# Studies on Structural Monitoring and Identification

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# Contents

- Background: Condition assessment, Ultimate state and Performance maintenance of ancient timber structure
- Research: Studies on Structural System Identification and Optimal Sensor Placement Methods in Time Domain

# Contents



- \* Background: Condition assessment, Ultimate state and Performance maintenance of ancient timber structure
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### Ancient timber building is of great value

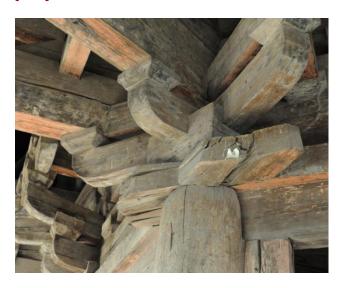




Ancient Timber building is an important part of Chinese architecture which has the largest proportion in ancient buildings. Many ancient Timber buildings are world-renowned national treasures which are of historical, religious and artistic values.

### Structural safety problem of ancient timber building









Most of the ancient buildings are suffering from different degrees of structural damages because of environmental effects, earthquake, material degradation, etc.

# Multiple loads acting on the structure



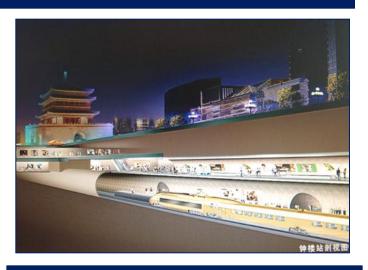
Wind, snow, gravity and other natural loads



Earthquakes and other incidental loads



**Crowd loads** 



**Traffic loads** 

### Basic principles of structural maintenance

◆ Protection first

- ◆ Service life extension
- Whether the structure needs maintenance or not
- When will the maintenance be carried out

Condition assessment

■ What are the ultimate states of the structure before and after maintenance is taken place

Ultimate states

- How to maintain the structure
- □ How to improve existing maintenance techniques

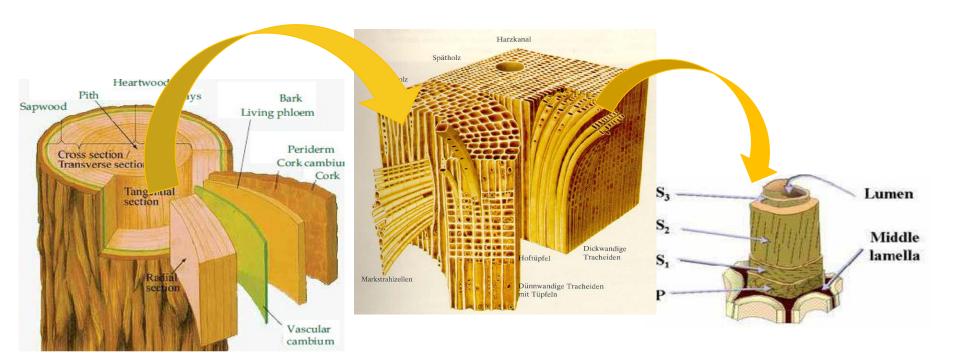
Performance maintenance

#### Research Contents

- 1. Mechanical properties of ancient timber structure
  2. Condition assessment of ancient timber structure
- 3. Ultimate states of ancient timber structure
  4. Performance maintenance of ancient timber structure

# Mechanical properties

◆ Timber is a kind of porous biological material.

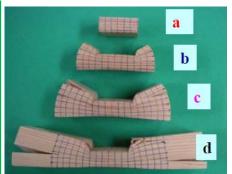


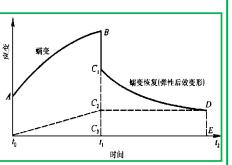
Viscoelastic Hygroscopic Orthotropic

# Mechanical properties

Characteristics of timber material







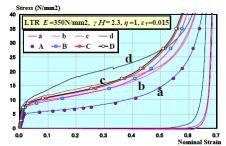


Fig.6 Stress-strain diagram of large strain embedment tests

Varying with time

Volume variation

♦ Characteristics of joints





Scaled-model

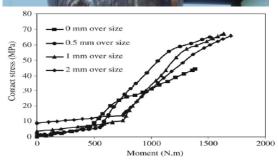




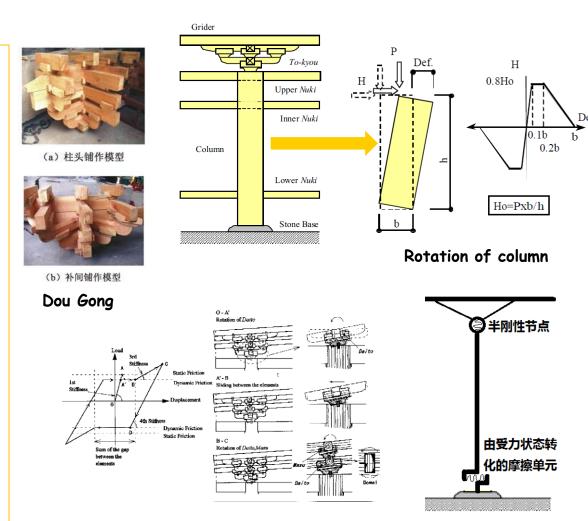
Fig. 12. Contact stress in the beam versus moment.

