



# Stability behaviour of non- conventional cold-formed steel structures

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# „Non-conventional”

**Cold-formed sections**  
products

fabrication; new generation of



**Novel structural functions in buildings**



**New structural arrangements**



**Design rules ?**



**Experimental research and development**



**DESIGN**



# Non-conventional arrangements

**Section types** combined sections

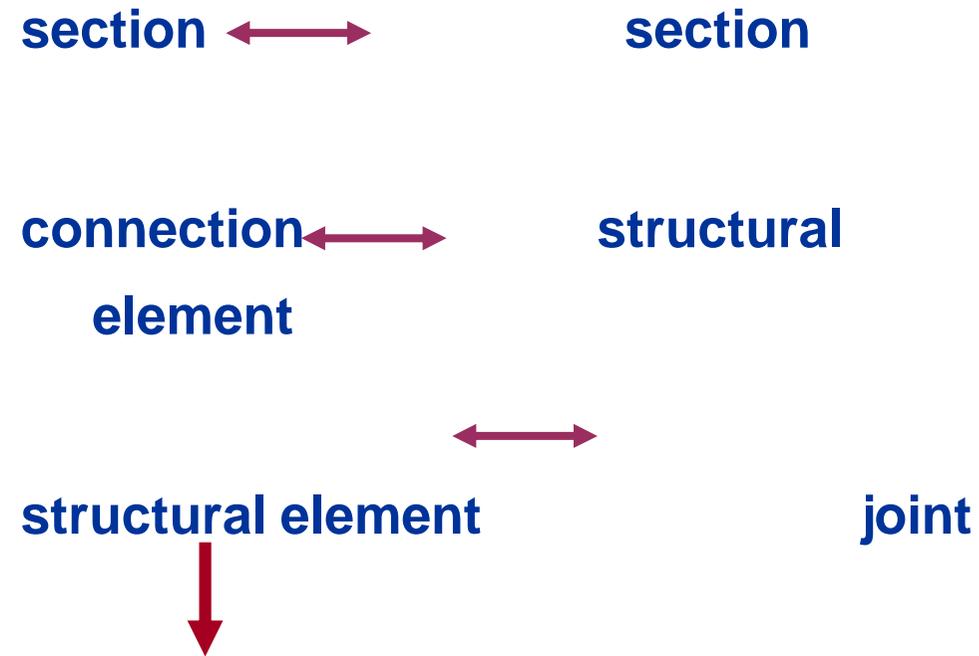
**Eccentricities** eccentric section arrangements in joints  
eccentric load introduction on section elements

