



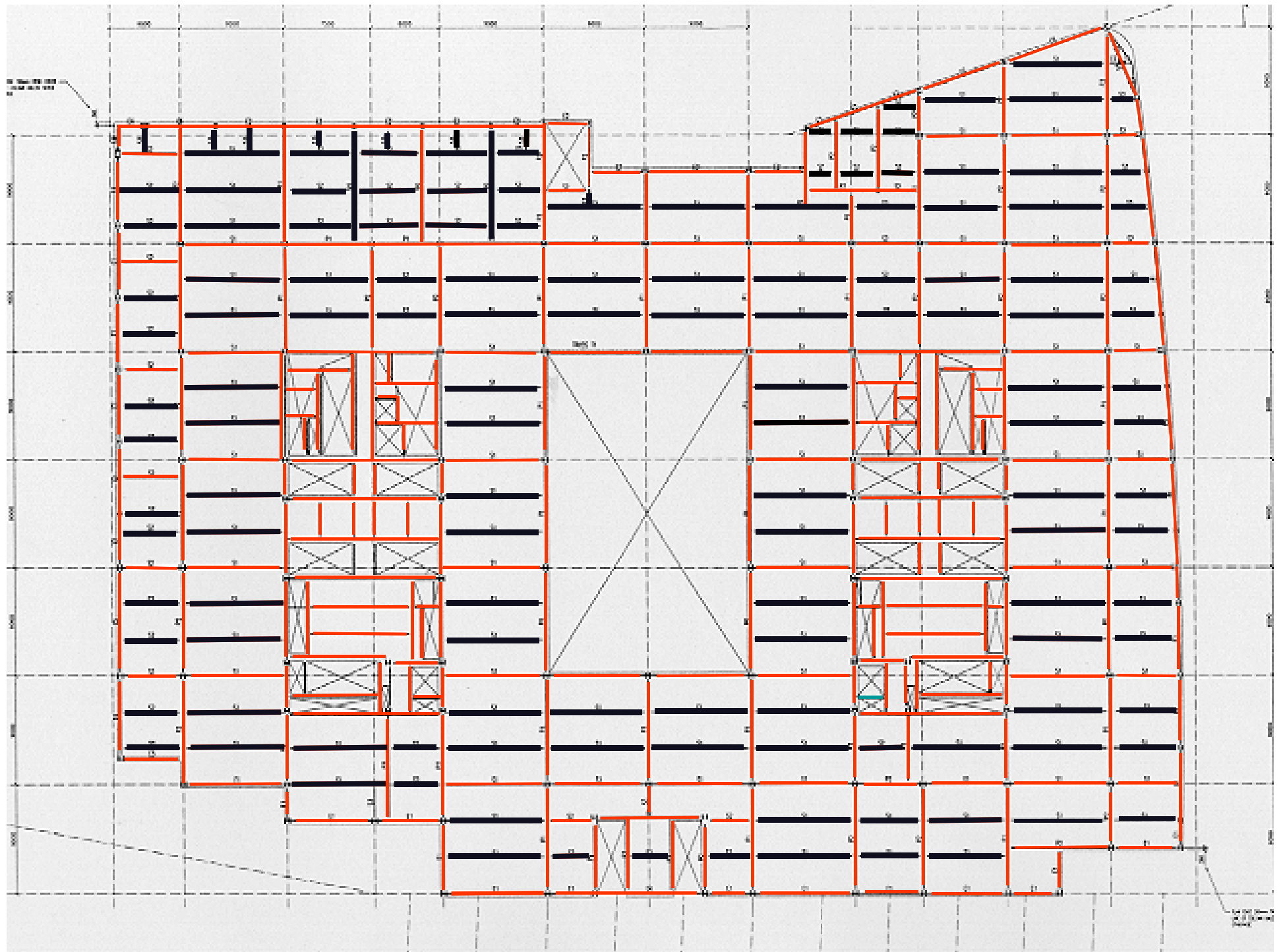
Fire Behaviour of Steel and Composite Floor Systems

Simple design method



Aim of the design method







Content of presentation



- **Mechanical behaviour of composite floors in a fire situation**
- **Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C**
 - Floor slab model
 - Failure modes
- **Simple design method of composite floors at elevated temperatures**
 - Extension to fire behaviour
 - Membrane effect at elevated temperatures
 - Contribution from unprotected beams
 - Design of protected beams

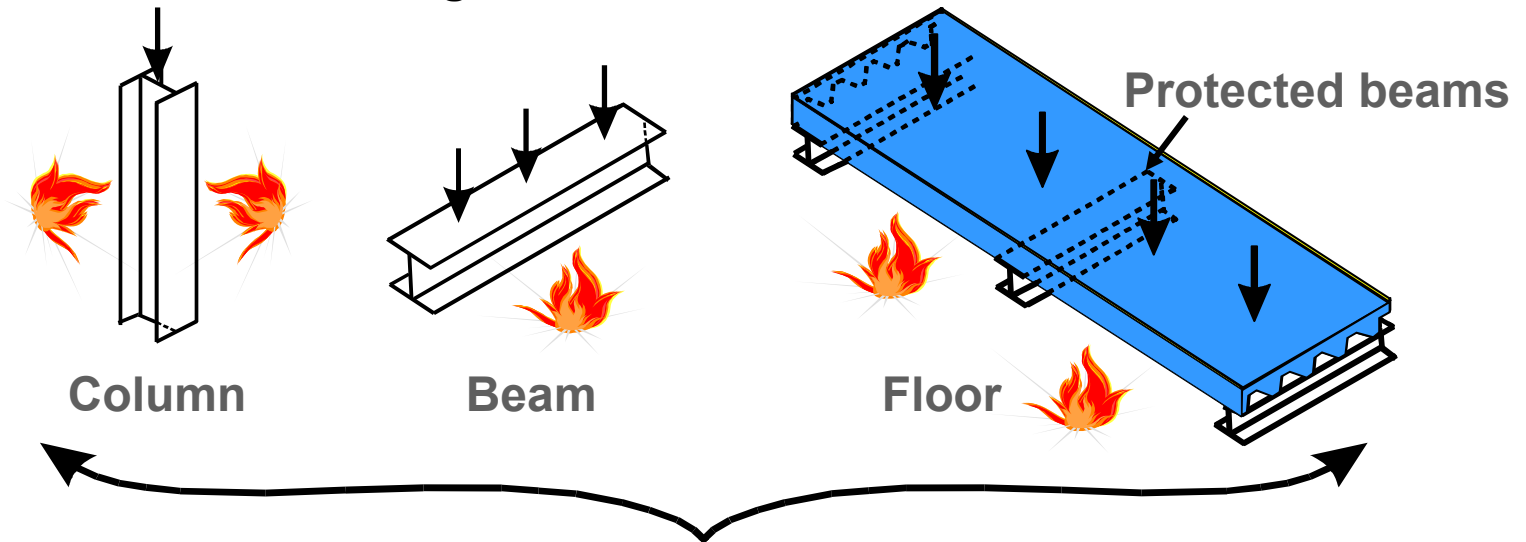


- **Traditional design method**

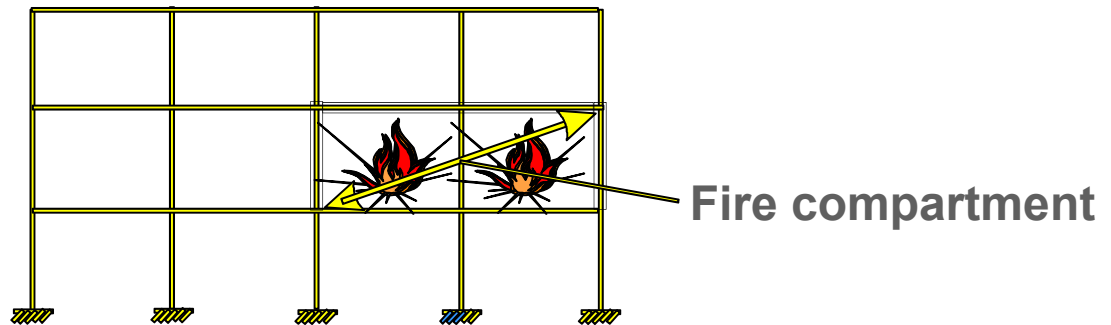
Mechanical
behaviour of
composite floors

