

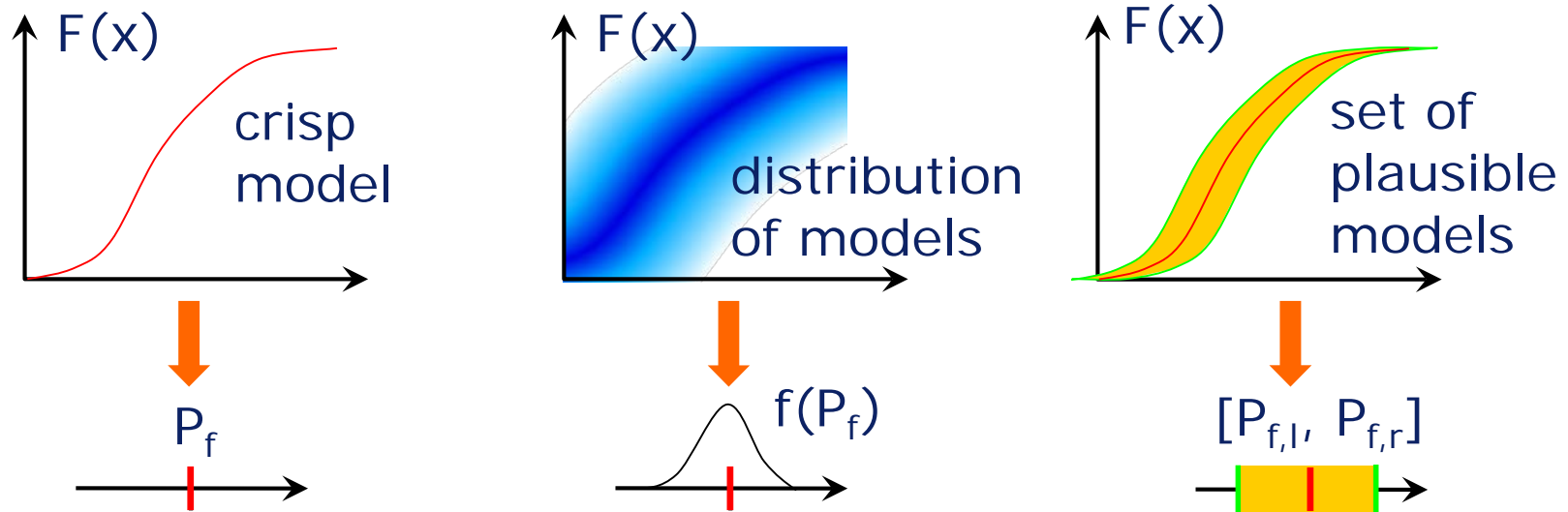
# Time-dependent reliability analysis with aleatory and epistemic uncertainties

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# STOCHASTIC STRUCTURAL DYNAMICS

Uncertainties: Aleatory and Epistemic



## Challenges

- appropriate model for spatial and temporal random quantities
  - ➔ physics-based covariance model
- effective quantification of vague and limited information
  - ➔ power spectrum estimation based on scarce and poor data
- efficient numerical analysis of responses
  - ➔ targeted first passage identification

# MODIFIED EXPONENTIAL COVARIANCE

## Karhunen-Loève expansion

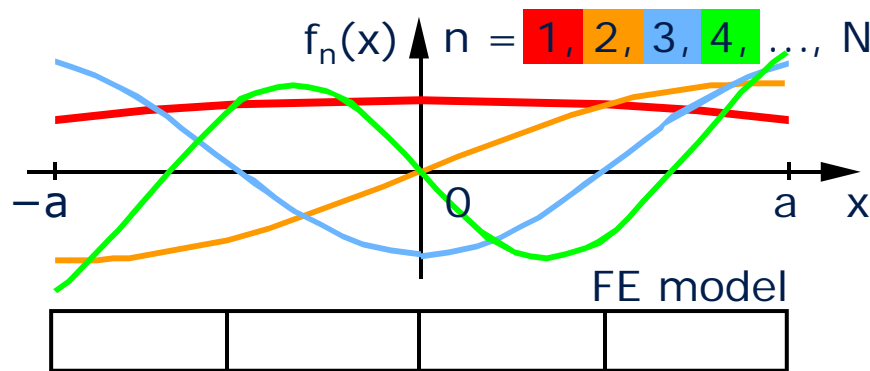
- random field  $Y(x, \theta)$

$$Y(x, \theta) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_n} \cdot \xi_n(\theta) \cdot f_n(x)$$

- covariance function

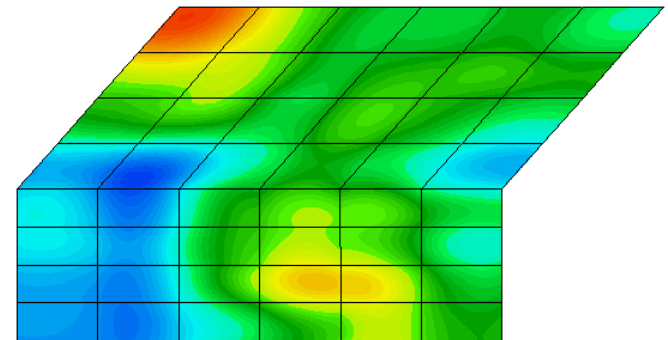
$$C(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n \cdot f_n(x_1) \cdot f_n(x_2)$$

- Stochastic Finite Element Method



- $\theta$  – elementary events
- $\xi_n(\theta)$  – random variables
- $\lambda_n$  – constant, positive real numbers
- $f_n(x)$  – real functions, orthonormal
- $x$  – spatial / temporal coordinate

- realization  $y(x)$  (example)



- efficiency criterion

» minimum number  $N$  of  $\xi_n(\theta)$  and  $f_n(x)$  ➔ larger Finite Elements  
smaller number of dof

# MODIFIED EXPONENTIAL COVARIANCE

## Modification of the Exponential Covariance Model

- traditional

$$C(x_1, x_2) = e^{-a|x_1 - x_2|} = e^{-a|u|}$$

»  $\left. \frac{\partial C(u)}{\partial u} \right|_{u=0} = 0$  not complied with

» directionality of the field coordinate  $x$  (time)

$$Y(x + 1) = c \cdot Y(x) + W(x)$$

(first-order process in time)

