

# 2C10

## Design for fire and robustness

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# List of lessons

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- 1) Introduction to fire safety
- 2) Fire load
- 3) Advanced fire models
- 4) Structural analysis at fire, steel structures at fire

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- 5) Fire resistance of steel structures
- 6) Fire resistance of composite structures
- 7) Fire resistance of timber and aluminium structures
- 8) Fire resistance of concrete structures
- 9) Fire resistance of timber and aluminium structures

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- 10) Loading at explosion
- 11) Structural analysis at explosion
- 12) Robustness
- 13) Fire tests

## Objectives

Prescriptive approach

Performance approach

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Lecture from major disasters

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# Objectives of the lecture

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- The state of art in the fire design
- Recent major fire disasters
- Choice of appropriate procedure
- Eurocodes for fire design
- Educational materials on internet

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# Fire safety in buildings

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## – Prescriptive based approach

- States how a building is to be constructed

## – Performance based approach

- States how a building is to perform under stated criteria



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# Set of rules for prescriptive approach

For example :

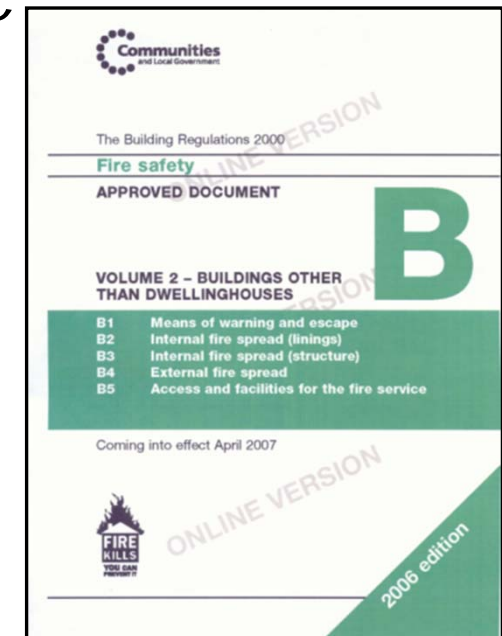
Minimum fire resistance for members

Maximum fire compartment size

Maximum travel distances

Minimum number of exits

Etc.



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# Example of prescriptive approach

- Fire resistance periods

	Height of Building (m)			
	<5	<18	<30	>30
<b>Residential (Non Domestic)</b>	30	60	90	120
<b>Offices</b>	30	60	90	clers
<b>Shops, Commercial, Assembly</b>	60	60	90	
<b>Industrial &amp; Storage</b>	60	90	120	
<b>Car Parks - Open</b>	15	15	15	

60 min fire resistance means that the elements in the building will survive 60 min in a standard fire test



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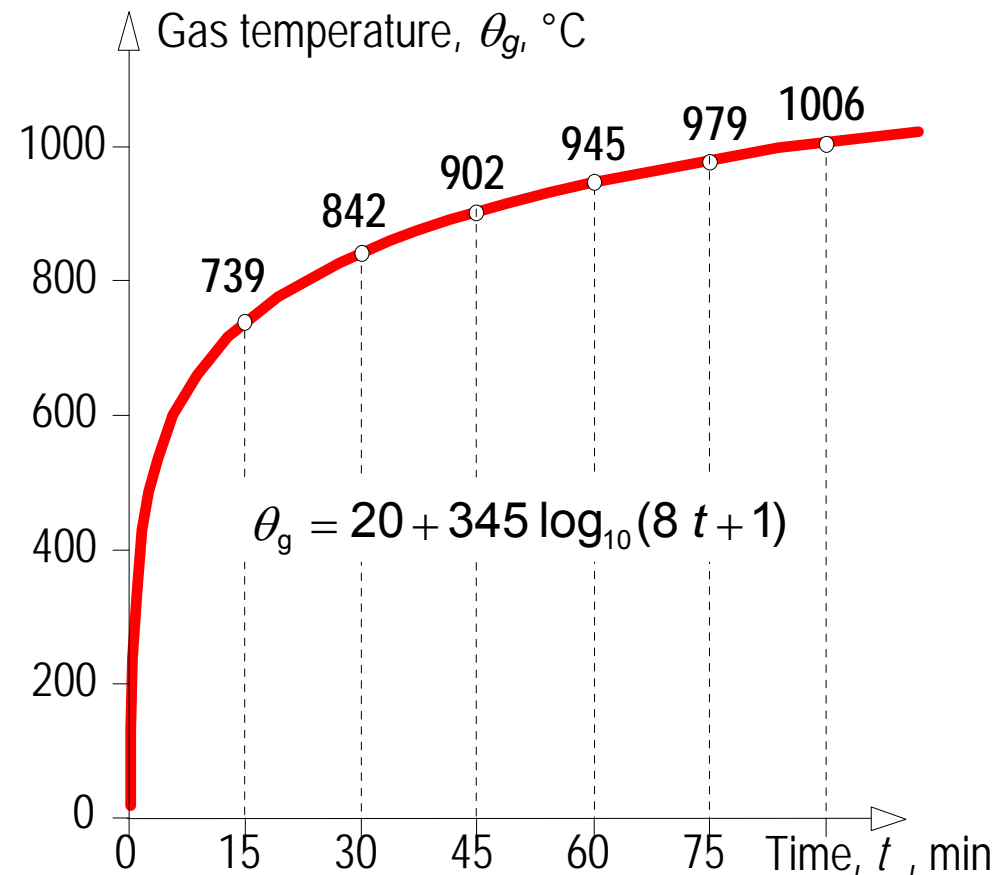
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# Standard fire resistance

## Heating according to nominal standard fire curve



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# Standard fire resistance

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## Used for

- Load bearing capacity **R**
- Insulation **I**
- Integrity **E**

## Marked as

- **R15; RE30; REI90**

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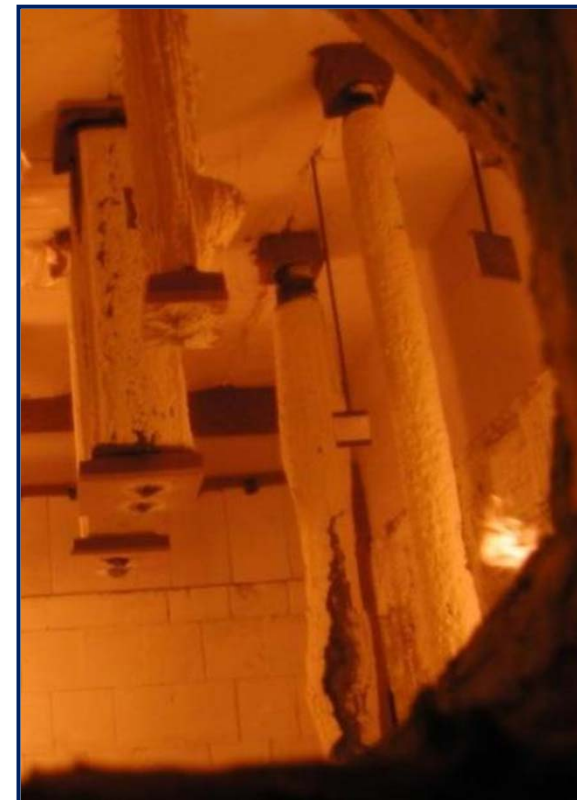
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# History of the standard fire test

## Over 100 years of testing

- **1890's** early attempts at establishing structural fire behaviour at the behest of **insurance companies**
- **1917** First US Standard produced
- **1932** First Edition of BS476 (UK)
- **1933** E119 (US) produced
- **1985** ISO 834
- **2003** EN 1991-1-2



Fire test of intumescent coating

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# Fire protection

- Unprotected steel for limited fire resistance, eg. R15
- Fire protection:
  - Concrete/brick encasing
  - Board protection
  - Intumescent coating
  - Sprayed protection
  - Composite members



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# Classified fire protection

Thickness of protection  
depends on

- Fire resistance class
- Section factor



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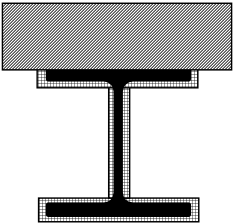
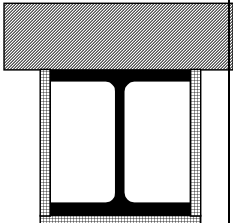
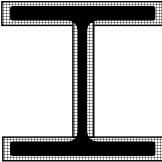
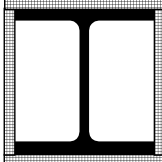
Notes

# Section factor

the surface area of the member per unit length [m<sup>2</sup>/m]

$$A_m/V = \text{-----} \text{ [m}^{-1}\text{]}$$

the volume of the member per unit length [m<sup>3</sup>/m]

Fire exposure	3-sided		All-round	
Type of protection	Contour 	Box 	Contour 	Box 
Section factor $A_m / V =$	$\frac{\text{Steel perimeter} - b}{A}$	$\frac{2h + b}{A}$	$\frac{\text{Steel perimeter}}{A}$	$\frac{2h + 2b}{A}$



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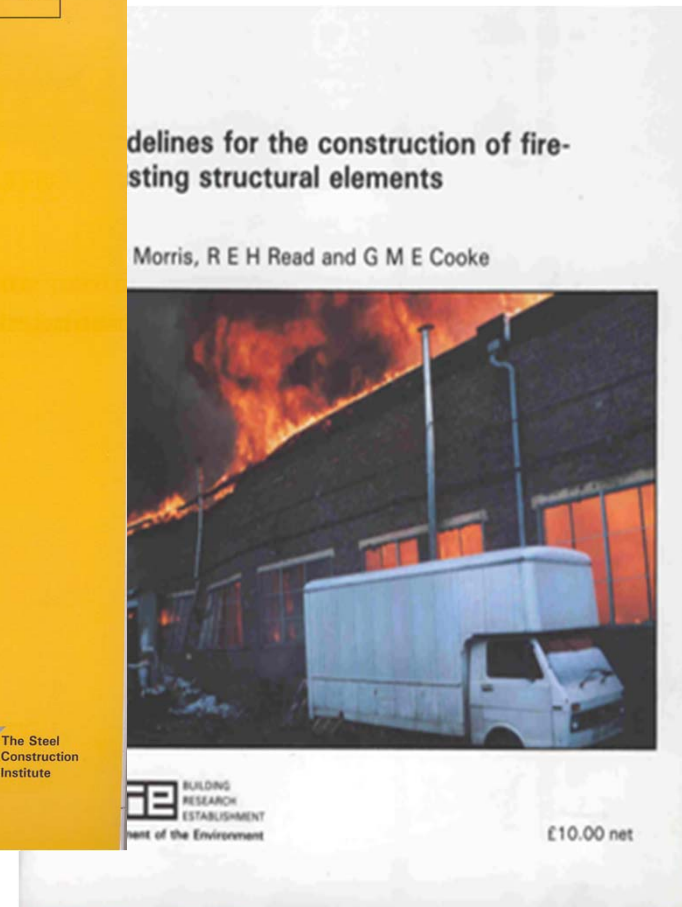
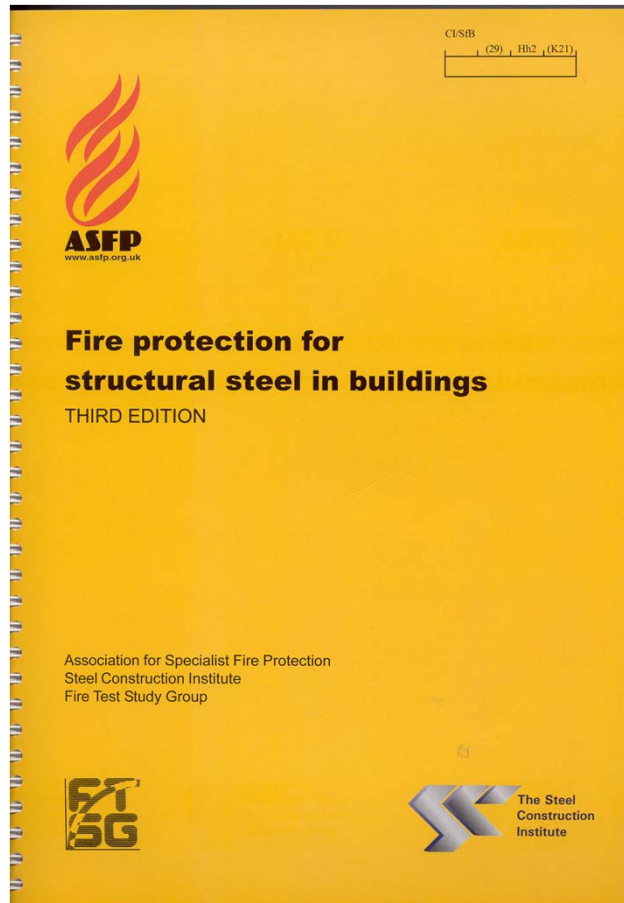
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# Simple prescriptive rules

– deemed to satisfy



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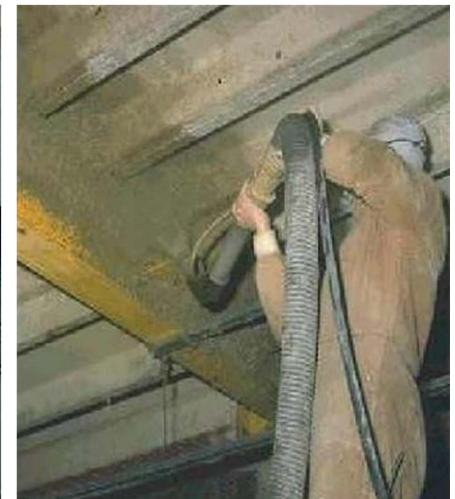
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# Generic and proprietary fire protection materials

Thickness specified:  
the steel does not exceed  
for a given fire resistance period

**550°C / 620°C** (element exposed from three sides only)



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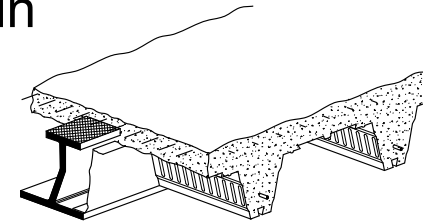
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# Composite sections

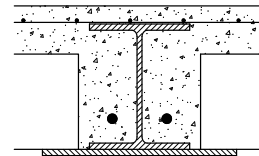
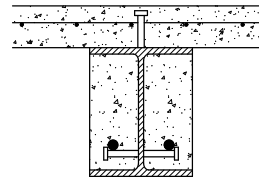
Filled sections till fire resistance 60-90 min  
Additional reinforcement 120 min

