

ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURE Week 12: Low rise vs high rise structure

Photo by Samuel-Elias Nadler on Unsplash

Outline

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1 INTRODUCTION

Aims

LOs

LECTURE:

2

• **RECAP ON LOW RISE BUILDING'S STRUCTURE** • **ACTIVITY 1**

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2

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Aims and objectives

■ To provide a snapshot of what we have learnt from Week 1

4

- To contextualise differences between low-rise and high-rise structure
- " To gain understanding on structural considerations in different scope of project

Learning outcomes

Students will be able to..

01 Infer differences between low-rise and high-rise structure

Gain understanding of applying tectonic **02** thinking in different scope of architecture

Apply the knowledge in future design projects

Part 1: Recap on low-rise structure

Photo by Sebastian Grochowicz on Unsplash

Recap on Week 11's engagement task.. **ACTIVITY 1**

7

ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURE ACTIVITY 2: GROUP 1'S SKETCHES

BUILDING 1 (7.2*14.4)

Main Structural system: Timber structure (glue laminated timber) **Reasons** as to why we chose this material is because:

- 1. it's stronger than steel
- 2. it's flexible with its shape and size
- 3. The appearance is good
- 4. It has an excellent strength to weight ration.
- 5. Long durability.
- 6. Consistency in performance
- 7. Has high strength and dimensional stability

Foundation system and columns: Reinforced concrete

Roof framing: Pitched Howe Roof truss (spacing is 1.9m) **Floor framing**: Glulam beams (762 mm) Floor joints (600m*24) **Wall framing**: Wall studs (600m*24) **Length of column**: 1.2, 1.5, 1.8, and 2 respectively

BUILDING 2 (7.2*7.2)

Main Structural system: Timber structure (glue laminated timber) **Reasons** as to why we chose this material is because:

- 1. it's stronger than streel
- 2. it's flexible with its shape and size
- 3. The appearance is good
- 4. It has an excellent strength to weight ration.
- 5. Long durability.
- 6. Consistency in performance
- 7. Has high strength and dimensional stability

Foundation system and columns: Reinforced concrete **Roof framing**: Pitched Howe

Roof truss (spacing is 1.9m) **Floor framing**: Glulam beams (762 mm) Floor joints (600m*12) **Wall framing**: Wall studs (600m*12) **Length of column**: 1.2 & 2 **Distance between each column**: 3.6m

 $7.2M \times 14.4M$

 $7.2M \times 7.2M$

For the roof as it is a long rectangular shape we used a single main truss running along in the middle. With the advantage being only 1 truss is required to support the secondary structure.

We chose timber as the main structural system to hold the building together, the reason for was because the building has a very basic shape and layout henceforth using concrete or steel will be a bit too much expenditure.

The structure has 11 beams and 11 columns and 5 beams and 5 columns for the 7.2M x 7.2M for full support of the structural system.

As the building is not on flat ground we added the anchors as they also play an important role in supporting the building.

Tiantai, Zhejiang

Timber structure (or composite) on contoured land

 \diagup

Tiantai, Zhejiang

Timber structure (or composite) on contoured land

Ningbo, Zhejiang

Timber structure (or composite) on contoured land

MU 300

 \diagup

Ningbo, Zhejiang

Timber structure (or composite) on contoured land

Activity 1: QUIZ 1

[https://forms.gl](https://forms.gle/C3cWEbsa41TdwJXKA) e/C3cWEbsa41 **TdwJXKA**

A quick engagement task

20 MINS

19

WOOD ī DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND PERFORMANCE

SECOND AND EXPANDED EDITION

20

2.1. INTRODUCTION

- **Common definition of high-rise,** skyscraper buildings
- **Historical perspective**
- Activity 2: QUIZ 2

tall buildings, high-rise buildings, and skyscraper

Beedle (1971) defines 'tall building' as a multi-storey building that requires **additional construction techniques** due to its extraordinary height.

In general, **Structural engineers** see tall buildings as buildings which require unusual structural system. Also wind loads are prominent in analysis and design.

