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# Nonlinear Multi-Scale Finite Element Modeling of the Progressive Collapse of Reinforced Concrete Structures

### **Lecture 1: Introduction**

#### Péter Z. Berke

Visiting Professor Departamento de Engenharia Metalúrgica e de Materiais Universidade Federal do Ceará, Bloco 729 Scientific Collaborator Building, Architecture and Town Planning Dept. (BATir) Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium







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### Prof. Thierry J. Massart

Prof. Ricardo Silveira

Cláudio Oliveira









## Progressive Collapse? Robustness? 3

#### **Progressive collapse (PC):**

The spread of an **initial local failure** from element to element resulting, eventually, in the collapse of an entire structure or a **disproportionate**ly large part of it. *American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)* 

A situation where **local failure** of a primary structural component leads to the collapse of adjoining members which, in turn, leads to additional collapse. Hence, the total damage is **disproportionate** to the original cause. *General Service Administration (GSA)* 

#### Structural robustness:

The ability of a structure to withstand events like fire, explosions, impacts or the consequence of human error, without being damaged to an extent disproportionate to the original cause. *Eurocodes* 

#### **Fundamental need:**

In-depth understanding of PC, assessment, quantification of structural robustness and safety



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### Progressive Collapse? Robustness? 4





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### Progressive Collapse - Examples 6



[Gas explosion, Ronan Point building, London, UK, 1968]



[Bomb attack, A.P. Murrah Federal Building, Oklahoma City, USA, 1995]



[WTC debris, Bankers Trust Building, New-York, 2001]



[The Real Class Building, Belém, Brazil, 2011]



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[Gas explosion, Ronan Point building, London, UK, 1968]



## Progressive Collapse - Characteristics 7

- Non-proportional (nonlinear NL) material response
  - Permanent (plastic) deformation
    - Damage, cracking, failure
- Composite material ("microstructural" influence)
- Large changes in geometry (geometrical NL)
- Dynamics, high load rates, cyclic loads
- Highly complex interaction of sources of NL
- High number of design and material parameters
  - Concrete and steel grades
  - Reinforcement ratio and position
- Very high experimental costs...

**Computational simulation** of the PC of structures, **using physically-based models** for an in-depth understanding of PC and for the quantification of structural robustness



## Example of nonlinear structural response 8







Course objectives and targeted competencies 9

- Awareness of computational approaches in Civil Engng.
- Understanding main principles of nonlinear modeling
- Get a glimpse of multi-scale approaches and applications
- Identify the limit of applicability of the proposed methods
- Develop a critical mind to computational results

Remarks

- Advanced topic subject of ongoing research
- This course is only an introduction
- There is no stupid question, interaction is crucial
- Constructive suggestions are welcome





### Recommended literature 10

O.C. **Zienkiewicz and** R.L. **Taylor**, The Finite Element Method. **Volume 1**: The Basis. Butterworth-Heinemann, Linacre House, Jordan Hill, Oxford OX2 8DP, 225 Wildwood Avenue, Woburn, MA 01801-2041, England, 2000.

O.C. **Zienkiewicz and** R.L. **Taylor**, The Finite Element Method. **Volume 2**: Solid Mechanics. Butterworth-Heinemann, Linacre House, Jordan Hill, Oxford OX2 8DP, 225 Wildwood Avenue, Woburn, MA 01801-2041, England, 2000.

M.A. **Crisfield**, Non-linear Finite Element Analysis of Solids and Structures **Volume 1**: ESSENTIALS. John Wiley & Sons Ltd. Bafins Lane, Chichester West Sussex PO19 IUD, England, 1991.

B.S. Iribarren, P. Berke, Ph. Bouillard, J. Vantomme, T.J. Massart, Investigation of the influence of design and material parameters in the progressive collapse analysis of RC structures, *Engineering Structures*, Vol. 33, page 2805-2820, 2011.

J.-M. Battini, Corotational beam elements in instability problems, *Ph.D. Thesis*, Royal Institute of Technology, Department of Mechanics, Stockholm, Sweden, 2002.

C.E.M. Oliveira, A.G. Marchis, P.Z. Berke, R.A.M. Silveira, T.J. Massart, Computational analysis of a RC planar frame using corotational multilayered beam FE, correlated to experimental results, In Proceedings of XXXIV CILAMCE, 13 pages, 2013





## Course planning 11

- 1. Newton-Raphson solution procedure for NL equations Global structure of a NL FE code
- 2. 1D computational plasticity

Constitutive behavior and its numerical treatment

3. Geometrically NL Bernoulli beam FE

Need for and treatment of geometrically NL framework

4. Introduction to multi-scale simulations

Applied to composite Bernoulli beam

5. Applications – computer labwork