## Slab



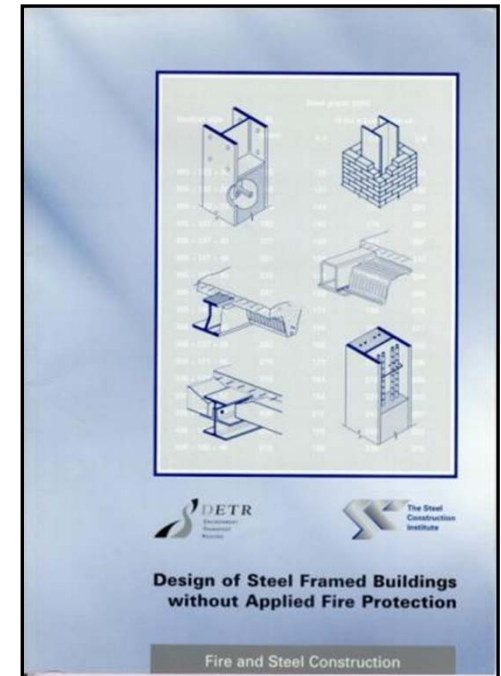
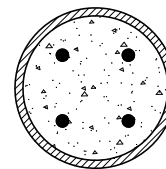
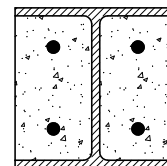
## Beams

Partially encased  
Slim floor



## Columns

Partially encased  
Concrete filled



Objectives

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# Advantages

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- Limited design effort
- Experience has shown that approach works
- Approach is easily understood by all parties
- Based on nominal standard fire tests

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# Disadvantages

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- Actual structural behaviour ignored
- Effect of real fires ignored
- Levels-of-safety and robustness unknown
- Optimum solution in terms of
  - life safety unknown
  - economical impact unknown
  - environmental damage unknown

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# Fire safety in buildings

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- Prescriptive based approach
  - States how a building is to be constructed
- **Performance based approach**
  - States how a building is to perform under stated criteria

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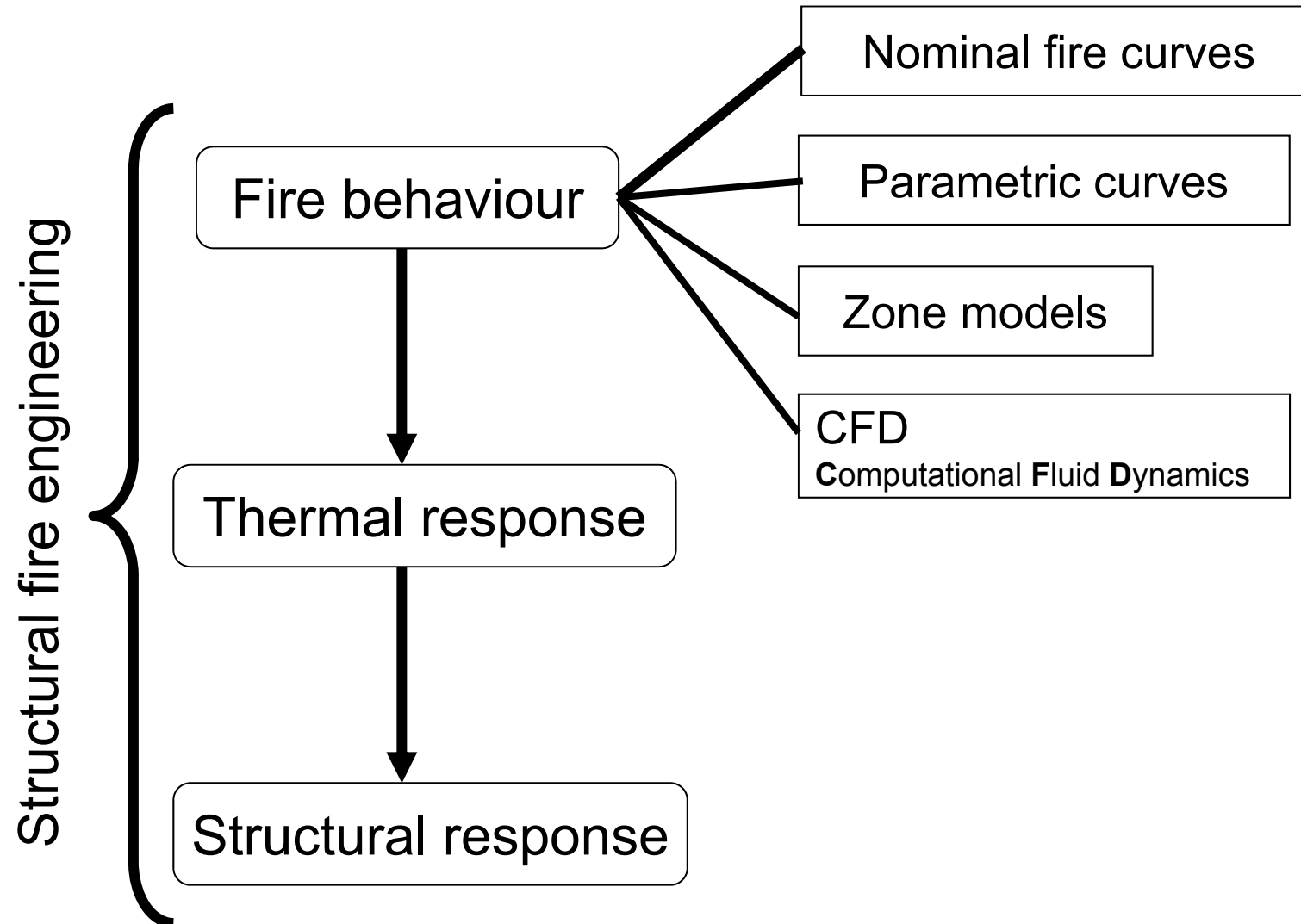
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# Fire behaviour



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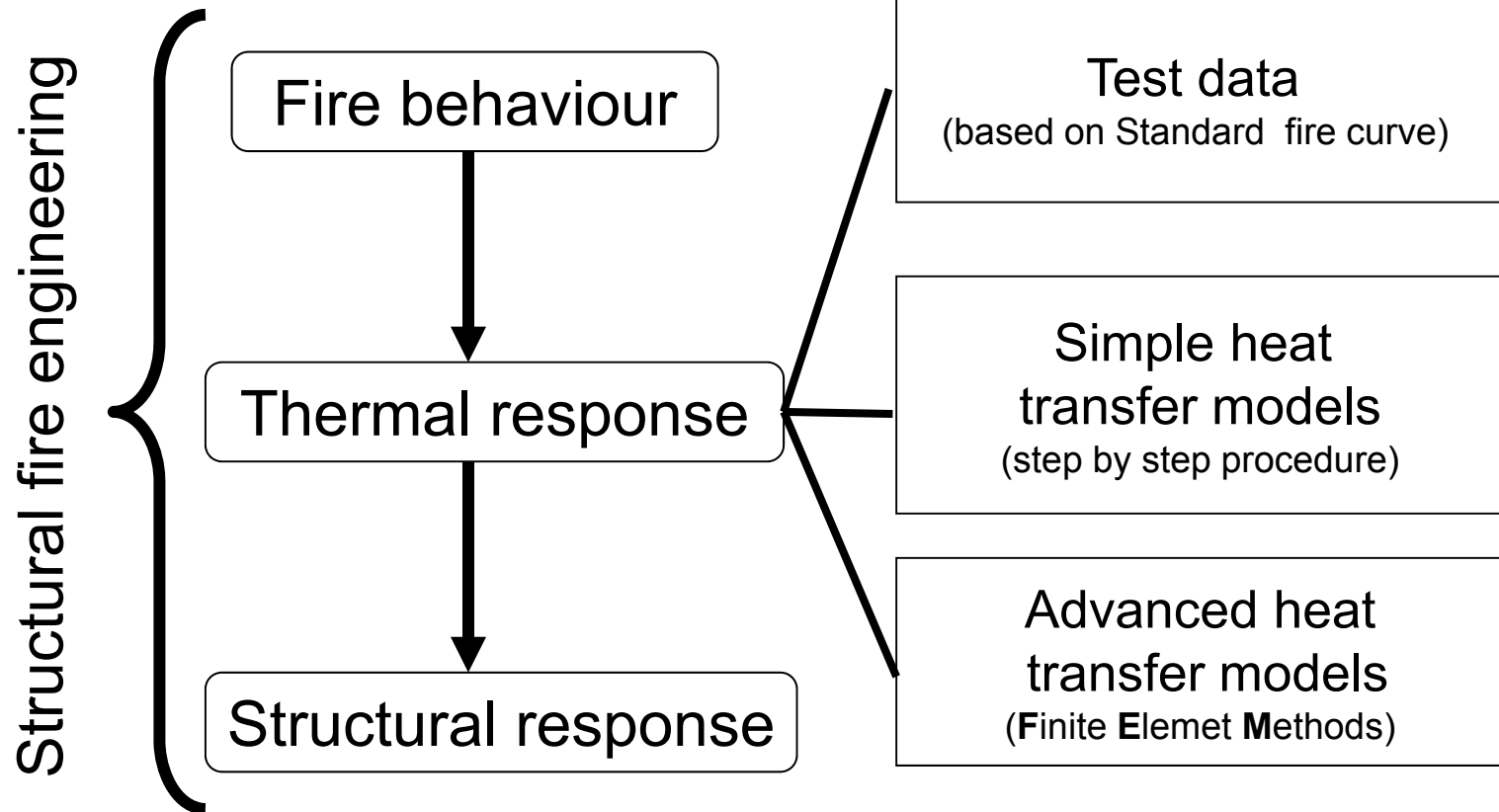
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# Thermal response





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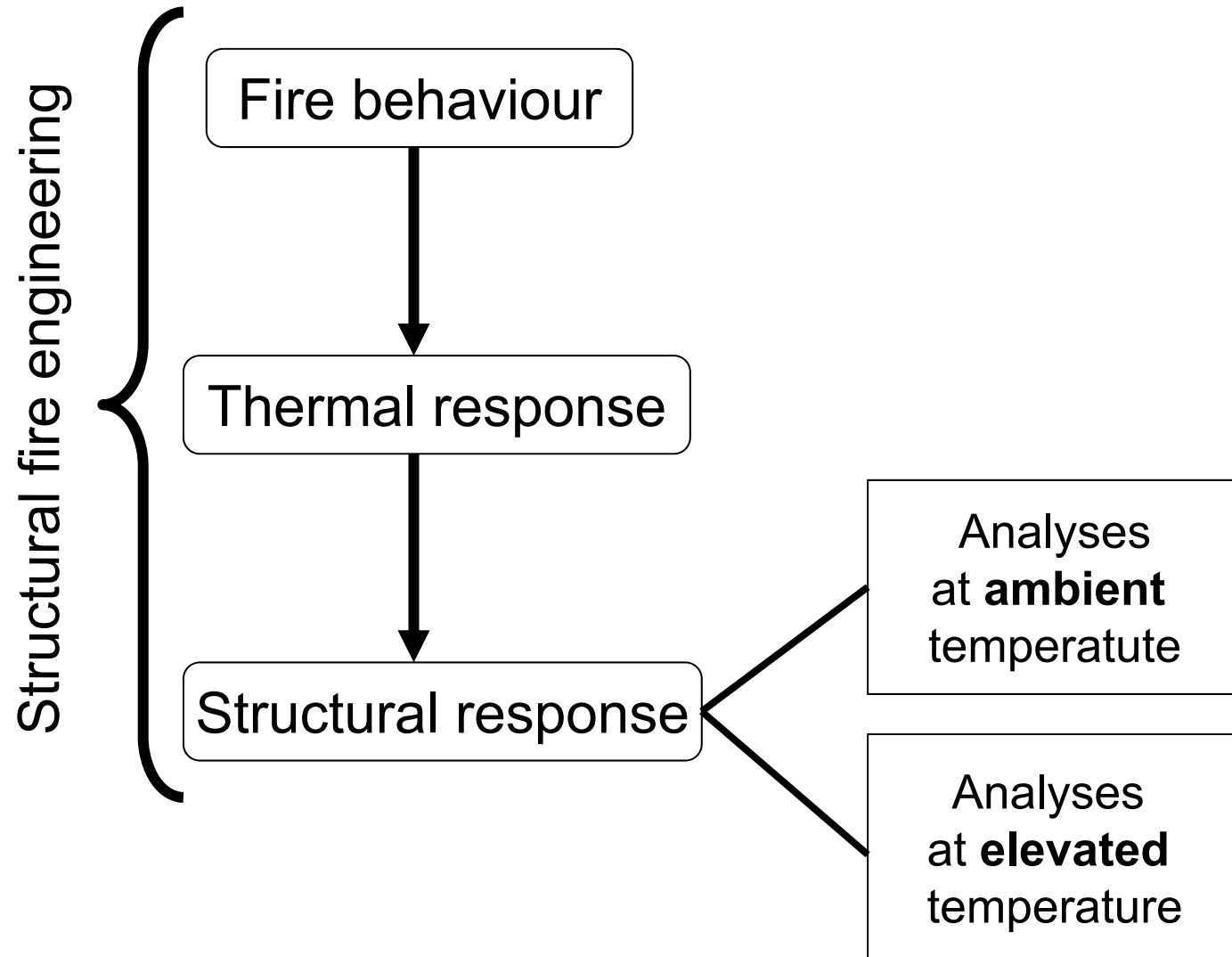
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# Structural response