**Connections** connectors, contacts

**Lateral supports** discrete position; partial rigidity

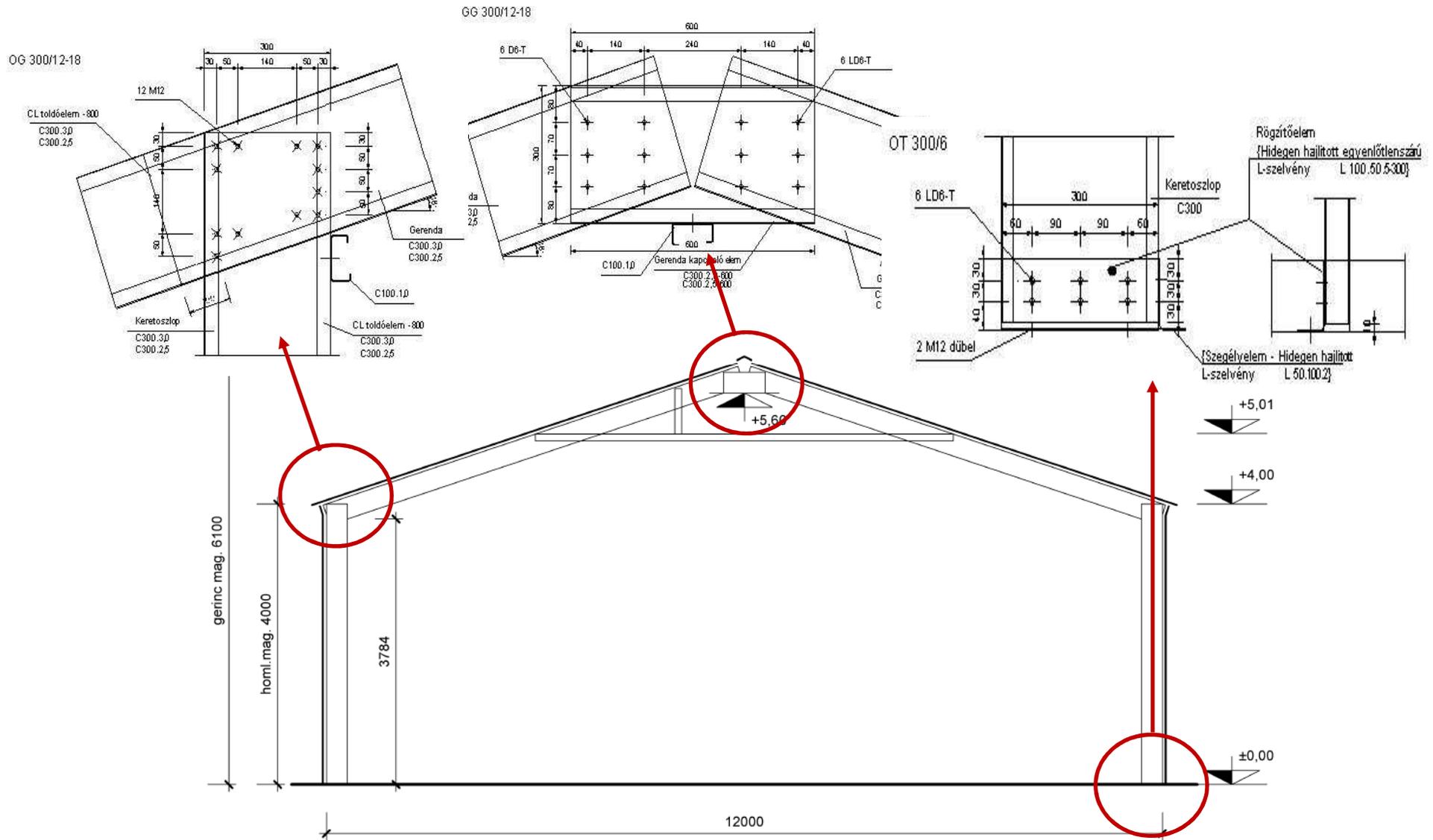


# Interaction



**Stability behaviour ?**

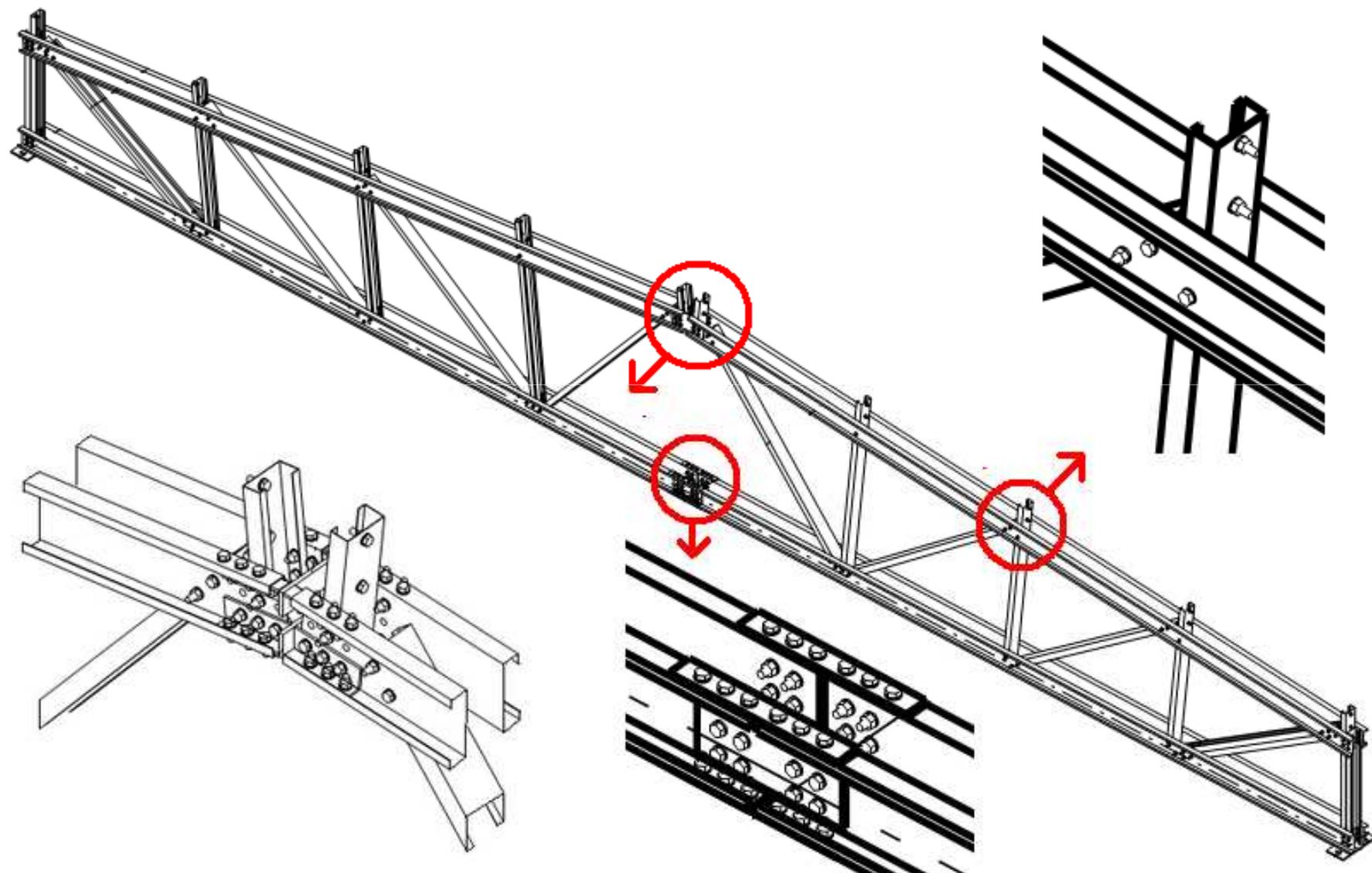
# Frame



# Frame – application



# Truss

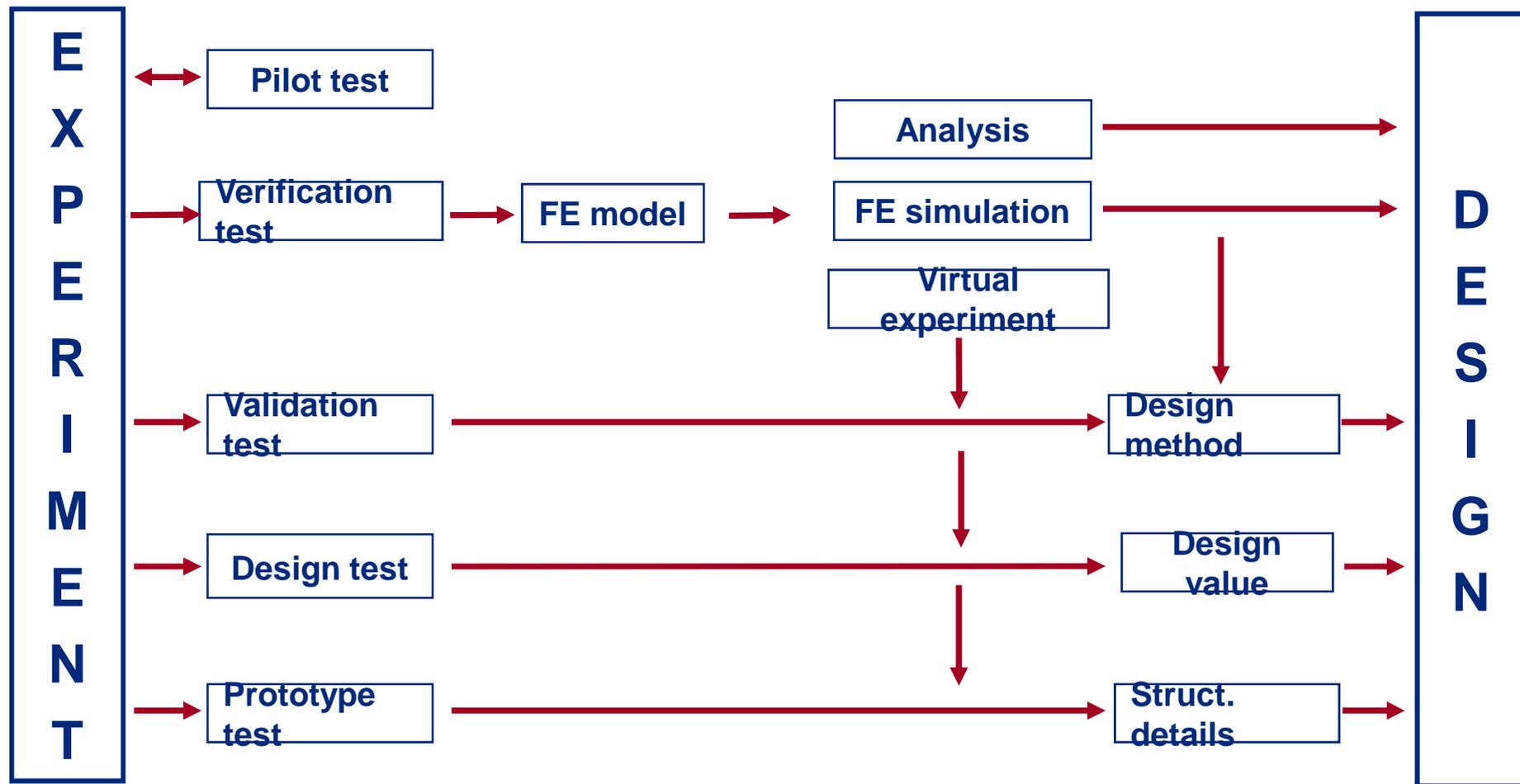


# Truss – application





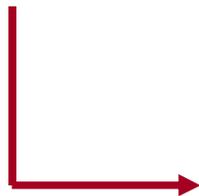
# Research methodology



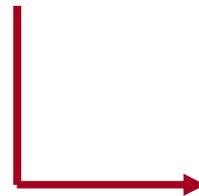


# Research strategy

**Structural element and connection**



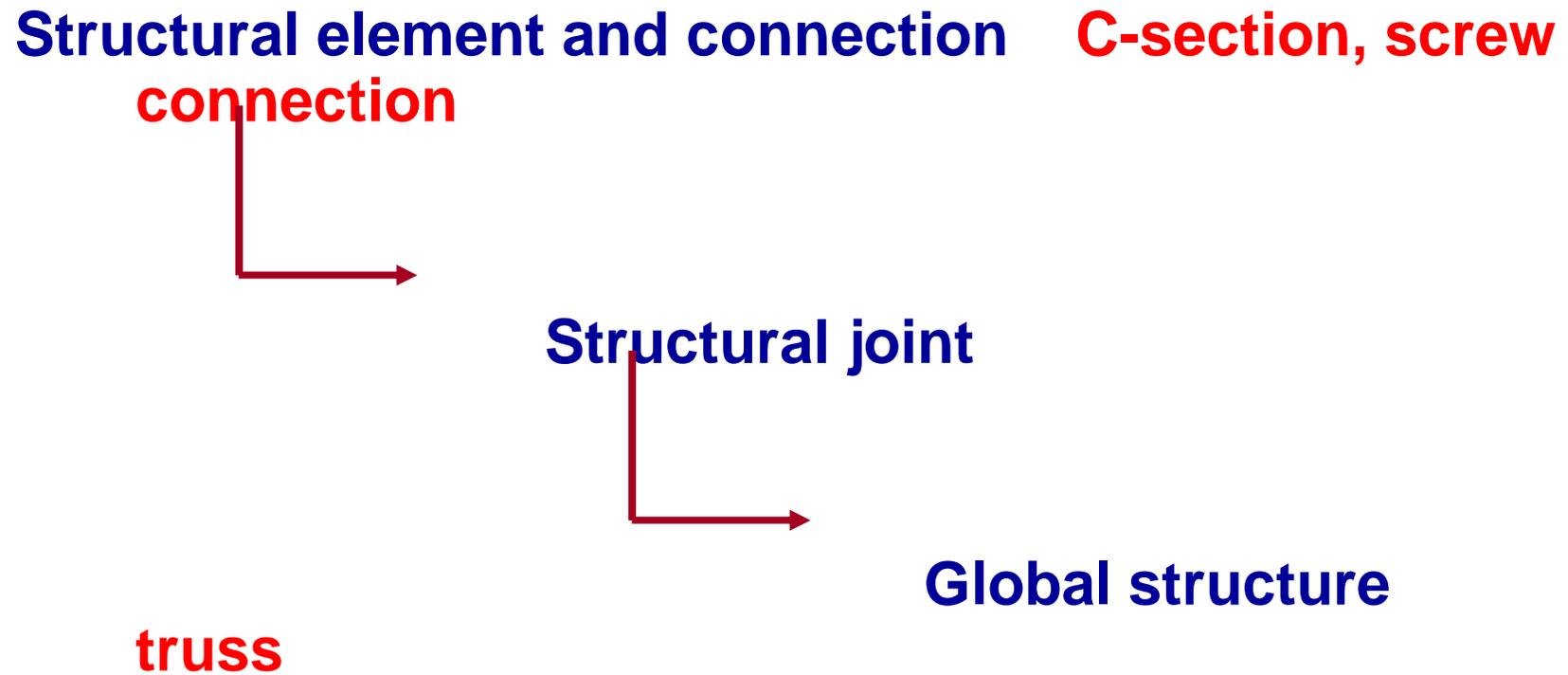
**Structural joint**



**Global structure**



# Research strategy





# C-section structural elements

## Fundamental research on element behaviour

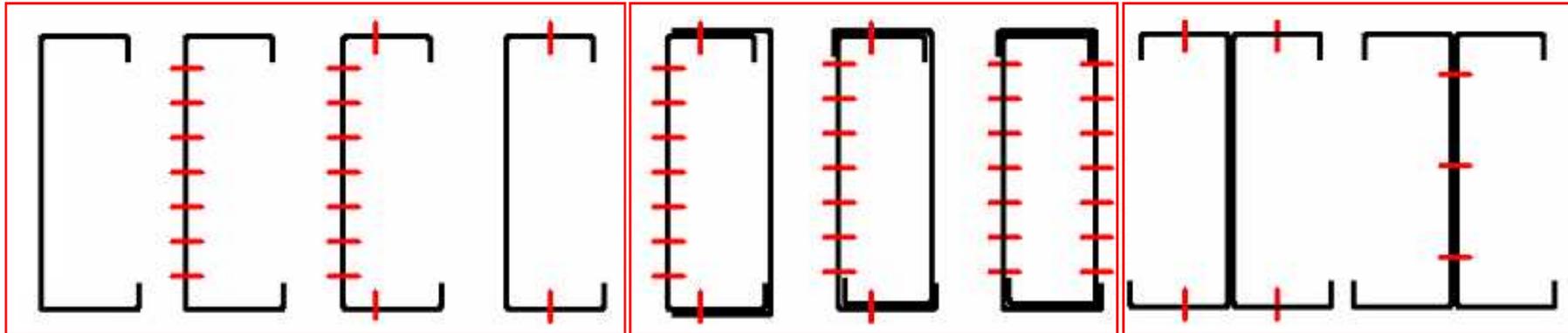
### Subject of the research

- centric/eccentric compression
- combined built-up sections
- load introduction
- lateral restraints

### Aims

- stability behaviour
- failure mode identification
- FE model development, verification, application
- design method development, validation

