



## Integrated Fire Engineering and Response

COST action network number TU0904 in domain Transport and Urban Development

Training School on 11-14 April 2012

Fire Engineering Research - Key Issues for the Future



UNIVERSITY OF MALTA

*L-Università ta' Malta*



*The Marques Vernasse of Akaia Palace,  
in Naples*

## *Protection of historical buildings against catastrophic actions: case studies*

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*D.I.S.T. Department*

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**Protection of historical buildings against catastrophic actions: case studies – 3 actions analyzed**

**1. Earthquake**

Case studies:

1. The gothic cathedral of Fossanova, *Lazio*
2. The old Palace in Saint Peter square in L'Aquila, *Abruzzo*



**2. Impact**

Case study

1. The Royal Palace in Naples, *Campania*



**3. Fire**

Case study

1. The Marquess Vernasse of Akaia palace, Naples - *Campania*



Italy



OLD Masonry: Stone works

- Different typologies
- Different structural problems



## 1. Cathedral and singular panels

Case studies: MATERIALS

1. The gothic cathedral of Fossanova,  
STONE BLOCK WORK – LIME STONE

2. The old Palace in Saint Peter square in  
L'Aquila,

STONE WORK – STONES settled WITH NO  
REGULAR SHAPE with and alternation of  
BRIKS LAYERS

## 2. Pavilion Vault

Case study: MATERIALS

1. The Royal Palace in Naples,  
STONE WORK – STONES settled WITH  
NO REGULAR SHAPE

## 3. Corner house

Case study: MATERIALS

1. The Marqueses Vernasse of Akaia  
palace, Naples

STONE BLOCK WORK – TUFF STONE



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Case study: The gothic cathedral  
of Fossanova





Fossanova Full scale Model – [shaking table test](#)

**PROHITECH Project activities** (“Earthquake Protection of Historical Buildings by Reversible Mixed Technologies” FP6- INCO-CT-2004-509119). It’s a European project coordinated by *Prof. Federico Mazzolani*, devoted to the protection and conservation of the cultural heritage in the Euro-Mediterranean area. The project stopped in 2008; all tests and full scale models produced were built up and checked in Skopje – IZIS Laboratory.

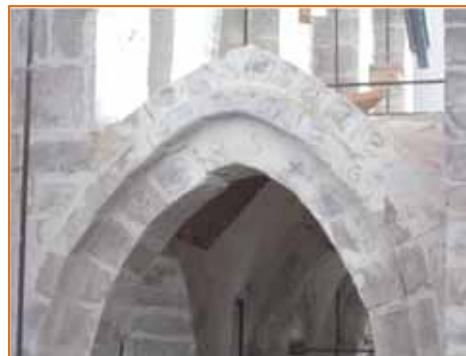
**Additional test**

The additional test was conducted on the Fossanova cathedral’s large scale model (scale 1:5.5), in collaboration with the University of Reggio Calabria ( in the framework of Reluis activities.) and with the contribution of Lazio’s Supervision on the architectural heritage

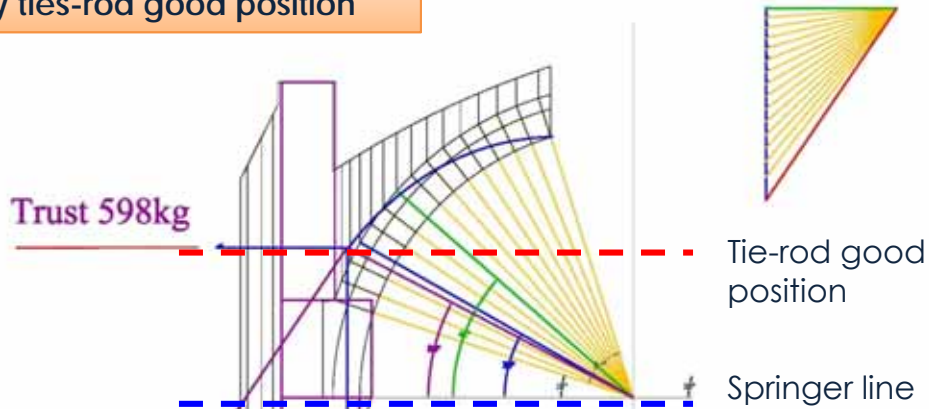
**The Strengthening of the model tested**