Architectural designers see buildings which require interdisciplinary work (in particular with structural engineer, also with aerodynamics, mechanics and urban planning) and civil engineer as they need unusual and sophisticated construction techniques.

tall buildings, supertall buildings, and megatall buildings

[Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat \(ctbuh.org\)](https://www.ctbuh.org/resource/height#tab-tall-supertall-and-megatall-buildings)

There is no absolute definition of what constitutes a '**tall building**'. Definition is subjective according to:

- Height relative to Context
- Proportion
- **Embracing technologies relevant to tall buildings**

Poor indicator uses no of stories (14) or more than 50m in height.

tall buildings, supertall buildings, and megatall buildings

[Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat \(ctbuh.org\)](https://www.ctbuh.org/resource/height#tab-tall-supertall-and-megatall-buildings)

- **Height relative to Context**
- **Proportion**
- Embracing technologies relevant to
tall buildings

tall buildings, supertall buildings, and megatall buildings

[Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat \(ctbuh.org\)](https://www.ctbuh.org/resource/height#tab-tall-supertall-and-megatall-buildings)

- Height relative to Context
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- Height relative to Context
- **Proportion**
- **Embracing technologies relevant to
tall buildings**

ONE CENTRAL PARK SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA 117M

432 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK CITY, USA 426M

SHANGHAI TOWER 632M

Historical perspectives

No other symbols of the modern era are more convincing than the gravity defying, vertical shafts of steel, glass, and concrete that are called "skyscrapers."

(Harbert, 2002)

Historical perspectives

Similarly with Greek temples or Gothic cathedrals, skyscrapers **become iconic structures** of industrial societies.

First appearances of skyscrapers in Chicago (in 1880s) was a **social transformation** triggered by economic boom and the increase in value of urban building plots.

Historical How the First Skyscraper Came to Be Built. **perspective**

rare interior photographic images of the home insurance building shortly [before its untimely demolition | Urban Remains Chicago News and Events](https://www.urbanremainschicago.com/news-and-events/2020/09/07/seldom-seen-photographic-images-of-the-home-insurance-building-shortly-before-its-untimely-demolition/) **Historical perspectives: Monadnock Building Chicago, USA**

MONADNOCK

31

16 stories. The world's |last and largest| **'masonry skyscraper'.** It was considered as **Alle** structural achievement. Steel + masonry.

Reliance Building. Chicago, USA

1895

Introduced **the first curtain wall system.** Buildings could be conceived as clad structural skeletons with building skins erected after the frame was constructed.

Vertical transport system

Steam and hydraulic elevators were tested for use in 1850.

By **1873**, Elisha Graves Otis had developed and installed steam elevators into 2000 buildings across America.

Chrysler Building, New York.

The world's tallest in 1930

Late 1960s and early 1970s:

New development in tall building analysis, design and construction.

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Sarkisian, M. (2016). *Designing tall buildings: Structure as architecture*, Routledge.© VHT STUDIOS

Economical alternative to structural steel: reinforced concrete

Brunswick Building (1964)

Activity 2: QUIZ 2

[https://PollEv.com/su](https://pollev.com/surveys/I23Lu8wOWqZhqqVbwbnwi/respond) rveys/I23Lu8wOWqZh qqVbwbnwi/respond

25 + 5 MINS SPEND

2.2. DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- **Guiding principles**
- **Concepts**
- **Major design issues**
- **Primary considerations**

Simplicity Structural clarity Sustainability

Simplicity

Structural clarity Sustainability

- Simplicity in **form**, according to architectural program, soil conditions, potential imposed lateral loads, etc
- Purity of **concept**, includes a structural engineering response that is sympathetic to architectural goals.
- **Avoiding frivolous materials**
- Multiple purposes system if possible
- **Uniformity of mass, symmetry, control of** force flow within the structure
- Example: Development of moment frame \rightarrow tubular frame \rightarrow braced tubular frame to increase height without substantial increase in structural materials.

Simplicity Structural clarity Sustainability

-
- **Clear load paths

Creating certainty** in

environments with potentially

very uncertain events (seismic

motions, displacements, etc)

might occur.

Sarkisian, M. (2016). *Designing tall buildings: Structure as architectu* environments with potentially very uncertain events (seismic motions, displacements, etc) might occur.

Simplicity Structural clarity Sustainability

- Tall buildings should be designed and constructed to be **self-sufficient**, if not regenerative.
- The structure should be designed to generate power to fully operate, capture rainwater, treat and reuse wastewater, and even produce food.
- **If possible, structures should include recycled materials** and be supplied **locally**.
- Every major building component should be designed for at least two purposes. For example: structure can be designed to control heat gain, façade system can be designed to generate electricity.

- **Concepts** Structural systems are important to be defined conceptually in early design process.
	- They include: horisontal framing, vertical gravity and lateral loadresisting elements.
	- Integration of systems, between mechanical and exterior wall systems.
	- Important consideration during concept design: floor-to-floor heights, height limit, estimation of material quantities for project costs, prefabrication system.

Major design issues

- **Exercise Lateral stability system**
- Gravity system for the superstructure

Primary design target: To provide sufficient **stiffness** to **resist lateral or gravity loadings**.

