

# Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure

*School of Engineering  
University of Warwick*

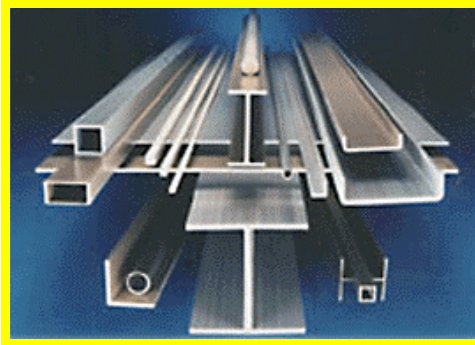
Theodore L. Karavasilis

*Assistant Professor of Structural Engineering*

# Outline

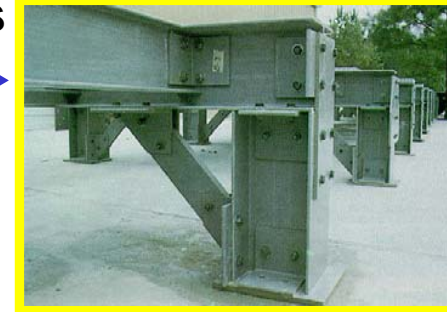
- Professor Toby Mottram (FRPs in Structural Engineering, Thin Walled Structures)
- Dr Stana Zivanovich (Vibration Serviceability, Structural Dynamics)
- Dr Tak-Ming Chan (Stability of Metallic Structures, Composite Steel Structures and Connections)
- Dr. Theodore Karavasilis (Resilient Damage-Free Steel Structures, Self-centering Connections, Passive and Semi-active Dampers, Performance-based design)
- Dr. Stefano Utili (Geotechnical Engineering, Numerical methods, DEM, Slope Stability, Flood Defence)

# Principal Structural Engineering Research Interest



Standard shapes and bolted connections

*Standard for Load Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) of Pultruded Fiber-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Structures*



## Research

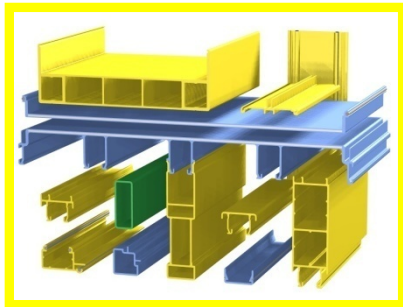
### Methodology:

Combination of full-sized physical testing and analytical and computational (FEA) analysis



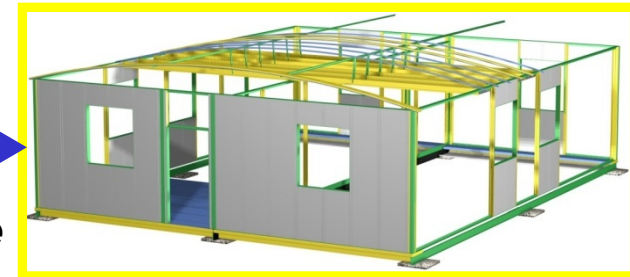
## Deliverables and

**Impact:** Information for the preparation of safety critical design 'rules' and provisions in standards and or codes of practice



Family of 'Startlink' shapes

*TSB Project for a Code level 6 house*



# Professor Toby Mottram, DSc, CEng, FIStructE

## Warwick University, 1987-:

- **Materials and structures teaching**
  - Steel Structures
  - Forensic Engineering
- **Civil Research Group**
  - newer construction materials
  - structural analysis

## Institution of Structural Engineers, member 1994-:

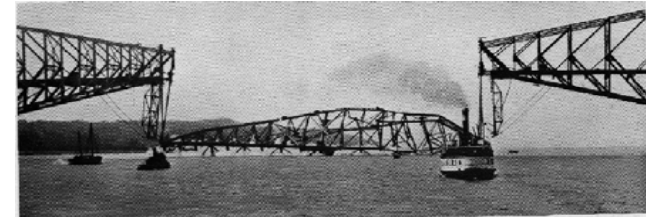
- Branch Committee, 1995 –
- Journal Editorial Board 2006 –

**Eurocodes, 2011-:** CEN/TC 250 WG 4 FRP Eurocode

**LIMESNET, 2011-12:** Member in ESPRC Network for *Low Impact Materials and innovative Engineering Solutions for the built environment*

**NGCC:** Convening steering group preparing publication for *Guidance for the Design of FRP Bridges*

**EPSRC 2010-2014:** Connections and Joints for Buildings and Bridges of Fibre Reinforced Polymer



2<sup>nd</sup> Quebec bridge, 1916



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## Sustainability and vibration serviceability

Aims:

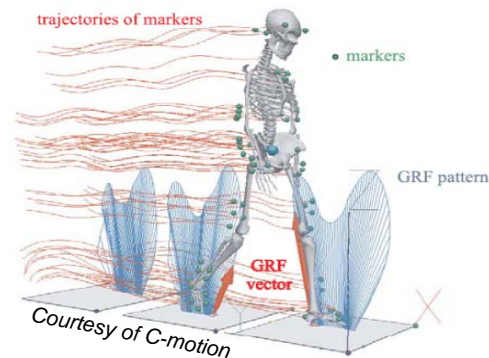
- To design “vibration-free” structures
- To enhance human well being in built environment
- To achieve non-conservative material saving designs

If to translate this to structures dynamically excited and occupied by people, we have to know more about...

Dynamics of light slender structures



Dynamics of humans



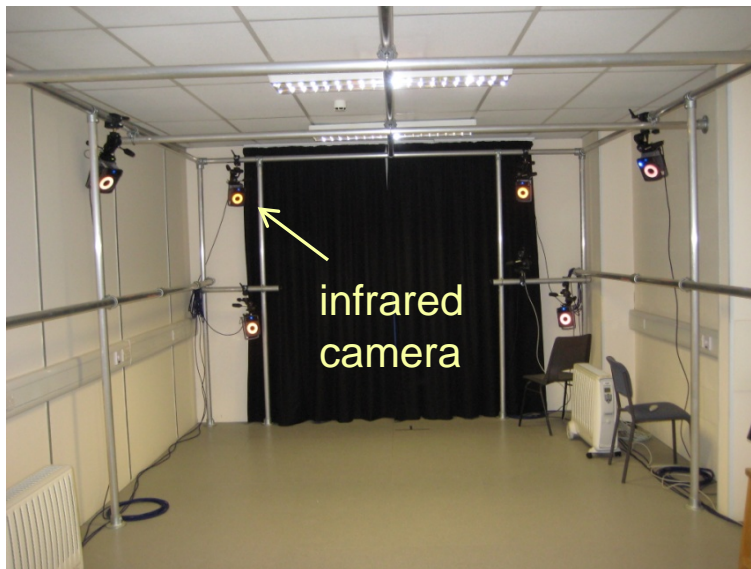
Human interaction with and perception of structures



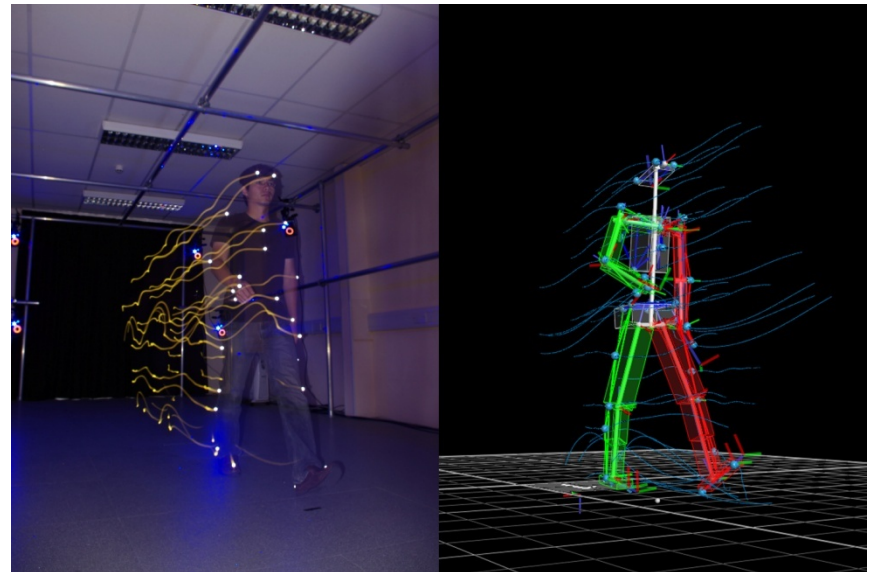


## Learning about kinematics and kinetics of human actions

Gait Lab facility



Tracking and modelling human body



Human body has capacity to both attenuate and amplify structural vibrations.

