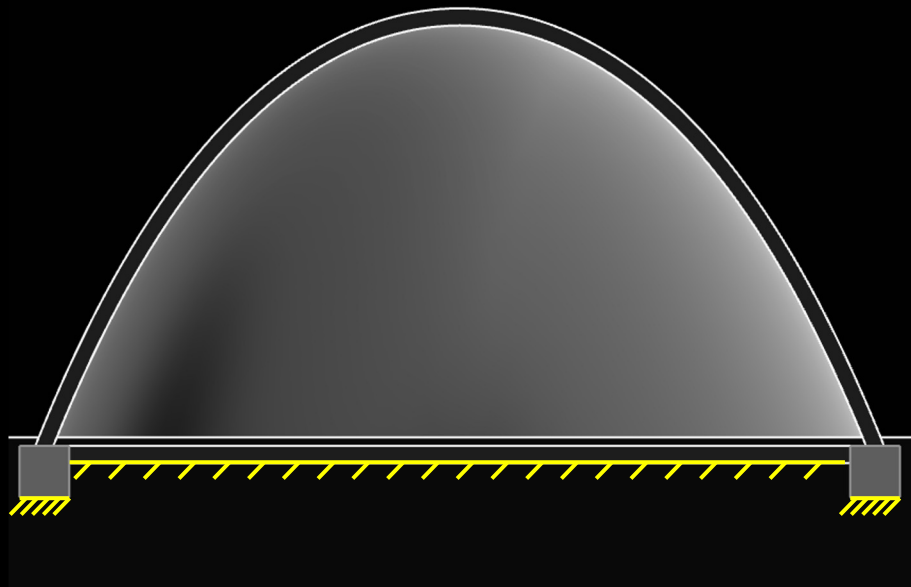
Addition of Guy-Wires

Addition of Substructure Tiedowns

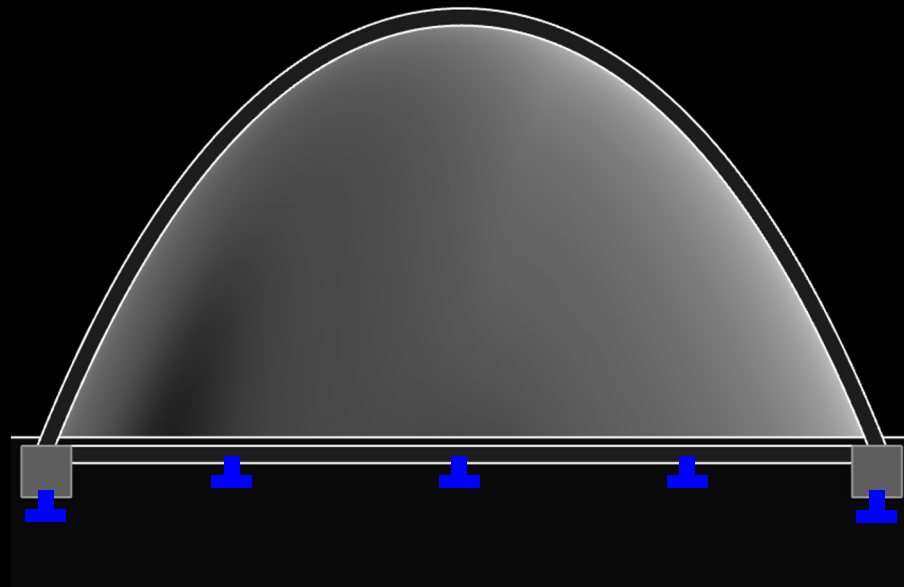
Addition of Ballast for Load Distribution