Non-linear contact between components

Semi-rigid joint

# Mechanical properties

- The material model of the old timber based on test results.
- The joint model based on full-scale model tests.
- □ The finite element model of the whole structure based on the previously established material and joint models.



Analyze the connection between Dougong and column

#### Condition Assessment

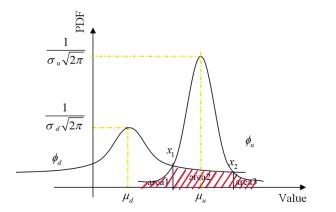
Multiple uncertainties

Physical Boundary Joint parameter

Low identification accuracy



Probabilistic damage identification method



♦ System with weak connections

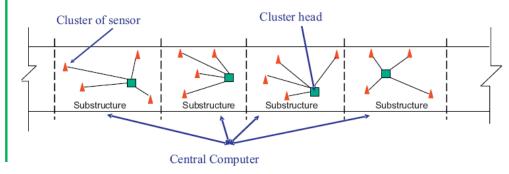
Big contact damping

Small distance of wave transmission

Dynamic loads have big effects on the loading area and have quite small effects on the un-loading area



Substructure damage identification method



#### Condition Assessment

Principles for sensor placement

Less Protection perturbation first

More constraints for sensor placement



Influence of environment effects

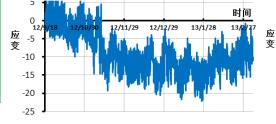
Timber is sensitive to temperature and humidity

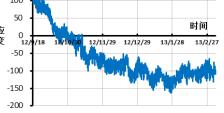


Variations of the structure parameter caused by environmental effects are sometime bigger than those caused by damages



De-coupling of the environmental factors



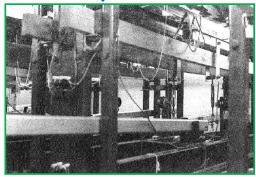


### Ultimate State

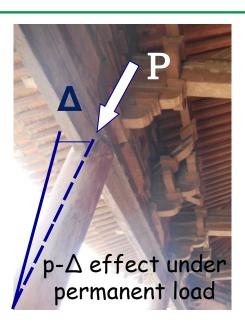
#### Ageing model of the ancient timber structure

Most ageing models are for timber materials, and there are few researches for the ageing model of the whole timber structure. It is important to establish the ageing model of the timber frame based on the material model previously established and site survey results.

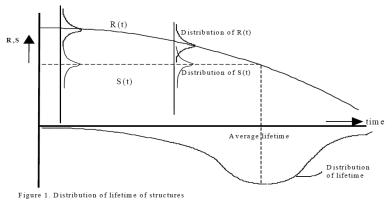
# Ageing mode of components



Test with sustained loads



#### Ageing model of the whole structure



Full life model of the timber frame

### Ultimate State

The ultimate states under permanent load, earthquake, and wind load.

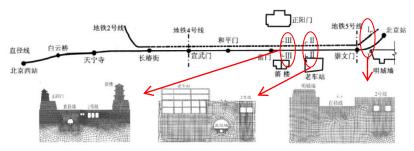
Determine the ultimate bearing capacity of the ancient timber structure under permanent load, earthquake and wind load based on the ageing model; analyze the energy potential and energy distribution mechanism of the ancient timber structure.

 The ultimate states under traffic, crowd and any other controllable loads

Determine the limit states under traffic and crowd loads, and reduce the vibration of the structure by limiting the number of visitors, controlling the value of loads, or by other technical methods.



The alarm value of the crowd load of the wooden bridge



The influence of the subway train to the ancient building

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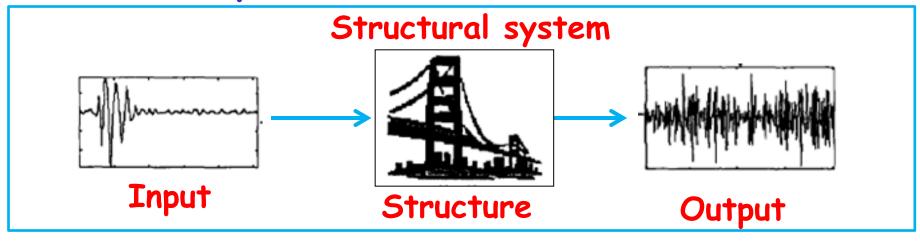
# Contents

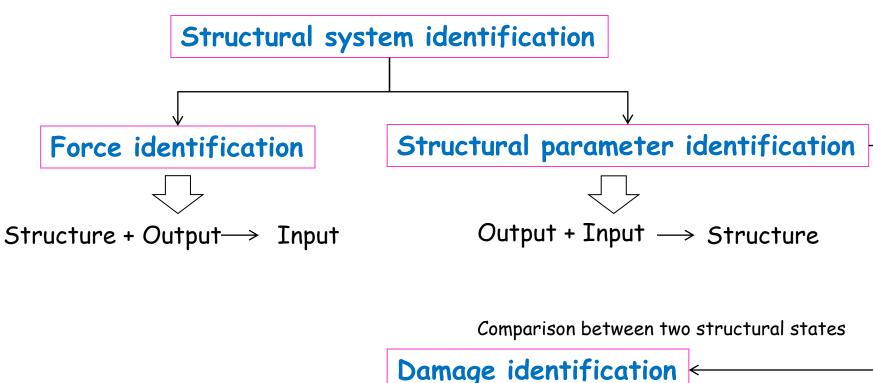
\* Background: Condition assessment, Ultimate state and Performance maintenance of ancient timber structure