- modified

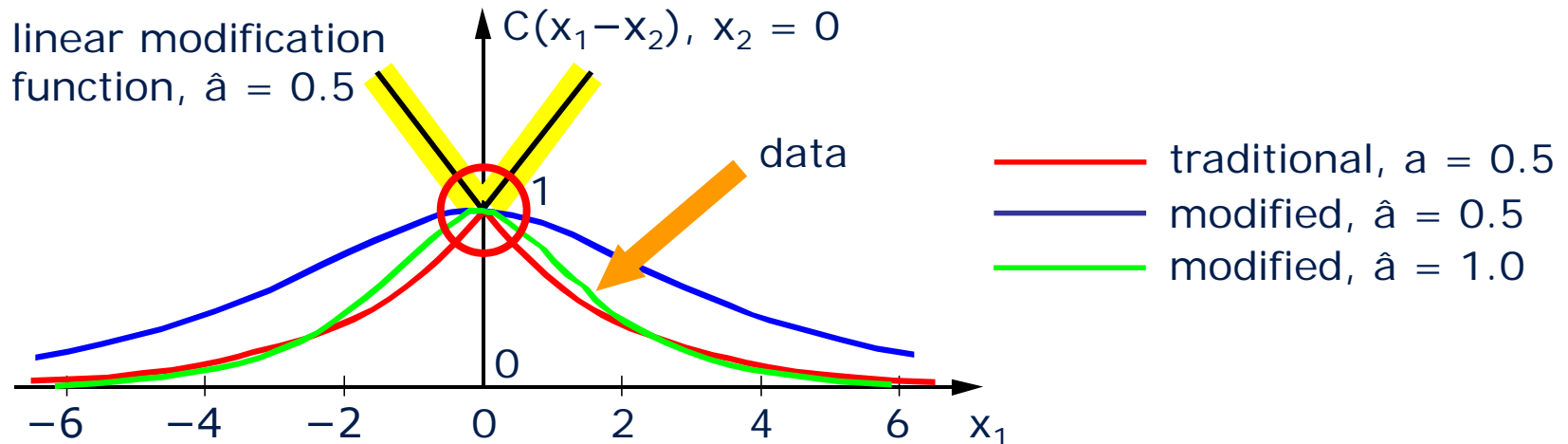
$$\hat{C}(x_1, x_2) = e^{-\hat{a}|u|} (1 + \hat{a} \cdot |u|), \quad u = x_1 - x_2$$

»  $\left. \frac{\partial \hat{C}(u)}{\partial u} \right|_{u=0} = 0$

» non-directionality of the field coordinate  $x$  (space)

$$Y(x) = c \cdot [Y(x - 1) + Y(x + 1)] + W(x)$$

(second-order process in time)






## MODIFIED EXPONENTIAL COVARIANCE

Generalization: Whittle-Matèrn Kernel

$$C^\nu(\tau) = \frac{2^{1-\nu}}{\Gamma(\nu)} \left( \sqrt{2\nu} \frac{\tau}{b} \right)^\nu K_\nu \left( \sqrt{2\nu} \frac{\tau}{b} \right), \quad \tau = x_1 - x_2$$

$\nu$  = “smoothness”: sample paths are  $[\nu]-1$  times differentiable

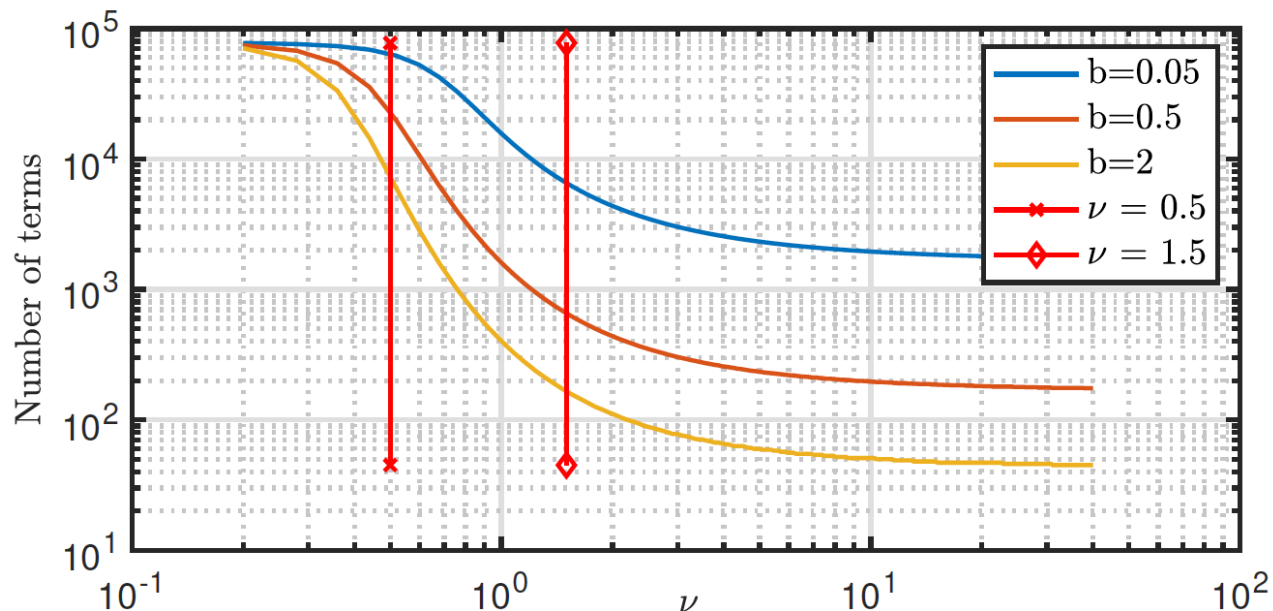
$b$  = correlation length

- $\nu = 0.5$   traditional exponential covariance kernel  
 $C^{0.5}(\tau) = e^{-|\tau|/b}$  not differentiable
- $\nu = 1.5$   modified exponential covariance kernel  
 $C^{1.5}(\tau) = \exp(-|\tau|/b)(1 + |\tau|/b)$  once differentiable
- $\nu = \infty$   squared exponential covariance kernel  
 $C^\infty(\tau) = \exp(-\tau^2/b^2)$  infinite differentiability  
(unrealistic, hence limited to  $\nu = 3.5$ )

# MODIFIED EXPONENTIAL COVARIANCE

## Convergence of corresponding power spectra

- number of terms in Shinozuka-Deodatis expansion to represent 99.9% of the original signal
  - » higher-order differentiability at zero-lag causes faster convergence
  - » analytical solutions for the realizations exist for  $\nu=0.5$  and  $\nu=1.5$



Spanos, P.D.; Beer, M.; Red-Horse, J. (2007):

Karhunen-Loève Expansion of Stochastic Processes with a Modified Exponential Covariance Kernel, ASCE Journal of Engineering Mechanics, 133(7), 773–779.