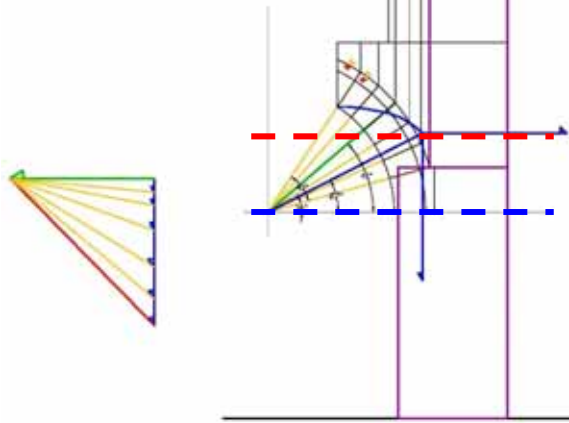
Traditional techniques of intervention



Graphic analysis for easily identify ties-rod good position



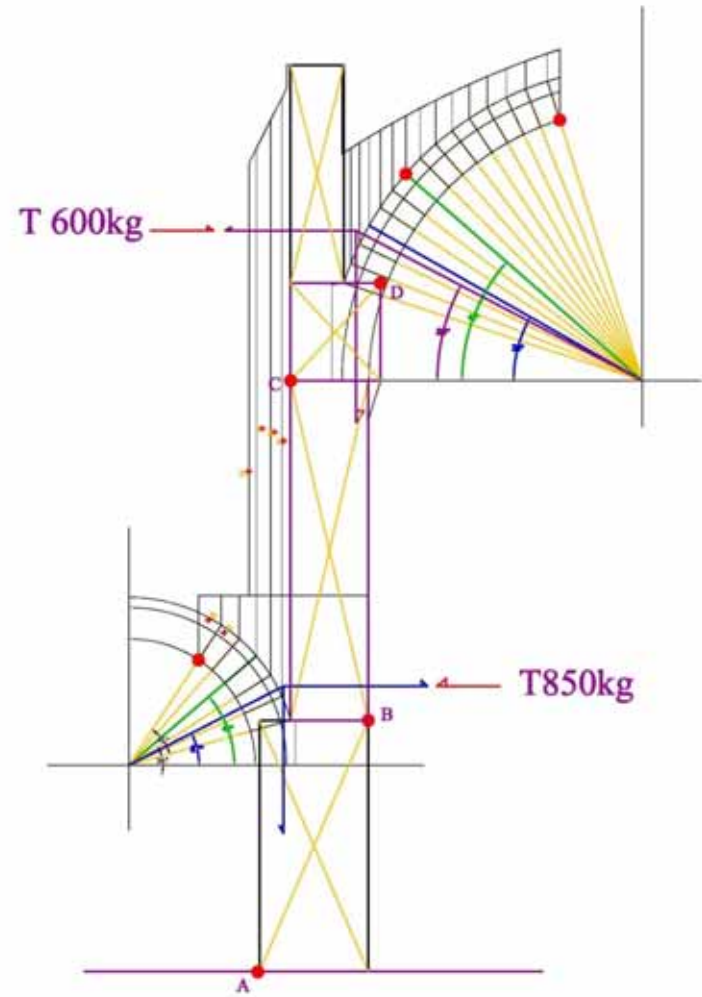
Thrust	Ms/Yg
max	598
mid	499
min	447



Thrust 736kg

Thrust	Ms/Yg
max	736
mid	450
min	375

1000kg = 100cm



Without tie-rod

$\lambda A$	$\lambda B$	$\lambda C$	$\lambda D$
0,21	0,09	0,70	0,58

With tie-rod

$\lambda A$	$\lambda B$
1	0,36

Equilibrium Condition
$M_s - \lambda * M_r = 0$
$\lambda = M_s / M_r$

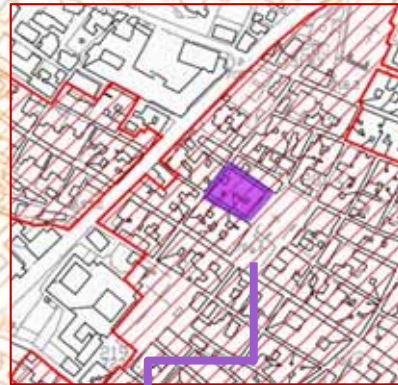
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Case study: The old Palace in  
Saint Peter square in L'Aquila



L'AQUILA Earthquake

06 April 2009



Before seismic action



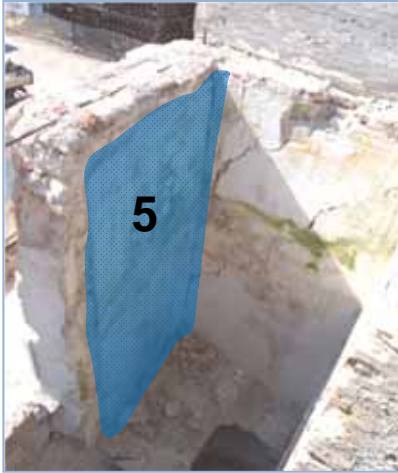
Historical centre of L'Aquila city, San Peter Square - Old Palace signed up -