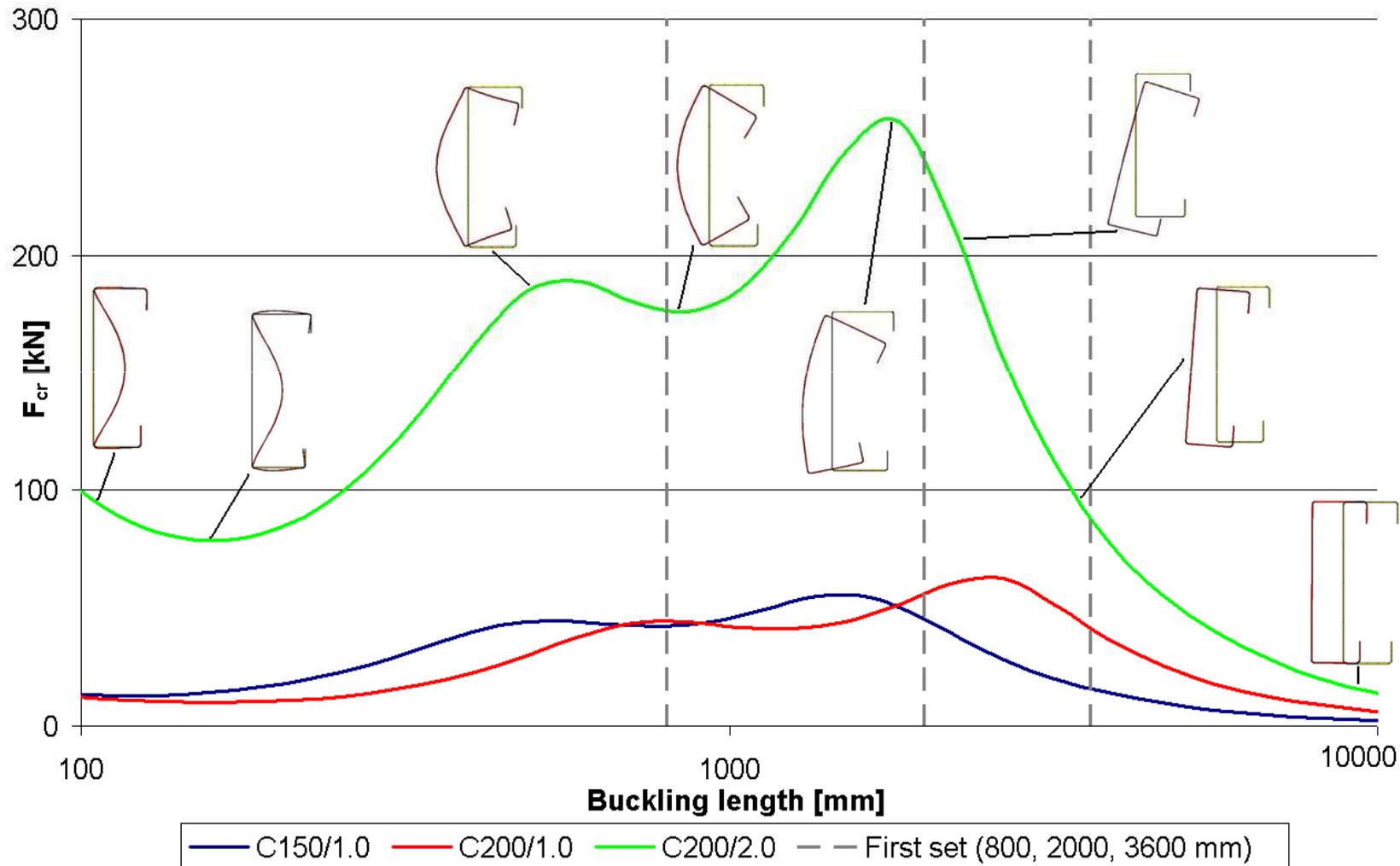
# Experimental program



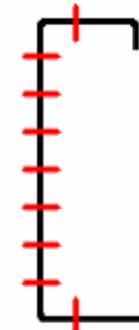
- **10 different section and end connection arrangements**
- **98 tests**
- **C150/1.0 – C200/2.5**
  - web b/t: 80-200
- **Specimen lengths**
  - 800, 1500, 2000, 2500, 3600 mm



# Test preliminary design



# Single C-section elements



# Element end failure



Short screw layout  
on web

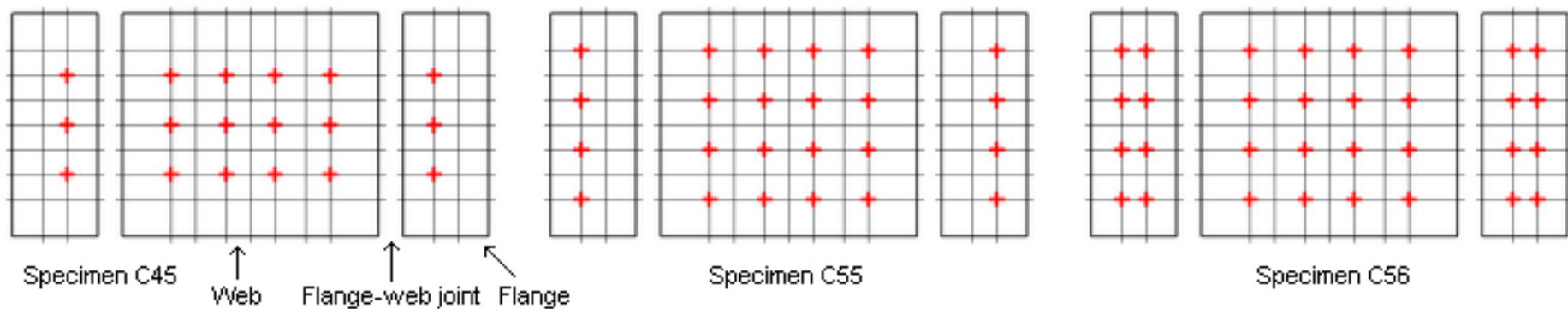
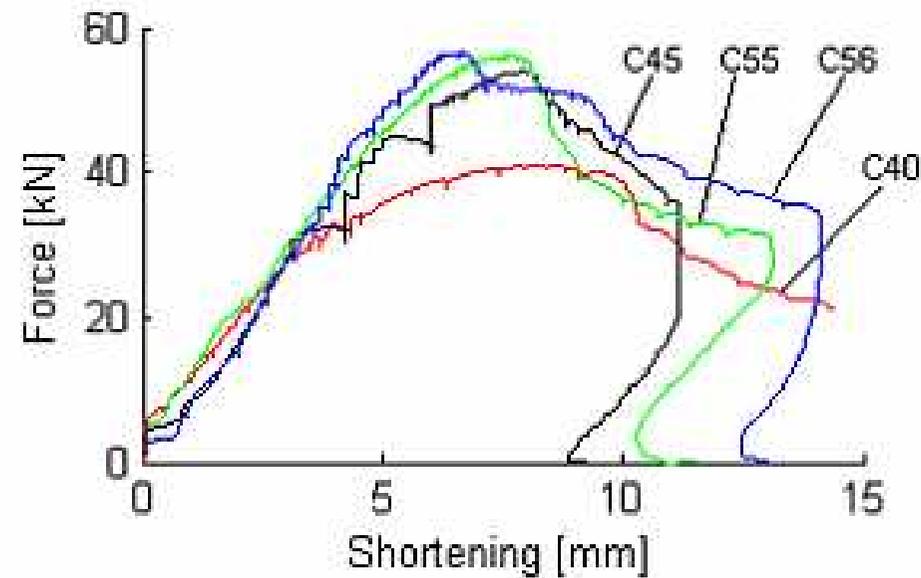


Stub column –  
web connection



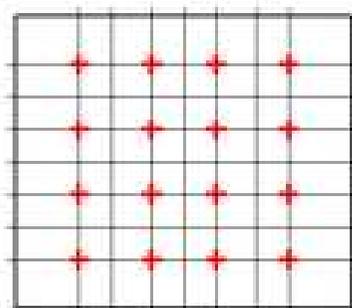
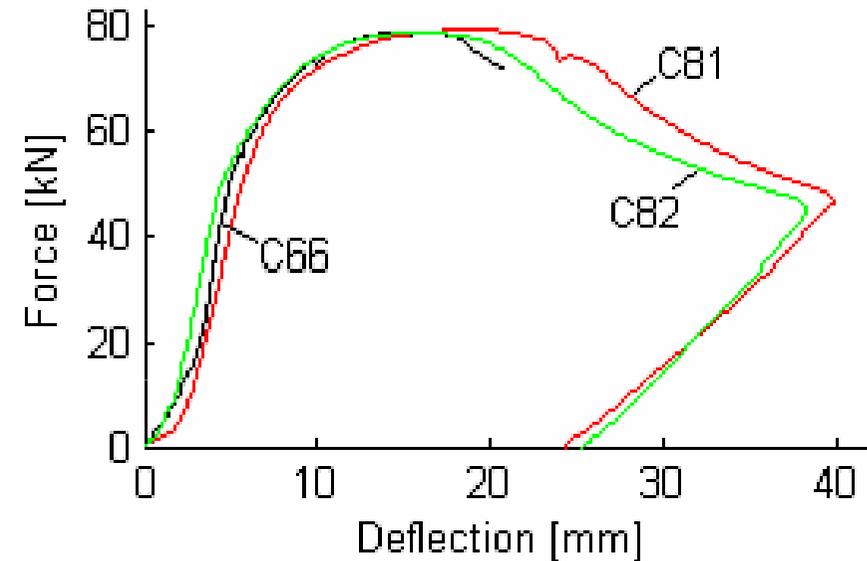
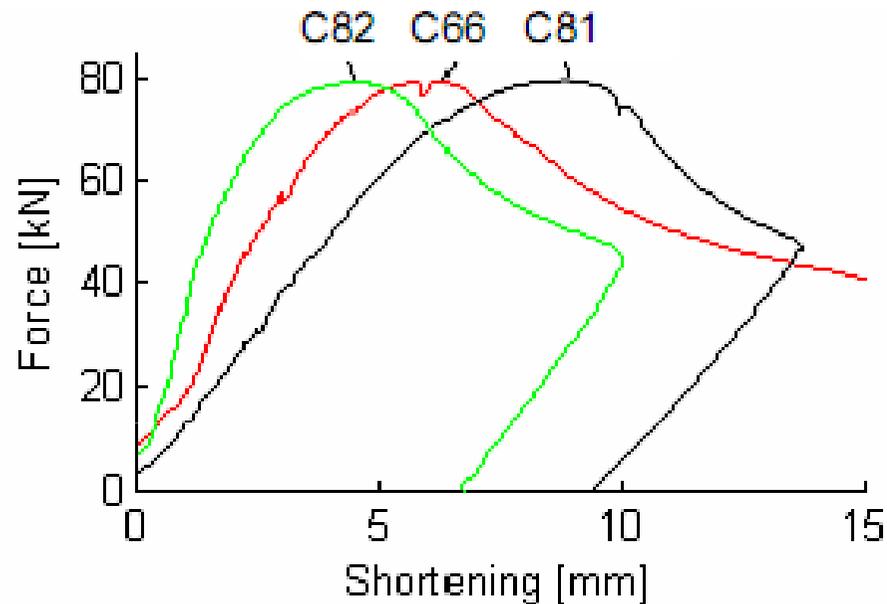
Load introduction at the  
whole section end

