# System Reliability – Ductility and Redundancy

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## COST E55:WG3 – Objectives

> Characterisation of multi-scale variability in timber structures

- > Analysis of system effects for several types of timber structures
- Qualification of robustness as a characteristic of timber structures
- Establishing a framework for reliability based design and assessment of timber structural systems based on these considerations.



# COST E55:WG3 – Objectives

Ballerup arenaCopenhagen, Denmark

2 out of 12 main trusses collapsed



Ice skating arena Bad Reichenhall, Germany

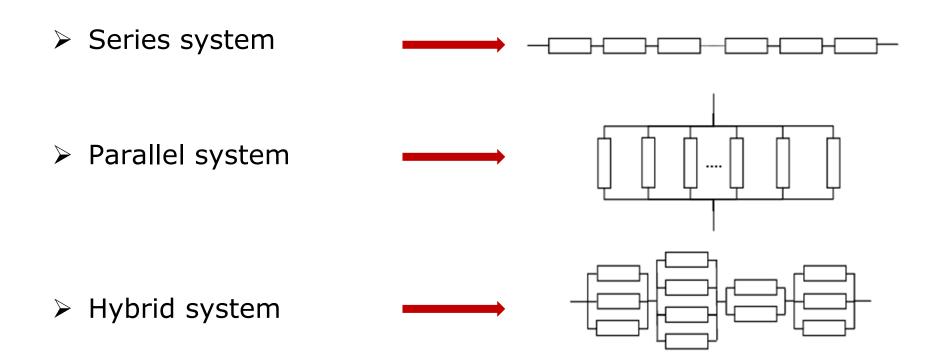
Total collapse



- Hazards (design error, unforeseen incidents, ...): correlated / uncorrelated for different elements?
- Connection between main trusses: strong / weak ?
- Brittle / ductile failure type?



#### System Reliability





# System Reliability

> Element

$$P_{f} = P(M \le 0) = P(R(\overline{X}) - S(\overline{X}) \le 0) = P(g(\overline{X}) \le 0)$$

$$g(\overline{X}) = 1 - \left(\frac{\sum_{i} S_{t,i}}{(z_{d,A} \cdot R_{t,0})} + \frac{\sum_{i} S_{m,i}}{z_{d,M} \cdot R_{m}}\right) \cdot X_{M} = 0$$

Series system

$$P_f^S = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^m \{M_i \le 0\}\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^m \{g_i(\mathbf{X}) \le 0\}\right) = P\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^m \{g_i(\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{U})) \le 0\}\right) \approx \Phi(-\beta^s)$$

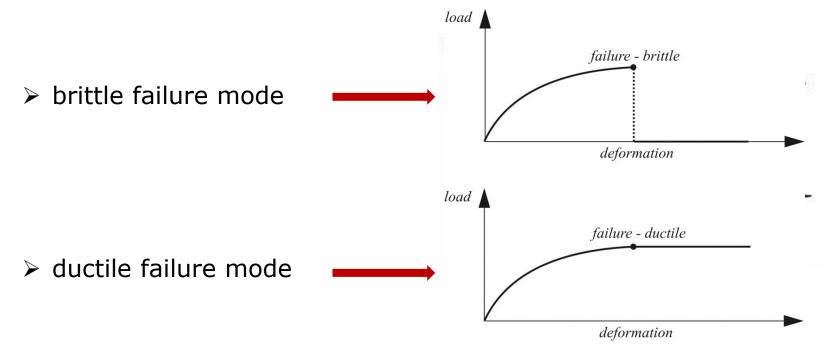
Parallel system

$$P_f^P = P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^m \{M_i \le 0\}\right) = P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^m \{g_i(X) \le 0\}\right) \approx \Phi(-\beta^p)$$



## System Reliability – Ductility & Redundancy

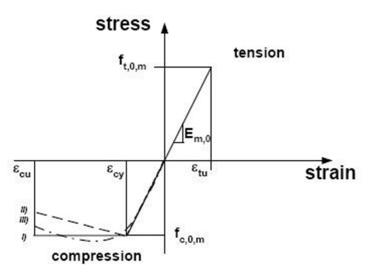
The behavior of structural failure modes after failure is important for assessing the safety (Robustness) of a structural system. Two extreme failure modes are:





#### Ductile/Brittle Material Behaviour

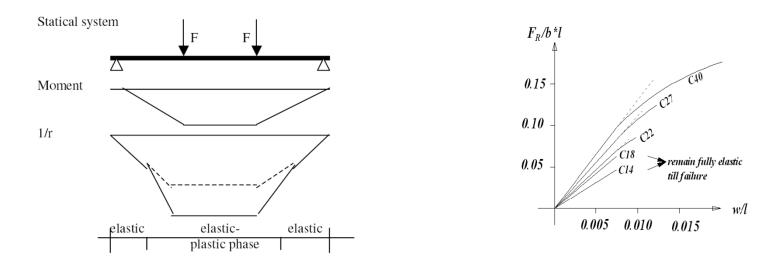
In general timber is considered to be a brittle material, because failure occurs suddenly, without any warning. This can be considered as an obstacle when comparing to other materials like steel. It has none or a very little ductility in the tensile area, while in compressive area linear elastic-plastic behaviour can be assumed





## Ductile/Brittle Material Behaviour

The better grade timbers do exhibit some ductile behavior, but the deviation from the straight line of the force-deflectionrelationship is a minimum. Only when very high grade timber (C35 or C40) is used can a marked deviation from the straight line be expected.