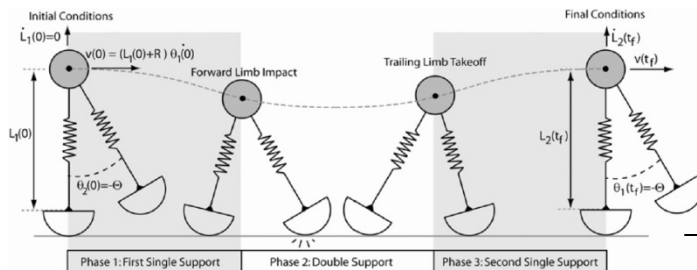
Understanding conditions leading to the two situations on as-built structures will lead to better controlled and high-quality infrastructure.

# Modelling human-structure dynamic system

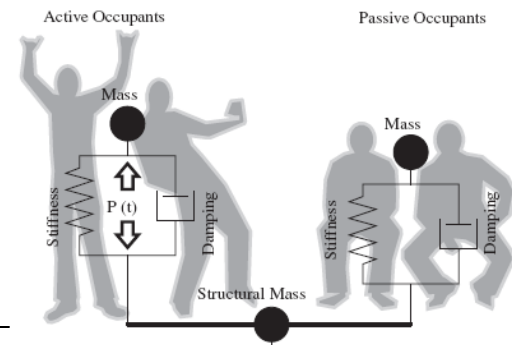
Traffic on footbridges



Spectators on grandstands

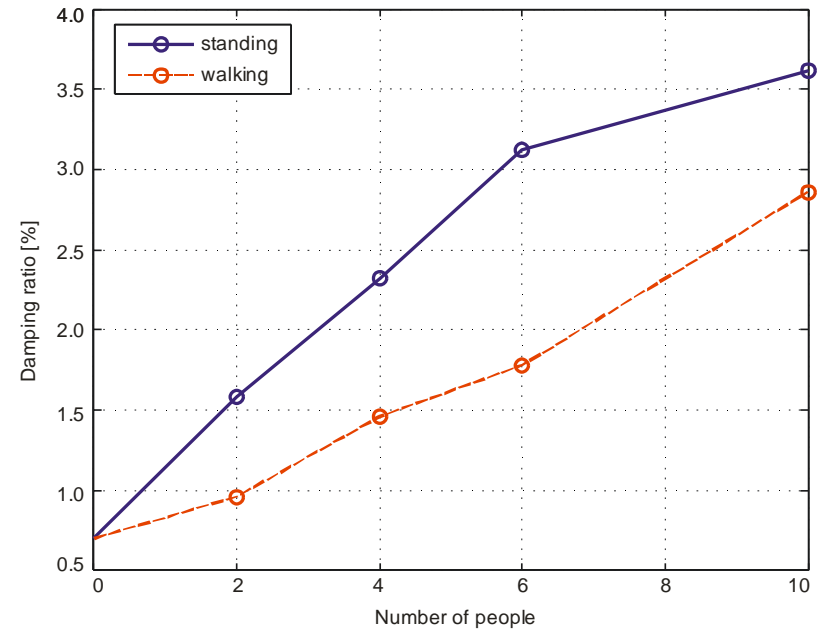
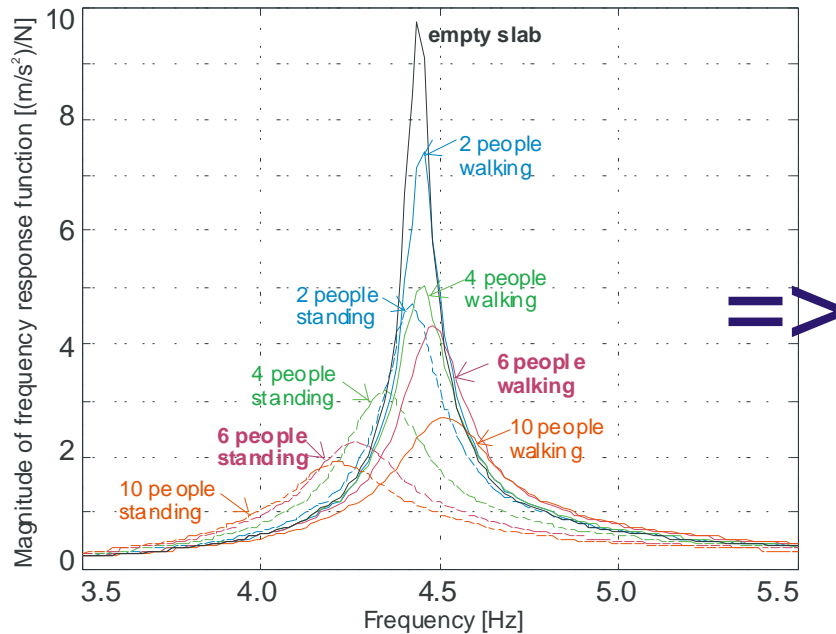


Wobbly surface  $y(t)$





## Example: dynamics of human-slab structure system



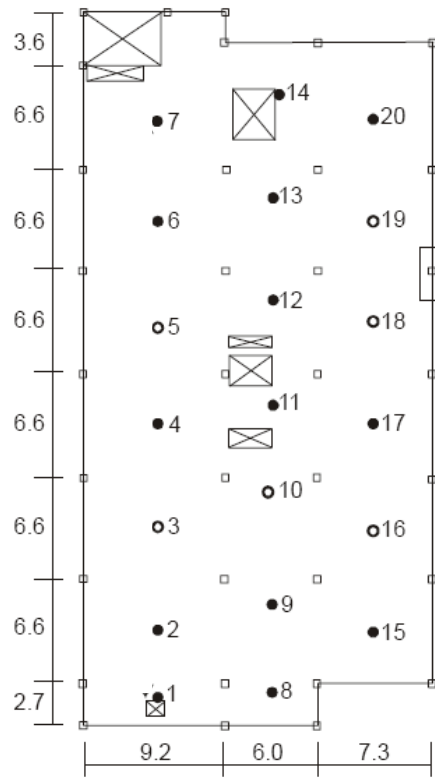
Six people standing on slab



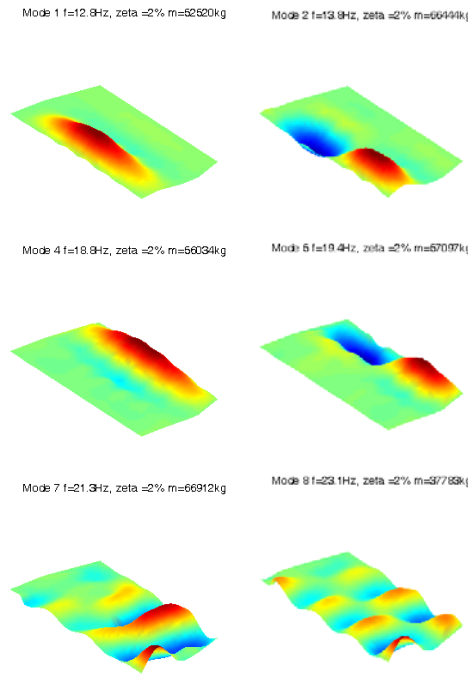
Six people walking on slab

System damping increased with increasing number of people present (even when people were walking)

# Example: optimising vibration performance

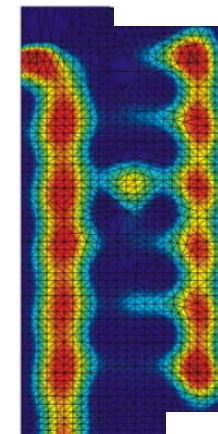
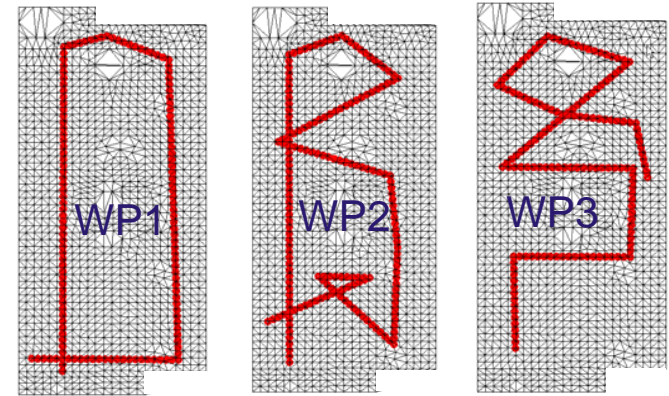


Floor



Some vibration modes

## Design of walking paths



Vibration response for walking along WP1

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# Concrete-filled tubular brace under cyclic loading