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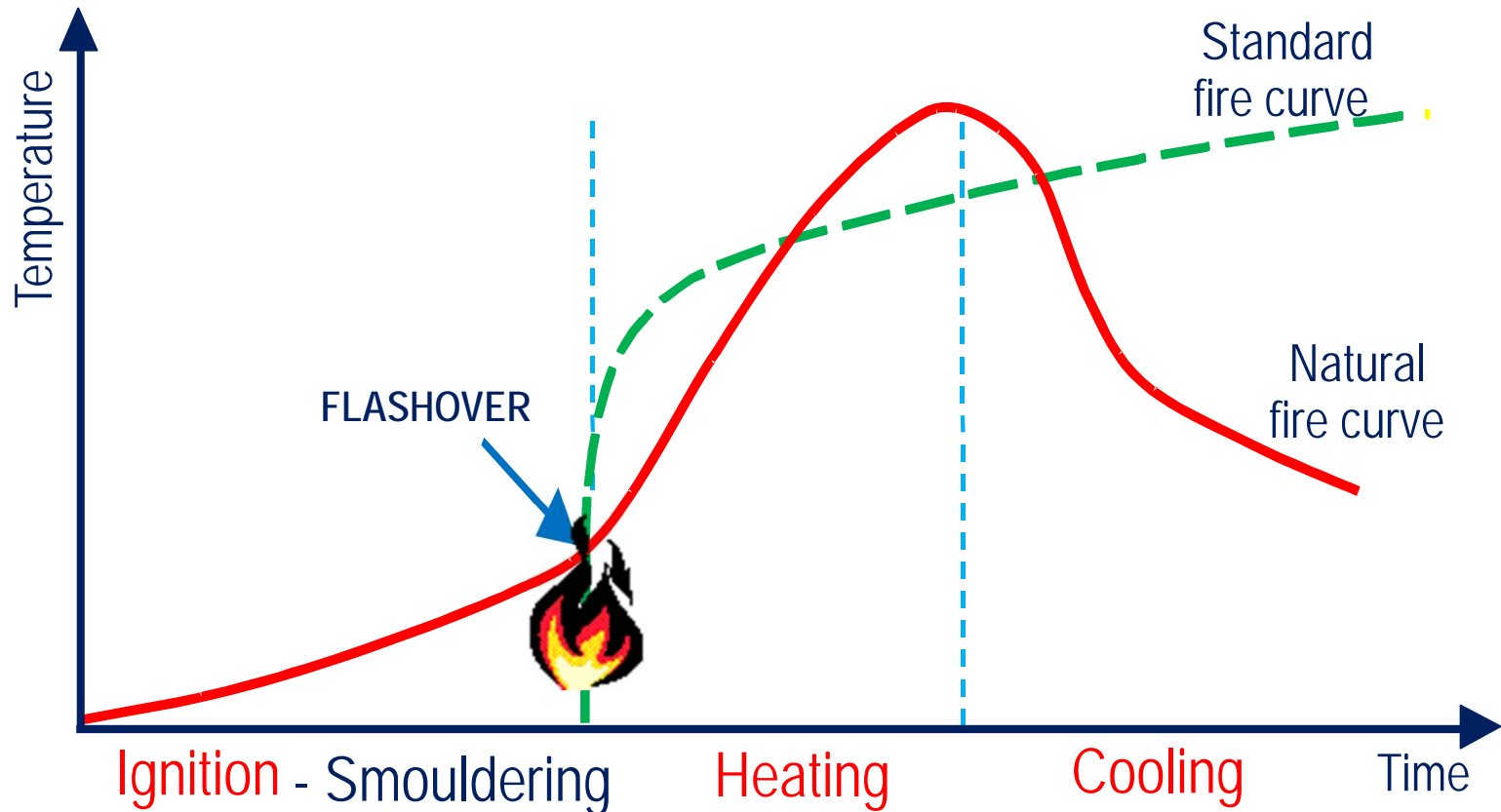
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# Fire modelling



Three phase of natural fire

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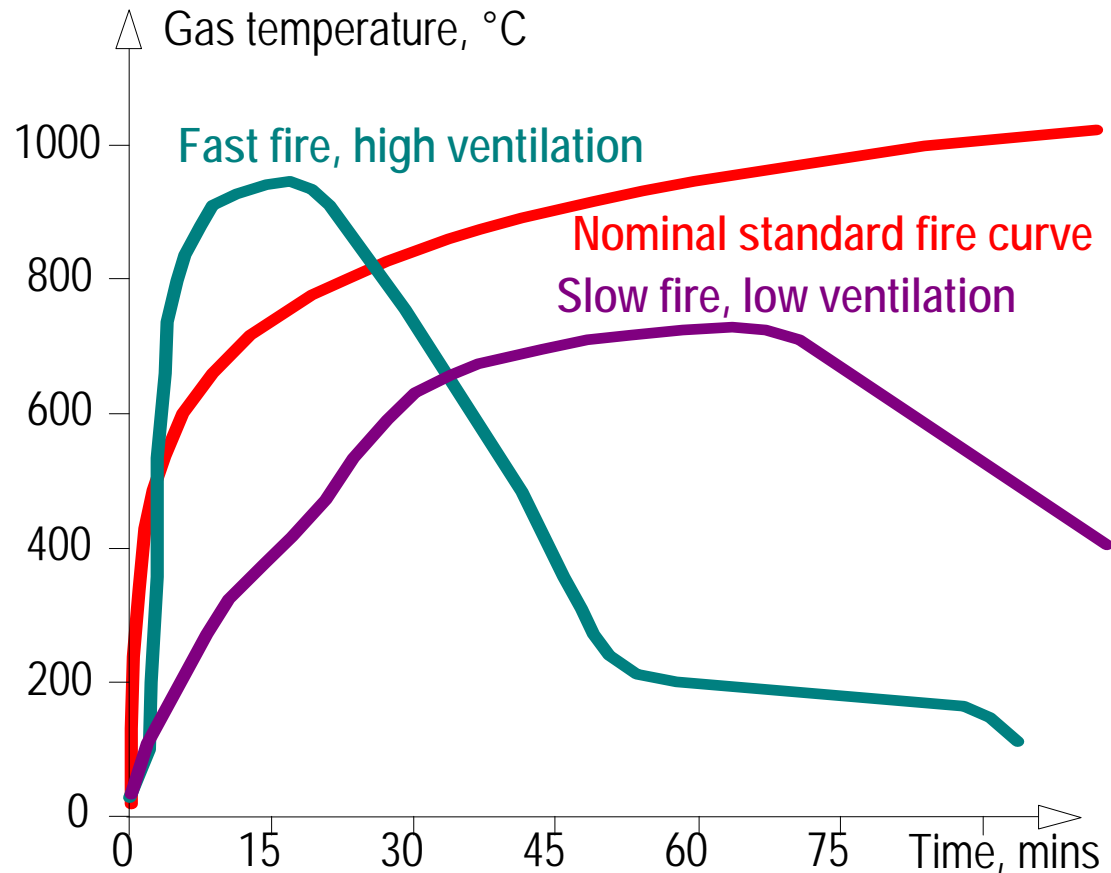
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# Ventilation and fire load



Standard fire curve is inaccurate

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# Fire modelling

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- Compartment fire
  - Nominal standard fire curve
  - Parametric fire curve
    - [Reached accuracy in case of the Cardington fire test](#)  
(a widen MS PowerPoint presentation)
  - Zone models
  - **Computational Fluid Dynamics CFD**
- Localized fire
  - Nominal standard fire curve, very conservative
  - Parametric fires
    - [Reached accuracy in case of the Ostrava fire test](#)  
(a widen MS PowerPoint presentation)
  - **Computational Fluid Dynamics CFD**

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# Real structures



- Today buildings are complex
  - Large spans
  - Mixed building technology
  - New materials

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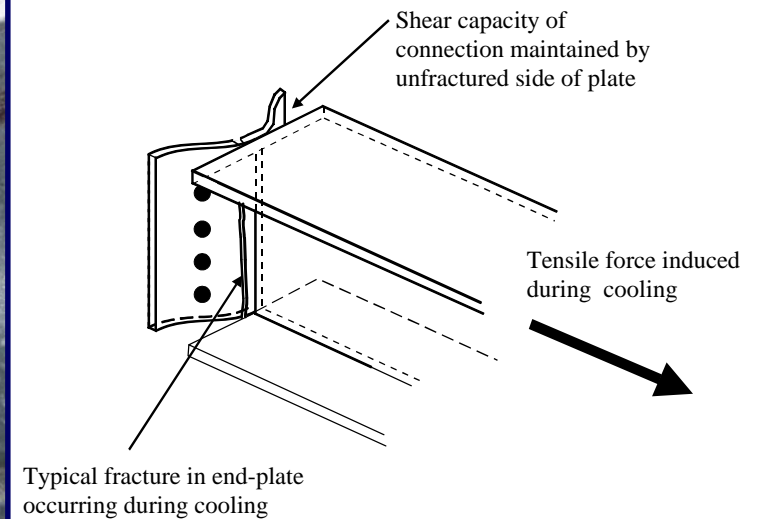
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# Overall behaviour



- Cooling phase of fire
  - Connection behaviour
  - Mostly collapse of structures

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# Advantages

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- Actual behaviour and robustness of the building
- Optimum design taking into account
  - Life safety
  - Financial impact
  - Environmental issues
- Part of an assessment of multiple risks
  - Earthquake followed by a fire
  - Explosion followed by a fire

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# Disadvantages

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- More design effort
- Requires multi-discipline skills
- Design can be complicated
- Change of building use  
may make the fire design invalid



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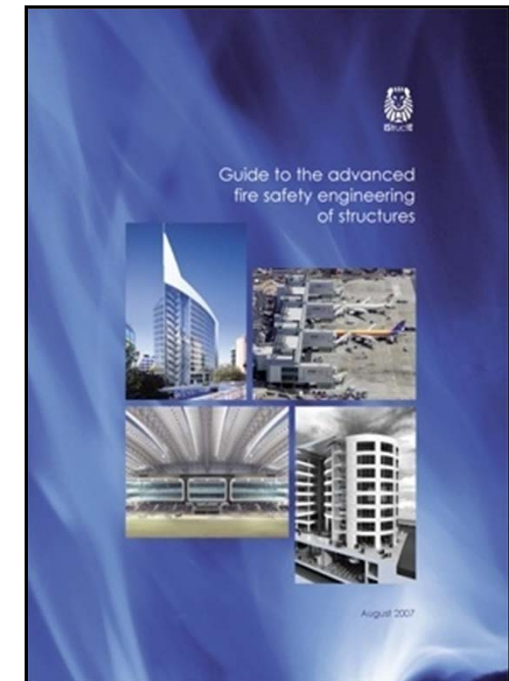
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# Design methodology

- Simple models
- Based on test of elements
- Advanced structural fire engineering
  - Guidance
  - Modelling
  - Validation
  - Verification
  - Review



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# Formative assessment question 1

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- What are the advantages of prescriptive based approach for fire safety of buildings?
- How is defined section factor?
- What are the advantages of fire engineering?
- Explain major steps of fire engineering?
- How are divided the models of fire?

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# Lecture from major disasters

## Great Fire of London 2-5 September 1666





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# Lecture from major disasters

## Great Fire of London, 2-5 September 1666



# Lecture from major disasters

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## Great National Theatre Fire Prague 12 Sept. 1881





# Lecture from major disasters

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## Great Chicago Fire, 8-10 October 1871



CHICAGO IN FLAMES—THE MINE FOR LIFE OVER MADALGUE STREET BRIDGE.—From a drawing by John B. Coatsworth.—(See Page 100.)



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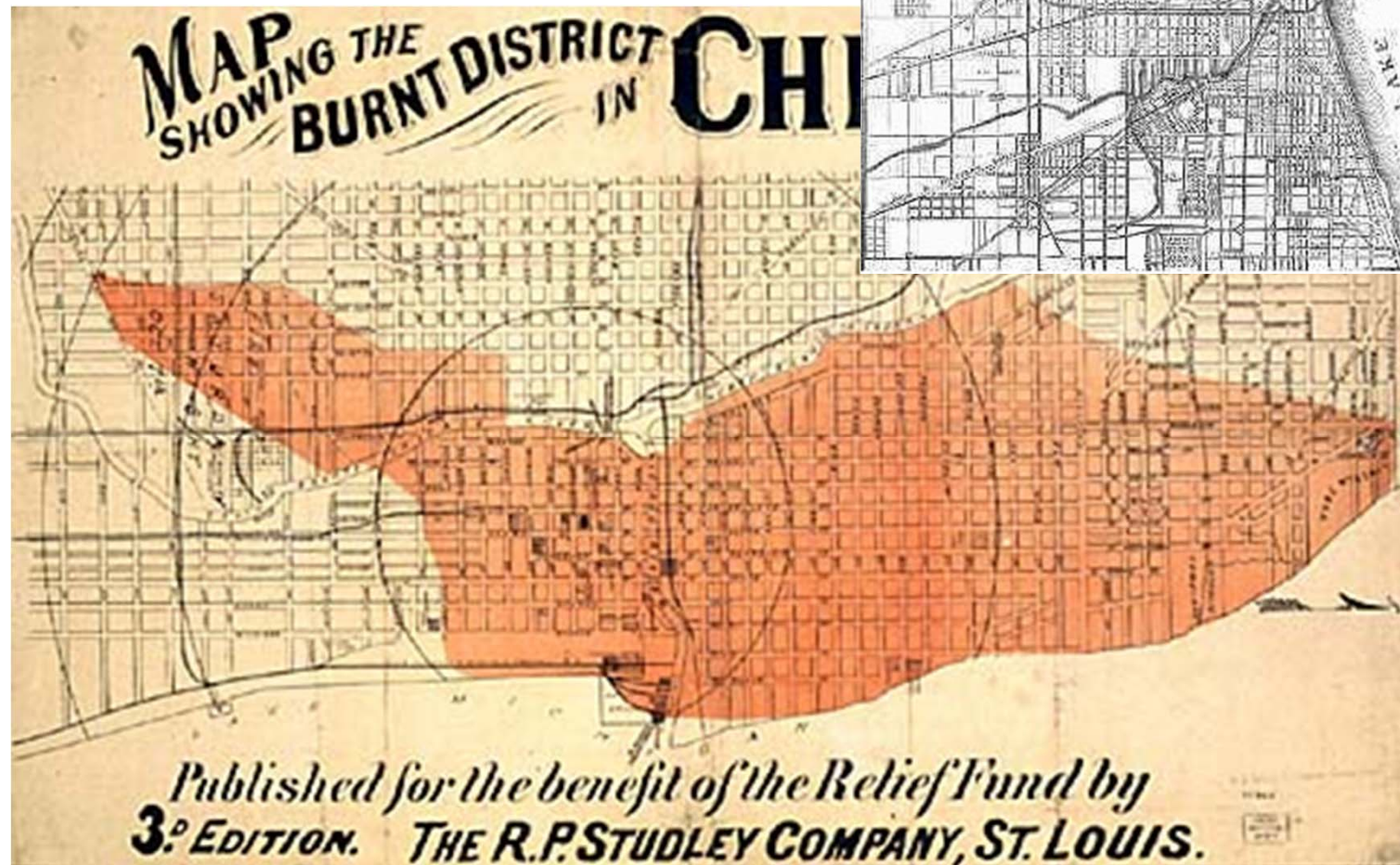
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# Lecture from major disasters

## Great Chicago Fire, 8-10 October 1871





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# World Trade Center 11.09.2001





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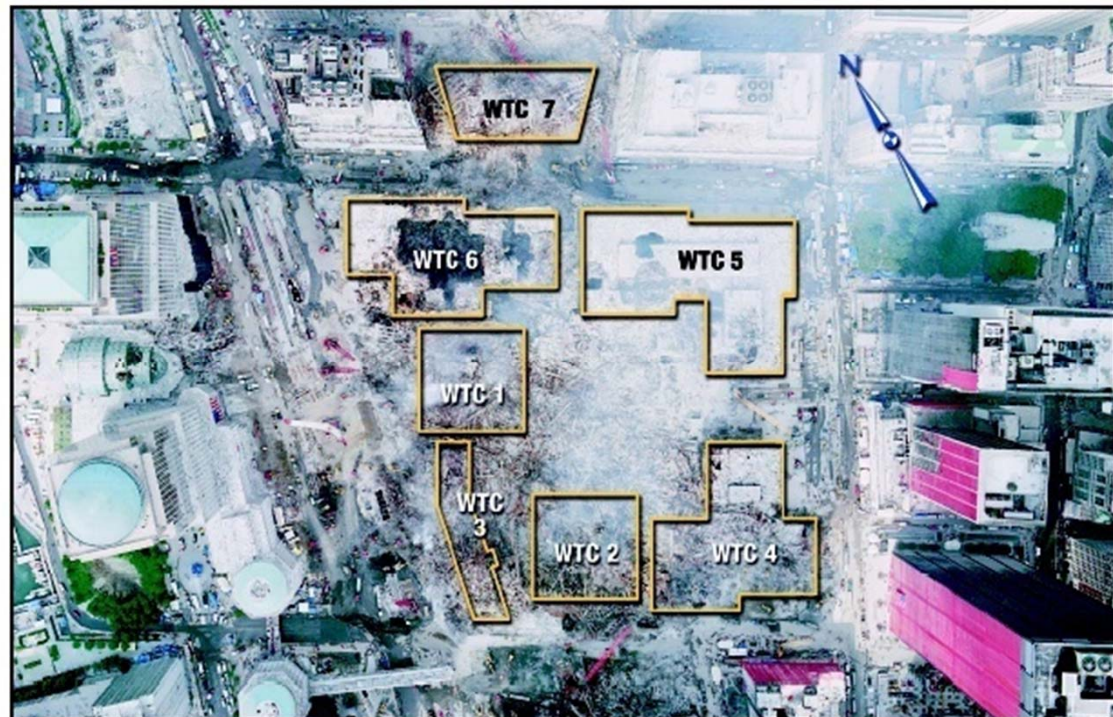
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# Other WTC buildings

