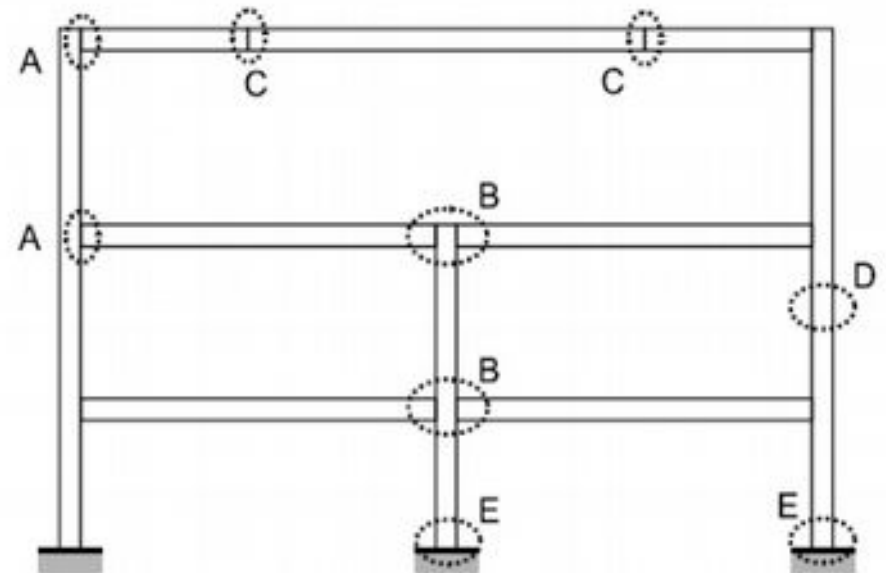
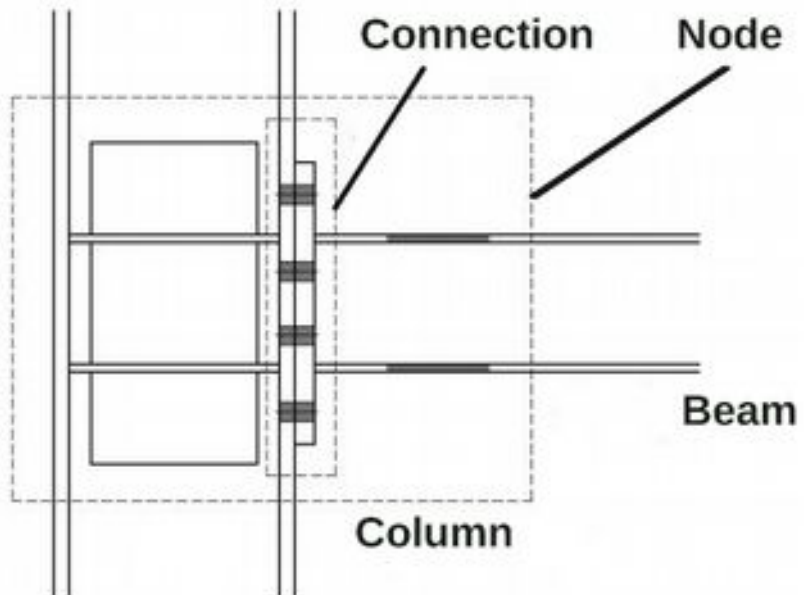
The background image is a grayscale photograph of a structural steel connection. It shows a horizontal beam with a rectangular cutout (RBS) being connected to a vertical column using multiple bolts. The image is somewhat dark and grainy, emphasizing the industrial and structural nature of the subject.

# EXPERIMENTAL CORROBORATION OF THE BEHAVIOUR OF A BOLTED RBS CONNECTION UNDER CYCLIC LOAD

NIKOLAOS PAPPAS

# NODES



# CONNECTIONS

Northridge (1994) and Kobe (1995) earthquakes

New way of forming moment connections

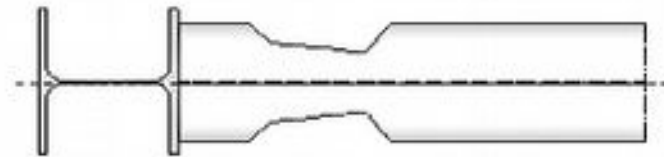
seeking:

- Increased rotational capacity of nodes
- Better behaviour of steel frames
- Protection of the connection parts and the column

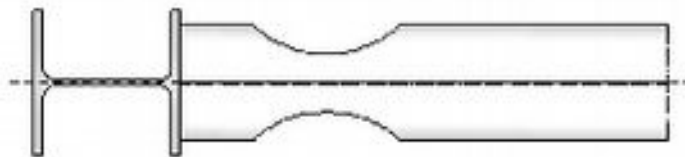
# Reducing the Beam Section relatively far from the connection