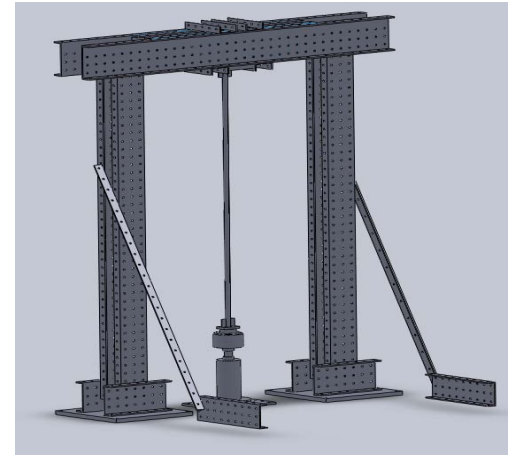
- **Funded by**

- TATA steel



- **Objective**

- Investigation into energy dissipation performance of concrete-filled tubular braces under cyclic loading



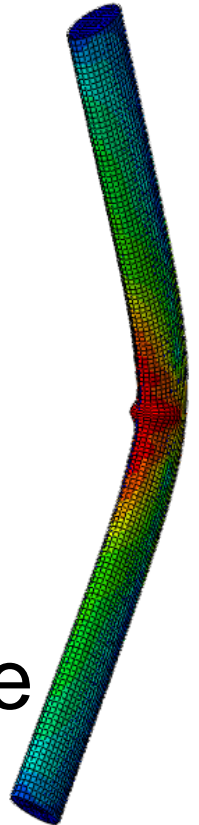
# *Concrete-filled tubular brace under cyclic loading*

- **Methodology**

- Full scale experimental tests
- Finite element simulations

- **Target**

- Generation of hysteretic performance data





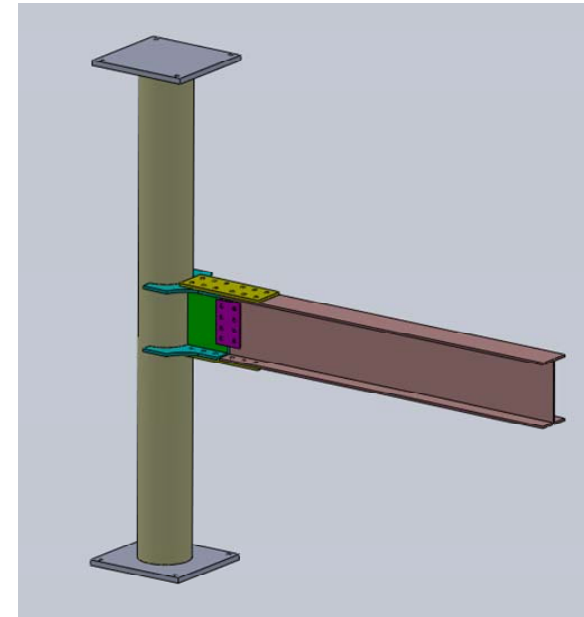
# *Connection between tubular column and I-beam*

- **Funded by**

- Engineering Physical Sciences Research Council

- **Supporters**

- TATA Steel, Arup, Steel Construction Institute



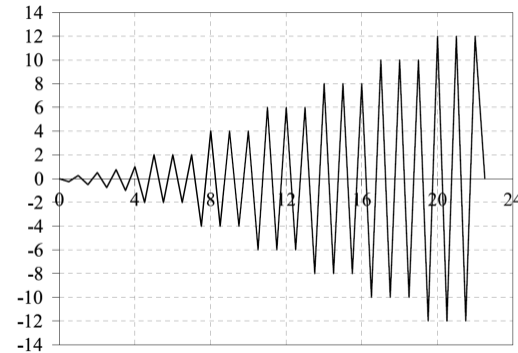
# Connection between tubular column and I-beam

- **Methodology**

- Full scale experimental tests
- Finite element simulations

- **Target**

- Generation of hysteretic performance data for semi-rigid connections



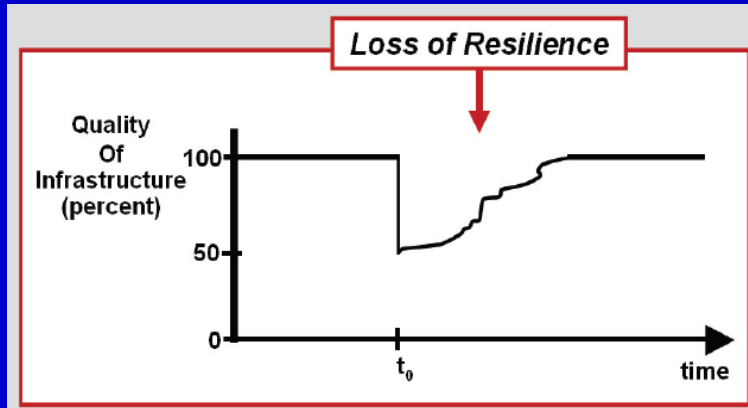
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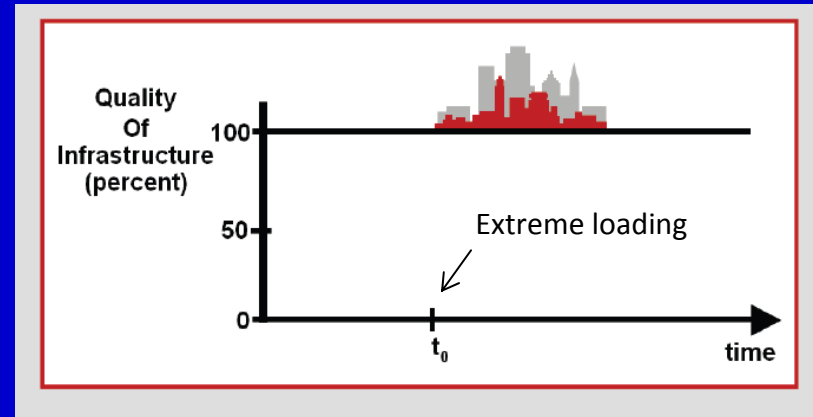
# Resilient Structures Lab

*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

Ultimate goal



**VS.**



**OUR RESEARCH EMPHASIZES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS WITH AN INHERENT POTENTIAL TO PROVIDE ROBUSTNESS AND RAPIDITY**

**Robustness:** Resistance

**Rapidity:** Speed with which occupation, use, service, etc.. are restored after severe loading conditions

# Resilient Structures Lab

*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

## Ultimate goal:

- Elimination of the socio-economical risks related to extreme loading conditions (earthquakes, windstorms, blast)

## Research on:

- Minimal-damage structures under extreme loads
- Structures which can be easily repaired without loss of use or occupation
- Advanced solutions for retrofitting existing infrastructure economically and time efficiently

## Consider:

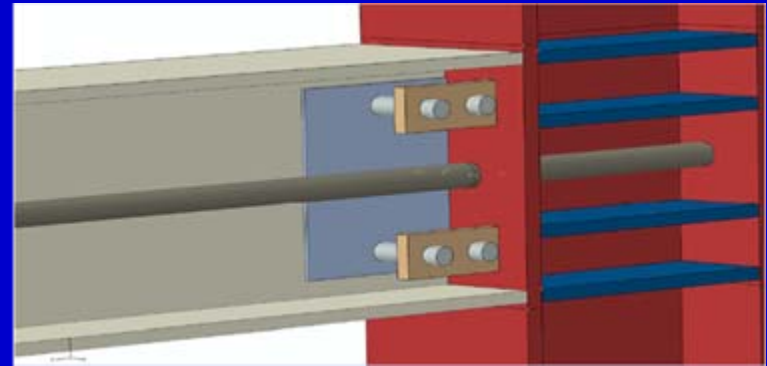
- Leaner construction
- Reduction of steel weight



