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**TRANSPORTATION  
SYMPOSIUM**

## Evolution of Camber Estimation in Florida's Prestressed Beams

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Transportation Symposium  
Website



SCAN ME

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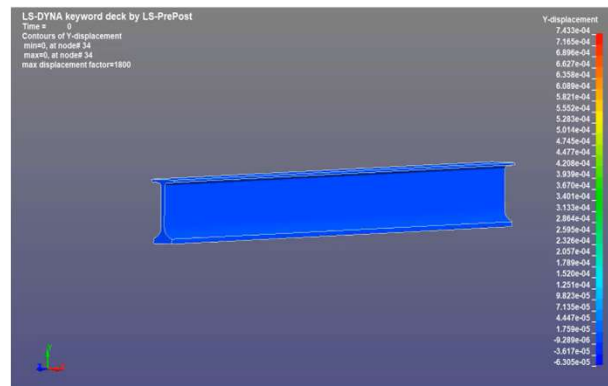
## Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

### What is it?

The camber of a beam is the upwards deflections of the beam resulting from the eccentric prestressing force (either pretension or post-tension).

### Why is it important?

Accurate camber estimates ensure the deck and build-up are placed as designed and ensure the bridge profile is met.



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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

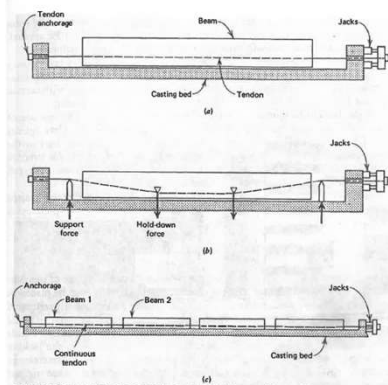


FIGURE 1.10 Methods of pretensioning. (a) Beam with straight tendon. (b) Beam with variable tendon eccentricity. (c) Long-line stressing and casting.

Nilson (1987)



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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

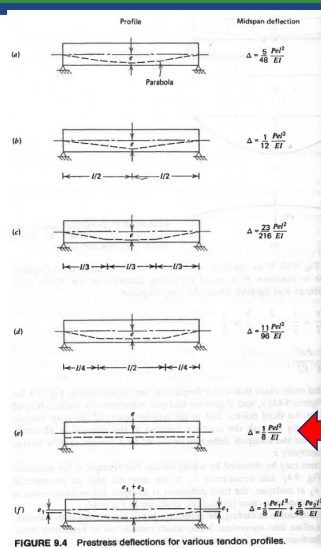


FIGURE 9.4 Prestress deflections for various tendon profiles.

Nilson (1987)

Straight strands  
are the preferred  
profile in FL  
standard Beams

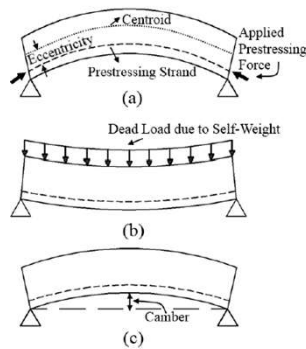
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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

Camber could be calculated as follows:



$$\Delta_{camber} = \frac{P \cdot e \cdot L^2}{8 \cdot E \cdot I}$$

$$\delta_{SW} = \frac{5 \cdot w \cdot L^4}{384 \cdot E}$$

P = Prestressing force (after loss)

e = Eccentricity of prestress force

L = Span length

E = Modulus of elasticity

I = Moment of inertia

w = Uniform load due to self-weight

L = Span length

E = Modulus of elasticity

I = Moment of inertia

$$\Delta_{net} = \Delta_{camber} - \delta_{SW}$$

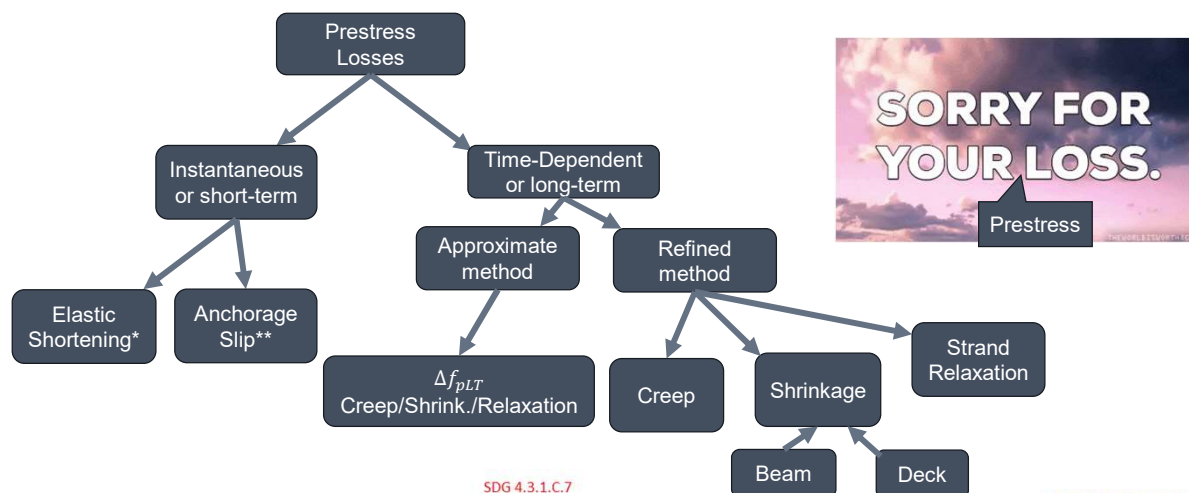
Honavar (2015)

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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams



\*Unless using transformed section properties

\*\*Typically only considered for post-tension

SDG 4.3.1.C.7

7. Stress and camber calculations for the design of simple span, pretensioned components must be based upon the use of transformed section properties.

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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

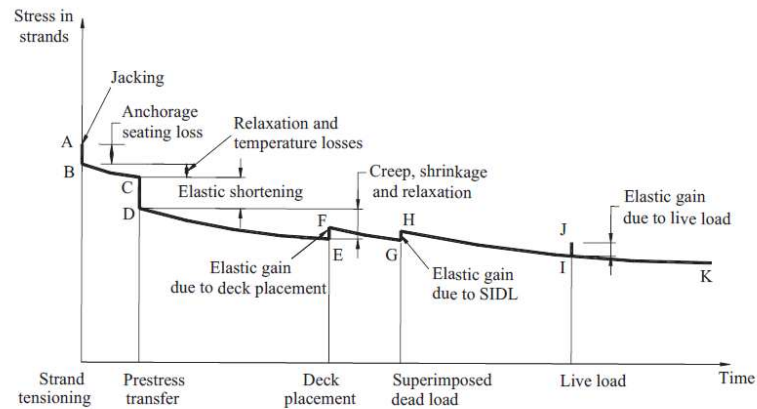


Figure 1. Stress versus time in the strands in a pretensioned concrete girder.