Brunner, M. On the Compressive Strength of Timber in Bending. 2004.

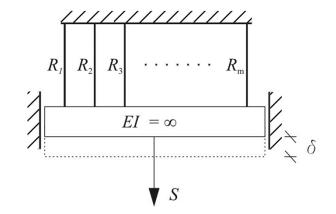


## System Reliability – Ductility & Redundancy

Simplified system modeling of ductile/brittle structural system

- Parallel system with *m* elements
- Perfect ductile / brittle elements
- Load distribution after element failure

$$F_{sys} = \max_{\delta} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{m} R_i(\delta) - S \le 0 \right) = \bigcap_{\delta} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{m} R_i(\delta) - S \le 0 \right)$$

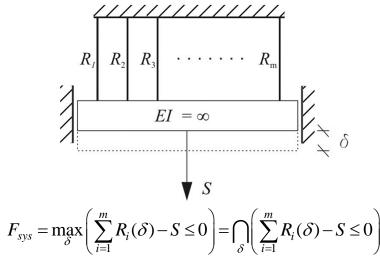


- Daniels, H.E. The statistical theory of the strength of bundles of threads, Part I. in Proceedings of the Royal Society. 1945
- ✓ Frangopol D.M. and Curley J.P., *Effects of damage and redundancy on structural reliability*. Journal of Structural Engineering, 1987. **113**(7): p. 1533-1549.
- ✓ Gollwitzer, S. and R. Rackwitz, On the reliability of Daniels systems. Structural Safety, 1990. 7: p. 229-243.
- ✓ Baker, J.W., M. Schubert, and M.H. Faber, On the assessment of robustness. Journal of Structural Safety., 2007. 30(3): p. 253-267.

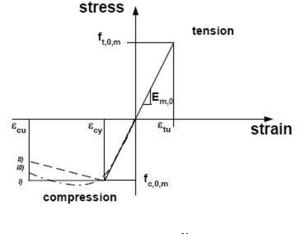


#### Example

Simplified system modeling of ductile timber structural system



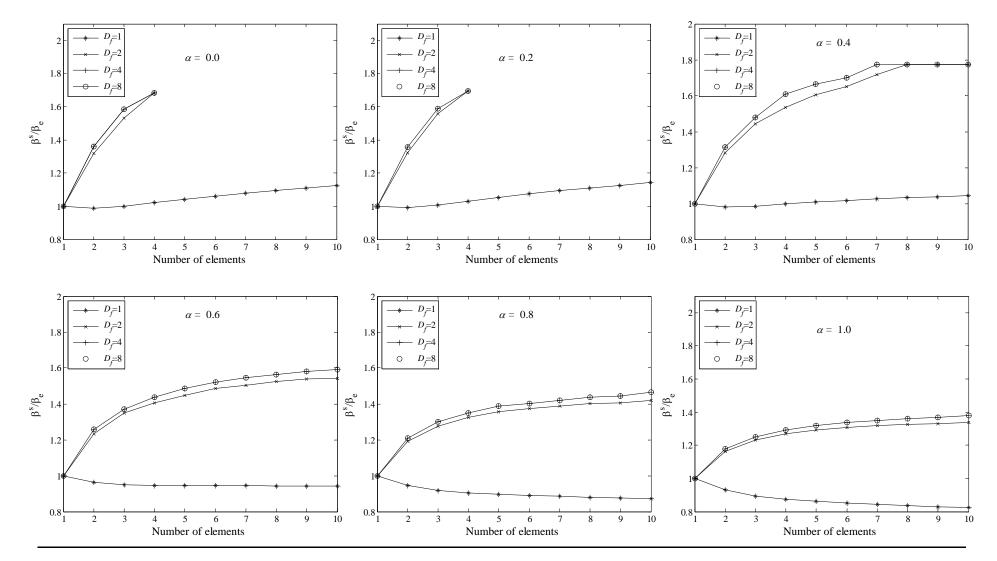
- Parallel system with *m* elements
- Perfect ductile / brittle
- Load distribution after element failure
- Dead load (G) and live load (Q) Normal and Gumbel distributed
- Resistances (R) Lognormal distributed
- Limit state function
  - $S = (1 \alpha)G + \alpha Q$



Ductility measure  $D = \frac{u_f}{u_y} = 1, 2, ..., 4$ 



#### Results

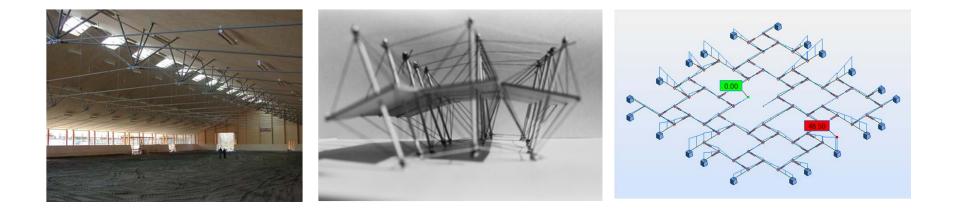


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#### Future Work (on-going research)

- The ductility effect could be taken into account for improving the robustness of timber structures
- Robustness of Long Span Reciprocal Timber Structures, IASS 2011
- CLT used for plate tensegrity , IASS 2011





# Thank You for Your Attention