- 50 buildings were hit by twins
- 17 buildings were damaged
- Source of knowledge



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# Progressive collapse WTC building 7 only





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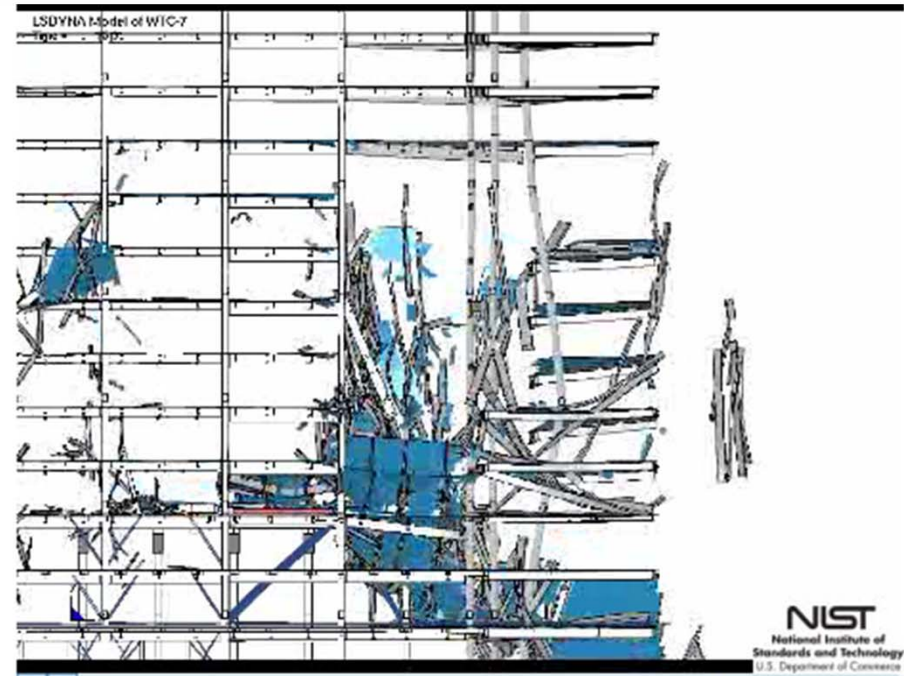
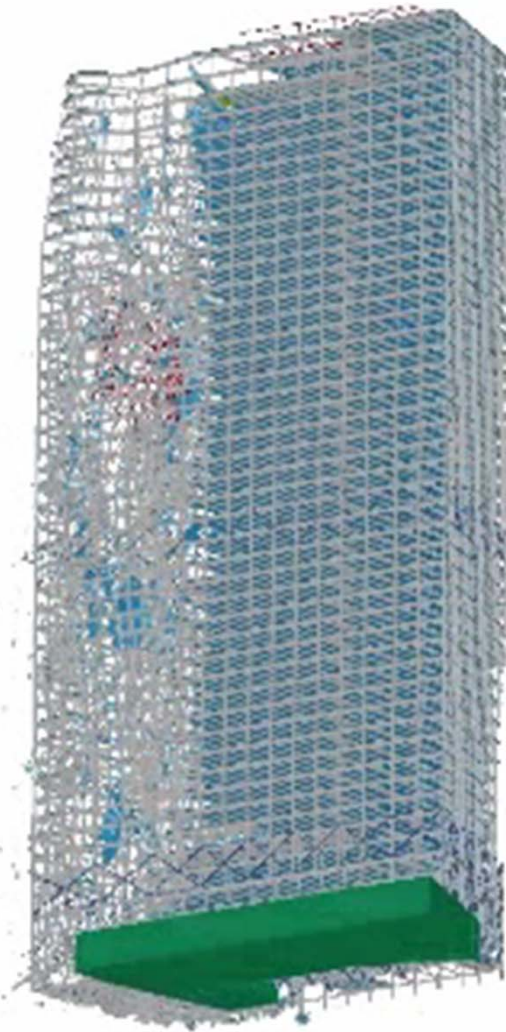
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# WTC7 – modelling finished 2008 by NIST



**NIST**  
National Institute of  
Standards and Technology  
U.S. Department of Commerce

**NIST**  
National Institute of  
Standards and Technology  
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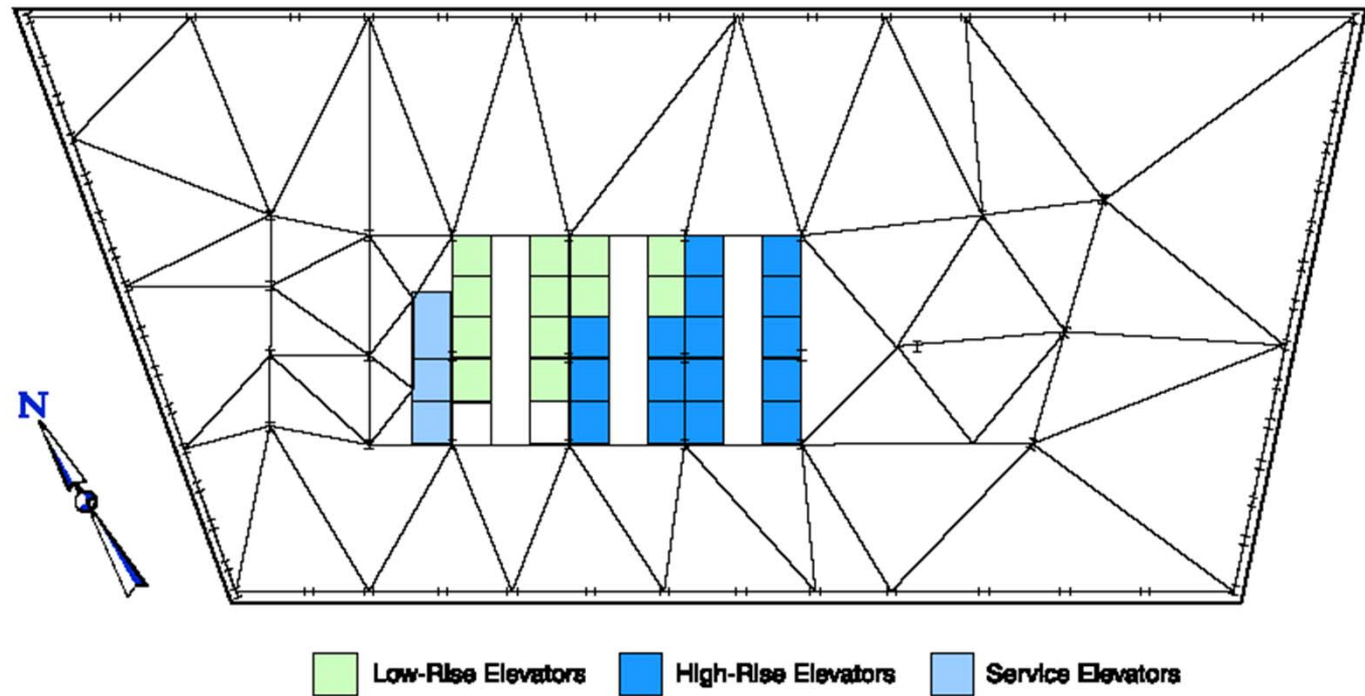
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# WTC7 plan



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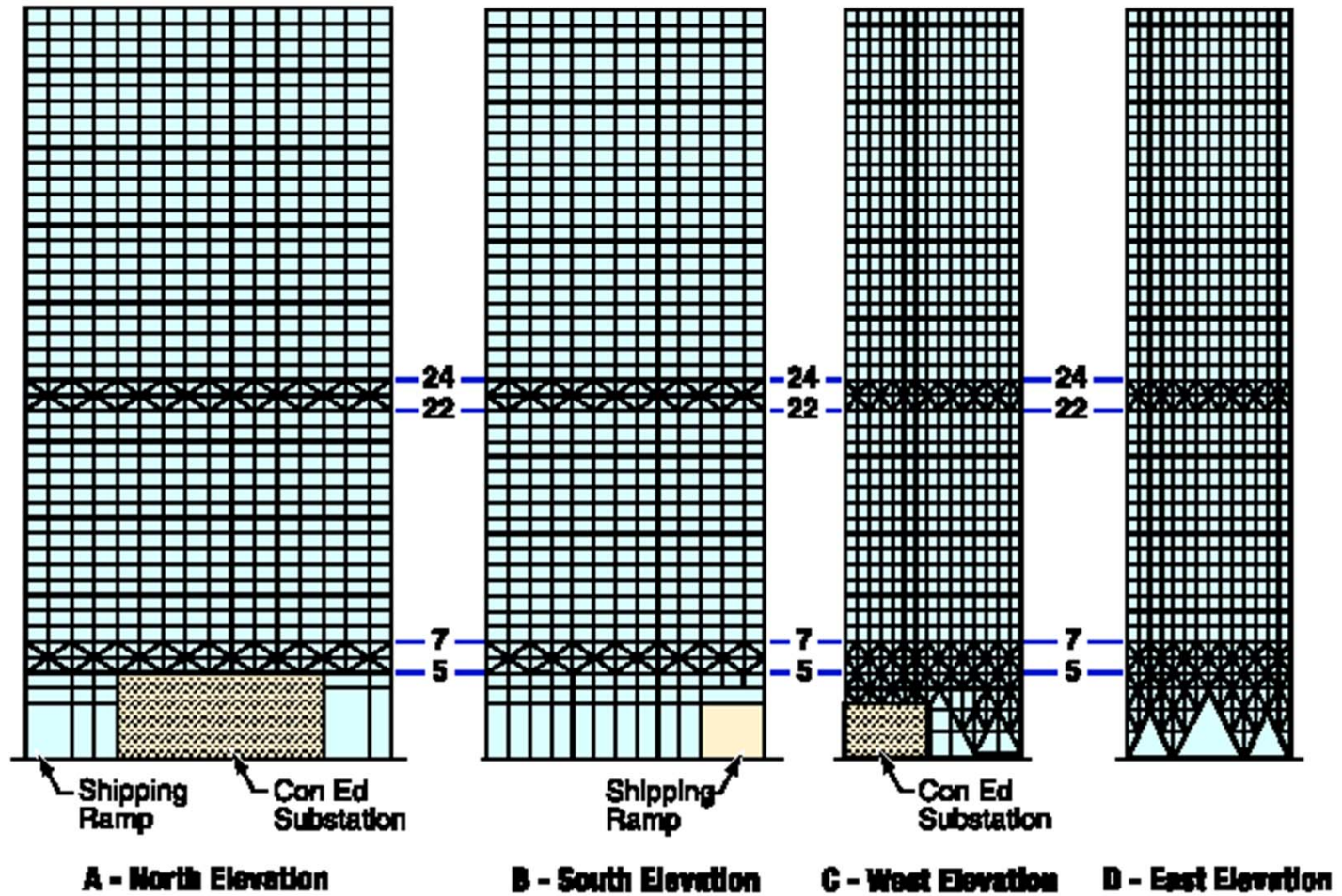
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# WTC7 view





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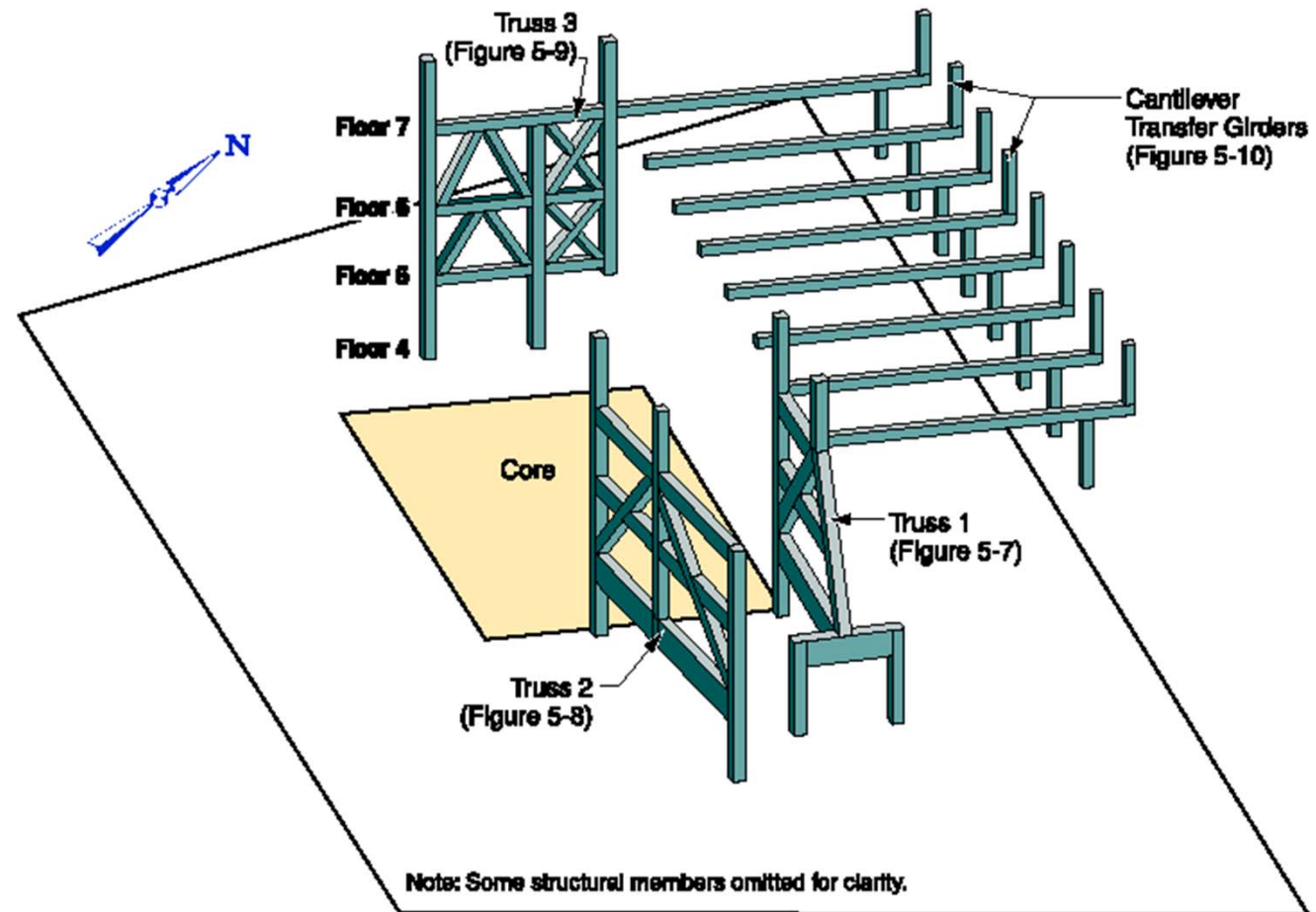
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# WTC7 bracing in first floor