\* Research: Studies on Structural System Identification and Optimal Sensor Placement Methods in Time Domain

# Structural System Identification



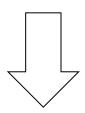


#### Problems and difficulties in:

#### Sensor placement method

To obtain the output, site tests should be carried out first. Non-proper sensor placement will lead to bad identification results, or even, the structural properties can not be identified at all.

Structural identification is a kind of ill-conditioned inverse problem. The conditioning of the identification equation, relating to sensor placement, has great influences on the identification accuracy. Existing sensor placement methods seldom consider about this fact.





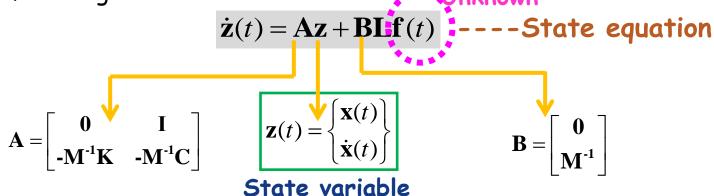
Sensor placement method based on the conditioning analysis of the identification equation.

# Sensor placement method based on the conditioning analysis of the identification equation

# Sensor placement method based on the conditioning analysis of the identification equation

Take force identification in state space as the research background (Kammer, 1992; Mao, 2010; Law, 2011)

The equation of motion of the structural system can be expressed in the state space as following



If responses at all DOFs are known, the unknown forces can be calculated. However, in practice, only responses at some measured DOFs are known.

The above equation can be converted into the following discrete equation as

$$\mathbf{z}(t_{j+1}) = \mathbf{A}^{D}\mathbf{z}(t_{j}) + \mathbf{B}^{D}\mathbf{f}(t_{j})$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{D} = \exp(\mathbf{A}\Delta t) \qquad \mathbf{B}^{D} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}(\exp(\mathbf{A}dt) - \mathbf{I})\mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{z}(t_{j+1}) = \mathbf{A}^{D}\mathbf{z}(t_{j}) + \mathbf{B}^{D}\mathbf{f}(t_{j})$$

Denote vector  $\mathbf{y}$  to represent the output(measured responses) of the structural system and it is assembled from the measurements with

Relating to sensor placement 
$$y = R_a \ddot{x} + R_v \dot{x} + R_d x \quad ---- Output$$

 $R_a$ ,  $R_v$  and  $R_d$  are the output influence matrices for the measured acceleration, velocity and displacement respectively.

y can be represented by the state variable

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}\mathbf{f} \quad ----Observation \ equation$$
 
$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_d - \mathbf{R}_a \mathbf{M}^{\text{-1}} \mathbf{K} & \mathbf{R}_v - \mathbf{R}_a^{\text{-}} \mathbf{M}^{\text{-1}} \mathbf{K} \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{D} = \mathbf{R}_a^{\text{-}} \mathbf{M}^{\text{-1}}$$

and can be converted into the following discrete equation as

$$\mathbf{y}(j) = \mathbf{Rz}(j) + \mathbf{DLf}(j)$$

Assuming zero initial response of the structure, the output of the system y(j) can be obtained from the discrete state equation and observation equation in terms of the previous input f(k) (k=0,1,...,j)

$$\mathbf{y}(j) = \mathbf{DLF}(j) + \sum_{k=1}^{j} \mathbf{R} \left( \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{d}} \right)^{k-1} \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{Lf} \left( j - k \right)$$

$$\mathbf{y}(j) = \mathbf{DL} \text{ and } \mathbf{H}_{k} = \mathbf{R} \left( \mathbf{A}_{d} \right)^{k-1} \mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{d}} \mathbf{L}$$

$$\mathbf{y}(j) = \sum_{k=0}^{j} \mathbf{H}_{k} \mathbf{f}(j-k)$$

$$\mathbf{y}(j) = \sum_{k=0}^{$$

# Solution with regularization method Method usually used in solving the inverse problems

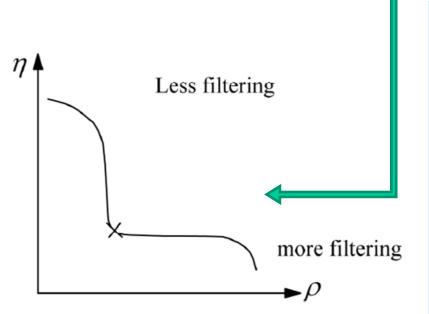
Tikhonov Regularization method

Cost function: 
$$\min\left\{\left\|\mathbf{H}\mathbf{f}_{\text{reg}}-\mathbf{y}\right\|_{2}^{2}+\lambda^{2}\left\|\mathbf{f}_{\text{reg}}\right\|_{2}^{2}\right\}$$