Kosheleva, O.; Beer, M. (2016):

Why Modified exponential covariance kernel is empirically successful: A theoretical explanation, Journal of Uncertain Systems, 10(1), 10–14.

Faes, M.G.R.; Broggi, M.; Spanos, P.D.; Beer, M. (2022):

Elucidating appealing features of differentiable auto-correlation functions: a study on the modified exponential kernel, Probabilistic Engineering Mechanics, 69, 103269.

# JOINT TIME-FREQUENCY ANALYSIS

Excitation



System



Response

non-stationary  
stochastic process  
(*earthquake, wind,  
ocean waves,  
blast events etc*)



non-stationary  
stochastic process

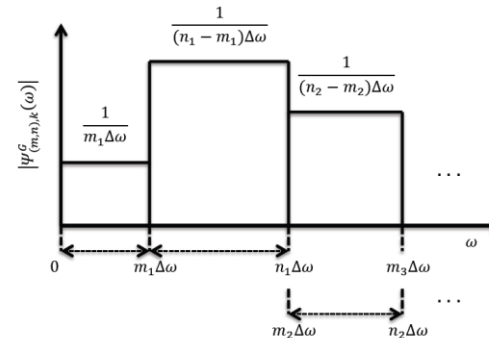
nonlinear and time-varying behavior  
due to severe dynamic excitation

- excitations with time-varying intensity & frequency content  
 joint time-frequency analysis

- generalized harmonic wavelets
  - » orthogonality, flexible window size, non-overlapping supports

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(t)|^2 dt = 2 \sum_{m,n} \sum_k \left( \frac{T_o}{n-m} |W_{(m,n),k}^G|^2 \right)$$

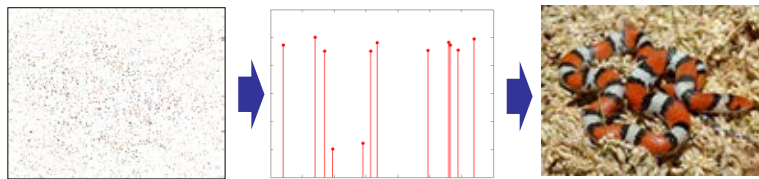
$$S(\omega_i, t_i) = \frac{T_o}{2\pi(n-m)} E \left[ |W_{(m,n),k}^G|^2 \right], \quad m\Delta\omega \leq \omega_i < n\Delta\omega, \quad \frac{k}{n-m} T_o \leq t_i < \frac{k+1}{n-m} T_o$$



# JOINT TIME-FREQUENCY ANALYSIS

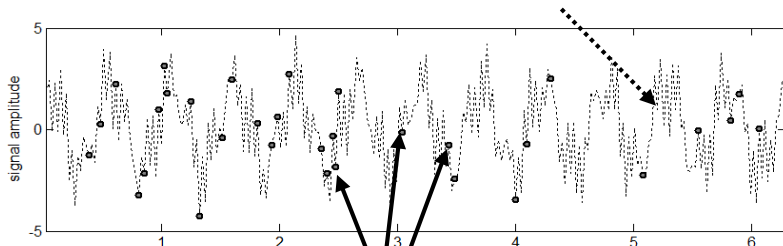
## Incomplete data

- Compressive sensing approach



Assume sparsity in a known basis

Stochastic process with 3 harmonics and white noise



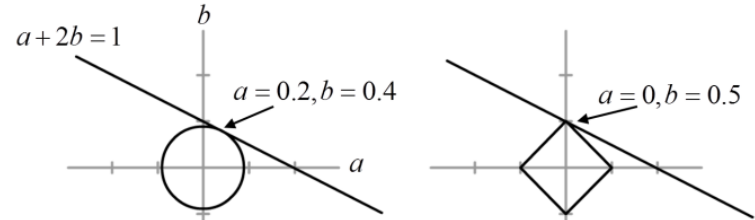
Limited number of sample points available



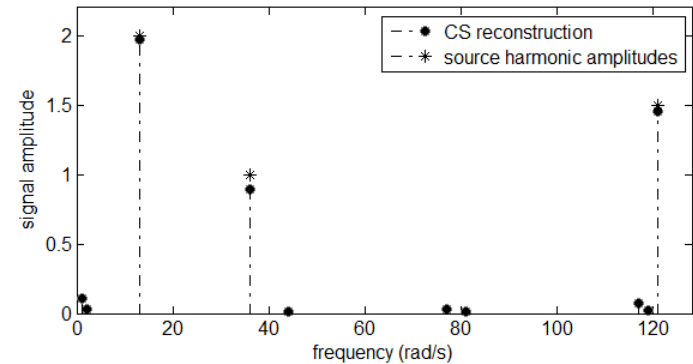
- Minimization of  $\sum_i |x_i|$  in  $Ax = y$  promotes sparse solutions

**Least squares**

**L1 minimization**



Assume sparsity in harmonic basis to identify key frequencies



Comerford, L.; Kougioumtzoglou, I.A.; Beer, M. (2016):

Compressive sensing based stochastic process power spectrum estimation subject to missing data, Probabilistic Engineering Mechanics, 44, 66–76.

Zhang, Y.J.; Comerford, L.A.; Kougioumtzoglou, I.A.; Beer, M. (2018):

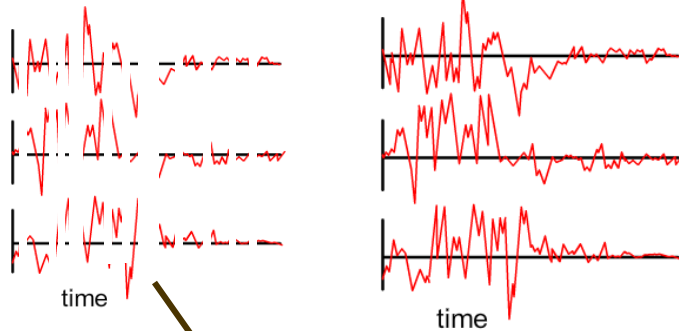
Lp-norm minimization for stochastic process power spectrum estimation subject to incomplete data, Mechanical Systems and Signal Processing, 101, 361–376.