(NCHRP Report 496)

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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

## LRFD 5.9.3.4 – Refined Prestress Losses (pretension members)

$$\Delta f_{pT} = \Delta f_{pES} + \Delta f_{pLT}$$

LRFD 5.9.3.1-1

Elastic Shortening Time-Dependent

Time step from Release to Deck Placement

Time step from Deck Placement to final

$$\Delta f_{pLT} = (\Delta f_{pSR} + \Delta f_{pCR} + \Delta f_{pR1})_{id} + (\Delta f_{pSD} + \Delta f_{pCD} + \Delta f_{pR2} - \Delta f_{pSS})_{df}$$

LRFD 5.9.3.4.1-1

Shrinkage

Creep

Relax.

Shrinkage

Creep

Relax.

Shrinkage (deck)

Shrinkage: Loss of prestress associated with the drying shrinkage of concrete, the reduction of strain in the prestressing steel is equal to the shrinkage strain of concrete.

Creep: Loss of prestress resulting from the gradual, time-dependent deformation of concrete under sustained stress.

Strand Relaxation: Loss of prestress in strands under sustained load while held at constant length.

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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

## LRFD 5.9.3.3 – Approximate Method of time dependent losses

### SDG 4.3.1.C.6

6. When calculating the Service Limit State capacity for pretensioned concrete flat slabs and girders, use the transformed section properties as follows: at strand transfer; for calculation of prestress losses; for live load application. For precast, pretensioned, normal weight concrete members designed as simply supported beams, use LRFD 5.9.3.3, Approximate Estimate of Time-Dependent Losses. For all other members use LRFD 5.9.3.4 with a 180-day differential between girder concrete casting and placement of the deck concrete.

*Commentary: The FDOT cannot practically control, nor require the Contractor to control, the construction sequence and materials for simple span precast, prestressed beams. To benefit from the use of refined time-dependent analysis, literally every prestressed beam design would have to be re-analyzed using the proper construction times, temperature, humidity, material properties, etc. of both the beam and the yet-to-be-cast composite slab.*

$$\Delta f_{pLT} = \frac{10 \cdot f_{pi} \cdot A_{ps}}{A_g} \gamma_h \cdot \gamma_{st} + 12 \cdot \gamma_h \cdot \gamma_{st} + \Delta f_{pR}$$

$$\gamma_h = 1.7 - 0.01 \cdot H$$

$$\gamma_{st} = \frac{5}{(1 + f_{ci})}$$

$f_{pi}$  = prestressing steel stress immediately prior to transfer (ksi)

$\gamma_h$  = correction factor for relative humidity of the ambient air

$\gamma_{st}$  = correction factor for specified concrete strength at time of prestress transfer to the concrete member

$\Delta f_{pR}$  = an estimate of relaxation loss taken as 2.4 ksi for low relaxation strand and in accordance with manufacturers recommendation for other types of strand (ksi)

$H$  = average annual ambient relative humidity (percent)

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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

Prestress Losses Comparison

Beam	Spacing (ft)	Span (ft)	D/C for Moment	D/C for Ser III w/ PS+DL+0.8LL	PS+DL+1.0
FSB12x53	-	40	0.81	0.95	1.03
FSB15x53	-	50	0.85	0.97	1.05
FSB18x53	-	60	0.89	0.97	1.06
Type II	7	60	0.85	0.89	0.99
FIB36	8	97	0.84	0.96	1.06
FIB45	8	117	0.83	0.95	1.04
FIB54	8	132	0.87	0.98	1.07
FIB63	8	145	0.86	0.97	1.05
FIB72	8	163	0.85	0.97	1.04
FIB78	8	172	0.85	0.97	1.03
FIB84	8	181	0.83	0.95	1.02
FIB96	8	198	0.84	0.97	1.03
FIB96	12	178	0.81	0.95	1.02

Beam	Difference
FSB12x53	-1%
FSB15x53	-5%
FSB18x53	-4%
Type II	-8%
FIB36	6%
FIB45	10%
FIB54	11%
FIB63	11%
FIB72	14%
FIB78	15%
FIB84	15%
FIB96	17%
FIB96	9%

Refined totals				Approx. totals		
Time-Dependent Losses (ksi)				Simplified	Total	Difference
pCD	Δf.pR2	Δf.pSS	Δf.pSS WAI 227			
.24	1.56	0.08	0.02	21.48	21.16	-1%
.23	1.55	-0.05	-0.01	22.17	20.99	-5%
.16	1.53	-0.02	-0.01	22.47	21.63	-4%
.54	1.43	-0.96	-0.28	23.66	21.86	-8%
.04	1.34	-0.98	-0.28	24.13	25.68	6%
.00	1.31	-0.89	-0.26	24.57	26.99	10%
.75	1.36	-0.91	-0.26	23.33	25.88	11%
.69	1.38	-0.91	-0.26	22.92	25.51	11%
.63	1.36	-0.88	-0.26	23.09	26.30	14%
.59	1.37	-0.89	-0.26	22.91	26.25	15%
.60	1.36	-0.88	-0.26	22.99	26.45	15%
.48	1.38	-0.90	-0.26	22.37	26.09	17%
.74	1.30	-0.99	-0.29	24.42	26.58	9%

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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

**Table 8.7.1-1**  
Suggested Multipliers to be Used as a Guide in  
Estimating Long-Term Cambers and Deflections for Typical Members

	Without Composite Topping	With Composite Topping
At erection:		
(1) Deflection (↓) component—apply to the elastic deflection due to the member weight at transfer of prestress	1.85	1.85
(2) Camber (↑) component—apply to the elastic camber due to prestress at the time of transfer of prestress	1.80	1.80
Final:		
(3) Deflection (↓) component—apply to the elastic deflection due to the member weight at transfer of prestress	2.70	2.40
(4) Camber (↑) component—apply to the elastic camber due to prestress at the time of transfer of prestress	2.45	2.20
(5) Deflection (↓) component—apply to elastic deflection due to superimposed dead load only	3.00	3.00
(6) Deflection (↓) component—apply to elastic deflection caused by the composite topping	—	2.30

PCI (2023)

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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams



FDOT LRFD Prestressed Beam Program v6.2

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Subscript "t" is a time step  
e.g. from 0 days to 30 days

$$\Delta_t = \Delta_{pe} + \frac{\Delta_{pi} + \Delta_{pe}}{2} C_t - \Delta_{sw}(1 + C_t)$$

Losses based on  
Approx. method

Creep Coefficient applied to  
both camber and self-weight  
deflections

Field Verification of Camber  
Estimates for Prestressed Concrete  
Bridge Girders (Cook 2005)

