

# Innovative strategies for the analysis and control of cable-stayed bridges under strong earthquakes

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**Research Centre for  
Civil Engineering Structures**

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Seismic analysis
- 3 Anti-seismic devices
- 4 Conclusions and further studies

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- 1 Introduction**
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# Scope

## Analysis and control of cable-stayed bridges under strong earthquakes



The Tatara bridge, Japan

Why?

- High social and economical relevance
- Large flexibility + reduced damping → seismic behaviour?

- The scientific approach began in the 1990's
- The research is focused on:
  - Spatial variability
  - Cable-structure interaction
  - Connections along the deck
  - Multi-span bridges
  - Curved decks



Prof. Abdel-Ghaffar

Lack of studies on the towers → key elements

Good seismic response of cable-stayed bridges, however ...

Ji-Lu bridge (Taiwan)  
Chi-Chi earthquake  
(1999,  $M_W = 7.3$ )



Seismic response of cable-stayed bridges

## Trend in constructed cable-stayed bridges

### Floating deck-tower connections with anti-seismic devices

Paradigmatic bridge: Rion-Antirion

- Greece, 2004
- Multi-span
- $286 + 3 \times 560 + 286$
- Seismic area:  $a_g = 0.48 \text{ g}$



- Deck-tower connection: only transversely
- 4 nonlinear viscous dampers:  $\alpha_d = 0.15$
- Fuse restrainer (no dissipation under wind loads)

Earthquake:  $M_W = 6.4$  (June 2008)

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# Scope of Pushover analysis

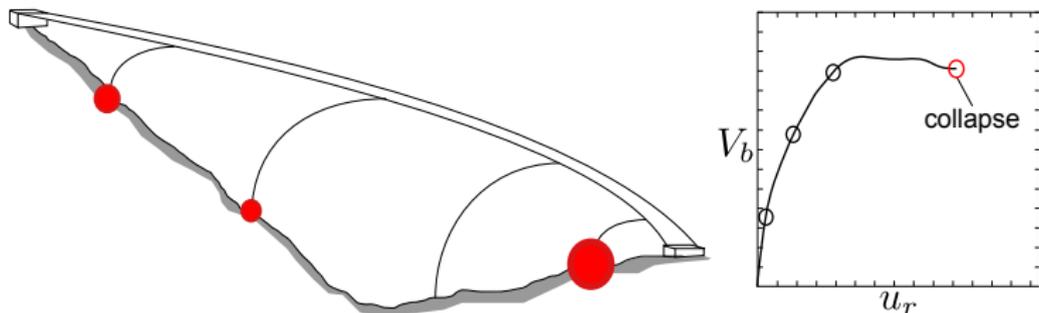
Pushing statically using **load patterns** representing the inertia forces

## Purpose

- To expose possible structure weaknesses

# Scope of Pushover analysis

Pushing statically using **load patterns** representing the inertia forces



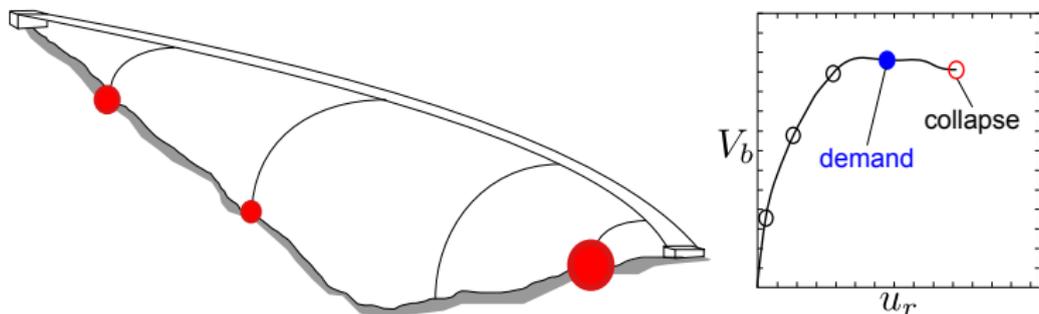
## Purpose

- To expose possible structure weaknesses
- To estimate the seismic response under large earthquakes