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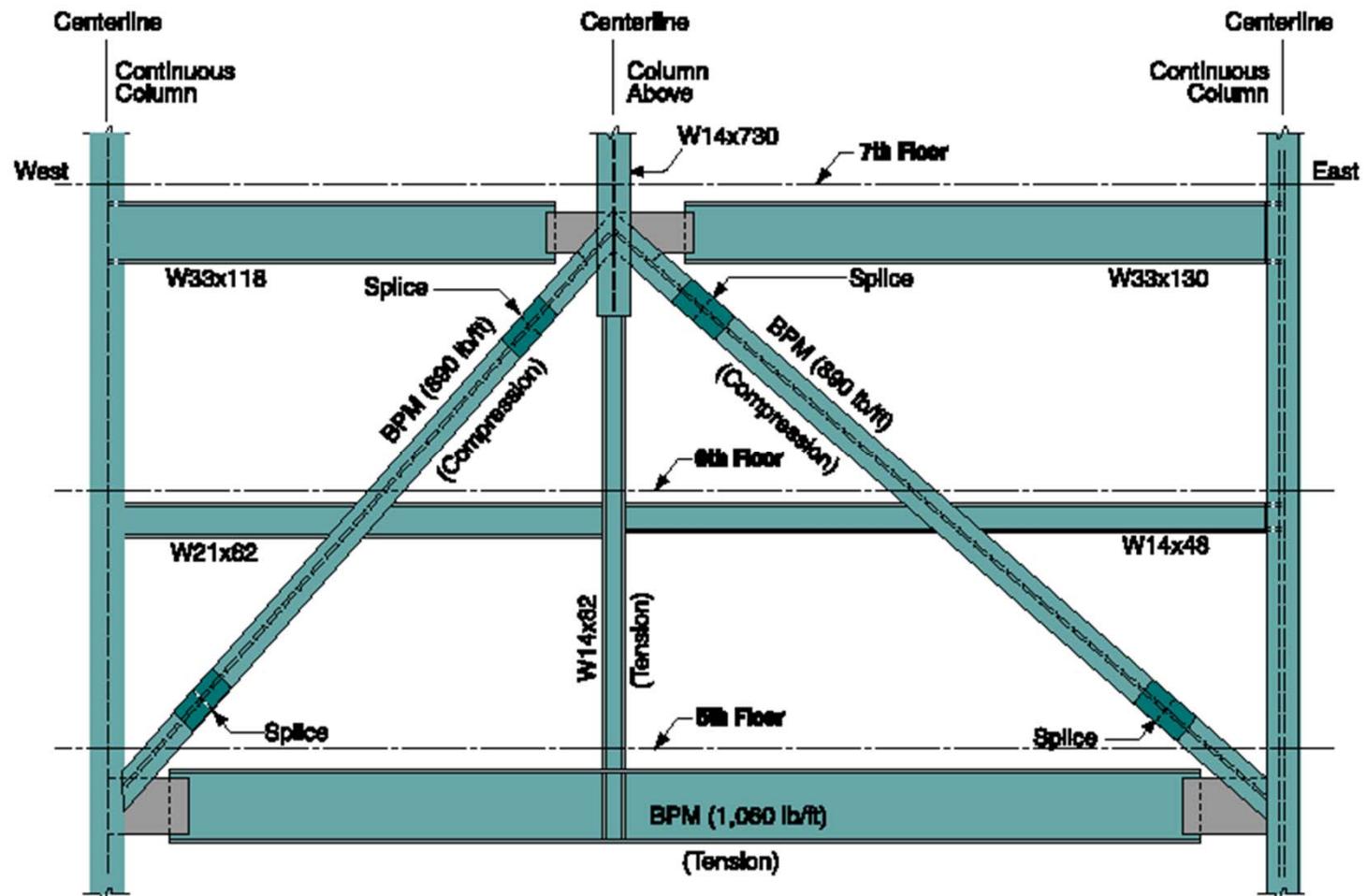
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# WTC7 truss bracing



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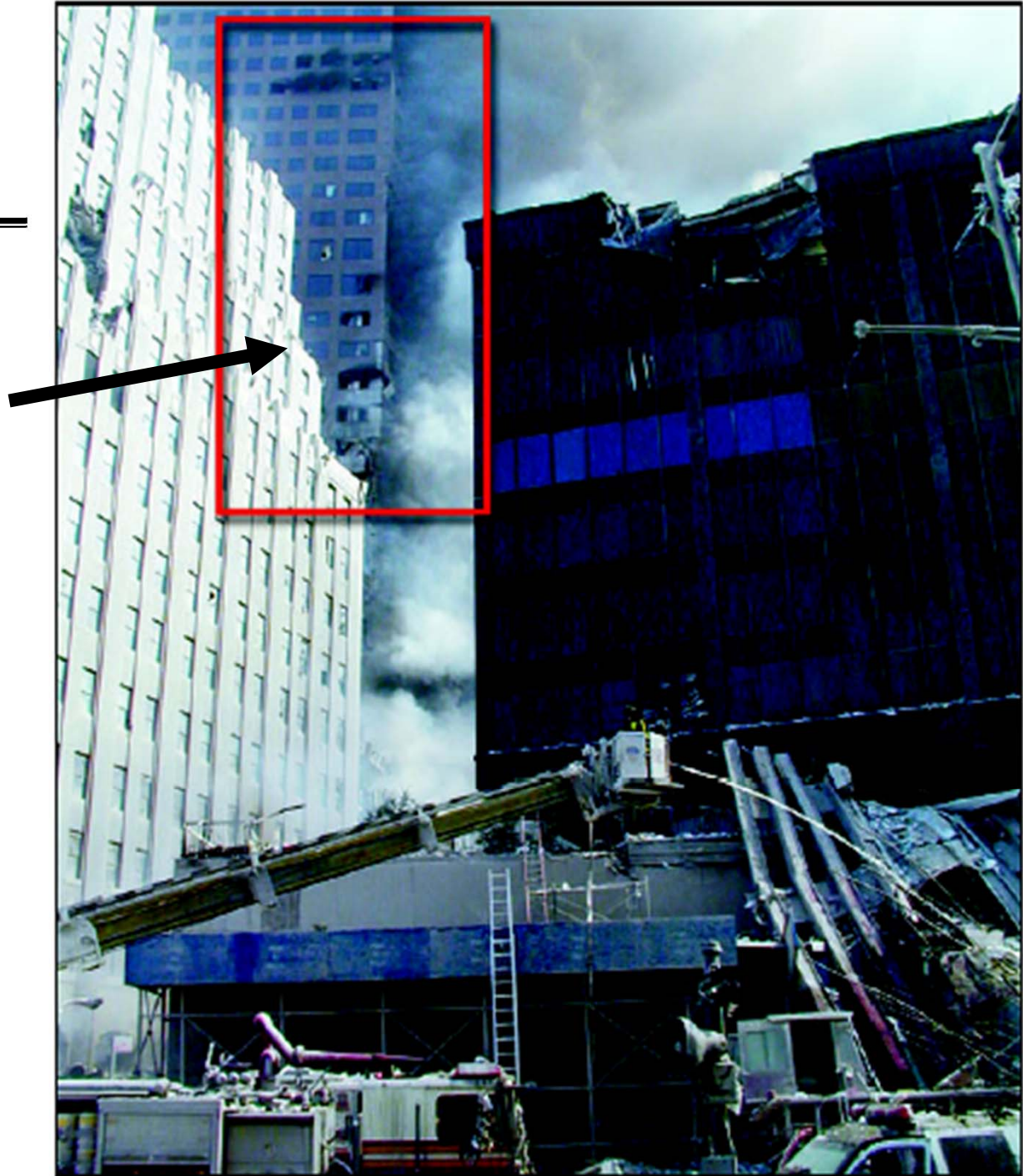
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# WTC 7

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Initiation of crack by part of WTC1's top





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# WC7 - large fire



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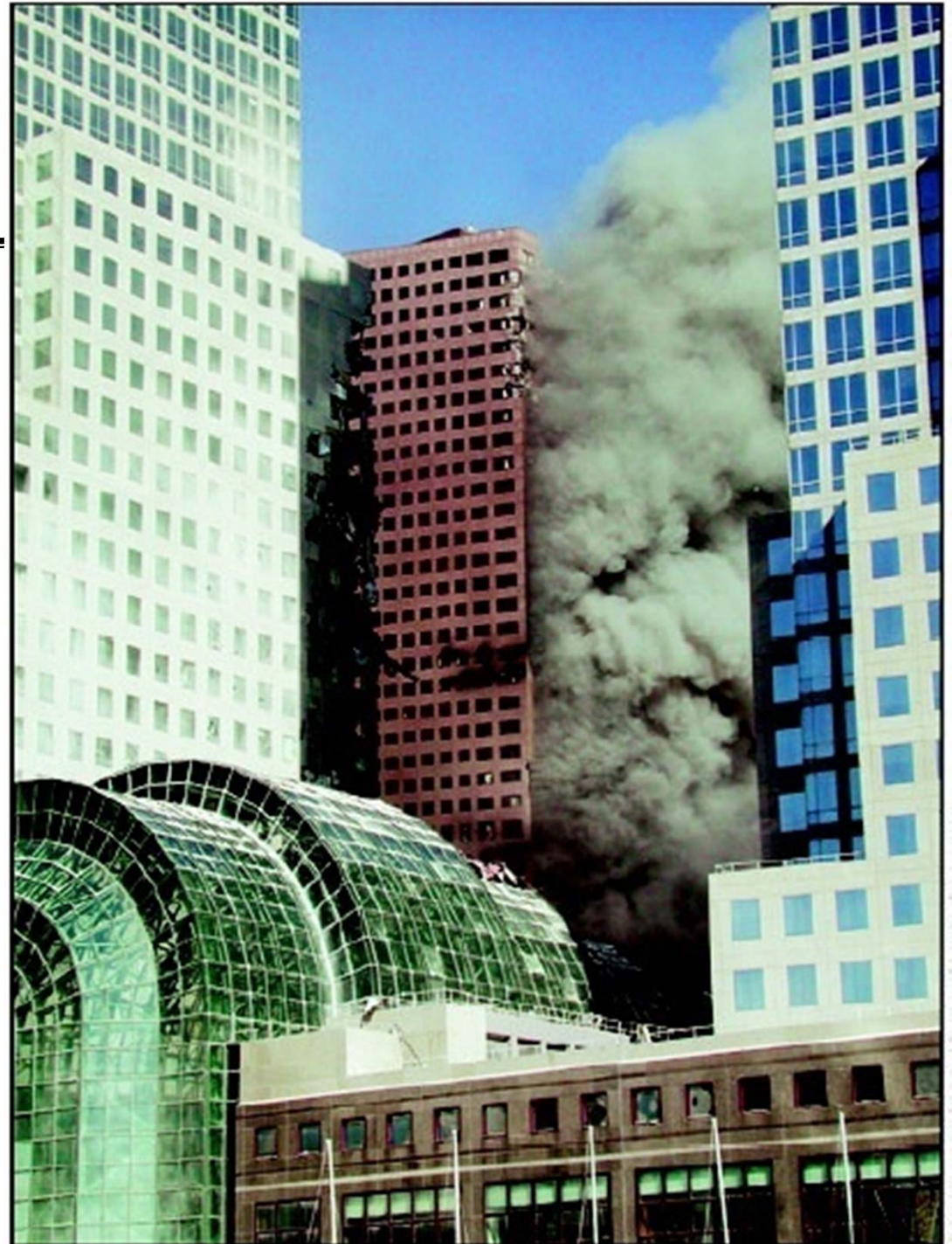
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# WC7

## Fire feed of the fuel oil for the back up sets





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# WC7

## Initial cracking of building



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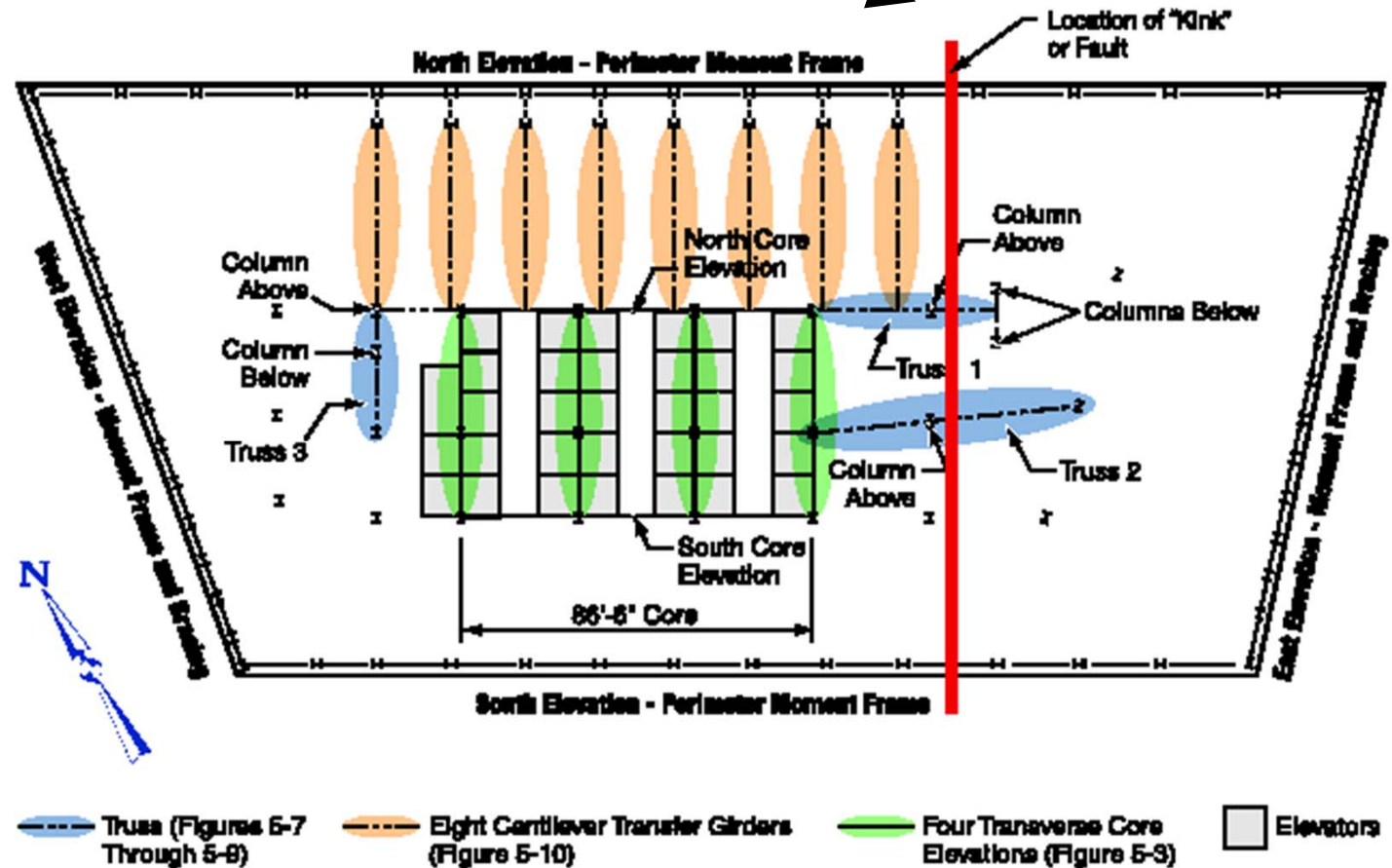
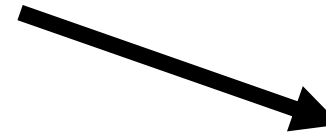
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# WTC 7