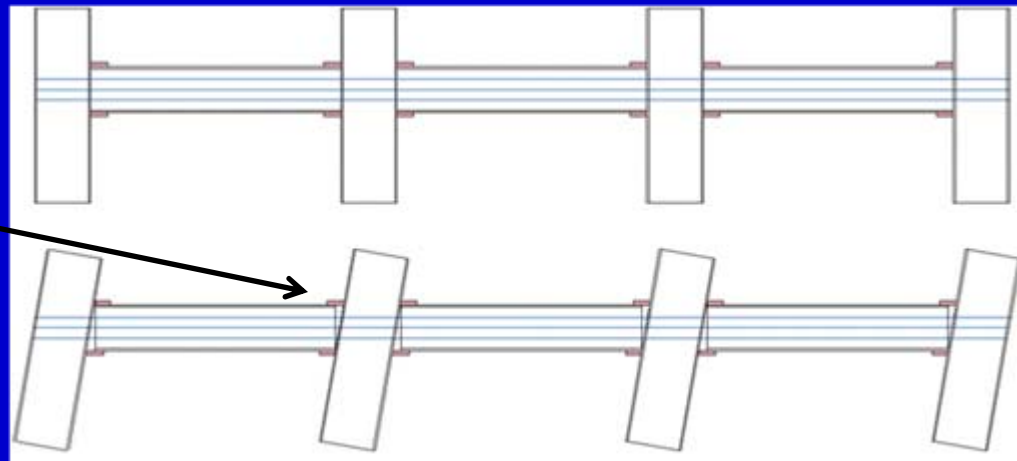
# Resilient Structures Lab

*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

## 1. Resilient damage-free self-centering steel MRFs



Gap opening in the  
beam-column  
interface



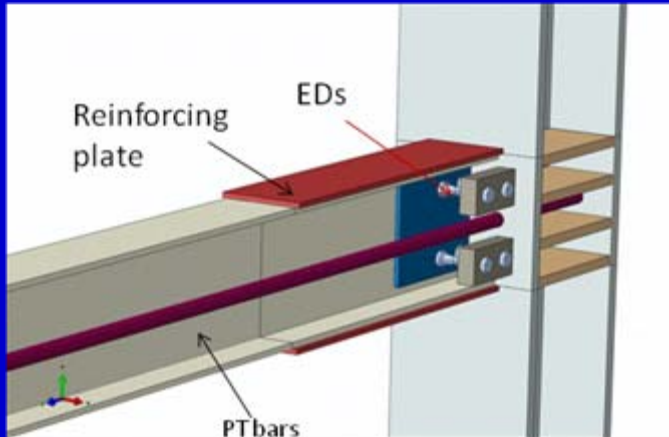
Initial

Deformed

# Resilient Structures Lab

Dr. Theodore Karavasilis

*Recently developed innovative steel post-tensioned connection*



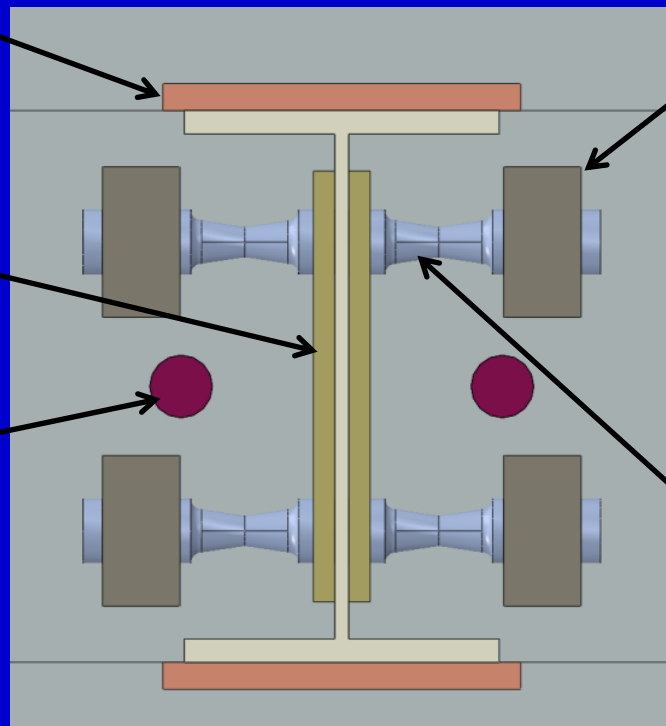
**Flange reinforcing plates**

**Strong supporting plates**

**Web reinforcing plates**

**Post-tensioned high strength steel bars**

**Web Hourglass Pins (WHPs)**

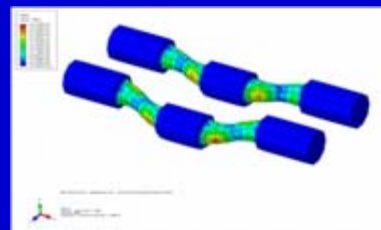
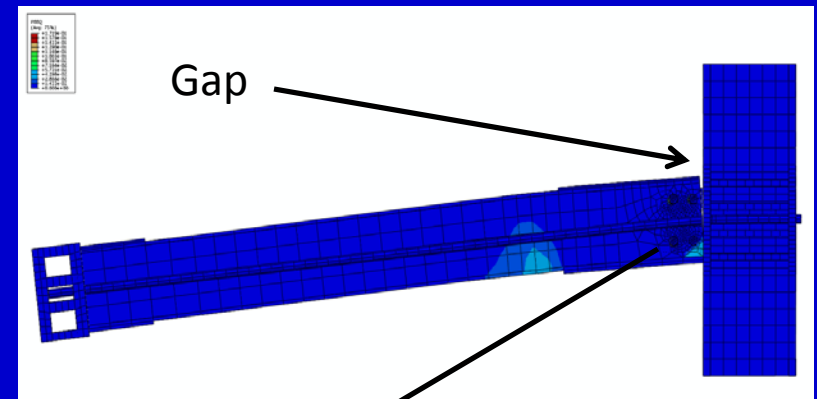
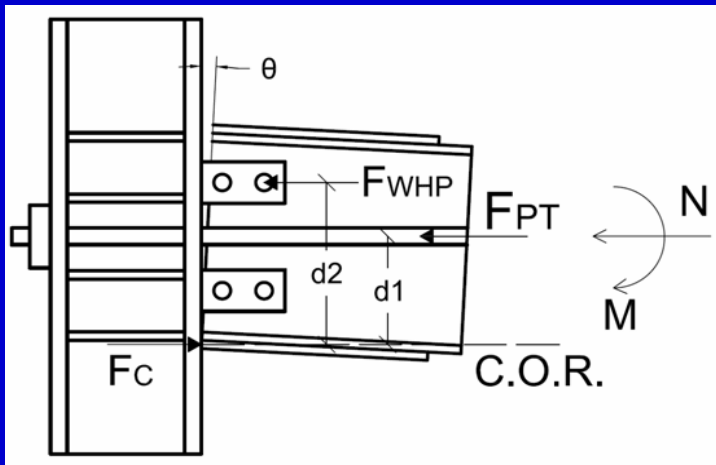


# Resilient Structures Lab

*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

## Design concept

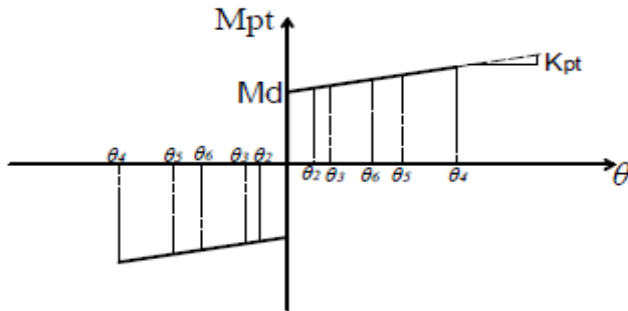
- Gaps open and close in the beam-column interface
- Post-tensioned high strength steel bars clamp the beam to the column and provide self-centering capability
- Energy dissipation elements (WHPs) which are activated when gaps open and can be very easily replaced without bolting or welding



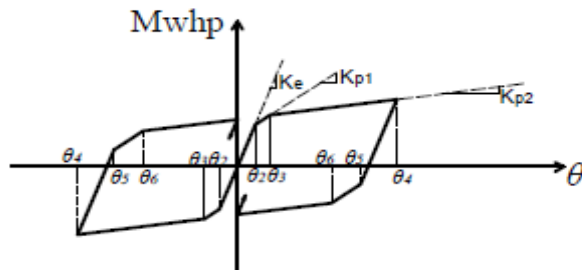
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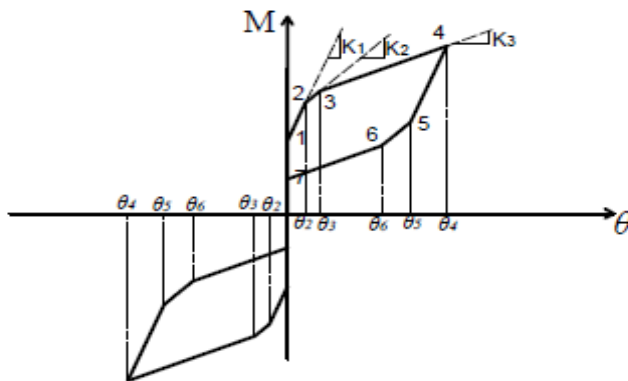
How it works...