Find the **target displacement** → demand of the studied earthquake

# Scope of Pushover analysis

Pushing statically using **load patterns** representing the inertia forces



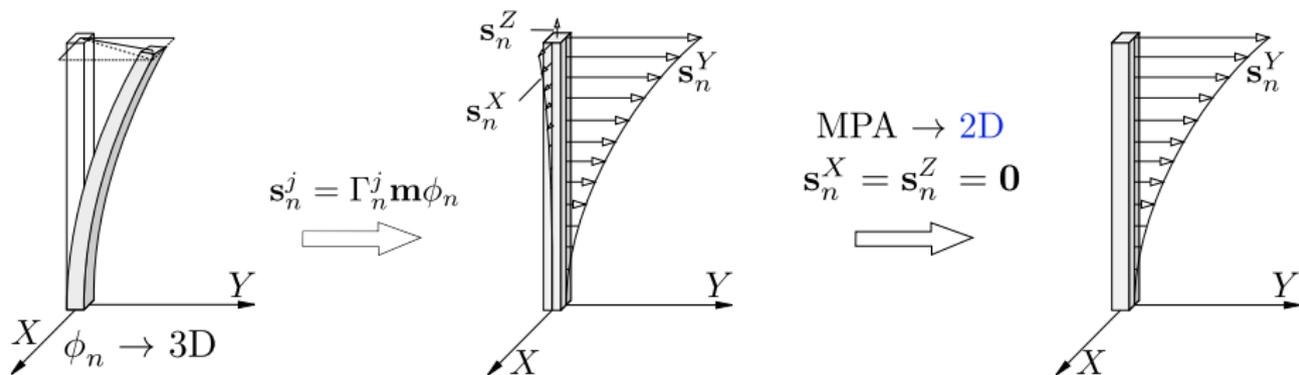
## Purpose

- To expose possible structure weaknesses
- To estimate the seismic response under large earthquakes

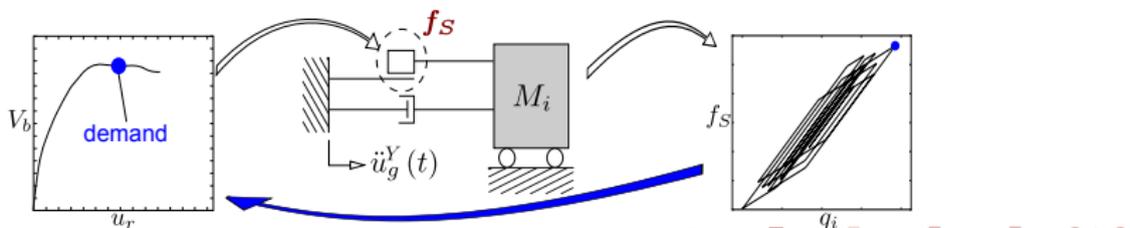
Find the **target displacement** → demand of the studied earthquake

