

CABLE MESH AS STRUCTURAL SUBSTITUTE FOR LIGHTWEIGHT FOOTBRIDGES

TEXTILE ROOFS 2024, BERLIN . 30.4.2024



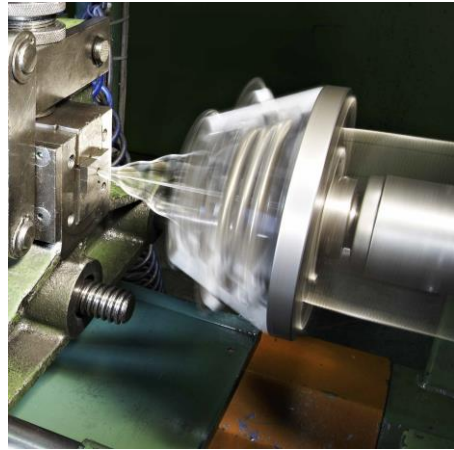
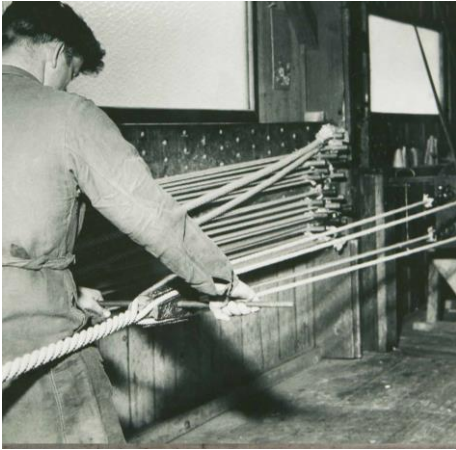
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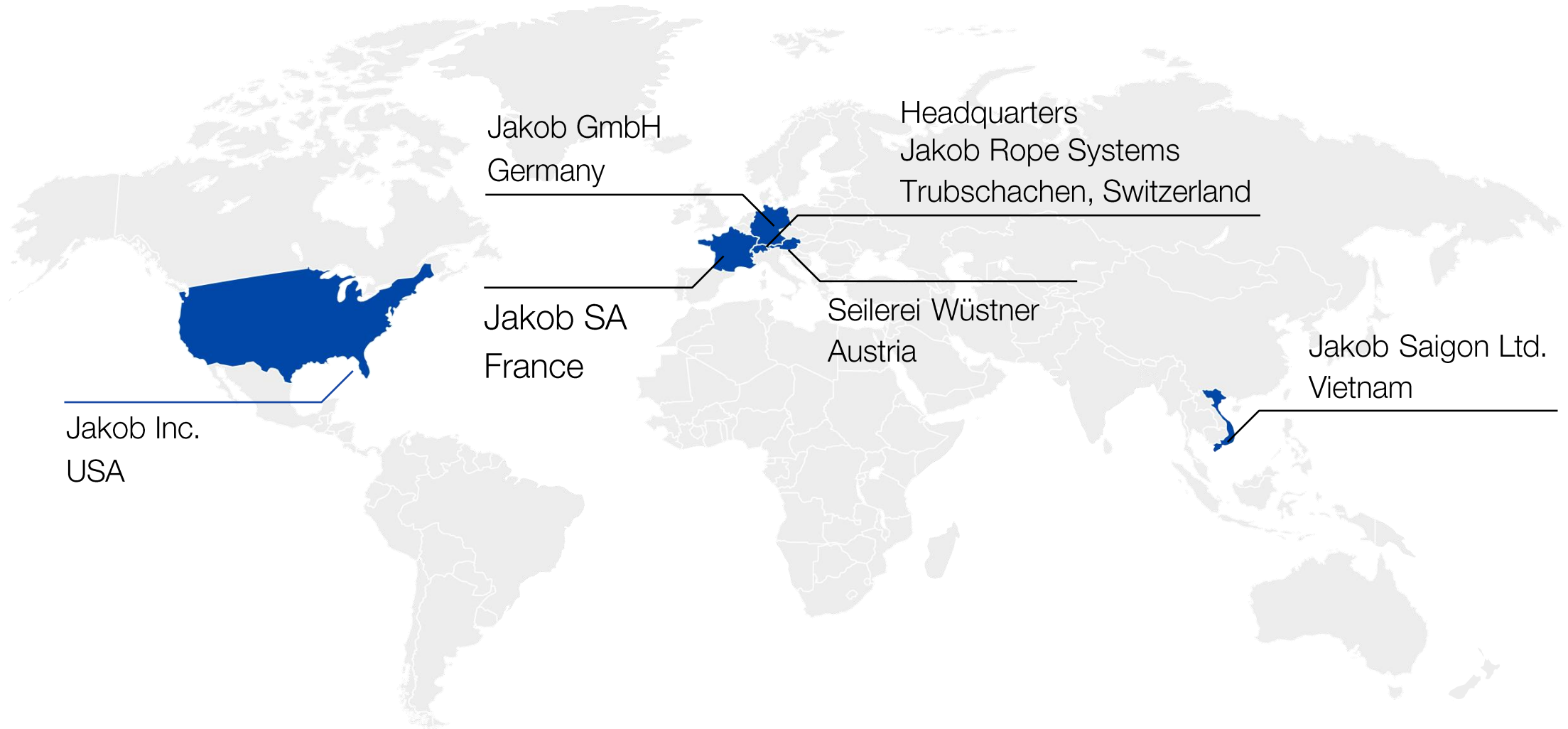
(Presentation based on Burgdorfer Brückenbautag 2022; Bau und Wissen)

Jakob[®]
Rope Systems

JAKOB AG | Rope engineering from Emmental, Switzerland



JAKOB AG | Worldwide support



Jakob GmbH
Germany

Headquarters
Jakob Rope Systems
Trubschachen, Switzerland

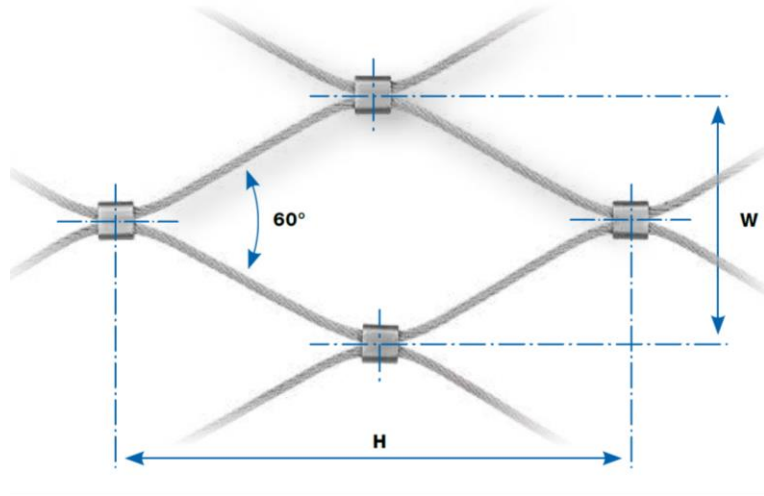
Jakob SA
France

Seilerei Wüstner
Austria

Jakob Inc.
USA

Jakob Saigon Ltd.
Vietnam

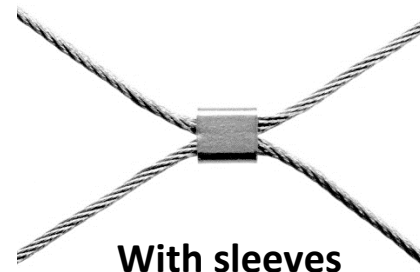
Rope net | Rope net structures



Rope net

- Opening angle: α
- Mesh geometry: $W; H$
- Net rope \emptyset
- Node type: with sleeves / sleeveless
- Steel grade: rope 1570-EN1.4401 / sleeves EN1.4404

