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Timber structures — Design method for vibrational serviceability of timber floors

~~Élément introductif~~ — ~~Élément principal~~ — ~~Partie n: Titre de la partie~~

~~Structures en bois — Méthode de dimensionnement aux états limites de service pour la vibration des planchers bois~~

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## Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 165, *Timber structures*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

Timber floors are known to be prone to producing high level of vibration caused by human activities due to the light-weight nature of these systems. As a result, it is critical that the timber floor design process takes into account vibrational serviceability. In the past, static deflection check indirectly provided some degree of control, but it is not a complete solution to the vibration problem. Two ISO publications have been developed over the last few years under the auspices of ISO/TC\_165. The first publication, ISO\_18324<sup>[1]</sup>, is intended for testing of floor response parameters for the purpose of evaluating vibrational serviceability of the floor. The second publication is ISO/TR\_21136<sup>[2]</sup>, which provides guidelines for developing floor vibration performance criterion.

~~This ISO standard provides guidelines for vibration serviceability design of timber floor systems. The standard consists of three elements: 1) a baseline vibrational serviceability design criterion for timber floors using fundamental natural frequency and 1 kN static point load deflection as the design parameters including two types of design criteria, coupled and decoupled criteria; 2) equations for calculating the design parameters; and 3) a guideline for the design values of the physical and mechanical properties of floor components.~~

Annexes A and B recommend limit values for coupled and decoupled criteria respectively. The calculation equations presented herein are based on the assumption that the floor system has a single span and simple support conditions.

~~The standard~~This document provides flexibility for individual jurisdictions to develop their own performance levels within the same performance criterion framework using the procedure described in ISO/TR 21136<sup>[2]</sup>, and for using other models to calculate the fundamental natural frequency and 1 kN static deflection if desired.

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## Timber structures — Design method for vibrational serviceability of timber floors

### 1 Scope

The design method provided in this ~~standard~~document address vibration induced by walking action of occupants and covers the following timber floor systems:

~~i~~a) Light frame floors are built with timber joists spaced at a distance of no more than 610 mm with a layer of structural wood-based subfloor that is connected to the joists using mechanical fasteners or adhesive. The area density of a bare light frame floors without screen (topping) and ceiling is not greater than 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. ~~Figure 1 shows such a light frame floor.~~

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~~i~~b) Mass timber floors built with mass timber panels such as cross laminated timber.

~~The standard~~This document consists of three elements: ~~1)~~

a) a baseline vibrational serviceability design criterion for timber floors using fundamental natural frequency and 1 kN static point load deflection as the design parameters including two types of design criteria, coupled and decoupled criteria; ~~2)~~

b) equations for calculating the design parameters; ~~and 3)~~

c) a guideline for the design values of the physical and mechanical properties of floor components.

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The design method is based on the assumption that the floor system has a single span and simple support conditions.

~~The standard allows individual jurisdictions to develop their own performance requirement levels following the guidelines and procedure described in ISO/TR 21136,<sup>[2]</sup> and for adoption of other models to calculate the fundamental natural frequency and 1 kN static deflection.~~

### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

### 3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp><https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/><https://www.electropedia.org/>

### 4 Baseline timber floor vibrational serviceability design criterion

Vibrational serviceability of a timber floor shall be evaluated by comparing its fundamental natural frequency and the static deflection at floor centre under a point load of 1 kN applied at the same location, with the criteria stated in either coupled criteria, ~~Equation~~see Formula (1), or decoupled

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criteria, Equations (2) to (4). It is the users' decision or preference to select the appropriate criteria that meet their needs.

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a) Coupled criteria.

Using the coupled criteria, the vibration performance a floor is considered acceptable if the condition given by Equation (1) is satisfied:

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$$\frac{f^X}{d_{1\text{ kN}}^Y} \geq Z \frac{f^X}{d_{1\text{ kN}}^Y} \geq Z \quad (1)$$

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where

$f$  is the fundamental natural frequency, Hz;

$d_{1\text{ kN}}$  is the 1 kN static point load deflection at floor centre, mm;

$d_{1\text{ kN}}$

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$X, Y$  and  $Z$  are constants determined from subjective evaluation study as per ISO/TR 21136<sup>[2]</sup>.

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In the absence of any relevant data for specific country or region,  $X = 1,56, Y = 1$  and  $Z = 112,20$  (See Annex A).

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b) Decoupled criteria.

Using the decoupled criteria, Equations (2) to (4), the vibration performance of a floor is considered acceptable if the fundamental natural frequency, static deflection under a 1 kN load at floor centre and the velocity meet the respective conditions shown below:

$$f \geq C_1 \quad (2)$$

$$d_{1\text{ kN}} \leq C_2 \quad d_{1\text{ kN}} \leq C_2 \quad (3)$$

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$$v \leq C_3 \quad (4)$$

where  $C_1, C_2$  and  $C_3$  are constants determined from a subjective evaluation study as per ISO/TR-21136<sup>[2]</sup>. In the absence of any relevant data for specific country or region,  $C_1 = 8$  Hz may be used (see Annex B). Annex B provides Equations (B1) and (B2) to calculate  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  for residential floors, respectively. It is recommended to perform a subjective evaluation study as per ISO/TR 21136<sup>[2]</sup> on at least two floors to define suitable values for  $X, Y, Z$  for individual country.

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### 5 General models for calculating $f$ and $d_{1\text{ kN}}$

The static deflection under a point load at floor centre,  $d_{1\text{ kN}}$ , and the first natural frequency,  $f$ , of a timber floor simply supported on all four sides can be calculated using orthotropic plate models<sup>[3]</sup>. The static deflection parameter in mm,  $d_{1\text{ kN}}$ , can be calculated using the series-type Equation (5) shown below<sup>[4]</sup>.