# Modal Pushover Analysis (Chopra & Goel 2002)

- $i$ -mode **Load pattern 2D**: modal force  $s_i = \Gamma_i \mathbf{m} \phi_i$



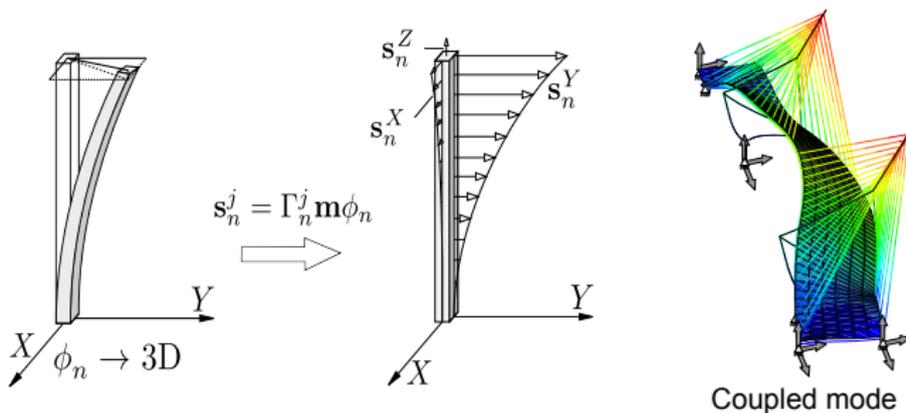
- $i$ -mode **Target displacement:**



# Extended Modal Pushover Analysis

## Novelty

3D Pushover analysis for each mode



# Extended Modal Pushover Analysis

## Mathematical background

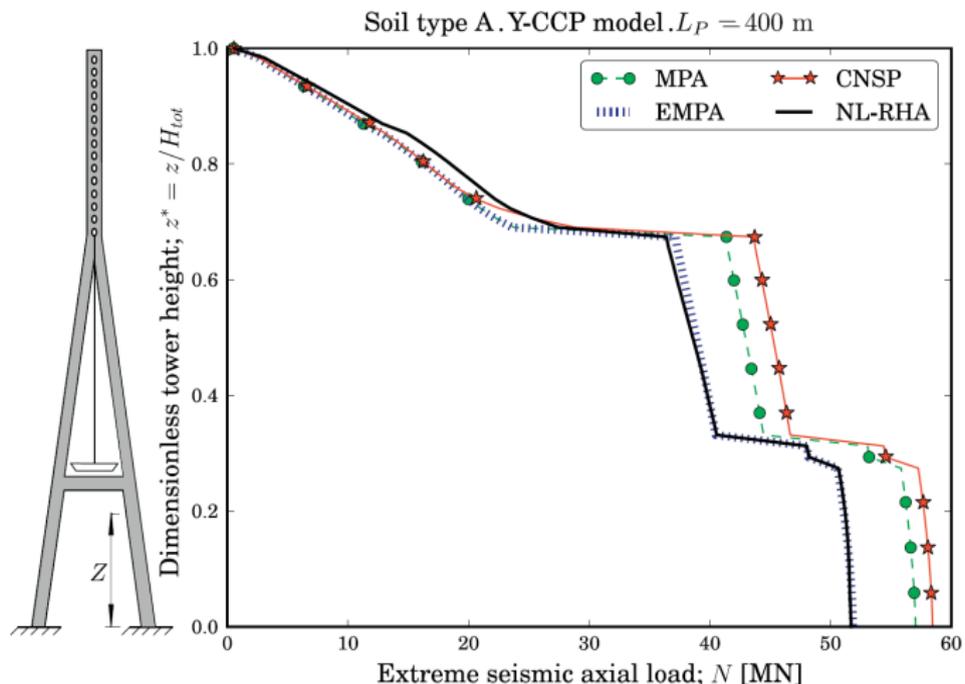
$$\phi_n^T \mathbf{m} \ddot{\mathbf{u}} + \phi_n^T \mathbf{c} \dot{\mathbf{u}} + \phi_n^T \mathbf{f}_S(\mathbf{u}, \dot{\mathbf{u}}) = -M_n \underbrace{(\Gamma_n^X \ddot{u}_g^X(t) + \Gamma_n^Y \ddot{u}_g^Y(t) + \Gamma_n^Z \ddot{u}_g^Z(t))}_{\ddot{u}_{g,n}^*(t)}$$

$$\ddot{\bar{q}}_n + 2\xi_n \omega_n \dot{\bar{q}}_n + \frac{\bar{F}_{sn}}{M_n} = -\ddot{u}_{g,n}^*(t) \rightarrow \text{SDOF}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{\bar{F}_{sn}}{M_n} &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{F_{sn}^X}{M_n}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{F_{sn}^Y}{M_n}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{F_{sn}^Z}{M_n}\right)^2} \\ \bar{q}_n &= \sqrt{(q_n^X)^2 + (q_n^Y)^2 + (q_n^Z)^2} \end{aligned} \right.$$

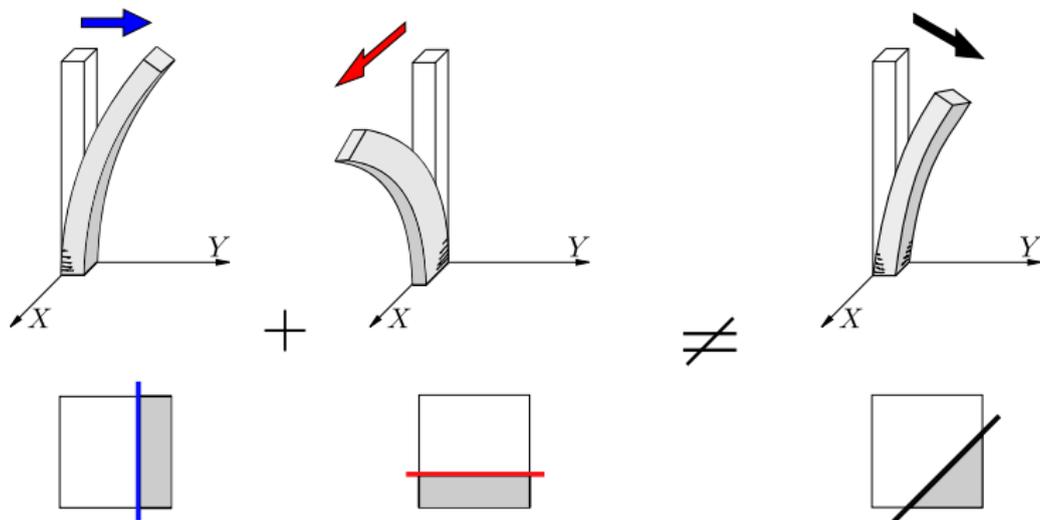
# EMPA: Results

- If the modes are governed by one direction  $\rightarrow$  EMPA  $\approx$  MPA
- EMPA: Better prediction of the **axial force** for small-medium bridges