# EXAMPLE: RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

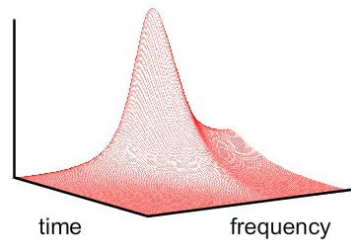
## Incomplete Earthquake Records

Incomplete non-stationary earthquake records

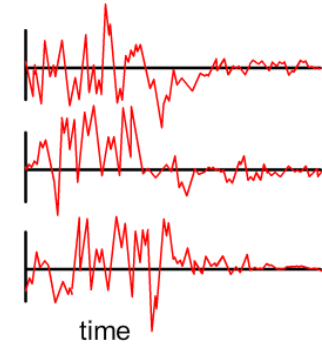


Data reconstruction

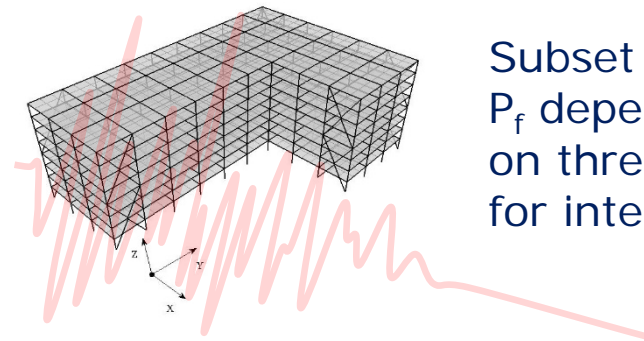
Spectrum estimation



Simulated realizations



Reliability Analysis

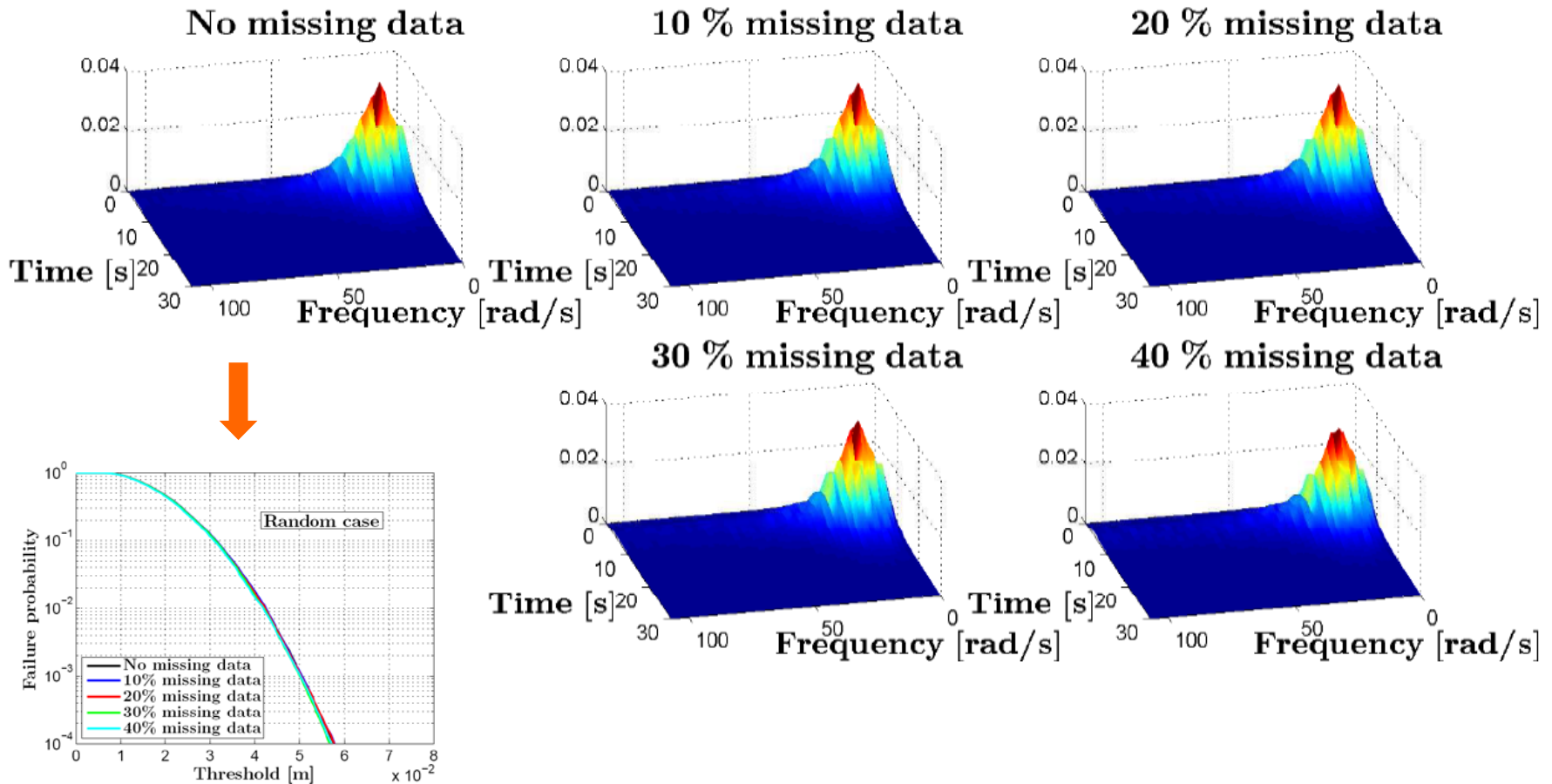


Subset Sampling;  
 $P_f$  depending on threshold for interstory drift

# EXAMPLE: RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

## Incomplete Earthquake Records

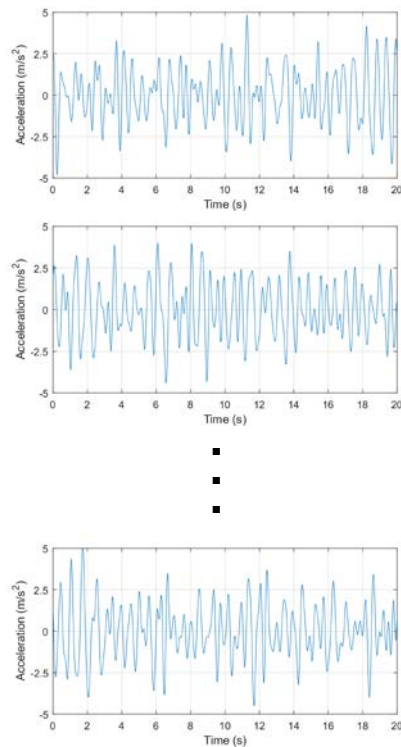
- data removed randomly (10%, 20%, 30%, 40%)



