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- For structures that support gravity loads using vertical columns, it is permissible to use notional loads to represent the effects of initial imperfections in accordance with this section. Nominal geometry used.
- (1) Notional loads shall be applied as lateral loads at all levels. These loads shall be additive to the other loads applied in all load combinations. The magnitude of the notional loads shall be:

$$N_i = 0.002 \ \mathcal{A} Y_i$$

- N_i = notional load applied at level i (kips)
- Y_i = gravity load applied at level i from load combos
- (2) The notional load Ni shall be distributed over that level in the same manner as the gravity load at that level, and applied in the direction providing greatest destabilization



- (3) The notional load coefficient of 0.002 is based on the nominal initial out-of-story plumbness ratio of 1/500. If other value is justified, it is permitted to adjust the notional load coefficient proportionally.
- (4) If the ratio of the maximum second-order drift to maximum first-order drift is less than or equal to 1.7 in all stories, it is permitted to apply the notional lateral load in gravity only load combinations and not in combinations using other lateral loads