# Coupled Nonlinear Static Pushover

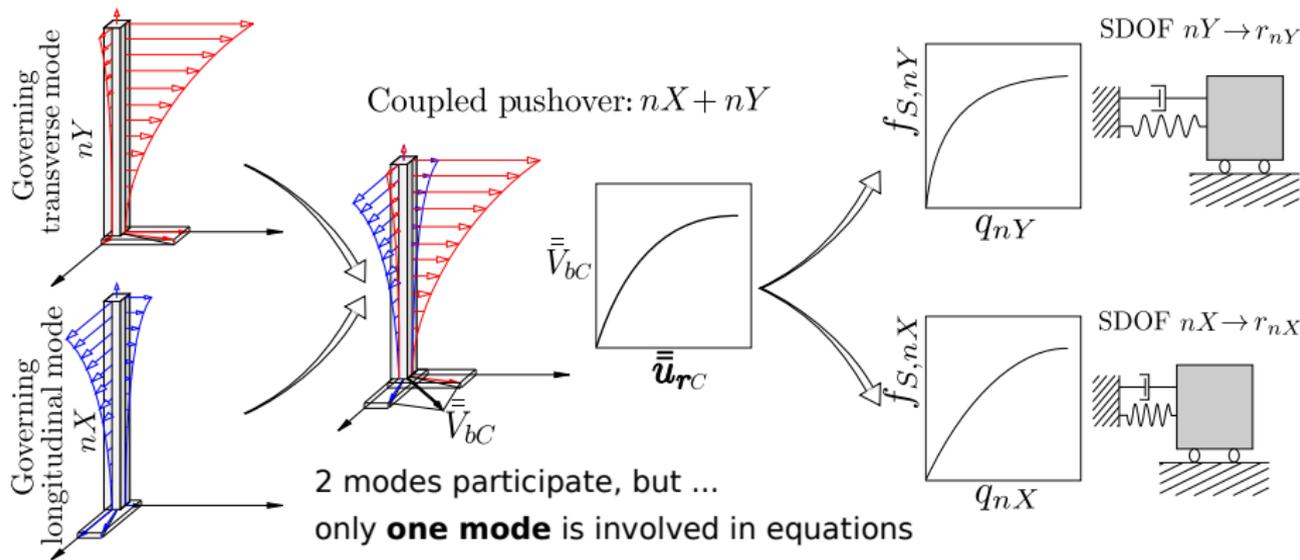
The transverse and longitudinal response **interact** in nonlinear range



## Novelty

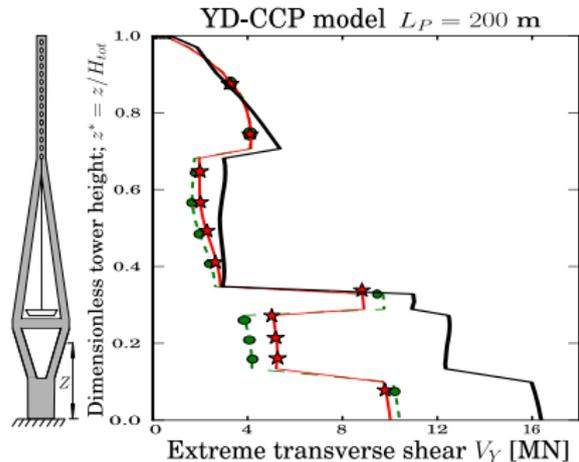
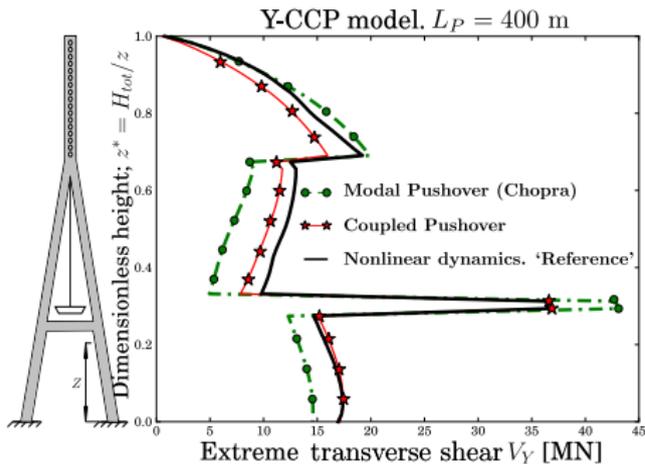
3D Pushover combining the dominant modes in transverse and longitudinal directions

