

NISTIR 6890

Fire Resistance Determination and Performance Prediction Research Needs Workshop: Proceedings

William Grosshandler
Editor



National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

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Building and Fire Research Laboratory

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U.S. Department of Commerce
Donald L. Evans, Secretary

Technology Administration
Phillip J. Bond, Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director

G. Simulation of Cardington Fire Tests

Asif Usmani,
University of Edinburgh, UK



School of Civil & Environmental Engineering
STRUCTURES AND FIRE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
 JM Rotter, DD Drysdale, BP Sinha, J Torero, AS Usmani, Pandaj, M Gillie

Computational Modelling of the Cardington fire tests

AS Usmani

coworkers: S Lamont, M Gillie, AM Sanad, M O'Connor, JM Rotter,
 DD Drysdale, B Lane
 University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
 Corus Plc, Ove-Arup & Partners



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Background

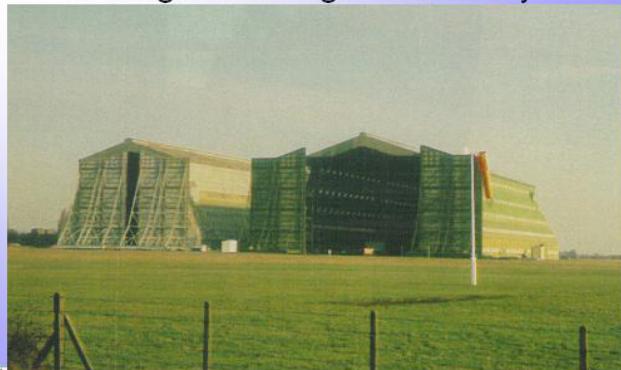
- ◆ Events showed structural design for fire as overly conservative
- ◆ Cardington tests carried out to address primarily this, and to
 - ◆ improve understanding of structural behaviour
 - ◆ produce data for validating computer models
 - ◆ eventually help develop more rational design methods
 - ◆ reduce cost of steel fire protection and sell more steel!
- ◆ Move on from the entrenched poor practice! standard fire test



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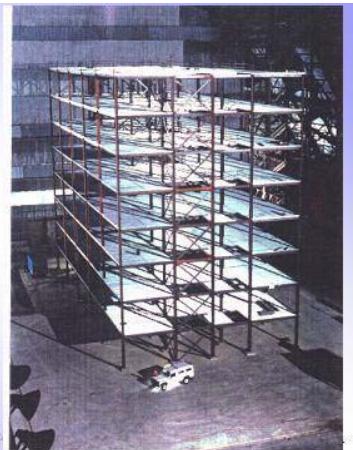
BRE Large Building Test Facility



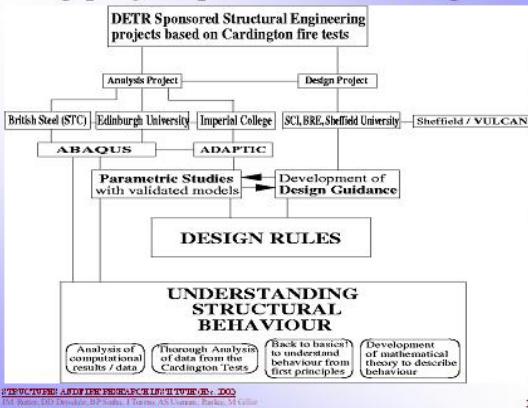
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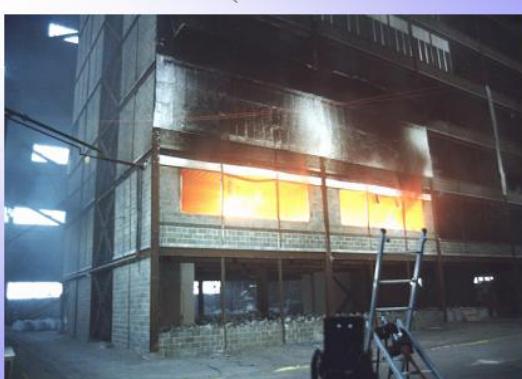
Cardington Frame



Modelling project plan after Cardington



British Steel Test 4 (Demonstration Test)



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Key equation

$$\varepsilon_{\text{total}} = \varepsilon_{\text{thermal}} + \varepsilon_{\text{mechanical}}$$

$\varepsilon_{\text{total}} \Rightarrow$ Displacements

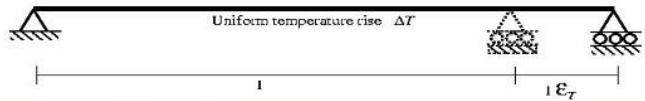
$\varepsilon_{\text{mechanical}} \Rightarrow$ Stresses



Thermal expansion

$$\varepsilon_{\text{thermal}} \Rightarrow \varepsilon_T = \alpha \Delta T$$

Unrestrained thermal expansion

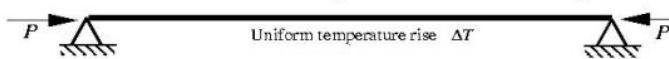


$$\varepsilon_{\text{total}} = \varepsilon_t = \varepsilon_T = \alpha \Delta T$$

$$\varepsilon_{\text{mechanical}} = \varepsilon_m = 0$$

Thermal expansion

Restrained thermal expansion: Pre-buckling



$$\varepsilon_t = \varepsilon_T + \varepsilon_m = 0$$

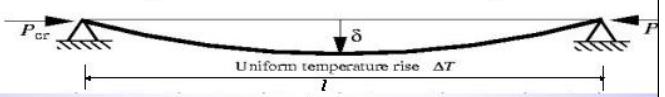
$$\varepsilon_m = -\varepsilon_T$$

$$P = EA \varepsilon_m = -EA \varepsilon_T = -EA \alpha \Delta T$$



Thermal expansion

Buckling due to restrained thermal expansion



$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{l^2}$$

$$EA \alpha \Delta T = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{l^2}$$