Primary considerations

- **Exercise Lateral stability system**
- Wind and wind-induced vibration
- **Seismic loads**
- **Foundation design**
- Fire and blast loading

Primary considerations

- Lateral stability system
- Wind and wind-induced vibration
- **Seismic loads**
- **Foundation design**
- \blacksquare Fire and blast loading

Development of structural system for tall buildings in history:

- 1. Rigid frame
- 2. Bracing system
- 3. Shear wall system, to
- 4. Core-outrigger
- 5. Tube structures
- 6. Diagrid structures
- 7. Superframe structures

Fig. 2.4 List of different lateral stability system in tall buildings [4]. Fu, F. (2018). Design and analysis of tall and complex structures, Butterworth-Heinemann.

(a) Moment resisting frames (b) Shear wall frames **Moment resisting frame (MRF)/ rigid frame**

A system where the beams and columns are rigidly connected to provide lateral resistance. Moments are transferred through the connection.

(c) Braced frames

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(a) Moment resisting frames

(b) Shear wall frames

(c) Braced frames

Bracing system Bracing and shear walls (b) and (c), often work together.

> Braced frames: pin connection to form beamcolumn joints. The connection does not transfer \curvearrowright moments.

Figure 12. Structural System for CQ Raffles City Project (with courtesy of Arup).
 COFE-OUTFISSEF Connecting main core to exterior columns.

Figure 13. Component List for Fused Outrigger (with courtesy of Arup).

Core-outrigger Connecting main core to exterior columns.

Chicago 1970 Tube structures A building is designed to act like a hollow cylinder, cantilevered perpendicular to the ground in order to resist lateral loads.

John Hancock Center

SOM / Bruce Graham / Fazlur Khan

KEN MEYER

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DETAILS

GENERAL FORCE DIAGRAM

STEEL WEIGHT

TIER₆

TIER 5

IER₃

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29.7

The structural system employed in the Hancock is that of the trussed tube system. What this means is that the exterior column are X-braced and therefore resist lateral loads. The Hancock takes the braced system a step further and tapers it from the top to the bottom - making it an extremely efficient structure.

PRIMARY STRUCTURE

The goal of the tubular structure is to The primary structure is made up of steel create the most amount of free span no thicker than 36" and features a large
interior space by moving the load bearing X-brace that functions as an architectural components to the exterior of the building. expression as well as a functional

FULL STRUCTURAL SYSTEM

Besides the primary structural framing, When combined, the building features six
The floors act as horizontal diaphragms fiers of the tubular trussed system that and provide lateral stability to the exterior efficiently moves loads from 1,180 feet in the air to the ground.

BUNDLE TUBE

The bundled tube structure features tying several tube structures together to resist lateral loads. This method is economical, innovative, and allowed for the form of the building to become structural rather than box-like.

Examples include: Sears Tower (Chicago), and One Magnificent Mile (Chicago).

FRAMED TUBE

The simplest form of the tubular system, this method allows for flexible floor plans and is featured in the Aon Center (Chicago) and the World Trade Centers (New York City].

The diagram to the right shows the efficiency of construction methods in terms of constructed height.

 42.2

CONCLUSION

The tubular structural system developed by Khan in the John Hancock Center helped revolutionize the construction of skyscrapers at the time of construction and continues to do so today. The tubular system can adapt to various site and programming conditions and can provide seemingly limitless height to buildings without compromising the structural integrity of the building.

In the case of the John Hancock Center, the building pioneered this system and created a new type of architectural expressionism that has lead to the Hancock being not only a symbol of Chicago, but an architectural feat as well.

Sources

Ali, Mir M. Art of the Skyscraper: The Genius of Faziur Khan. New York: Rizzoti.

Stoller, Ezra, The John Hancock Center, New York: Princeton Architectural,

Tube (structure)." Wikipedia: Wikimedia Foundation, n.d. Web, 12 Apr. 2015

Tube structures [John Hancock Structural Analysis —](http://kenmeyer.co/john-hancock-structure) KEN MEYER

Diagrid system Structural efficiency as an adapted version from bracing systems. The triangular geometry effectively prevent structural failure.

PROPOSAL I

-with wind load

Under wind load, utilization remains lowest at the top and generally well distributed, but areas of higher utilization are seen spiralling up the building from its base, away from the wind. Displacement is more concentrated towards the top of the building and larger in magnitude (9.4 cm vs 1.8 cm at maximum). Bending moment analysis shows primarily the same behaviour as in the scenario without wind, though axial forces are affected and largest in areas adjacent to the area of initial wind contact.

