

- 4.  $H/L_h \geq 0.2$ .
- 5.  $H$  is greater than or equal to 15 ft (4.5 m) for Exposure C and D and 60 ft (18 m) for Exposure B.

**26.8.2 Topographic Factor**

The wind speed-up effect shall be included in the calculation of design wind loads by using the factor  $K_{zt}$ :

$$K_{zt} = (1 + K_1 K_2 K_3)^2 \quad (26.8-1)$$

where  $K_1$ ,  $K_2$ , and  $K_3$  are given in Fig. 26.8-1.

— If site conditions and locations of buildings and other structures do not meet all the conditions specified in Section 26.8.1 then  $K_{zt} = 1.0$ .

**26.9 GUST-EFFECTS**

**26.9.1 Gust-Effect Factor:** The gust-effect factor for a rigid building or other structure is permitted to be taken as 0.85.

**26.9.2 Frequency Determination**

— To determine whether a building or other structure is rigid or flexible as defined in Section 26.2, the fundamental natural frequency,  $n_1$ , shall be established using the structural properties and deformational characteristics of the resisting elements in a properly substantiated analysis. Low-Rise Buildings, as defined in 26.2, are permitted to be considered rigid.

**26.9.2.1 Limitations for Approximate Natural Frequency**

As an alternative to performing an analysis to determine  $n_1$ , the approximate building natural frequency,  $n_a$ , shall be permitted to be calculated in accordance with Section 26.9.3 for structural steel, concrete, or masonry buildings meeting the following requirements:

- 1. The building height is less than or equal to 300 ft (91 m), and
- 2. The building height is less than 4 times its effective length,  $L_{eff}$ .

The effective length,  $L_{eff}$ , in the direction under consideration shall be determined from the following equation:

$$L_{eff} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n h_i L_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n h_i} \quad (26.9-1)$$

The summations are over the height of the building where

$h_i$  is the height above grade of level  $i$

$L_i$  is the building length at level  $i$  parallel to the wind direction

**26.9.3 Approximate Natural Frequency**

The approximate lower-bound natural frequency ( $n_a$ ), in Hertz, of concrete or structural steel buildings meeting the conditions of Section 26.9.2.1, is permitted to be determined from one of the following equations:

For structural steel moment-resisting-frame buildings:

$$n_a = 22.2/h^{0.8} \quad (26.9-2)$$

For concrete moment-resisting frame buildings:

$$n_a = 43.5/h^{0.9} \quad (26.9-3)$$

For structural steel and concrete buildings with other lateral-force-resisting systems:

$$n_a = 75/h \quad (26.9-4)$$

For concrete or masonry shear wall buildings, it is also permitted to use

$$n_a = 385(C_w)^{0.5}/h \quad (26.9-5)$$

where

$$C_w = \frac{100}{A_B} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{h}{h_i} \right)^2 \frac{A_i}{\left[ 1 + 0.83 \left( \frac{h_i}{D_i} \right)^2 \right]}$$

where

$h$  = mean roof height (ft)

$n$  = number of shear walls in the building effective in resisting lateral forces in the direction under consideration

$A_B$  = base area of the structure (ft<sup>2</sup>)

$A_i$  = horizontal cross-section area of shear wall “ $i$ ” (ft<sup>2</sup>)

$D_i$  = length of shear wall “ $i$ ” (ft)

$h_i$  = height of shear wall “ $i$ ” (ft)

**26.9.4 Rigid Buildings or Other Structures**

For rigid buildings or other structures as defined in Section 26.2, the gust-effect factor shall be taken as 0.85 or calculated by the formula:

$$G = 0.925 \left( \frac{1 + 1.7 g_Q I_z Q}{1 + 1.7 g_v I_z} \right) \quad (26.9-6)$$

$$I_z = c \left( \frac{33}{z} \right)^{1/6} \quad (26.9-7)$$