Nodes



With sleeves



Sleeveless



\emptyset 1.0 / 1.5 / 2 / 3 mm



\emptyset 1.5 / 2 mm



\emptyset 3–5 mm



Applications | Zoo Enclosures

Enclosure Aarealpen Dählhölzli, Berne, Switzerland . 2019



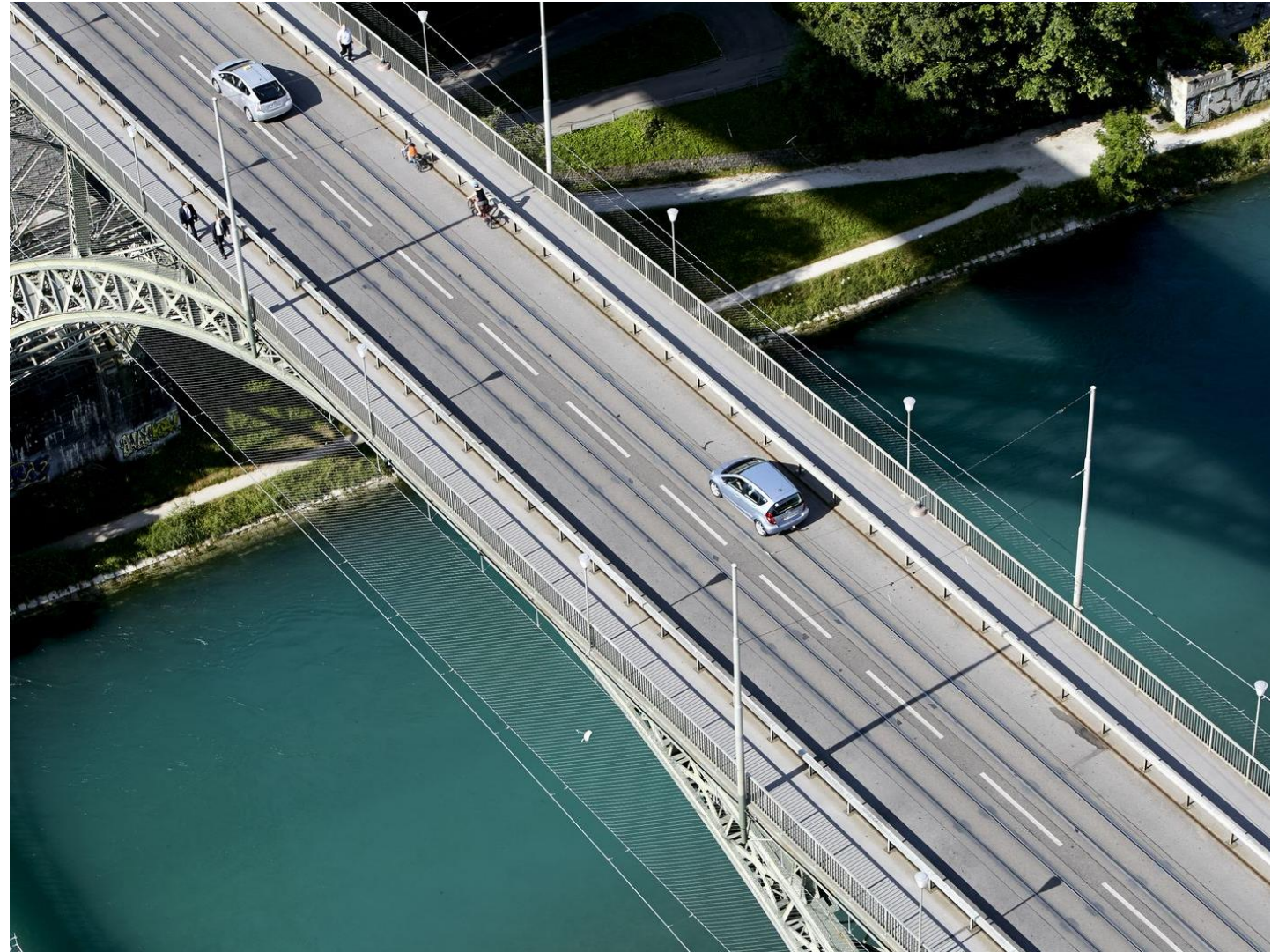
Applications | Green Structures

Amthausplatz Solothurn, Switzerland



Applications | Safety Structures

Suicide Prevention Structure Kornhausbrücke Berne, Switzerland . 2015

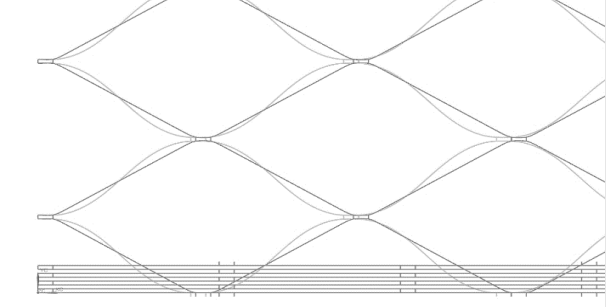
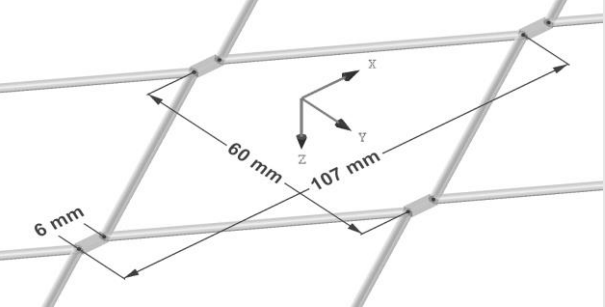
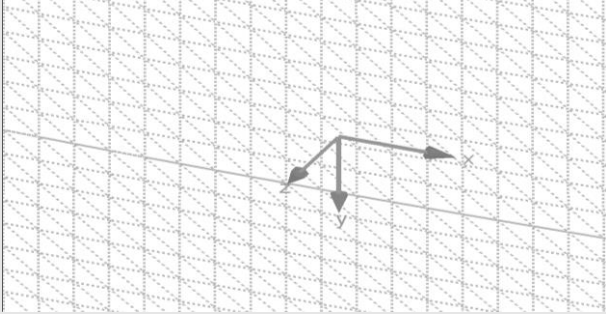


Applications | Bridge Constructions

Himmelhausmattesteg Trubschachen, Switzerland . 2020



Modeling | Rope net Structures

1. Method - "Real" ropes	2. Method - "Ideal" ropes	3. Method - orthotropic membrane
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beam elements with a real, representative bending stiffness • Rope deviation at the sleeve or tensioning process is taken into account 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideal, straight rope elements • Simplified geometry in the tensioned stage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orthotropic membrane with linear-elastic material model
		
Strengths / Weaknesses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Exact determination non-linearity of the single mesh-diamond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simplification of the single mesh-diamond with linear-elastic material model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Reduced effort for form finding - For point loads
Applications		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed investigations: Initial stressing in the tensioned stage, local stress analysis around sleeves. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loads in plane or perpendicular to the network plane 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural system modeling of large-scale spatial free-forms, basis for patterning

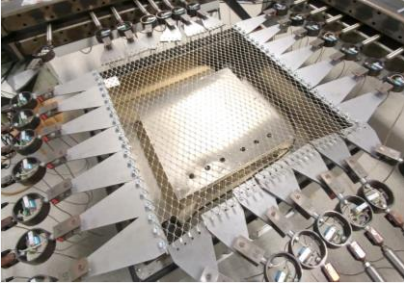
[Drayer D.; Jakob AG]

Dimensioning | Rope net structures

For quasi-static loads

STIFFNESS

Tests
Uniaxial or biaxial tests



[Biax-DEKRA]

Calibration FE model
Isolated rope net structure →
adaptation $EA_{net\ rope}$ from initial
stressing stage

FE - SIMULATION

Verification
acc. to EN1993-1-1²⁰¹⁰;(6.2)

$$f_{Rd,Netzseil} = \frac{f_{min} * k_e}{1.5 * \gamma_R}$$

Empirical
determination k_e
by node test /
test lacing rope



RESISTANCE

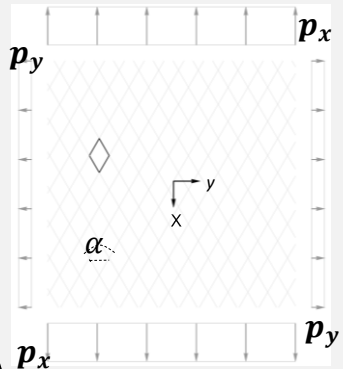
Applied actions | Rope net structures

← QUASI - STATIC →

Mains voltage

p dependent net structure, net application

$$p_y\{\alpha, 60^\circ\} = 1/3 p_x$$



Wind

C_f - based on wind tunnel tests

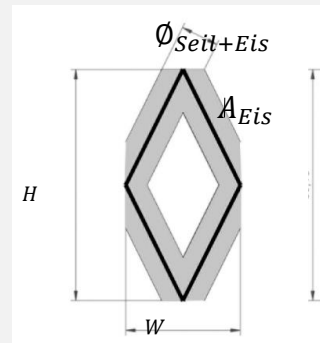
Dependent on net type (rope- \emptyset ., mesh size, node type)



Wind with ice

After iced surface (icing coating)
SIA 261; Tab.72/73

and state duration
DIN EN1991-1-4/NA.B.5



Snow

Reduction value in relation to standard values for closed surfaces



← DYNAMIC →

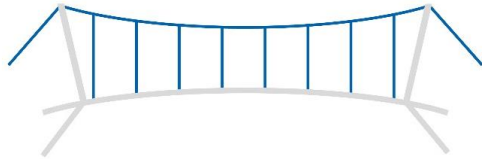
Falling bodies



Bridge construction | Rope / net structures

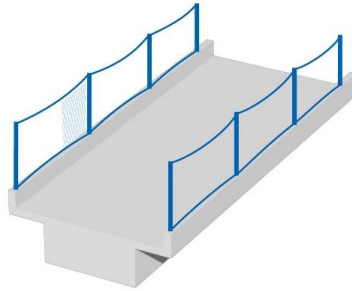
← ROPE STRUCTURES →

**Suspension
bridge**

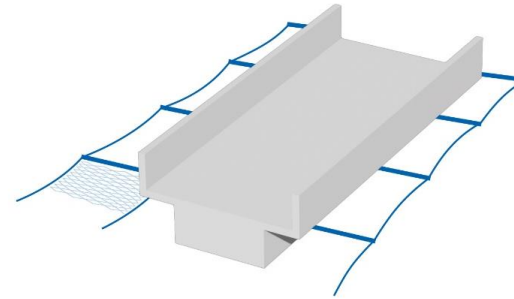


← ROPE / NET STRUCTURES →

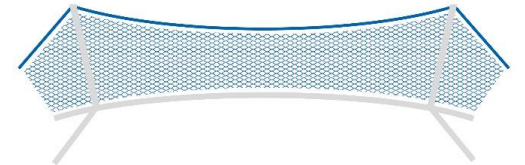
**Vertical
fall protection**



**Horizontal fall
protection**



**Structural
elements**



← STRUCTURAL MEASURES FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION →

Himmelhausmattesteg | Case study

Trubschachen, 2020

Slow traffic bridge (pedestrian and cycle bridge)