## Position of crack



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# WTC7 progressive collapse at 17:25



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# WTC7 progressive collapse at 17:25





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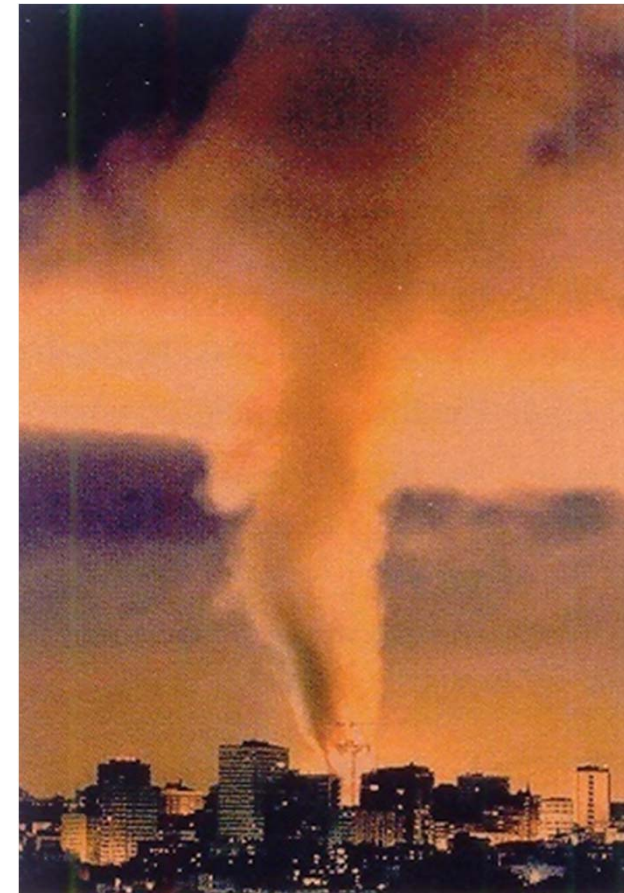
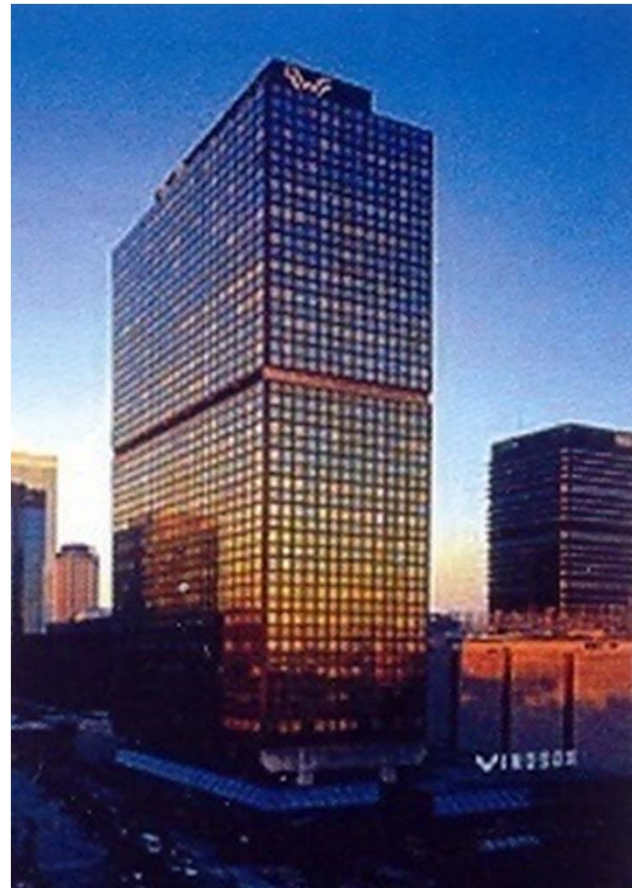
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# Windsor Tower Madrid

## large fire 13.02.2005



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# Windsor Tower Madrid collapse of concrete floors





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# Windsor Tower Madrid

## buckling of steel external columns



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# Lecture from last disasters

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- New materials and new structural solutions needs performance based design
- Robustness and behaviour of the building
- In fire design should be integrated
  - Life safety
  - Financial impact
  - Environmental issues
- Multiple risks
  - Earthquake followed by a fire
  - Explosion followed by a fire

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# Principles of fire safety

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The primary fire safety requirements of national regulations are to:

- Permit safe evacuation of the occupants
- Control fire development
- Prevent fire spread  
E.g. there may be specific boundary conditions when a building is close to its boundary.
- Permit effective fire fighting
- Prevent building collapse

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# Requirements for fire safety

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Regulations specify the following requirements for design of the multistorey building:

- Minimum fire resistance
  - generally in 15 min increments
  - the fire resistance period is the nominal time a building will withstand a nominal standard fire without
    - collapse,
    - the breach of the compartment perimeter, or
    - excessive deformation
- Maximum compartment areas
- Maximum travel distance for means of escape

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# Active and passive fire measurements

In office buildings, fire engineering may be used effectively in the following design cases, where:

- Sprinklers or other active systems reduce the risk and severity of a fire
- Detection and alarm systems achieve more rapid evacuation
- An atrium or other large internal enclosure influences effective compartmentation in fire
- A reduction in fire resistance can be argued based on fire load and ventilation conditions
- Means of escape and smoke control in protected escape routes is good

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# Forms of passive fire protection

There are five forms of passive fire protection:

- Spray protection – applied around the profile
- Board protection – applied as a ‘box’
- Intumescent coating – applied around the profile
- Concrete encasing – forms a rectangular encasement around the member
- Composite member – for example in-filling of tubular columns



[From AccessSteel Fire safety strategy](#)

[for multi-storey buildings for commercial and residential use](#)





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# EU legislation

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- **Construction Products Directive**,  
Council Directive 89/106/EEC, from 21.12. 1988,  
[see ANNEX I: Essential requirements](#)
- The Regulations relating to fire cover:
  - Load-bearing capacity
  - Spread of fire and smoke
  - Spread of the fire to neighbouring construction
  - Occupants can leave
  - Safety of rescue teams

**Covers life safety only**

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# Direct fire loss example in % of GDP

- Slovenia 0,07
- Poland 0,07
- Czech Republic 0,10
- Japan 0,10
- USA 0,10
- United Kingdom 0,13
- Finland 0,15
- Germany 0,16
- Sweden 0,17
- Canada 0,17
- Italy 0,18
- France 0,19
- Denmark 0,20
- Norway 0,25

Average of 2002 – 2004

Source: [www.data360.org](http://www.data360.org)



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# Number of deaths in fires

## example, per 100,000 inhabitants

- Switzerland 0,51
- Spain 0,61
- New Zealand 0,96
- United Kingdom 0,97
- Canada 1,15
- Norway 1,27
- Czech Republic 1,29
- Austria 1,31
- Sweden 1,32
- USA 1,39
- Denmark 1,55
- Japan 1,79
- Finland 2,08
- Hungary 2,10

Average of 2002 – 2004

Source: [www.data360.org](http://www.data360.org)

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# Eurocodes for fire design

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- **EN 1991-1-2:2002** Actions on structures exposed to fire
  - Concept of fire design
  - Fire behaviour
  - Mechanical loading during fire
- **EN 199x-1-2:2005** Structural fire design
  - Thermal response
  - Material behaviour
  - Structural response

Eurocode 2: Design of concrete structures

Eurocode 3: **Design of steel structures**

Eurocode 4: **Design of composite steel and concrete structures**

Eurocode 5: Design of timber structures

Eurocode 9: Design of aluminium structures

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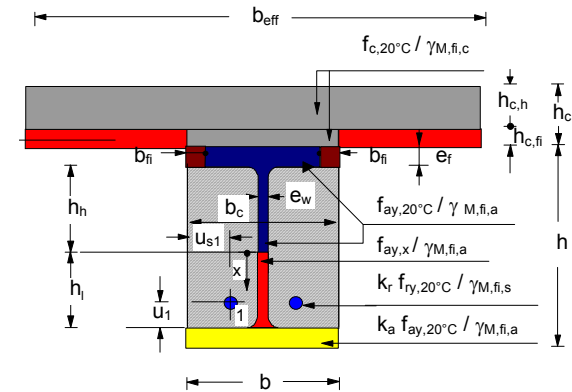
# Verification methods

## Example

### Eurocode 4: Composite steel and concrete structures

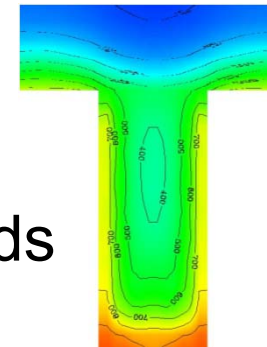
#### Level 1 Tabulated data

	<b>Feuerwiderstandsklasse</b> <b>R90</b>
3 für den Ausnutzungsfaktor $\eta_{fl} = 0,7$ $\min b$ [mm] und $\min (A_s / A_c)$	
3.1 $h \geq 0,9 \cdot \min b$	300/0,6
3.2 $h \geq 1,5 \cdot \min b$	270/0,4
3.3 $h \geq 2,0 \cdot \min b$	210/0,4
3.4 $h \geq 3,0 \cdot \min b$	190/0,4



#### Level 2 Simplified calculation methods

#### Level 3 General calculation methods



From: Prof. Peter Schaumann  
Institute for Steel Construction



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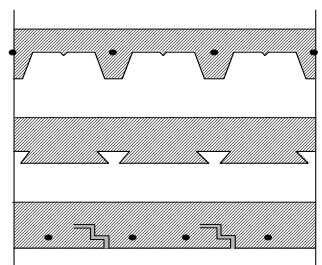
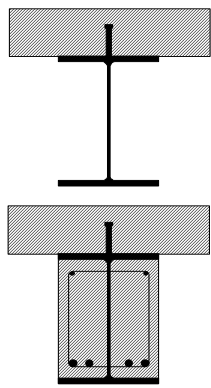
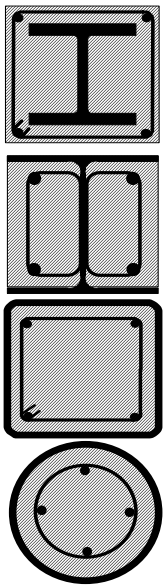
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# Scope of application Eurocodes

Example

**Eurocode 4: Composite steel and concrete structures**

**Tabulated data**

Composite slabs	Composite beams	Composite columns
		

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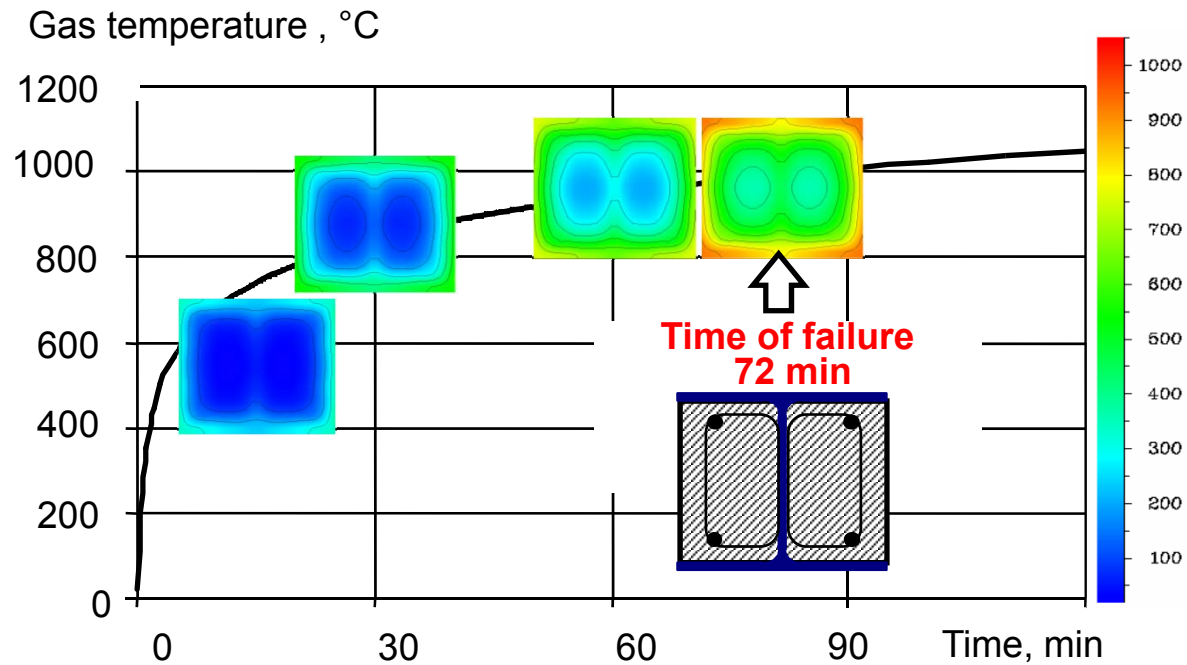
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# Accuracy of temperature modelling