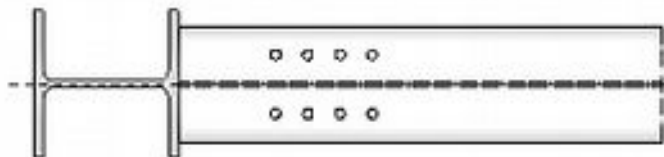
Linear fixed depth cut



Linear varied depth cut



Circular cut



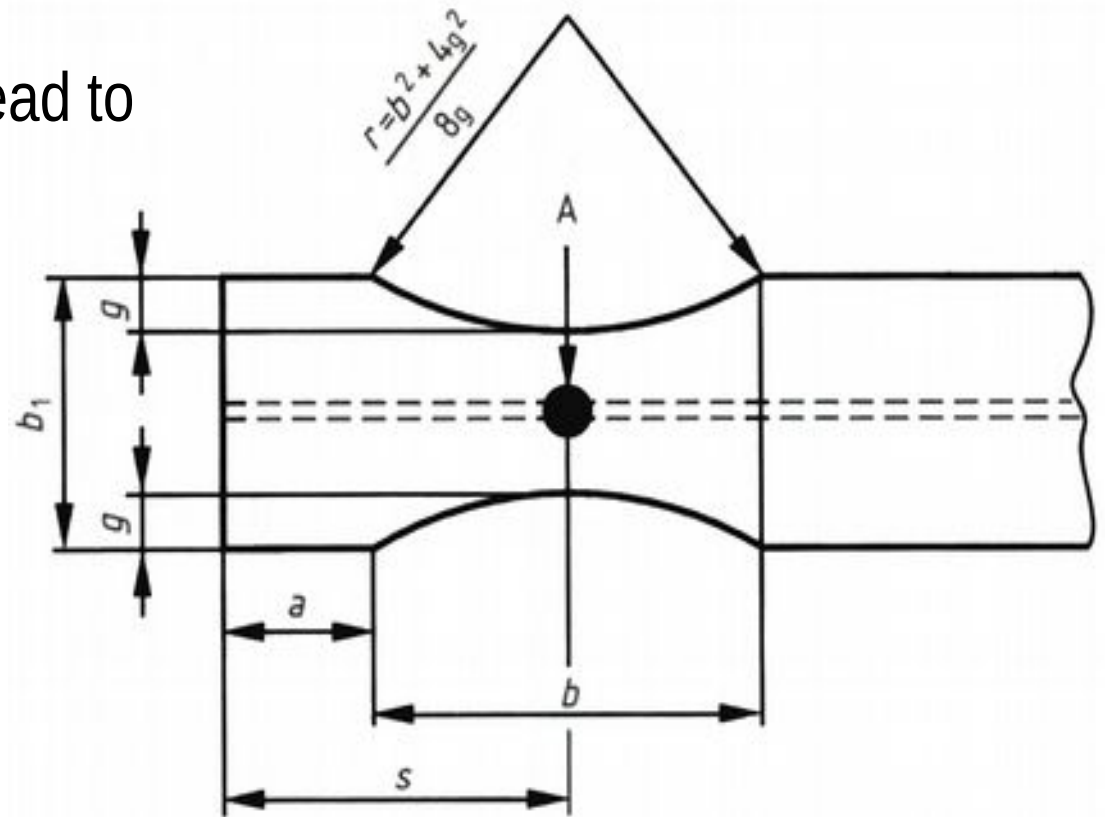
Hole opening

# RBS GEOMETRICAL PARAMETERS

**a** : distance from the column head to the beginning of the cut

**b** : cut length

**g** : cut depth



# NORM LIMITS

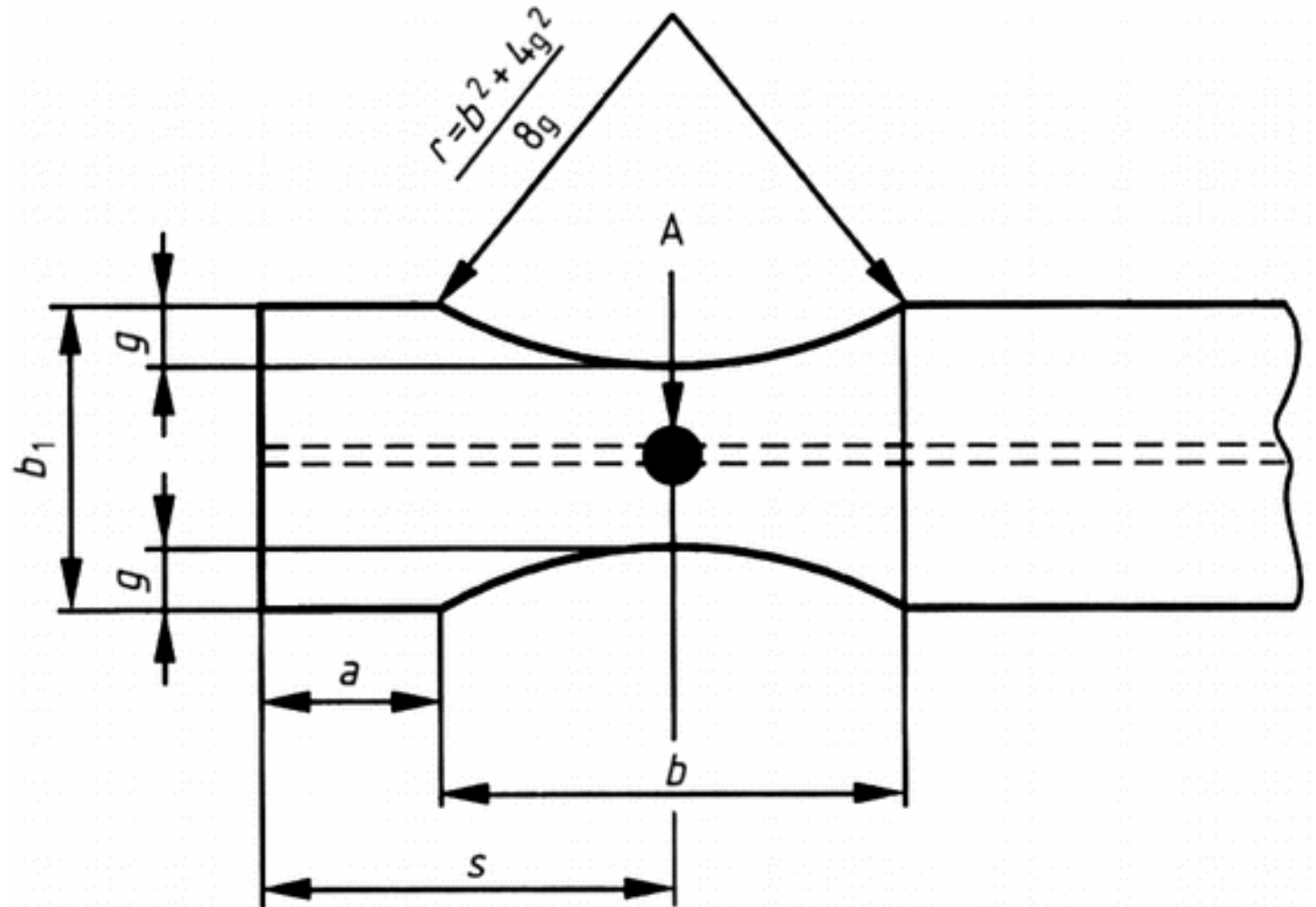
Parameter	Eurocode 8	FEMA
a	$0.60 \cdot b_f$	$(0.5 - 0.75) \cdot b_f$
b	$0.75 \cdot d_b$	$(0.65 - 0.85) \cdot d_b$
g	$< 0.25 \cdot b_f$	$0.20 \cdot b_f$