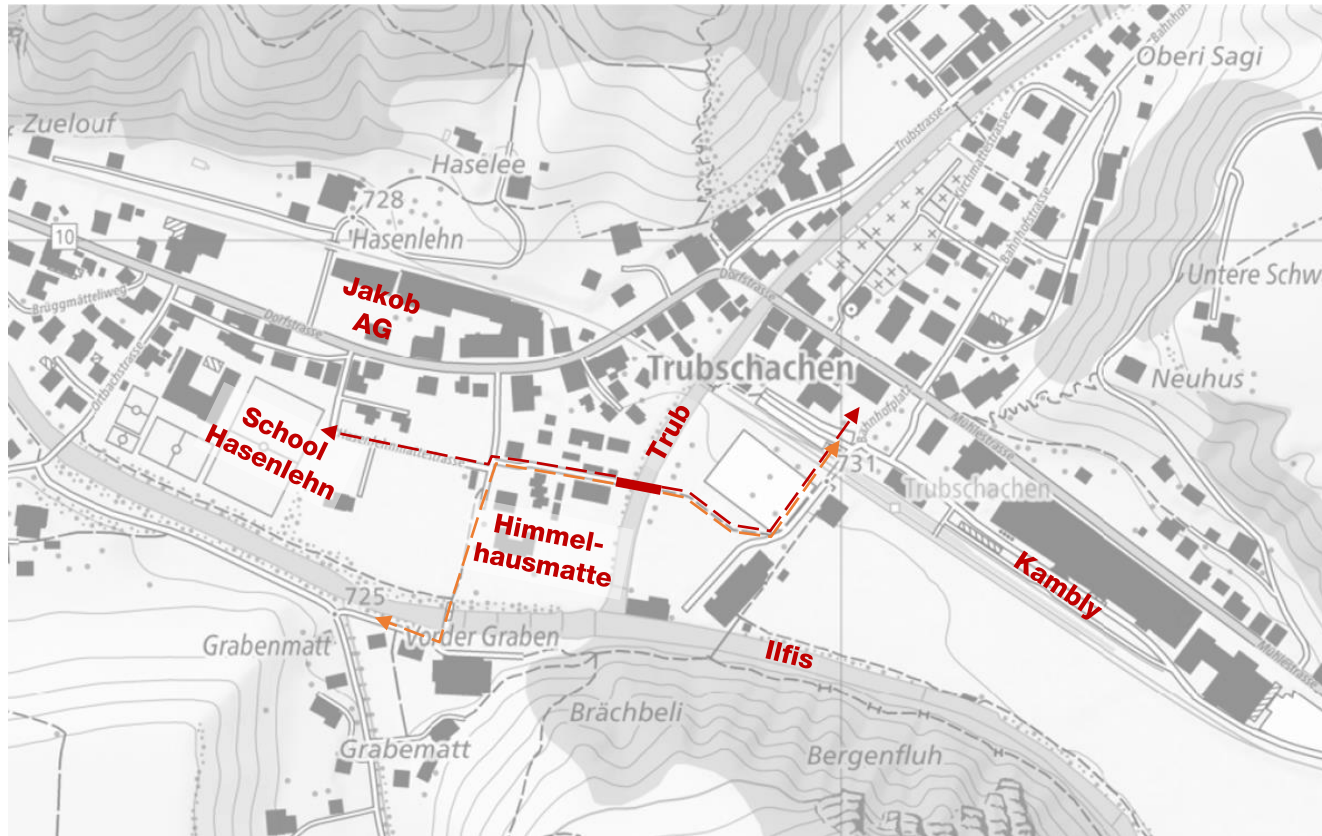


fig.: Situation; [maps.geo.admin.ch]

Client:

Municipality of Trubschachen

Design / Engineering; supply rope / net construction:

Jakob AG

Design of foundation:

Wüthrich Ing. AG

Contractor:

Thuner AG

Steel and metal supplier:

Von Niederhäusern AG

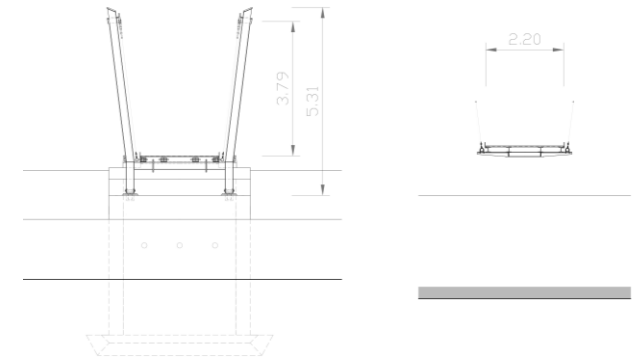
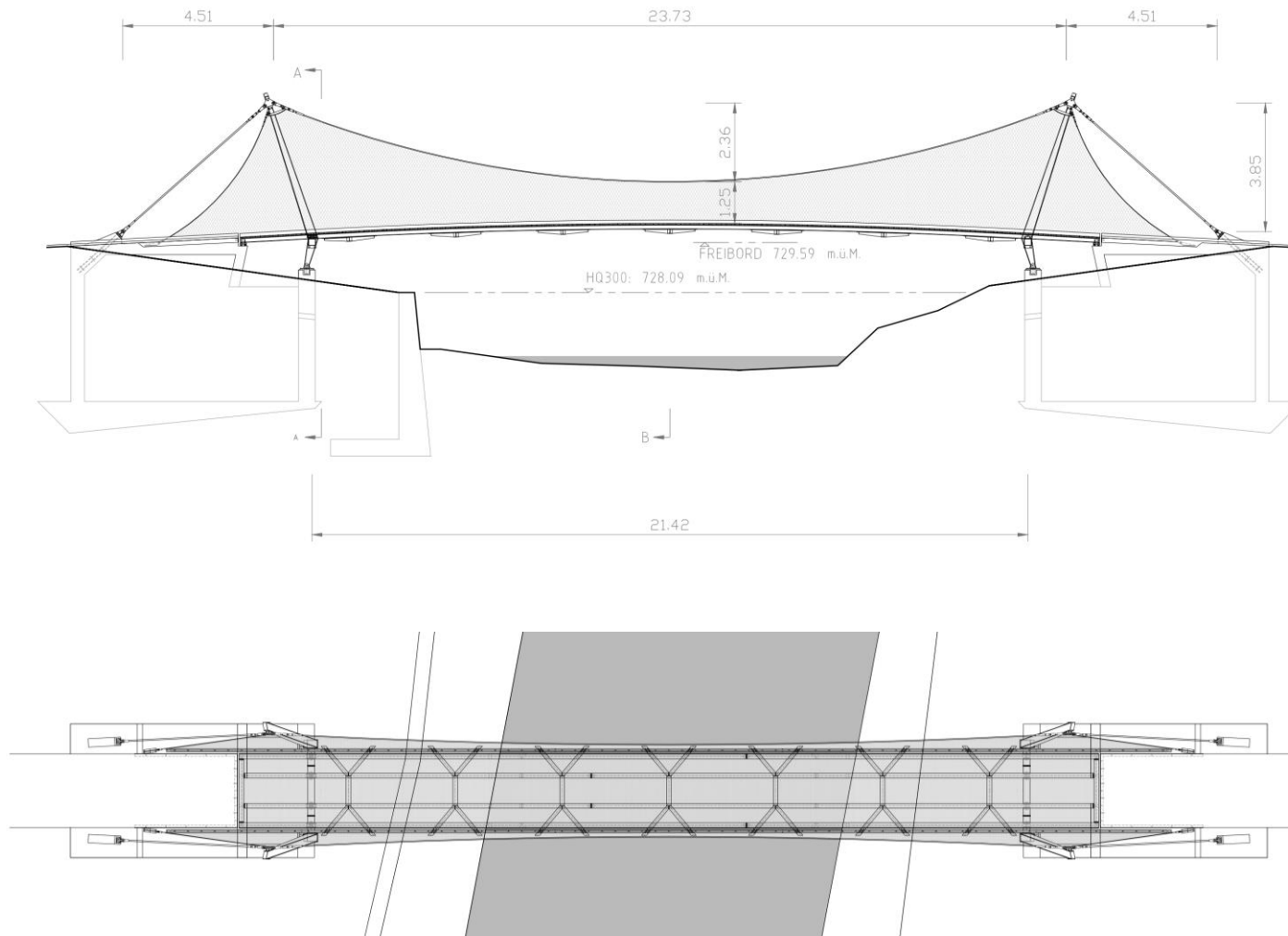


Footpath to School - Hasenlehn



Regional cycle routes

Structural design approach | Himmelhausmattesteg



Requirements

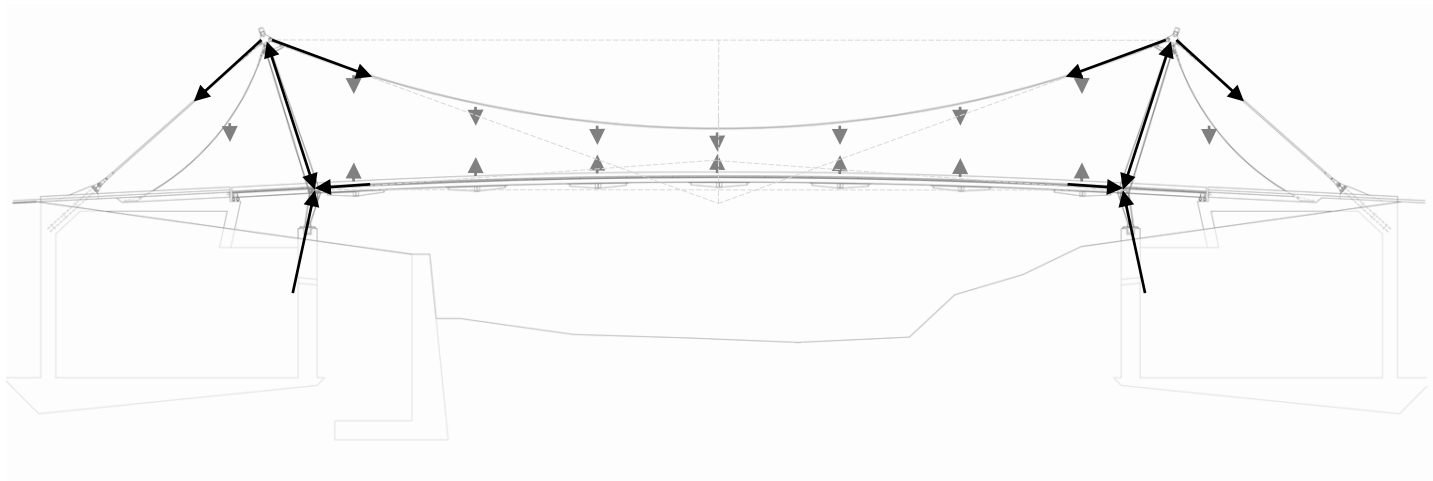
Live load	4 kN/m^2
Tractor- snow removal	50 kN