# Screw arrangement – web/flange

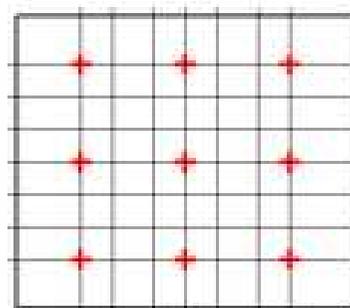




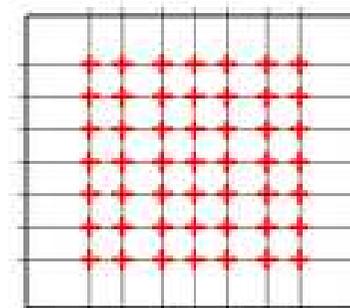
# Screw arrangement – web



C66

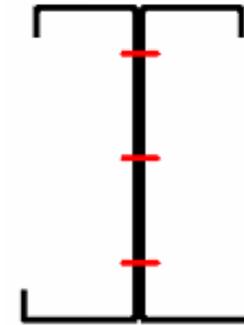
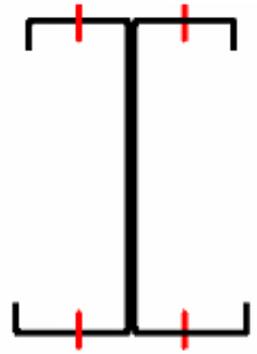
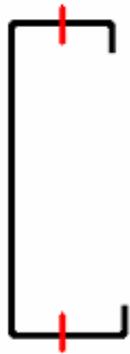


C81

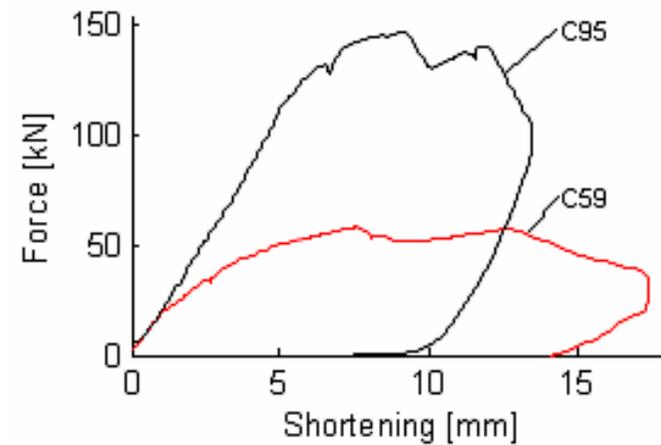
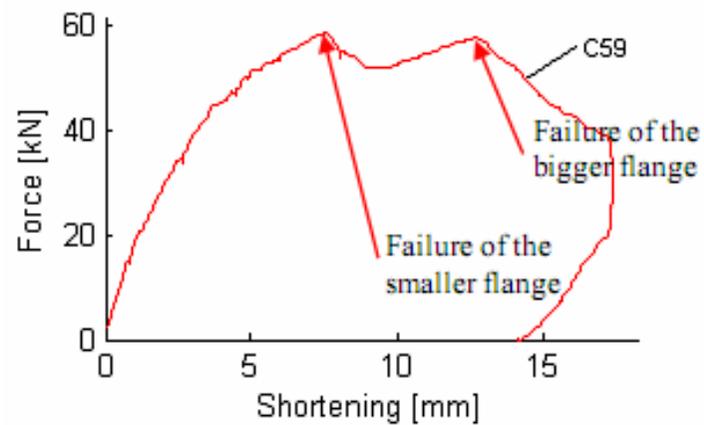
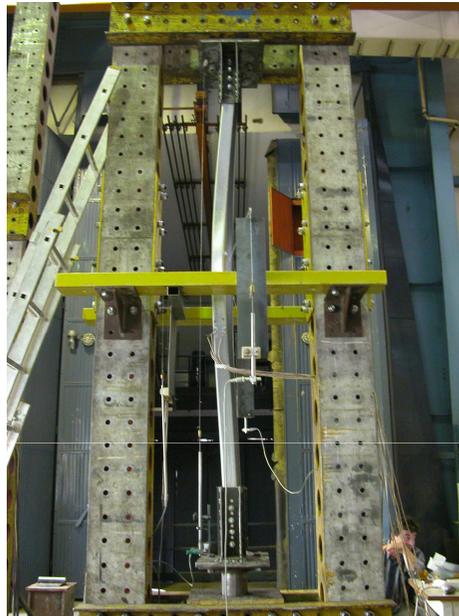


C82

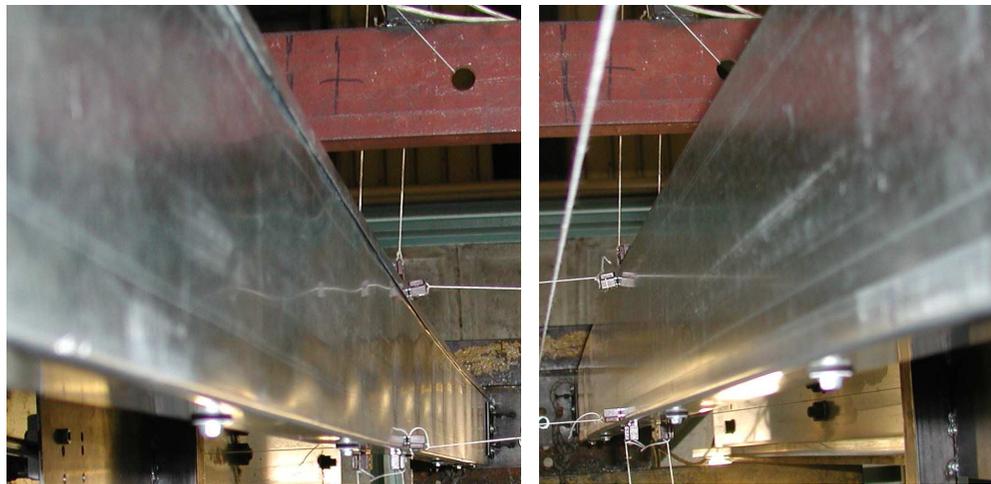
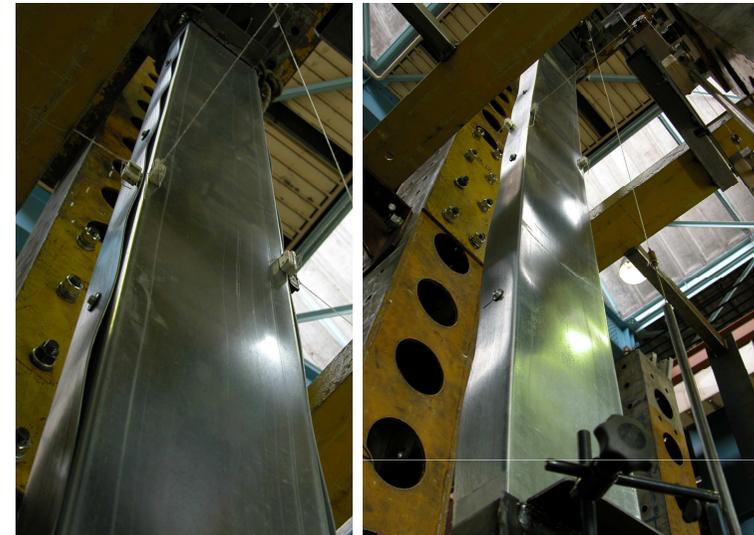
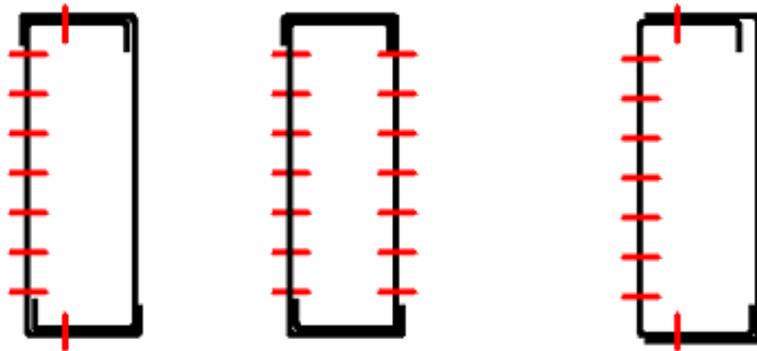
# „I-section” elements



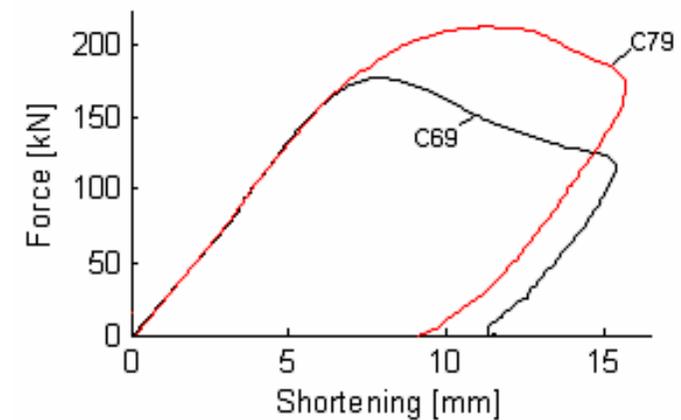
# Single ↔ double section



# „Hollow” section elements

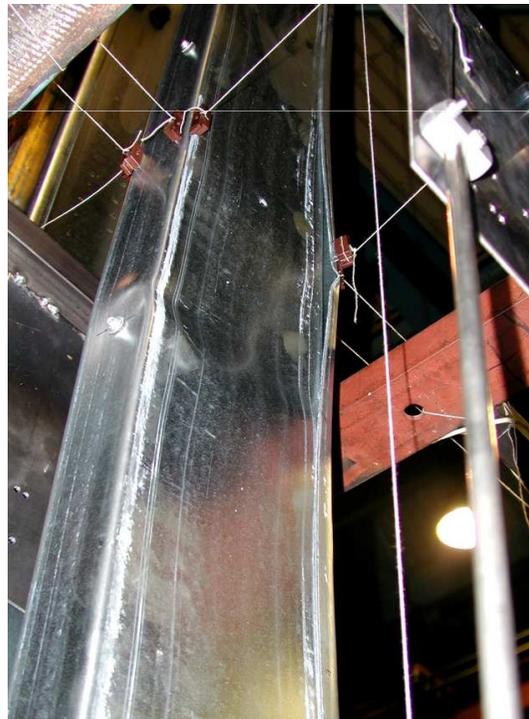
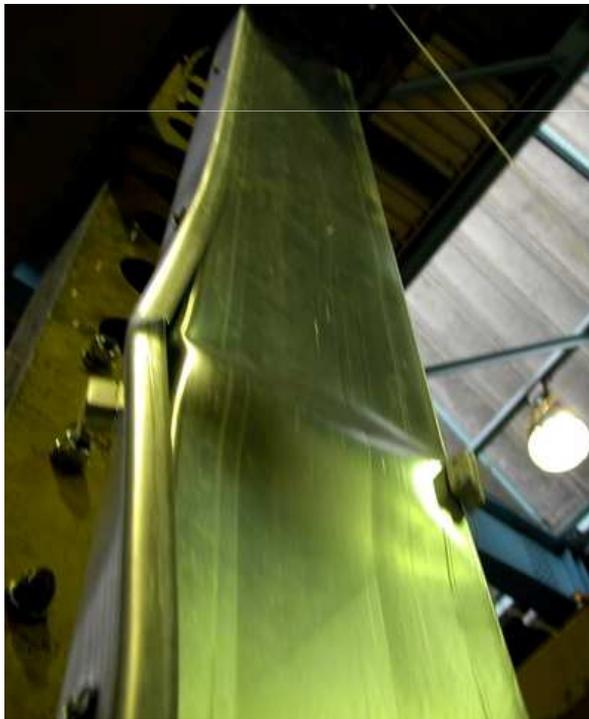
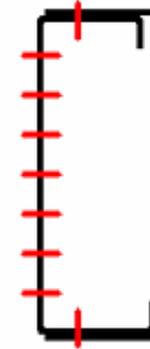
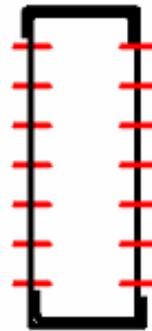
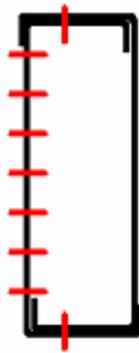