# RBS PARAMETER CHOICE

$$a = 0,45 \cdot b_f$$

$$b = 0,75 \cdot d_b$$

$$g = 0,20 \cdot b_f$$



# FINITE ELEMENT MODEL DESCRIPTION

Part

Material

Assembly

Step

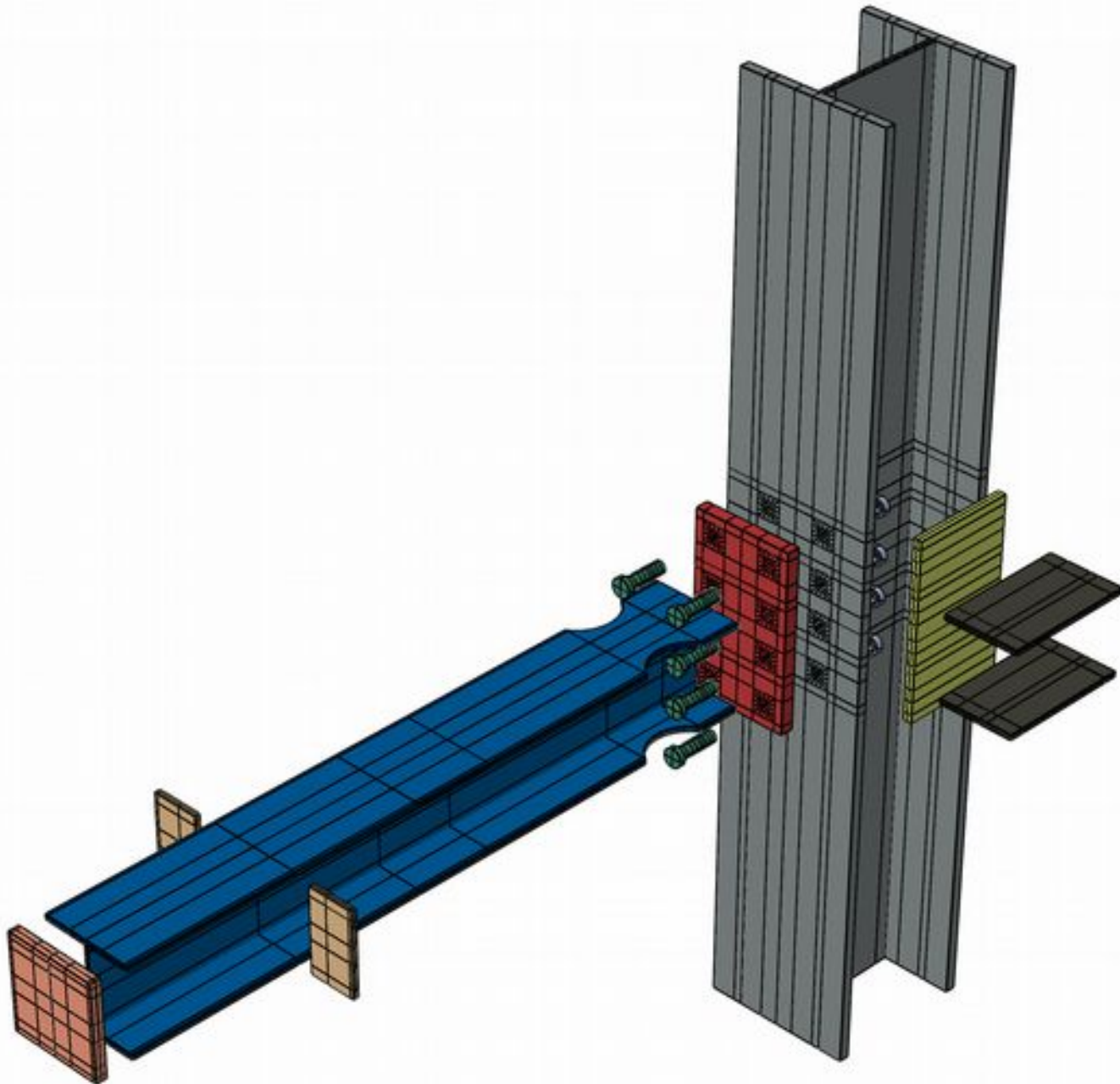
Interaction

Load

Mesh



# PARTS

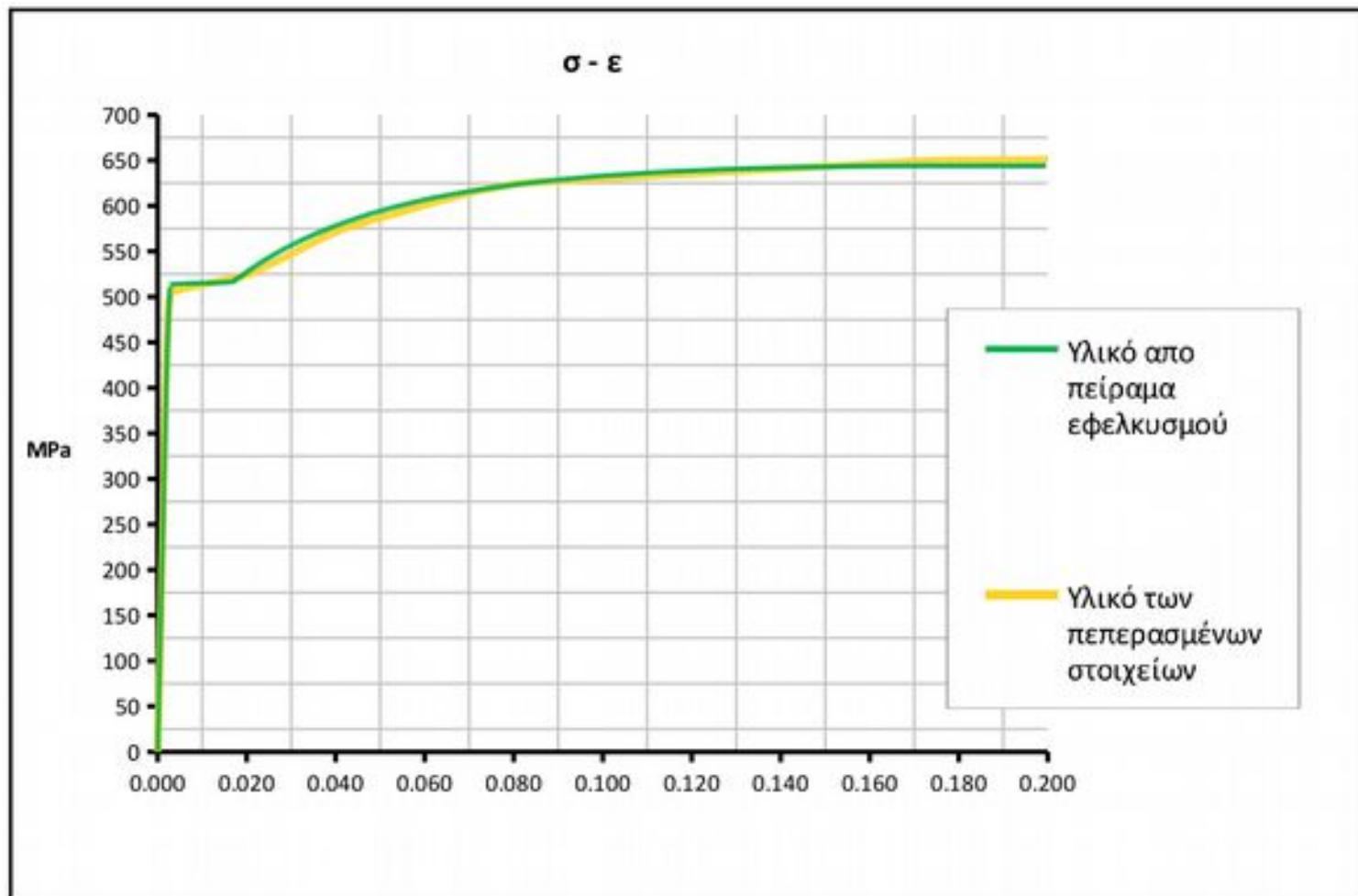


# STRUCTURE OF THE EXPERIMENT

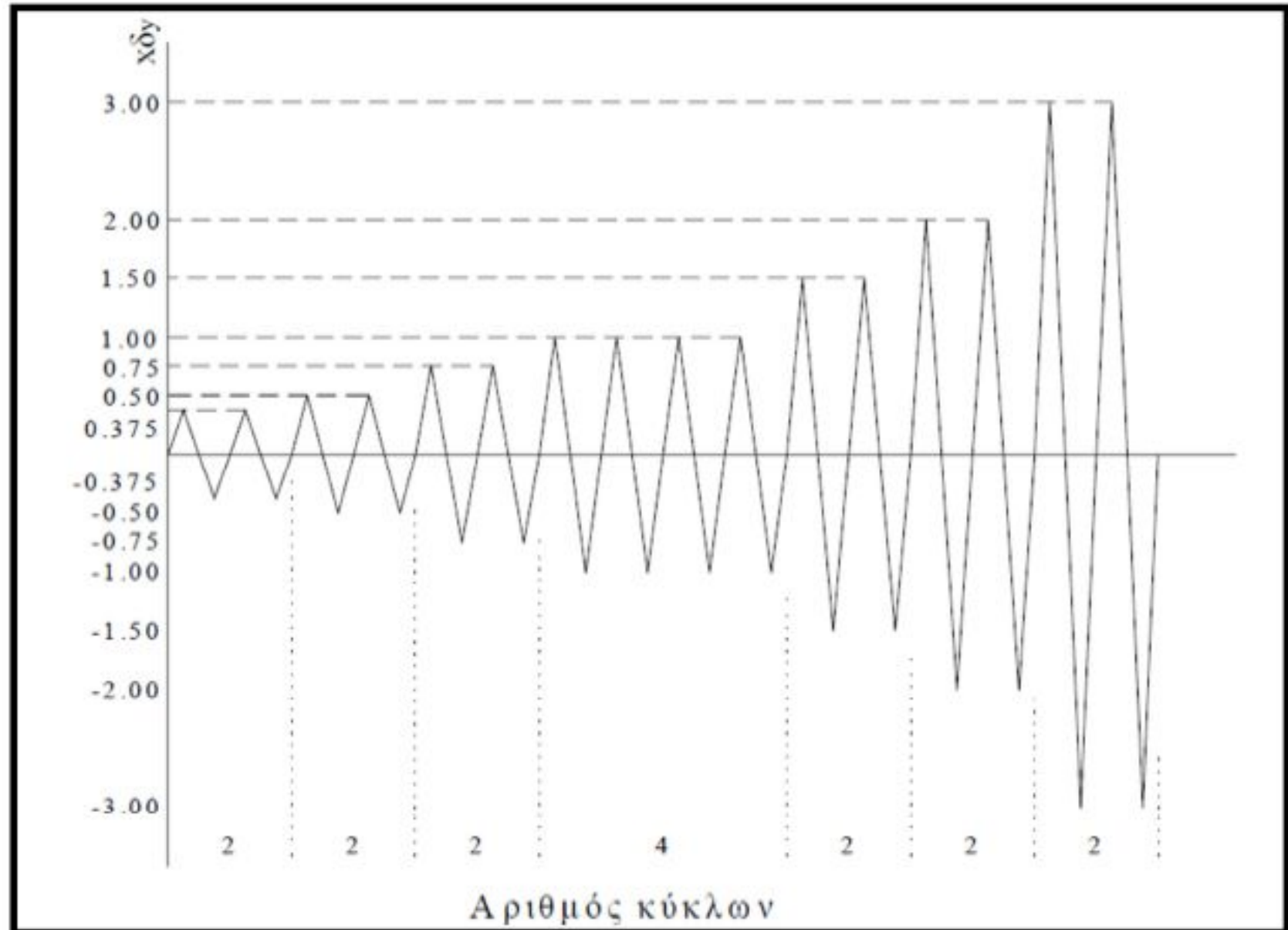


# MATERIAL

$\sigma$ (MPa)	$\varepsilon_{\text{plastic}}$
505	0.00
525	0.02
575	0.04
625	0.08
650	0.20