Geometry

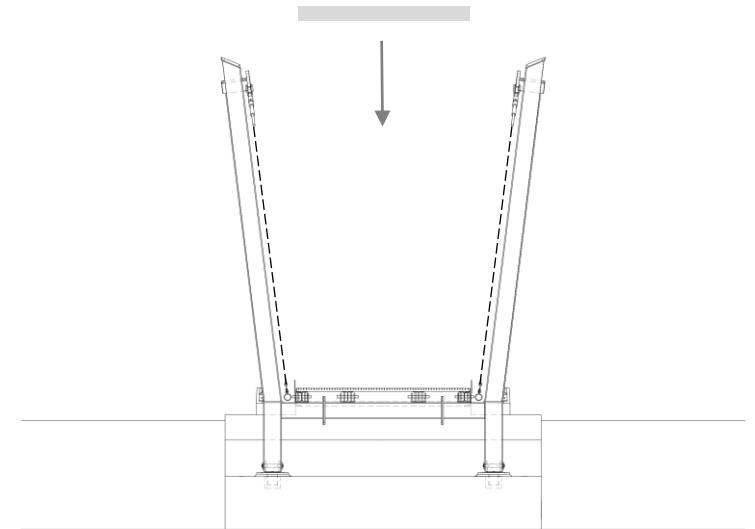
Bridge length, width	25.7 m, 2.2 m
Free span l	21.4 m
Rope sag f	2.4 m ($f/l = 1/10$)
Height pylons	5.3 m

Structural design approach | Himmelhausmattesteg

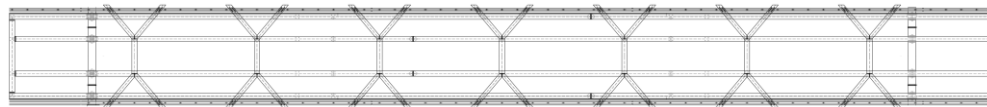
Tensioning of suspension cable to bridge girder → **system stiffness**



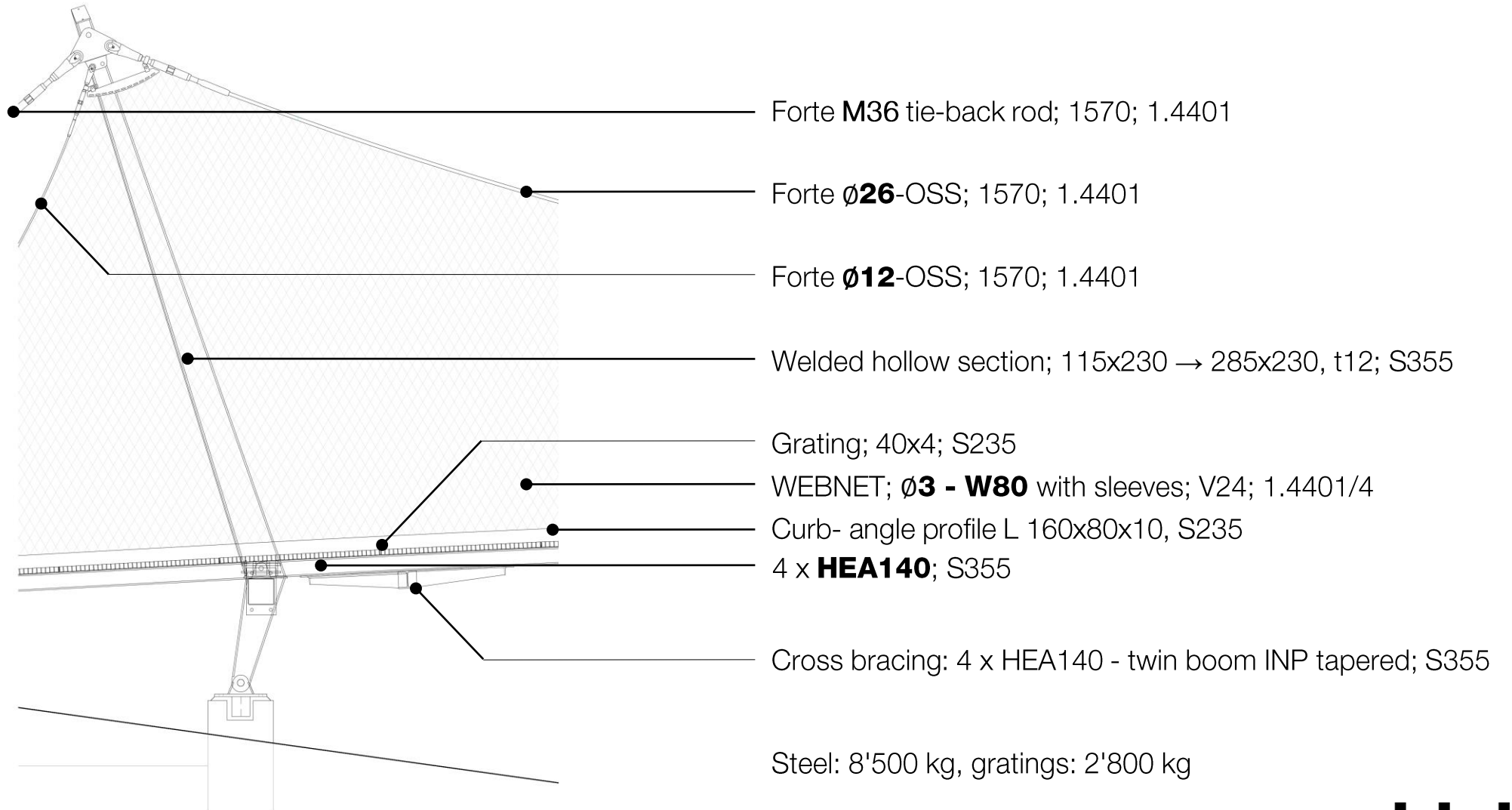
Geometry of pylons → plane rope net, lift in bridge girder



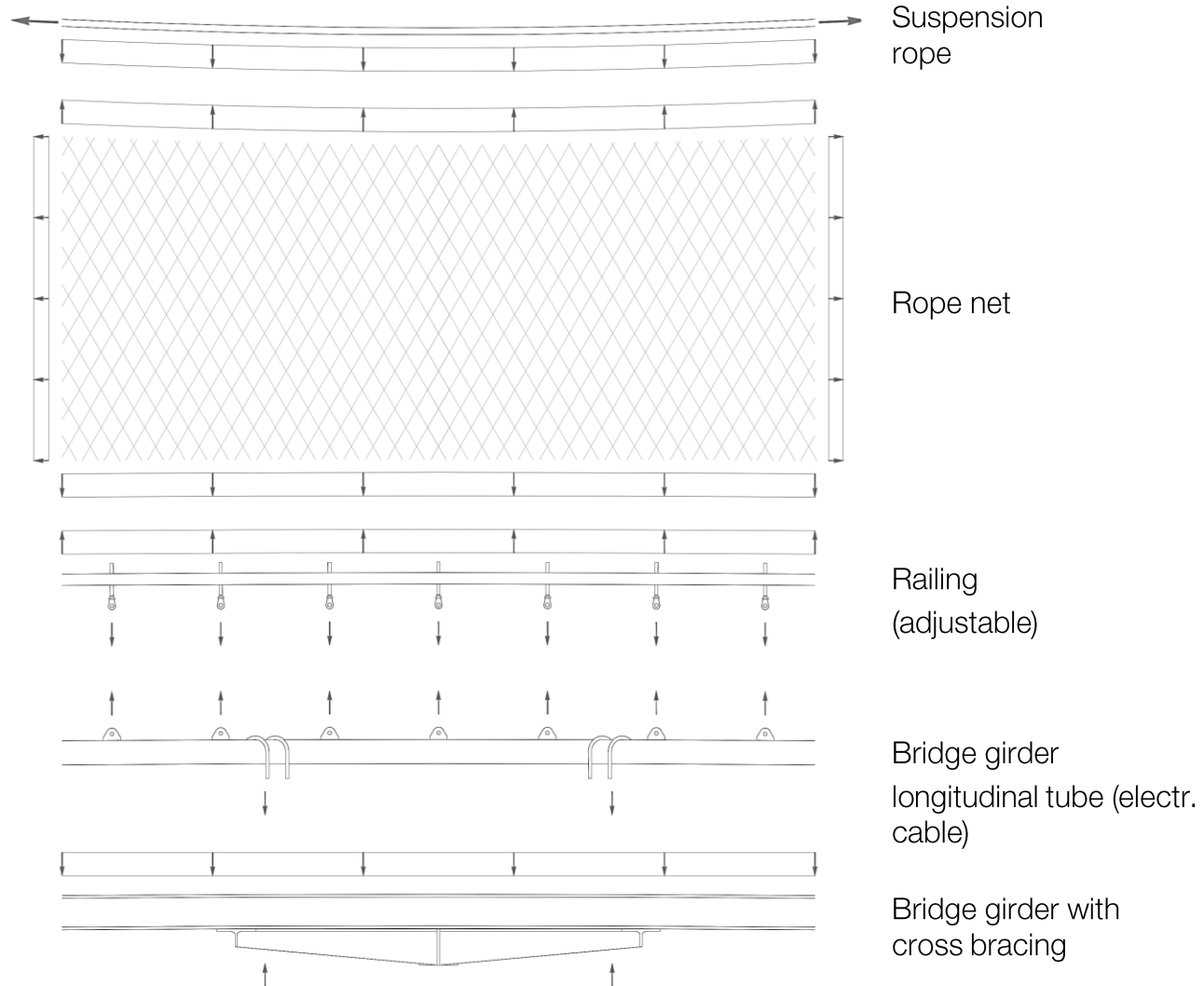
Double Y-bracing → horizontal bracing, reduction of span rope net beams