Simple design
method of
reinforced
concrete slabs at
20°C

Simple design
method of
composite floors at
elevated
temperatures



Existing design methods assume isolated members
will perform in a similar way in actual buildings





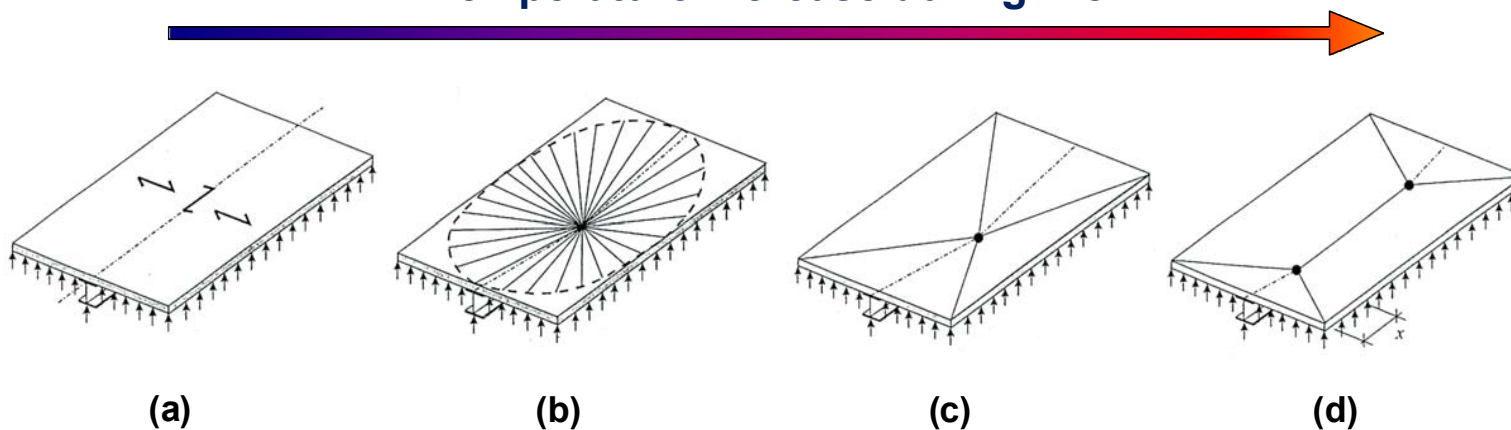
- Real behaviour of composite floor with reinforcing steel mesh in concrete slab

Mechanical behaviour of composite floors

Simple design method at 20°C

Simple design method at elevated temperatures

Temperature increase during fire



Simple bending

Membrane effect behaviour



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C



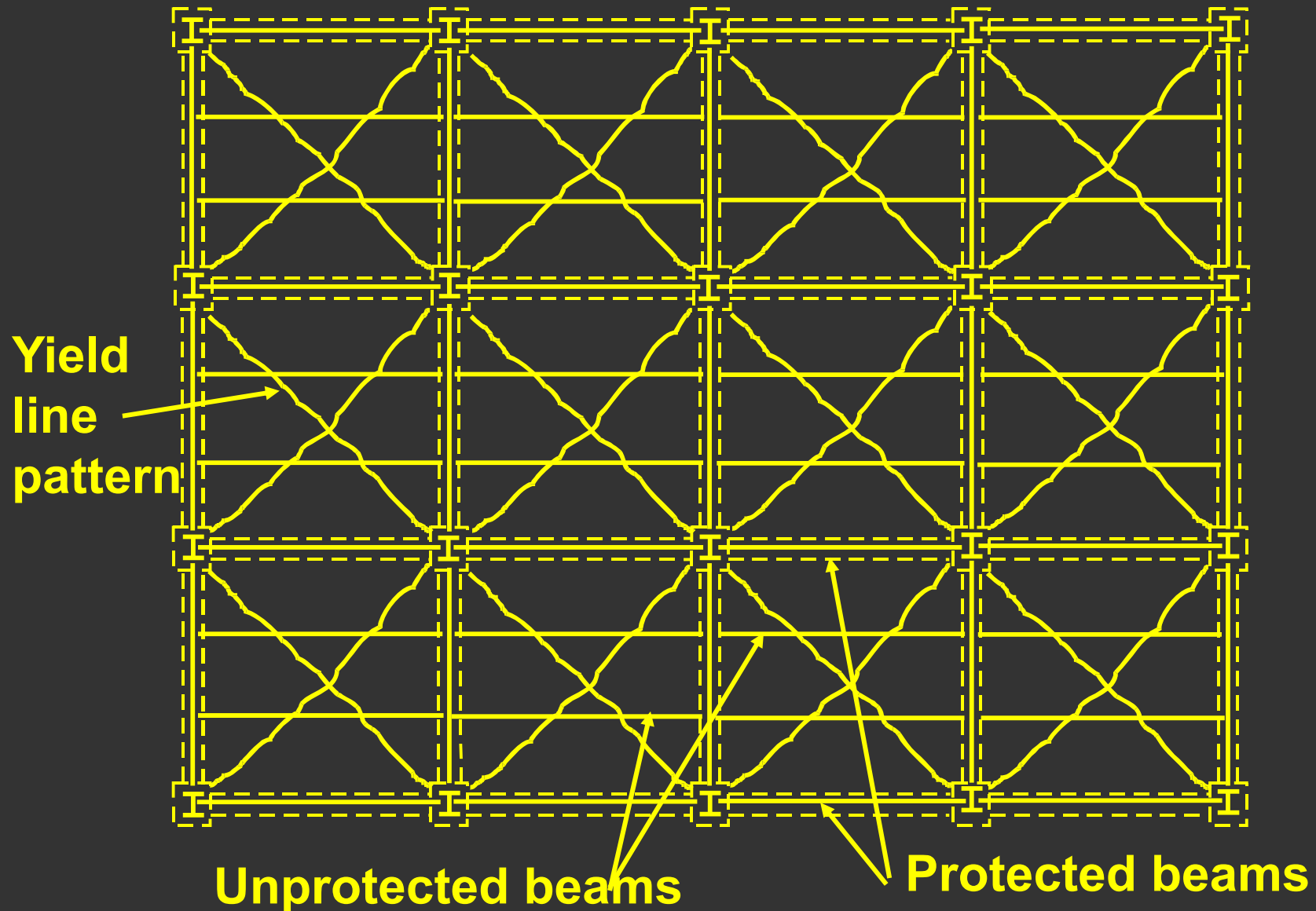
Mechanical
behaviour of
composite floors