Structural Analysis

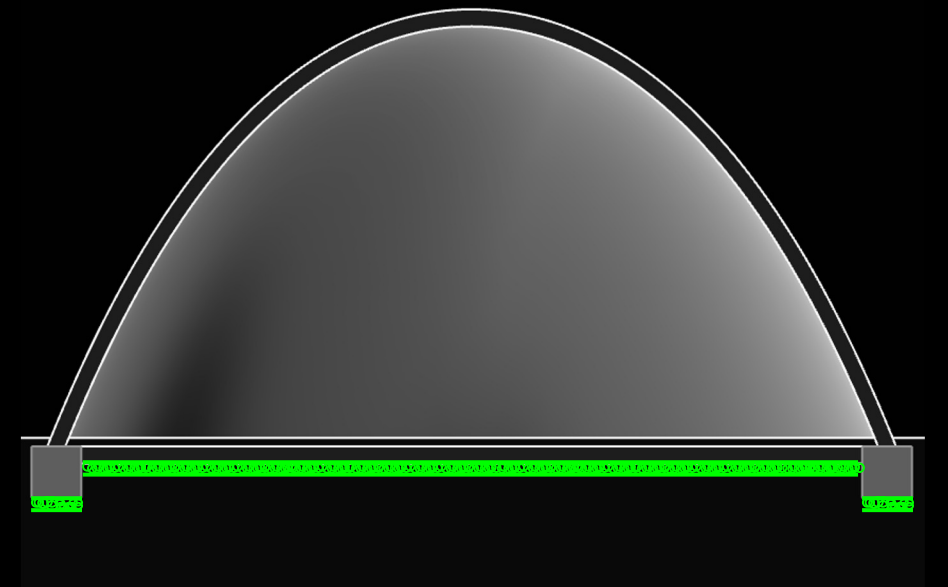
Potential Solutions - Catenary Dome



Increase in Foundation Friction

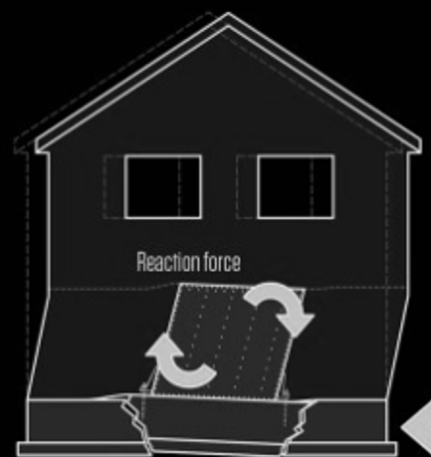


Addition of Shear Keys



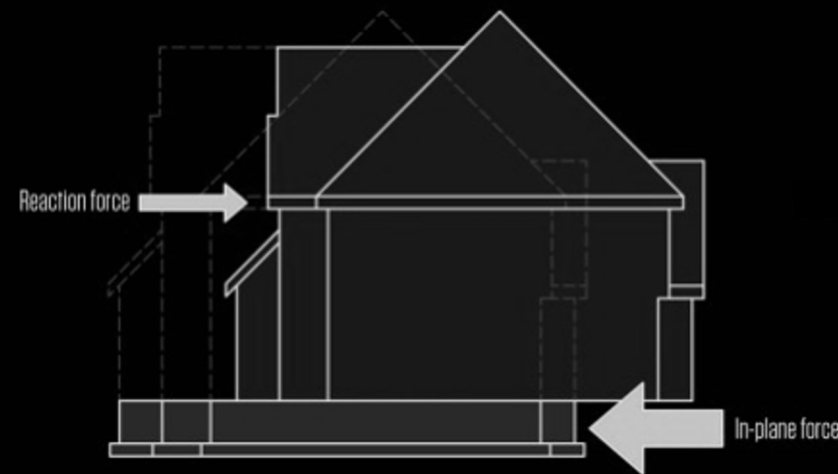
Seismic Isolation Plane

Lunar Effects of Seismic Force



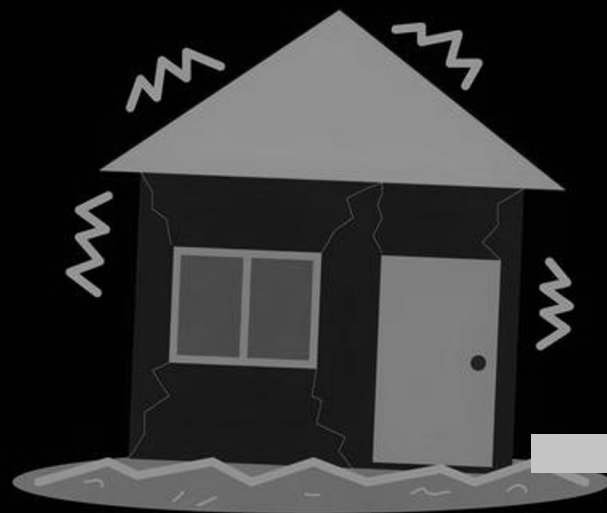
Overturning

Toppling from uplift.



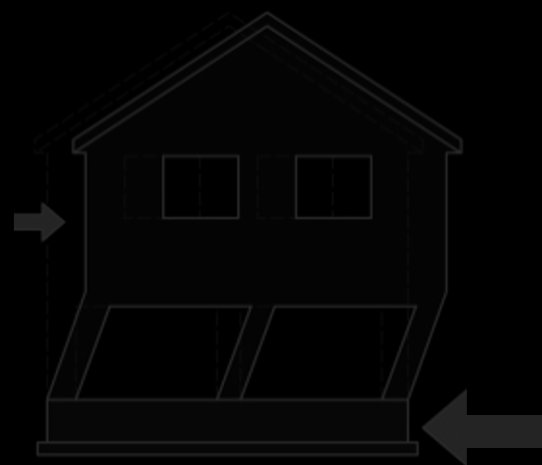
Sliding

Lateral movement at base.



Fatigue

Crack growth failure.



Soft-Story Failure

Weak lower level collapse



Racking

Distorted vertical frame.

Conclusion

Risk Category I	Buildings & other structures that represent a low hazard to human life in the event of failure
Risk Category II	Buildings & other structures that represent a sustained hazard to human life in the event of failure
Risk Category III	Buildings and other structures designated as Essential Facilities

Demand

- *What is the probability that the ground motion will exceed certain level?*
- *How frequent would we expect this level of shaking to occur?*

Performance

- *What level of damage is acceptable for a specific building Risk Category?*
- *How much repair is acceptable?*

	Fully Operational	Functional	Life Safety	Near Collapse
Frequent (10% in 50 years)		✗	Unacceptable Performance in New Buildings	✗
Occasional (5% in 50 years)				
Rare (2% in 50 years)			✗	✗
Very Rare (0.5% in 50 years)				

