# Fire Engineering Research - Key Issues for the Future II Naples, Italy, 6 – 9 June 2013





## PhD: BEHAVIOUR OF COLD-FORMED STEEL BEAM-COLUMNS IN CASE OF FIRE

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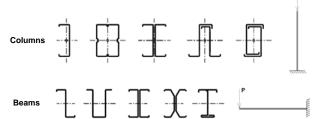
Contents

- > Introduction (State of the art)
- > PhD planning
  - Motivation
  - Objectives
  - > Working program
  - Current situation
- Work performed
- > Future work

Behaviour of cold-formed steel beam-columns in case of fire



The cold-formed steel profiles can be applied to almost all existing buildings typologies.



Behaviour of cold-formed steel beam-columns in case of fire



#### Introduction



- The cold-formed profiles are common in buildings due to their lightness and ability to support large spans, being quite common as roof or wall support elements.
- > Cold-formed profiles can have failure modes occurrence:
  - local buckling;
  - distortional buckling;
  - and global buckling (in beams lateral-torsional buckling).

Behaviour of cold-formed steel beam-columns in case of fire



#### Introduction



- The thin walls of these profiles, together with the high thermal steel conductivity, provide a great loss of strength and stiffness on these structural elements when subjected to fire.
- To consider this mechanical resistance and stiffness loss, it is necessary to apply:
  - the reduction factor of Young's modulus at high temperature;  $E_{a,\pmb{\theta}} = \underbrace{k_{E,\pmb{\theta}}} E_a$
  - and the reduction factor of the proportional limit strength at 0.2%.  $f_{0,2,p,\theta} = k_{0,2,p,\theta} f_y$





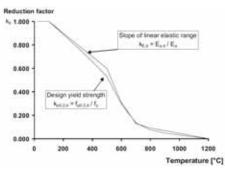
Behaviour of cold-formed steel beam-columns in case of fire

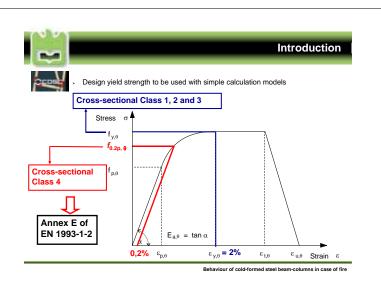
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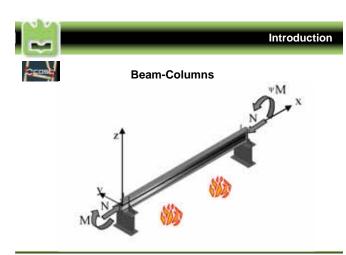
#### Introduction

CEUS

Mechanical properties reduction at high temperatures for Class 4 cross-sections







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### **PhD Planning**

Behaviour of cold-formed steel beam-columns in case of fire



> Cold-formed steel profiles have been widely used in construction



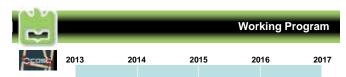
- Fire design rules from the Eurocode for these elements have demonstrated to be very conservative
- > Unclear concepts on research domain of cold-formed steel elements

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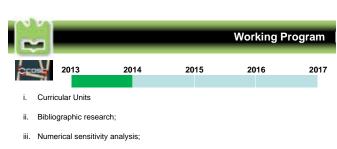


- Understand the cold-formed steel elements fire behaviour by means of numerical and experimental analysis
- Study and develop (if necessary) simple design rules for fire design of cold-formed steel elements (beams, columns and beam-columns) and validation of formulae prescribed in Eurocode 3 for fire resistance.