Tension and compression side

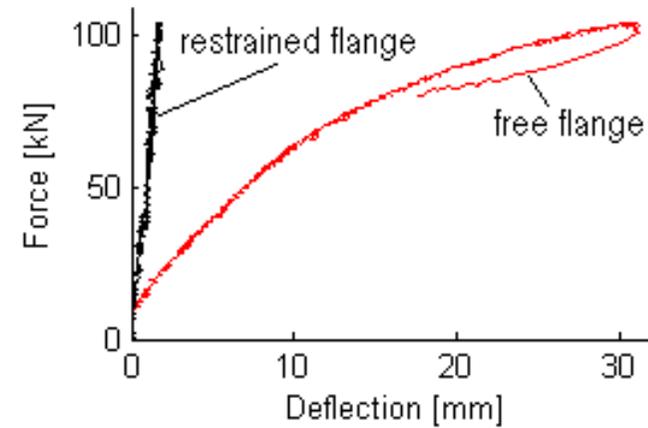


C or U loaded

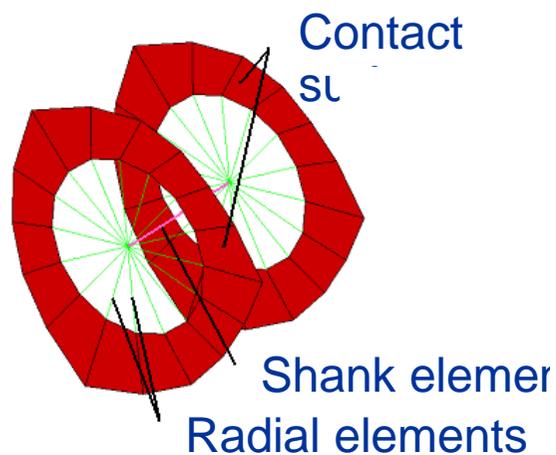
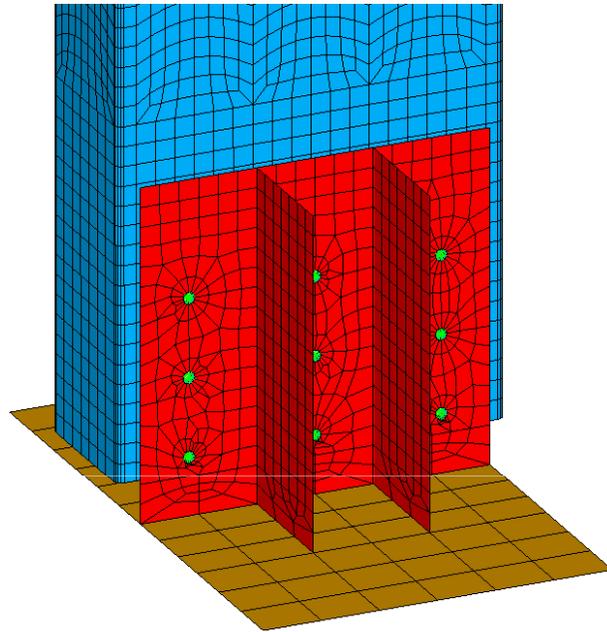
# Behaviour modes



# Laterally supported elements



# Single C-section element FE model



**Software:** ANSYS

**Element:** SHELL181 (4-node, 24 DOF's)

**Material model:** linear elastic – hardening  
plastic

**Contact surfaces:** CONTA173/TARGE170

**Self-drilling screw model:**

- „beamstar”; BEAM4
- calibrated stiffness parameters

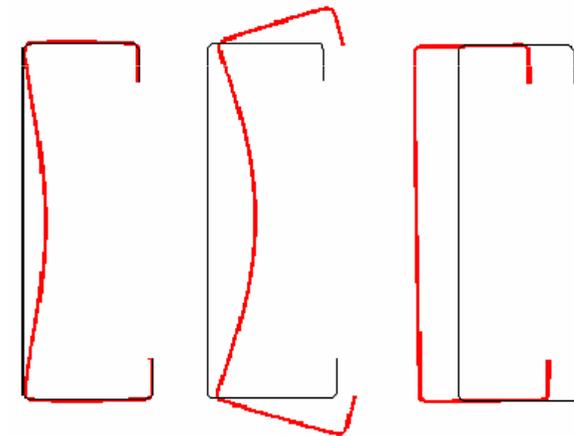
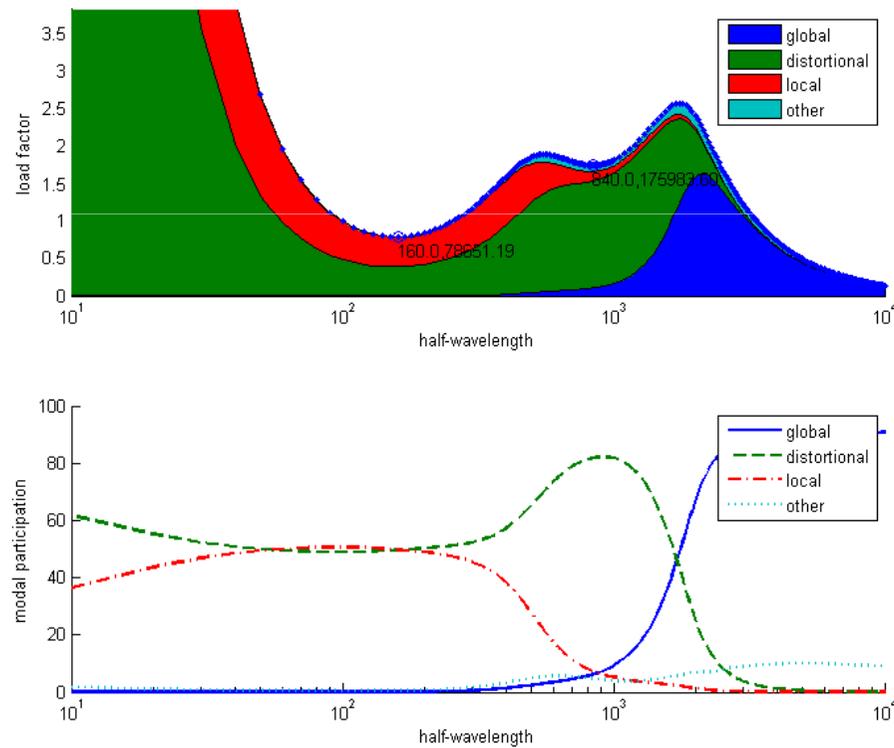
**Model size:** ~ 100000 DOF's (L=2500 mm)

# Geometrical imperfections

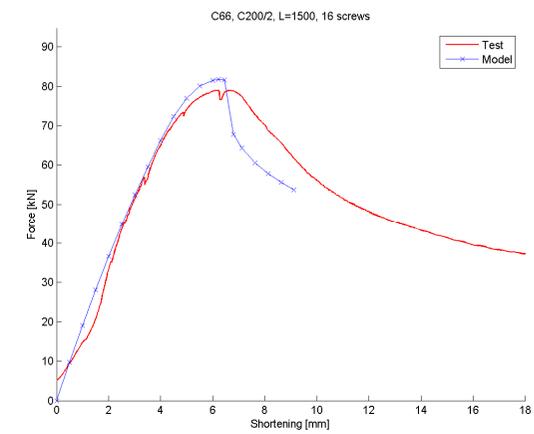
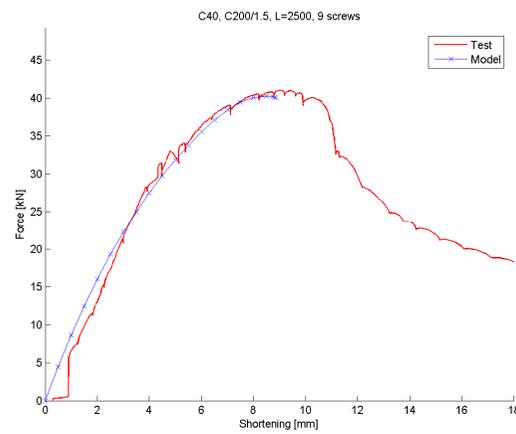
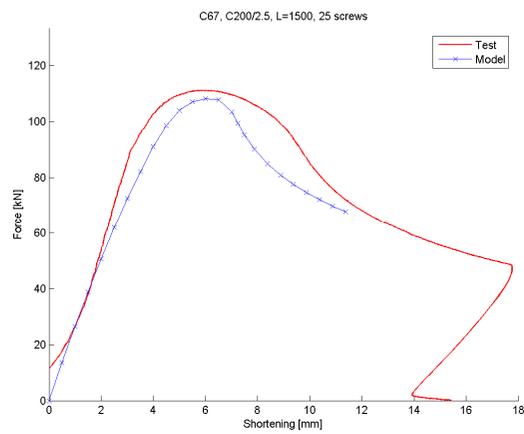
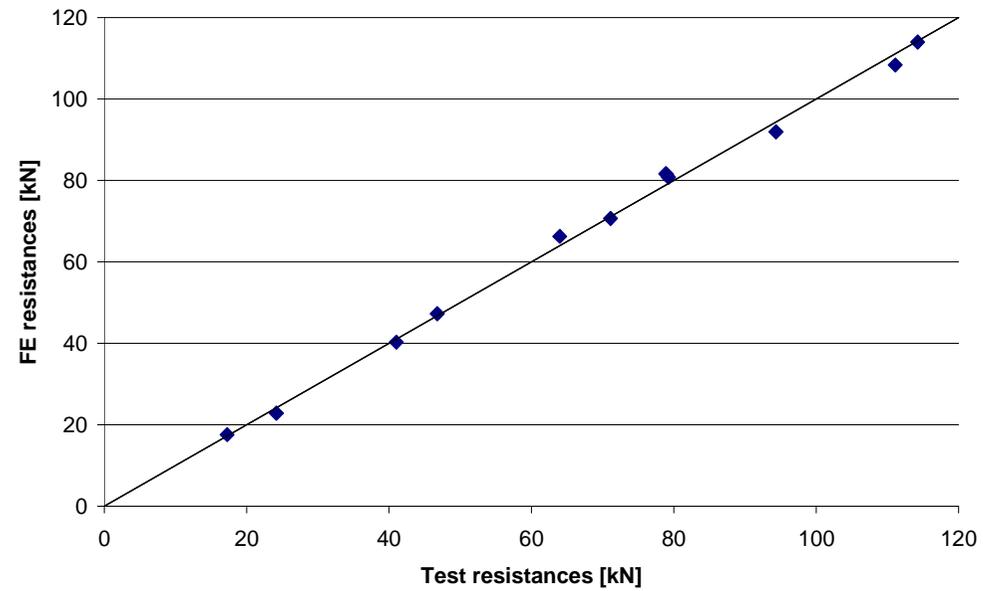
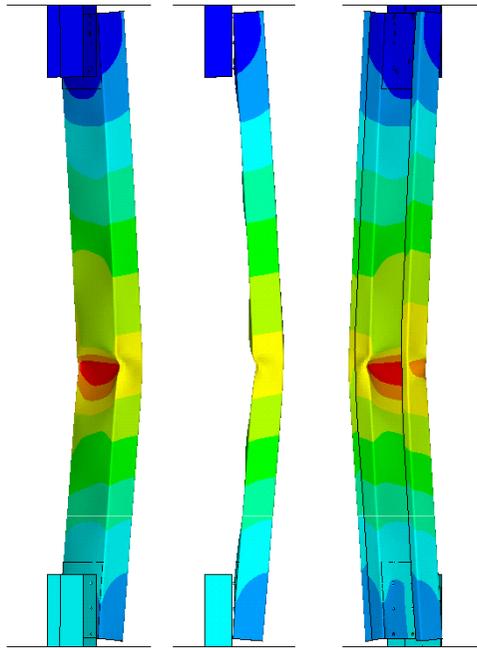
cFSM analysis  
model →