# Coupled Nonlinear Static Pushover: approach



- One nonlinear static analysis → **FAST**
- Modes different than governing ones considered elastic → **SAFE**

# Results

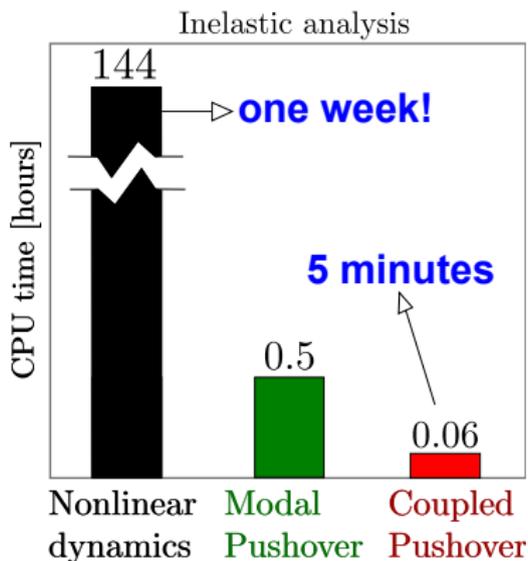


- Good estimation with advanced Pushover: errors typically below 20%
- Coupled Pushover yield very accurate solutions

## However:

- Pushover results could be misleading if the tower damage is very large

# Computational cost



Cable-stayed bridges under strong earthquakes, beyond the elastic range:

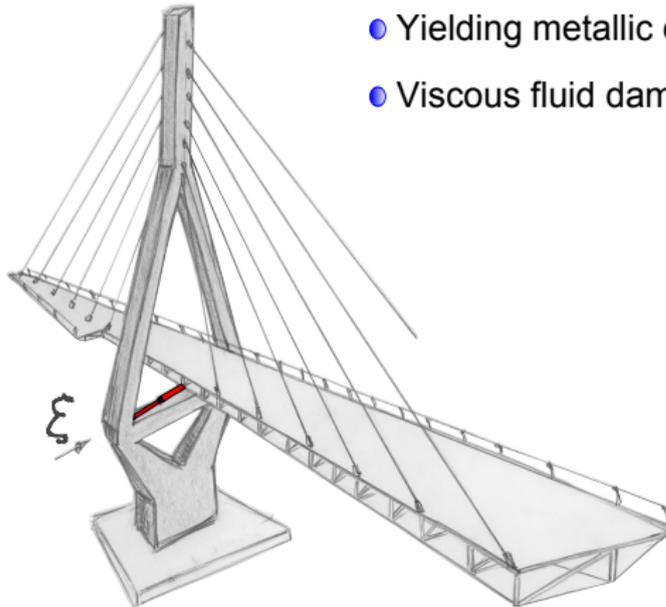
- **Analysis:** Advanced Pushover
- **Verification:** Nonlinear dynamics (HHT)

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## Without anti-seismic devices:

- Extensive cracking in key tower sections, especially **small bridges** on **soft soil** with **central cable-system**
- Reaction of the deck against the towers → large damage
- Proposed: **transverse dampers between deck and towers**



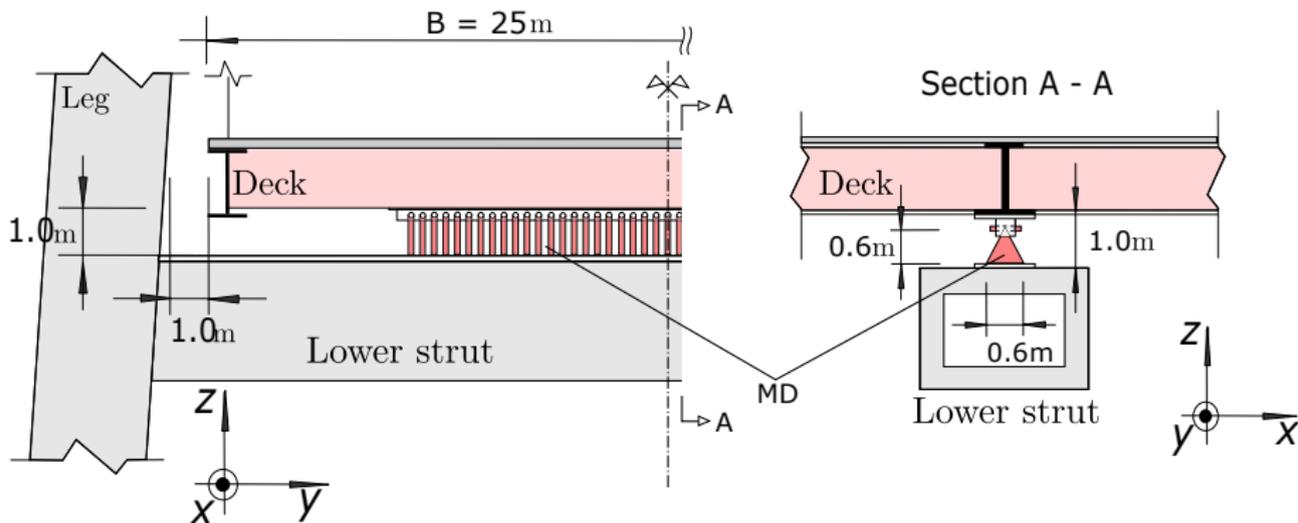
- Yielding metallic dampers
- Viscous fluid dampers