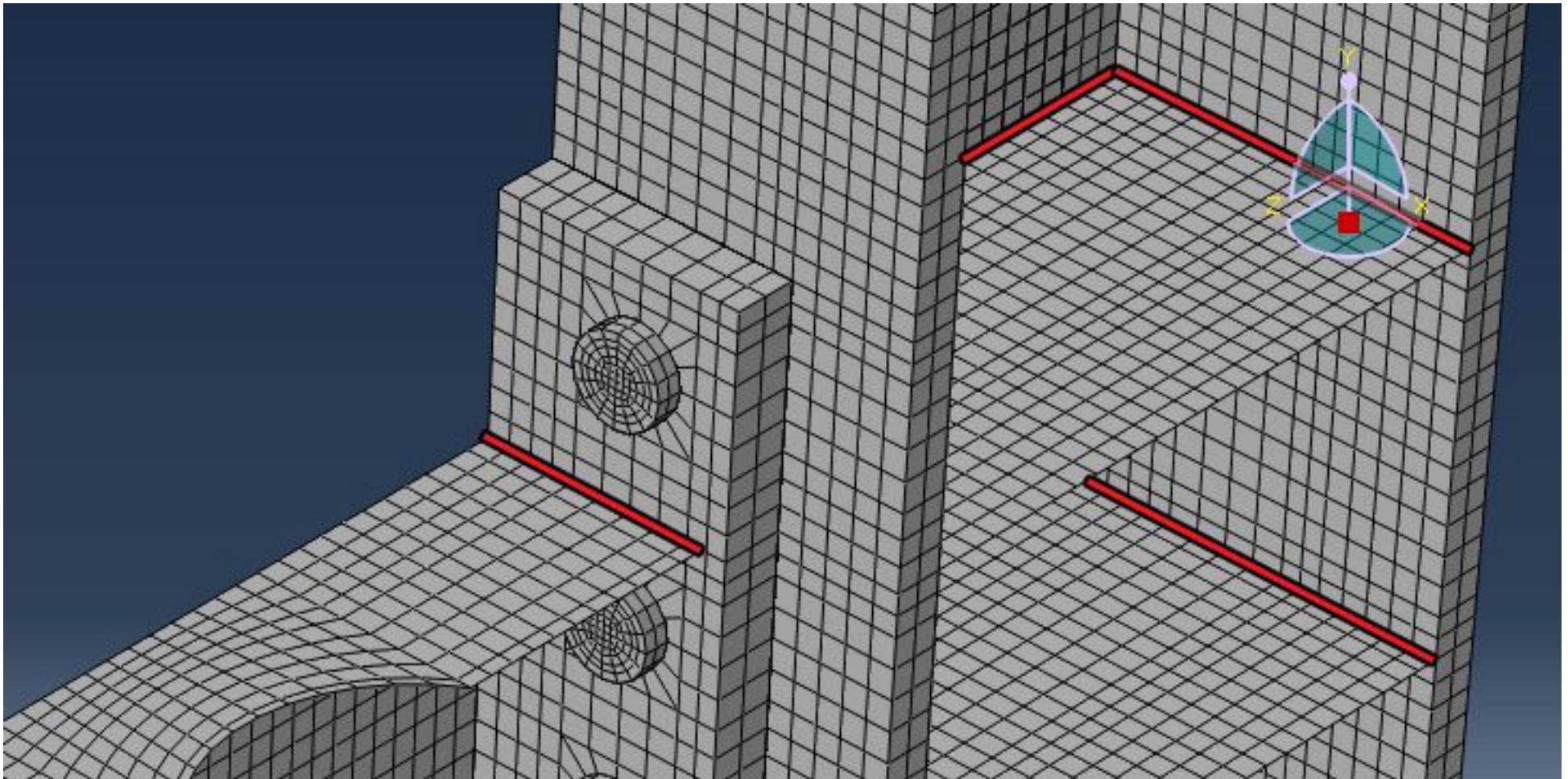
# LOAD PROTOCOL





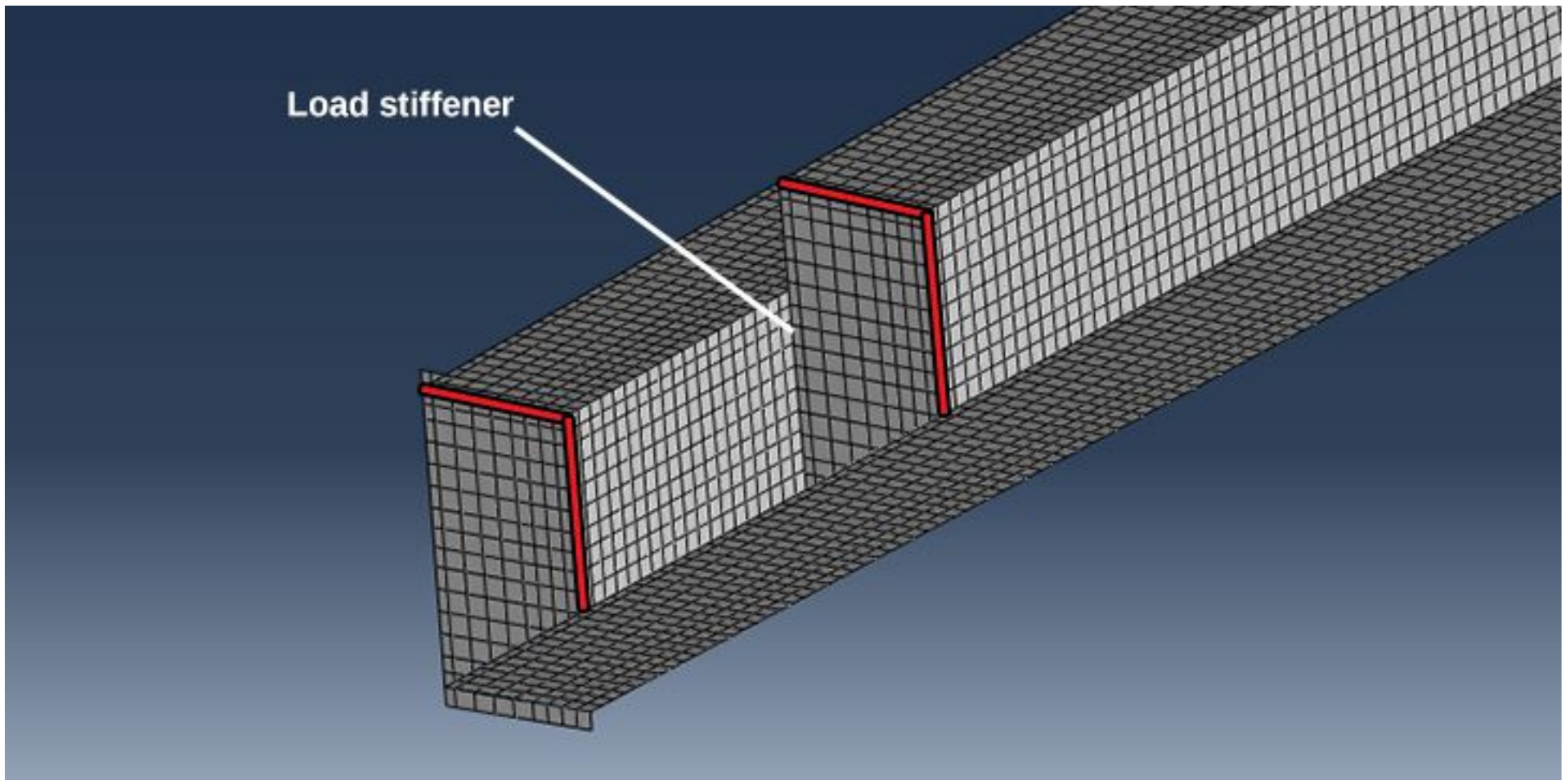
# INTERACTION

## Ties



# INTERACTION