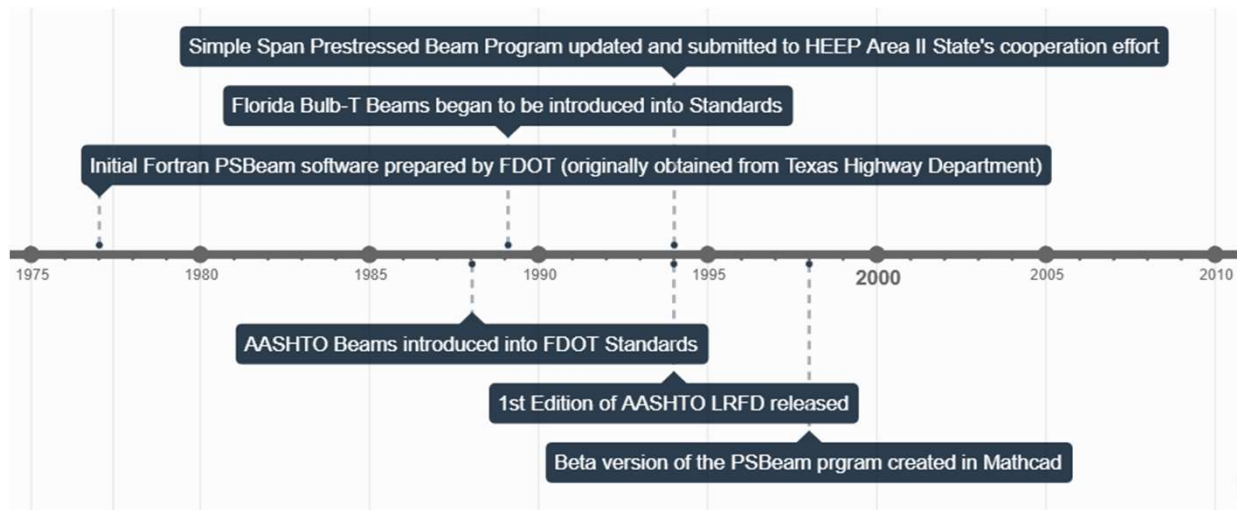
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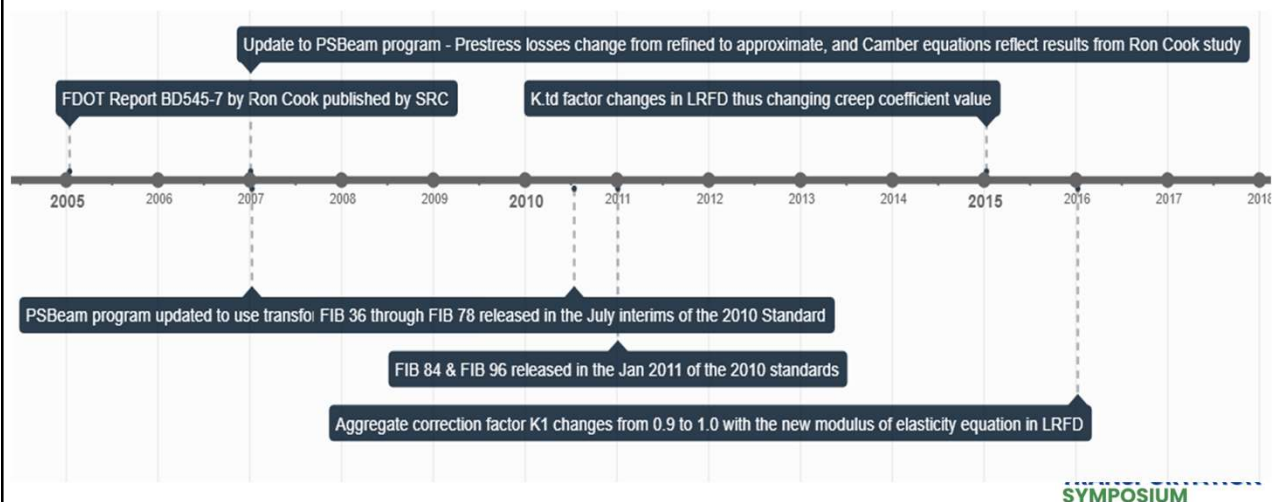
# History of Camber Estimation in Florida



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# History of Camber Estimation in Florida



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# History of Camber Estimation in Florida

The screenshot displays the 'camber.for' software interface. The main window shows input data for a beam design, including span, bearing, and material properties. A smaller window titled 'pbeam32 - [Graphic]' shows a graphical representation of the beam. A third window titled 'camber.for' displays the output results, including beam design parameters and camber estimation values.

**Input Data (from camber.for window):**

```

JENSEN BEACH CHECK 78" BULB-T BEAM
* TYPICAL SPAN 147.64' (45m) 145.05' SPAN CL BEARING TO CL BEARING
* 8.5"/8.0" SLAB 8 BEAMS AT 10.22' LL DIST FACTOR = 5/5.5 W/ 5KLL
1934638001104 78 4041375928 7 8 10 60 3 4 3
26/10 1270 150 150 55008500 30 30 200 -3 D60 16 10
7101010 8 4 7461
7 8 8 8 6 4 32
7 1 1 1 1 1 1
NS145051022 800HS-201 164 0177 0213
  
```

**Output Results (from camber.for window):**

```

***** LOW - RELAXATION *****

*** BEAM DESIGN ***
TYPE OF BEAM = NS
NO. OF STRANDS = 49
SIZE OF STRANDS & PULL = 6/10 IN AT 43950 LB
TYPE OF STRANDS = 270K
ECCENTRICITY AT C.L. = 33.70 IN
ECCENTRICITY AT SUP. = 25.30 IN
ECCENTRICITY AT END = 25.18 IN
NO. OF DERESSED STRANDS = 7
DEPRESS TOP 1 STRANDS TO POSITION @ 74.61 IN
CONCRETE RELEASE STRENGTH = 6800 PSI
CONCRETE 28-DAY STRENGTH = 8500 PSI
HOLD DOWN FROM C. L. = 16.40 FT
BEAM END TO CTR BEARING = 9.25 IN
SHIELD LENGTH FROM CTR BRG = 32.00 FT
MAX. END TENSION AT REL. = -990 PSI
MAX. CTR TENSION AT REL. = -495 PSI

D.L. DEFLECTION AT MID-SPAN = 2.351 IN (SLAB) 0.000 IN (DIAP)
D.L. DEFLECTION AT 1/4 PT. = 1.675 IN (SLAB) 0.000 IN (DIAP)
ULTIMATE MOMENT REQUIRED = 14611. FT-KIPS
ULTIMATE MOMENT PROVIDED = 18332. FT-KIPS UNDER REINF. RECT. SECT.
1.2 TIMES CRACKING MOMENT = 11580. FT-KIPS
STIRRUP SPACING AT 43.94 INCHES
FROM FACE OF SUPPORT = NO. 4 (GR. 60) AT 5.45 IN. (ONE BAR)
TOP FIBER DESIGN STRESS (C.L.) = 3374 PSI
BOTTOM FIBER DESIGN STRESS (C.L.) = 4466 PSI

PRESTRESS LOSS = 24.19 PERCENT
LOSS AT RELEASE = 18.12 PERCENT

AGE OF BEAM CONCRETE RELEASE 30 DAYS 60 DAYS 120 DAYS 240 DAYS
NET CAMBER (POSTRES-BEAM) IN. 3.70 5.24 5.58 5.93 6.35
BUILD-UP REQD (CAMBER-SL-DE) IN. 2.89 3.23 3.58 4.00

ELASTIC AND TIME-DEPENDENT SHORTENING EFFECTS (EST.) IN. 0.89 1.38 1.49 1.60 1.71
  
```

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# History of Camber Estimation in Florida

## THE DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF SIMPLE SPAN PRESTRESSED CONCRETE BEAMS COMPUTER PROGRAM USER'S MANUAL

Version 2.50

### Depressed Strand Design and Analysis

Prepared By  
A. J. Haywood, P.E.  
W. L. Woolery, P.E.