pure modes ←

FE

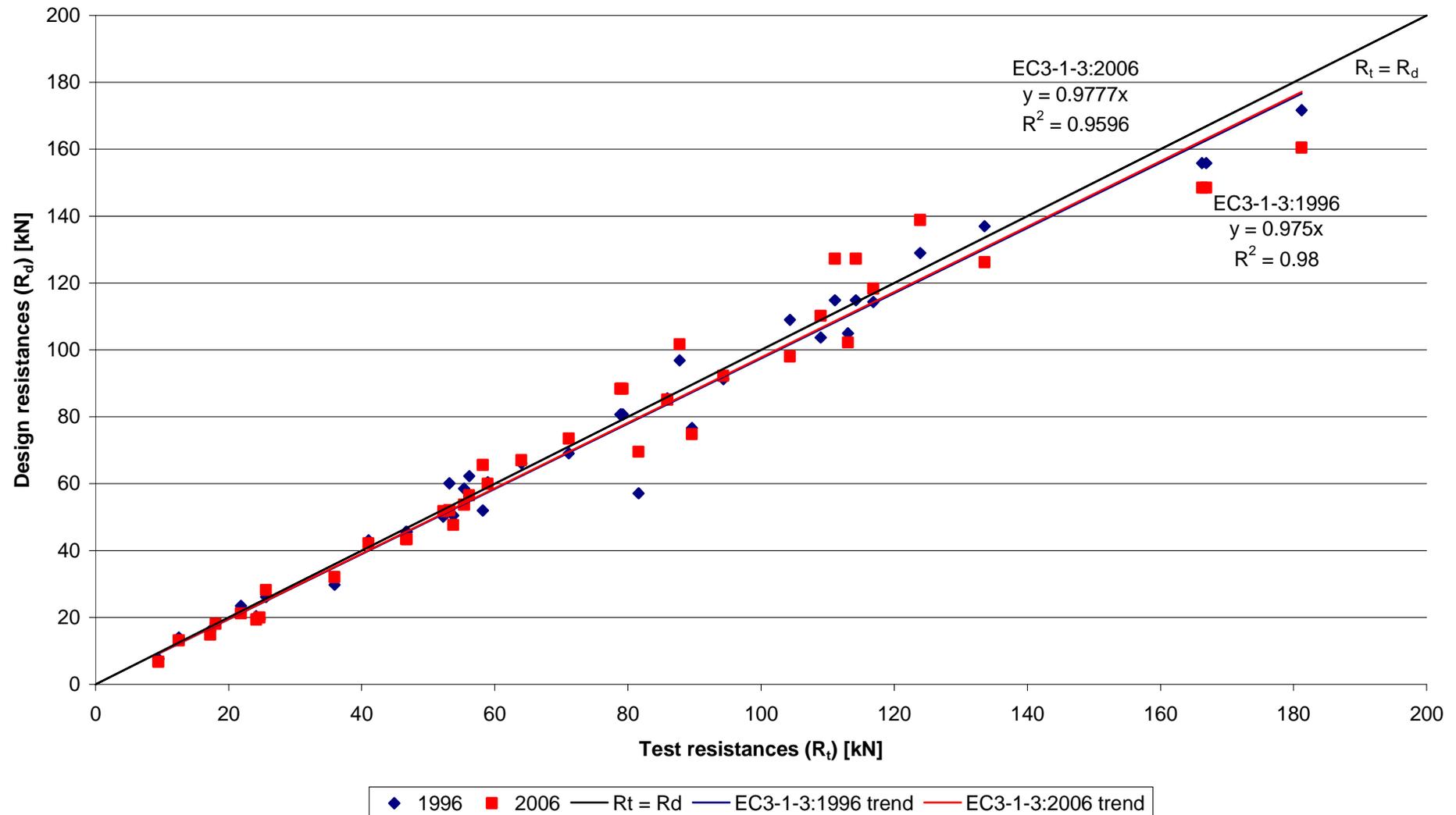


# FE analysis





# Single section element resistances



# Buckling – bending design resistance

EC3-1-3:1996

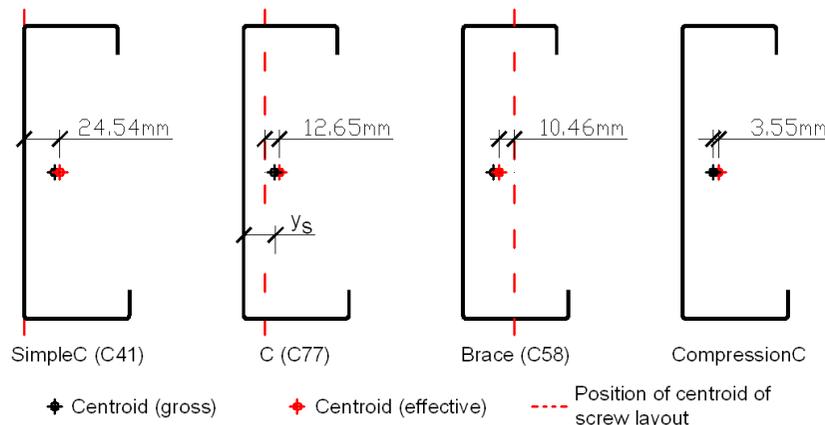
$$\frac{N_{Ed}}{\chi_{\min} \cdot f_{yb} \cdot A_{eff} / \gamma_{M0}} + \frac{\kappa_z \cdot (M_{z,Ed} + \Delta M_{z,Ed})}{f_{yb} \cdot W_{eff,z,com} / \gamma_{M0}} \leq 1$$

$M_{z,Ed} = N_{Ed} \cdot e_{nom}$

EC3-1-3:2006

$$\left( \frac{N_{Ed}}{N_{b,Rd}} \right)^{0.8} + \left( \frac{M_{Ed} + \Delta M_{Ed}}{M_{b,Rd}} \right)^{0.8} \leq 1$$

$e_{mod} = 1.4 \cdot e_{nom}$   
 $e_{mod} \geq 0.4 \cdot y_s$



$$\left( \frac{N_{Ed}}{N_{b,Rd}} \right)^{0.65} + \left( \frac{M_{Ed} + \Delta M_{Ed}}{M_{b,Rd}} \right)^{0.65} \leq 1$$



## Double section design resistance

$$\frac{N_{Ed}}{\chi_{\min} \cdot f_{yb} \cdot A_{eff} / \gamma_{M1}} + \frac{\kappa_z \cdot (M_{z,Ed} + \Delta M_{z,Ed})}{f_{yb} \cdot W_{eff,z,com} / \gamma_{M1}} \leq \alpha$$

Section type	$\alpha$
I column	$0.8 \cdot L + 1.0$ , L – element length [m]
CC	1.8
CU	1.3 – C-section loaded 1.8 – U-section loaded
I brace	2.5



# C-section truss

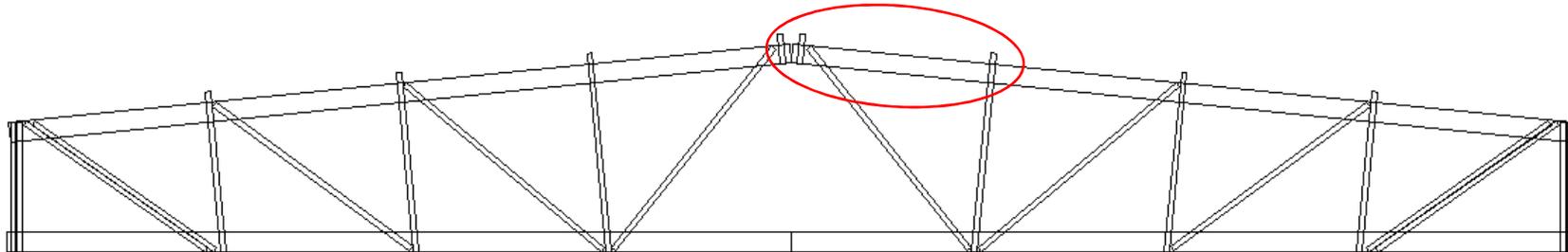
## Subject of the research

- full-scale truss experimental study
- different structural elements
- different joints