OLD Palace after seismic event - corner failure -



Old Palace façade





Old Palace façade on S. Peter square before testing program

Panel selected

**TESTING PROGRAM**

**2 façade occupied**  
(only the masonry elements of the first floor)

**6 panels tested out-of-plane**

**1 panel tested in-plane**

**University involved:**  
Michele Candela, Reggio Calabria

Sergio Lagomarsino, Genoa

Antonio Borri, Perugia

Façade on Pretatti street – Panels selected -



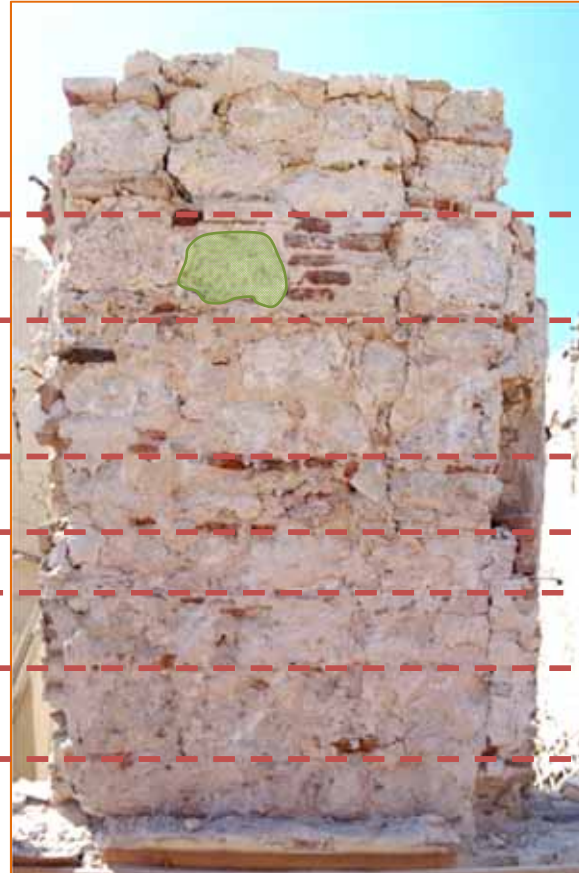
Building site during controlled demolish program of the damaged parts



Analysis and evaluation  
of the masonry  
characteristics

Defects detected

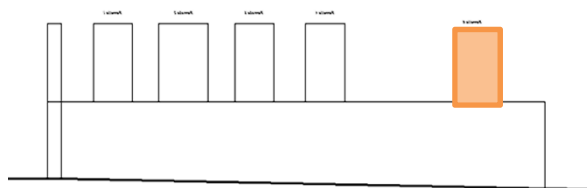
- 1) NO transversal connections
- 2) NO contact between stones – mortar joints too bigger



**ASSESSMENT of the stonework  
TYPE**

- no ordinary setting;
- small size of the stones;
- regular flatten made in bricks;
- no transversal section links  
totally absence of headers;
- thick mortar joints;
- no contact between stones

“TAL QUALE”



Pretatti street - façade

## PANEL 5 REINFORCEMENT STRATEGY

### Problem

no transversal section links

### Solution

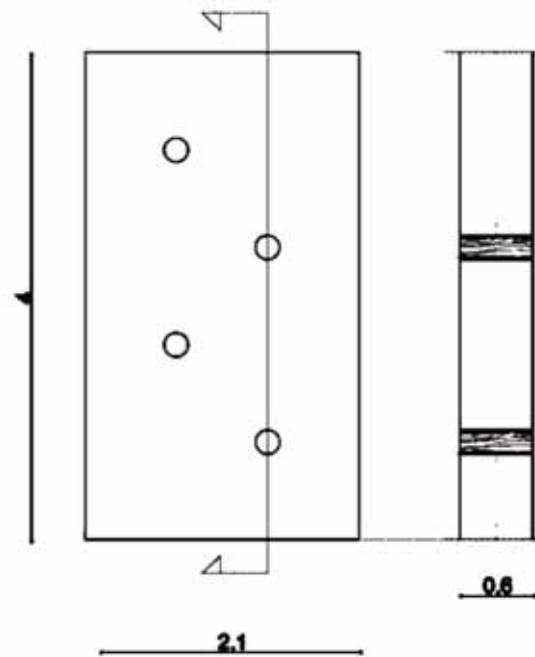
Headers in wooden pushed in load condition by wedges

### Problem

thick mortar joints and consequently no contact between stones

### Solution

Replacement of the mortar joints with small bricks elements formed like wedges.



## THE STRENGTHENING

### Executive phases

- 1) Study of the masonry setting
- 2) Drill the panel with 4 hole full in wideness, diameter of  $\varnothing 200$ .
- 3) Replacement of the mortar joints with wedge elements;
- 4) Setting of the wooden headers and the pushing of the elements in loading condition by wedges elements.