$$\Delta T_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2}{\alpha l^2}$$

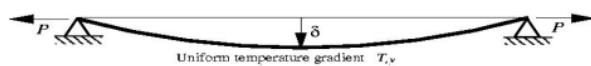
Thermal bowing

$$\text{Curvature} \Rightarrow \phi = \alpha T_y$$

Thermal Bowing with ends restrained against rotation



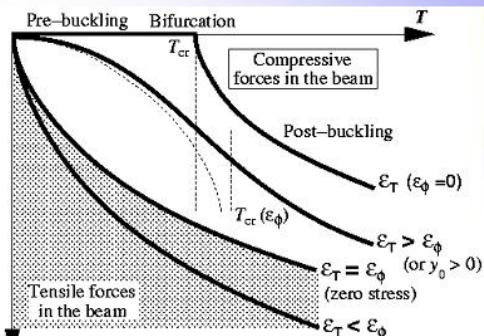
Thermal Bowing with ends restrained against translation



$$\varepsilon_\phi = 1 - \frac{\sin \frac{l\phi}{2}}{\frac{l\phi}{2}}$$



Various temperature-deflection responses



Main principles to interpret model output

- ◆ Fire effect on beams and slabs can adequately be described in terms of mean temperature increment ΔT & through depth thermal gradient T_z
- ◆ Restraint to lateral translation produces compression (small restraint enough)
- ◆ Thermal gradients impose curvature in unrestrained pin ended members
- ◆ Gradients induce moment in members with rotationally restrained ends
- ◆ Gradients induce tension in pin-ended translationally restrained members
- ◆ Combinations of thermal expansion and bowing with various restraint conditions produce a large range of deflection and internal force patterns
- ◆ In slabs and other 2D members compatibility of displacements in the two directions may govern internal forces and displacements

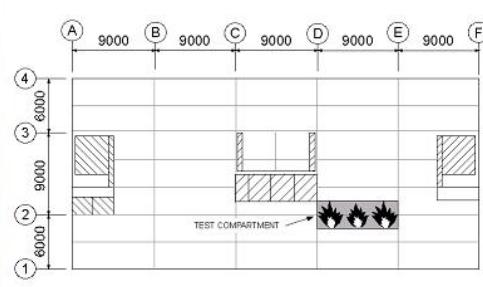


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British Steel Test 1 (Restrained beam test)



RESTRAINED BEAM TEST



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British Steel Test 1 (Restrained beam test)

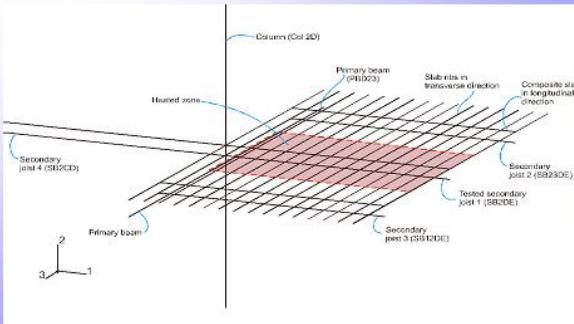


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Grillage model for Restrained beam test



Finite Element Model for Cardington Fire Tests

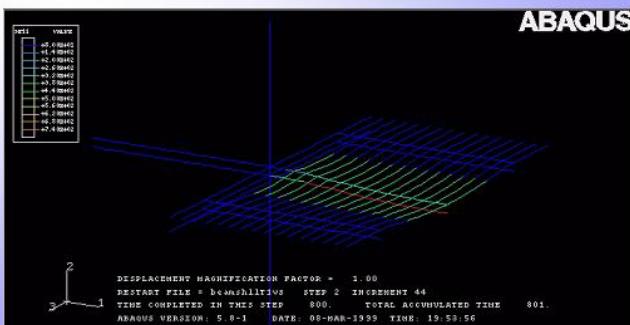


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Deflected model



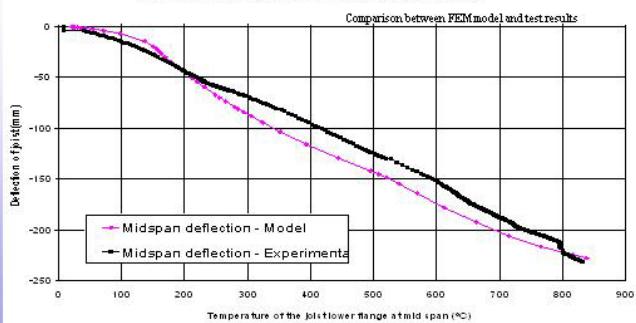
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Deflections

Test 1 joist deflection under increasing temperature

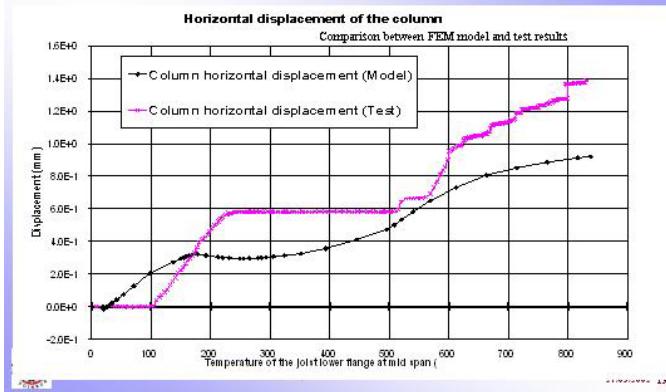


STRUCTURAL AND FIRE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SFRI) DO

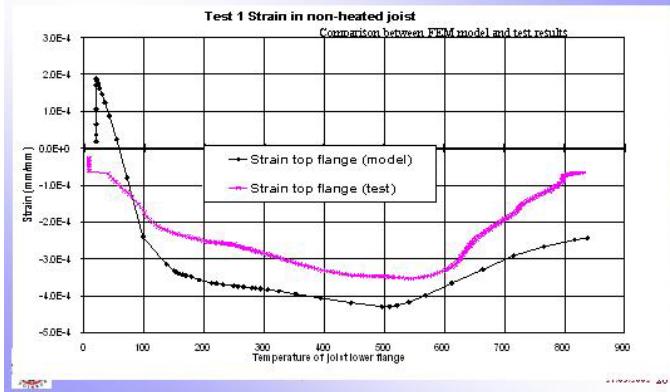
Dr. Renu, Dr. Deekshat, Prof. Sudha, Prof. As. Gururaj, Prof. M. Galle