## Aims

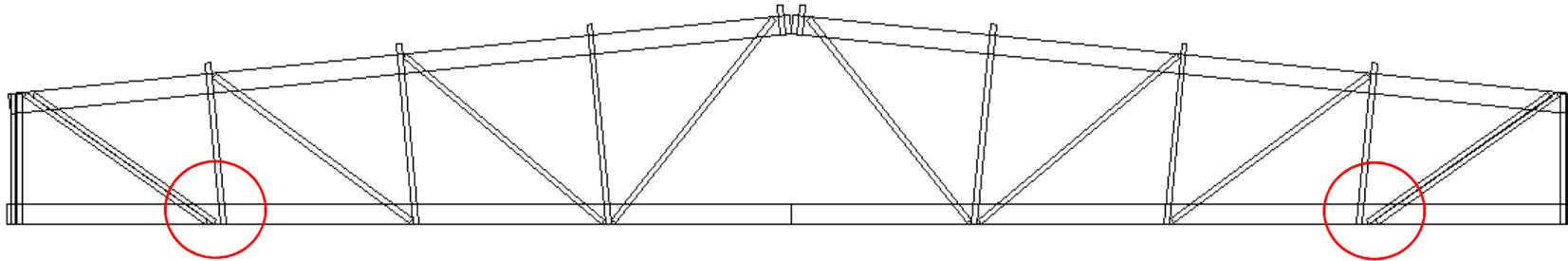
- interacting stability behaviour
- failure mode identification
- FE model development, verification
- design method validation

# Test #1



failure in the upper  
chord, interaction  
bending and

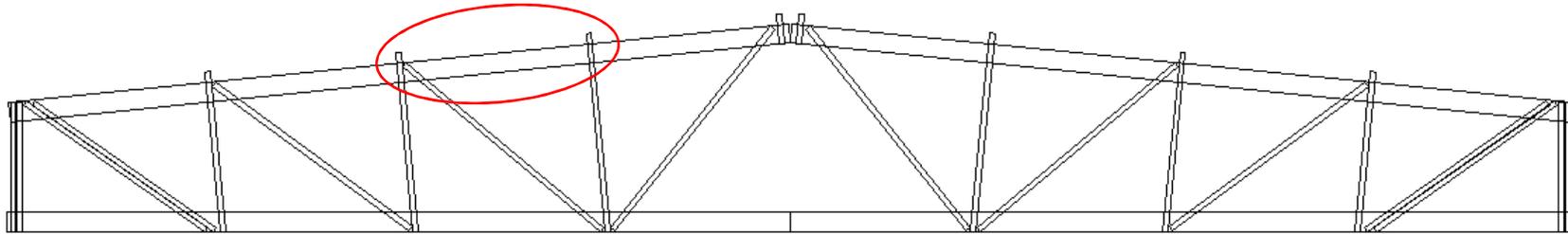
## Test #5/1



failure in the lower chord

joint nearest to the support  
interaction of shear and

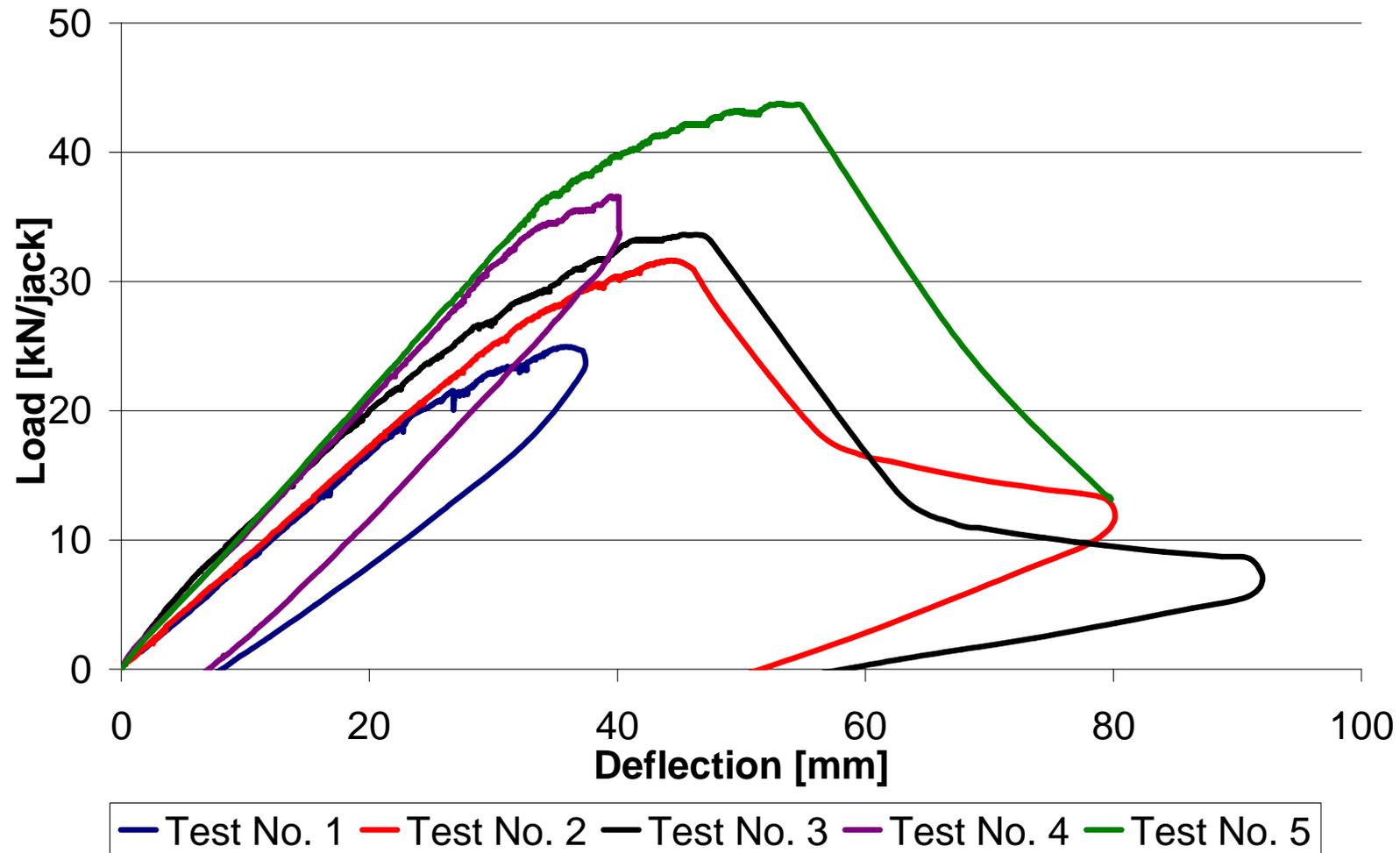
## Test #5/2



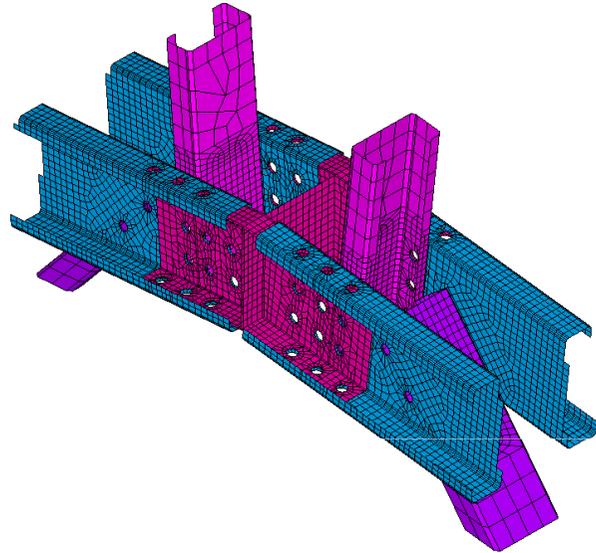
failure of the upper chord;  
interaction of bending and  
flexural buckling



# Load-deflection relationship



# Truss FE model



**Software:** ANSYS

**Element:** SHELL181 (4-node, 24 DOF's)

**Material model:** linear elastic –  
hardening plastic

**Contact surfaces:**

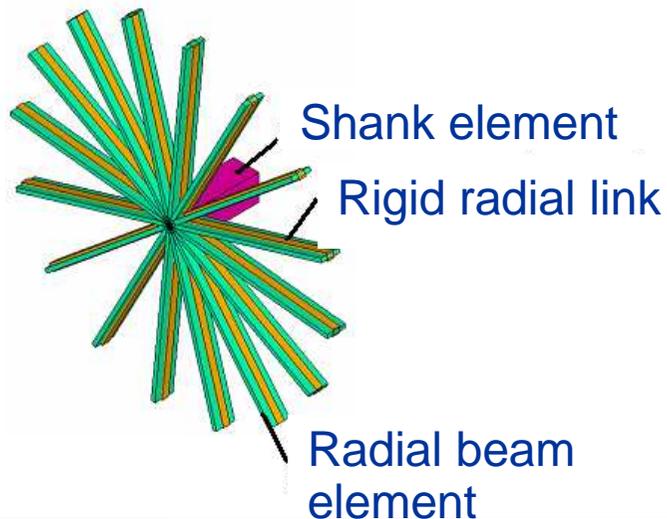
CONTA173/TARGE170

**Bolt model:**

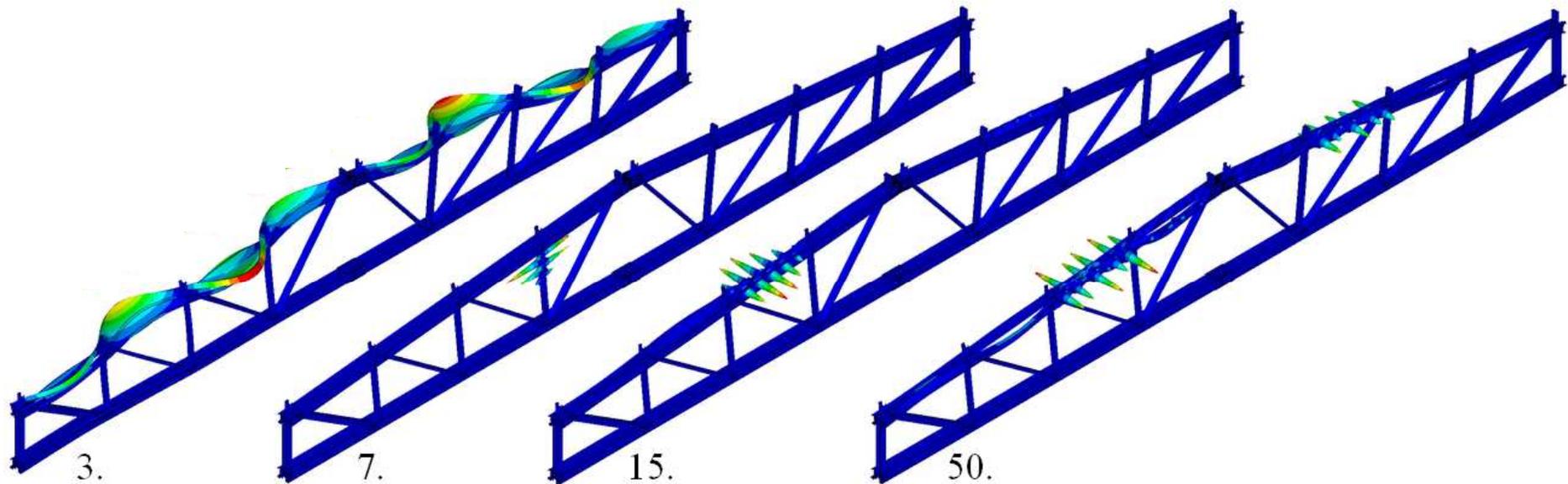
- modified „beamstar”; BEAM4
- calibrated stiffness parameter