**Simple design
method at 20°C**

Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures

- **Method developed by Professor Colin Bailey
University of Manchester
formerly with Building Research Establishment (BRE)**

Designing for membrane action in fire





Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C

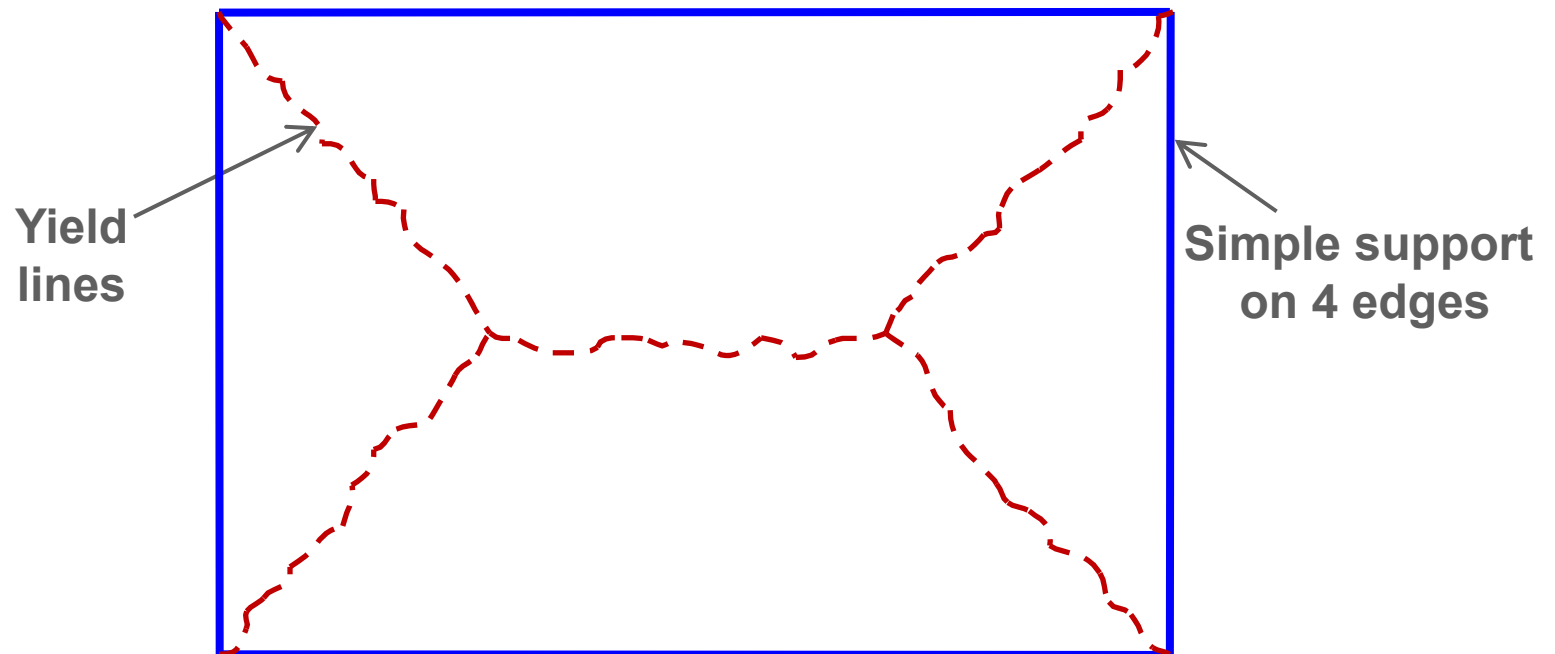


- **Floor slab model with 4 vertically restrained sides** (Plastic yield lines) – horizontally unrestrained – very conservative assumption

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**Simple design
method at 20°C**

Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures





Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C

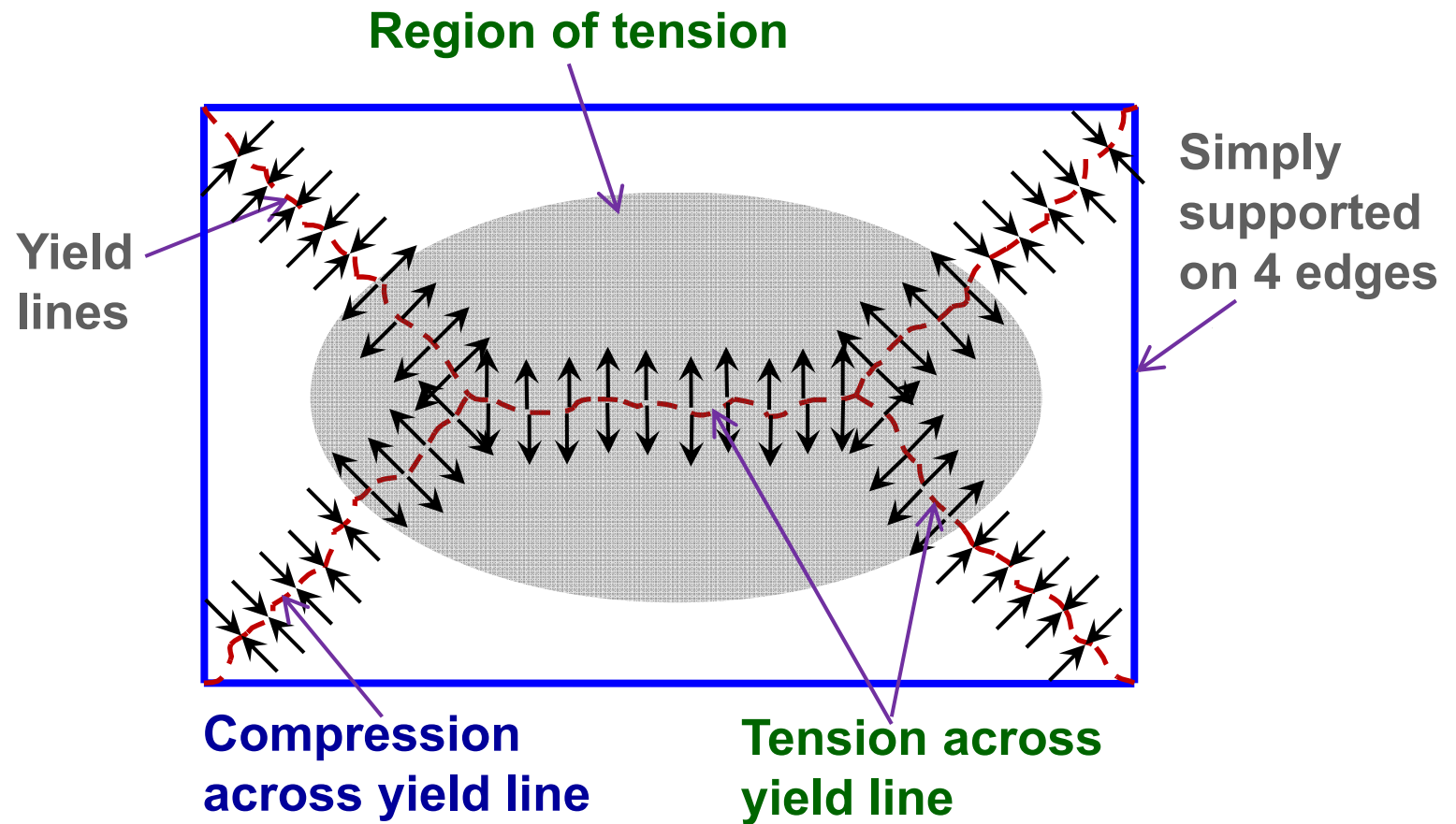


- Floor slab model
 - Membrane effect enhancing yield lines resistance

Mechanical behaviour of composite floors

Simple design method at 20°C

Simple design method at elevated temperatures

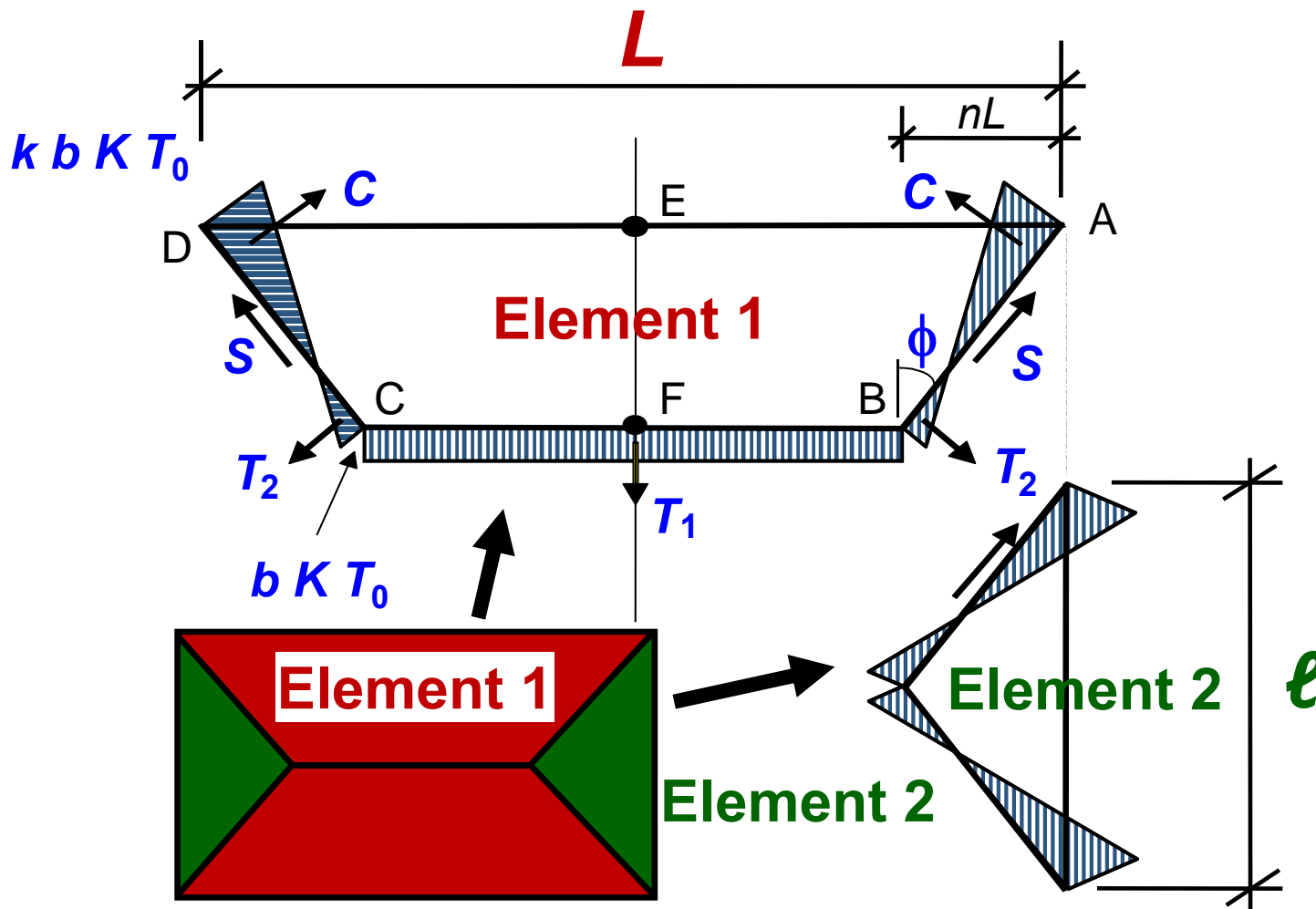




Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C



- Membrane forces along yield lines (1)



Mechanical behaviour of composite floors

Simple design method at 20°C

Simple design method at elevated temperatures



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C



- **Membrane forces along yield lines (2)**

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k, b are parameters defining magnitude of membrane forces,

n is a factor deduced from yield line theory,

K is the ratio of the reinforcement in the shorter span to the reinforcement in the longer span,

KT_0 is the resistance of the steel reinforcing mesh per unit width,

T_1, T_2, C, S are resulting membrane forces along yield lines.



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C

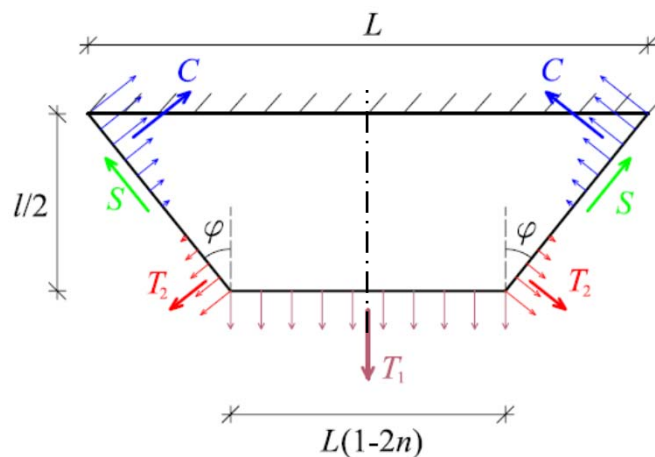


- **Contribution of membrane action (1)**
 - **Element 1**

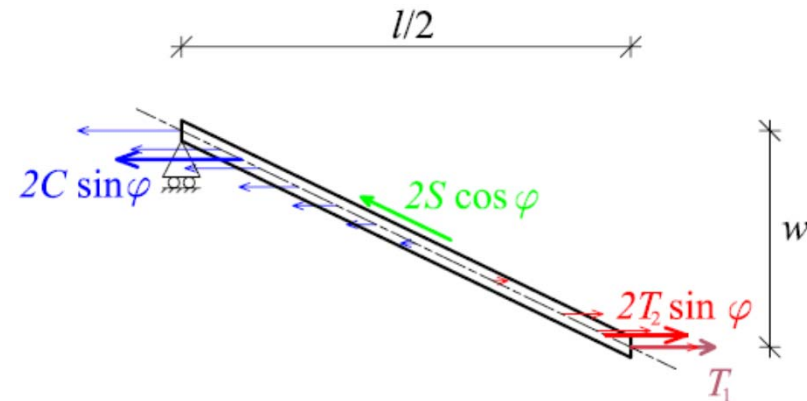
Mechanical behaviour of composite floors

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In-plane view of the resulting membrane forces