DATA INFORMED STRUCTURES FOSTER AND PARTNERS 30 St Mary Axe | PROPOSAL I
LALIN KEYVAN & CHRISTOPHER WONG

vest thirty for advanced anchitectum of Cabalonia

Superframe structure Shanghai Tower

Using mega columns and mega girders to work together as the primary lateral resisting structural system.

Superframe structure HSBC headquarters, HK

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2.3. STRUCTURAL STRATEGY

- **Material based**
- **Tall building structural system**

Classifications based on the materials:

Structural materials such as columns, beams, shear trusses, shear walls and outriggers

- 1. Steel: superiority for high-rise buildings
- 2. Reinforced concrete: the ability to be cat in any form, much greater natural resistance to fire compared with steel, and naturally better in dampening wind induced building sway. Concrete pumping technology.
- 3. Composite

FIGURE 3.31 The Petronas Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 1998

Tallest RC building in 1998

Petronas Twin Towers

Günel, M. H. & Ilgin, H. E. (2014). *Tall buildings: structural systems and aerodynamic form*, Routledge.

Structural systems

- 1. Rigid frame systems
- 2. Flat plate/slab systems
- 3. Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
	- shear trussed frame (braced frame) systems
	- **E** shear walled frame systems
- 6. Mega column (mega frame, space truss) systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems
	- **Famed-tube systems**
	- **The Systems**
	- **EXEC** bundled-tube systems

TABLE 3.1 Tall building structural systems and the number of floors they can reach

Günel, M. H. & Ilgin, H. E. (2014). *Tall buildings: structural systems and aerodynamic form*, Routledge.

1: Rigid frame systems

Stiffness of the rigid frame is provided mainly by the bending rigidity of beams and columns that have rigid connections. The system can provide sufficient stiffness up to about 25 storeys. For **both** RC and steel structures.

2: Flat plate/ slab systems

- 1. Rigid frame systems
- 2. Flat plate/slab systems
- 3. Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

FIGURE 3.6 Flat plate/slab systems: (a) without column capitals, (b) with column capitals, (c) with gussets

The systems are used in reinforced concrete buildings. The system consists of **beamless floor slabs** of constant thickness and columns.

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Ditto with previous system, the systems are used in **reinforced concrete buildings**. The system consists of a reinforced concrete core shear wall resisting all vertical and lateral loads. Floor slabs are cantilevered from \sim core independently. Can be used up to 20 storeys, but 'mega core systems' can be up to 40 storeys.

4: Shear wall systems

- 1. Rigid frame systems
- 2. Flat plate/slab systems
- 3. Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

Ditto with previous system, the systems are used in **reinforced concrete buildings.** The system consists of a reinforced concrete core shear wall. Can be perforated (with openings) or solid. The system can be thought \wedge as vertical cantilever and can resist all vertical and lateral loads **without columns**. Up to 35 storeys.

5: Shear-frame 1. Rigid frame systems 2. Flat plate/slab systems 3. Core systems **systems** 4. Shear wall systems 5. Shear-frame systems 6. Mega column systems 7. Mega core systems 8. Outriggered frame systems 9. Tube systems Frame Shear wall Shear truss (brace) FIGURE 3.10 Rigid frame, shear truss (brace), and shear wall (b) (a)

Rigid frame systems + **vertical shear trusses** (braces) and/or **shear walls**, to increase total stiffness and economical height of the building.

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6: Mega column systems

Consist of reinforced concrete or composite columns and/or shear walls with much larger cross-sections than normal. Horisontal connections are of primary importance. Due to probable insufficient floor slabs; belts, Vierendeel frames and mega braces are used.

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7: Mega core systems

FIGURE 3.25 Slabs in the mega core system: (a) cantilever slab, (b) supported cantilever slab

FIGURE 3.26 Aspire Tower, Doha, Qatar, 2006 (credit for Photo: CTBUH)

- 1. Rigid frame systems
- 2. Flat plate/slab systems
- 3. Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

Reinforced concrete mega core (circular cross-section with varving external dimater and wall thickness of 18 to 13m and 2 to 1m respectively from bottom to top)

Consist of reinforced concrete or composite core shear walls with much larger cross-sections than normal. Since mega core can resist all vertical and lateral loads in this system, there is no need for columns or shear \sim walls on the perimeter of the building. Floor slabs are cantilevered.

8: Outrigged frame systems

FIGURE 3.29 Outriggered frame system

Additional outriggers to shear—frame systems with the core so as to couple the core with perimeter (exterior) columns. An outrigger consists of a horizontal shear truss or shear wall (or deep beam). For building >40 storeys. Can be concrete or steel outriggers.