### Straight Strand Design and Analysis

Prepared By  
R. E. Nichols, P.E.  
L. Y. Hsia, P.E.

UPDATED BY  
R. E. Nichols, P.E.  
L. Y. Hsia, P.E.

Structures Design Office  
Florida Department of Transportation  
May 1994

By definition, the net camber at beam ages of release 30 days, 60 days, 120 days and 240 days is reported as:

$$C_{max} = C_1(\Delta P - \Delta S) - C_2(\Delta B)$$

Factor to account for debonded/draped strands

Dead load deflection

$C_1$  and  $C_2$  are values at time "t" to account for the "aging" modulus of the beam concrete and the creep effect of Florida concrete materials as related to time. By definition, the values are:

Table 1-2 Camber Constants  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$

BEAM AGE IN DAYS	$C_1$	$C_2$
Release	1.35	1.22
30	2.09	2.07
60	2.26	2.27
120	2.43	2.47
240	2.60	2.64

Manual for The Design and Analysis of Simple Span Prestressed Concrete Beams Computer Program V2.5 (FDOT-1994)

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# History of Camber Estimation in Florida

Table 5.9.5.3-1 - Time-Dependent Losses in MPa

Type of Beam Section	Level	For Wires and Strands with $f_{py} = 1620, 1725 \text{ or } 1680 \text{ MPa}$	For Bars with $f_{py} = 1000 \text{ or } 1100 \text{ MPa}$
Rectangular Beams and Solid Slabs	Upper Bound Average	200 + 28 PPR 180 + 28 PPR	130 + 41 PPR
Box Girder	Upper Bound Average	145 + 28 PPR 130 + 28 PPR	100
I-Girder	Average	$230 \left[ 1 - 0.15 \frac{f'_c - 41}{41} \right] + 41 \text{ PPR}$	130 + 41 PPR
Single T, Double T, Hollow Core and Voids Slab	Upper Bound Average	$270 \left[ 1.0 - 0.15 \frac{f'_c - 41}{41} \right] + 41 \text{ PPR}$ $230 \left[ 1.0 - 0.15 \frac{f'_c - 41}{41} \right] + 41 \text{ PPR}$	$210 \left[ 1.0 - 0.15 \frac{f'_c - 41}{41} \right] + 41 \text{ PPR}$

Approximate

1st Ed. AASHTO LRFD (1994)

## 5.9.5.4.2 Shrinkage

Loss of prestress due to shrinkage may be taken as:

- for pretensioned members:  

$$\Delta f_{psR} = (117 - 1.03 H) \text{ (MPa)} \quad (5.9.5.4.2-1)$$

- for post-tensioned members:  

$$\Delta f_{psR} = (93 - 0.85 H) \text{ (MPa)} \quad (5.9.5.4.2-2)$$

where:

H = the average annual ambient relative humidity (%)

## 5.9.5.4.3 Creep

Prestress loss due to creep may be taken as:

$$\Delta f_{PCR} = 12.0 f_{cp} - 7.0 \Delta f_{csp} \geq 0 \quad (5.9.5.4.3-1)$$

where:

$f_{cp}$  = concrete stress at center of gravity of prestressing steel at transfer (MPa)

$\Delta f_{csp}$  = change in concrete stress at center of gravity of prestressing steel due to permanent loads, except the load acting at the time the prestressing force is applied. Values of  $\Delta f_{csp}$  should be calculated at the same section or sections for which  $f_{cp}$  is calculated (MPa).

## 5.9.5.4.4 Relaxation

### 5.9.5.4.4a General

The total relaxation at any time after transfer shall be taken as the sum of the losses specified in Articles 5.9.5.4.4b and 5.9.5.4.4c.

### 5.9.5.4.4b At Transfer

In pretensioned members, the relaxation loss in prestressing steel, initially stressed in excess of  $0.50 f_{py}$ , may be taken as:

- for stress-relieved strand:

$$\Delta f_{psR} = \frac{\log(24.0t)}{10.0} \left[ \frac{f_H}{f_{py}} - 0.55 \right] f_H \quad (5.9.5.4.4b-1)$$

- for low-relaxation strand:

$$\Delta f_{psR} = \frac{\log(24.0t)}{40.0} \left[ \frac{f_H}{f_{py}} - 0.55 \right] f_H \quad (5.9.5.4.4b-2)$$

where:

t = time estimated in days from stressing to transfer (DAYS)

$f_H$  = initial stress in the tendon at the end of stressing (MPa)

$f_{py}$  = specified yield strength of prestressing steel (MPa)

Refined

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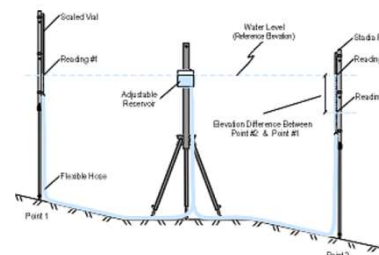
# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

How and when is it measured?



Optical targets with theodolite

(Cook-2005)



Water manometer level

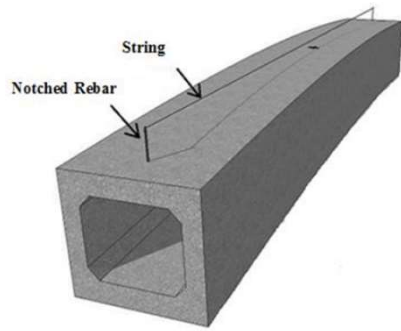
(Cook-2005)

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## Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams



String line approach  
(Rizkalla 2011)

### 8.3.2.1 Camber Measurement Procedure

The currently adopted camber measurement method is not consistent. The measurement technique and the location on the PPCBs from which the measurements are taken vary. By observing and taking independent camber measurements, this study concluded that the error in camber arising from the measurement technique used by the precasters and contractors was about 26%, on average. To eliminate the difference in camber values due to the measurement technique, the researchers developed a simplified procedure that both precasters and contractors can use to accurately measure the camber and minimize any error associated with the measurement technique. The following are recommendations for the new camber measurement procedure:

(Honavar 2015)

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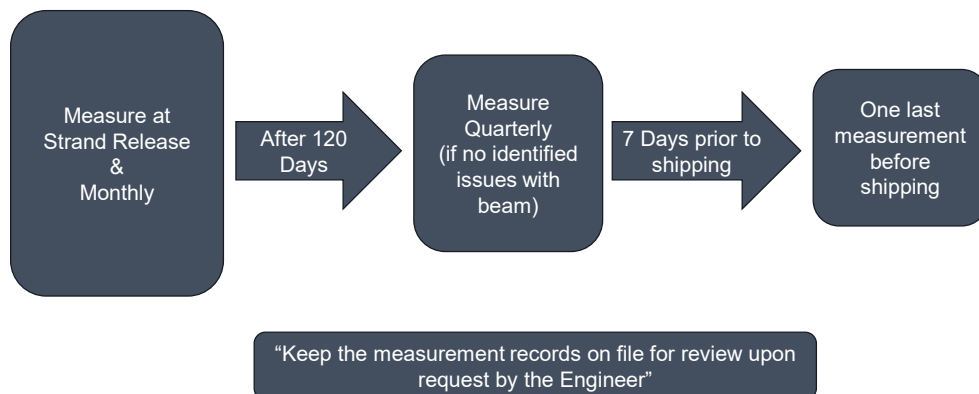
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## Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

### Frequency of Camber Measurements (per FDOT Spec 450)



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# Fundamentals of Camber in Prestressed Beams

SDG

## 4.3.2 Beam Camber/Build-Up over Beams

A. Unless otherwise required as a design parameter, beam camber for computing the build-up shown on the plans must be based on 120-day old beam concrete.

