

PLASTIC LIMIT ANALYSIS



THIS LECTURE

Repetition: Plastic limit theorems

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

- assumptions about the material
- The Static Theorem („Safe Theorem”)
- The Kinematic Theorem („Unsafe Theorem”)

Examples when the Safe Theorem fails

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Example when the Unsafe Theorem fails

Practical engineering codes

- Archie-M
- LimitState:Ring

Questions

Repetition: Plastic limit theorems

The structure and the loads:

perfectly rigid – perfectly plastic material;

single-parameter load

statically admissible force system: (with λ_S)

→ satisfies the equilibrium conditions, and

→ does not violate the constitutive constraints

[i.e. the stresses do not exceed the plastic limit]

The static / „lower bound” / „safe” / theorem:

If a statically admissible force system can be found,
then the structure with the given geometry is safe under the given loads.

Remarks:

- If such a force system is found, this is not necessarily „the” force system that acts
- the collapse load multiplier is larger or equal than the λ_S load multiplier that was found to be statically admissible

Repetition: Plastic limit theorems

The structure and the loads:

perfectly rigid – perfectly plastic material;
single-parameter load

kinematically admissible virtual displacement system: SMALL

- displ and deformations are compatible, and
- do not violate the constraints given by the supports

The kinematic / „upper bound” / „unsafe” / theorem:

If a kinematically admissible virtual displacement system can be found for which the external forces (with λ_K) make larger or equal work than done by the internal forces, then the structure with the given geometry will collapse under the considered load.

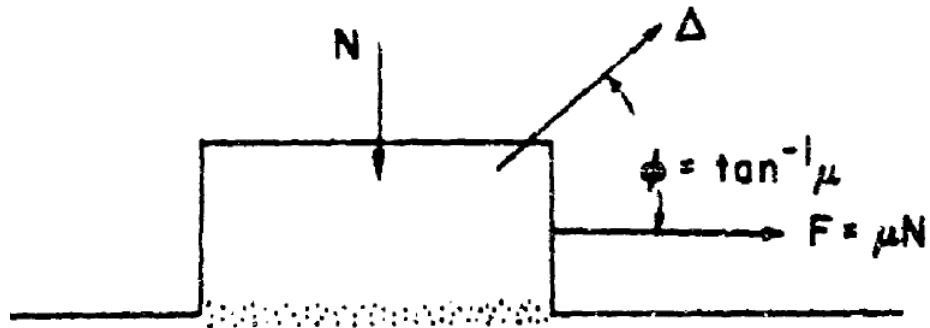
Remarks:

- if such a displ system is found, this is not necessarily „the” collapse mode
- the collapse load multiplier is smaller or equal than the λ_K load multiplier that was considered above

Repetition: Plastic limit theorems

Drucker (1954):

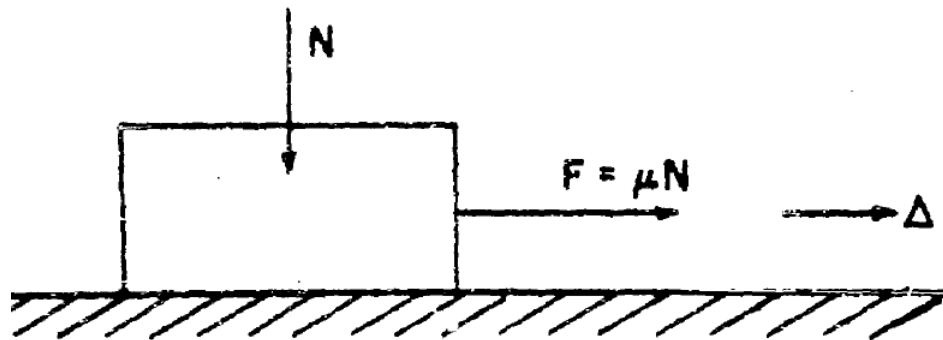
„associated flow rule”:



max of $\lambda_S = \min$ of $\lambda_K = \text{collapse load}$

„non-associated flow rule”:

e.g. Coulomb-friction
with no dilation:



duality gap occurs

; history dependence

stone block surfaces: friction angle $\approx 35 - 50^\circ$; dilation angle $\approx 0 - 10^\circ$

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Practical engineering codes

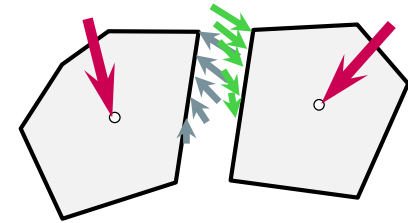
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Questions

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

The question to answer:

→ the structure is a system of *rigid blocks*
and *frictional contacts*;



Task Type 1: → given geometry, given loads (e.g. selfweight);
→ Can the structure equilibrate the given loads
with the given geometry?

Task Type 2: → given geometry;
→ load magnitude to cause collapse?

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

Inspiration: Koocharian (1952):

- the idea to apply limit state analysis for masonry
- analysis of a circular arch

Heyman (1966 and later on, Cambridge University):

"The first thing we were realizing about engineering is that it is impossible to obtain an exact solution to any problem in engineering." (Heyman, 2011)

assumptions about the material:

- stone blocks have infinite strength
- contacts have zero resistance to tension
- contacts do not slide: they have infinite resistance to friction
- [implicitly also assumed: stone blocks have infinite stiffness]

see these assumptions in detail:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DI-leSI68dM>

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

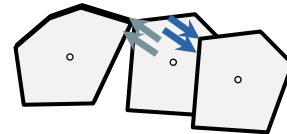
Assumptions about the material:

→ „stone blocks have infinite strength”

justification: max height of tower to carry its own weight:

granite: \approx above 6-8 km; weak stones: \approx hundreds of m; km

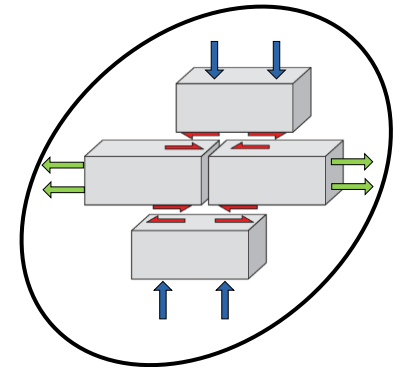
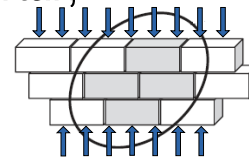
but: infinite strength is not possible



→ „contacts have zero resistance to tension”

justification: dry contacts or old weak mortar;

but: crosswise tensile resistance
due to friction

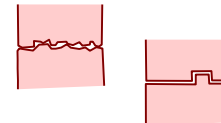


→ „contacts do not slide: they have infinite resistance to friction”

justification: friction angle often high ($35-50^\circ$);

blocks may be interlocked

but: sliding AND tangential rel. trans. BOTH should be excluded



→ [implicitly also assumed: stone blocks have infinite stiffness]

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

Inspiration: Koocharian (1952):

- the idea to apply limit state analysis for masonry
- analysis of a circular arch

Heyman (1966):

assumptions about the material:

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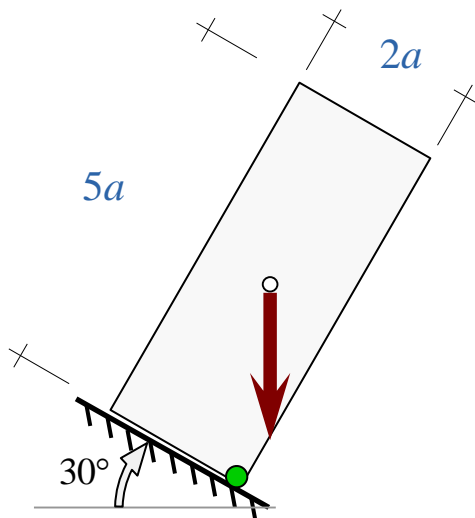
1. The static theorem [formulated without proof]:

If a force system can be found for the given set of external loads which satisfies the material criteria and equilibrates the given external loads, then the structure with the given geometry is safe under these loads.

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

Example: Is it safe?

Try to find equilibrating reactions!



[realize after a few unsuccessful tries:]

→ moment about lower right corner
cannot be balanced



COLLAPSES!