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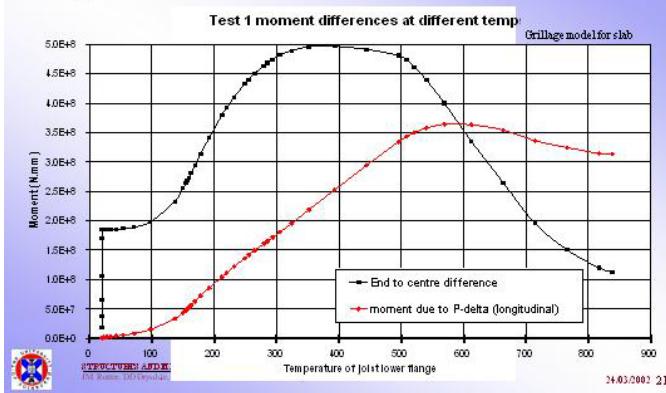
Column lateral displacement at floor level



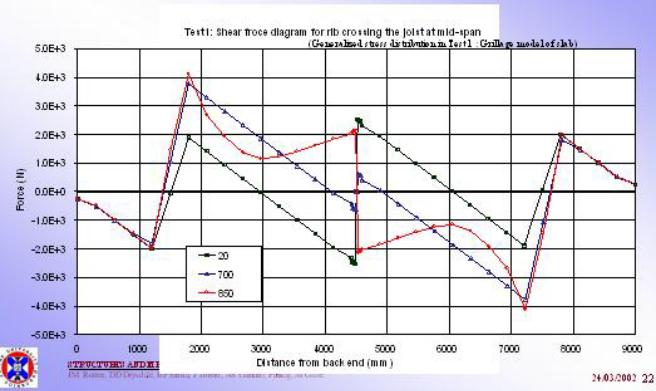
Strain in the top flange of adjacent beam



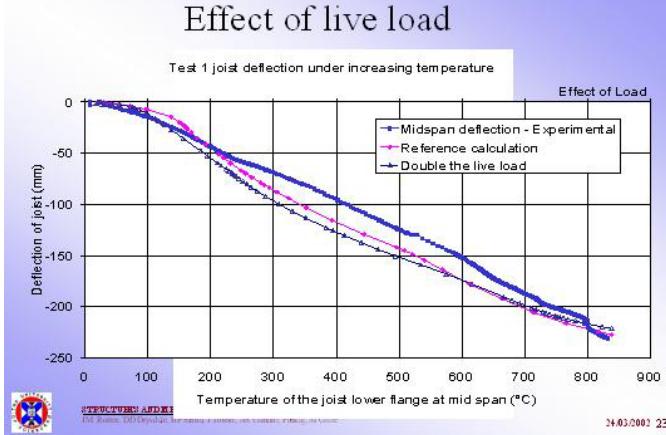
Composite beam moments during fire



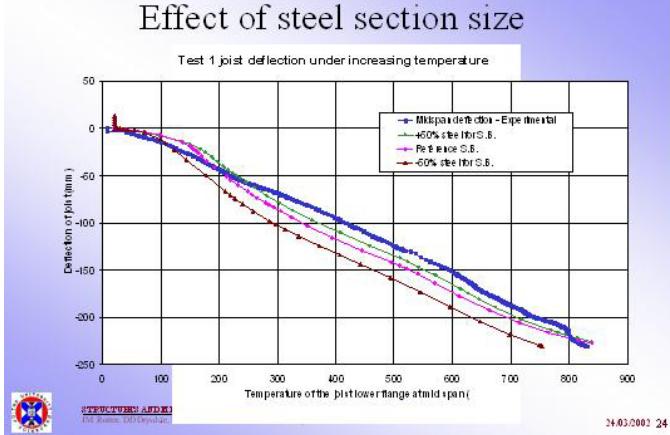
Slab rib shears during fire



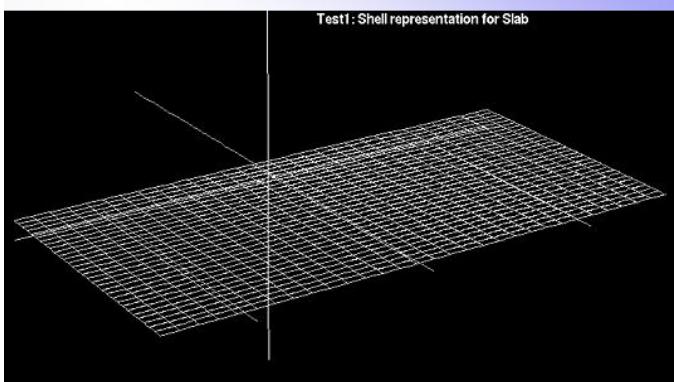
Effect of live load



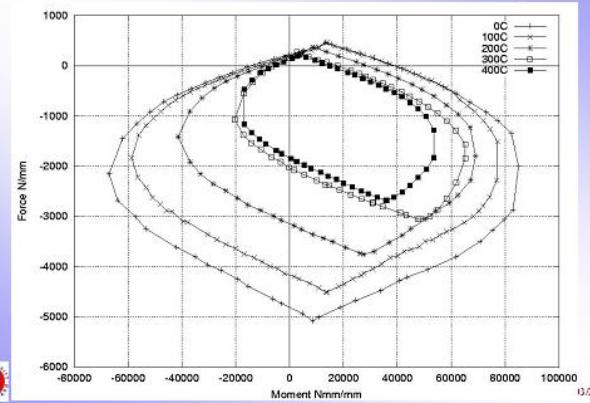
Effect of steel section size



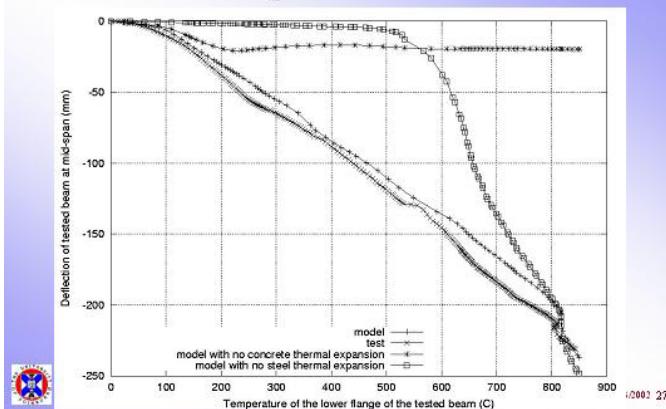
Gen. stress shell elements for slab (Test1)