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$$d_{1kN} = \frac{4 \times 10^6}{ab\pi^4} \sum_{m=1,3,5} \sum_{n=1,3,5} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{m}{a}\right)^4 D_x + 4\left(\frac{mn}{ab}\right)^2 D_{xy} + \left(\frac{n}{b}\right)^4 D_y}$$

$$d_{1kN} = \frac{4 \times 10^6}{ab\pi^4} \sum_{m=1,3,5} \sum_{n=1,3,5} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{m}{a}\right)^4 D_X + 4\left(\frac{mn}{ab}\right)^2 D_{XY} + \left(\frac{n}{b}\right)^4 D_Y} \quad (5)$$

where  $D_x$  is the equivalent system flexural rigidity in the span direction, in Nm as defined by Equation Formula (6):

$$D_x = \frac{h^3 E_x}{12(1 - \nu_{xy}\nu_{yx})}, \text{Nm} \quad D_X = \frac{h^3 E_X}{12(1 - \nu_{XY}\nu_{YX})} \quad (6)$$

$D_y$  is the equivalent system flexural rigidity in the across-span direction, in Nm as defined by Equation Formula (7):

$$D_y = \frac{h^3 E_y}{12(1 - \nu_{xy}\nu_{yx})}, \text{Nm} \quad D_Y = \frac{h^3 E_Y}{12(1 - \nu_{XY}\nu_{YX})} \quad (7)$$

$D_{xy}$  is the equivalent system shear rigidity, in Nm as defined by Equation Formula (8):

$$D_{xy} = \frac{h^3 G_{xy}}{12} + \frac{\nu_{yx} D_x}{2}, \text{Nm} \quad D_{XY} = \frac{h^3 G_{XY}}{12} + \frac{\nu_{YX} D_X}{2} \quad (8)$$

$E_x$  is the modulus of elasticity of plate in x direction (span) in N/m<sup>2</sup>,  $E_y$  is the modulus of elasticity of plate in y direction (across span) in N/m<sup>2</sup>,  $G_{xy}$  is the in plane shear modulus of plate in N/m<sup>2</sup>,  $h$  is the plate thickness in m,  $\nu_{xy}$  is the Poisson's ratio with stress applied in x direction and strain measured in y direction,  $\nu_{yx}$  is the Poisson's ratio with stress applied in y direction and strain measured in x direction,  $a$  is the span of floor in m and  $b$  is the width of floor in m.

where

- $E_x$  is the modulus of elasticity of plate in x direction (span) in N/m<sup>2</sup>;
- $E_y$  is the modulus of elasticity of plate in y direction (across-span) in N/m<sup>2</sup>;
- $G_{xy}$  is the in-plane shear modulus of plate in N/m<sup>2</sup>
- $h$  is the plate thickness in m
- $\nu_{xy}$  is the Poisson's ratio with stress applied in x direction and strain measured in y direction
- $\nu_{yx}$  is the Poisson's ratio with stress applied in y direction and strain measured in x direction
- $a$  is the span of floor in m;
- $b$  is the width of floor in metres.

The first natural frequency,  $f_1$  in Hz, can be calculated from the following Equation Formula (9):

$$f = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{\rho}} \sqrt{D_x \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^4 + 4D_{xy} \left(\frac{1}{ab}\right)^2 + D_y \left(\frac{1}{b}\right)^4}, \text{ Hz} \quad f = \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{\rho}} \sqrt{D_X \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^4 + 4D_{XY} \left(\frac{1}{ab}\right)^2 + D_Y \left(\frac{1}{b}\right)^4} \quad (9)$$

where  $\rho$  is the mass per unit floor area, kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

For light wood frame joisted floor systems, the simplified method presented in Clause 6 can be used.

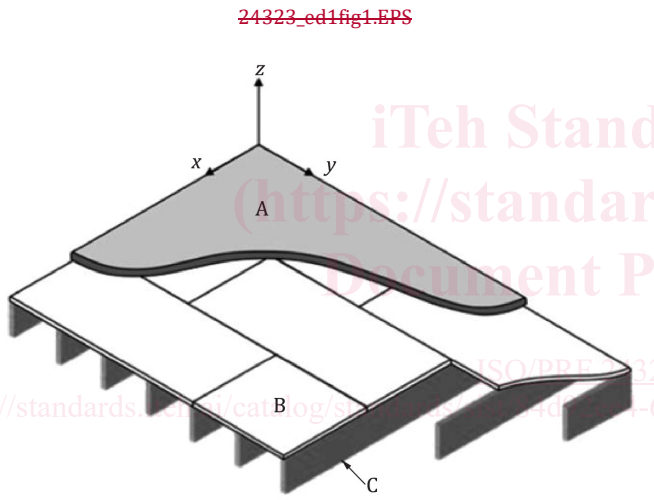
For mass timber panel floor systems, the simplified method presented in Clause 7 can be used.

NOTE See Annex C for background on orthotropic plate models.

## 6 Simplified calculation procedures for light-frame timber joisted floors

### 6.1 Floor construction

Figure 1 shows the construction details of the type of light-frame timber floor system addressed by this simplified method.



**Key**

- A topping layer
- B subfloor panel
- C floor joist

Figure 1 — Applicable light-frame timber floor system

### 6.2 Calculation of first natural frequency and static deflection under a 1 kN load at floor centre

The fundamental natural frequency,  $f$ , in Hz, of a floor shown in Figure 1 can be calculated using the following Equation Formula (10) [5] [6]:

$$f = \frac{\pi}{2l^2} \sqrt{\frac{D_{ef}}{m_l}}, \text{ Hz} \quad f = \frac{\pi}{2l^2} \sqrt{\frac{D_{ef}}{m_l}} \quad (10)$$

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