# **Rocking Foundations**

Draft TS1170.5, Sections 5.9 and 6.6

## The Problem

- All rocking systems currently require special study, not defined by NZS1170.5 (but was in NZS4203 previously)
- Simple rocking systems are economic and reliable solution for small buildings, but deep or oversized foundations being used instead

or



## The Proposed Solution

- Allow use of rocking systems for buildings that meet certain limitations without special study
- By (2023):
  - Setting parameters sufficiently conservatively that reliable performance can be reasonably assured, and
  - Keeping methodology simple, so that it can be used without extensive analytical effort
- This can be considered for further extension in 2025, after other aspects of B1 are more fully considered

#### Path

- Section 6.6 Rocking Structures
  - Separates rocking within structure from rocking foundations
  - Signpost to S 5.9 for <u>simplified</u> foundations
- Section 5.9 Shallow Foundations
  - S 5.9.1 Allows foundation rocking for buildings meeting certain criteria
  - S 5.9.1.1 sets criteria
  - S 5.9.1.2 defines process
  - S 5.9.1.3 allows sliding above SLS and provided no differential movement

#### Potential 'Force-based' Simplified Rocking design



2) Size foundation to prevent uplift and has for sufficient capacity (and settlement requirements)



## Simplified Design of Rocking Foundations

5.9.1.1 – Limitations for Simplified Design

- a) h<15m to uppermost floor or heavy roof
- b) Aspect ratio of assemblies  $\leq 3$  vert : 1 horiz
- c) All foundations unrestrained, i.e. cannot mix and match
- d) Underside of foundations within one storey
- e) All foundations are symmetric unless out-of-plane actions are restrained.







e) All foundations are symmetric unless out-of-plane actions are restrained.





## Simplified Design of Rocking Foundations

5.9.1.2 – Simplified Design of Rocking Foundations

- a) For design,  $\mu$  = 2
- b) Lateral load redistribution between elements ok, provided torsional resistance not reduced
- c) Vertical actions from earthquake shaking may be ignored
- d) Additional displacements from rocking need not be specifically checked against displacement limits, but when providing displacements (eg for non-structural element design), add Prerocking Rotation .



### Validation



Figure 2: Validation Methodology

#### Key Principle: Don't sacrifice simplicity for accuracy







*Figure 3: Comparison of Assessment Outcomes to Design Values. Left, Design displacements directly from NZS1170.5, Right, Design displacements adjusted for 'pre-rocking foundation rotation allowance' of 1/250.*