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

Inspiration: Kooharian (1952):

- the idea to apply limit state analysis for masonry
- analysis of a circular arch

Heyman (1966):

assumptions about the material:

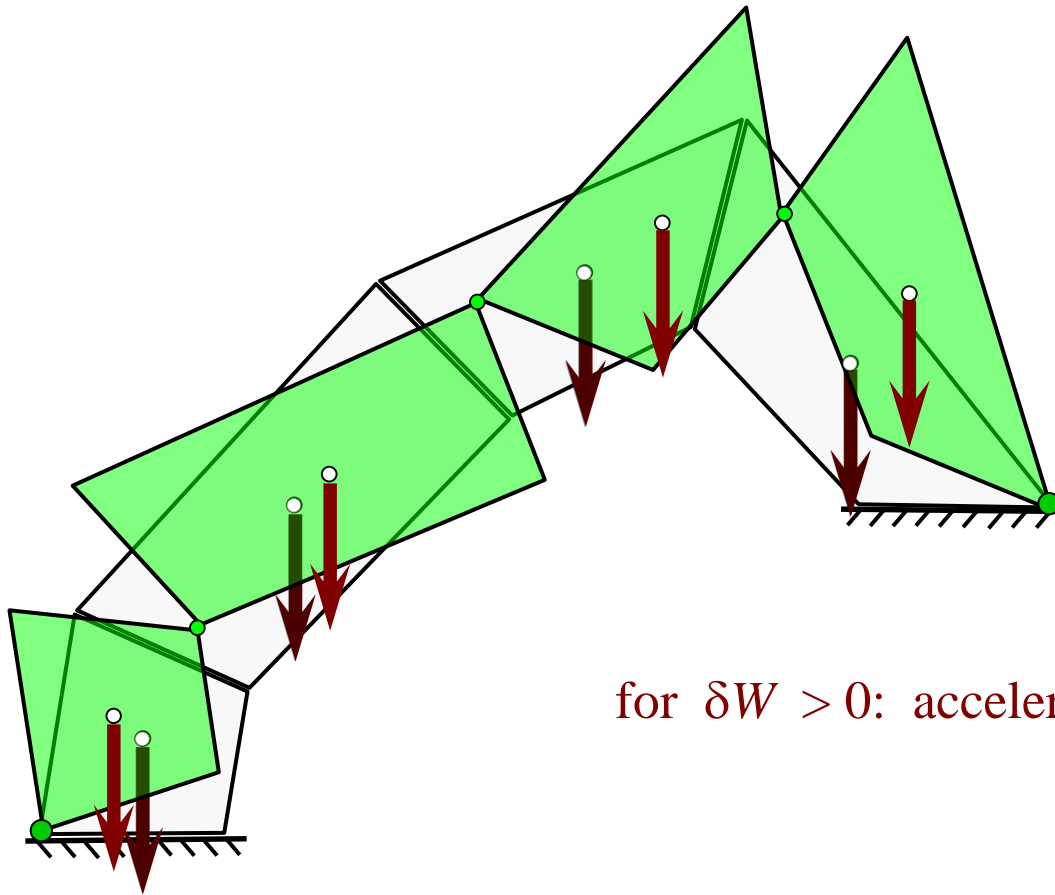
- stone blocks have infinite strength
- contacts have zero resistance to tension
- contacts do not slide: they have infinite resistance to friction
- [implicitly also assumed: stone blocks have infinite stiffness]

2. The kinematic theorem [formulated without proof]: **! internal work is zero !**

If a mechanism (a virtual displacement system) can be found for the given set of external loads which satisfies the material criteria and produces non-negative work with the given external loads, then the structure will collapse under these loads.

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

Meaning of the kinematic theorem:

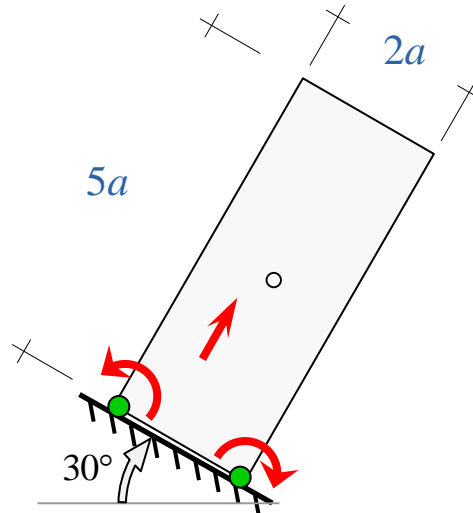
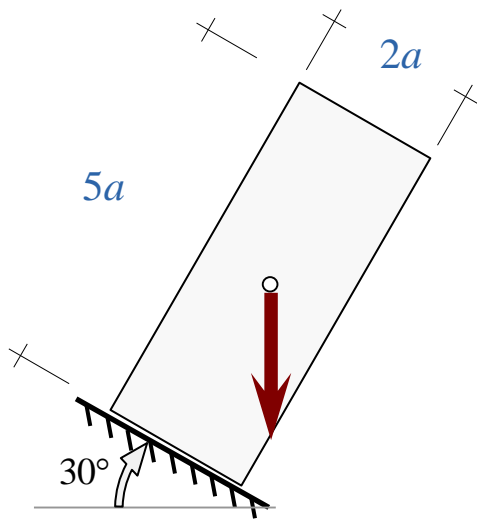


for $\delta W > 0$: accelerating collapse

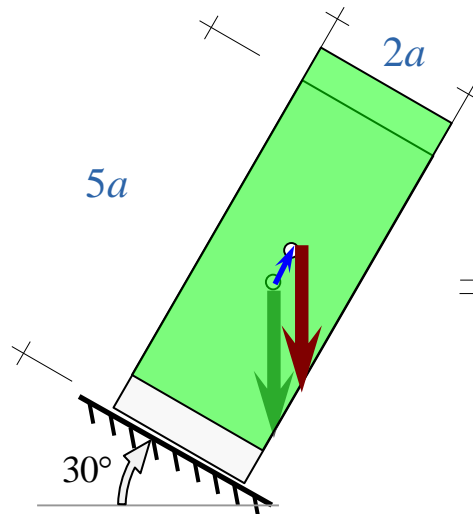
Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

Example: Is it safe?

Try possible displs!



← degrees of freedom:



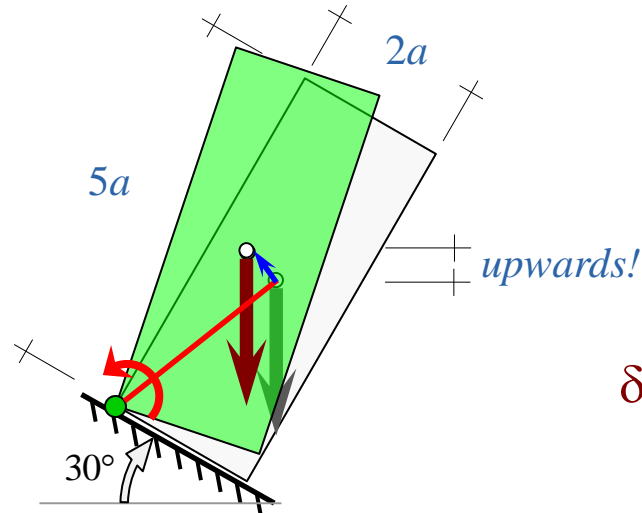
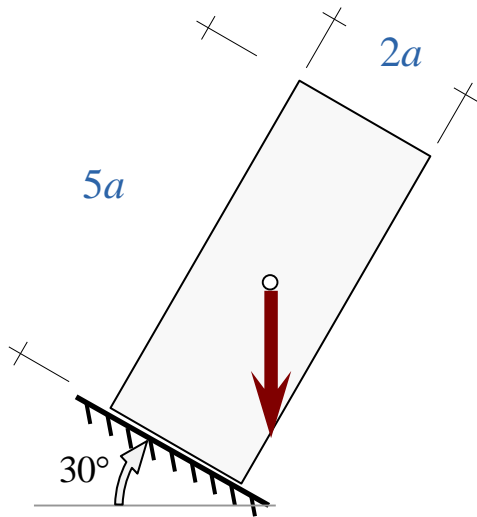
≠ upwards!

$\delta W < 0$: not decided yet

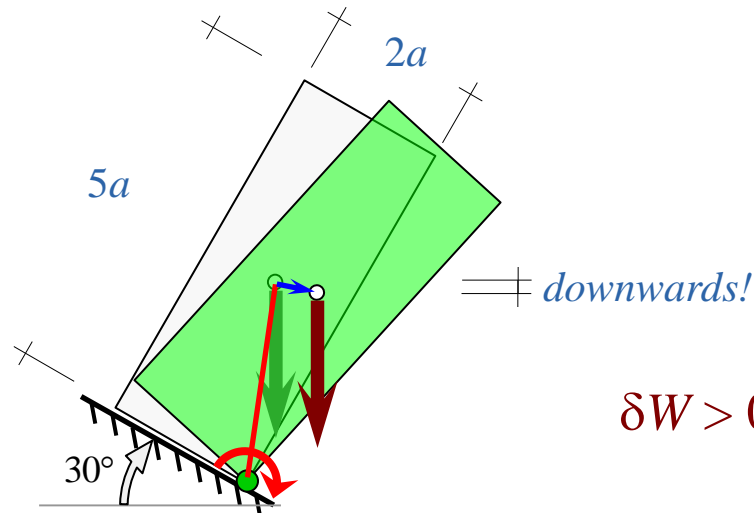
Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

Example: Is it safe?

Try possible displs!



$\delta W < 0$: still not decided



$\delta W > 0$: surely collapses

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Examples when the Safe Theorem fails

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

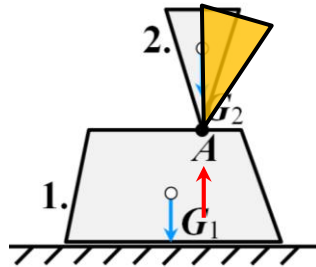
Example when the Unsafe Theorem fails

Practical engineering codes

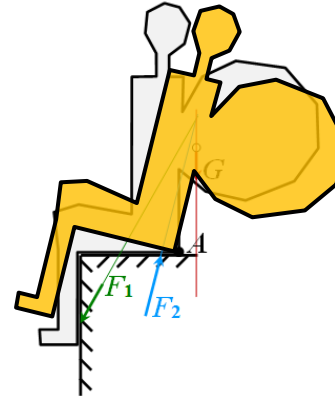
- Archie-M
- LimitState:Ring

Questions

Examples when the Safe Theorem Fails



Pyramid Upwards Down



Rimon's Backpack



„If there exists any system of forces satisfying the material conditions and being in equilibrium with the loads, then the structure is safe.“

???