Least-squares solution  $\rho$ 

Side constraint  $\eta$ 

Regularized solution:  $\mathbf{f}_{reg} = [\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} + \lambda^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{y}$ 



Regularization parameter

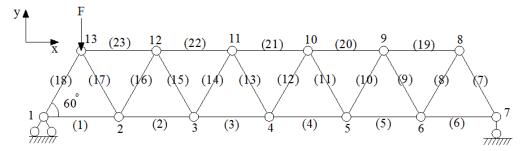
- The L-curve method (Hansen 1992) is used for determining the regularization parameter.
- L-curve is a plot on all valid regularization parameters with the norm of the regularized solution versus the corresponding residual.
- The point with maximum curvature in the L-curve gives a compromise of  $\rho$  and  $\eta$ , and the corresponding  $\chi$  is selected to be the regularization parameter.

#### 5% model errors and 5% measurement noise

# Problems in application

#### Simulation with a truss structure

 $\mathbf{F}(t) = 10\sin(30\pi t + 1.4\pi) + 10\sin(60\pi t) + 8\sin(90\pi t + 0.9\pi) \qquad N$ 



		Cond(H)		Error(%)			
Number of sensor	Sensor location			Mean	Standard deviation	Peak	
1	2(y)	194.00		11.08	3.31	20.67	
2	2(y),12(x)	193.93		8.77	2.41	15.97	
3	2(y),4(y),12(x)	233.45		8.92	2.44	18.26	
4	2(y),4(y),12(x),12(y)	208.44		8.88	8.92	17.46	
1	11(y)	$5.15 \times 10^{16}$		67.57	44.65	198.84	
2	3(y),11(y)	616.17		27.31	6.27	45.95	
3	3(y),6(x),11(y)	635.73		27.53	7.30	52.38	
4	3(y),6(x),11(x),11(y)	636.26		28.01	7.80	51.92	

- If there is no model error or measurement noise, the identification error are quite small (close to zero) for all cases.
- Different sensor locations will lead to different identification errors with consideration of model errors and measurement noise:
- Some sensor placement will lead to quite low identification accuracy even using the regularization method.



Sensor placement method for force identification

#### Perturbation analysis

# Perturbation in the model (model error)

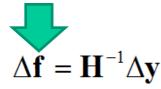
$$\mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{H} + \Delta \mathbf{H})(\mathbf{f} + \Delta \mathbf{f})$$

$$-\Delta \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{H}^{-1} \Delta \mathbf{H} \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{H}^{-1} \Delta \mathbf{H} \Delta \mathbf{f}$$

$$\|\Delta \mathbf{f}\| \leq \|\mathbf{H}\| \|\mathbf{H}^{-1}\| \|\Delta \mathbf{H}\|$$

# Perturbation in the response (measurement noise)

$$\mathbf{y} + \Delta \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{f} + \Delta \mathbf{f})$$





$$\frac{\left\|\Delta\mathbf{f}\right\|}{\left\|\mathbf{f}\right\|} \leq \left(\left\|\mathbf{H}\right\| \left\|\mathbf{H}^{-1}\right\|\right) \frac{\left\|\Delta\mathbf{y}\right\|}{\left\|\mathbf{y}\right\|}$$

$$cond(\mathbf{H}) = \|\mathbf{H}\| \|\mathbf{H}^{-1}\|$$

#### Condition number

Condition number is a definition in matrix computation theory. The larger the condition number is ,the more ill-conditioning the equation is.

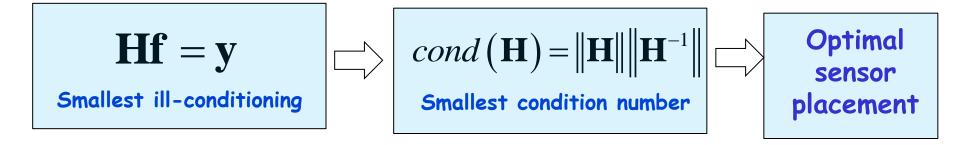
$$\mathbf{Hf} = \mathbf{y}$$

The condition number of the Markov parameter matrix can be a measure reflecting the conditioning of the identification equation.

### Method I: CN method

# Sensor placement method

#### Based on the condition number of Markov parameter matrix



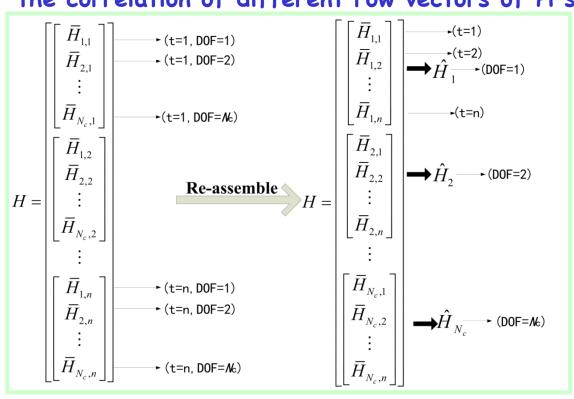
#### Detailed procedure:

- i. Determine the number of sensor and the number of candidate sensor location.
- ii. Compute all possible combinations of responses.
- iii. Calculate the system Markov parameter matrix for all the above combinations.
- iv. The combination giving the minimum condition number is taken as the optimal combination of sensor locations.