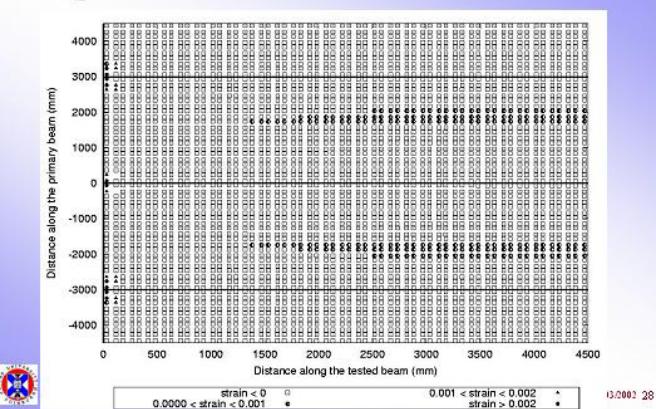
Model of Cardington concrete deck strength



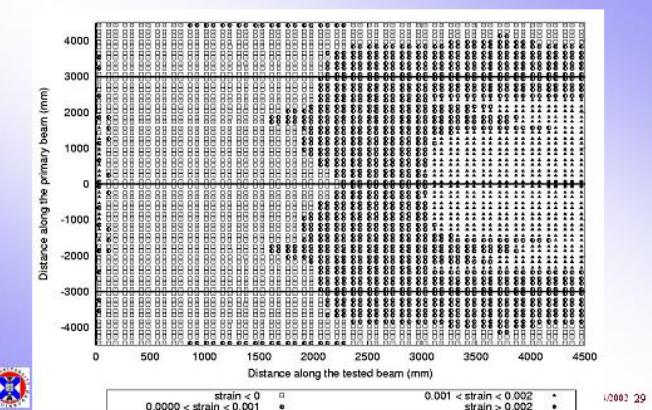
Deflections from generalised stress shell



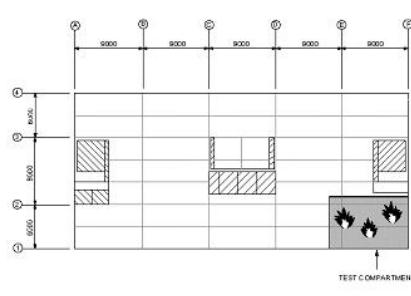
Longitudinal strains at reinf. level



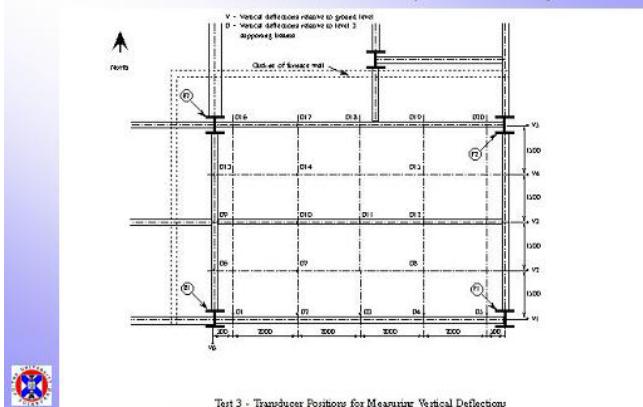
Transverse strains at reinf. level



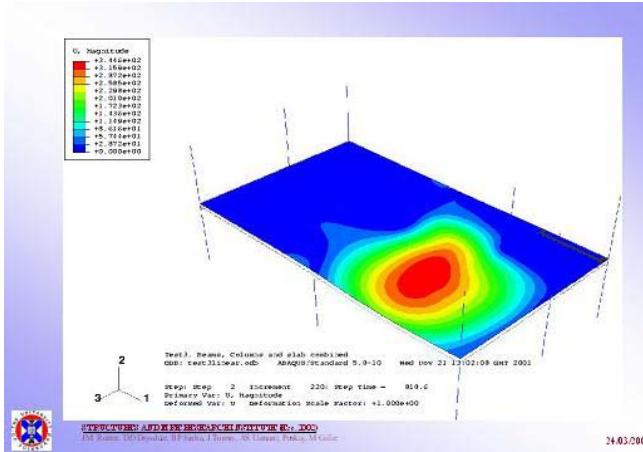
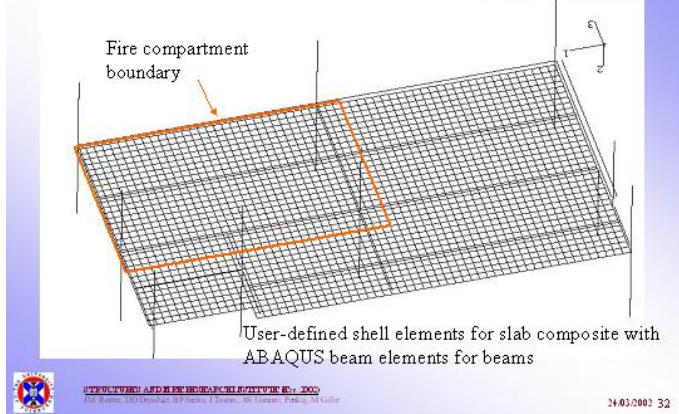
British Steel (now Corus) Corner Test



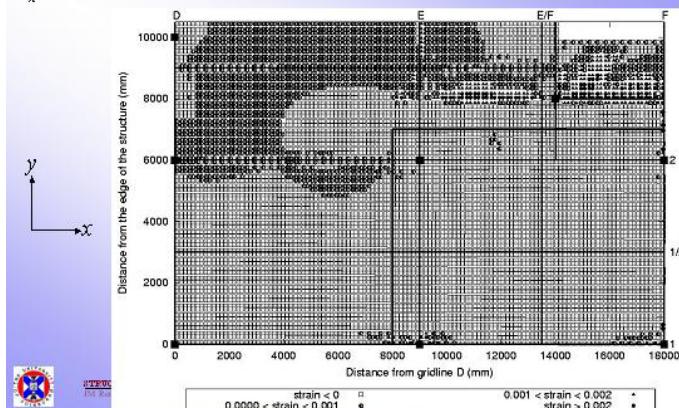
British Steel Corner Test (structure)