**Imperfections:** selected eigenmodes

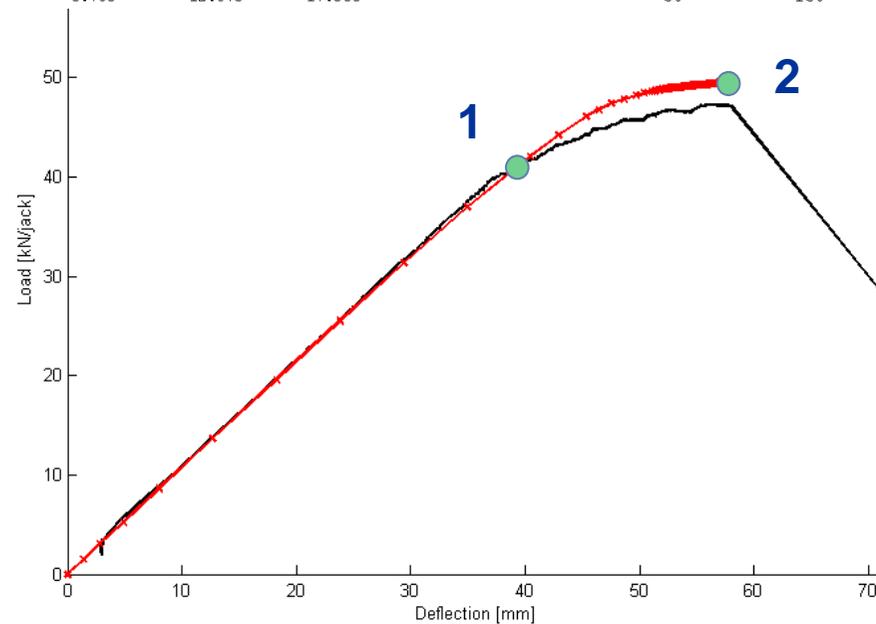
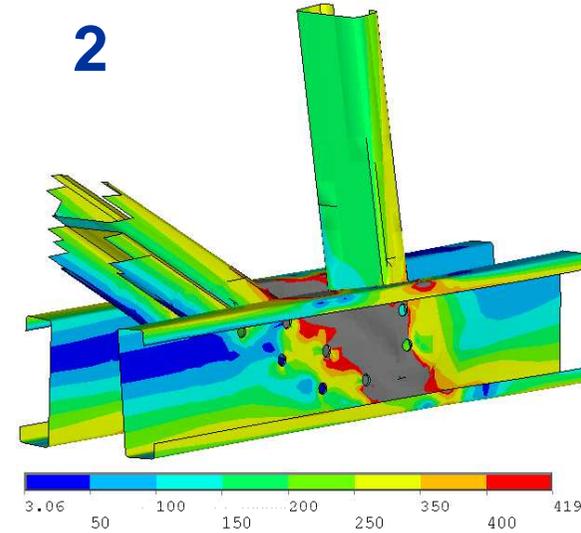
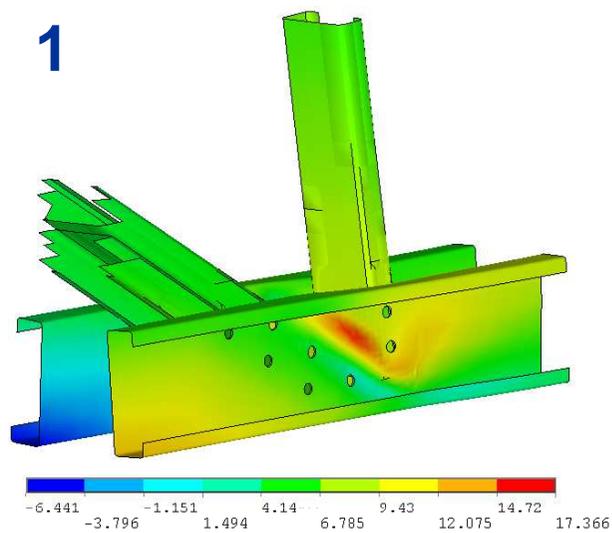
**Model size:** ~ 1.400.000 DOF's



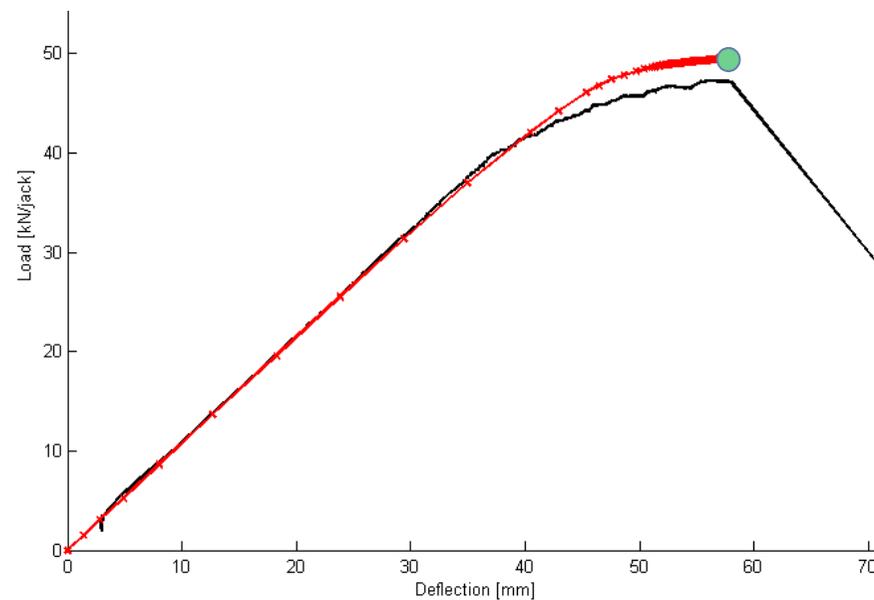
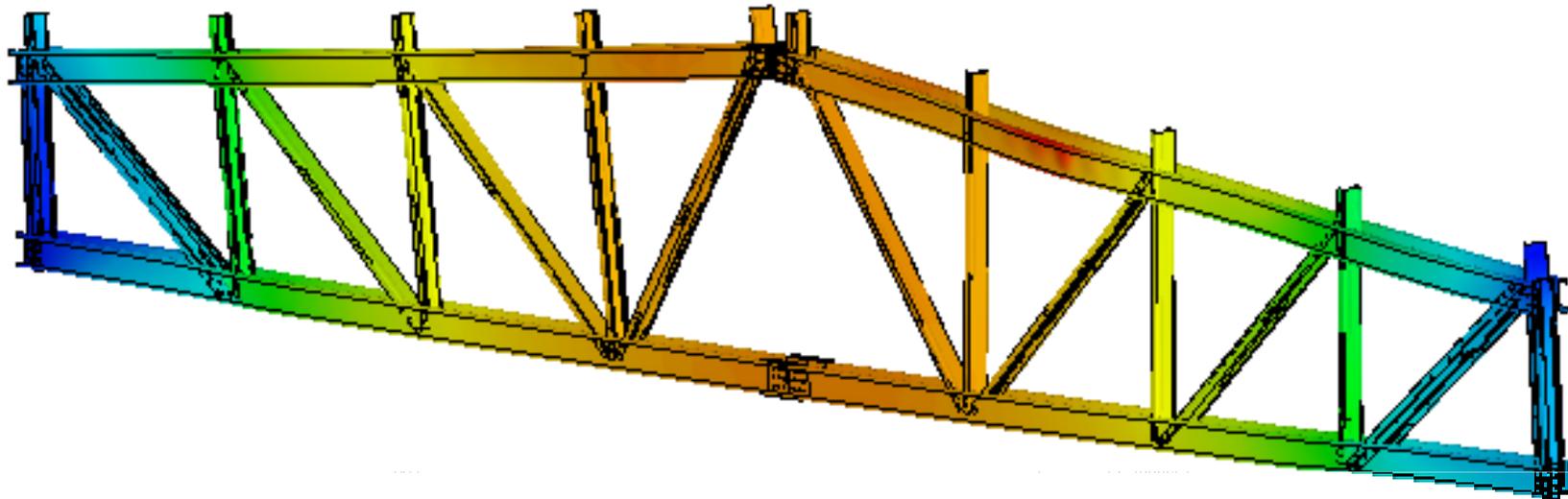
# Eigenmodes – imperfections



# FE analysis – joint failure



# FE analysis – chord buckling





# Design method

**Compression chord:** single section resistance --- reduced out-of-plane eccentricity

$$\frac{N_{Ed}}{\chi_{\min} \cdot f_{yb} \cdot A_{eff} / \gamma_{M1}} + \frac{\kappa_{LT} \cdot (M_{y,Ed} + \Delta M_{y,Ed})}{\chi_{LT} \cdot f_{yb} \cdot W_{eff,y,com} / \gamma_{M1}} + \frac{\kappa_z \cdot (0.5 \cdot M_{z,Ed} + \Delta M_{z,Ed})}{f_{yb} \cdot W_{eff,z,com} / \gamma_{M1}} \leq 1$$

**Brace:** single and I-section resistance

**N-joint:** shear resistance and interaction of joint and chord member

$$V_{b,Rd} = \frac{\chi_w \cdot f_y \cdot A_{v,eff}}{\sqrt{3} \cdot \gamma_{M5}}$$

$$N_{0,Rd} = \left[ (A_{0,eff} - A_{v,eff}) \cdot f_y + A_{v,eff} \cdot f_y \cdot \sqrt{1 - (V_{Ed} / V_{b,Rd})^2} \right] / \gamma_{M5}$$



# Concluding remarks

**Research methodology:** from experiments to design of non-conventional cold-formed steel structures.

**Experiments on C-section elements:** test results for a wide range of arrangement (section, load introduction); modified stability behaviour modes.

**FE model for screwed members:** screw model, cFSM pure mode imperfections, calibration, test domain extension.

**Development of cold-formed structures:** truss, frame, purlin, composite floor beam; experimental and numerical research.

**Global advanced FE model:** development, verification, applicability.

**Design methods:** experimental and numerical validation of modified and/or new application rules for the structural elements, joints and



**Thank you for your attention!**