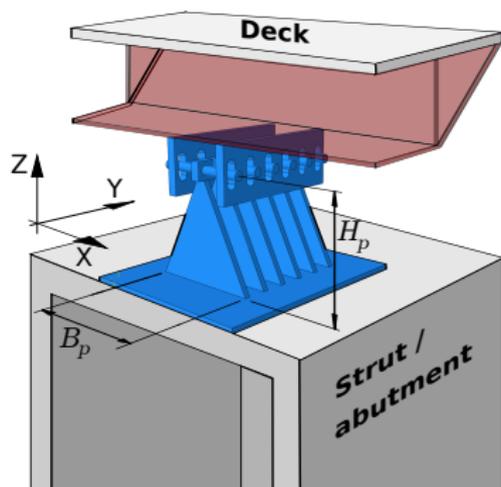
## Proposed deck-tower dampers:

- Pushover  $\rightarrow$  force starting the damage in the tower;  $P_{max}$

### Metallic yielding Damper (MD)



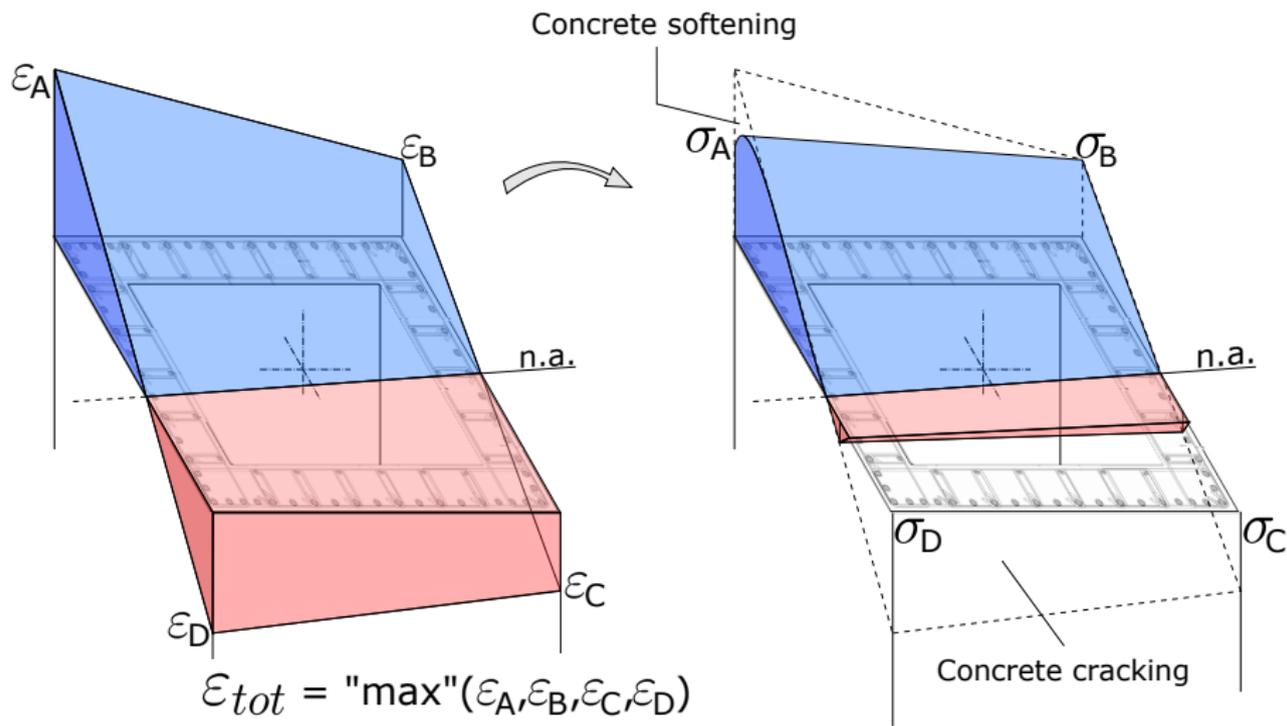
# Yielding metallic dampers: triangular plates