PHASE 1



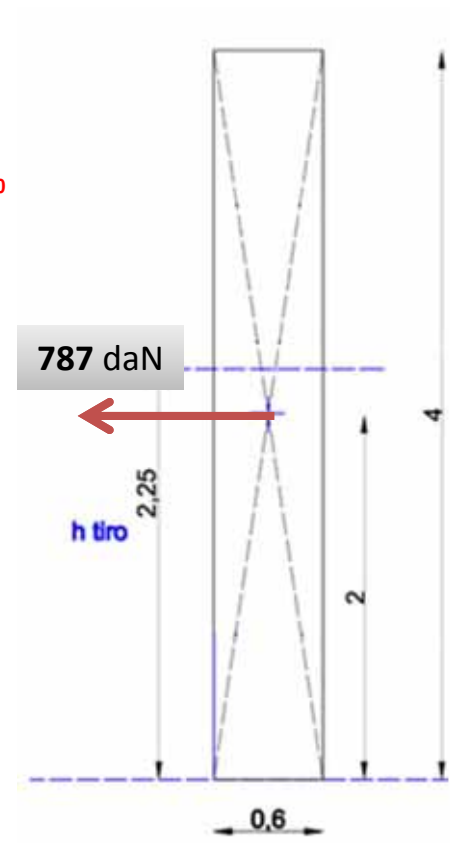
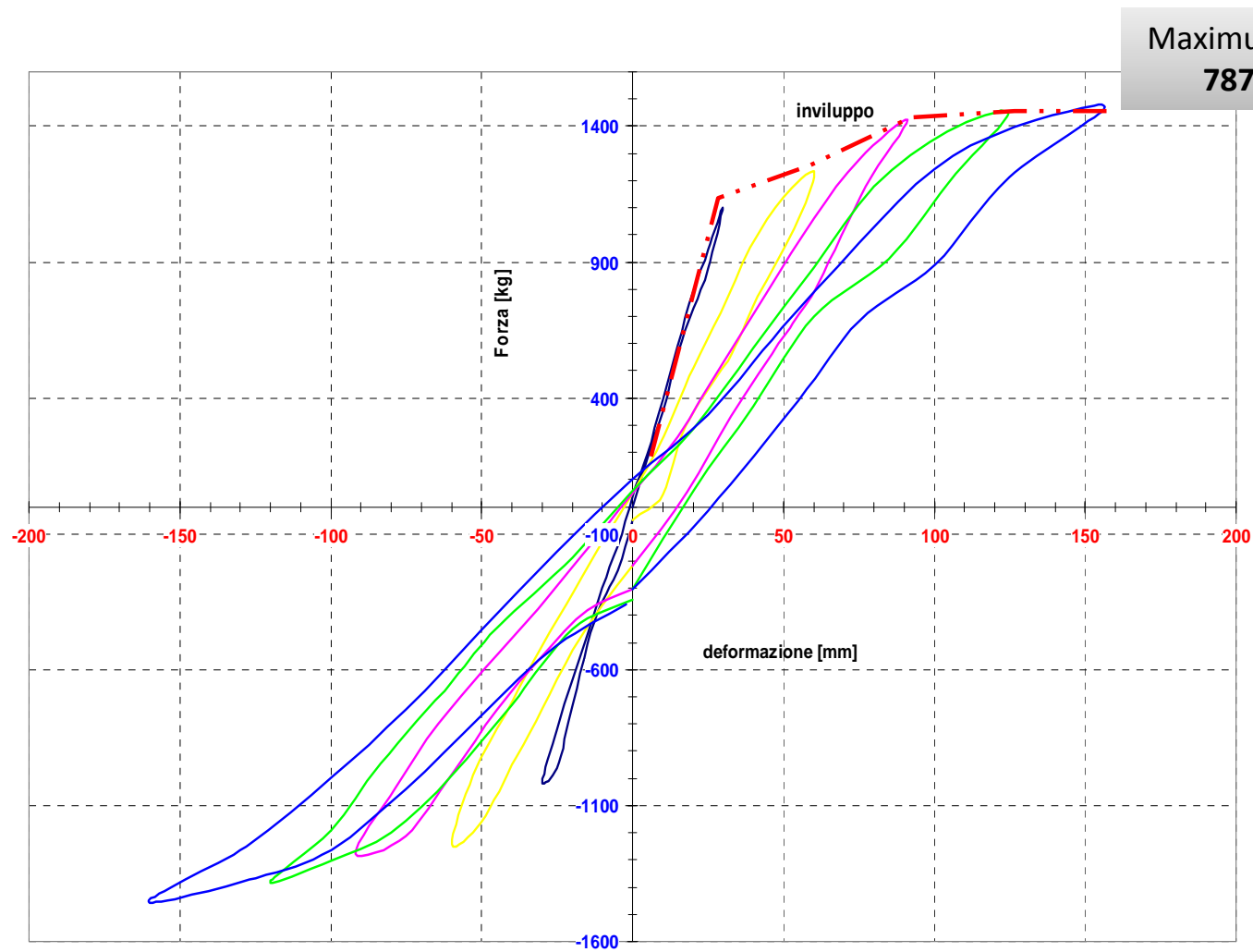
PHASE 2