However, the process would involve the estimation of condition number of all possible sensor combinations. This task becomes impractical with the increasing of the number of candidate combinations of sensor locations.

# Method II: CA method----can be an alternative approach to Method I Based on the correlation analysis of Markov parameter matrix

Structural responses can be decomposed as the sum of a series of independent components. If the measured data of each sensor may represent an independent component, the accuracy will be the best, i.e., the correlation of different row vectors of H should be low.



#### Factors which influence H

- Structure properties
- Sensor location
- Sampling frequency and time
- Location of external forces

Require not much computation effort

independence of sensor responses



correlation of row vectors of matrix H

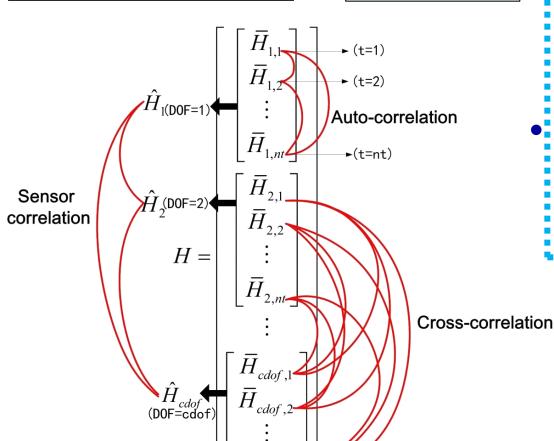


Conditioning of matrix H

# Definition of correlations:

Sensor combination with Smallest sensor correlation

Optimal sensor placement



- Sensor correlation: correlation between different sensor locations.
- Auto correlation: correlation between different sampling points for one certain sensor location.
- Cross correlation: correlation between different sampling points for different sensor locations.

Determined by the correlation of row vectors of matrix H

Sensor correlation matrix: 

\[
\begin{cases}
\text{Nc- number of candidate sensor location} \\
\text{Nm- number of sensor}
\end{cases} Determined

by cross

matrix

by Auto

matrix

correlation

Determined

correlation

extract

Sub matrix

Sensor correlation matrix for all of the candidate sensor locations

 $r_{1,p}$  $r_{1,N_c}$  $r_{2,2}$  $r_{2,1}$  $\mathbf{R} =$  $r_{p,N_c}$ 

Sensor correlation matrix for a certain sensor combination  $\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{1,1} & r_{1,2} & \cdots & r_{1,N_m} \\ r_{2,1} & r_{2,2} & \cdots & r_{1,N_m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ r_{N_m,1} & r_{N_m,2} & \cdots & r_{N_m,N_m} \end{bmatrix}_{(N_m \times N_m)}$ 

#### Cross-correlation matrix

$$\mathbf{E}(p,q) = \begin{bmatrix} e_{1,1} & e_{1,2} & \cdots & e_{1,n} \\ e_{1,2} & e_{2,2} & \cdots & e_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ e_{1,n} & e_{2,n} & \cdots & e_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}_{(n\times n)}$$

$$\mathbf{e}_{l_1,l_2}(p,q) = \frac{\left|\overline{\mathbf{H}}_{p,l_1} \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{q,l_2}^{\mathrm{T}}\right|}{\sqrt{\left|\overline{\mathbf{H}}_{p,l_1} \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{p,l_1}^{\mathrm{T}}\right|} \sqrt{\left|\overline{\mathbf{H}}_{q,l_2} \overline{\mathbf{H}}_{q,l_2}^{\mathrm{T}}\right|}}$$
Non-diagonal element in the sensor correlation matrix

#### **Auto-correlation matrix**

$$\mathbf{S}(p) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_{1,2} & \cdots & s_{1,n} \\ s_{1,2} & 0 & \cdots & s_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ s_{1,n} & s_{2,n} & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{(n \times n)}$$

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{\bar{H}}_{p,l_1} \mathbf{\bar{H}}_{p,l_2}^{\mathsf{T}} & \cdots & r_{1,N_c} \\ r_{2,1} & r_{2,2} & \cdots & r_{2,n} & \cdots \\ r_{p,p} & \cdots & r_{1,N_c} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ r_{p,1} & r_{p,2} & \cdots & r_{2,n} & \cdots \\ r_{p,p} & \cdots & r_{p,N_c} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ r_{p,1} & r_{p,2} & \cdots & r_{p,N_c} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ r_{N_c,1} & r_{N_c,2} & \cdots & r_{N_c,p} & \cdots & r_{N_c,N_c} \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

Diagonal element in the sensor correlation matrix

#### Sensor correlation criterion

$$\beta(w) = \left\| R_{(N_m \times N_m)} \right\|_F = \left( \sum_{k_1 = 1}^{N_m} \sum_{k_2 = 1}^{N_m} r_{k_1 k_2}^2 \right)^{1/2} \qquad \left( w = 1, 2, \dots, C_{N_c}^{N_m} \right)$$

