SECTION CURVATURE DUCTILITY FACTOR means the ratio of acceptable curvature at any cross-section of a member to that at first yield.

ELEMENTS includes primary and secondary elements.

- PRIMARY ELEMENTS means elements forming part of the basic load resisting structure, such as beams, columns, diaphragms, or shear walls necessary for the building's survival when subjected to the specified loadings.
- SECONDARY ELEMENTS means elements such as partition walls, panels, or veneers not necessary for the survival of the building as a whole but subject to stresses due to loadings applied directly to them or to stresses induced by the deformations of the primary elements.
- FRAME means a system composed of interconnected members functioning as a complete self-contained unit with or without the aid of horizontal diaphragms or floor bracing systems.
  - DUCTILE FRAME means a frame complying with clause 3.3.3.
  - MOMENT RESISTING FRAME means a load carrying frame in which the members and joints are capable of resisting horizontal forces by bending moments.
- HORIZONTAL FORCE RESISTING SYSTEM means that part of the structural system to which the horizontal forces prescribed by this code of practice are assigned.
- LIVE LOAD means the load assumed or known to result from the occupancy or use of a building and includes the loads on floors, loads on roofs other than wind or snow, loads on balustrades and loads from movable goods, machinery, and plant that are not an integral part of the structure and may be changed during the life of the building with a resultant change in floor or roof loading.
- MATERIAL CODE means the relevant New Zealand standard or other approved document setting down requirements for detailed design appropriate to a particular construction material (as distinct from requirements for general structural design as given in this standard).
- OVERTURNING MOMENT at any given level means the moment of the horizontal forces acting on the structure as a whole above that level.
- SET-BACK means any offset horizontally in from the plane of an exterior wall of a structure.
- SHEAR WALL means a wall designed to resist horizontal forces in the plane of the wall.