Side-view of the resulting membrane forces under a deflection equal to w



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C

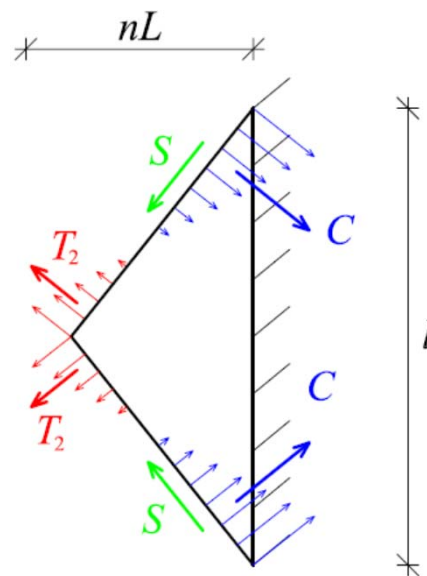


- **Contribution of membrane action (2)**
 - **Element 2**

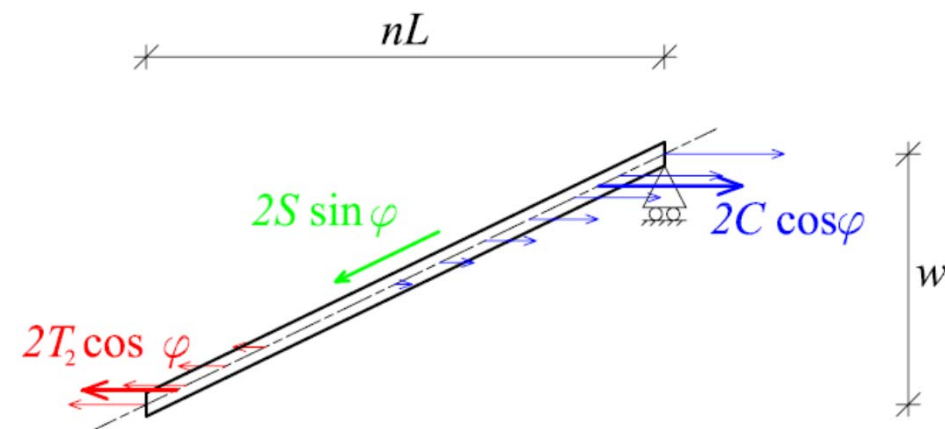
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In-plane view of the resulting membrane forces



Side-view of the resulting membrane forces under a deflection equal to w



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C



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Simple design
method at 20°C

Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures

- **Contribution of membrane action (3)**

- **Enhancement factor for each element**

$$e_{i, i=1,2} = \begin{cases} e_{im} : \text{enhancement due to membrane forces on} \\ \text{element } i & + \\ e_{ib} : \text{Enhancement due to the effect of in-plane} \\ \text{forces on the bending capacity.} \end{cases}$$

- **Overall enhancement**

$$e = e_1 - \frac{e_1 - e_2}{1 + 2\mu a^2}$$

where:

μ is the coefficient of orthotropy of the reinforcement

a is the aspect ratio of the slab = L/l



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C

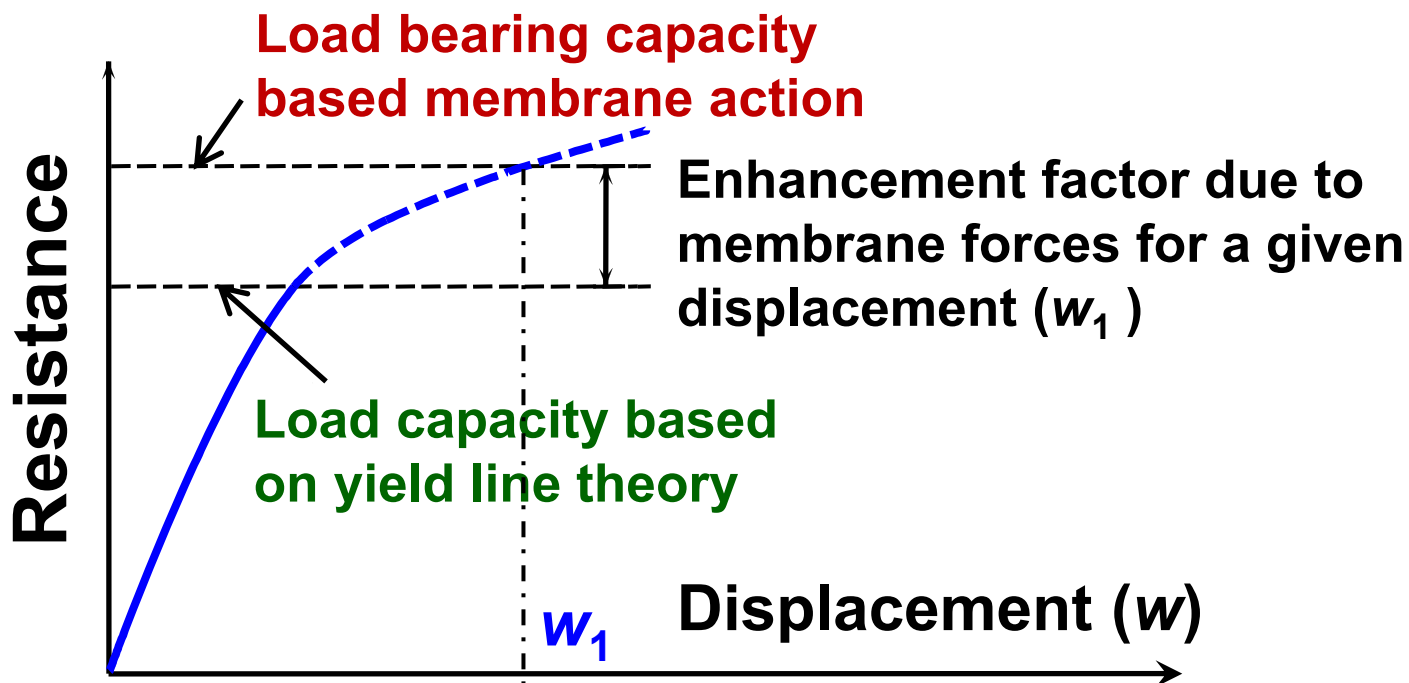


- Contribution of membrane action (4)