### Modification for Non-Conventional Projects:

Delete SDG 4.3.2.A.

B. On the build-up detail, show the age of beam concrete used for camber calculations as well as the value of camber due to prestressing minus the dead load deflection of the beam.

C. Consider the effects of horizontal curvature with bridge deck cross slope when determining the minimum buildup over the tip of the inside flange.

*Commentary: In the past, the FDOT has experienced significant deck construction problems associated with excessive prestressed, pretensioned beam camber. The use of straight strand beam designs, higher strength materials permitting longer spans, stage construction, long storage periods, improperly placed dunnage, and construction delays are some of the factors that have contributed to camber growth. Actual camber at the time of casting the deck equal to 2 to 3 times the initial camber at release is not uncommon.*

D. Design pretensioned beams so that the theoretical design camber at the end of construction is positive (upward) after all non-composite and composite dead loads are applied.

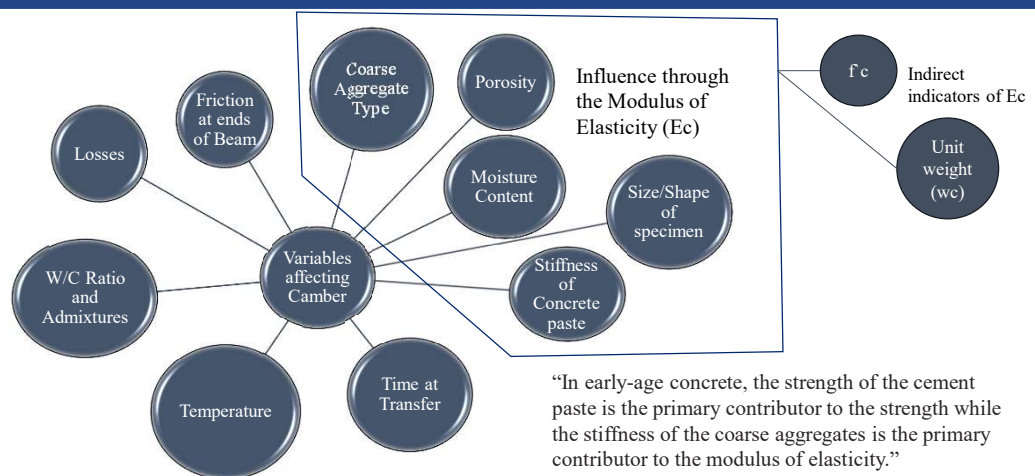


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# Inevitable Camber Variations

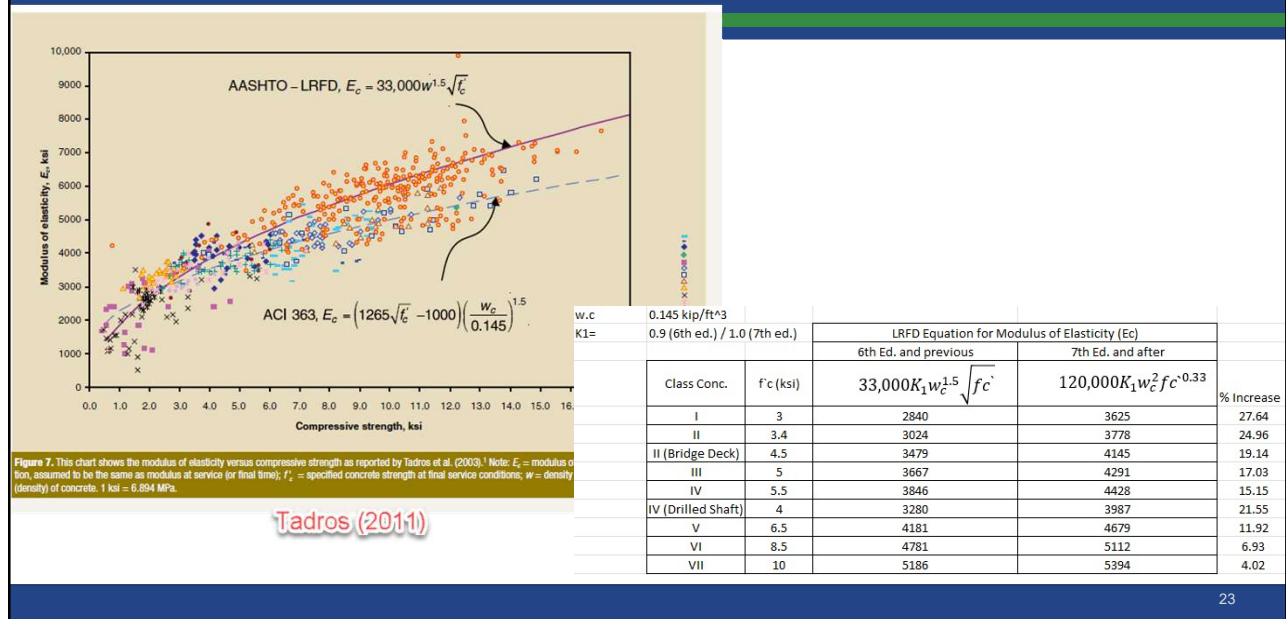


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# Inevitable Camber Variations



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# Inevitable Camber Variations

## FDOT Standard Specifications

**346-9.7 Structural Adequacy:** The Engineer will evaluate the structural adequacy for verified concrete that does not meet the minimum specified compressive strength of Table 346-3.

For structural adequacy, with standard molded and cured compressive strength cylinders, the compressive strength of concrete is satisfactory provided that the two following criteria are met:

1. The average compressive strength does not fall below the specified minimum compressive strength by more than:
  - a. 500 psi if the specified minimum compressive strength is equal to or less than 5,000 psi.

- b. 10% of the specified minimum compressive strength if the specified minimum compressive strength is greater than 5,000 psi.

2. The average compressive strength with the previous two LOTs is equal to or exceeds the specified minimum compressive strength. This condition only applies if there are two or more previous LOTs to calculate the average.

The Engineer will consider the concrete for a given LOT as structurally adequate and coring will not be allowed when a concrete compressive strength test result falls below the specified minimum strength but has met the above conditions.

Class VI ( $f'_c = 8,500$ )

$$8,500 - 0.10 \cdot 8,500 = 7,650 \text{ psi}$$

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# Inevitable Camber Variations

FDOT Materials Manual

## 9.2.7 MIX DESIGNS

### 9.2.7.1 General

Concrete mix designs shall meet the requirements of *Specification Section 346*. Plants may follow ACI 301 Section 4, and ACI 211 as guidelines to design concrete mixes.