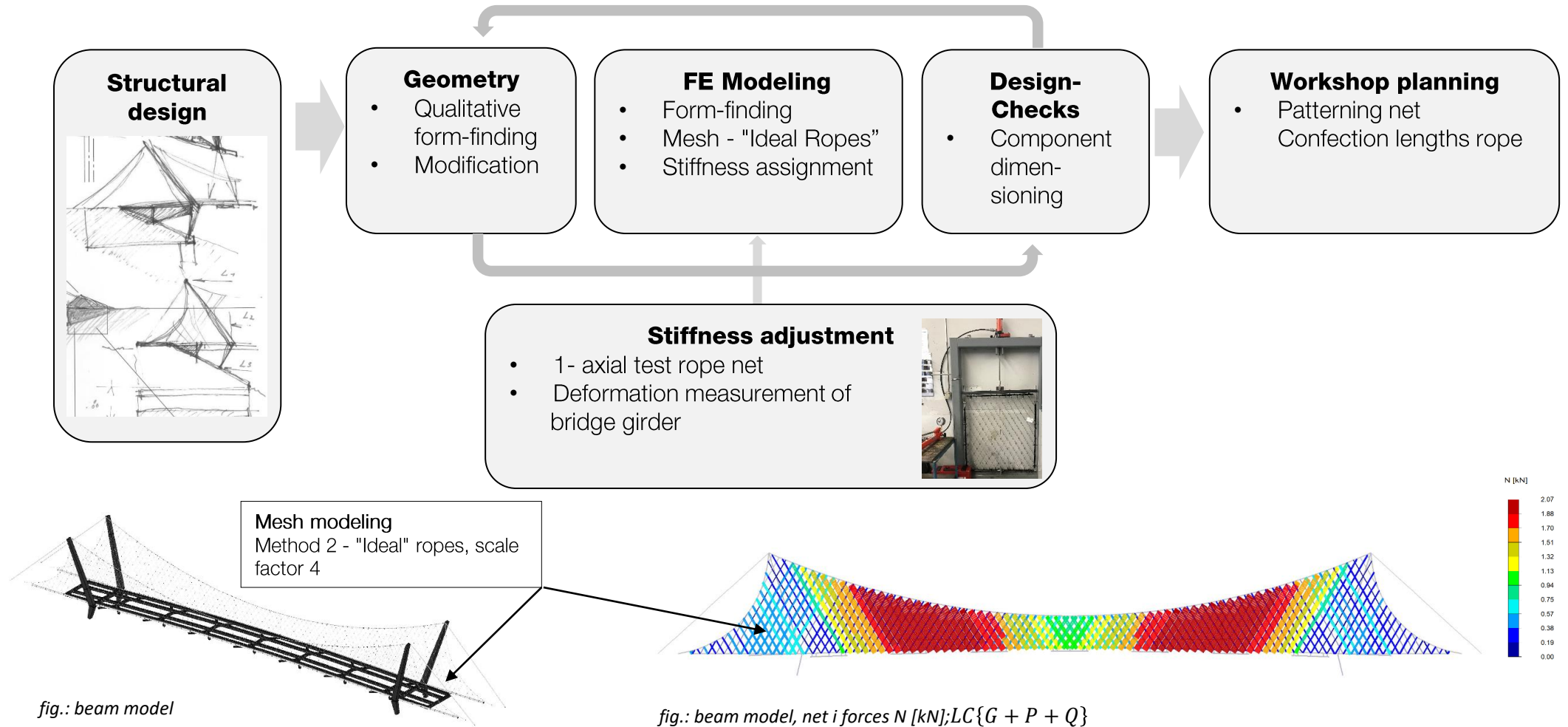
Structural description | Himmelhausmattesteg