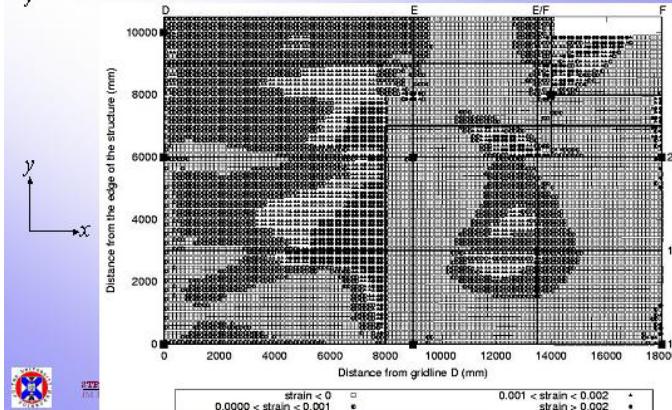
British Steel Corner Test - Finite element mesh



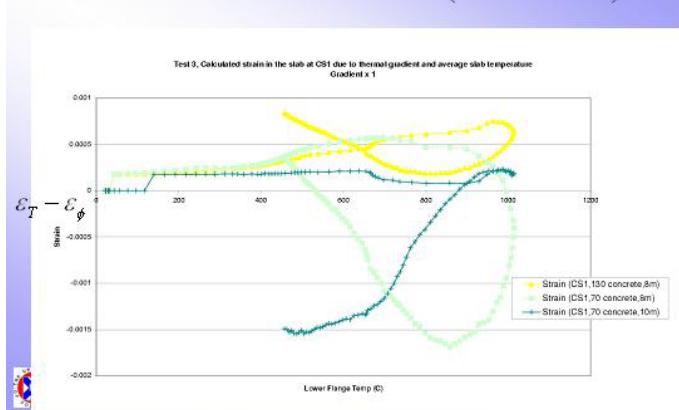
ε_x distribution at reinforcement level



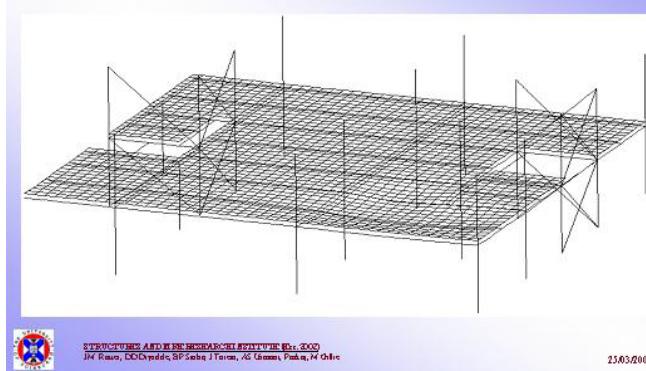
ε_y distribution at reinforcement level



Estimated strains in concrete (corner test)



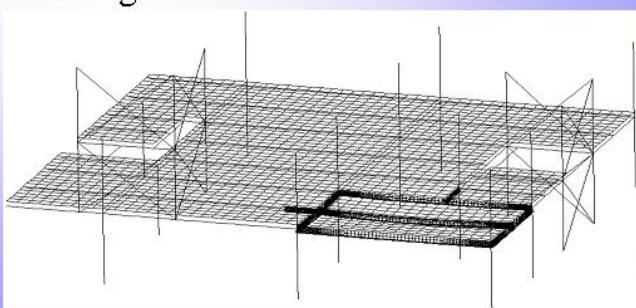
Elastic shell model



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IM Raouf, COOYadi, SP Sebaq J Tasse, AS Gunes, Pekan, M Orlac

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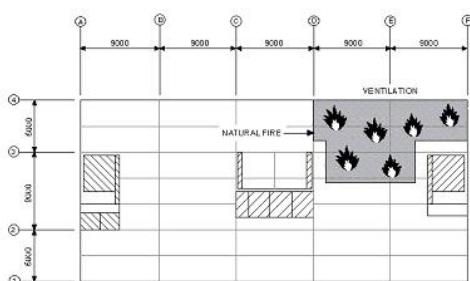
Elastic shell model with detailed beam modelling



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British Steel “Office” Test

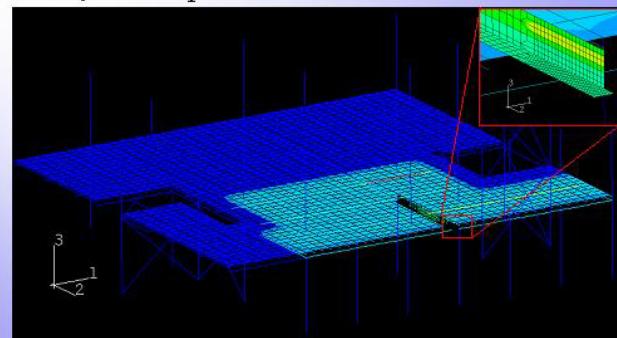


TEST 4 : DEMONSTRATION TEST

FIGURE 1

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ABAQUS-Explicit model of “Office Test”



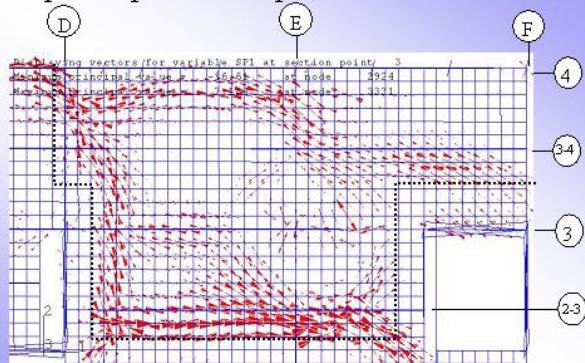
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ABAQUS Concrete cracking model using

Courtesy Corus (STC)

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Shell principal stress pattern at 1100 °C



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Courtesy Corus (STC)

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LESSONS

- ◆ Restraint to thermal strains dominates response
- ◆ Conventional loading much less important when restraint is high
- ◆ Response sensitivity to steel strength is low
- ◆ The above will change near failure or collapse, failure not observed in tests of modelling, how far is it?
- ◆ Tensile membrane action (TMA) in the spans and compressive membrane action (CMA) near perimeter observed
- ◆ This load carrying mechanism more reliable in fire, thermal strains help produce the “right shape”
- ◆ Capacity further enhanced by thermal pre-stressing (CMA)