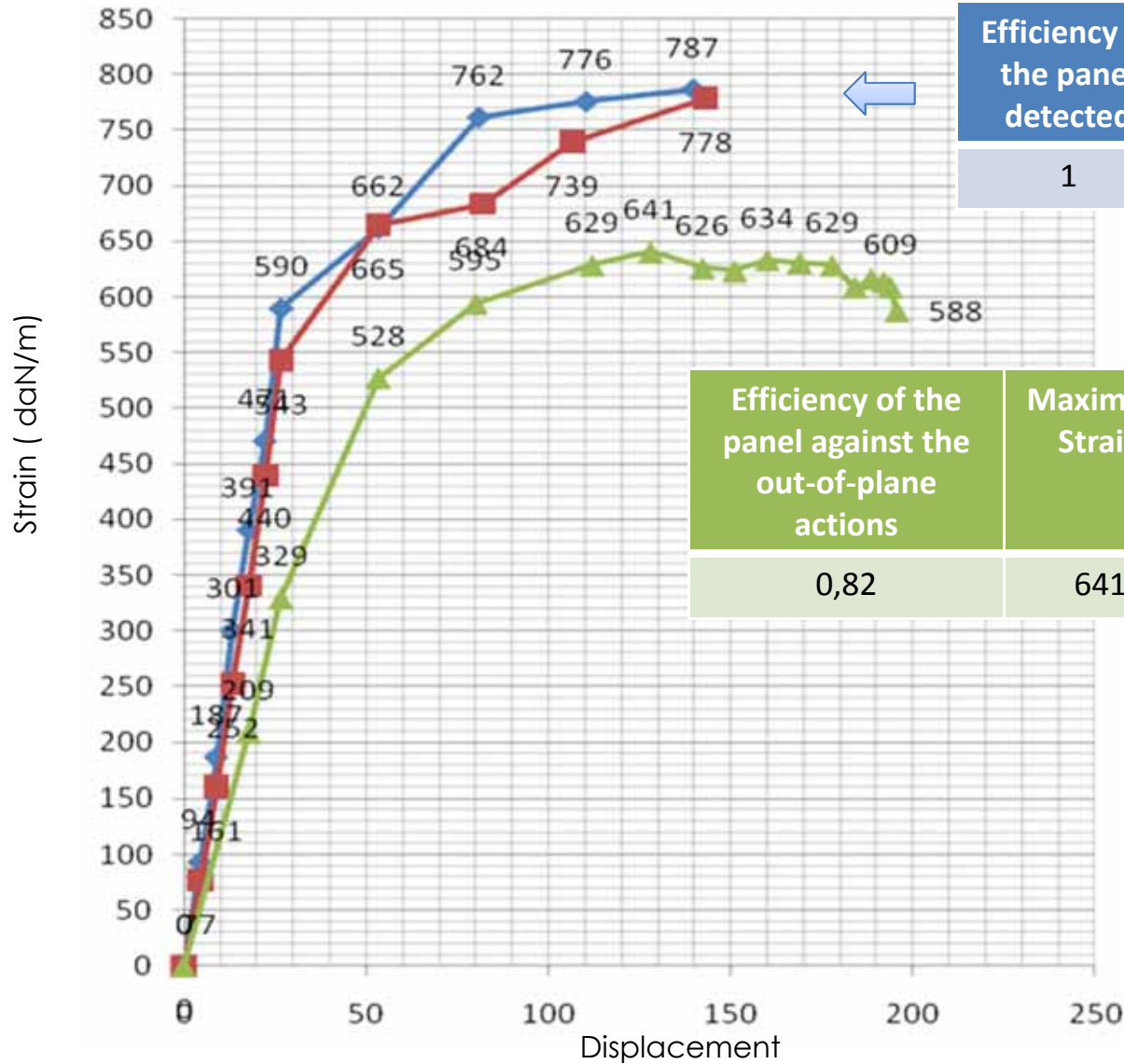


PHASE 3



PHASE 4





Efficiency of the panel detected	Maximum Strain
1	787

**DEGRADATION OCCURRED 18%**

Efficiency of the panel against the out-of-plane actions	Maximum Strain
0,82	641

**Capacity curve comparison:**

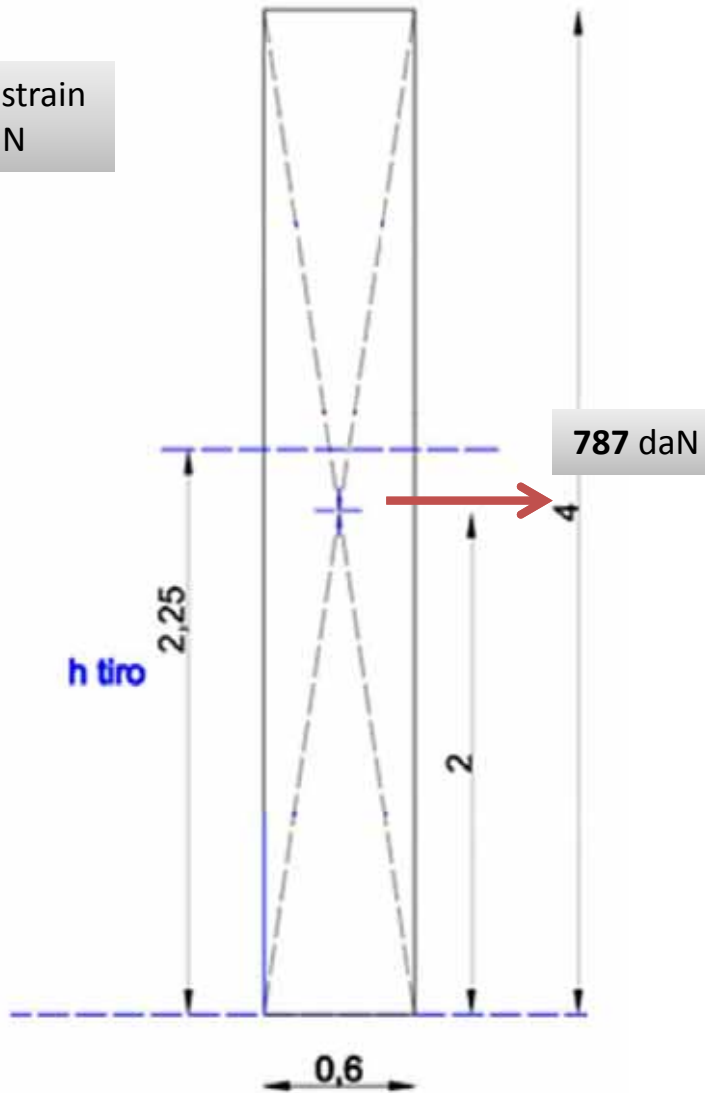
- In **blu** Maximums Envelope - positive phases data
- In **red** Maximums Envelope - negative phases data
- In **green** PUSH OVER curve

Fmax (daN)	Fomol. (daN)	Trust (daN)	Mr (daN*m)	Ms=Mr Teoric Model (daN*m)	Efficiency compared to a Rigid block
1469	1653	787	1574	1570	1