Contribution of post-tensioned bars



Contribution of WHPs

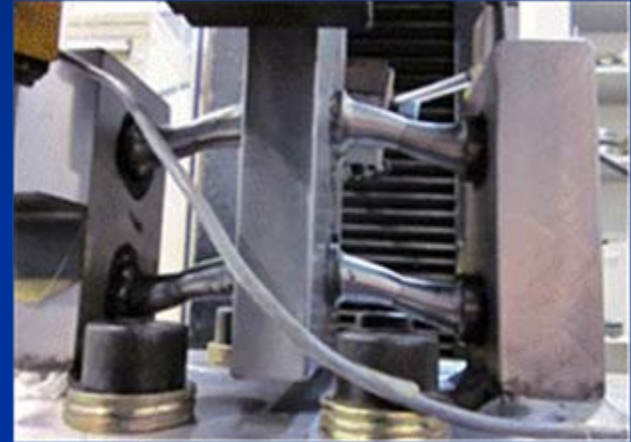
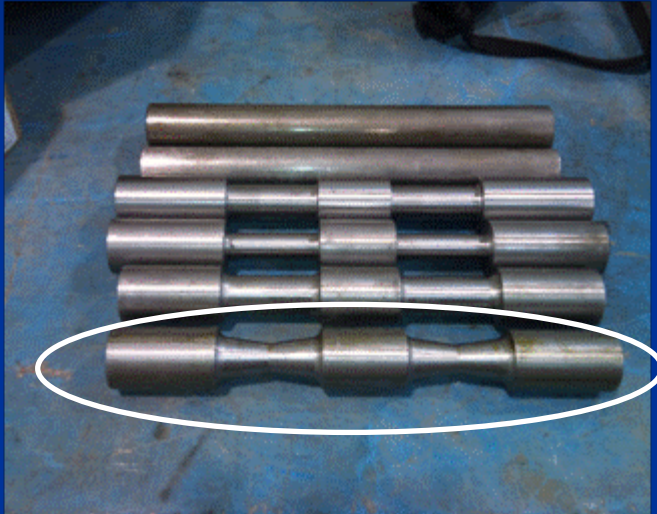


Total connection moment-rotation behaviour

# Resilient Structures Lab

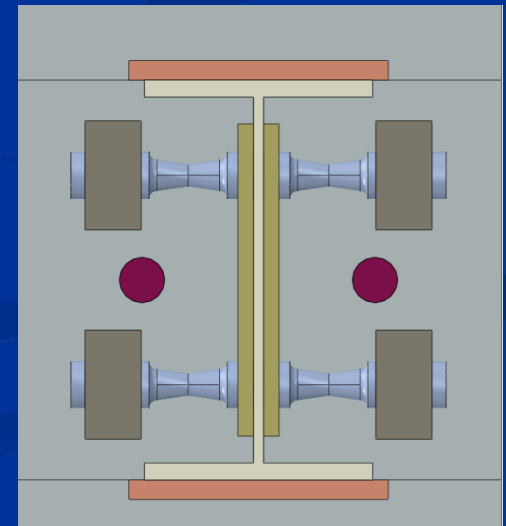
*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

## Web Hourglass Pins (WHPs)



Hourglass shape to provide enhanced:

- 1)energy dissipation capacity
- 2)fracture capacity
- 3)hysteresis without pinching

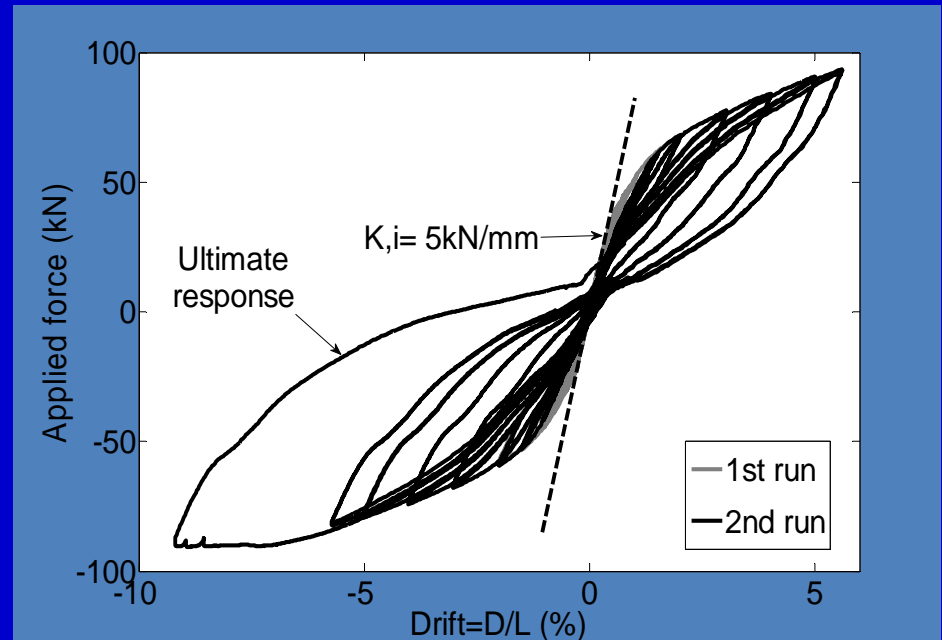
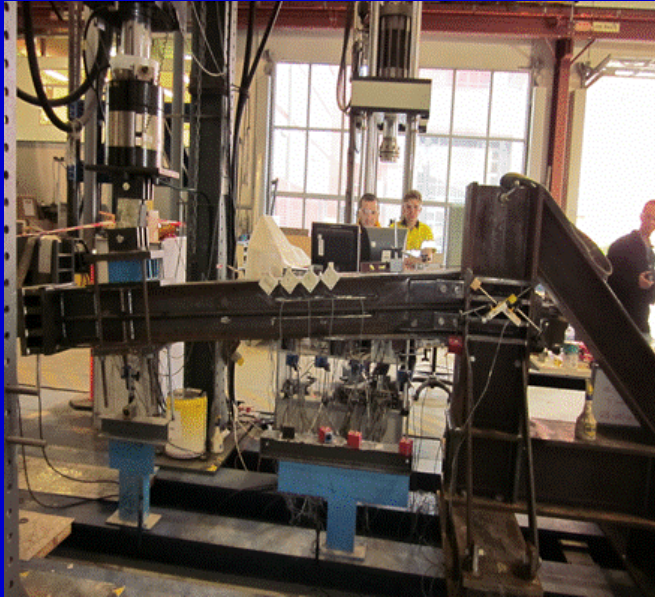




# Resilient Structures Lab

*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

## Large-scale experimental validation of connection behaviour



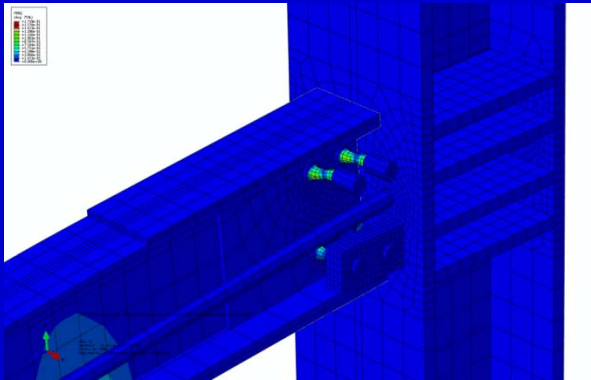
- Beam and column **damage-free** for drift  $\leq 5\%$
- **Elimination** of residual drift
- Sequence of tests along with replacing damaged WHPs :**robust non-disruptive reparability**
- **Reduced site construction** (easy erection process, less welding and bolting)
- Can be applied to **retrofit of existing structures**

# Resilient Structures Lab

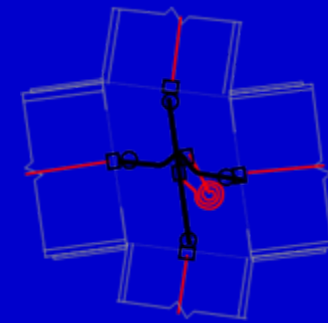
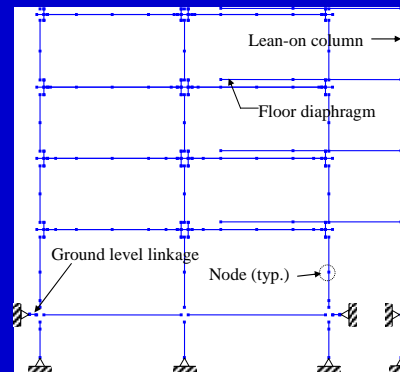
Dr. Theodore Karavasilis

Currently we are working on...