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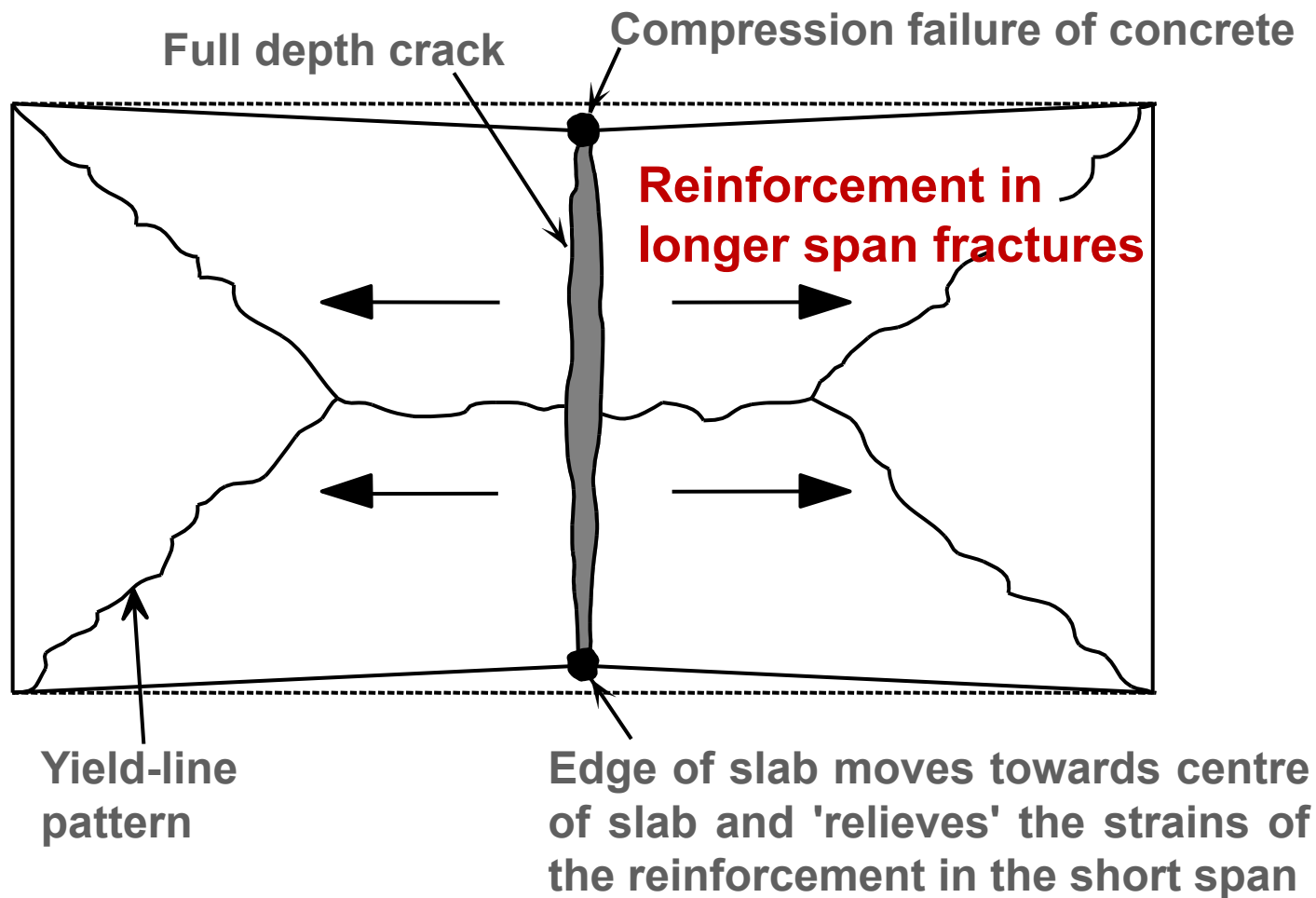




Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C



- **Failure modes** (tensile failure of reinforcement)



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Simple design method at 20°C

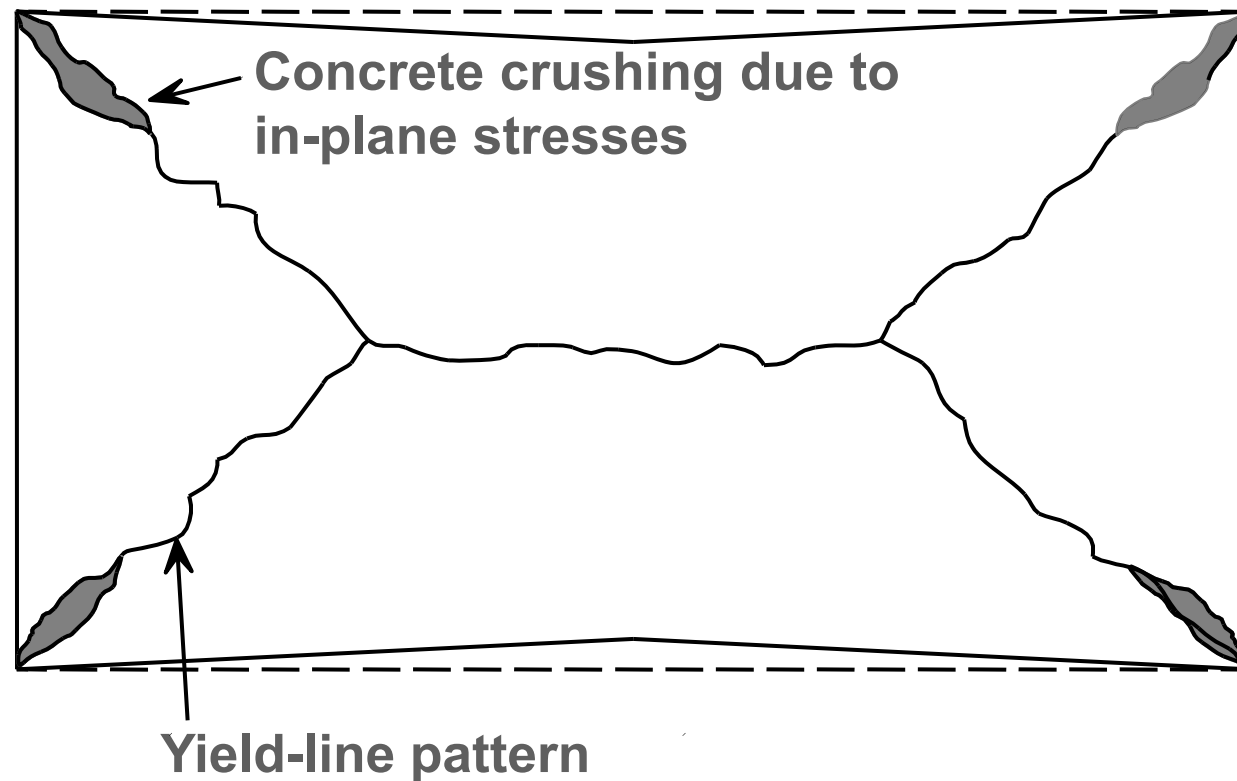
Simple design method at elevated temperatures



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C



- **Failure modes** (compressive failure of concrete)
 - More likely to occur in case of strong reinforcement mesh



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Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures



Simple design method of reinforced concrete slabs at 20 °C



- **Failure modes** (experimental evidence)

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Simple design method at 20°C

Simple design method at elevated temperatures



Tensile failure of reinforcement



Compressive failure of concrete



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



- **Floor slab model at elevated temperatures (1)**
 - On the basis of the same model at room temperature
 - **Account taken of temperature effects on material properties.**