For example

**Eurocode 4: Composite steel and concrete structures**

**Calculation - Nominal standard fire curve exposure**



From: Prof. Peter Schaumann  
Institute for Steel Construction

1 1  
1 0 2  
1 0 4  
Leibniz  
Universität  
Hannover

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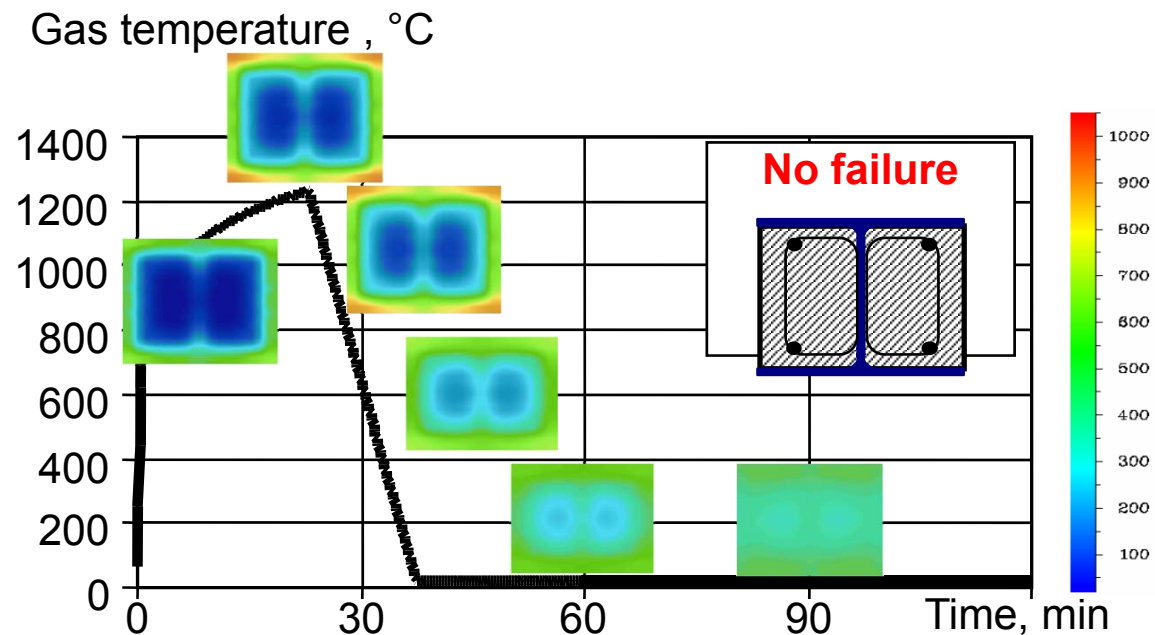
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# Accuracy of temperature modelling

Example

**Eurocode 4: Composite steel and concrete structures**

**Calculation – Parametric fire curve exposure**





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# Formative assessment question 2

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- What passive fire protection is used for steel members?
- Please list the major topics related to fire in EU Construction products directive.
- Which parts of Eurocodes are focussed for fire design?
- Where is described the fire loading?
- Please specify the levels of verification method in Eurocodes.

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# Educational materials

- Text books

- [Designers' Guide to EN 1991-1-2, EN 1993-1-2 and EN 1994-1-2](#): Handbook for the Fire Design of Steel,

Composite and Concrete Structures to the Eurocodes,  
D. Moore, T. Lennon, C. Bailey, Y. Wang, Thomas Telford, 2007,  
ISBN 0727731572.

- [Structural Design for Fire Safety](#),

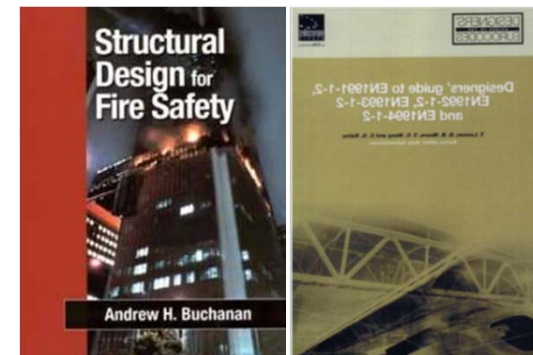
A.H.Buchanan, Wiley, 2001, ISBN 0471889938.

- Others at [www.steelconstruct.com](http://www.steelconstruct.com)

- Internet

- [AccessSteel](#)

- [Difisek+](#)



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# Tools on internet

[URL: www.access-steel.com](http://www.access-steel.com)

- **AccessSteel** a hypertext engine for structural steel
- Support EC3, EC4
  - Case studies
  - Design procedures
  - Flow charts
  - NCCI's
  - Worked examples
  - Tables
- **Tables and simplified fire design**
  - 30 % of lectures



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# Tools on internet

[URL: www.difisek.eu](http://www.difisek.eu)

## DIFISEK+ lectures and text

- Thermal & Mechanical Actions
- Thermal Response
- Mechanical Response of Structures in Fire
- Software for Fire Design
- Worked Examples
- Illustration of Completed Projects

**Simplified and advanced design**





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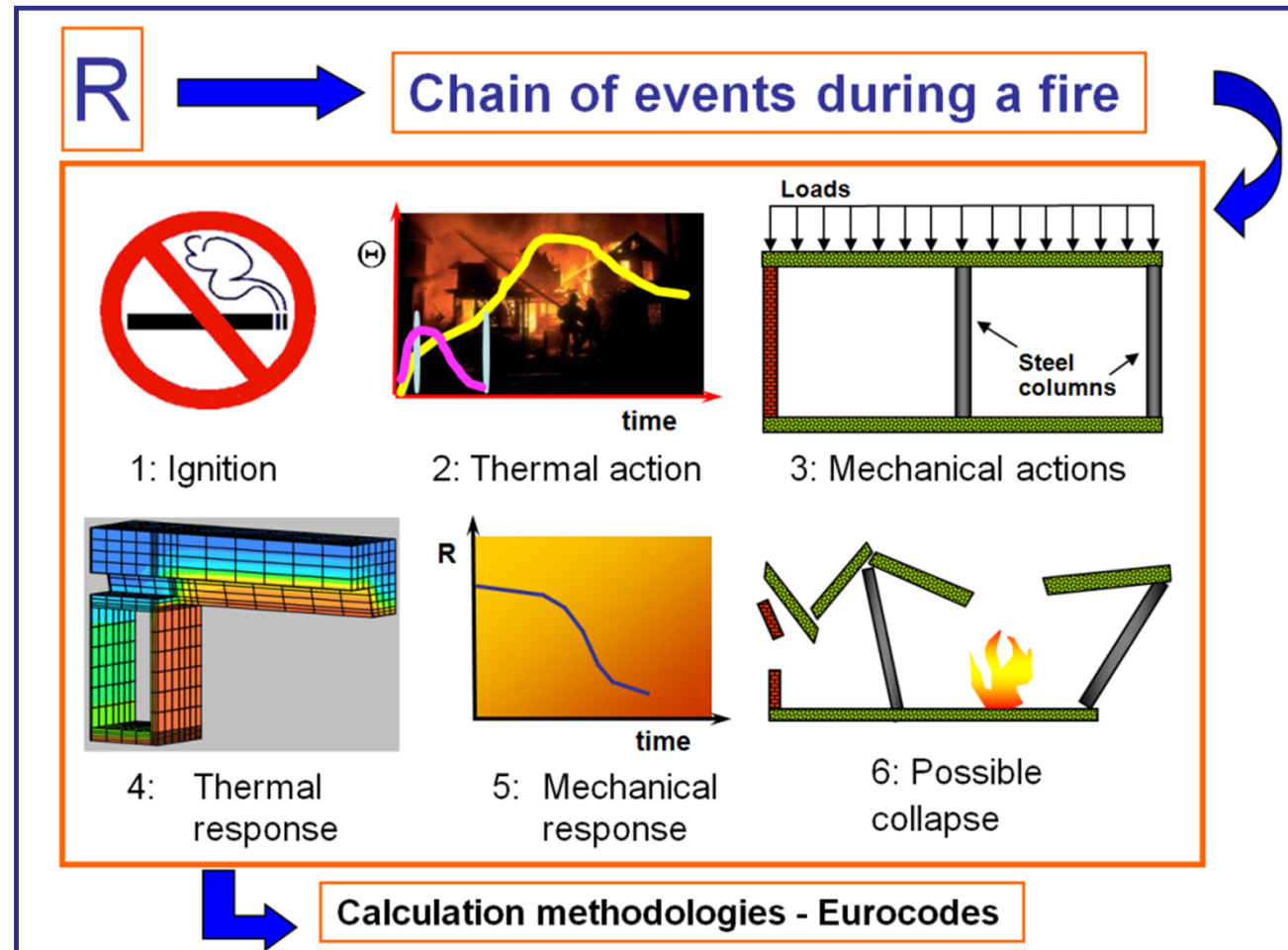
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# DIFISEK<sup>+</sup>

## Example - Basic design procedure



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# Case studies

- The case studies for fire design may be found on web

– Difisek<sup>+</sup>

[URL: www.difisek.eu](http://www.difisek.eu)



– AccessSteel

[URL: www.access-steel.com](http://www.access-steel.com)



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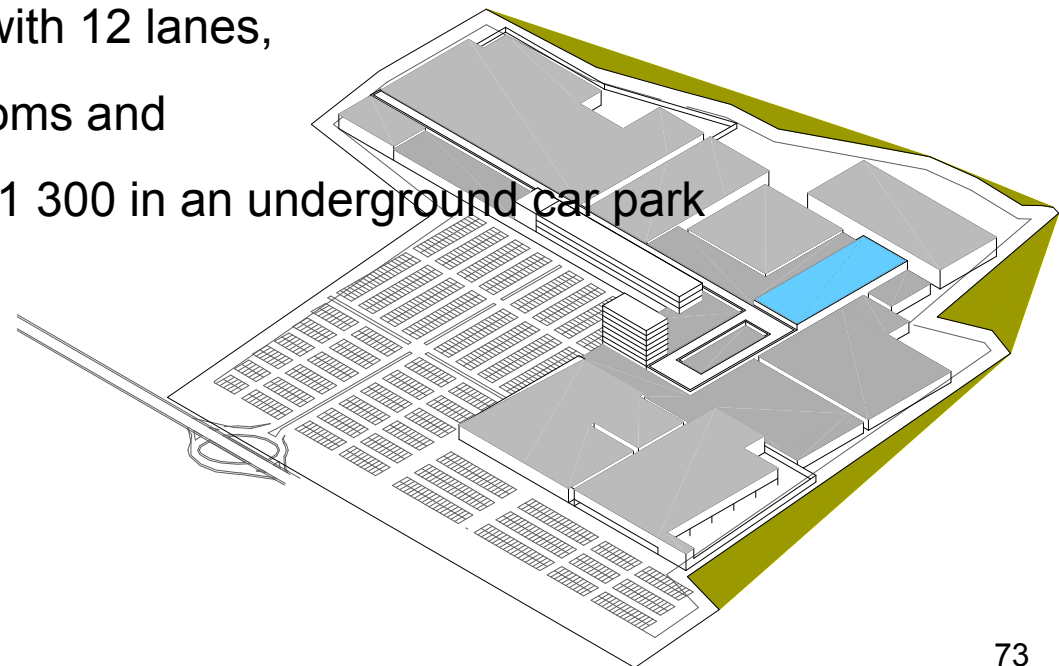
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# Case study

## from AccessSteel - Fire Engineering of "Las Cañas" Shopping Centre, Viana, Spain

A major shopping centre, providing 65 000 m<sup>2</sup> floor area for a variety of uses:

- 80 shops (including a supermarket),
- 12 cinemas,
- 1 discotheque,
- 1 bowling centre with 12 lanes,
- 1 hotel with 75 rooms and
- 3 130 car places, 1 300 in an underground car park



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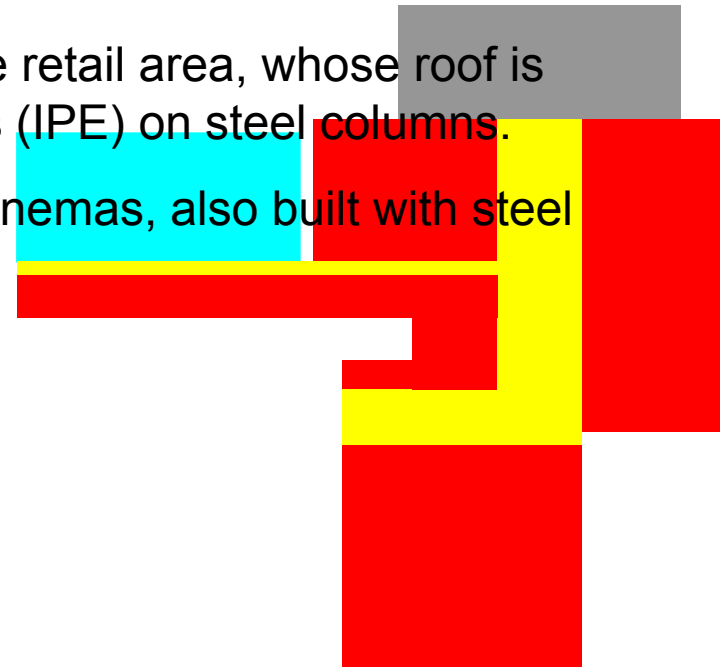
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# Case study

## the shopping centre layout

- The yellow area corresponds to the main corridor, built with IPE columns and trusses (HEB profiles with welded joints) which support the beams and purlins of the roof structure.
- The blue area is a supermarket, attached to the corridor on one side. Its roof is supported by timber beams resting on steel columns.
- The red area corresponds to the retail area, whose roof is supported by continuous beams (IPE) on steel columns.
- The grey area corresponds to cinemas, also built with steel columns.



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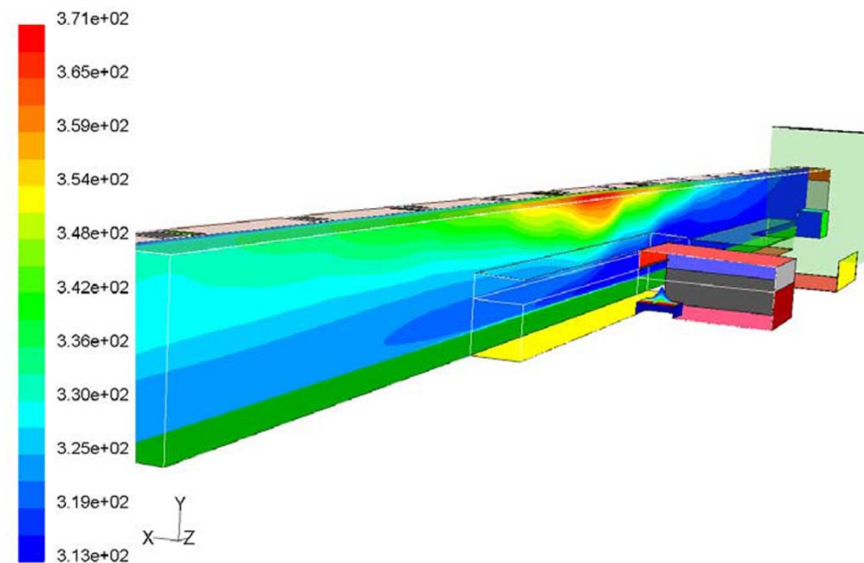
# Case study

## Smoke control

Smoke control is a major concern in this kind of buildings, for the following reasons:

- A high number of people.
- Occupants do not know the building.
- The egress routes can be affected by smoke coming from a fire.
- A smoke control system was verified by simulations, using analytical methods.