FEM models



Models for global analysis of post-tensioned frames



Design methodologies for post-tensioned frames in the framework of Eurocodes

BRITISH STANDARD

BS EN  
1993-1-1:2005  
Incorporating  
Corrigendum No. 1

**Eurocode 3: Design of  
steel structures —**

**Part 1-1: General rules and rules for  
buildings**

BRITISH STANDARD

BS EN  
1993-1-8:2005  
Incorporating  
Corrigenda Nos. 1  
and 2

**Eurocode 3: Design of  
steel structures —**

**Part 1-8: Design of joints**

BRITISH STANDARD

BS EN  
1998-1:2004

**Eurocode 8: Design of  
structures for  
earthquake  
resistance —**

**Part 1: General rules, seismic actions  
and rules for buildings**

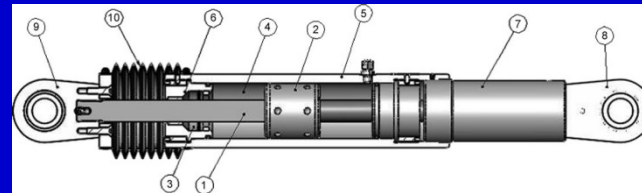
# Resilient Structures Lab

*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

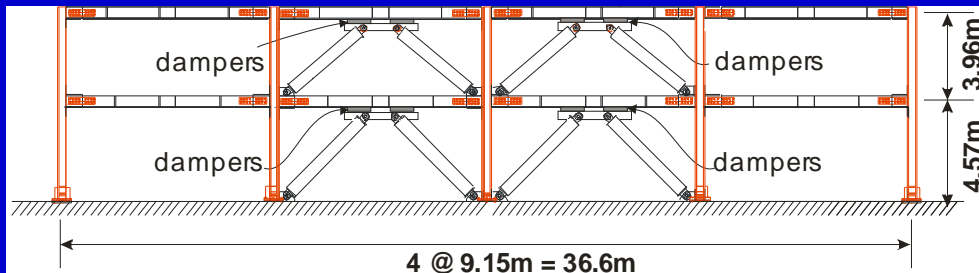
## 2. Resilient minimal-damage structures equipped with rate-dependent passive dampers



Fluid viscous dampers



Elastomeric dampers

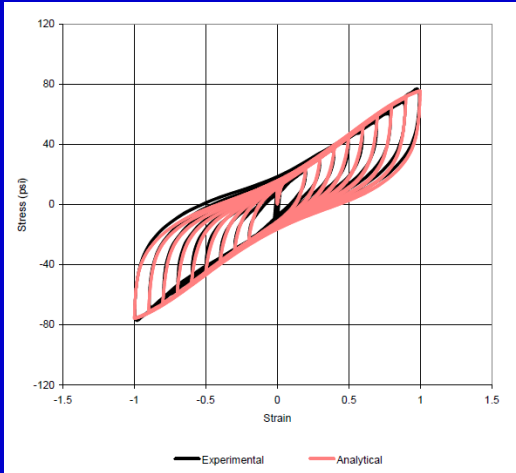


- Structural and non-structural **damage control**
- **Steel weight reduction** (up to 40%)
- **Retrofit** of existing structures
- Effective for **multi-hazard mitigation** (blast, windstorms, earthquakes)

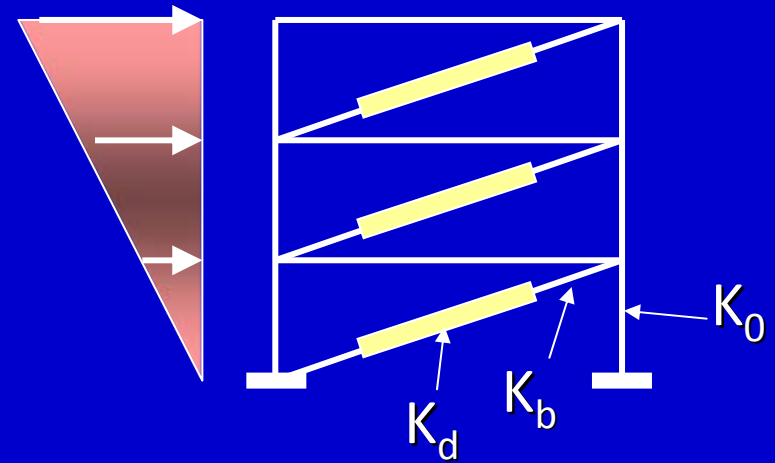
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Dr. Theodore Karavasilis

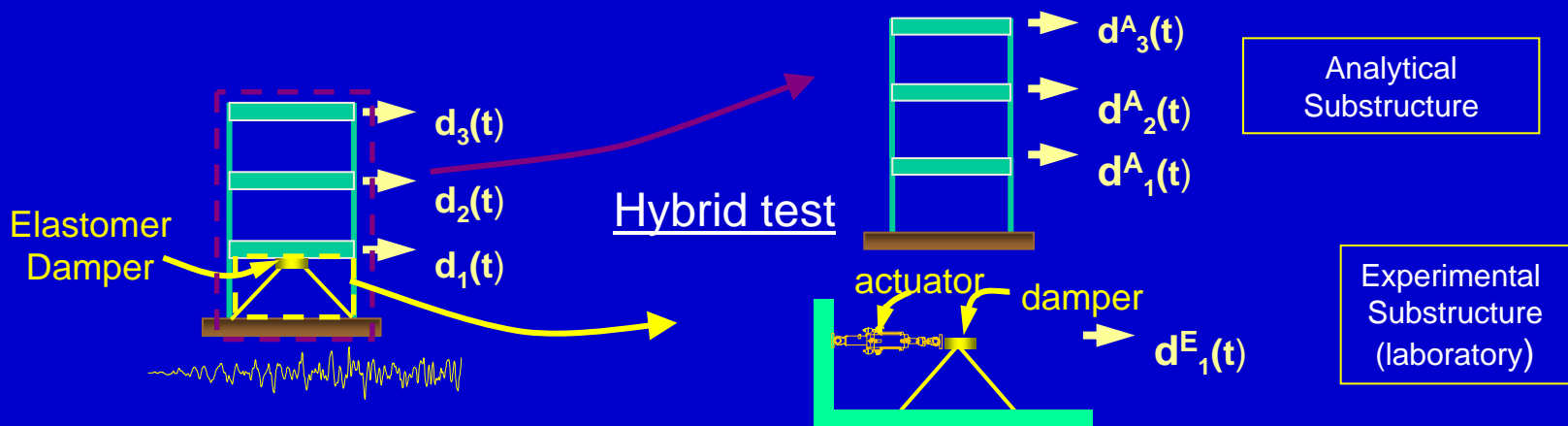
Advanced models for rate-dependent materials (e.g., elastomers)



Practical design procedures for structures with rate-dependent passive dampers



Tools for real-time hybrid testing

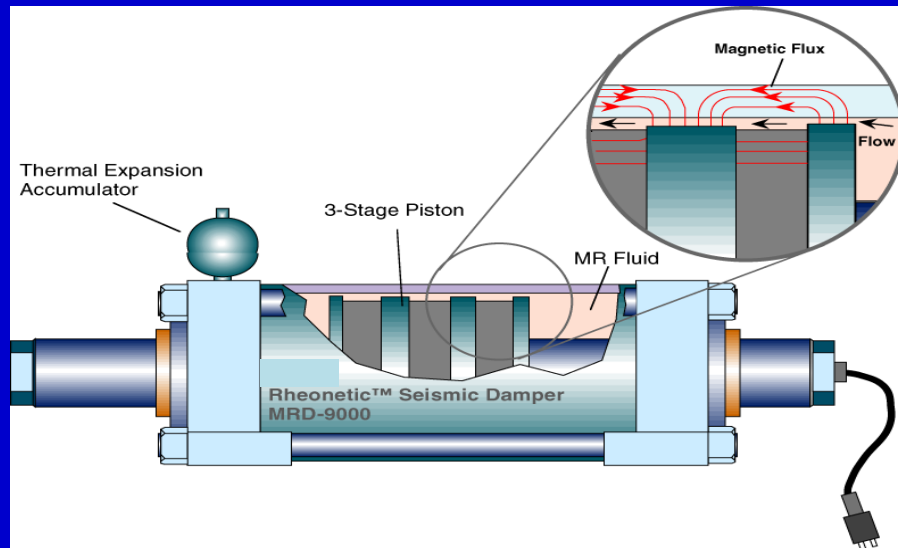


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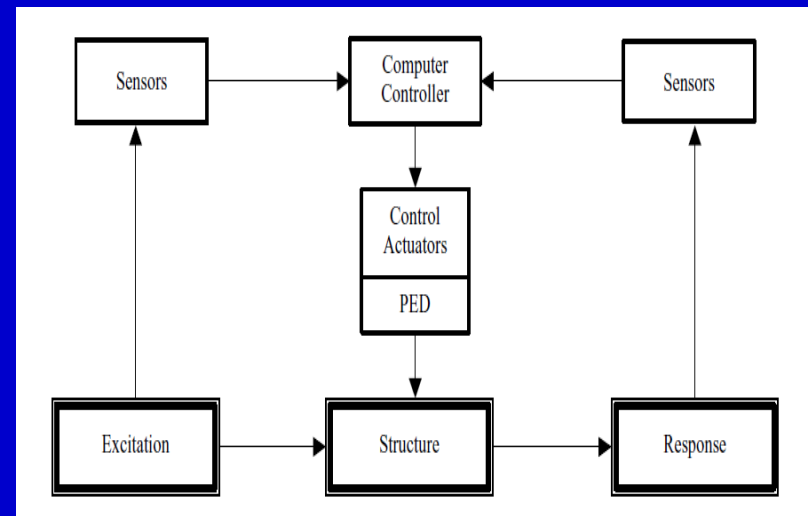
*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