When the Engineer determines that unsatisfactory results are obtained during production, the mix design approval will be rescinded.

Design a concrete mix to provide a required compressive strength ( $f_{cr}$ ) that exceeds the specified minimum compressive strength ( $f_c$ ) by the overdress value:

$$f_{cr} = f_c + \text{Overdress}$$

Proceed as follows to select the overdress value in concrete mixes:

- (1) For a class of concrete, submit compressive strength field test data for the past 24 months and spanning no less than 45 calendar days, to determine the standard deviation. The  $f_c$  is required to be within 1,000 psi. The strength test data represents either a group of at least 30 consecutive tests or a statistical average for two groups totaling 30 or more tests. Determine the overdress as follows:
  - a. When  $f_c$  is equal to or less than 5,000 psi.

$$\text{Overdress} = 2.33 \times \text{Standard Deviation} - 500 \text{ psi}$$

- b. When  $f_c$  is greater than 5,000 psi.

$$\text{Overdress} = 2.33 \times \text{Standard Deviation} - 0.10 f_c$$

- (2) Use Table 1 at the concrete producer's option, or when the concrete producer has no records of field strength tests performed within the past 24 months and spanning no less than 45 calendar days for a class of concrete within 1,000 psi of that  $f_c$ .

FDOT Materials Manual

Class of Concrete	$f_c$ (psi)	Overdress (psi)	$f_{cr}$ (psi)	Maximum Allowable Compressive Strength (psi)
I Seal	3,000	1,200	4,200	5,200
I Pavement	3,000	Not Specified	Not Specified	5,200
II	3,400	1,200	4,600	5,700
II Bridge Deck	4,500	1,200	5,700	6,750
III	5,000	1,200	6,200	6,750
IV	5,500	1,250	6,750	7,850
IV Drilled Shaft	4,000	1,200	5,200	6,200
V	6,500	1,350	7,850	10,050
VI	8,500	1,550	10,050	11,700
VII	10,000	1,700	11,700	13,000

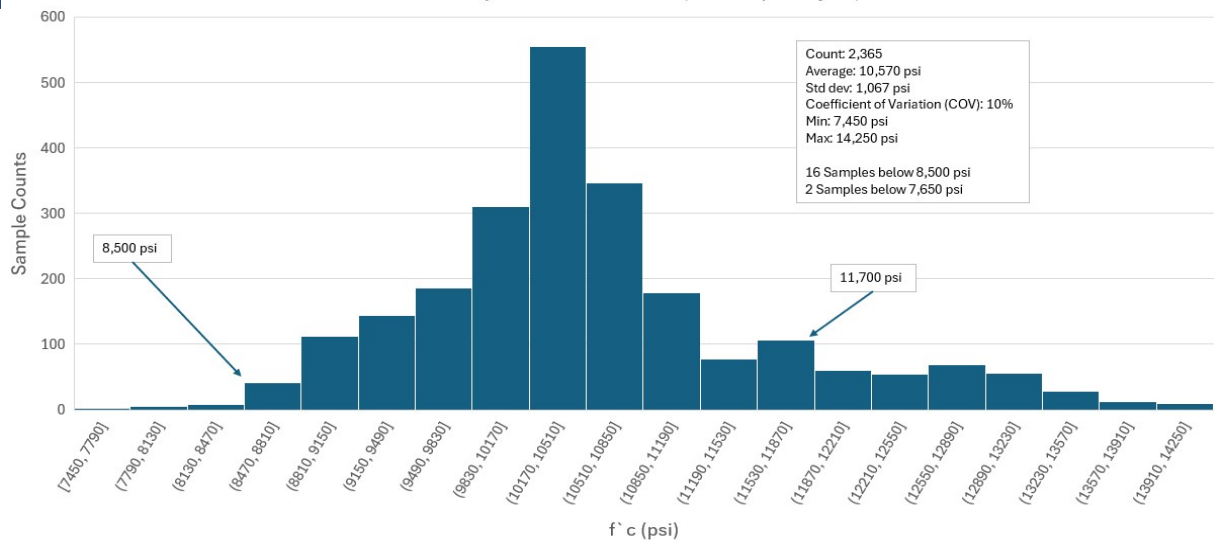
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# Inevitable Camber Variations

Distribution of  $f_c$  results for Class VI (over the past 1 year)



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# Inevitable Camber Variations

Example  $f'c$  vs  $\Delta_{Camber}$  Calculation (ignoring losses)

$$\Delta_{Camber} = \frac{P \cdot e \cdot L^2}{8 \cdot E \cdot I}$$

$$\delta_{SW} = \frac{5 \cdot w \cdot L^4}{384 \cdot E \cdot I}$$

P = Prestressing force (after loss)  
e = Eccentricity of prestress force  
L = Span length  
E = Modulus of elasticity  
I = Moment of inertia  
  
w = Uniform load due to self-weight  
L = Span length  
E = Modulus of elasticity  
I = Moment of inertia

$$\Delta_{net} = \Delta_{Camber} - \delta_{SW}$$

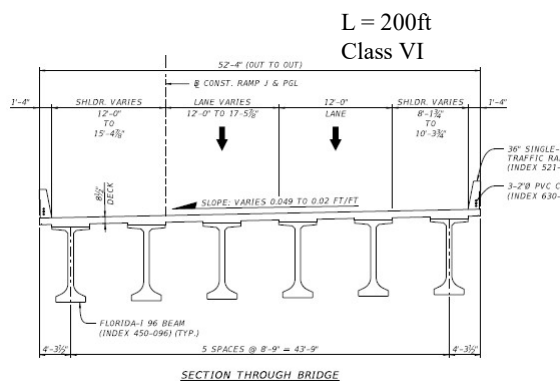
	$f'c$ (ksi)	E (ksi)	$\Delta_{Camber}$ (in.)	$\delta_{SW}$ (in.)	$\Delta_{net}$ (in.)
$f'c \downarrow \Delta_{Camber} \uparrow$	8.5	5,112	3.10	2.03	1.07
$f'c \uparrow \Delta_{Camber} \downarrow$	12.70	5,837	2.72	1.78	0.94
Diff.	4.2	725	0.38	0.25	0.13

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# Inevitable Camber Variations



BUILD-UP & DEFLECTION DATA TABLE FOR PRESTRESSED I-BEAMS							TABLE DATE 7-01-17	
LOCATION		REQUIRED THEORETICAL BUILD-UP OVER Q BEAM			NET BEAM CAMBER (PRESTRESS - DEAD LOAD OF BEAM) @ RELEASE	NET BEAM CAMBER (PRESTRESS - DEAD LOAD OF BEAM) @ 120 DAYS	DEAD LOAD DEFLECTION DURING DECK POUR @ 120 DAYS DIM A	BUILD-UP CASE NO.
SPAN NO.	BEAM NO.	AT BEGIN SPAN DIM B	AT Q SPAN DIM C	AT END SPAN DIM D				
1	1	1 3/4"	3"	1 1/8"	2 3/8"	5 1/2"	3 3/8"	4
1	2	1 3/4"	4 3/8"	1"	2 3/8"	5 1/2"	4 3/8"	4
1	3	1 3/4"	5 1/4"	1"	2 3/8"	5 1/2"	4 3/8"	4
1	4	1 3/4"	5 1/4"	1"	2 3/8"	5 1/2"	4 3/8"	4
1	5	1 3/4"	4 3/8"	1"	2 3/8"	5 1/2"	4 3/8"	4
1	6	1 3/4"	2 3/8"	1"	2 3/8"	5 1/2"	3 3/8"	4