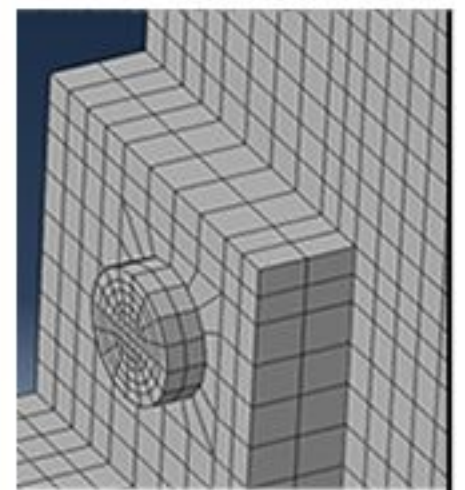
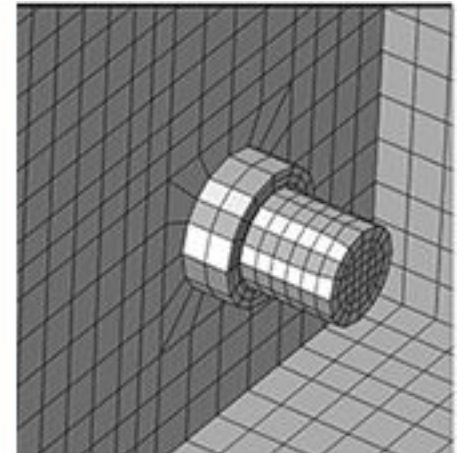
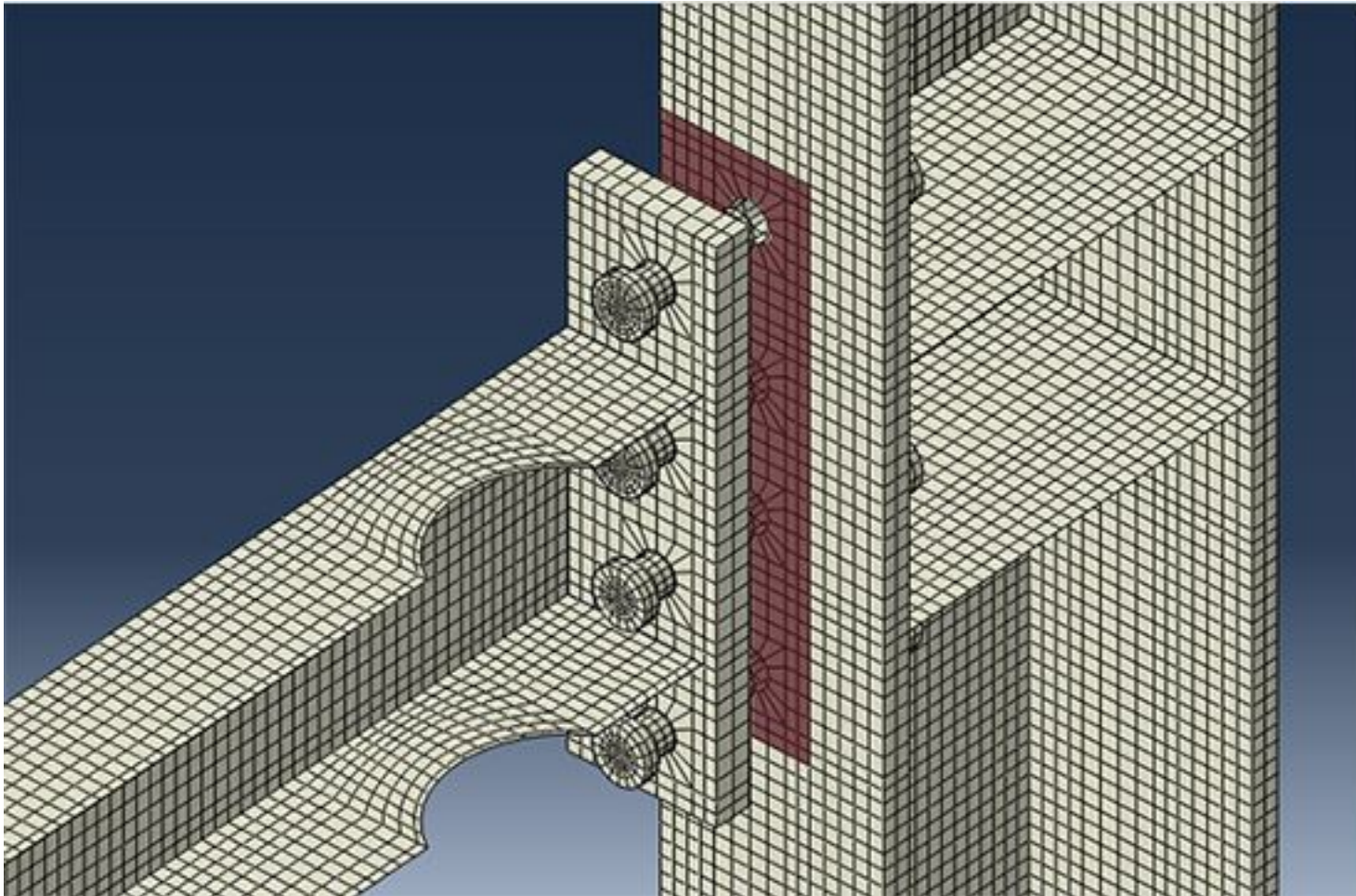
## Ties