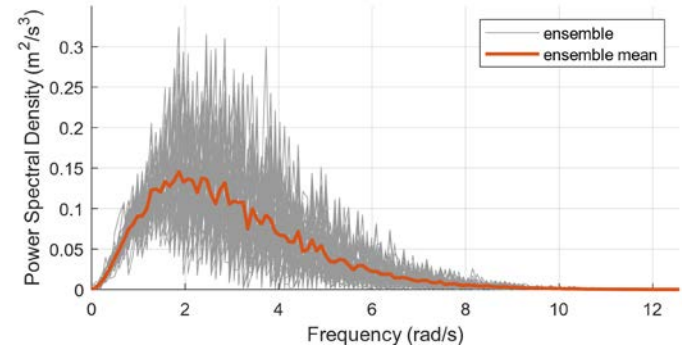
# RELAXED POWER SPECTRA

## Sampling Uncertainty

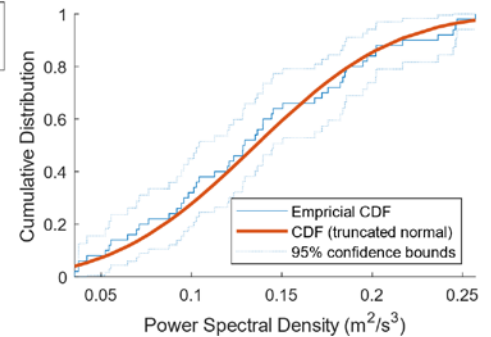
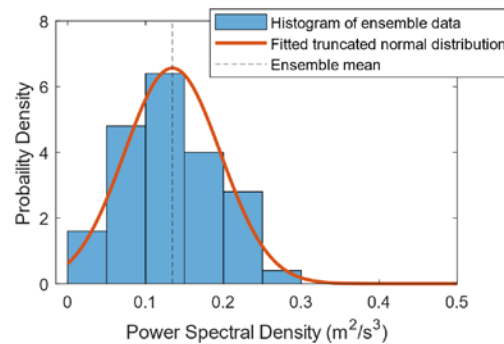
- ensemble of power spectra



PSD estimation



confidence bounds and truncated normal distribution for each frequency



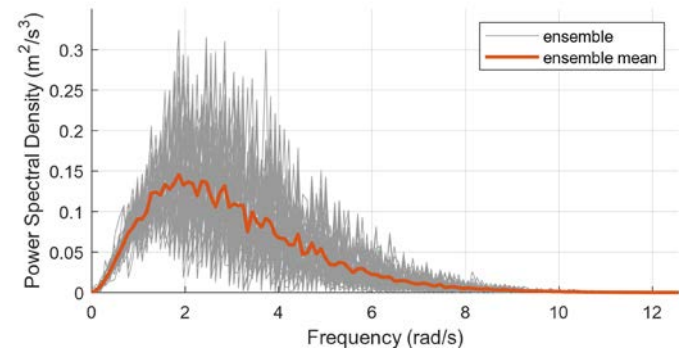
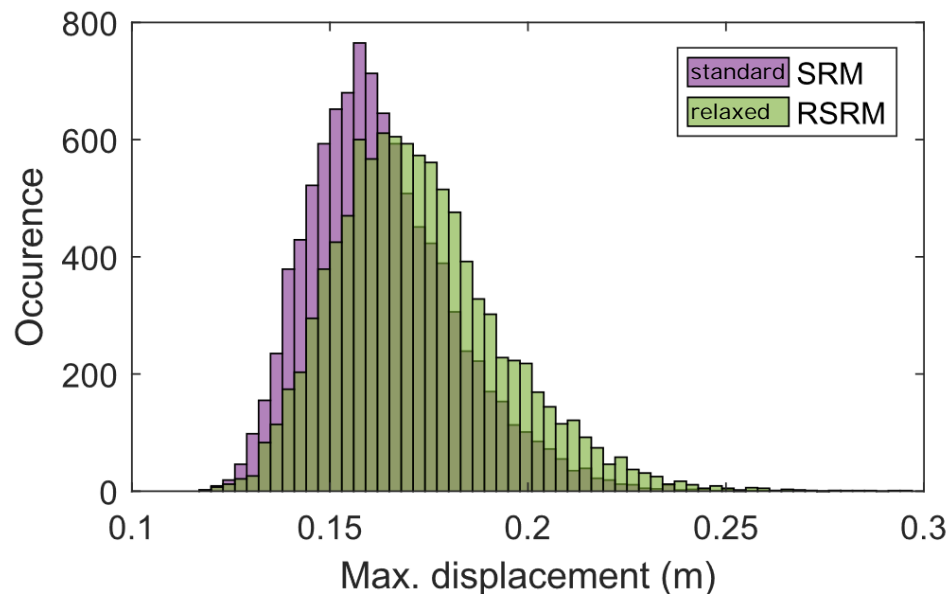
Behrendt, M.; Bittner, M.; Comerford, L.; Beer, M.; Chen, J.B. (2022): Relaxed Power Spectrum Estimation from Multiple Data Records utilising Subjective Probabilities, Mechanical Systems and Signal Processing, 165, Article 108346.

# RELAXED POWER SPECTRA

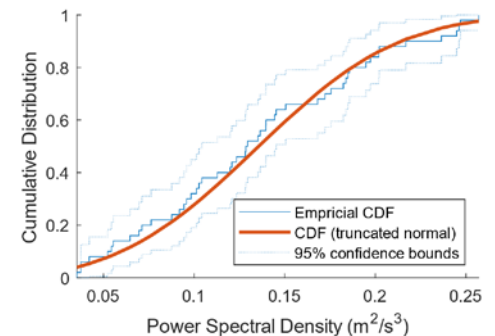
## Sampling Uncertainty

- ensemble of power spectra

example:  
effect on response statistics of  
SDOF oscillator



confidence bounds and  
truncated normal distribution  
for each frequency



Behrendt, M.; Bittner, M.; Comerford, L.; Beer, M.; Chen, J.B. (2022):  
Relaxed Power Spectrum Estimation from Multiple Data Records utilising Subjective Probabilities, Mechanical Systems and Signal Processing, 165, Article 108346.