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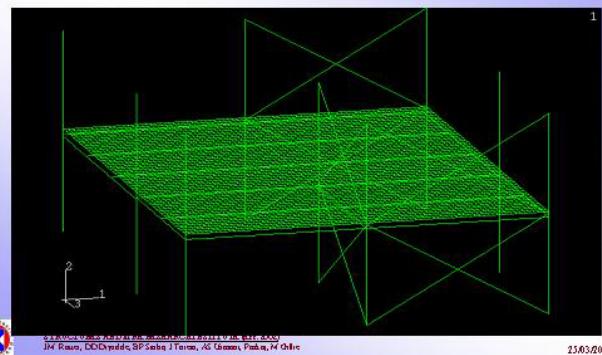
FURTHER MODELLING

- ◆ The two key thermal effects governing structural behaviour
 - ◆ mean temperature increase => compression => long cool fires
 - ◆ through depth thermal gradients => tension => short hot fires
- ◆ Cardington was a medium size braced frame (high redundancy)
 - ◆ What about small frames (low redundancy) and whole floor fires
 - ◆ What about very large frames (with large compartments)
- ◆ Tensile membrane force need anchoring at compartment perimeter
 - ◆ Interior continuity can be provided by lapping reinforcement
 - ◆ Edge and corner compartments have discontinuous edges

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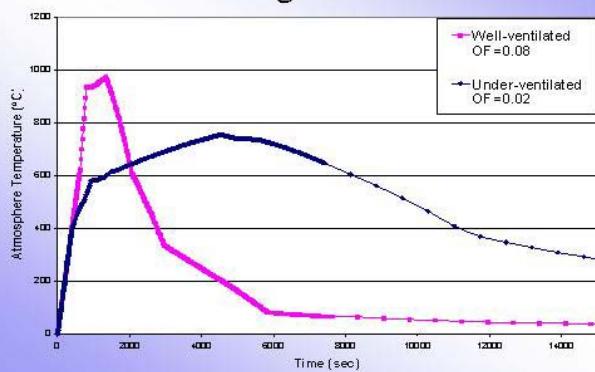
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The 2x2 generic frame mesh

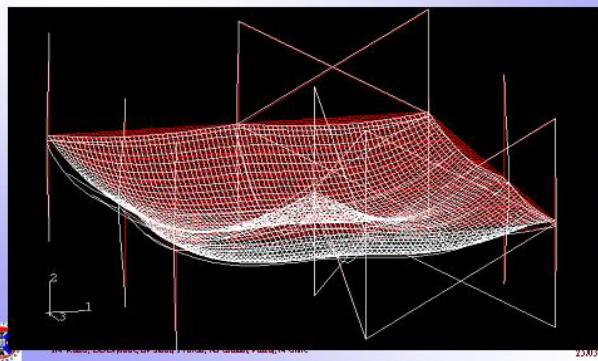


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Pettersson design fires



The 2x2 generic frame mesh



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Studies with different fire scenarios

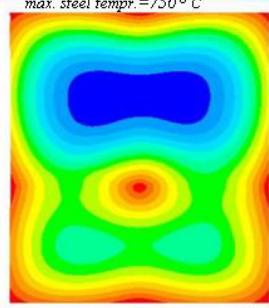
Long-Cool fires
Short-Hot fires

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Deflection Contours - 2x2 generic frame

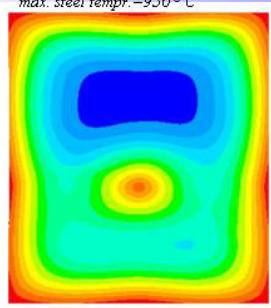
(protected edge beams)
max. defl. = 310 mm @ 78 mins
max. steel temper. = 750 °C