- 1. Rigid frame systems
- 2. Flat plate/slab systems
- 3. Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

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8: Outrigged frame systems

- 1. Rigid frame systems
- 2. Flat plate/slab systems
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- 4. Shear wall systems
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- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

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RC outriggers

FIGURE 3.30 Burj Khalifa, Dubai, U.A.E, 2010

(photo courtesy of Adrian Peret, adrian.peret@gmail.com)

8: Outrigged frame systems

The structural systems of tall buildings 53

- 1. Rigid frame systems
- 2. Flat plate/slab systems
- 3. Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

Steel outriggers

Outrigger application

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9: Tube systems
 9: Tube systems
 1. Rigid frame systems

2. Flat plate/slab systems

- **Famed-tube systems**
- **The article systems**
- **EXEC** bundled-tube systems
-
- Flat plate/slab systems
- Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

Was innovated in the early of 1960s by structural engineer Fazlur Rahman Khan, who is considered as 'father of tubular design'. It is a system in which a hollow box column is cantilevering from the ground, and so the building exterior exhibits a tubular behaviour against lateral loads. Suitable for >40 storeys.

9: Tube systems
 9: Tube systems
 1. Rigid frame systems

1. Rigid frame systems

1. Rigid frame systems

-
- Flat plate/slab systems
- Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

FIGURE 3.55 World Trade Center Twin Towers, New York, USA, 1972 110 storey WTC New York **Framed- tube system**

- - Flat plate/slab systems
	- Core systems
- 4. Shear wall systems
- 5. Shear-frame systems
- 6. Mega column systems
- 7. Mega core systems
- 8. Outriggered frame systems
- 9. Tube systems

Trussed- tube system

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Bundled- tube system

FIGURE 3.73 Willis Tower, Chicago, USA, 1974 (photo courtesy of Antony Wood/CTBUH)

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2.4. DEVELOPING A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH: WHY?

DESIGN THINKING A FRAMEWORK FOR INNOVATION

What is Human **Centered** Design

We use Divergent & Convergent thinking intentionally to quickly explore possibility, test insights and iterate.

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Clarity / Focus

Research & Synthesis

Concept / Prototype

Design

The Process of Design Squiggle by Damien Newman, thedesignsquiggle.com [The Design Squiggle](https://thedesignsquiggle.com/)

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Design guidelines

Simplicity of concept based on existing design perimeters (location, climate, restrictions, topography, spatial programs-look at tectonics diagram). Redefine the design brief and problems to suit your site-specific conditions.

Form which answers design criteria and solve design problems. Look at many design precedents with similar design characters. Analyse them to inform your main structural elements. Outcomes: general form and structural elements. Engaging tectonic thinking means these two go hand-in-hand.

Concept Design Example 20 Test out main structural elements Form finding Example 20 Test out main structural elements

Structural clarity. As a rule of thumb practice, make a 3D physical model to test the stiffness. Just the main structure system. You can rock your model to analyse your structure. Add or remove structural elements in your physical model, if necessary, until your test is satisfactory

Architectural language **Architectural language Construction Construction Example 2 Properties Construction Construction Construction Construction Construction Construction Construction Construction**

Once your structural system is sound, you can explore the architectural characteristics. If major changes happen, repeat the previous step and make 3D model again. If you can't perform digital structural analysis, refrain from making digital model before you do a physical model. Also it is worth looking at Mechanical and Electrical system.

At this point you can add layers of other analysis, such as environmental analysis, spatial analysis, life cycle analysis, sustainability analysis etc. M&E system can potentially be optimised or partially integrated with structural system. For instance, service shafts by the elevators core.

At this stage you will already have a structurally sound design (you are very sure that it will stand against loads with sufficient system), architecturally sound and have been optimised according to clients' need or the design brief.

Part 3: Low-rise VS high-rise structure

Žaknić, I. (1998). *100 of the World's Tallest Buildings*, Images Publishing Ho, G. W.-M. (2017). *Arup's Tall Buildings in Asia: Stories Behind the Storeys*, Routledge.

Activity 3: ENGAGEMENT TASK

[https://miatedjosaputro.com/](https://miatedjosaputro.com/2021/05/19/as-week-12/) 2021/05/19/as-week-12/

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- 4. Next, make **reflections** on what are the differences between designing high-rise building and low-rise building, from the point of view of an architect.
- Think about how would you approach a new high-rise 5. project, in comparison to a low-rise project
- Submit: 1) summary and 2) reflections via Disqus 6.

structural system, approximately 300 words

Re-iterating aims and objectives

- To provide a snapshot of what we have learnt from Week 1
- To contextualise differences between low-rise and high-rise structure
- To gain understanding on structural considerations in different scope of project