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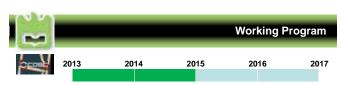


- i. Curricular Units
- ii. Bibliographic research;
- iii. Numerical sensitivity analysis;
- iv. Experimental evaluation of cold-formed fire behaviour under different loading types;
- v. Parametric study with numerical modulation;
- vi. Validation of the design formulae, in Part 1-3 of EC3, for stability check of coldformed steel members at normal temperature and the adaptation for fire situation;
- vii. Development of new fire design methodologies if necessary
- viii. Final writings of the PhD Thesis



- iv. Experimental evaluation of cold-formed fire behaviour under different loading types
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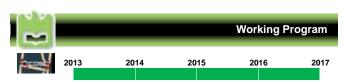
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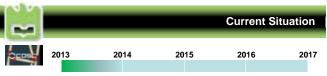
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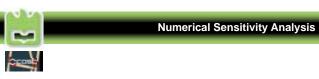
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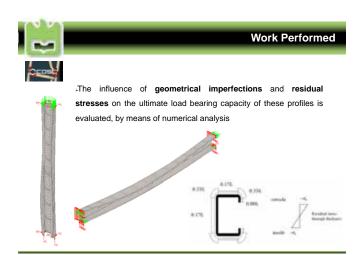


### **Numerical Sensitivity Analysis**

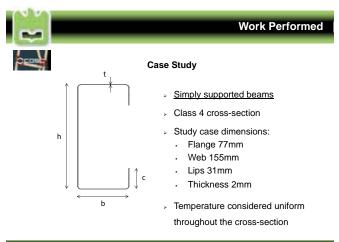


- The fire resistance of buildings made with these profiles has been calculated using advanced methods with finite element programs that consider the local buckling
- > In the numerical study, the following programs were used:
  - CUFSM (Johns Hopkins University, USA)
  - CAST3M (Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique, France); RUBY interface (University of Aveiro, Portugal)
  - SAFIR (University of Liege, Belgium)

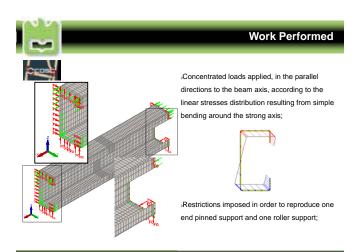
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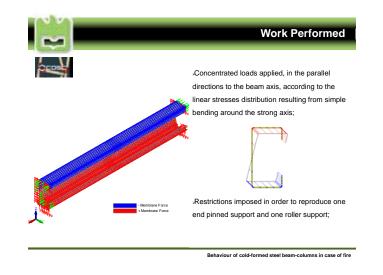


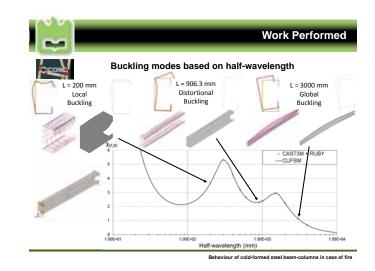
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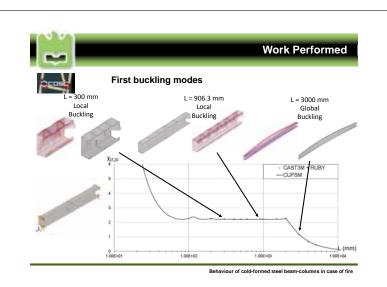


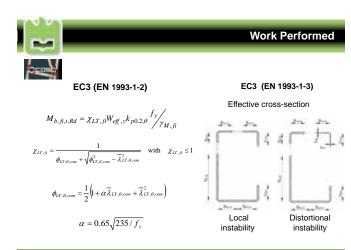
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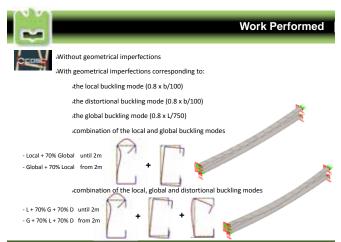