Element in sensor correlation matrix for a certain sensor combination

Total number of sensor combination

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{bmatrix} r_{1,1} & r_{1,2} & \cdots & r_{1,N_{m_{u}}} \\ r_{2,1} & r_{2,2} & \cdots & r_{1,N_{m}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ r_{N_{m},1} & r_{N_{m},2} & \cdots & r_{N_{m},N_{m}} \end{bmatrix}_{(N_{m}\times N_{m})}$$

Sensor combination with smallest  $\beta(w)$ 



Sensor responses Most independent



Optimal sensor placement

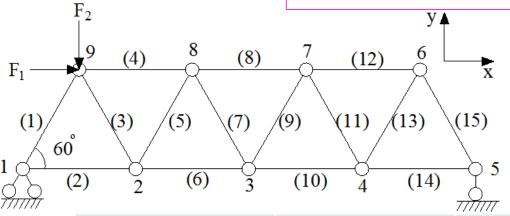
#### Numerical simulation

- Compare the two proposed sensor placement methods;
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of the alternative CA method.

Truss structure 
$$\mathbf{F}_1(t) = 80\sin(50\pi t + 0.5\pi) + 50\sin(80\pi t) + 10\sin(120\pi t + 0.6\pi)$$

$$\mathbf{F}_2(t) = 60\sin(55\pi t) + 40\sin(70\pi t + 1.4\pi) + 15\sin(100\pi t)$$
 N

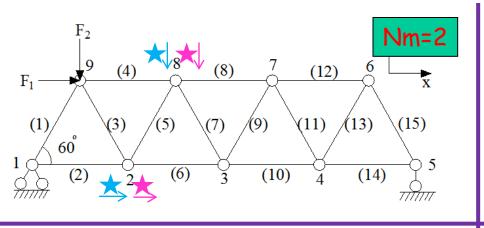
5% model errors and 5% measurement noise

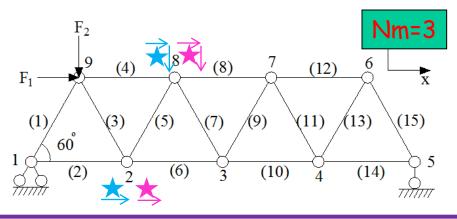


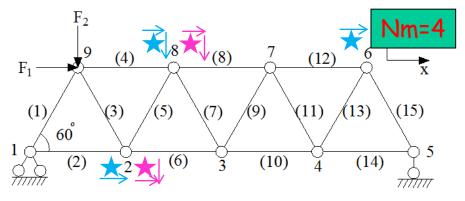
CA method has a great advantage with the computation efficiency.

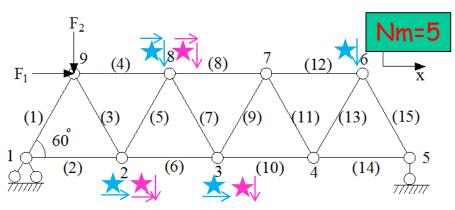
	Number of	Computing time (s)			
Number of sensors	candidate combination of sensor locations	Condition number (CN) method	Correlation analysis (CA) method		
2	$C_{12}^2 = 66$	65.14	124.09		
3	$C_{12}^3 = 220$	268.40	126.26		
4	$C_{12}^4 = 495$	693.17	124.66		
5	$C_{12}^5 = 792$	1330.65	126.96		
6 🔻	$C_{12}^6 = 924$	1653.96 ♥	126.74		

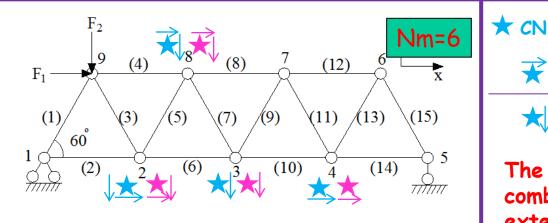
#### Comparison of optimal sensor placement with different number of sensor











CN CA

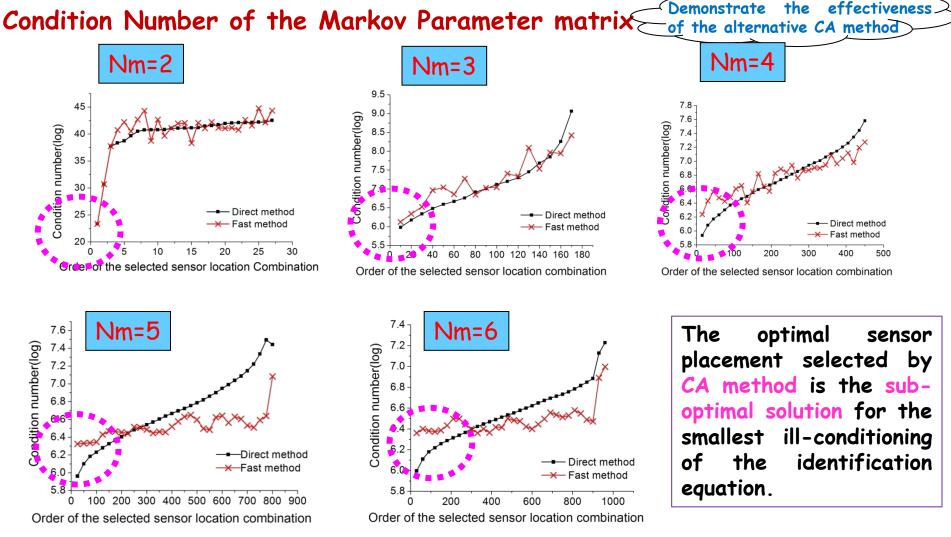
Location in the optimal sensor combination, × direction

Location in the optimal sensor combination, y direction

The locations in the optimal sensor combination are close to the location of external forces.