Hot gases in the main corridor due to a fire in a shop.  
Temperature contours in K





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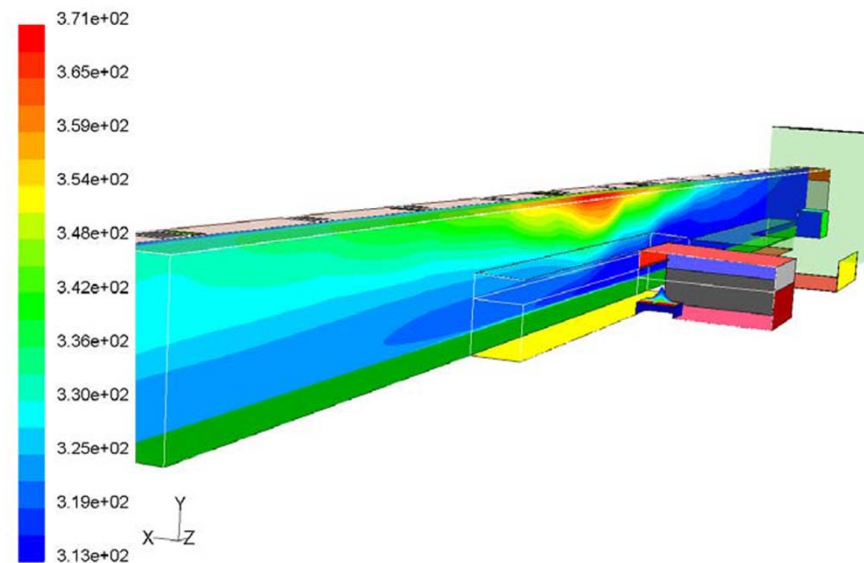
# Case study

## Fire scenarios

Several fire scenarios were studied to cover different three main fire safety goals:

- Structural stability of the shops adjacent to the main corridor.
- Structural stability of the supporting elements of the corridor.
- Verification of the smoke control system formed by smoke vents and draft curtains.

Hot gases in the main corridor due to a fire in a shop.  
Temperature contours in K



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# Case study

## final conclusions

- The stability of the steel structure of the corridor was maintained without passive protection.
- The beams inside the shops adjacent to the corridor could also remain unprotected.
- Some columns embedded in masonry walls were recommended not to be protected.
- It was recommended to increase the size and number of smoke curtains in the main corridor to improve the smoke control and users' safety.

For more see at [www.access-steel.com](http://www.access-steel.com)  
[Fire Engineering of "Las Cañas" Shopping Centre, Viana, Spain](#)



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# Assessment

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- What are the advantages of performance based approach for fire safety of buildings?
- In which part of Eurocode is described the thermal response?
- Which level of verification is covered in internet tool AccessSteel?

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# Conclusions

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- The prescriptive based approach brought a high safety for today's buildings
- The performance based approach offers a higher level of safety, economy, and protection of fireman

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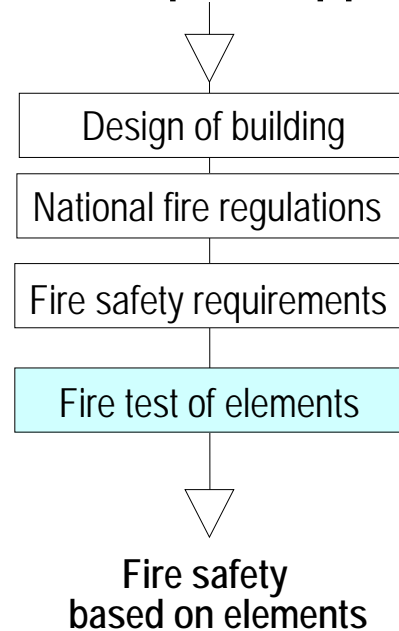
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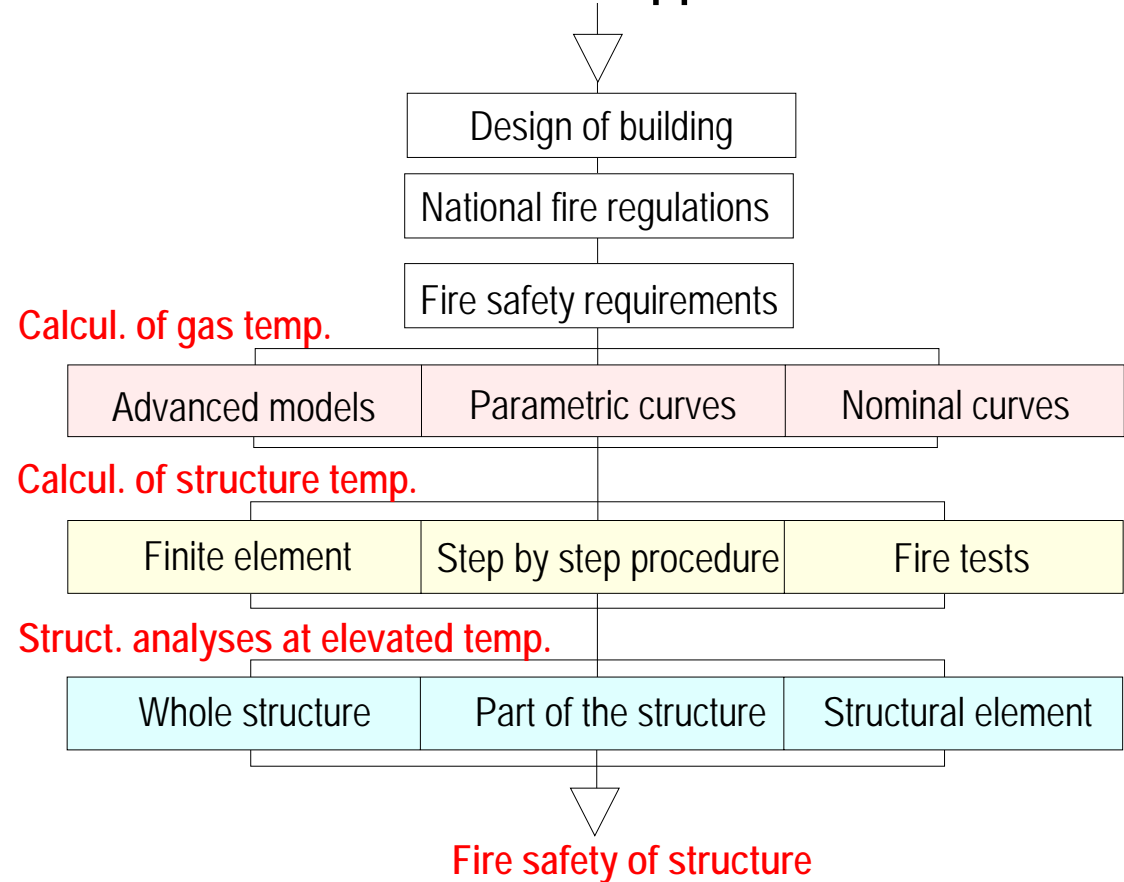
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# Conclusion

## Prescriptive approach



## Performance approach





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# Conclusions

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- Conceptual choice of appropriate fire solution may bring a high economical subsequence
- On internet are available educational materials in fire design

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# Conclusions

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- The structural design codes, Eurocodes, have a parts related to fire design EN199x-1-2
- These codes describe design by tables, analytical models and advanced model

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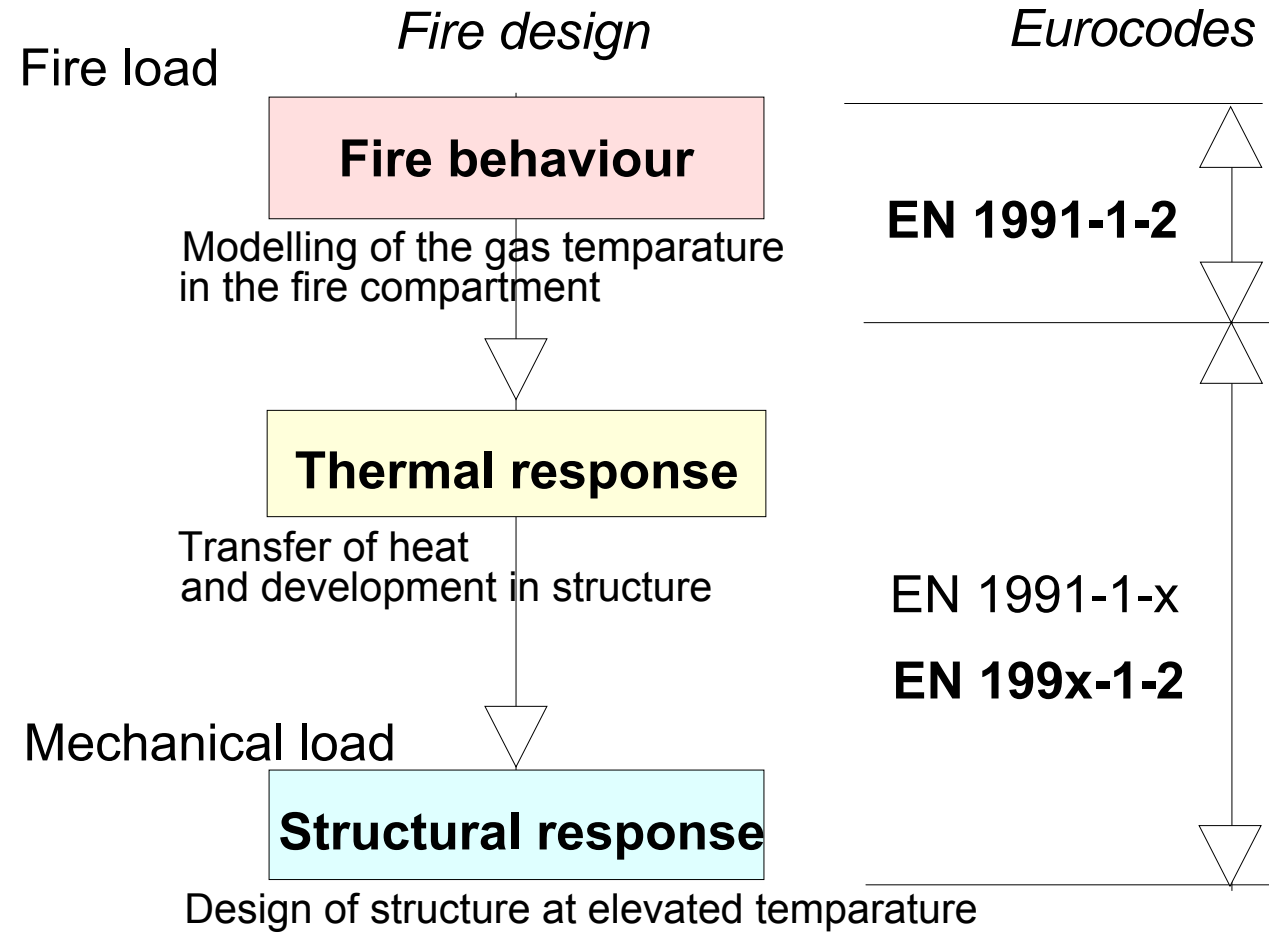
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# Thank you for your kind attention

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# Notes to users of the lecture

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- This session is a basic information about the fire design and requires about 60 min lecturing.
- Further readings on the relevant documents from website of [www.access-steel.com](http://www.access-steel.com) and [www.difisek.eu](http://www.difisek.eu).
- The use of relevant standards of national standard institutions are strongly recommended.
- Formative questions should be well answered before the summative questions completed within the tutorial session.
- Keywords for the lecture:  
fire design, prescriptive approach, performance approach, fire protection, Eurocodes.



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# Notes to users of the lecture

[Text documents of advanced fire design](#) of the completed buildings in Difisek<sup>+</sup> case studies at [URL: www.difisek.eu](http://www.difisek.eu) are offering:

- Indoor Football Arena, Rauma, Finland
- State Street Bank, Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- Administrative Building of ProfilARBED, Esch/Alzette, Luxembourg
- Köln-Arena, Cologne, Germany
- Bilbao Exhibition Centre, Bilbao, Spain
- City Gate Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany
- Charles de Gaulle Airport, Paris, France
- Shopping Centre Cactus, Esch/Alzette, Luxembourg
- Shopping Centre Las Cañas, Viana, Spain
- Airbus Hall, Toulouse, France
- Rembrandt Tower, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Airport Hangar M2, Mošnov, Czech Republic

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# Notes to users of the lecture

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Text documents of fire design of the completed buildings in AccessSteel case

at [URL: www.access-steel.com](http://www.access-steel.com) are offering:

- [Köln Arena, Germany](#)
- [Rembrandt Tower, Amsterdam, Netherlands](#)
- [Fire Engineering of "Las Cañas" Shopping Centre, Viana, Spain](#)
- [Airbus halls, Toulouse, France](#)
- [Indoor Football Arena, Finland](#)
- [Office building AOB, Luxembourg](#)
- [Terminal 2F, Charles de Gaulle airport, Paris](#)

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# Notes to users of the lecture

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Selection of fire engineering strategy may be found at AcceSteel

- Client guide [on the key issues for structural fire resistance](#)
- Scheme development
  - [Fire safety strategy for multi-storey buildings for commercial and residential use](#)
  - [Selection of appropriate fire engineering strategy for multi-storey commercial and apartment buildings](#)
  - [Checklist for fire design of multi-storey office buildings](#)
  - [Checklist for fire design of multi-storey apartments](#)
  - [Fundamentals of structural fire design](#)
  - [Ensuring fire safety](#)

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Educational  
materials

Case studies

Assessment 3

Conclusions

Notes

# Notes to users of the lecture

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The description of features of different passive fire protection in AccessSteel materials:

- [Board fire protection](#)
- [Intumescent coatings](#)
- [Sprayed fire protection](#)
- [Shielded members in fire](#)
- [Slim floor systems](#)

Objectives

Prescriptive approach

Performance approach

Assessment 1

Lecture from major disasters

Selection of strategy

Eurocodes

Assessment 2

Educational materials

Case studies

Assessment 3

Conclusions

**Notes**

# Notes for lecturers

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- Subject: Bases of fire design
- Lecture duration: 60 min
- Keywords: fire design, prescriptive approach, performance approach, fire protection, Eurocodes
- Aspects to be discussed: advantages and disadvantages of prescriptive and performance approach
- Within the lecturing, the introduction of Eurocode fire design is explained
- Further reading: relevant documents from website of [www.access-steel.com](http://www.access-steel.com) and [www.difisek.eu](http://www.difisek.eu)
- The reached accuracy in prediction of compartment fire is shown on the prediction of the seventh large scale [Cardington fire test](#)
- The reached accuracy in prediction of localized fire is shown on the prediction of [Ostrava fire test](#).