Tectonics | Himmelhausmattesteg

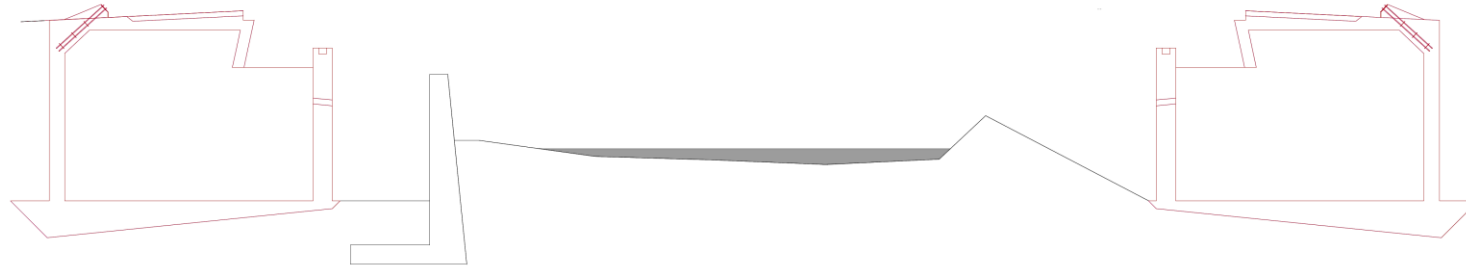


Dimensioning | Himmelhausmattesteg



Construction process | Himmelhausmattesteg

Step 1

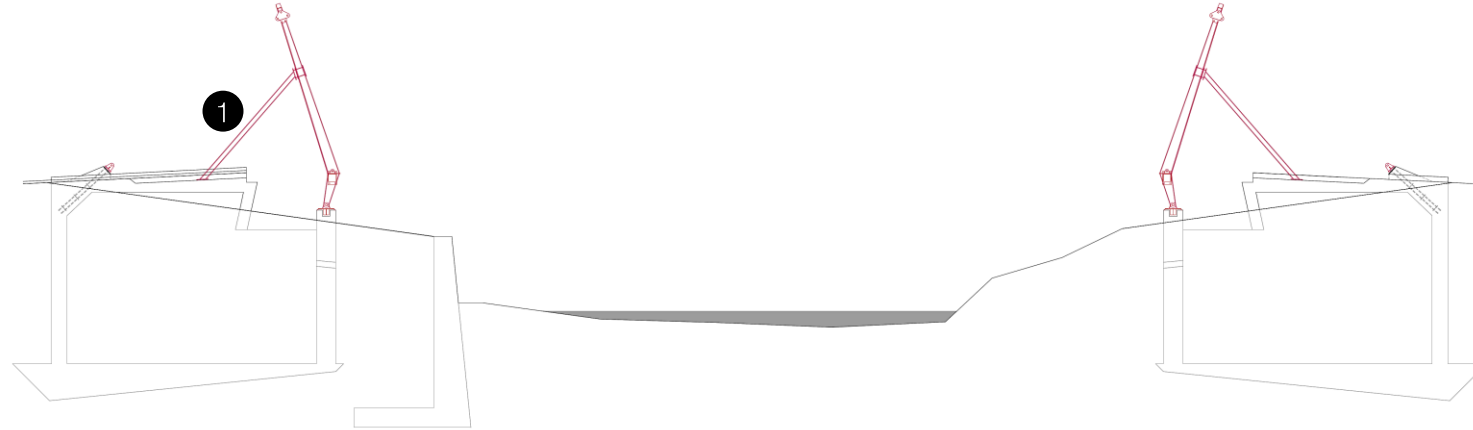


- Creation of access, installation site
- Foundation

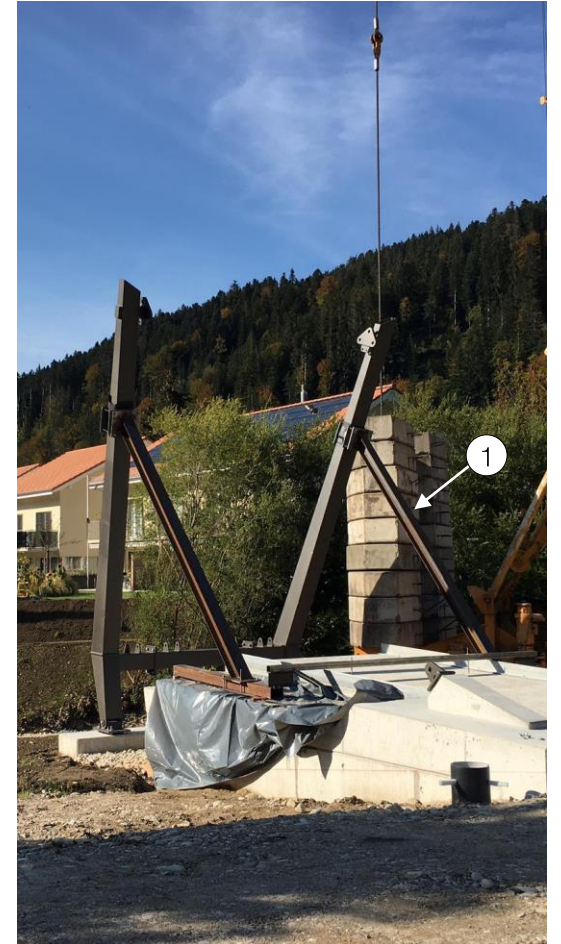


Construction process | Himmelhausmattesteg

Step 2.1

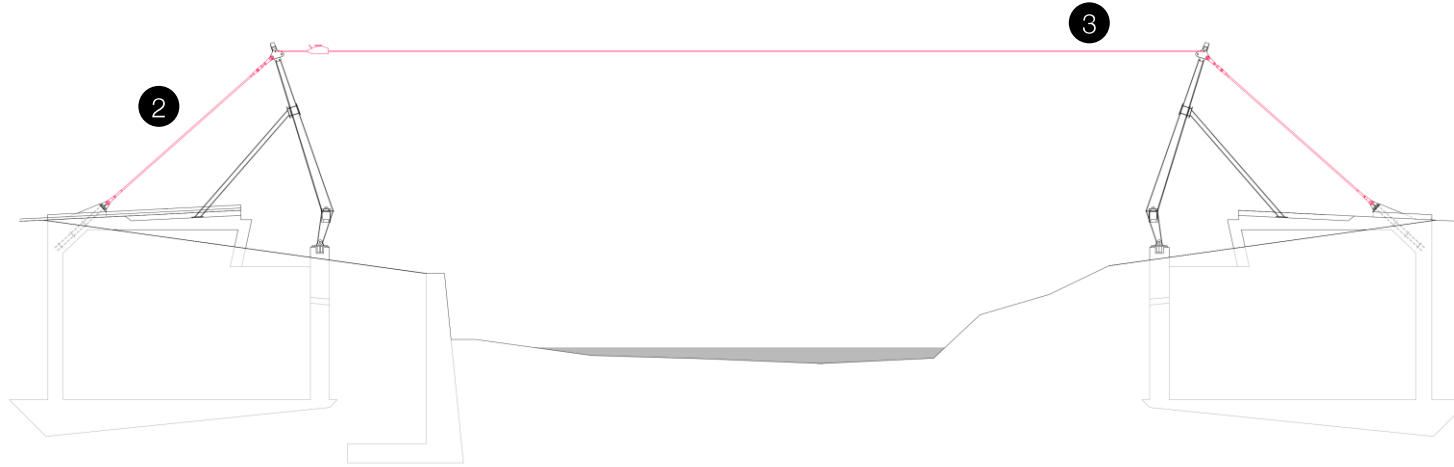


- Erecting pylons with auxiliary struts ①



Construction process | Himmelhausmattesteg

Step 2.2

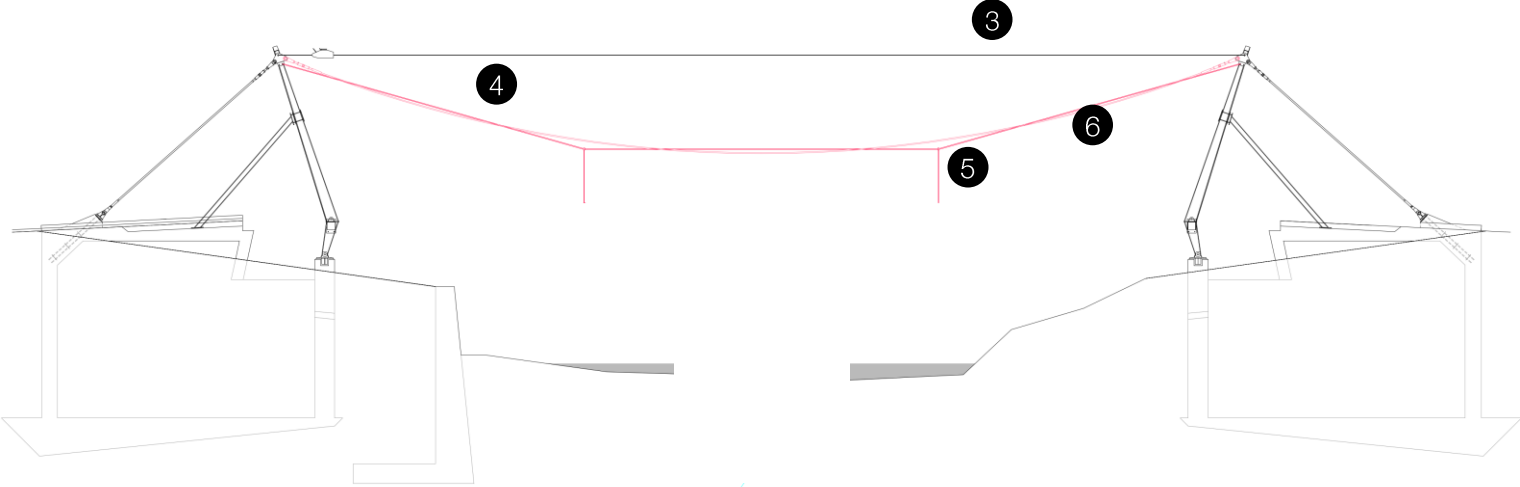


- Mounting tie-back rods ②
- Horizontal pylon coupling cable ③
- Adjustment pylon alignment

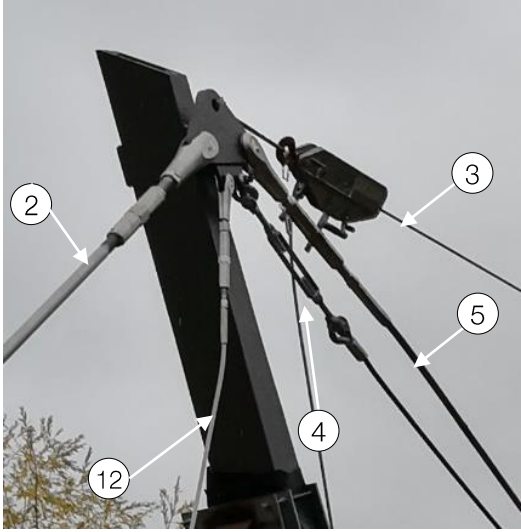


Construction process | Himmelhausmattesteg

Step 3

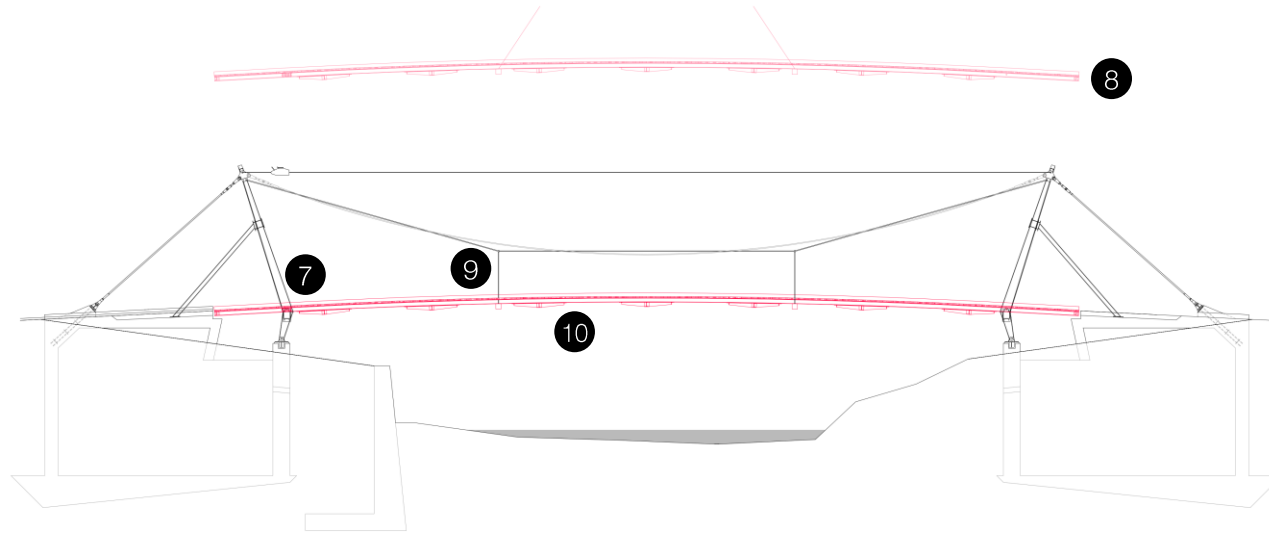


- Mounting temporary suspension ropes 4 with hangers 5 pull in along 3
- Installation of suspension ropes (temporary laterally tensioned) 6



Construction process | Himmelhausmattesteg

Step 4

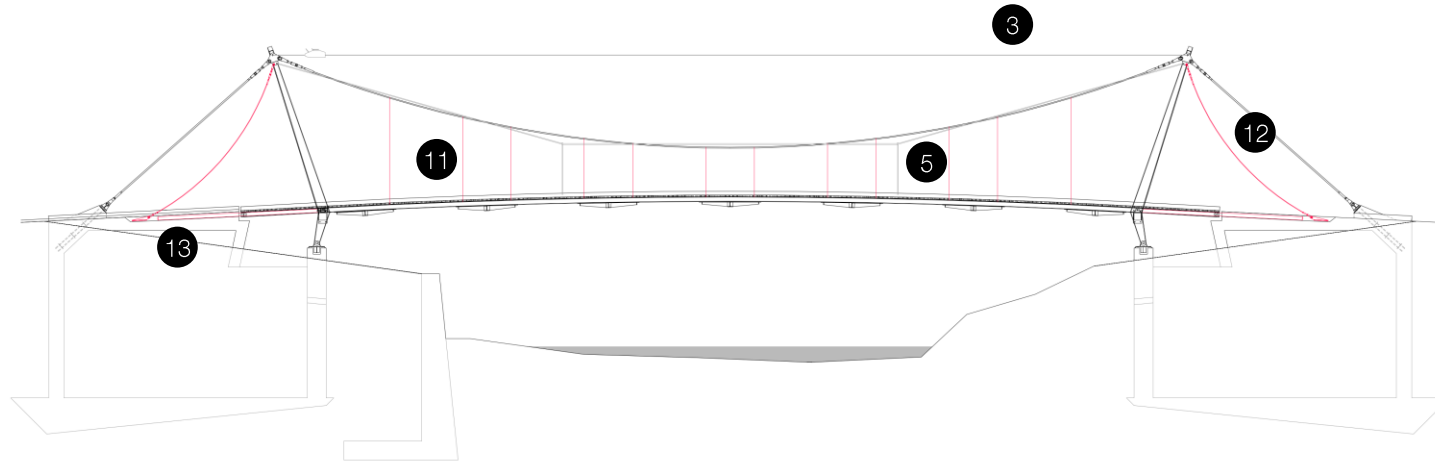


- Longitudinal adjustment of pin connection at pylon locations
- Attachment of bolts at connection bridge girder - pylon 7
- Lifting bridge girder with mobile crane 8
- Coupling to temporary cable structure 9
 - Connecting hangers to auxiliary lifting beams 10
 - Applying tension to hanger / geometry check
 - Relieving the load on the mobile crane
- Approval of accessibility of bridge girders for further assembly steps