The coming slides:

- theoretical analysis: why does the Safe Theorem fail?
- improved formulation of the Safe Theorem ⇒ conclusion: restricted validity!
- simulated experiments to illustrate the danger

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Examples when the Safe Theorem fails

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

← skipping the lengthy derivations:
slide 21-22; slide 30; ...

Example when the Unsafe Theorem fails

Practical engineering codes

- Archie-M
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Questions

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

The geometry and the material

→ blocks: b

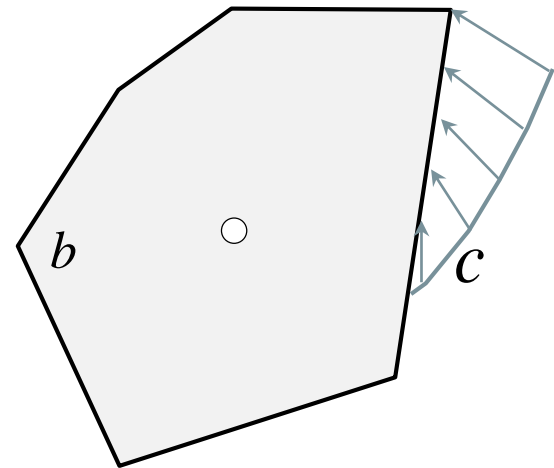
any polyhedral shapes

rigid with infinite strength

→ contacts: c

planar (may be multiple)

resist compression & Coulomb-friction



Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Force systems

→ External forces and moments [given loads]:

$(\mathbf{G}_b, \mathbf{M}_b)$ for every block b

→ Contact forces:

$(\mathbf{Q}_{bc}, \mathbf{T}_{bc})$ for every contact c of block b

distributed normal forces along the contact:

⇒ resultant: „contact point”

⇒ compressional force, $\mathbf{Q}_{bcN} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{bc} \leq 0$

distributed tangential forces along the contact:

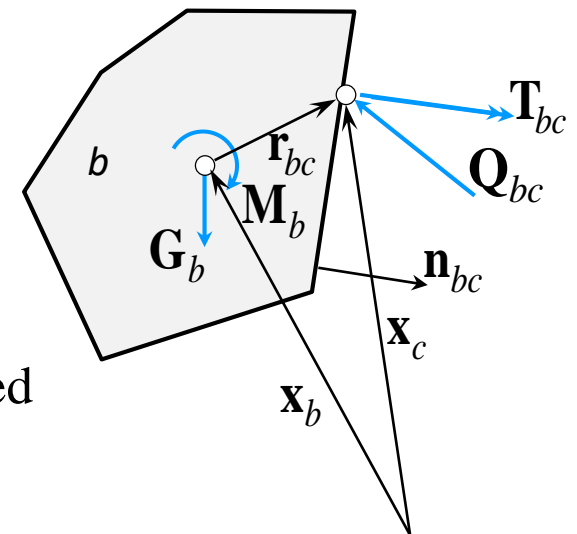
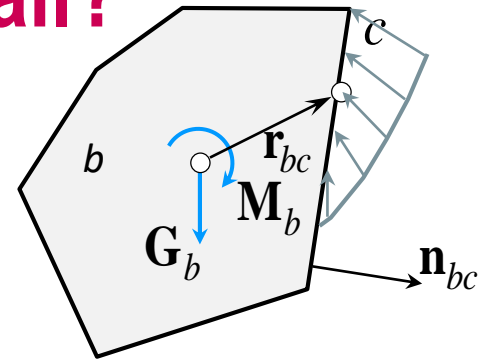
⇒ anywhere: friction limit cannot be exceeded

⇒ frictional force + torsional moment

Important:

location of the contact point:

characteristic of the actual contact force system !



Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Displacement systems

(1) Virtual displacement system:

virtual translation and rotation of block b :

$$\delta \mathbf{u}_b ; \delta \varphi_b$$

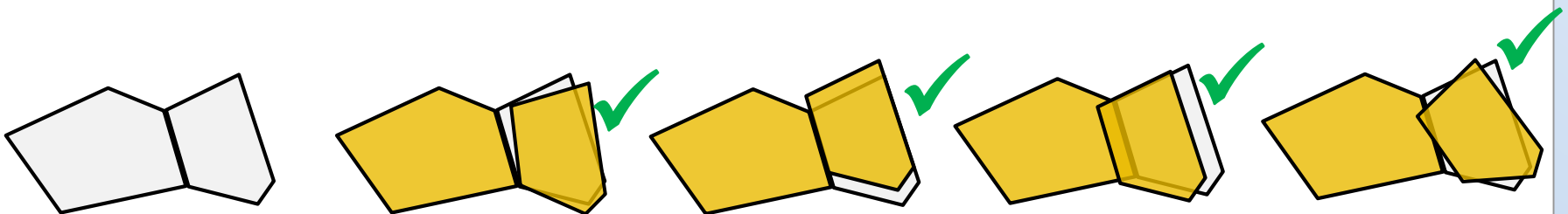
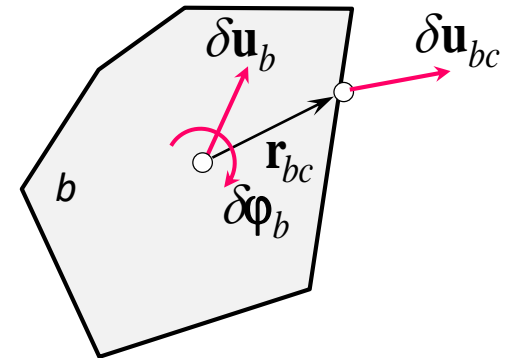
translation of the contact point c on block b :

$$\delta \mathbf{u}_{bc} = \delta \mathbf{u}_b + \delta \varphi_b \times \mathbf{r}_{bc}$$

contact deformation: relative translation and rotation at contact c :

$$\delta \mathbf{d}_c = \delta \mathbf{u}_{b_1c} - \delta \mathbf{u}_{b_2c} = \delta \mathbf{u}_{b_1} + \delta \varphi_{b_1} \times \mathbf{r}_{b_1c} - \delta \mathbf{u}_{b_2} + \delta \varphi_{b_2} \times \mathbf{r}_{b_2c}$$

$$\delta \theta_c = \delta \varphi_{b_1} - \delta \varphi_{b_2}$$



Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Displacement systems

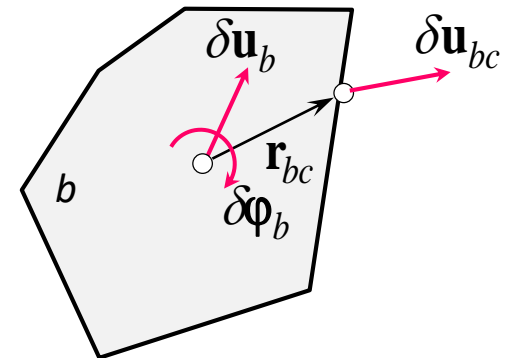
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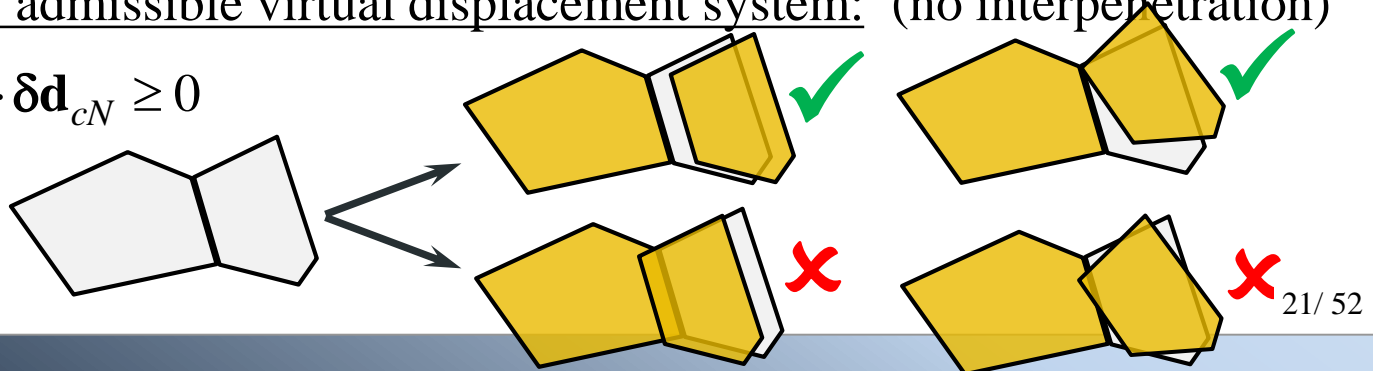
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$$\delta \theta_c = \delta \varphi_{b_1} - \delta \varphi_{b_2}$$