# INTERACTION

## Contact



# MESH

The division of the parts into shapes that allow the computer to approximate the behaviour of the whole, solving a set of simple equations

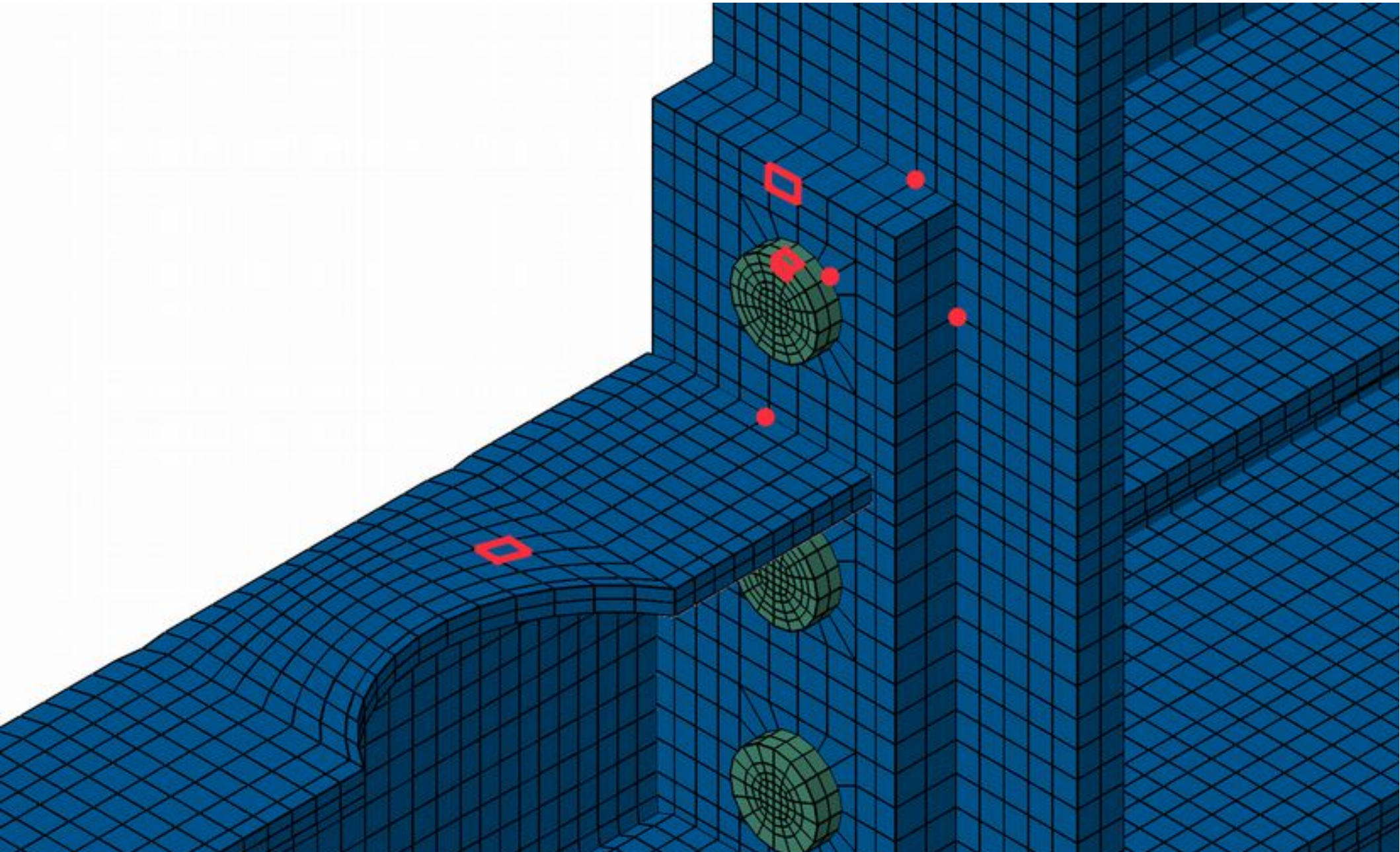
Directly linked with the results' accuracy