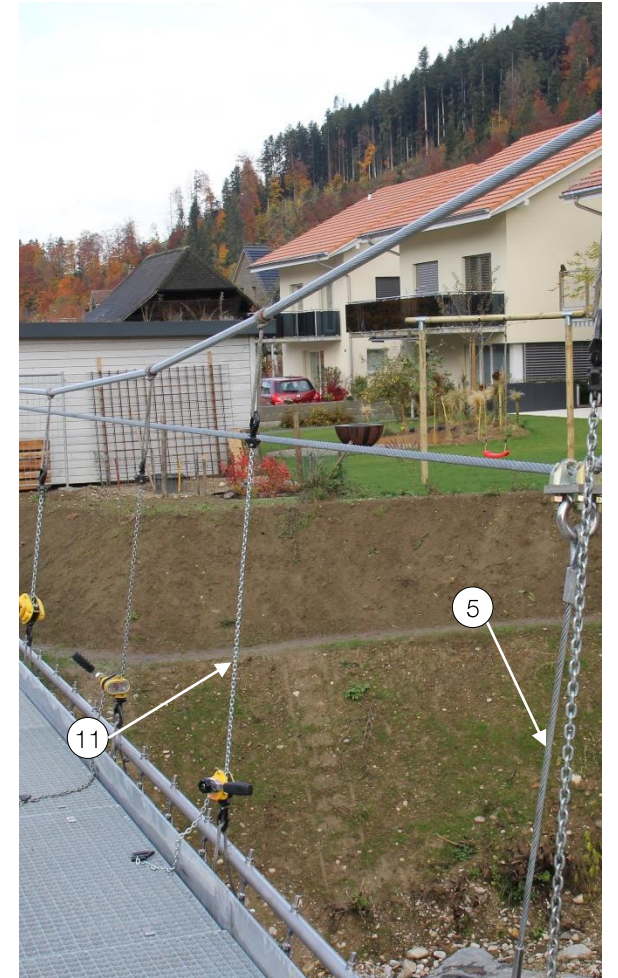


Construction process | Himmelhausmattesteg

Step 5

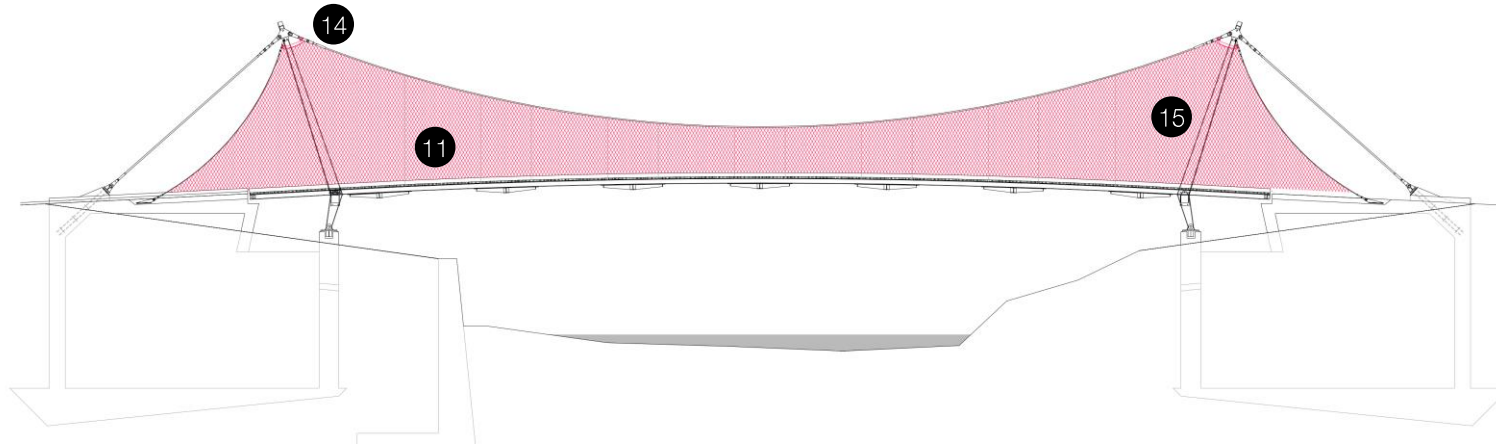


- Disassembly auxiliary struts
- Dismantling pylon coupling cable ③
- Assembly chain hoists / Habegger hoists
 - Tensioning chain hoists ⑪
 - Relieving temporary suspension ropes ⑤
 - Re-tensioning chain hoists ⑪
- Assembly net tie-back rope ⑫
- Assembly edge tube extension ⑬

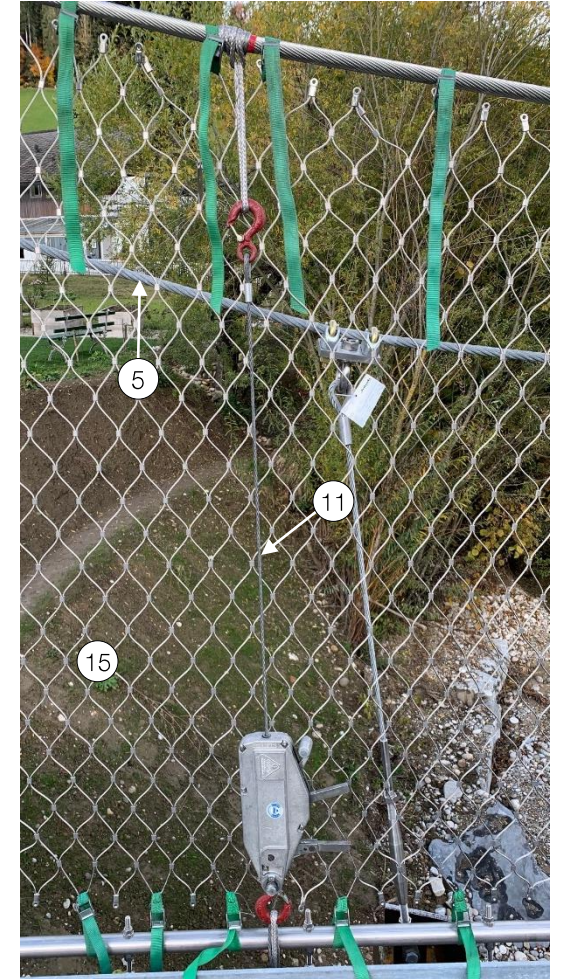


Construction process | Himmelhausmattesteg

Step 6



- Attachment of components for net edge structure 14
- Alignment and temporary tensioning of the nets 15
- Attachment of rope net tensioning elements / tension belts
- Unloading chain tension members 11
- Lacing rope net
- Dismantling temporary rope net tensioning elements
- Dismantling chain hoists