(2) Mechanically admissible virtual displacement system: (no interpenetration)

$$\mathbf{Q}_{cN} \cdot \delta \mathbf{d}_{cN} \geq 0$$



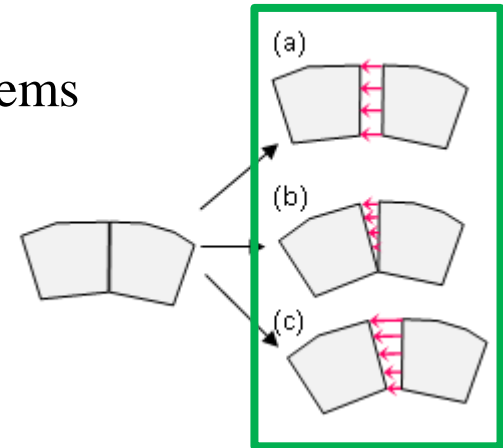
Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Displacement systems

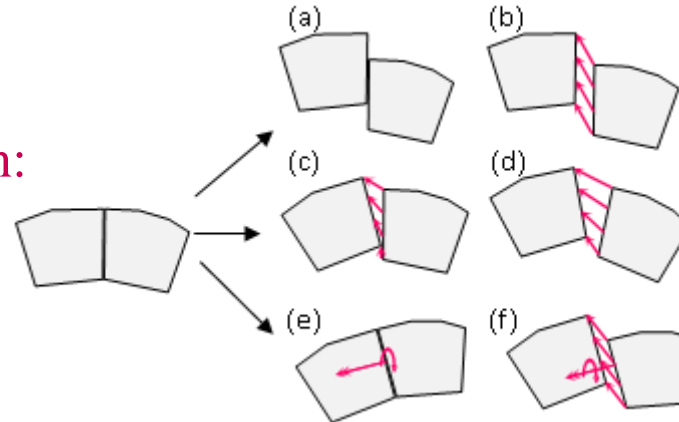
(2) Mechanically admissible virtual displacement systems

→ **Heymanian:**

no tangential relative translation occurs
at any point of any contact!



→ **Non-Heymanian:**



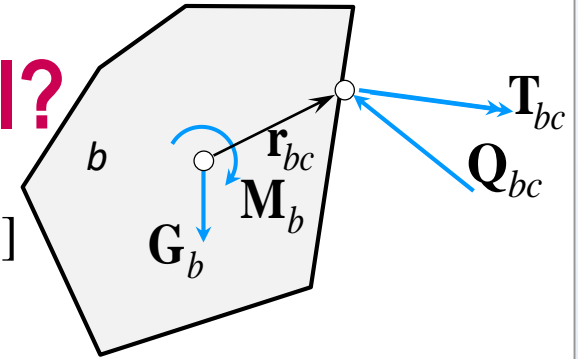
(3) Mechanically admissible small but finite displacement systems

Heymanian / non-Heymanian:

according to their first-order approximation

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Equilibrium of a force system: [loads & contact forces]



$$\text{for every block } b: \begin{cases} \mathbf{G}_b + \sum_{(bc)} \mathbf{Q}_{bc} = 0 \\ \mathbf{M}_b + \sum_{(bc)} (\mathbf{r}_{bc} \times \mathbf{Q}_{bc} + \mathbf{T}_{bc}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

for any arbitrary system of virtual displacements the following holds:

$$\sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{\varphi}_b) + \sum_{(c)} (\mathbf{Q}_c \cdot \delta \mathbf{d}_c + \mathbf{T}_c \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{\theta}_c) = 0$$

Note: for all mechanically admissible Heymanian virtual displacements:

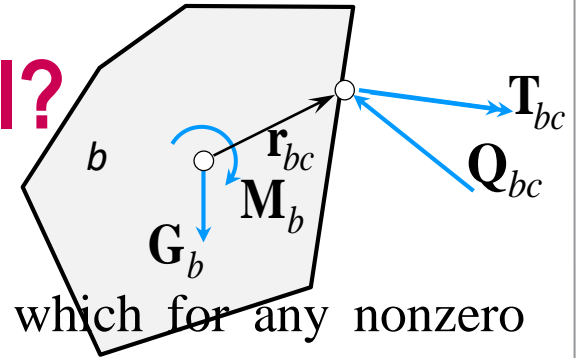
$$\sum_{(c)} (\mathbf{Q}_c \cdot \delta \mathbf{d}_c) \geq 0 ; \quad \sum_{(c)} (\mathbf{T}_c \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{\theta}_c) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{\varphi}_b) \leq 0$$

$W_{ext} = 0$ if
all contacts remain closed

$W_{ext} < 0$ if
any contact opens up

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?



Conclusions:

- (i) If an equilibrium force system can be found for which for any nonzero Heymanian virtual displacement system at least one contact point opens up, then the existence of the equilibrated force system ensures that the **external work is negative** on any arbitrarily chosen mechanically admissible Heymanian system.
- (ii) If there exists any mechanically admissible Heymanian virtual displacement system for which the structure moves with none of the contact points opening up, then the **external work** along this displacement system **is zero**.

Note: for all mechanically admissible Heymanian virtual displacements:

$$\sum_{(c)} (\mathbf{Q}_c \cdot \delta \mathbf{d}_c) \geq 0 ; \quad \sum_{(c)} (\mathbf{T}_c \cdot \delta \theta_c) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \delta \varphi_b) \leq 0$$

$W_{ext} = 0$ if
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Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Displacement systems

(3) Mechanically admissible small but finite displacement systems

Heymanian / non-Heymanian:

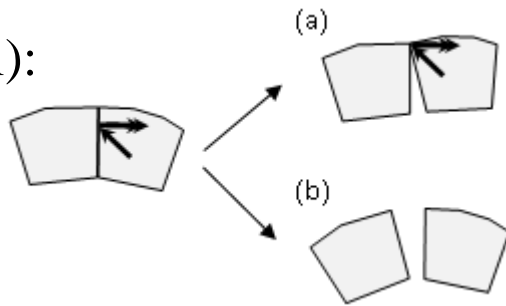
according to their first-order approximation

small: → no new contacts;

→ first-order approximation gives the same sign for work

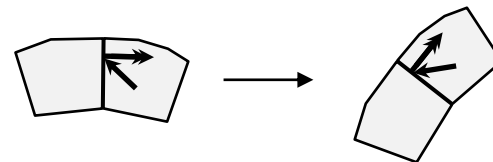
if Heymanian:

Case (i):



$$(i) \sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \Delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \Delta \boldsymbol{\varphi}_b) < 0$$

Case (ii):



$$(ii) \sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \delta \boldsymbol{\varphi}_b) = 0$$

$$\sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \Delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \Delta \boldsymbol{\varphi}_b) > ??? < 0$$

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Stability of the equilibrium:

Definition: The actual state of a masonry system is **stable** if there exists a continuous, finite-sized domain of mechanically admissible finite displacement systems $(\Delta u, \Delta \varphi)$ containing $(\Delta u = 0, \Delta \varphi = 0)$ as an interior point, for which the **total work** done by the actual external and internal forces along **any** $(\Delta u, \Delta \varphi)$ of the set is **negative**.

Definition: The actual state of a masonry system is **critical** if there exists any mechanically admissible virtual displacement systems $(\delta u, \delta \varphi)$ for which the **total virtual work** done by the actual external and internal forces along $(\delta u, \delta \varphi)$ of the set is **zero**.

[similarly to unstable / neutral equilibrium]

Stability analysis:

Assume that an equilibrated contact force system was found to the given loads!

⇒ conclusions???

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

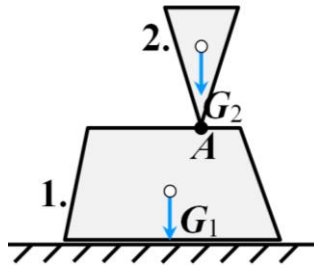
Stability analysis:

Assume that an equilibrated contact force system was found to the given loads!

⇒ conclusions???

Can we find a mechanically admissible Heymanian virtual displacement system in such a way that none of the contact points opens up?

If we can:



Case (ii) found for at least one infinitesimally small perturbation:

$$(ii) \quad \sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \delta \varphi_b) = 0$$

⇒ CRITICAL STATE!

If we cannot:

Case (i) found for every perturbation of the position in a small finite neighborhood of the analysed position:

$$(i) \quad \sum_{(b)} (\mathbf{G}_b \cdot \Delta \mathbf{u}_b + \mathbf{M}_b \cdot \Delta \varphi_b) < 0 \quad \Rightarrow \text{STABLE STATE against Heymanian displacements!}$$

Corrected Formulation of the Safe Theorem

Assumptions:

- (a) the masonry blocks are polyhedral
- (b) the masonry blocks are infinitely rigid and infinitely strong
- (c) the contacts transmit no tension

The Safe Theorem:

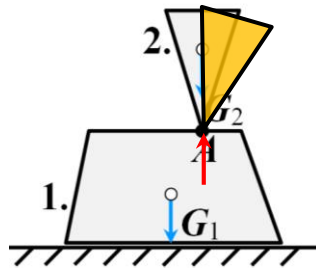
If there exists any system of forces satisfying (a-c) being in equilibrium with the loads, and

if there does not exist any mechanically admissible Heymanian virtual displacement system for which all contact points of this force system remain closed,

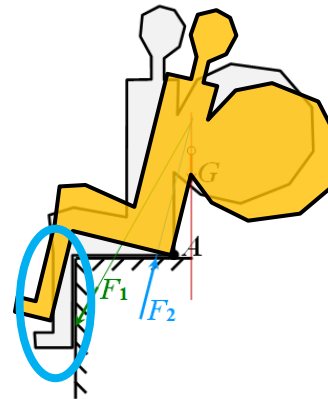
then the structure is safe against collapse along any Heymanian displacements.