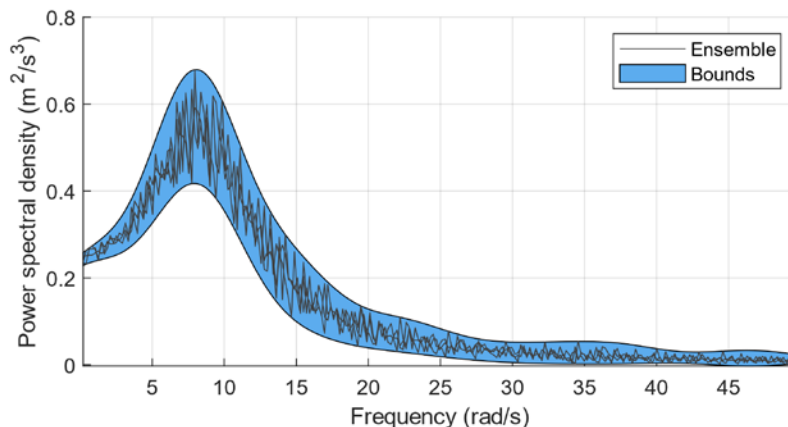
# IMPRECISE POWER SPECTRA

## Limited Data

- empirical bounds on power spectrum
  - » identification of the basis power spectrum of the ensemble
  - » fitting an RBF network to the basis power spectrum
  - » optimization of the weights of the basis functions to find PSD bounds

$$\overline{S_{opt}}(\omega_n; w^{up}) = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i^{up} \phi_i(\omega) + b_0 \quad \min \quad \sum_{\omega_n} |\overline{S_{opt}}(\omega_n; w^{up}) - \underline{S_{opt}}(\omega_n; w^{low})|$$

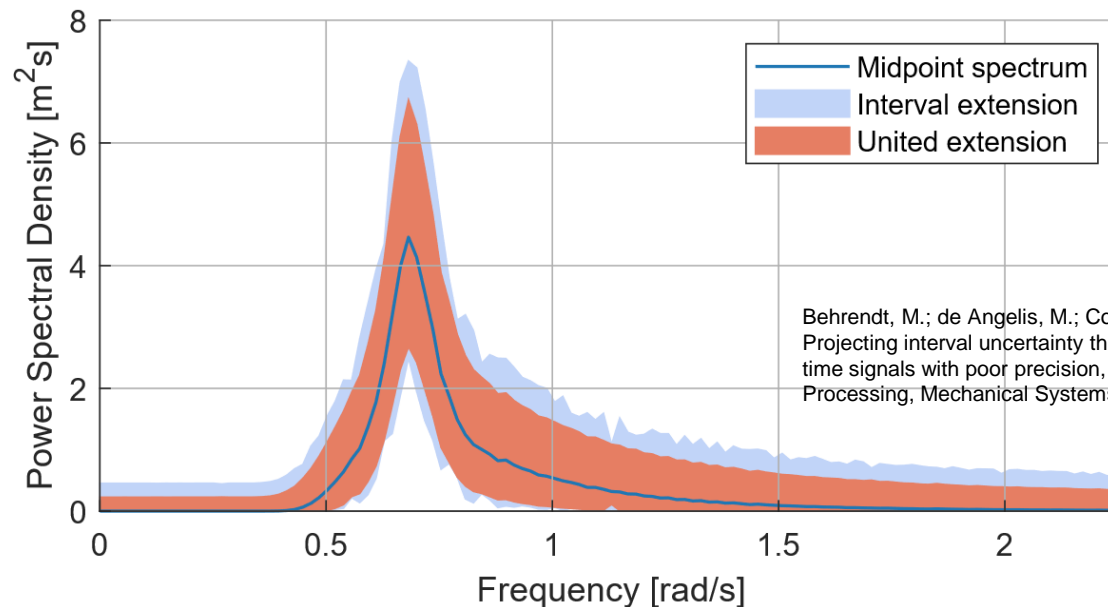
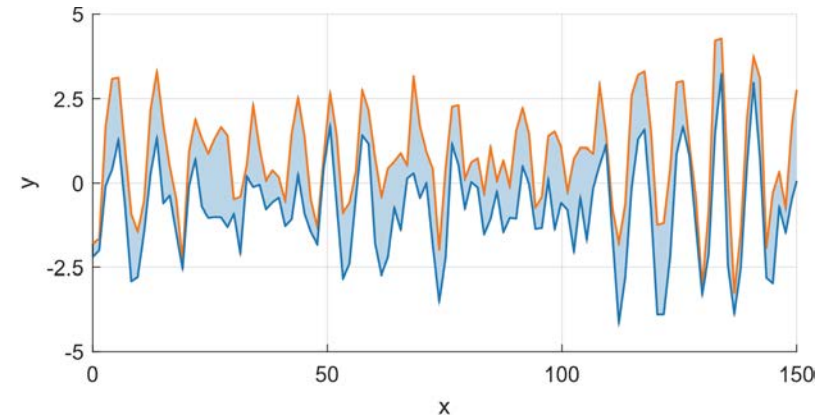
$$\underline{S_{opt}}(\omega_n; w^{low}) = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i^{low} \phi_i(\omega) + b_0 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{aligned} \overline{S_{opt}}(\omega_n; w^{up}) &\geq S_{max}(\omega_n) \\ \underline{S_{opt}}(\omega_n; w^{low}) &\leq S_{min}(\omega_n) \\ \underline{S_{opt}}(\omega_n; w^{low}) &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



# IMPRECISE POWER SPECTRA

## Poor Data (interval-valued)

- rigorous bounds on power spectrum
  - » expansion of DFT to interval-DFT
  - » resolving dependability problem by intrinsic identification of extreme amplitudes for each frequency
  - » construction of bounds of PSD