Type	Method	Number of sensor	Location	Condition number
_		2	N2(x), N8(y)	$1.35 \times 10^{10}$
.0		3	N2(x), N8(x), N8(y)	326.10
at	CN	4	N2(x), $N6(x)$ , $N8(x)$ , $N8(y)$	329.74
Combination 2		5	N2(x), N3(x), N6(y), N8(x), N8(y)	337.48
	6	N2(x), $N3(x)$ , $N4(y)$ , $N6(y)$ , $N8(x)$ , $N8(y)$	345.91	
		2	N2(x), N8(y)	1.35×10 <sup>10</sup>
ام		3	N2(x), N8(x), N8(y)	326.10
Optimal CA	CA	4	N2(x), $N2(y)$ , $N8(x)$ , $N8(y)$	389.76
		5	N2(x), $N2(y)$ , $N3(y)$ , $N8(x)$ , $N8(y)$	536.90
O		6	N2(x), $N2(y)$ , $N3(y)$ , $N4(x)$ , $N8(x)$ , $N8(y)$	563.18

- When the number of sensor is less than or equal to 3, the optimal sensor location combinations selected by the two methods are the same. The condition number increases slightly with an increase of number of sensors for both methods.
- When the number of sensor is 4 or larger, the optimal sensor combinations selected by the two methods are different. The condition number from the optimal sensor location combination selected by the CN method is slightly smaller than that of the CA method.
- When the number of sensor equals to the number of unknown excitation, the condition numbers of the optimal sensor combinations selected by both of the methods are too large.



Condition number versus the order of the selected sensor location combination

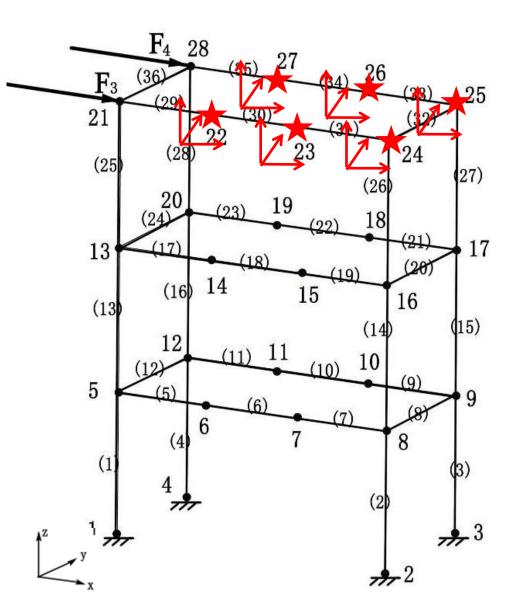
The overall trends of the two curves are the same although there are some fluctuations in the curve from the CA method. The optimal sensor combination for CA method may not always associate with the smallest condition number of the system Markov parameter matrix but it is always close to it in general.

#### Comparison of force identification results

Туре	Method	Number of sensor	Error for F <sub>1</sub> (%)				Error for F <sub>2</sub> (%)		
			Mean value	Standard	Maximum	Mean	Standard	Maximum	
			Mean value	deviation	value	value	deviation	value	
	CN	2	16.64	7.27	39.43	26.23	14.20	/1./2	
		3	8.21	2.37	17.11	12.17	3.52	25.98	
sensor nation		4	8.21	2.19	13.62	12.29	3.24	20.72	
		5	8.87	2.15	17.19	10.98	2.62	21.68	
		6	8.74	2.35	15.59	10.91	2.83	19.24	
Optimal sensc combination			16,64	7.27	39.43	26,23	14,20	71.72	
	CA	3	8.21	2.37	17.11	12 17	3,52	25,98	
		4	8.09	2.16	13.77	12.28	3.17	20.62	
		5	7.37	1.83	13.96	10.11	2.47	19.39	
		6	6.29	1.65	10.97	10.13	2.64	17.14	
<b>V</b>									

- In the case of 2 required sensors from the optimal sensor location combinations, the standard deviation and maximum value are too big to be acceptable. This is because the number of sensor is equal to the number of unknown force. The identification can be solved mathematically but with serious ill-conditioning with measurement noise.
- From the results with 4 or more sensors, the error of identification from the CA method is slightly smaller than that from the CN method which has a smaller condition number in the Markov parameter matrix. This would suggest that the force identification is influenced not only by the conditioning of the Markov parameter matrix but also by the measurement noise. The influences of noise effects can be reduced when the correlation between the measured responses is smaller.