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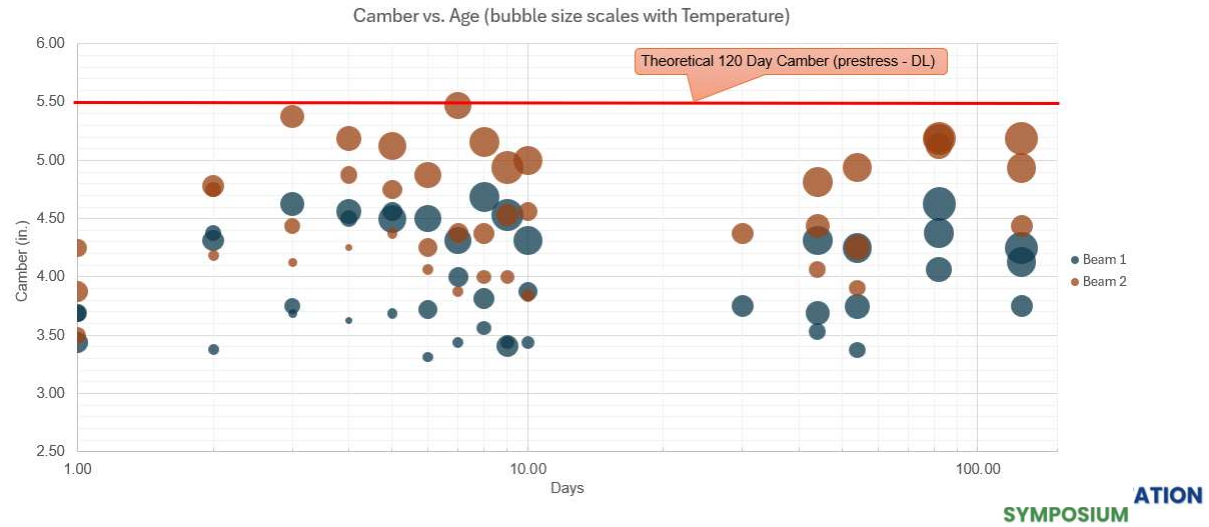
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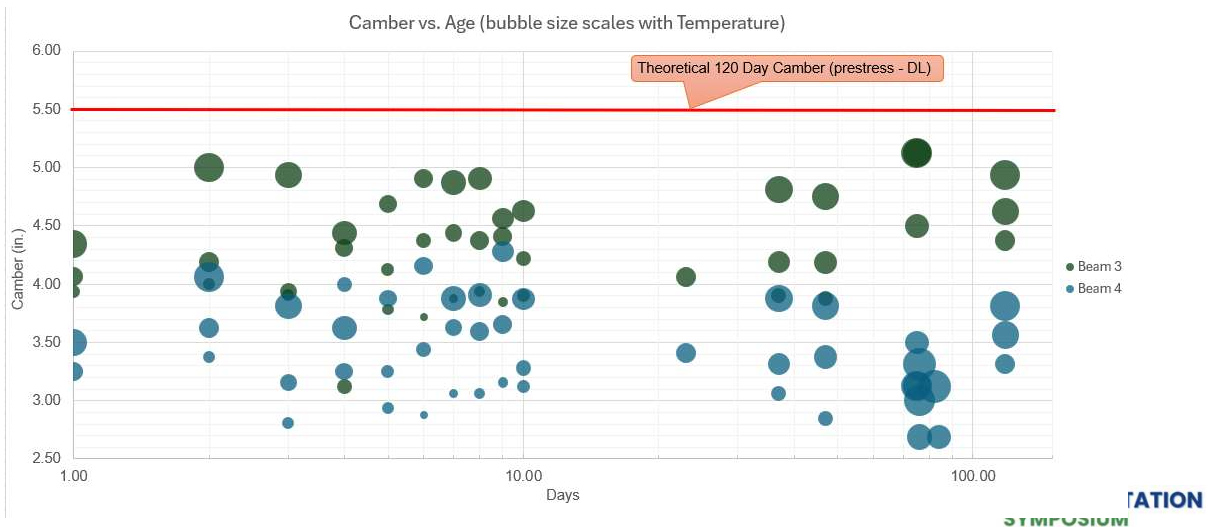
# Inevitable Camber Variations



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# Inevitable Camber Variations



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## Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done Today

- Camber too Low
  - Per spec 450, if camber is less than 50% of predicted camber at release. Adjust dunnage inwards to induce camber. (Ask the precaster when did they measure the release camber, did they pick it up and set it back down? did they move it to storage before measuring?)
  - (For Negative Camber Beams) Does the beam still meet stress limits? Will it still load rate? does it meet vertical clearance?
  - Have the beam seats been cast already? Can they be raised?
  - Can we adjust the roadway profile?

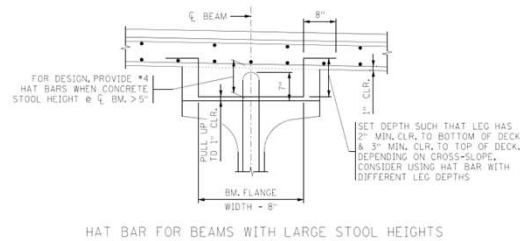
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## Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done Today

- Camber too High
  - Have the beam seats been cast already? Can they be lowered?
  - Is the beam interfering with the bottom mat of deck reinforcing?
  - Build-up at the end spans maybe too large for beam shear stirrups to embed in deck, consider 'hat' bars to bridge the gap.



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## Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done Today

- The time of day which the precaster could take camber measurements to eliminate effect of temperature/solar radiation.
- Ask for the Cylinder breaks for your beams, Remember  $f'c \uparrow \Delta_{\text{Camber}} \downarrow$
- Ask the precaster for camber data on previous beams they've cast.

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## Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done Today

Reach out to your district structural materials engineer.  
Staff Directory

### District Materials Office Contacts

[D1-7 Materials](#) | [D2 Materials](#) | [D3 Materials](#) | [D4-6 Materials](#) | [D5 Materials](#) | [Turnpike Materials](#)

[District Materials Engineers \(DMREs\)](#)

### Additional Information

[Florida Center for Pavement Excellence Contacts](#)

[MAC Primary Contacts \(DACs, Development, etc.\)](#)

[Research Management Team](#)



<https://www.fdot.gov/materials/administration/resources/contacts/staffdirectory.shtm>  
(<https://tinyurl.com/muweb9em>)

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# Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done Today

## FDOT Standard Specs 450-14.2

Support prestressed products that are stacked by dunnage placed across the full width of each bearing point and aligned vertically over lower supports. Move dunnage points in accordance with 450-2.3 with the approval of the QC Manager. Do not use stored products as a storage area for either shorter or longer products or heavy equipment.