## 3. Extension of service life of bridges using semi-active control

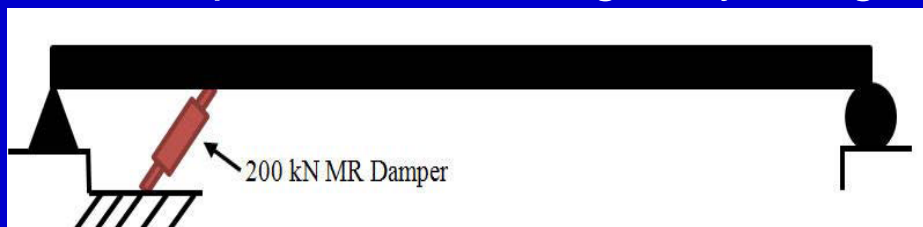
MR Damper



Integration of structural dynamics, structural design, control theory and sensors



MR damper controlled highway bridge



Extend service life under heavy traffic loading (economically and time efficiently)

# Resilient Structures Lab

*Dr. Theodore Karavasilis*

CONSTITUTIVE  
MODELS AND  
GLOBAL  
RESPONSE  
SIMULATIONS



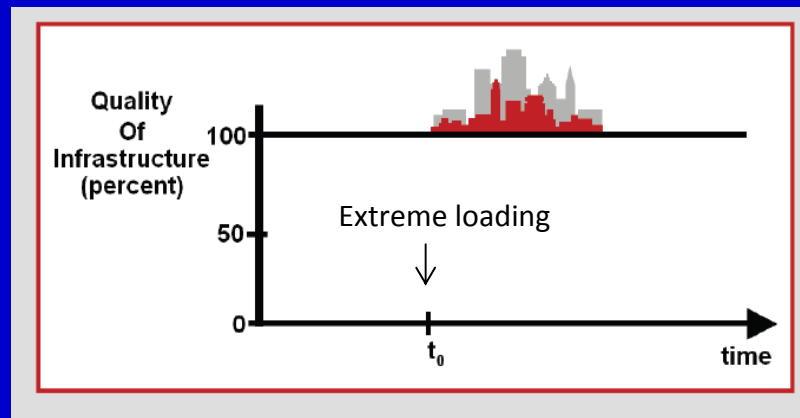
DESIGN USING  
INNOVATIVE  
STRUCTURAL  
DETAILS AND  
SMART  
MATERIALS



STRUCTURAL  
COMPONENT  
AND HYBRID  
TESTING



RESILIENT DAMAGE-FREE  
STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS



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# Sustainability & climate change

Dr Stefano Utili, Associate Professor at University of Warwick, Civil Group (geotechnical engineering)

Research on flood defence embankments:

1. Long term monitoring of the performance of flood defence embankments subject to progressive deterioration due to climatic effects (research funded by the Scottish Executive and Institution of Civil Engineers)
2. Determination of geotechnical expressions for ultimate limit states of flood defence embankments (funded within EU FP6 Floodsite, EPSRC FRMRC consortium, Environment Agency)

Embankments are an essential infrastructure for the defence from flooding and canalisation of water flow. They are becoming increasingly important due to climate change and renewed emphasis on sustainable development.

- Every year the UK alone spends £450 million on the maintenance and construction of new flood defence embankments.

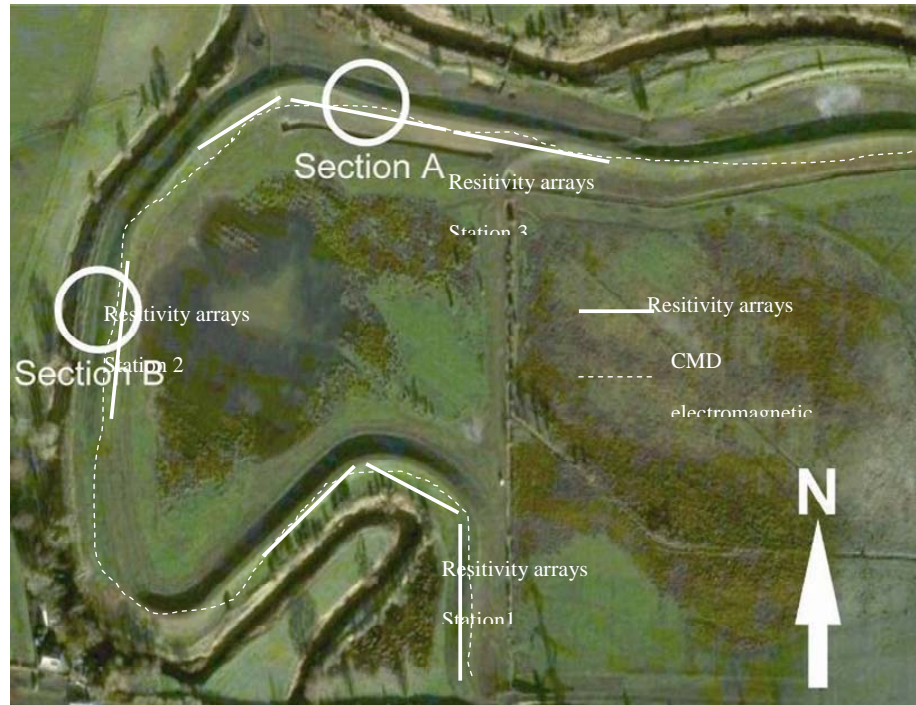
In Europe an area as big as 40.000 km square housing 16 million people is flood prone.

Hurricane Katrina (2005) is an example of what happens when flood defence embankments fail.

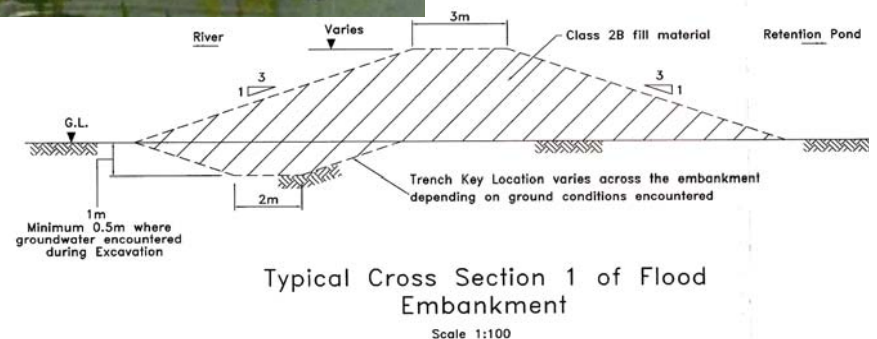


# 1 Long term monitoring of the performance of flood defence embankments

Clay embankments are subject to desiccation fissuring/cracking. The presence of cracks in the embankment body may cause failure of the embankment for a hydraulic load significantly lower than the design one.