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method at 20°C

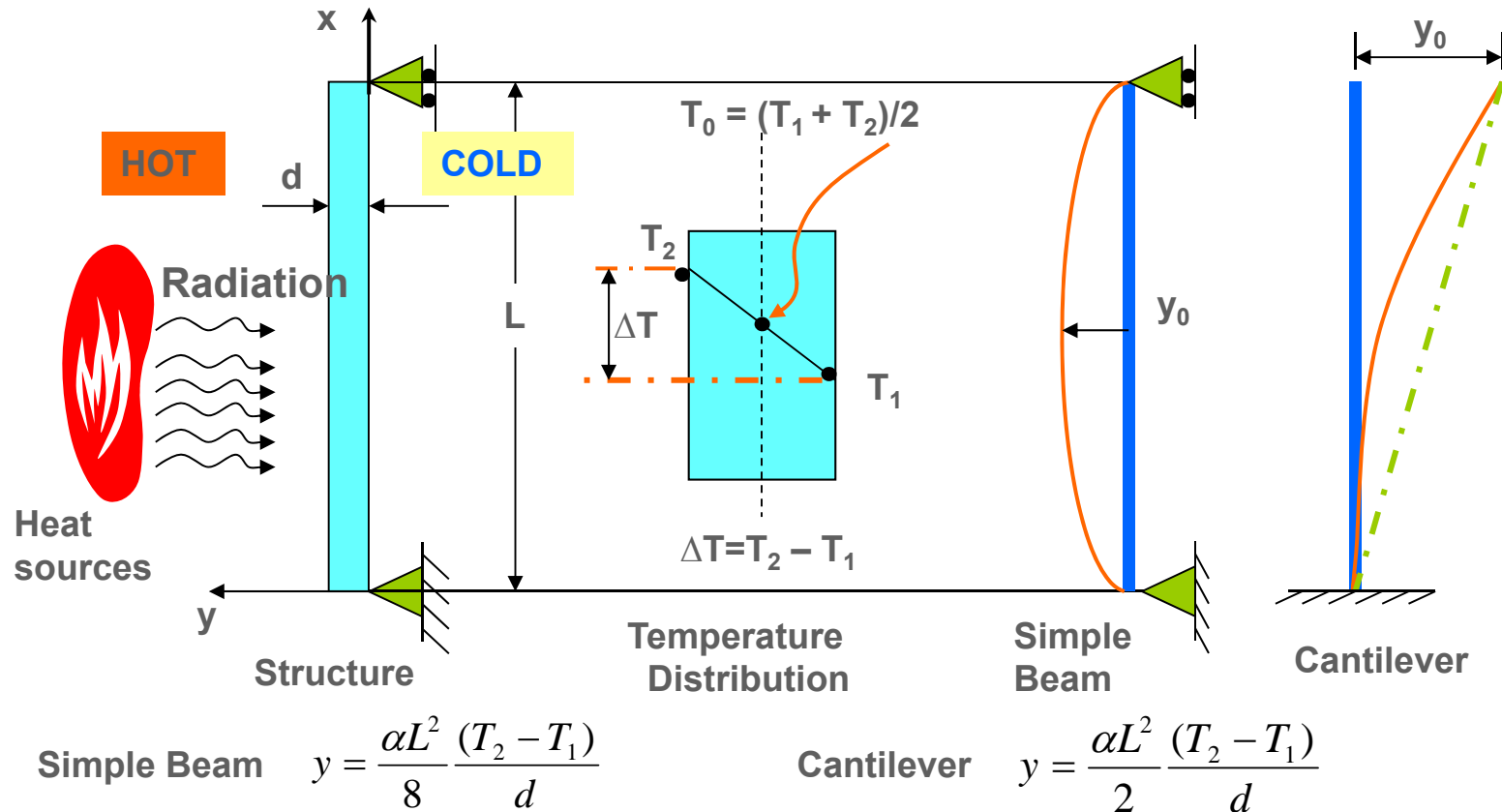
**Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures**



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



Free Bowing of a concrete slab



Bowing is caused by Temperature Difference

$$\Delta T = T_2 - T_1$$

Or Gradient

$$\Delta T/d$$



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



- **Floor slab model at elevated temperatures (2)**

- Account for thermal bowing of the slab due to temperature gradient in depth which equals to:

$$w_{\theta} = \frac{\alpha (T_2 - T_1) \ell^2}{19.2 h}$$

where:

h is the effective depth of the slab

ℓ is the shorter span of the slab

α is the coefficient of thermal expansion for concrete

For LW concrete, EN 1994-1-2 value is taken

$$\alpha_{LWC} = 0.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{K}^{-1}$$

For NW concrete, a conservative value is taken

$$\alpha_{NWC} = 1.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{K}^{-1} < 1.8 \times 10^{-5} \text{ }^{\circ}\text{K}^{-1} \text{ (EN 1994-1-2 value)}$$

T₂ is the temperature of the slab bottom side (fire-exposed side)

T₁ is the temperature of the slab top side (unexposed side)

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**Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures**



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



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method at 20°C

Simple design
method at
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temperatures

- **Floor slab model at elevated temperatures (3)**

- Assuming mechanical average strain at a stress equal to half the yield stress at room temperature
- Deflection of slab on the basis of a parabolic deflected shape of the slab due to transverse loading:

$$w_{\varepsilon} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{0.5f_{sy}}{E_s}\right) \frac{3L^2}{8}} \leq \frac{l}{30}$$

where:

E_s is the elastic modulus of the reinforcement at 20°C

f_{sy} is the yield strength of the reinforcement at 20°C

L is the longer span of the slab



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



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Simple design
method at
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- **Floor slab model at elevated temperatures (4)**

- Hence, the maximum deflection of the floor slab is:

$$w = \frac{\alpha(T_2 - T_1)\ell^2}{19.2h} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{0.5f_{sy}}{E_s}\right) \frac{3L^2}{8}}$$

- However, the maximum deflection of the floor slab is limited to:

$$w < \frac{\alpha(T_2 - T_1)l^2}{19.2h} + l/30$$

$$w \leq \frac{L + \ell}{30}$$



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



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**Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures**

- **Conservativeness of the floor slab model at elevated temperatures**
 - Reinforcement over supports is assumed to fracture.
 - The estimated vertical displacements due to thermal curvature are underestimated compared to theoretical values
 - The thermal curvature is calculated based on the shorter span of the slab
 - Any additional vertical displacements induced by the restrained thermal expansion when the slab is in a post buckled state are ignored
 - Any contribution from the steel decking is ignored
 - The increase of the mesh ductility with the temperature increase is ignored



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



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**Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures**

- **Load bearing capacity of the floor slab model enhanced in presence of unprotected steel beams (1)**
 - **Catenary action of unprotected beams is neglected**
 - **The bending moment resistance of unprotected beams is taken into account with following assumptions:**
 - Simple support at both ends
 - Heating of the steel cross-section calculated according to EN1994-1-2 4.3.4.2, considering shadow effect
 - Thermal and mechanical properties for both steel and concrete given in EN 1994-1-2



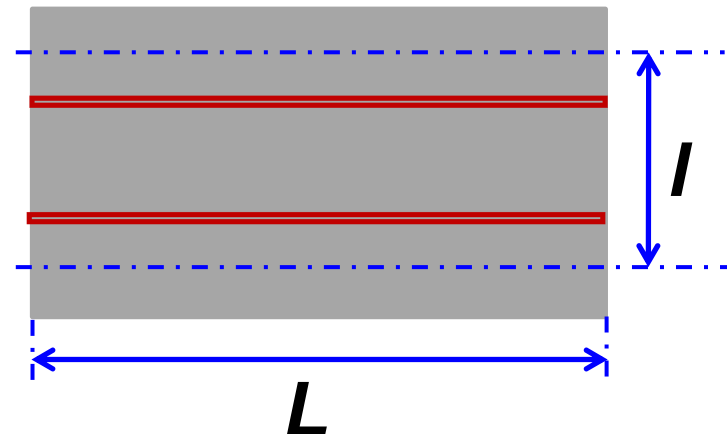
Simple design method at elevated temperatures



- **Load bearing capacity of the floor slab model enhanced in presence of unprotected steel beams (2)**