Coincident nodes where different parts meet

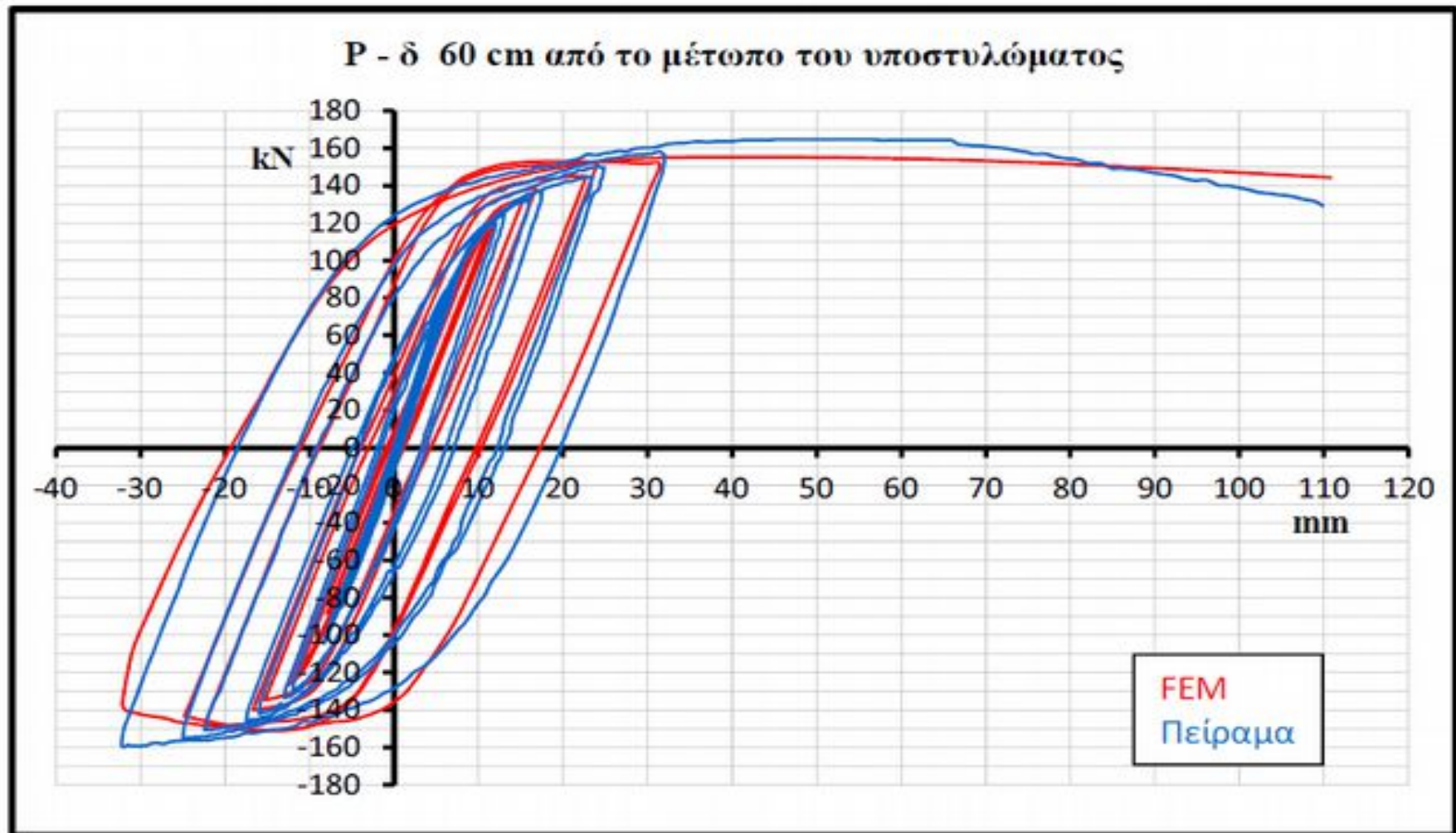
Rectangular elements are optimum



# MESH

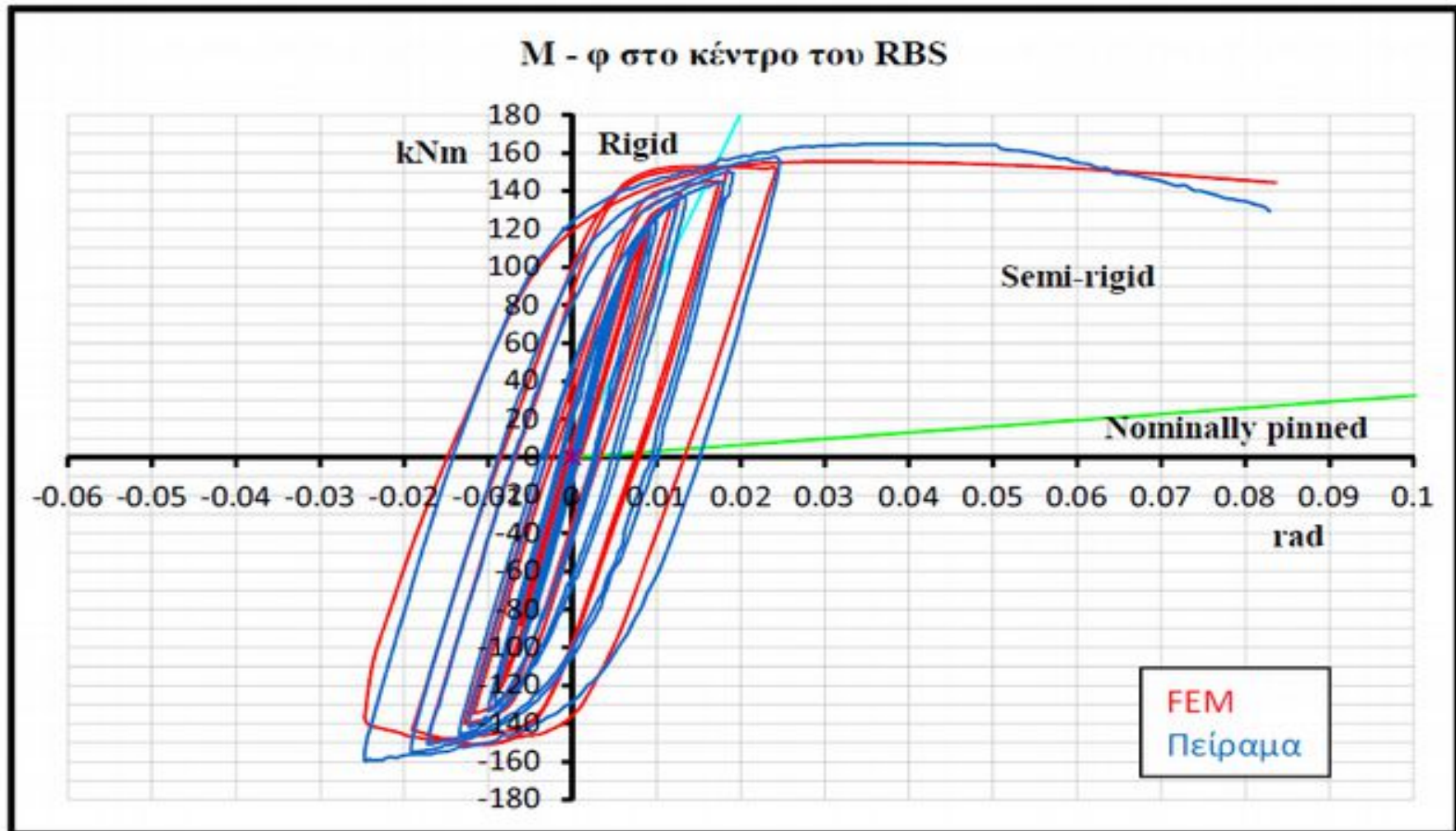


# RESULTS



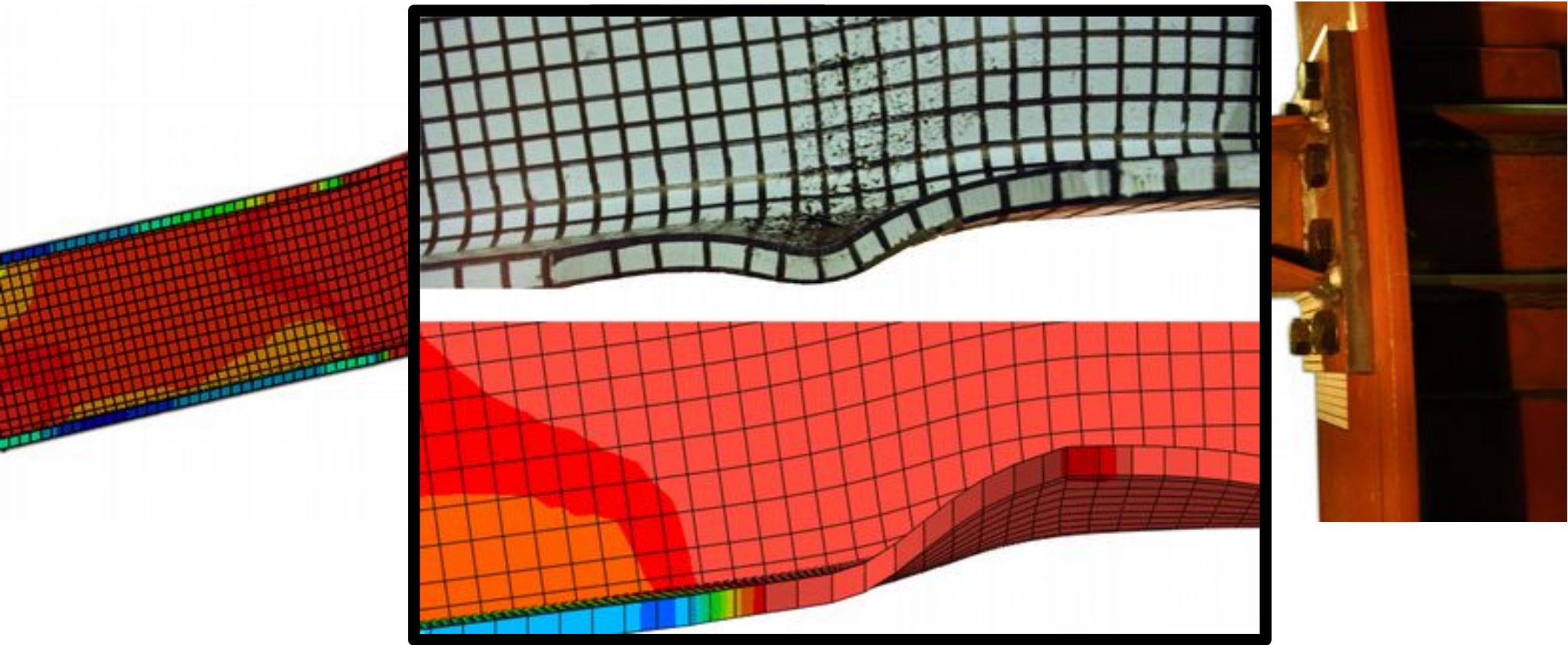


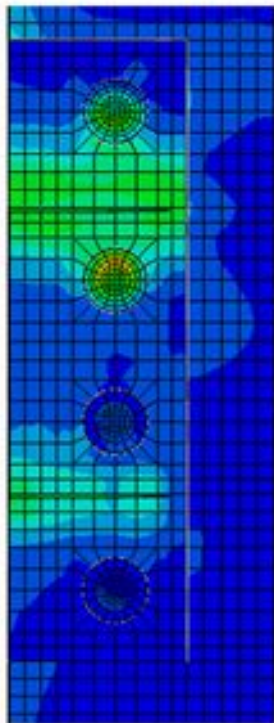
# RESULTS



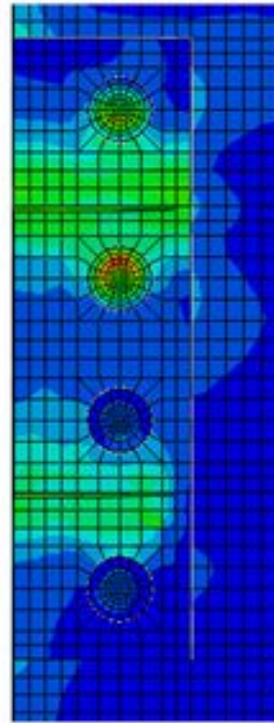
# RESULTS COMPARISON

## FEM-EXPERIMENT CONTRASTING

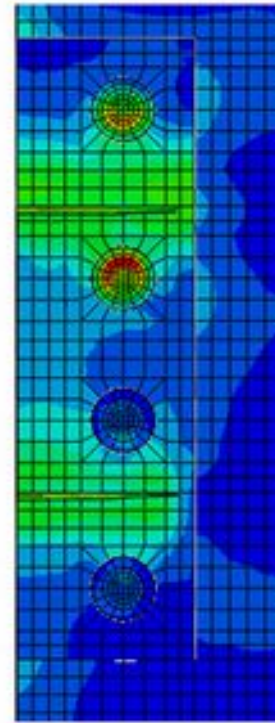




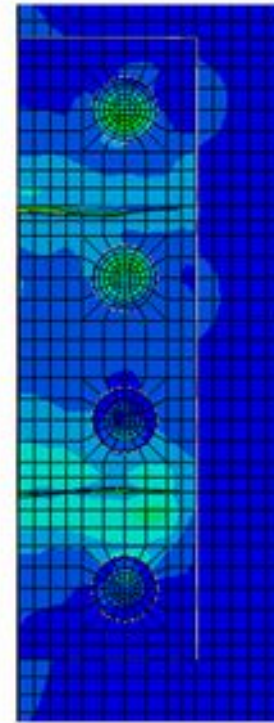
$\alpha$   
150%



$\beta$   
200%



$\gamma$   
300%



$\delta$   
αστοχία

# CONCLUSIONS

The behaviour of the connection is satisfactory as the plastic hinge is created at the position of the cut

The analytical model is reliable

Although in one of the controlled parameters the recommended by EC8 value is not used, we conclude that the method is indeed effective. Such fact provides reasonable doubt about the recommendations of the code as they are a result of an adoption of what FEMA is proposing

The rotational capacity of the node is at least satisfactory as it proved to be way higher than the limits of EC8 and those of FEMA

The lower limit of parameter  $a$  that the Eurocode 8 recommends is justified as we observe the plastic hinge tend to get closer to the connection and therefore the possibility of the connection getting is higher. In none of the anterior experiments, that honoured the limit, had occurred such displacement

# Experimental Procedure

Girder cutting

Dimension check

Part perforation

Dimension check

Part welding

Weld control

RBS cut

Dimension check

Tension test

Material determination

Structure Assembly

Optimal positioninng

Pilot load

Equipment control

# Simulation Procedure

Material Input

Tensile test simulation

Element determination  
2d-3d elements

Model efficiency  
and accuracy

Calibrating Model

Along with data from  
previous experiments

Actions

Actual beam's vertical  
deformation @60cm