Examples when the Safe Theorem Fails

Explanation:



Pyramid Upwards Down



Rimon's Backpack



Pyramid Upwards Down: *Safe Theorem is not valid for this !*

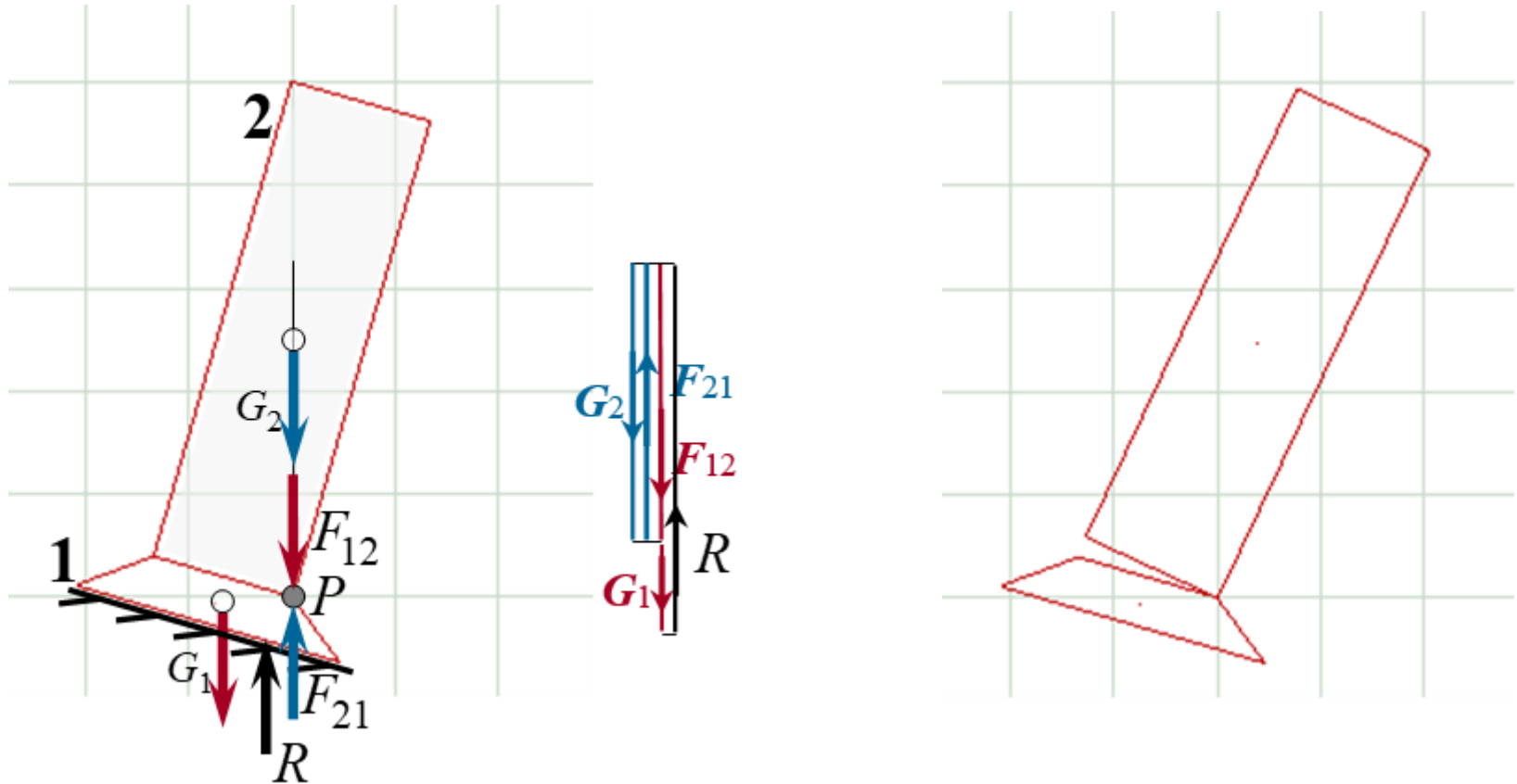
- a Heymanian virtual displacement system exists so that no contact opens up
- the equilibrium state is critical; higher-order analysis reveals: unstable

Rimon's Backpack: *Safe Theorem is only for Heymanian disps !*

- contact always opens up $\Rightarrow \oplus$ external work for any Heymanian systems
- Safe Theorem: no protection against collapse along non-Heymanian disps

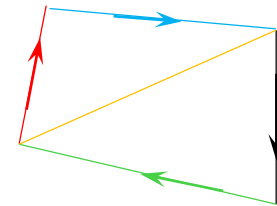
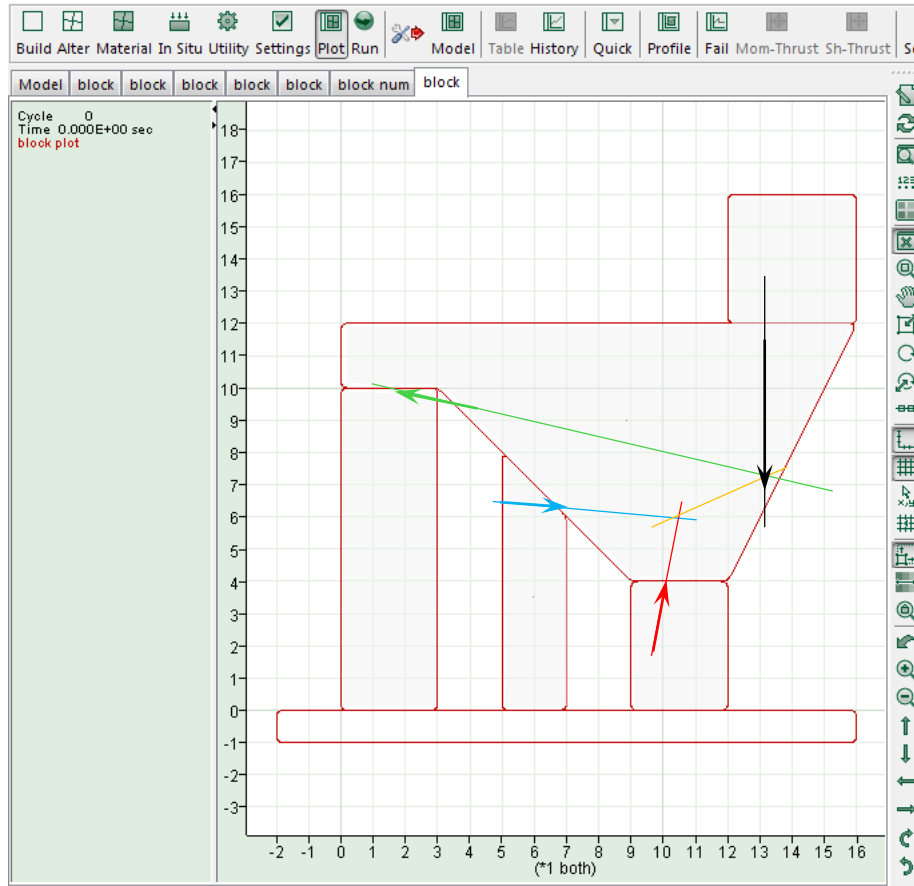
Examples

„Pisa Tower”:



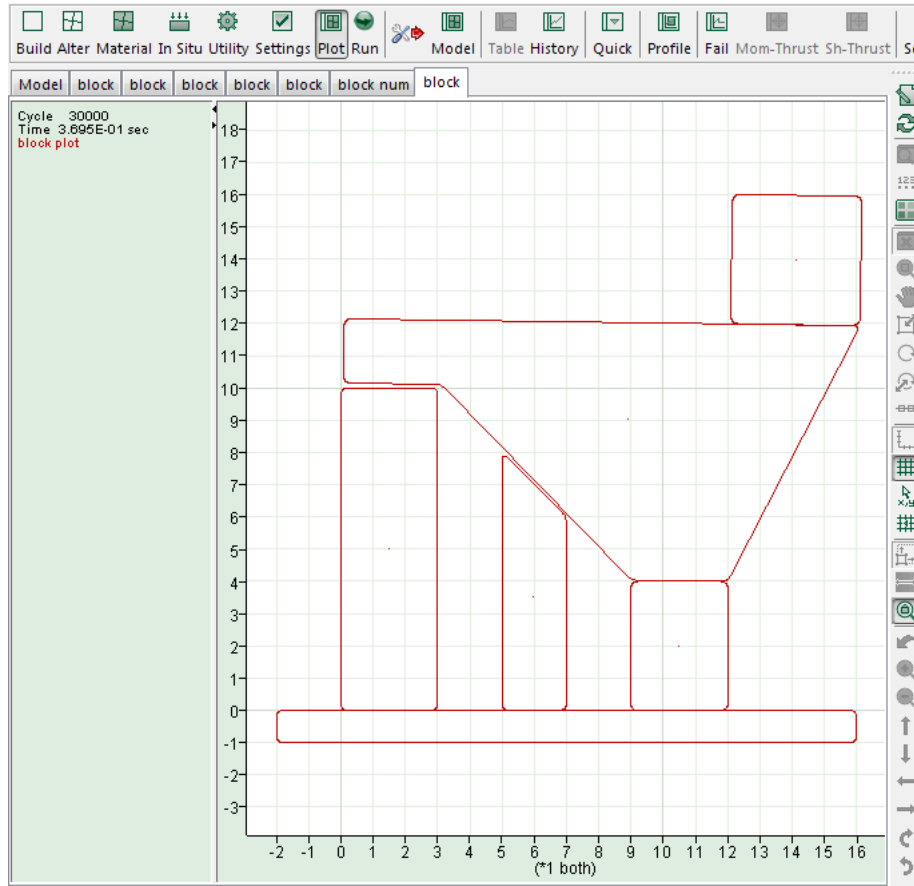
Examples

Three-Column Roof:



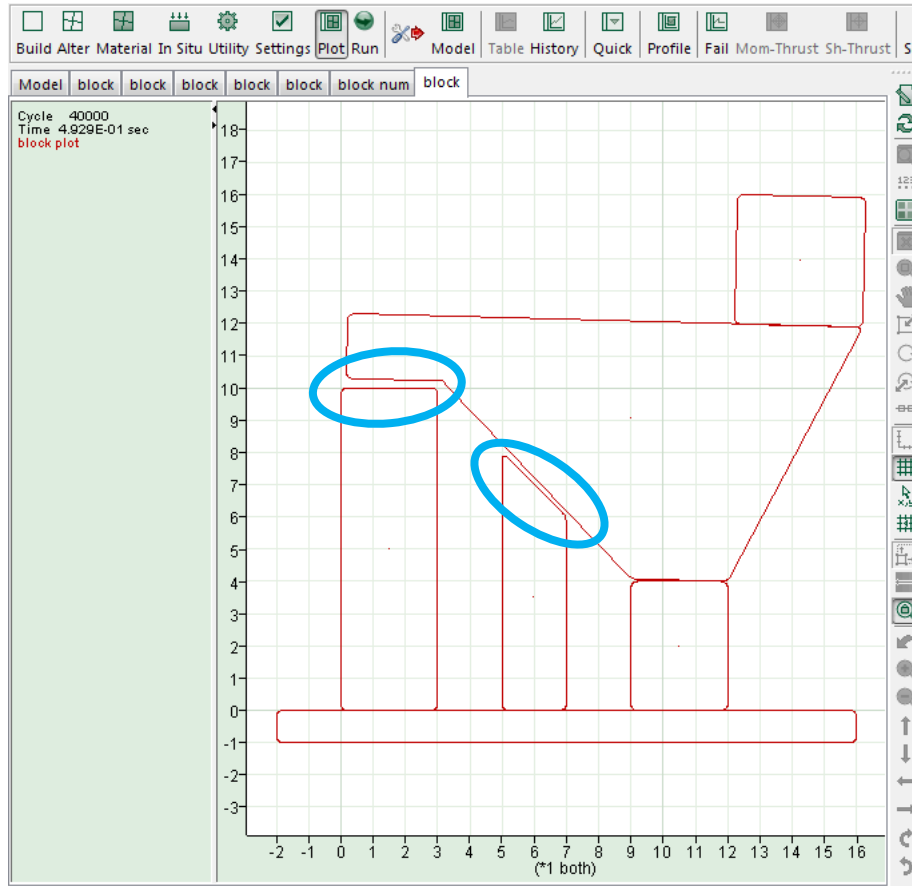
Examples

Three-Column Roof:



Examples

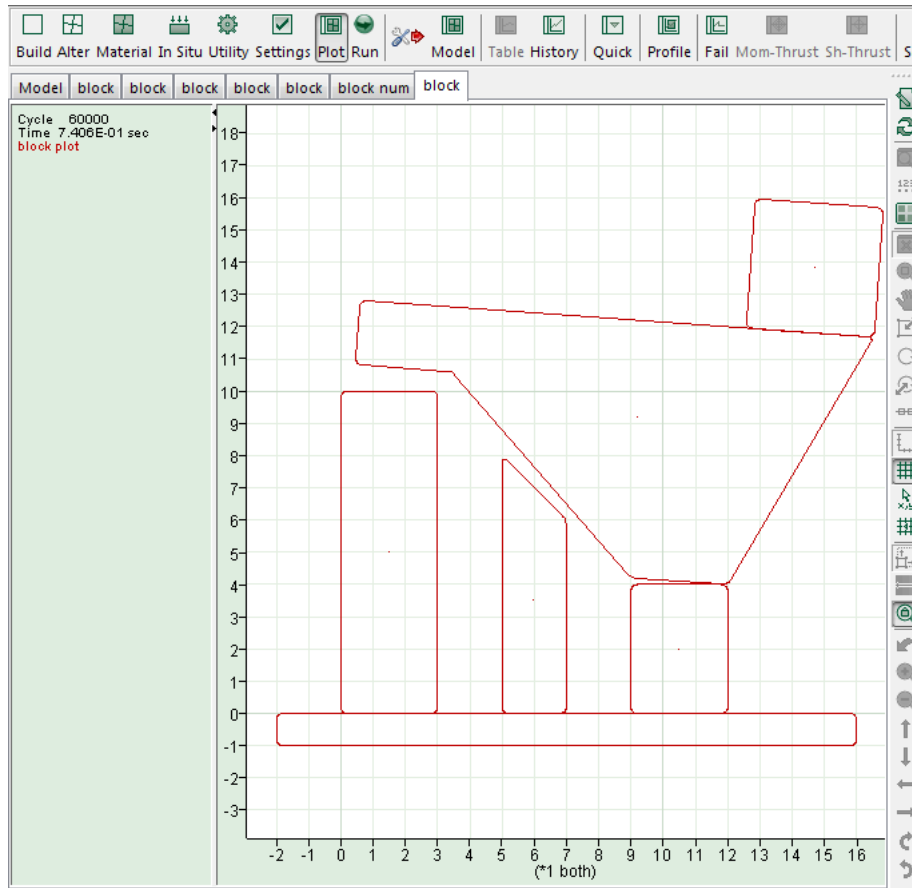
Three-Column Roof:



Non-Heymanian
displacement system!

Examples

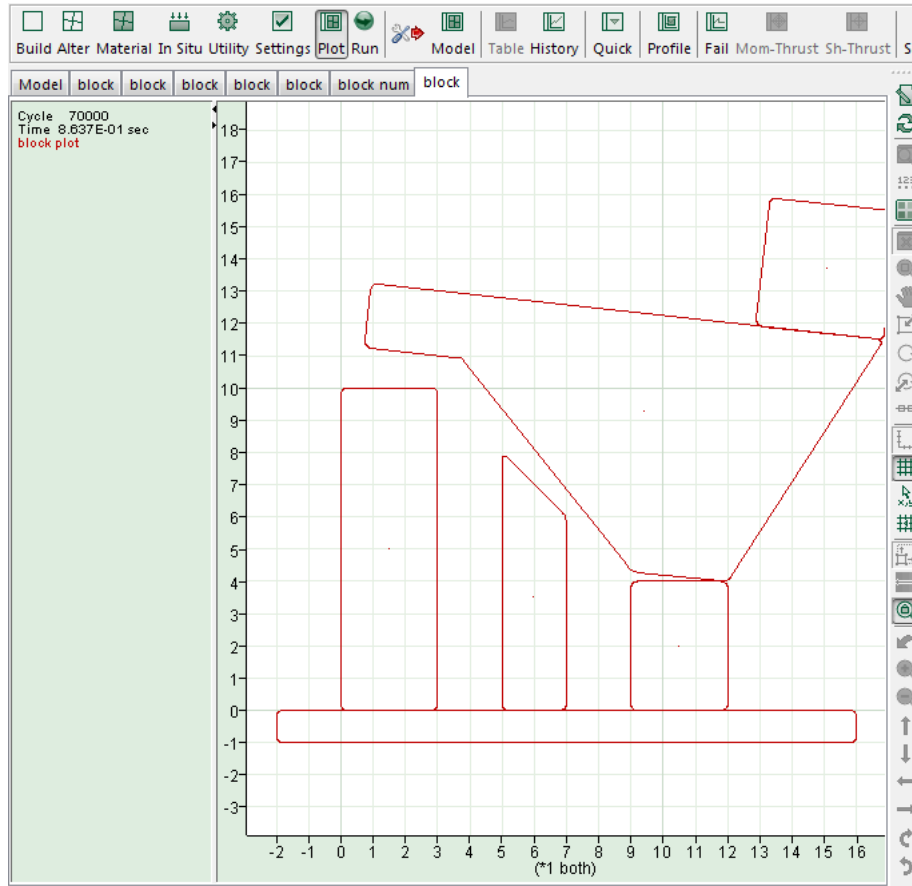
Three-Column Roof:



Non-Heymanian
displacement system!