Embankment made of glacial till along the river Irvine, Galston (Scotland)

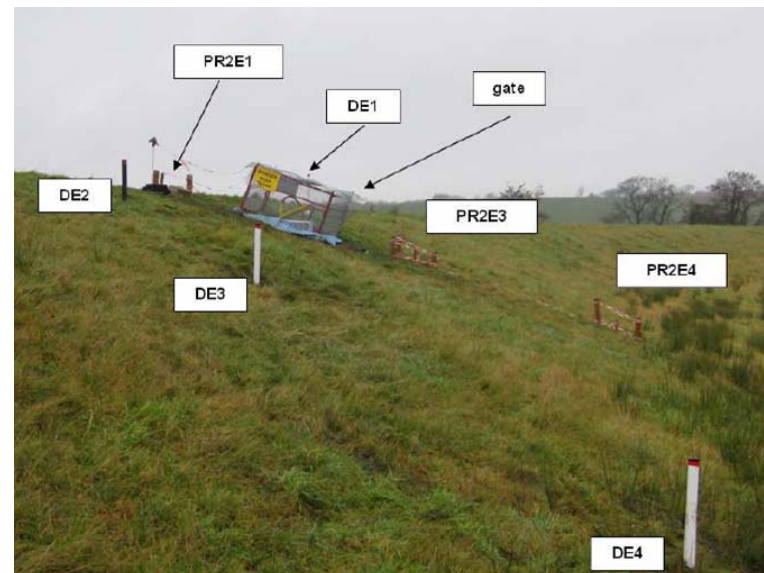
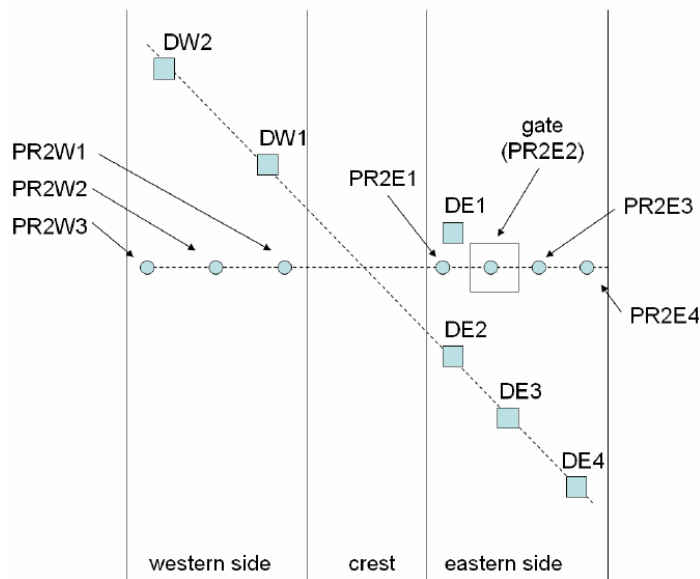
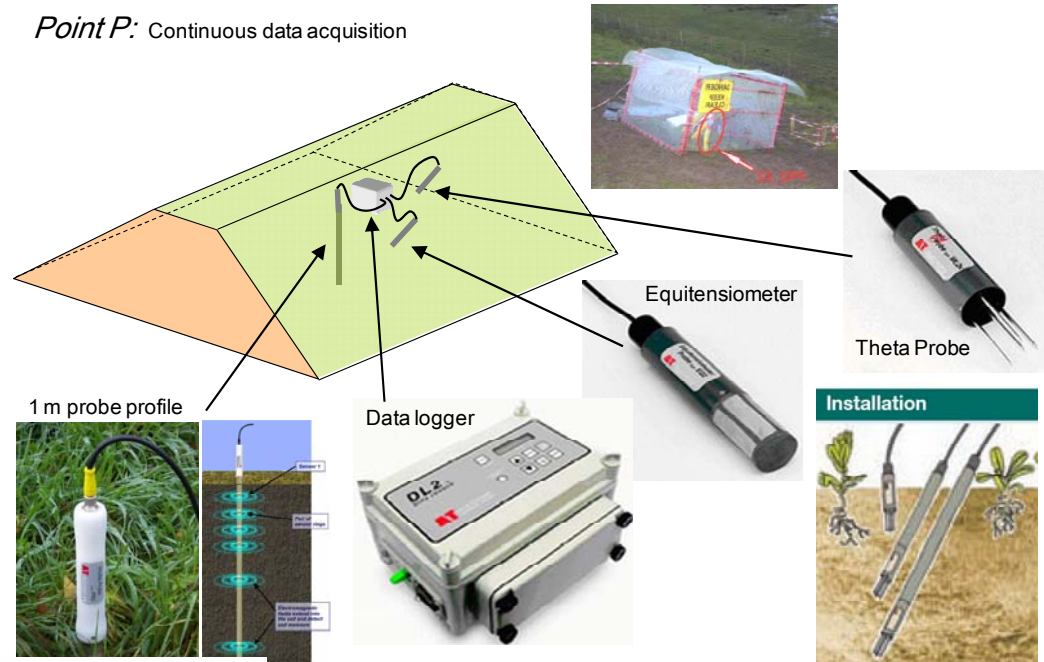




# 1 Long term monitoring of the performance of flood defence embankments

Data from a suite of geotechnical tools have been crossed with geophysical readings (resistivity array and CMD conductivity) to work out the water content function  $w=w(x,y,z,t)$  for the entire embankment

*Point P:* Continuous data acquisition



# 1 Long term monitoring of the performance of flood defence embankments

## Achieved goals

- A link between water content and fine fissuring / cracking has been established
- The health of embankment has been related to its water content

## 2 Determination of geotechnical expressions for ultimate limit states of embankments subject to flooding

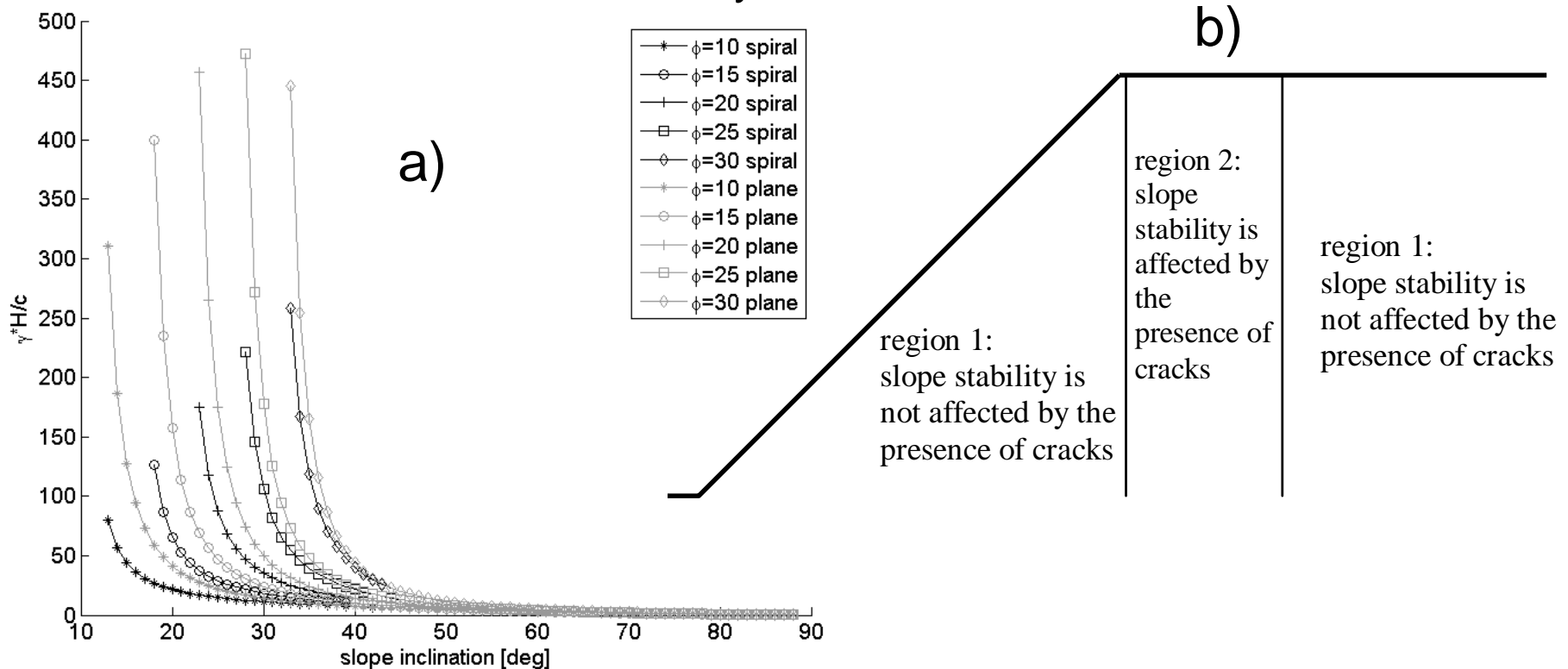
In recent years I pursued two research lines:

1. Influence of tension cracks (dry or filled with water) on embankment stability
2. Determination of suitable geotechnical expressions for the following failure mechanisms: fine fissuring and overtopping. This research was funded by EU FP6 Floodsite, the EPSRC FRMRC consortium and the Environment Agency.

## 2 Influence of tension cracks on embankment stability

An analytical expression was achieved by means of the Limit Analysis upper bound method which provides:

- the limit load for any tension crack length and hydraulic condition (water level);
- regions of the embankment where the presence of cracks does not affect the embankment stability.



After (Utili S. On the stability of slopes with tension cracks by limit analysis. *Geotechnique*)



Thank you!



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