OF=0.02

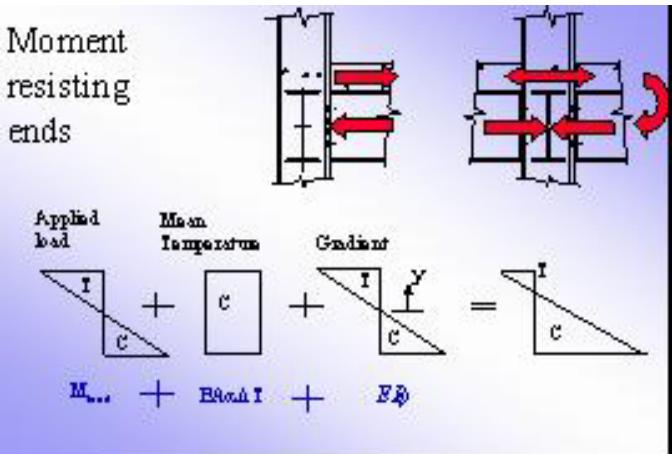
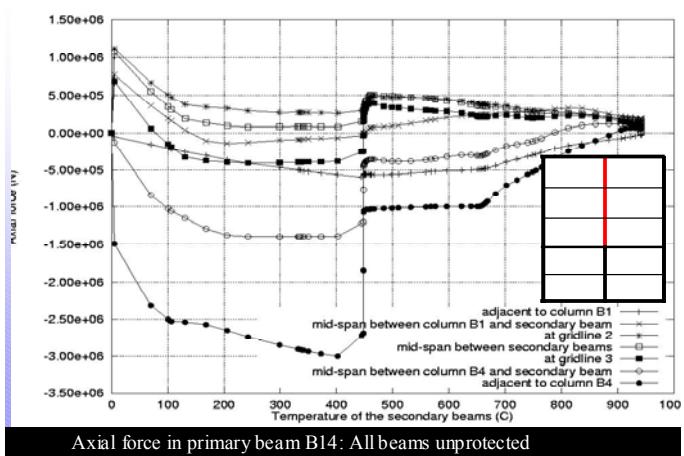
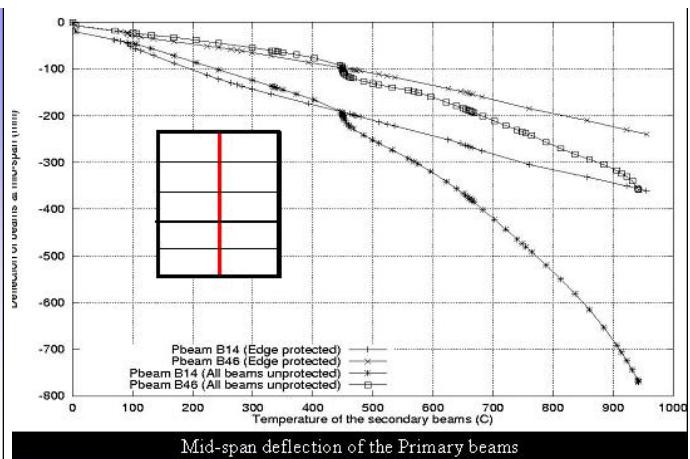
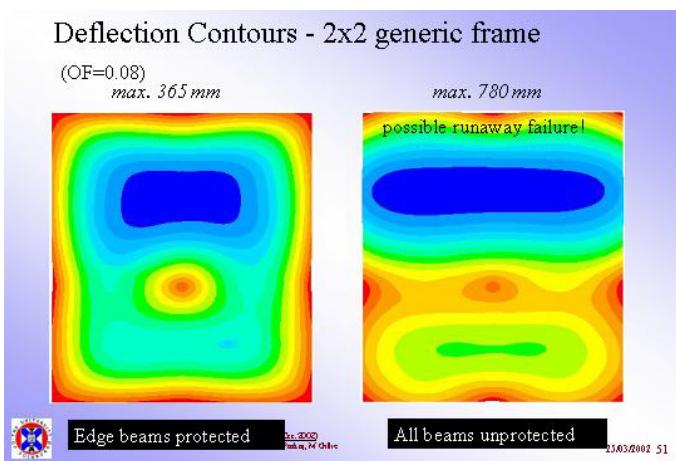
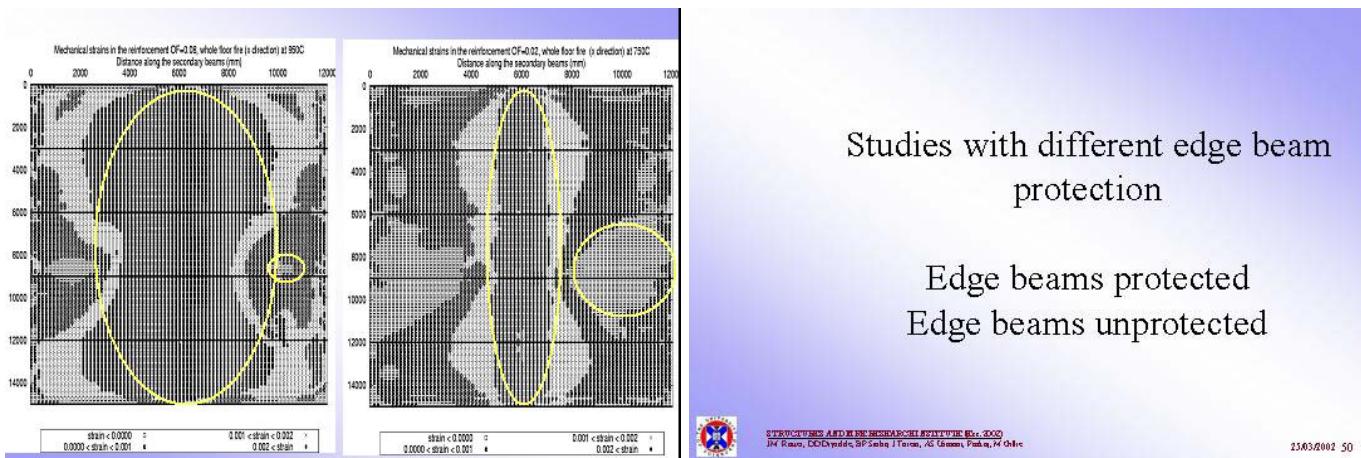
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max. defl. = 365 mm @ 23 mins
max. steel temper. = 950 °C

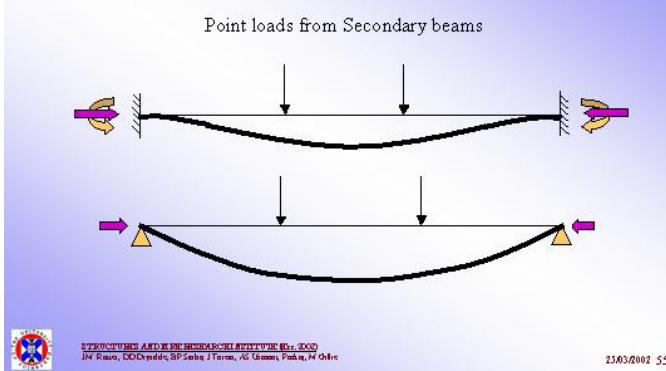


OF=0.08

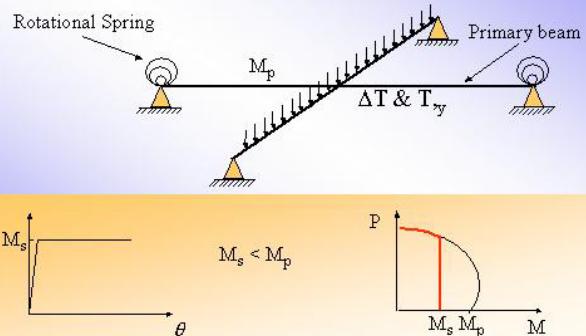
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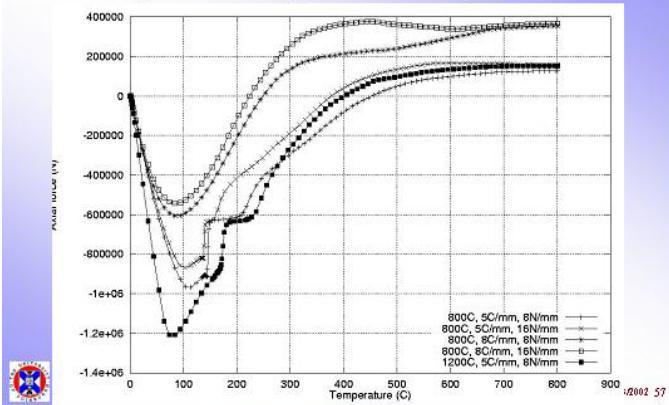
Primary beam instability