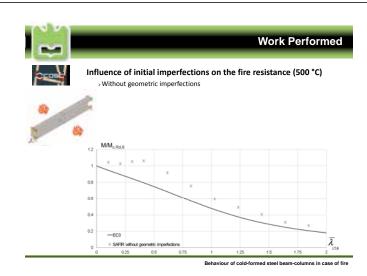


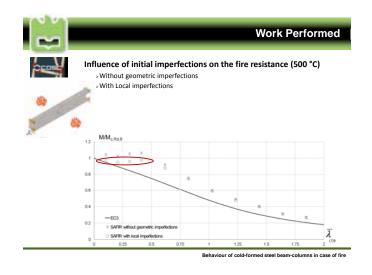


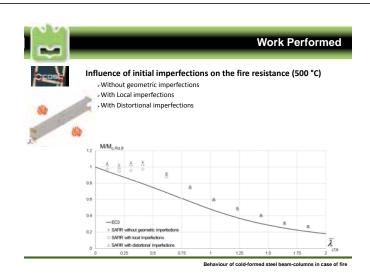


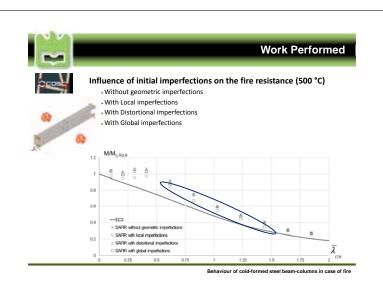
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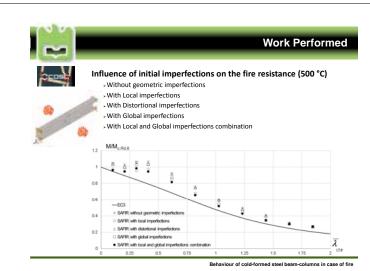


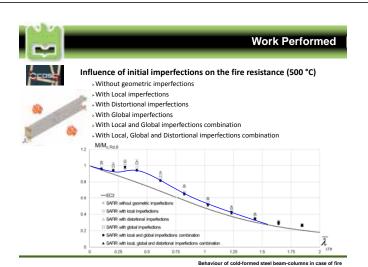


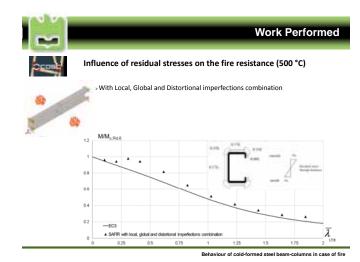












performed, concluding that the latter simple calculation rules are on the safe side and sometimes

Influence of residual stresses on the fire resistance (500 °C)

With Local, Global and Distortional imperfections combination

With Local, Global and Distortional imperfections combination plus residual stresses

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Conclusions

The influence of initial geometrical imperfections (local, distortional, global, and combinations of them) on the determination of the ultimate loads of these elements at high temperatures was analysed and it was concluded that these imperfections are relevant to the determination of those ultimate loads.

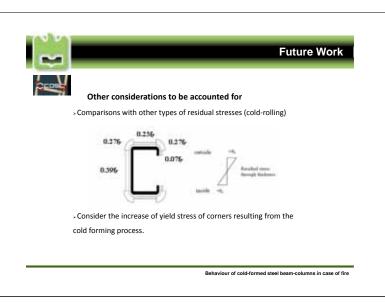
The influence of residual stresses was also analyzed and it was concluded that it did not have impact on the resistance values.

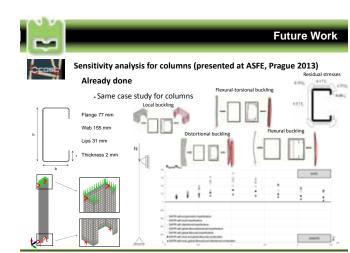
Finally, a comparison between the ultimate loads and the formulae prescribed in EC3 was also

too conservative

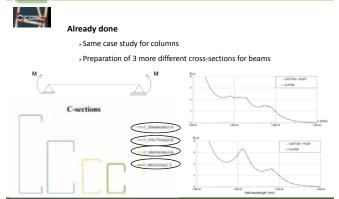
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Work Performed





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Future Work