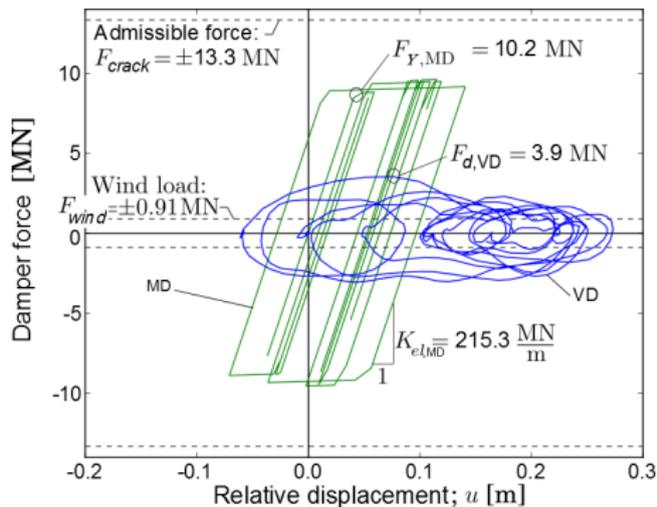
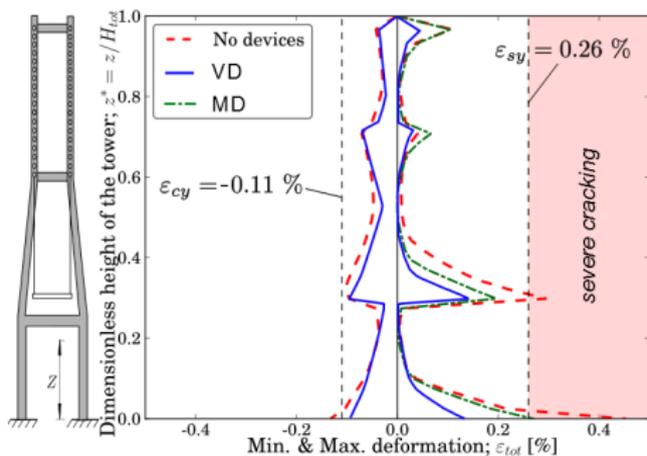
- Fixed plate dimensions. Number of plates defined to **yield prior to the tower damage** (no control on the ductility)

$$P_y = 0.85 \cdot 0.9 \cdot P_{\max} \rightarrow \text{Number of plates}$$

# Peak deformations along the tower



# Response with dampers between deck and towers



- Typically **Viscous dampers** are more efficient than **Triangular plates**
- Care should be taken with the **low-cycle fatigue** in Yielding dampers
- Dampers in deck-tower connection:
  - more efficient if the main span is below 500 m

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# Conclusions

## Regarding the analysis strategies ...

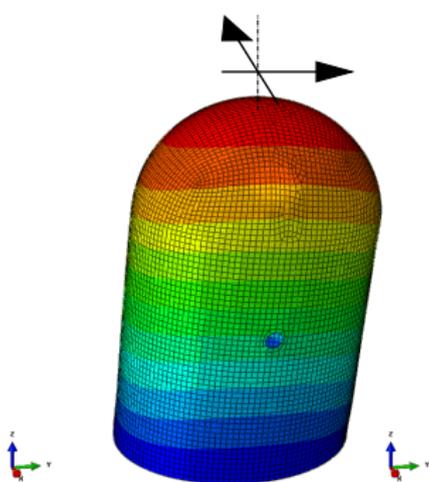
- **Extension of 'Modal Pushover'** to consider the 3D nature of vibration modes
- Proposal of a **Coupled Pushover** which combines the dominant modes in one nonlinear static analysis