#### Three-dimensional Frame structure

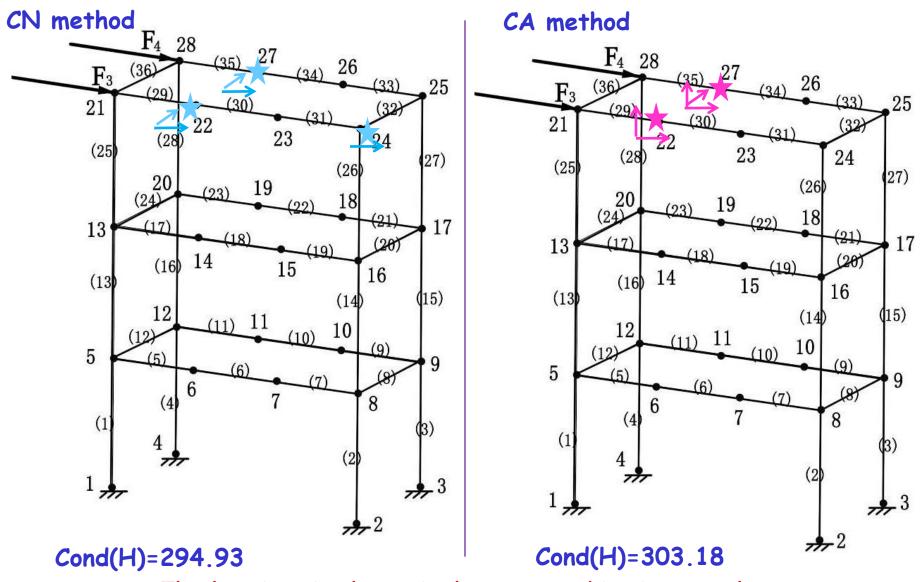


*	Candidate sensor location, translational DOF in x direction
<b>≠</b>	Candidate sensor location, translational DOF in y direction
<b>↑</b> ★	Candidate sensor location, translational DOF in z direction

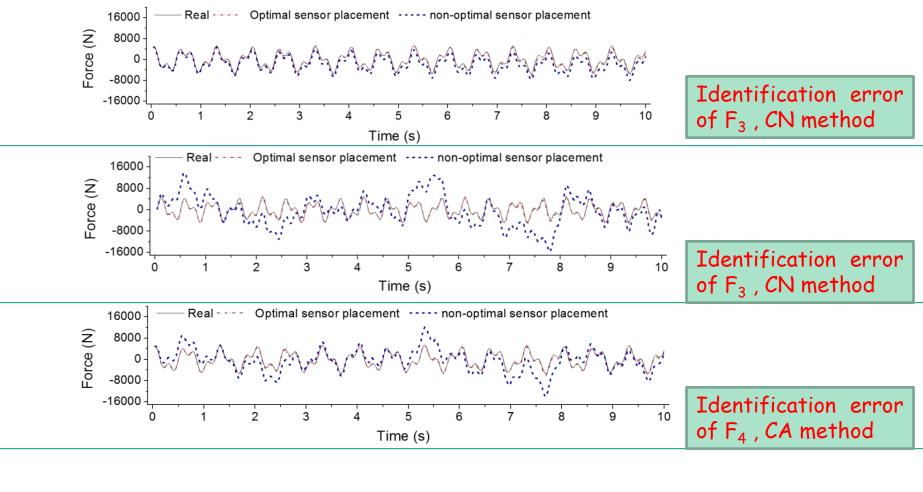
$$\mathbf{F}_{3}(t) = 3500\sin(3\pi t + 0.5\pi) + 2000\sin(8\pi t)N$$
$$\mathbf{F}_{4}(t) = 3000\sin(4\pi t) + 2000\sin(9\pi t + 1.4\pi)N$$

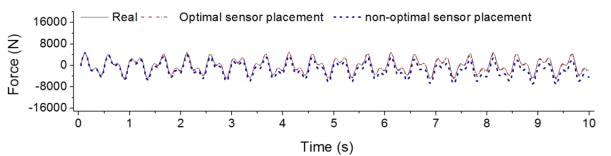
The computation effort required by the CN method is 116953.2 s which is more than 600 times greater than 182.27s required by the CA method.

#### Comparison of optimal sensor placement



The locations in the optimal sensor combination are close to the location of external forces.





Identification error of  $F_4$ , CA method

#### **Conclusions**

- \* Two different sensor placement methods based on conditioning analysis of the system Markov parameter matrix are presented. The first method is based on direct computation of the condition number of the matrix. Sensor location combination corresponding to the minimum condition number can be considered as the optimal sensor placement. The second method is based on correlation analysis of the Markov parameter matrix. Sensor correlation criterion is used as a measure to select the sensor locations.
- \* Numerical simulations show that both methods can provide consistently good sensor placements. If the sensor placement problem is small, either method can be adopted to yield satisfactory combinations of sensor locations with acceptable accuracy and computing time. However, when there are many candidate sensor combinations, the selection based on the correlation analysis has a great advantage with the computation efficiency and yet with similar accuracy of identification.
- The selection may not always associate with the smallest condition number of the system Markov parameter matrix, but it is close to it in general.