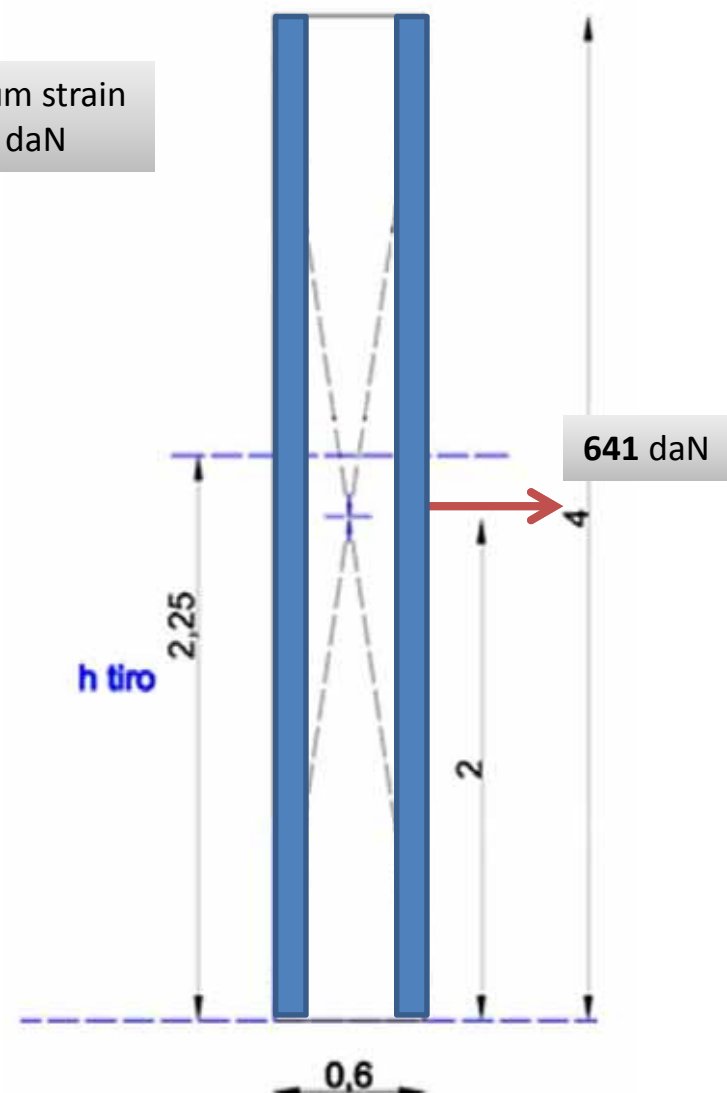
Before cyclic action

Maximum strain  
787 daN



After cyclic action

Maximum strain  
641 daN



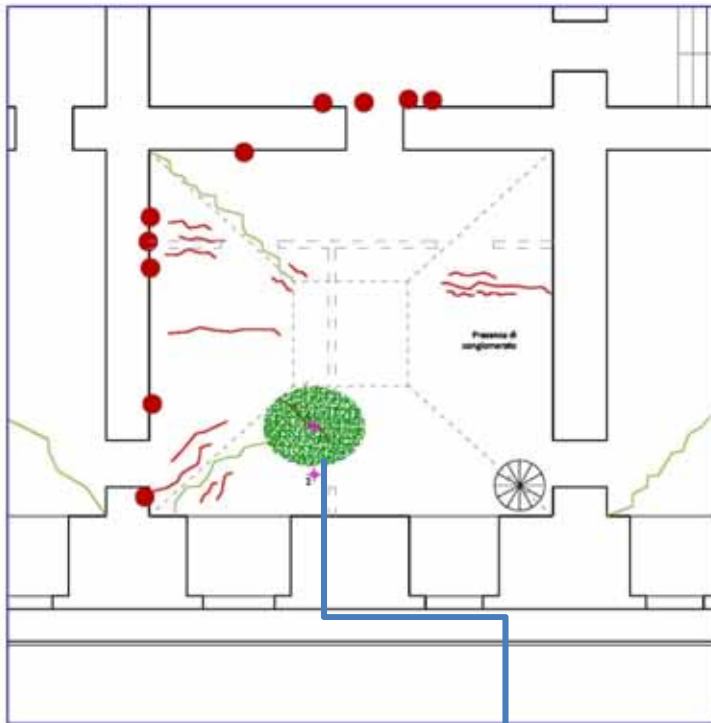
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**Case study: The Royal Palace in Naples**