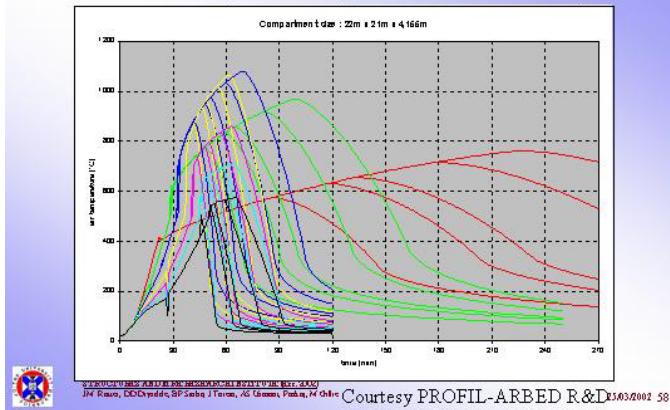
Simple ABAQUS beam model



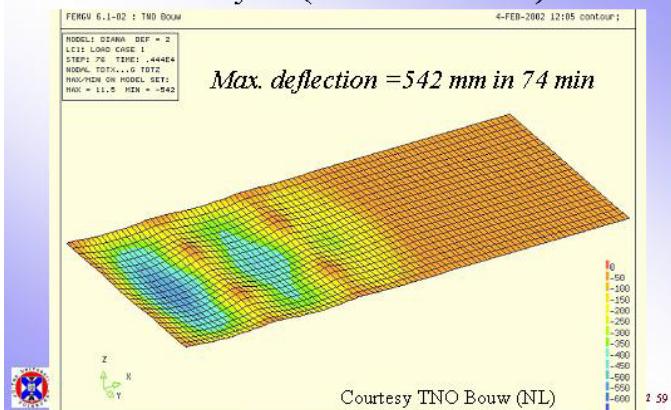
Instability occurring in the simple model



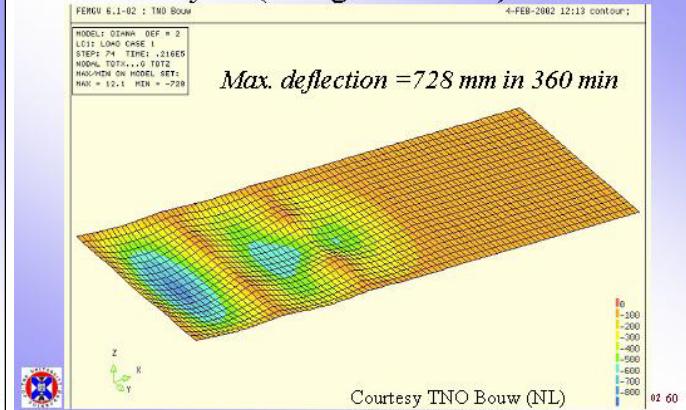
Fire scenarios (air temperature vs time)



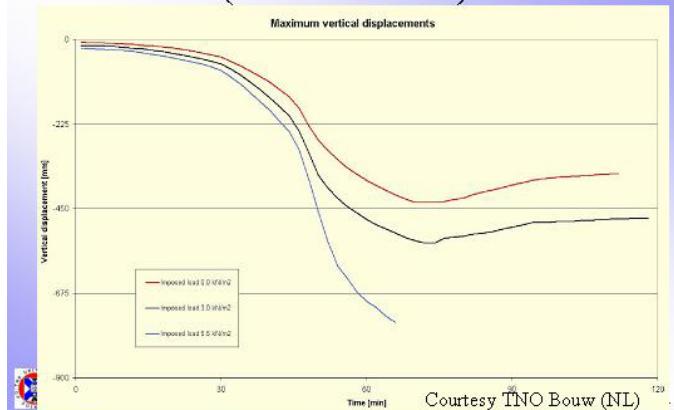
DIANA analysis (“short hot” fire)



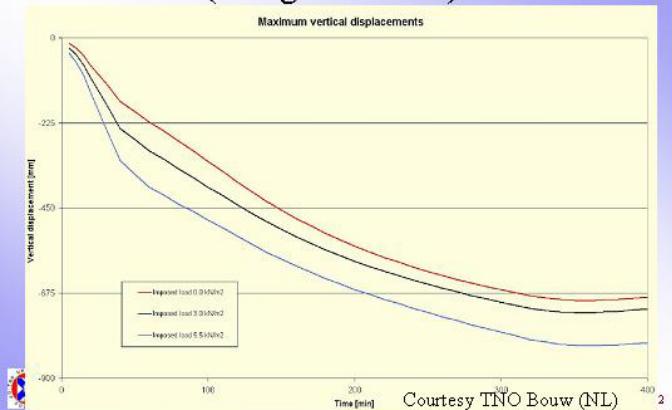
DIANA analysis (“long cool” fire)



Deflections ("short hot" fire)



Deflections ("long cool" fire)



Conclusions

- ◆ Fire design is based on time - Structural response depends on temperature and rate of heating
 - ◆ Implications of fire as a control strategy
- ◆ Different fires can produce very different very different time & strain patterns in composite floor system
- ◆ The benefit of protecting gl beams seems worthwhile (to enable anchorage of membrane forces and "tying" effect- also cladding protection)
- ◆ A new (and possibly dynamic) phenomenon identified which needs confirmation and assessment of its potential for damage



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Further research: Strategic

- ◆ Worst case fire scenario can only be based on its potential for structural damage (only for structural integrity considerations)
- ◆ Limit state design scenarios must be the basis of all structural design
- ◆ Limit states resulting from extreme fire events should be included
- ◆ Localised collapse should not cause overall progressive collapse
- ◆ Tall buildings (where suppression/evacuation time is large), will require special consideration (no collapse)

Further research: issues of detail

- ◆ Floor slab failures, are they ductile (runaway) or brittle (fracture)
- ◆ Short hot v Long cool fires: which is worse?
- ◆ What happens on cooling?
- ◆ Detailed modelling of connections
- ◆ What kind of fire loading in large compartments
- ◆ Integrity of non-loadbearing compartment boundaries
- ◆ Development of a rational restrained test
- ◆ HOW TO DEFINE FAILURE?

<http://www.civ.ed.ac.uk/research/fire/project/main.html>



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