– Enhancement of load bearing capacity from unprotected beams is:

$$\frac{8M_{Rd,fi}}{L^2} \frac{1 + n_{ub}}{\ell}$$



where:

n_{ub} is the number of unprotected beams

$M_{Rd,fi}$ is the moment resistance of each unprotected composite beam

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Simple design method at 20°C

Simple design method at elevated temperatures



Simple design method at elevated temperatures



- **Temperature calculation of composite slab**

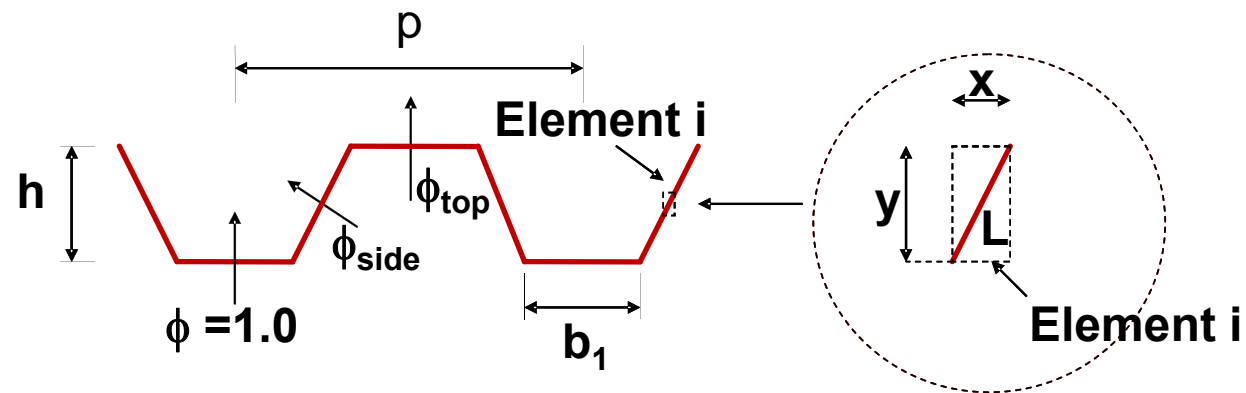
- **On the basis of advanced calculation models**

- 2D finite difference method
- Material thermal properties from Eurocode 4 part 1-2 for both steel and concrete
- Shadow effect is taken into account for composite slabs

Mechanical behaviour of composite floors

Simple design method at 20°C

Simple design method at elevated temperatures





Simple design method at elevated temperatures



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Simple design
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**Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures**

- **Load bearing capacity of protected perimeter beams**
 - Overall floor plastic mechanism based on beam resistance
 - Load ratio in fire situation
 - Additional load on protected beams
 - Critical temperature simple calculation method (EN 1994-1-2)



Simple design method at elevated temperatures

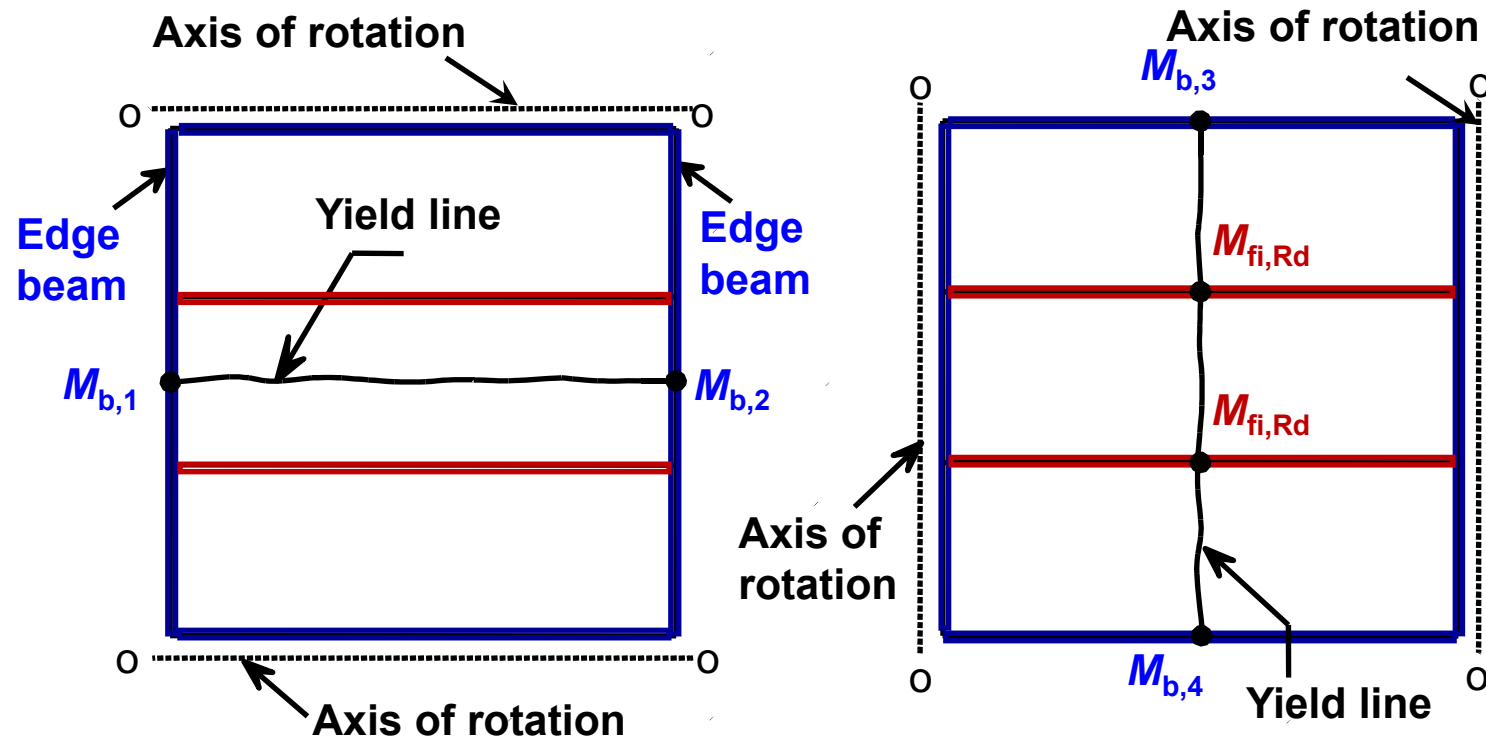


- Load bearing capacity of protected perimeter beams on the basis of global plastic mechanism

Mechanical behaviour of composite floors

Simple design method at 20°C

Simple design method at elevated temperatures





7 Full-scale Cardington Tests

1 large-scale BRE test (cold but simulated for fire)

10 Cold tests carried out in the 1960/1970s

15 small –scale tests conducted by Sheffield University in 2004

44 small-scale cold and fire tests carried out by the University of Manchester

FRACOF and COSSFIRE ISO Fire tests

Full-scale test carried out by Ulster University 2010.

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Simple design
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**Simple design
method at
elevated
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Small – Scale Experimental Behaviour and Design of Concrete Floor Slabs



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method at
elevated
temperatures**



**22 Cold Tests and 22
Identical Hot tests (Both MS
and SS mesh reinforcement)**





Results obtained applying the methodology



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Simple design
method at 20°C



Simple design
method at
elevated
temperatures

*40 to 55% of beams
can be left
unprotected by
placing protection
where it is needed.*





Available documents



Mechanical
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Simple design
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**Simple design
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elevated
temperatures**