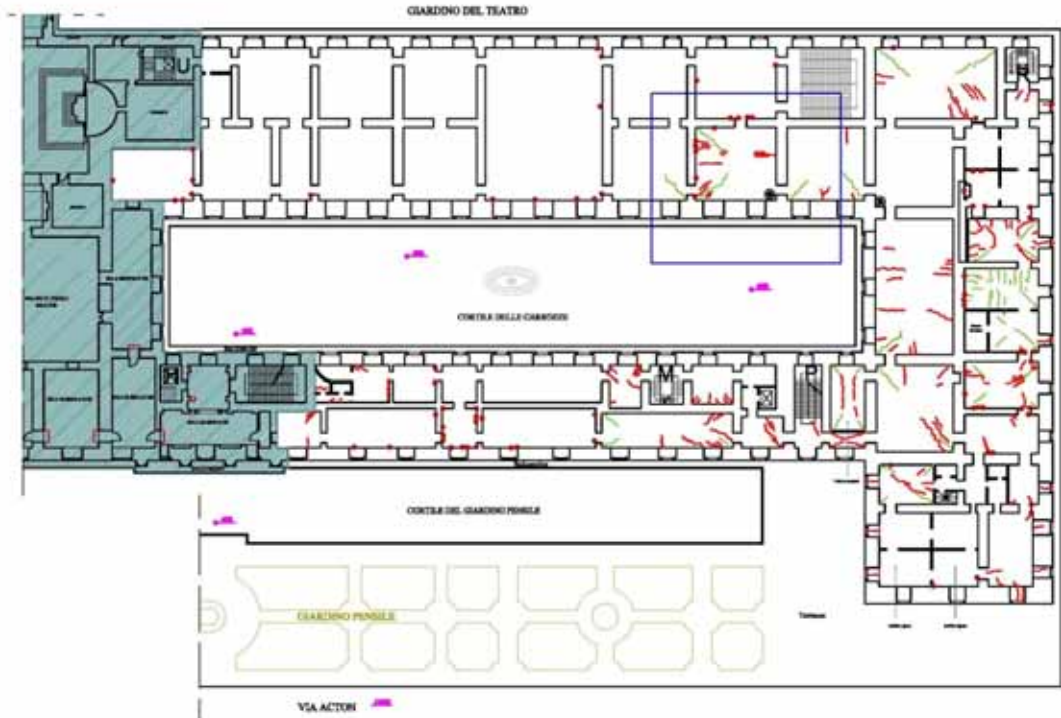


The Royal Palace in Naples IMPACT ACTION  
- NATIONAL LIBRARY HALL

Area bombed during World War Two



break due to the bomb impact

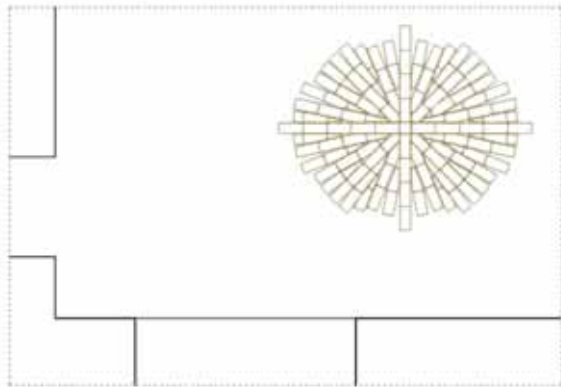




The Royal Palace in Naples IMPACT ACTION  
- NATIONAL LIBRARY HALL



Damage occurred in 2009. it was due to wrong reinforcement intervention



Strategy approved and checked by loading tests

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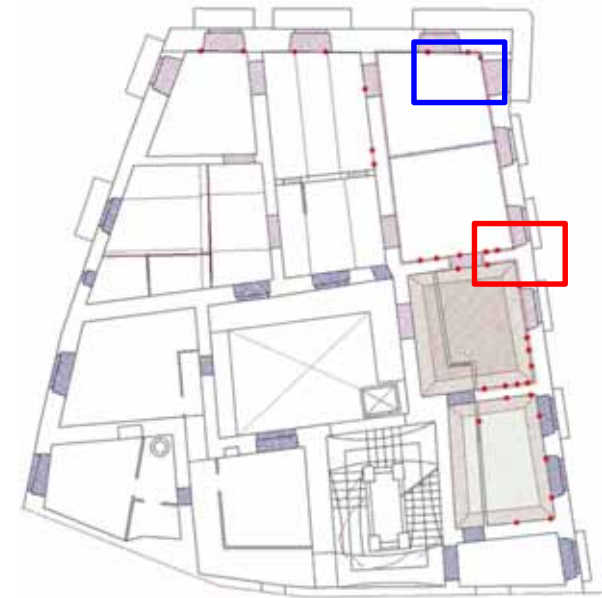
Case study: The Marquees Vernasse of Akaia  
palace, Naples



The Marquees Vernasse of Akaia palace, Naples  
FIRE ACTION – OCTOBER 2009



The Marquees Vernasse of Akaia palace, Naples  
FIRST FLOOR DAMAGE OCCURRED



The Marques Vernasse of Akaia palace, Naples  
TESTS



Specimens – under fire action



Specimens – no hit by fire action

Test campaign