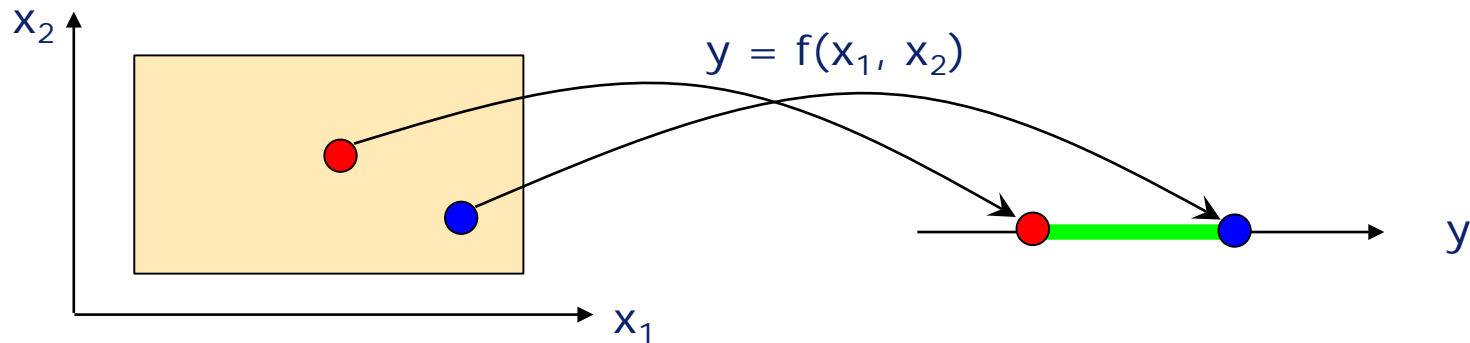


Behrendt, M.; de Angelis, M.; Comerford, L.A.; Zhang, Y.J.; Beer, M. (2022):  
Projecting interval uncertainty through the discrete Fourier transform: an application to  
time signals with poor precision,  
Processing, Mechanical Systems and Signal Processing, 172, Article 108920

# TIME DEPENDENT RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

## Analysis with interval-valued stochastic models


- explicit search for result interval bounds
  - » optimization searching the space of interval parameters



interval analysis: repeated stochastic analysis

stochastic analysis: repeated deterministic structural analysis

deterministic structural analysis

Nested loop  Goal: pre-solve optimization to calculate interval result from a single efficient stochastic analysis

# TIME DEPENDENT RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

## First passage problem

- pre-identification of  $\theta^*$  such that

$$\bar{P}_f = \int_{z \in \mathbb{R}^n} I_F(z, \theta^*) f_Z(z) dz$$

with

Operator norm

$$\theta^* = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} \max_{i=1, \dots, n_y} \max_l \|A_{i,l}(\theta)\|_2$$

via standard optimization  
on the physical model (ie FEM)  
without repeated reliability analysis

- requirement:  
find a continuous linear map  $A$   
that relates random input  $z$   
to random response  $y$

$$y(\theta) = A(\theta)z$$

- operator norm theory

$$\|A_i(\theta)z\|_{p(1)} \leq |c_i(\theta)| \cdot \|z\|_{p(2)}$$

$$\|y_i(t, \theta, z)\|_{p(1)} \leq |c_i(\theta)| \cdot \|z\|_{p(2)}$$

→ smallest  $|c_i(\theta)|$  provides  
upper bound on „amplification“

- Karhunen-Loeve expansion

$$y_i(t_k, z) = \sum_{l_1=1}^k \Delta t \varepsilon_{l_1} h_i(t_k - t_{l_1}) \left( \sum_{l_2=1}^{n_{kl}} \psi_{l_1, l_2} \sqrt{\lambda_{l_2}} z_{l_2} \right) A_i$$

Faes, M.; Valdebenito, M.A.; Moens, D.; Beer, M. (2020):  
Bounding the First Excursion Probability of Linear Structures Subjected to Imprecise Stochastic Loading, Computers and Structures 239, 106320.

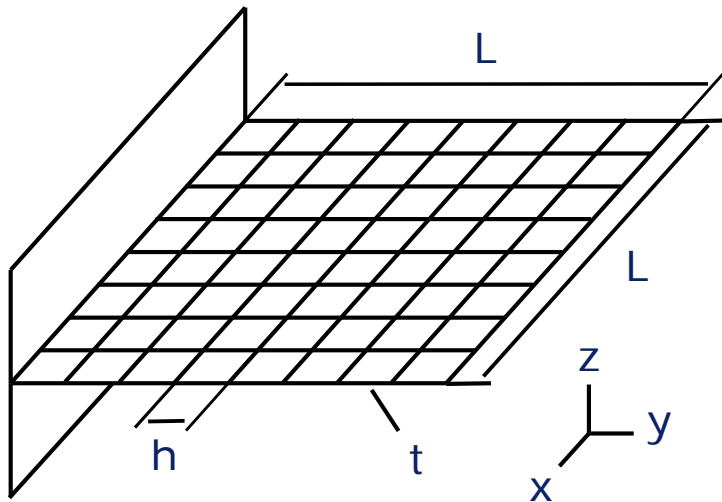
Faes, M.; Valdebenito, M.A.; Moens, D.; Beer, M. (2021):  
Operator norm theory as an efficient tool to propagate hybrid uncertainties and calculate imprecise probabilities,  
Mechanical Systems and Signal Processing 152, 107482.



# TIME DEPENDENT RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

## Example: clamped steel plate

- structural model
  - » 100 shell elements, linear
  - » 110 nodes
  - » Dirichlet boundary conditions on clamp



- load model

$$F(r, \theta, z) = 1 \cdot \theta_1 \cdot \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{\theta_2}\right) + \theta_3 \cdot B(\theta_4, r) \cdot z$$

with

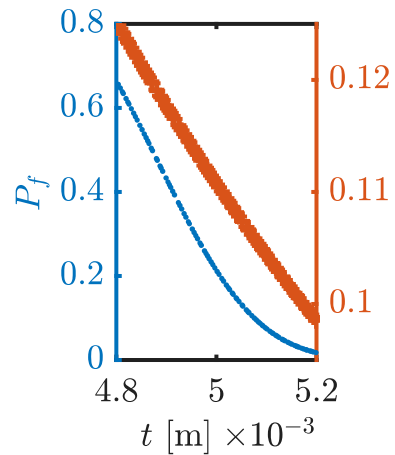
- » KL-basis B
  - » 10 standard normal rv's z
- interval parameters
    - »  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  governing the expected value of random load field
    - »  $\theta_3$ : standard deviation of load field
    - »  $\theta_4$ : correlation length of load field
    - » E: Young's modulus
    - » t: plate thickness

- $P_f$  for exceedance of displacement at corner point of 15 cm

# TIME DEPENDENT RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

Example: clamped steel plate

- dependencies between interval parameters, operator norm and  $P_f$



# TIME DEPENDENT RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

## Example: clamped steel plate

- results and numerical efficiency
  - » particle swarm optimization to evaluate operator norm
  - » FORM to compute  $P_f$  (problem linear in  $z$  and low dimensionality)
  - » comparison with vertex method and double loop solution

	vertex method		operator norm		double loop	
	$\theta^*$	$\theta^{\bar{}}$	$\theta^*$	$\theta^{\bar{}}$	$\theta^*$	$\theta^{\bar{}}$
operator norm	0.0208	0.0859	0.0208	0.1112	0.0208	0.1112
$P_f$	$8.67 \cdot 10^{-6}$	0.2907	$8.67 \cdot 10^{-6}$	0.4889	$8.67 \cdot 10^{-6}$	0.4889
FE analyses	1794		640+47	880+33	18156	26539