## Regarding the anti-seismic devices ...

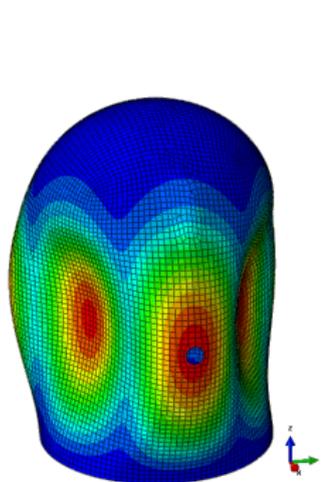
- Dampers connecting the deck and the towers are more efficient if the main span is below 500 m:
  - Improved control with Viscous Dampers, but maintenance?
  - The low-cycle fatigue is important in yielding Metallic Dampers

# Further studies: advanced Pushover methods

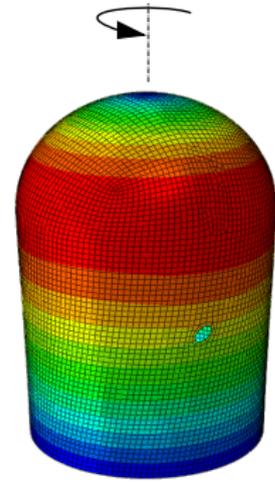
- Application to Prestressed Concrete Containment Vessels



Modes 1 and 2:  $f = 4.4\text{Hz}$   
**Global bending modes**



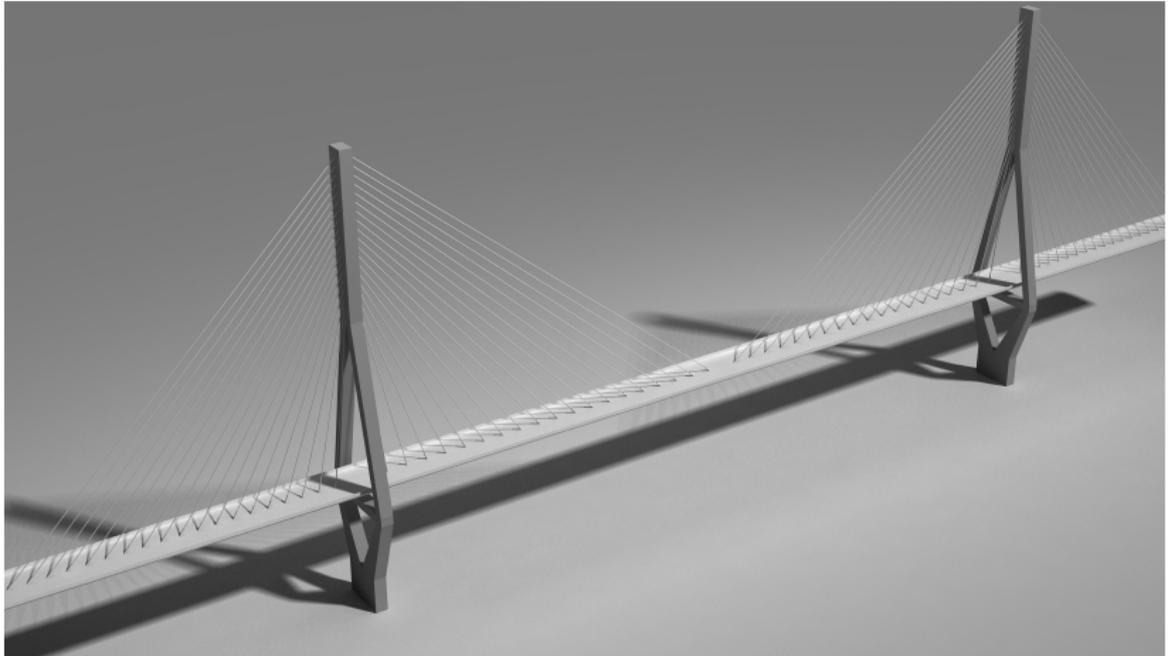
Mode 3:  $f = 6.2\text{Hz}$   
**Local bending modes**



Mode 9:  $f = 9.2\text{Hz}$   
**Torsion mode**

# Further studies: advanced Pushover methods

- Application to long bridges under asynchronous earthquakes



Animation (deformation amplified)

## Further reading

- Camara A and Astiz MA (2012). Pushover analysis for the seismic response prediction of cable-stayed bridges under multi-directional excitation. *Engineering Structures*, **41**:444-455.
- Camara A and Astiz MA (2014). Analysis and control of cable-stayed bridges subjected to seismic action. *Structural Engineering International*, **24**(1):27-36.
- Camara A and Astiz MA (2014). Applicability of the strategies for the elastic seismic analysis of cable-stayed bridges. *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Analysis and Engineering Design* (in Spanish) **30**(1):42-50.

# Acknowledgements

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