Examples

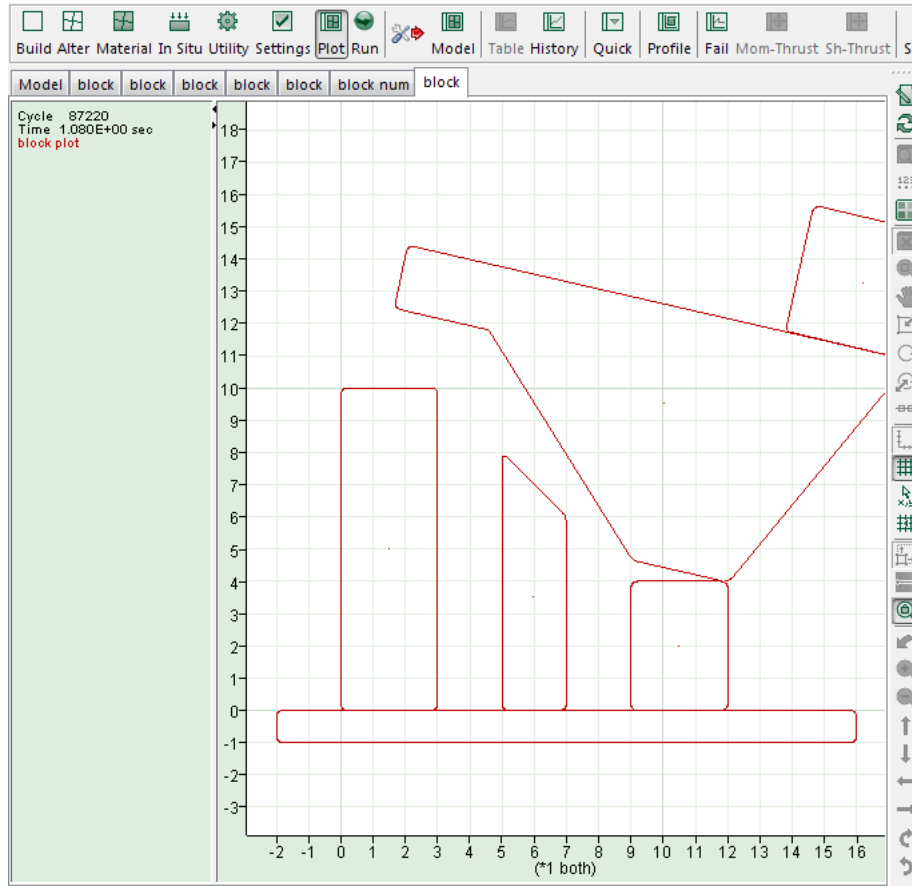
Three-Column Roof:



Non-Heymanian
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Examples

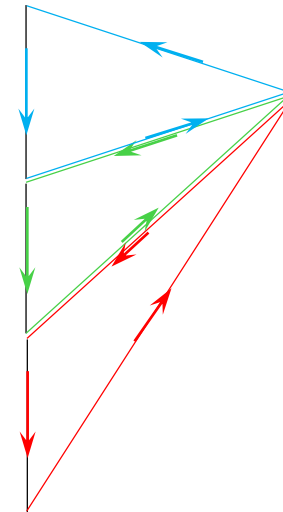
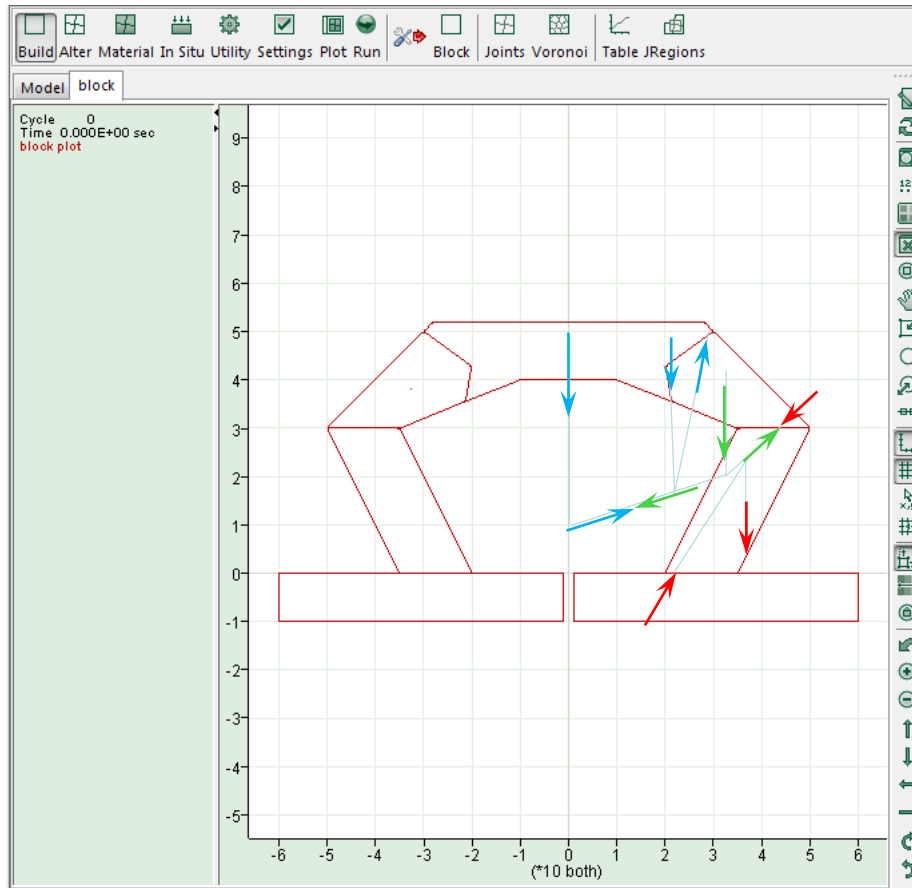
Three-Column Roof:



Non-Heymanian
displacement system!

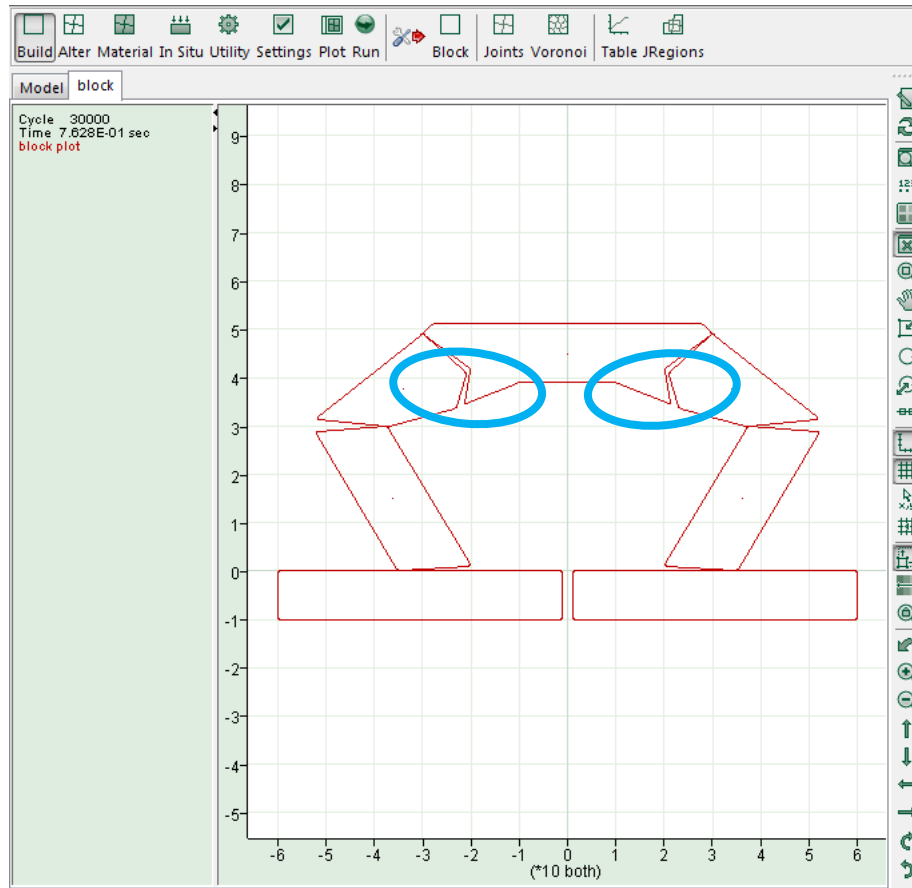
Examples

Buckling Arch:



Examples

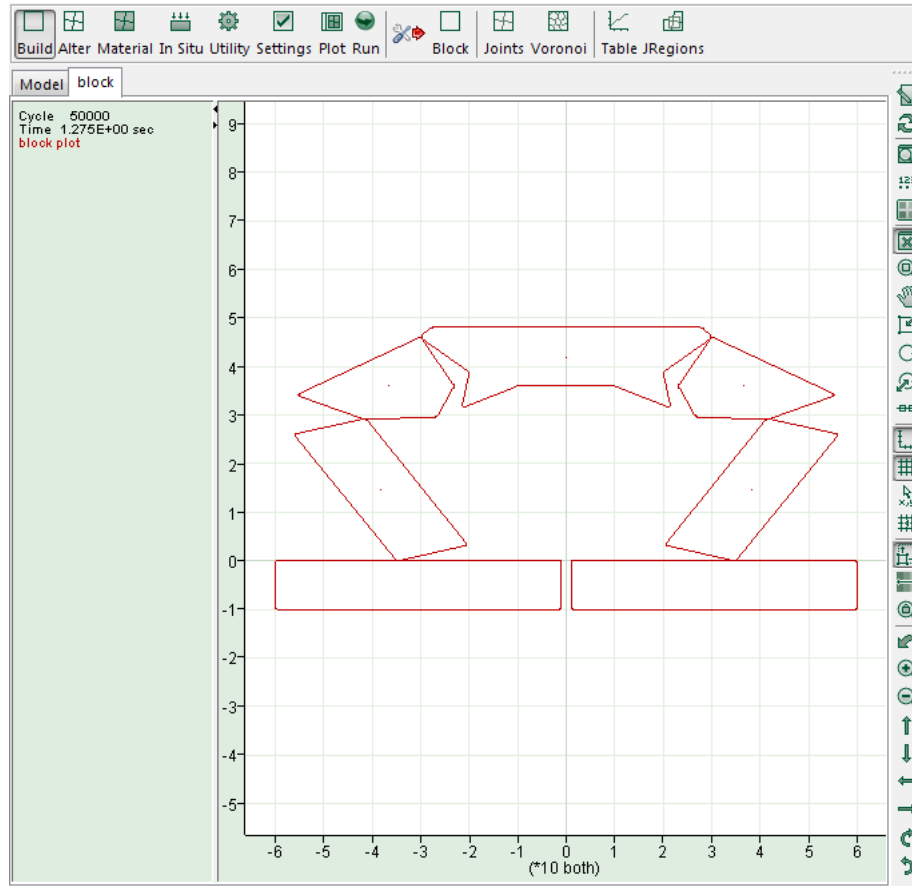
Buckling Arch:



Non-Heymanian
displacement system!

Examples

Buckling Arch:



Non-Heymanian
displacement system!

Conclusion:

the Safe Theorem does not give protection
against collapses along
non-Heymanian displacements!

THIS LECTURE

Repetition: Plastic limit theorems

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

- assumptions about the material
- The Static Theorem („Safe Theorem”)
- The Kinematic Theorem („Unsafe Theorem”)

Examples when the Safe Theorem fails

Why does the Safe Theorem fail?

Example when the Unsafe Theorem fails

Practical engineering codes

- Archie-M
- LimitState:Ring

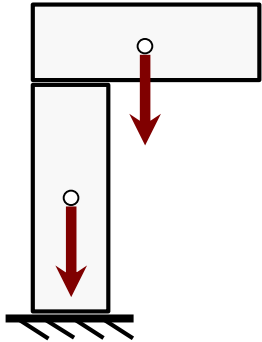
Questions

Conclusion:

the Unsafe Theorem is
unnecessarily too conservative if
non-Heymanian displacements are present!

Heyman's limit state theory for masonry

For home:

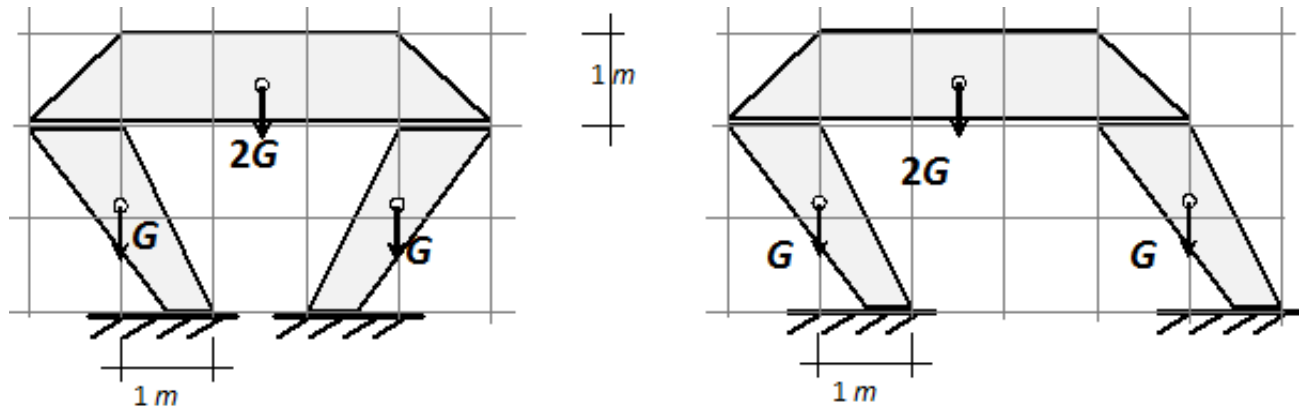


Try to apply both theorems:

Is the structure safe?

Under what geometrical conditions can the structure be safe?

For home:



Try to apply both theorems: are these structures safe?

Answer:

↑ safe

↑ collapses

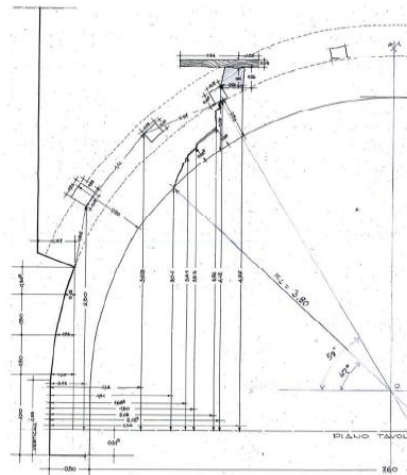
Shear failure of historic structures



<http://viafrancigenatoscana.it>

Beatini et al (under review):

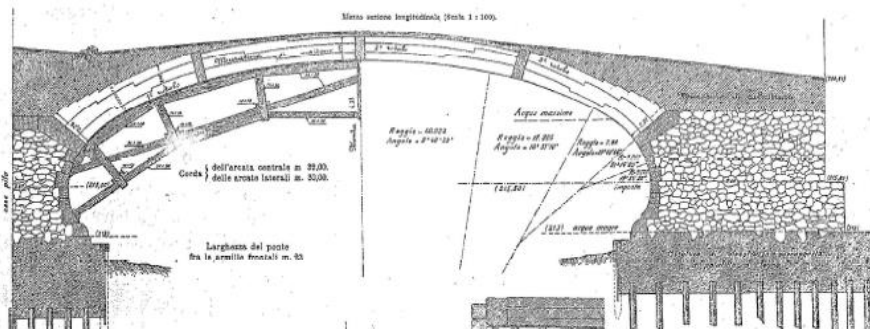
Cathedral of Pietrasanta, Italy:



<http://wikimapia.org/13139959/it/Duomo-di-San-Martino>

Umberto Bridge, Turin, Italy:

„multiring arch”



rings slide on each other;
protection against
shear failure

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Questions

Practical engineering codes

e.g. Archie-M: <http://www.obvis.com>

Bill Harvey, developed since 1981

based on the Static Theorem: frictional sliding excluded;

an equilibrium force system is searched for

~~thrust line~~ → thrust zone, according to the finite strength
skew bridges: formally, as if they were straight



Practical engineering codes

e.g. LimitState:Ring:

Gilbert & Melbourne (1994); Gilbert (2007)

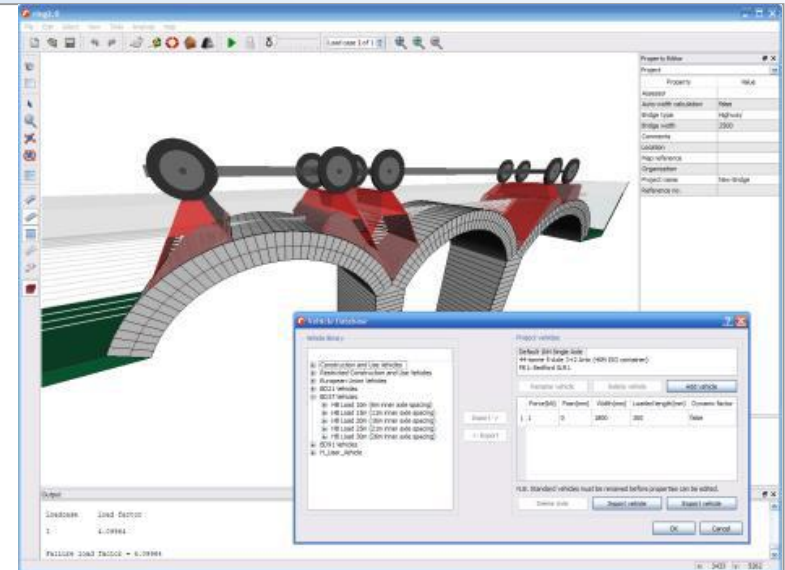
- associated contact friction model:
 - dilation equals to friction angle
- experiences for multiring arches:

„RING is usually on the safe side”

- block crushing taken into account: „thrust zone” instead of „thrust line”
- multispan bridges; multiring arches with frictional contacts between layers
- distributing effect of backfill taken into account
- experimental and industrial validations:

„RING is usually on the safe side”

<http://www.limitstate.com/ring/experimental-validation>



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Questions

QUESTIONS

1. In case of **general plasticity**, what does the static theorem state, and what does the kinematic theorem state? Under what condition will the largest λ_S surely **coincide** with the smallest λ_K ?
2. What are the **basic assumptions** in Heyman's theory for the **material behaviour**? Justify / criticize them.
3. What does **Heyman's static theorem** state? What does **Heyman's kinematic theorem** state? Illustrate their use on an example. Show examples when these theorems fail.
4. Introduce the fundamentals of the **LimitState:Ring** and **Archie-M** codes.