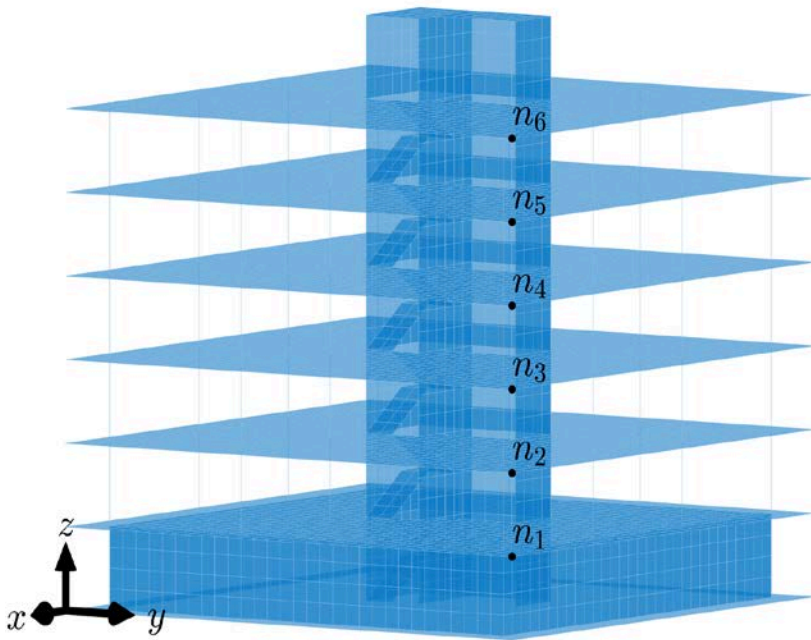
- » numerical effort significantly reduced
- » correct identification of internal optimal points

# TIME DEPENDENT RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

Example: six-story building under earthquake excitation

- structural model
  - » 9500 shell and beam elements, linear
  - » reinforced concrete
- load model
  - » Gaussian stochastic process
  - » Autocorrelation governed by modulated Clough-Penzien spectrum
- interval parameters
  - » 7 parameters of the load model
  - » Young's modulus of concrete for each story

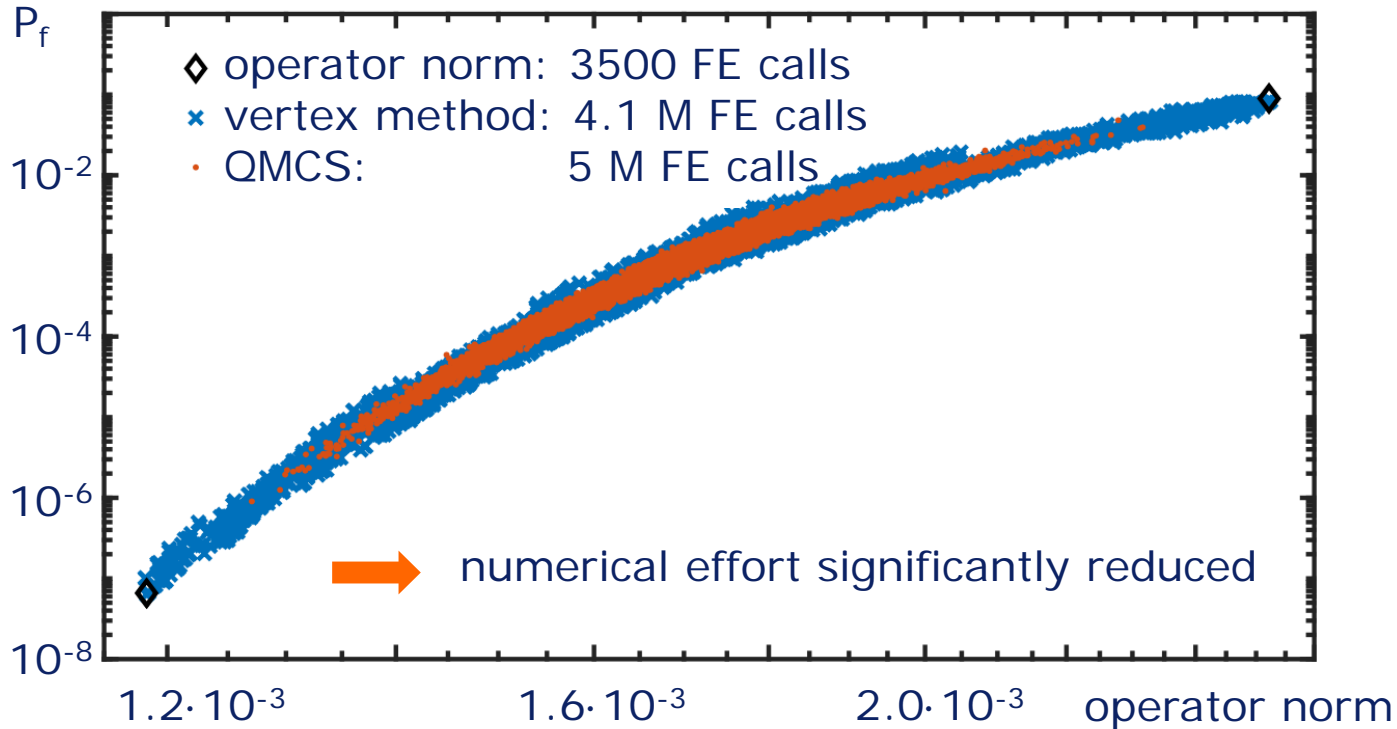
➔ 13 interval parameters
- $P_f$  for exceedance of interstory drift of  $2 \cdot 10^{-3}$  times the story height



# TIME DEPENDENT RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

Example: six-story building under earthquake excitation

- results and numerical efficiency
  - » particle swarm optimization to evaluate operator norm
  - » directional importance sampling to compute  $P_f$
  - » comparison with vertex method and quasi MCS to explore intervals



## RESUMÉ

Efficient and effective modeling and processing of aleatory and epistemic uncertainties

- modified exponential covariance provides realistic and efficient stochastic process model
- compressive sensing allows PSD estimation with fragmentary data
- relaxed and imprecise PSD quantify epistemic uncertainty from limited and imprecise data
- operator norm theory facilitates efficient solution of first passage problems with interval-valued stochastic models

Combinations of developments facilitate efficient and realistic stochastic dynamics analysis of structures