Where feasible, base the selection of storage sites, storage conditions and orientation upon consideration of minimizing the thermal and time-dependent creep and shrinkage effects on the camber and/or sweep of the precast pretensioned products.

Continuous application of water during the initial 72 hour moist curing period may be interrupted for a maximum of one hour to allow relocation of precast prestressed concrete elements within the manufacturing facility. Keep the moist burlap in place during relocation of the element.

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# Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done, Moving Forward

- What research can accomplish

Home / Structures / Structures Research Center

The screenshot shows the FDOT Structures Design Office Research Center - Completed Projects page. A red arrow points to the 'Completed Research' tab. Below the tabs, a table lists three completed projects with their dates, titles, researchers, and summary links.

Date	Project Title	Researcher	Summary
10/15/2020	Diagnostic Investigation of Excessive Camber in Prestressed Slab Units	Ariana Morales Rapallo, FDOT	Christina Freeman, Summary
4/30/2005	Field Verification of Camber Estimates for Prestressed Concrete Bridge Girders	Cook, Ron, University of Florida	Ansley, Marcus, B0545-7
2/24/1997	Field Measurement and Evaluation of Time-Dependent Losses in Prestressed Concrete Bridges	Onyemelukwe, University of Central Florida, Okey	Issa, Moussa, 0510735

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## Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done, Moving Forward

### From Tadros (2011)

“In design, allow for variability of camber by 50%.”

“Allowance in design should include flexibility in adjusting the horizontal shear reinforcement and the girder-seat elevations”

### From Cook (2005)

“For the influence of the thermal gradient on camber, there was little difference between the empirically corrected camber measurements and the analytically corrected camber measurements in the majority of cases. Either method is suitable for the correction of camber due to thermal gradient effects.”

“Guidelines for storage of the girders with instruction of the amount of clearance necessary between the ground and bottom flange should be implemented in order to reduce the effect of differential shrinkage in the field.”

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## Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done, Moving Forward

### From Rizkalla (2011)

“Whenever practical, camber should be measured before dawn before the sun induces thermal gradients within the girders.”

“Girders should be stored with the supports as close to possible to their design bearing locations to minimize camber variability.”

### From Almohammed (2019)

“The contractor should update camber, deflection and the road longitudinal profile based on the measured concrete strength to decrease the discrepancy between the design and the actual cambers...”

“...More effectively, the fabricators can provide the contractor with the average camber values for the girders in the storage yard and update the road profile accordingly.”

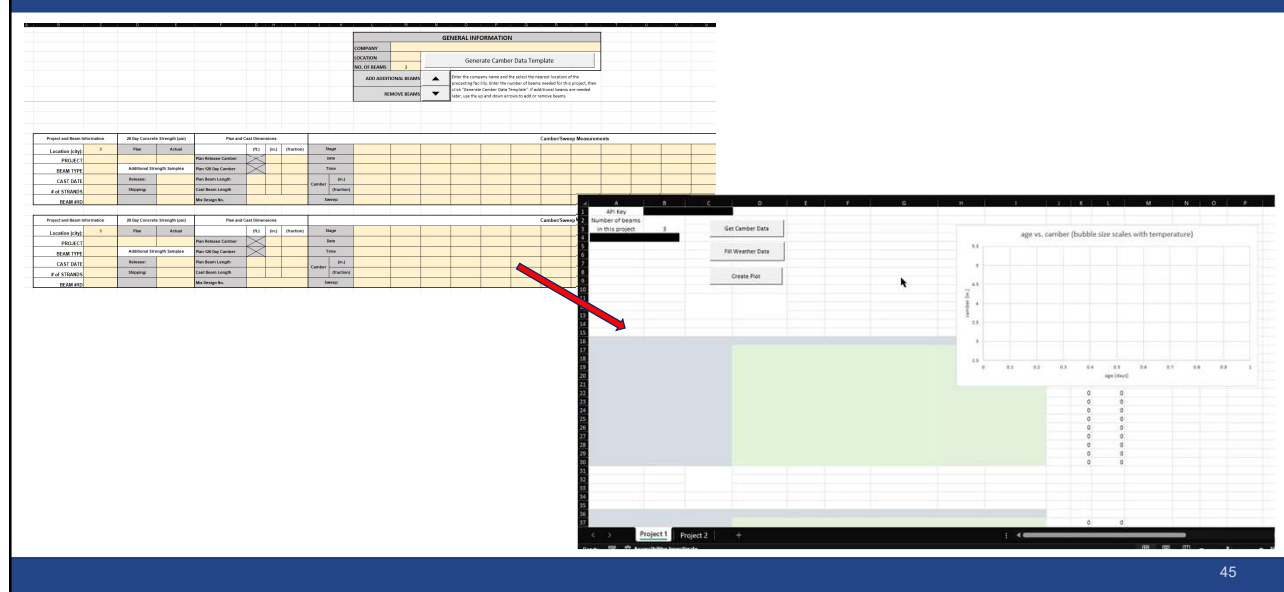
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# Managing & Mitigating: What Can Be Done, Moving Forward



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## References

- Design of Prestressed Concrete (Nilson 1987)
- Field Verification of Camber Estimates for Prestressed Concrete Bridge Girders (Cook 2005)
- Improving the Accuracy of Camber Predictions for Precast Pretensions Concrete Beams (Honarvar 2015)
- Prestress Losses in Pretensioned High-Strength Concrete Bridge Girders, NCHRP rpt 496 (Tadros, Al-Omaishi 2003)
- Predicting Camber, Deflection, and Prestress Losses in Prestressed Concrete Members (Rizkalla 2011)
- Precast, prestressed girder camber variability (Tadros 2011)
- Estimating Camber, Deflection, and Prestress Losses in Precast, Prestressed Bridge Girders (Almohammed 2019)
- PCI Bridge Design Manual (4<sup>th</sup> Edition 2023)
- The Design and Analysis of Simple Span Prestressed Concrete Beams Computer Program User's Manual (1994)
- AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications (1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1994)

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# FDOT Structures Design Office is HIRING!

ENGINEERING SPECIALIST IV - 55010087

Date: May 23, 2025

The State's total compensation package for employees features a highly competitive set of employee benefits including:

- Health insurance (over 90% employer paid)
- \$25,000 life insurance policy (100% employer paid)
- Dental, vision and supplemental insurances
- State of Florida retirement package
- 10 paid holidays a year
- Generous vacation and sick leave
- Career advancement opportunities
- Tuition waiver for public college courses
- A variety of training opportunities
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HIRING SALARY RANGE: \$2,613.61 - \$3,292.90/biweekly range

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## Safety Message



**BUCKLE UP.  
EVERY TRIP, EVERY TIME!**



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## Contact Us



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 June 19 - 20, 2025  
 Hollywood, FL

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Please be sure to **certify your attendance** before leaving this event or no later than **Monday, June 30**, in order to receive PDH/CEC. Detailed instructions are available on the Transportation Symposium website.

Transportation Symposium  
Website



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