**The Marquees Vernasse of Akaia palace, Naples**  
**TESTS**

**DATA RESULTS – NO FIRE ACTION**

Specimens	Dimensions [cm]	Volume g/c <sup>3</sup>	compression resistance [MPa]	Elastic modulo [MPa]
n.1	6.9x6.8x7.0	1.51	4.62	1488
n.2	6.8x6.8x6.9	1.54	4.58	1665
n.3	7.1x7.2x6.9	1.50	4.51	1823
n.4	6.7x6.8x6.8	1.50	4.22	1778

MINIMUM	4,06 [MPa]
MAXIMUM	4,62 [MPa]
	4,39 [MPa]

**DATA RESULTS - FIRE ACTION**

Specimens	Dimensions [cm]	Volume g/c <sup>3</sup>	compression resistance [MPa]	Elastic modulo [MPa]
n.1	7.1x7.2x6.8	1.55	3.41	1636
n.2	7.3x7.1x7.2	1.50	3.24	1431
n.3	6.8x6.9x7.2	1.49	3.19	1474
n.4	6.8x6.7x6.9	1.52	3.04	1574



MINIMUM	3,04 MPa
MAXIMUM	3,41 Mpa
	3,22 Mpa

Specimens - under fire action  
notes



Thickness degraded - 2,70cm



Thickness degraded - 2,95cm



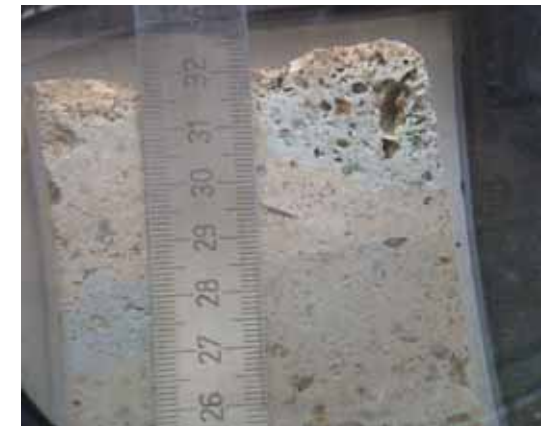
Thickness degraded - 2,66cm



Thickness degraded - 3,56cm



Thickness degraded - 4,11cm



Thickness degraded - 3,60cm

*Thank you very  
much for your  
attention*