Constructive design | Himmelhausmattesteg

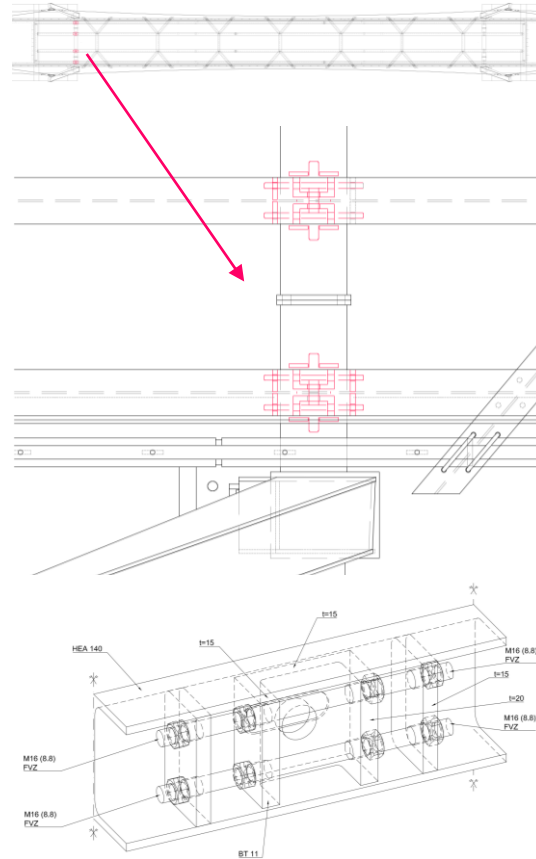
Adjustment devices



Adjustment devices for mounting



Adjustment devices for long-term effects regarding loss of clamping force



Adjustment for the bridge girder

Net set up



Blocking sleeve on binding rope
@ 6th eyelet = approx. 500 mm



Net corner design, reduction of force peaks

Patterning | Himmelhausmattesteg

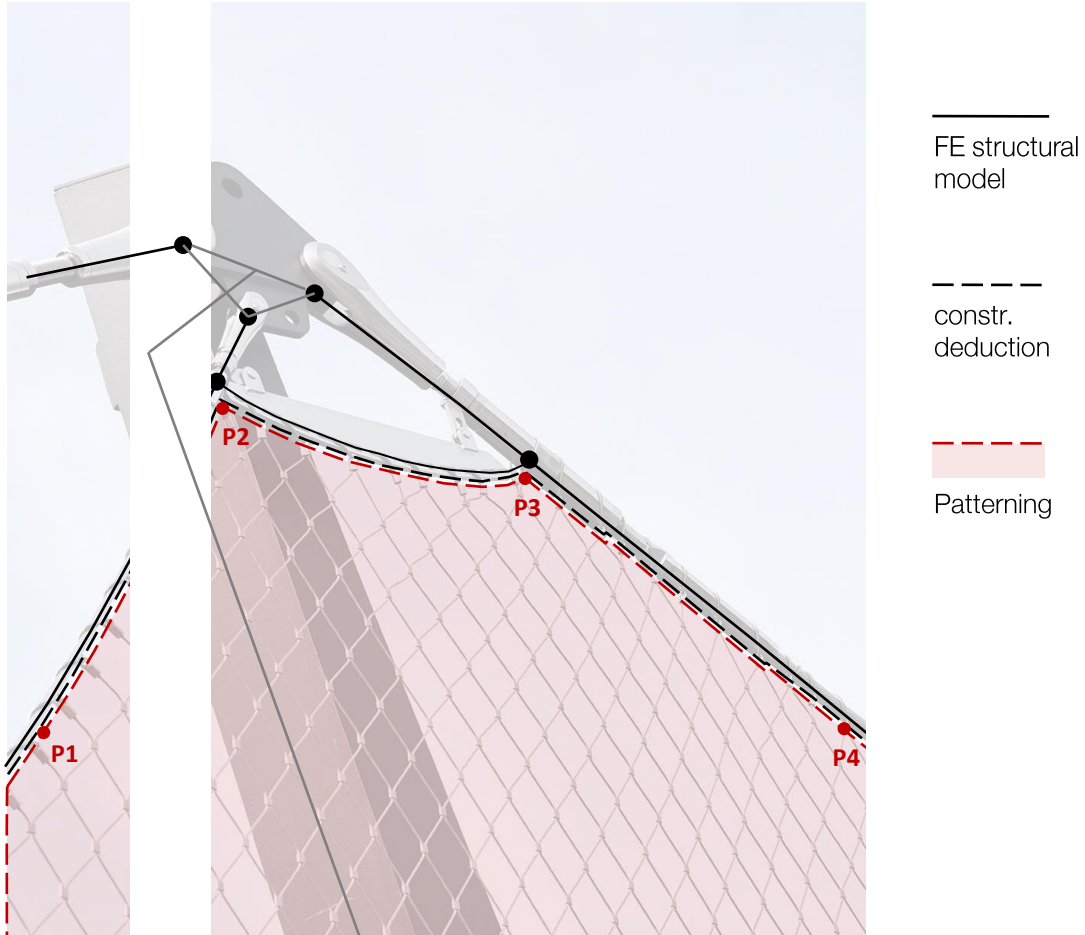


fig.: pattering, schematic figure

Structural Design

Patterning

- 2D flattening based on shape form-finding $LF\{G + P\}$
- Labeling, markings supported with FE software

Constructive deduction

Combination of FE software and manually

Production Planning

Patterning Drawing

Workshop drawings

Basis for cutting net ropes / net production

Dynamic behavior | Himmelhausmattesteg

		Natural frequency [Hz]	HIVOSS, [a]	a $\left[\frac{m}{s^2}\right]$	HIVOSS, [a]
Walking	vertical vibration	2.9	not critical	1.0	CL 2-3 medium / minimum $a_{limit,vertical} \leq 1.0$
Marching	vertical vibration	2.2	critical	-	not acceptable
Running	vertical vibration	2.8	critical	-	not acceptable

- Number of pedestrians: 9 + 1 persons -> 0.2 P/m² (TC2)
- Quiescent vibration: FE model: 2.7 Hz

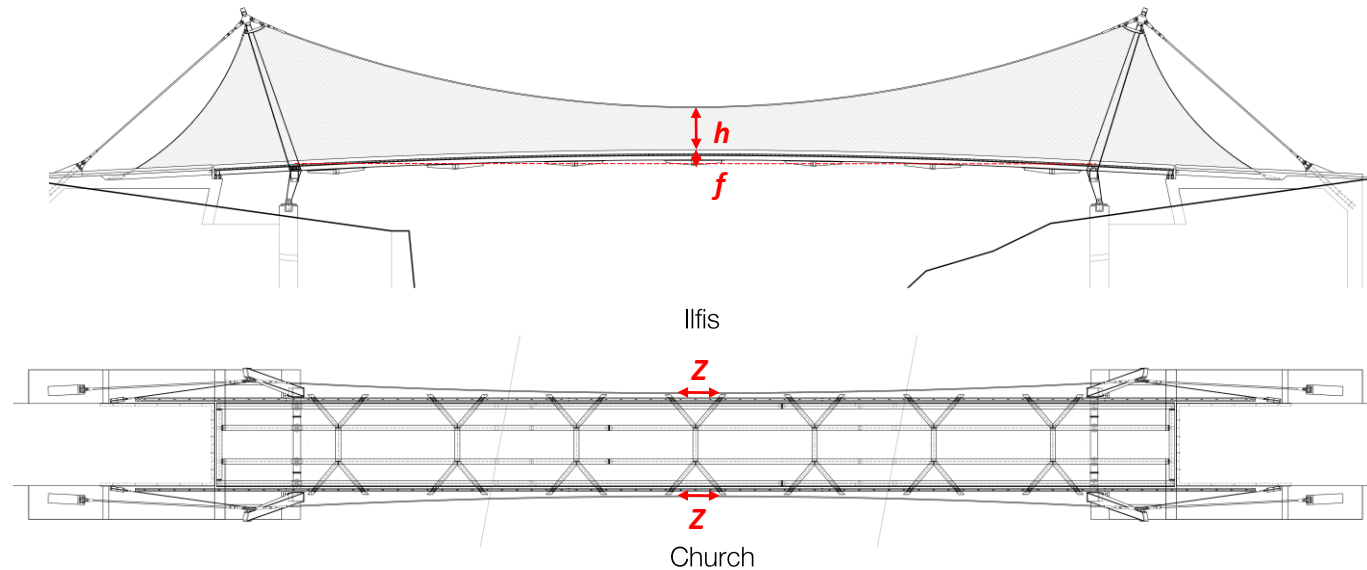


Monitoring | Himmelhausmattesteg

Measurement	Location	Z [kN]		h [mm]		f [mm]		
02.11.2020	Church	74						Construction stage, side ready laced
02.11.2020	Ilfis	78						
23.02.2021	Church			1155		303		Calibrating bridge after completion
23.02.2021	Ilfis			1146		295		
10.08.2022	Church	69.4	94 %	1153	100 %	301	99.8 %	Unloaded (2 persons)
10.08.2022	Ilfis	70.6	91 %	1147	100 %	280	100.1 %	



fig.: Tractel Dynarope, rope force measuring device



Construction costs | Himmelhausmattesteg

(Erection 2020)

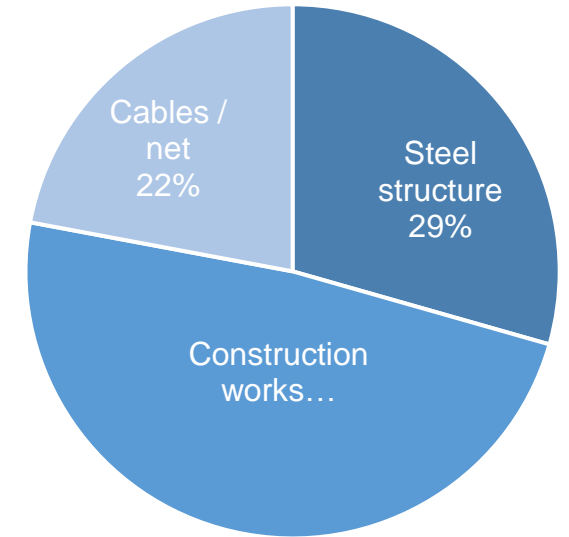
Steel structure (incl. installation)	72 000 EUR
Construction works	120 000 EUR
Ropes / nets (incl. installation)	55 000 EUR
	247 000 EUR

Key figures

based on bridge area $A = 58 \text{ m}^2$	4 300 EUR/m ²
based on bridge length $l = 26 \text{ m}$	9 500 EUR/m

Alternative conventional suspension bridge	~ - 10 000 EUR
+ Fall protection	~ + 30 000 EUR
Connections suspension / hangers (26 pcs.)	
- Net area, reduction of net installation costs	~ - 20'000 EUR

Construction costs



What's next? | Small spans

Webnet bridge Parco via Pico Lugano, Switzerland . 2022

Span: 15 m

Jakob Rope Systems for HINNEN playground equipment



What's next? | Big spans

Structural proposal suspension bridge Disentis, Switzerland . 2024

Span: 270 m

JV – Jakob Rope Systems. Von Rotz&Wiedemar. Pfeifer



fig.: Visualizations of the proposed structure of the Disentis suspension bridge

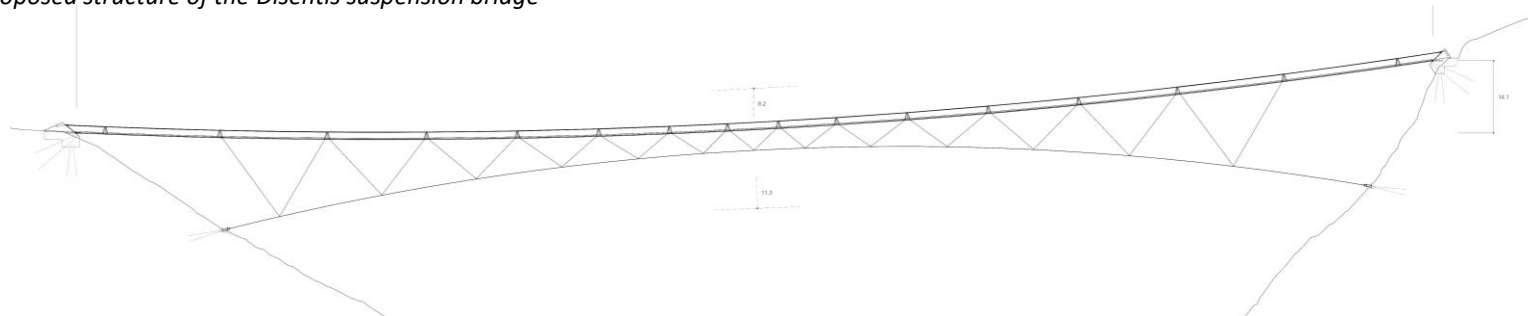


fig.: longitudinal elevation



[jakob.com](https://www.jakob.com)