

Wilfried B. Krätzig, Reinhard Harte, Ralf Wörmann:

# Large shell structures for power generation technologies

## 1. Natural draft cooling towers and solar updraft chimneys: Why large?

## 2. Natural draft cooling towers:

Construction principles • loading and internal stress variables • shape optimization • instability and vibrations • damage and life-duration

## 3. Solar updraft power plant chimneys:

Construction principles • shell strength versus ring stiffening • instability and vibrations

## 4. Conclusions

IASS – IACM 2008 • 6<sup>th</sup> Int. Conference on Computation of Shell and Spatial Structures  
28 – 31 May 2008 • Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA



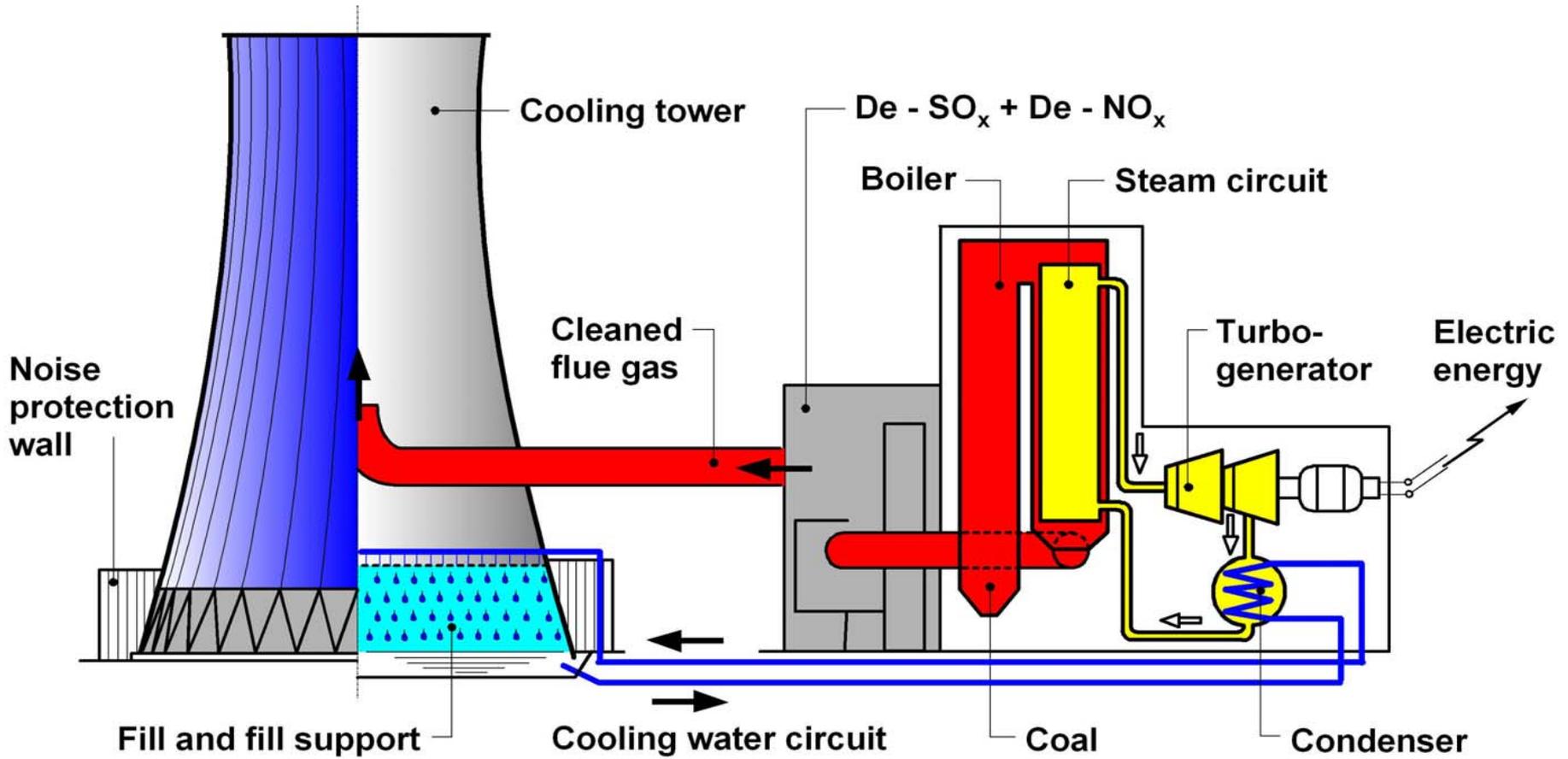


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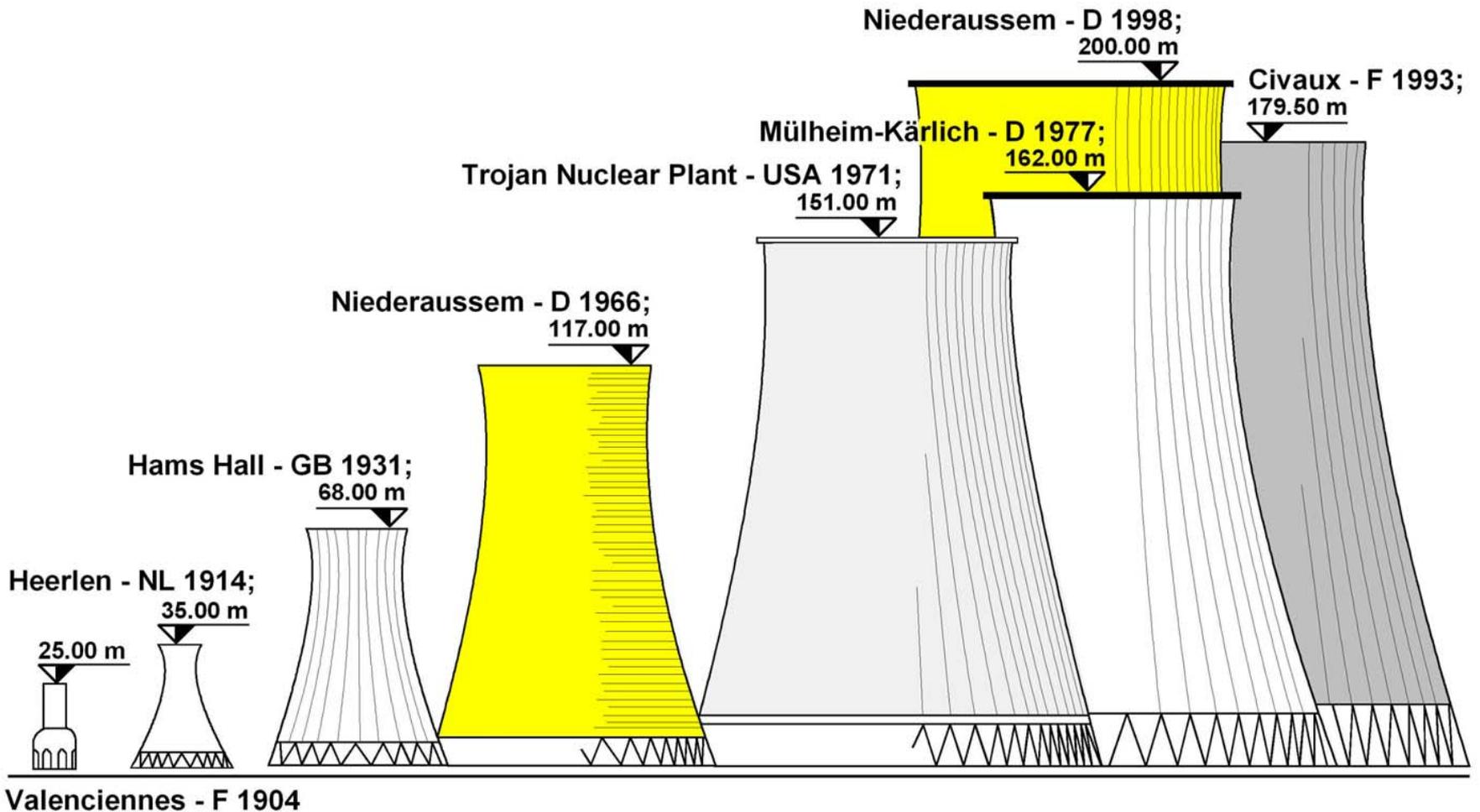
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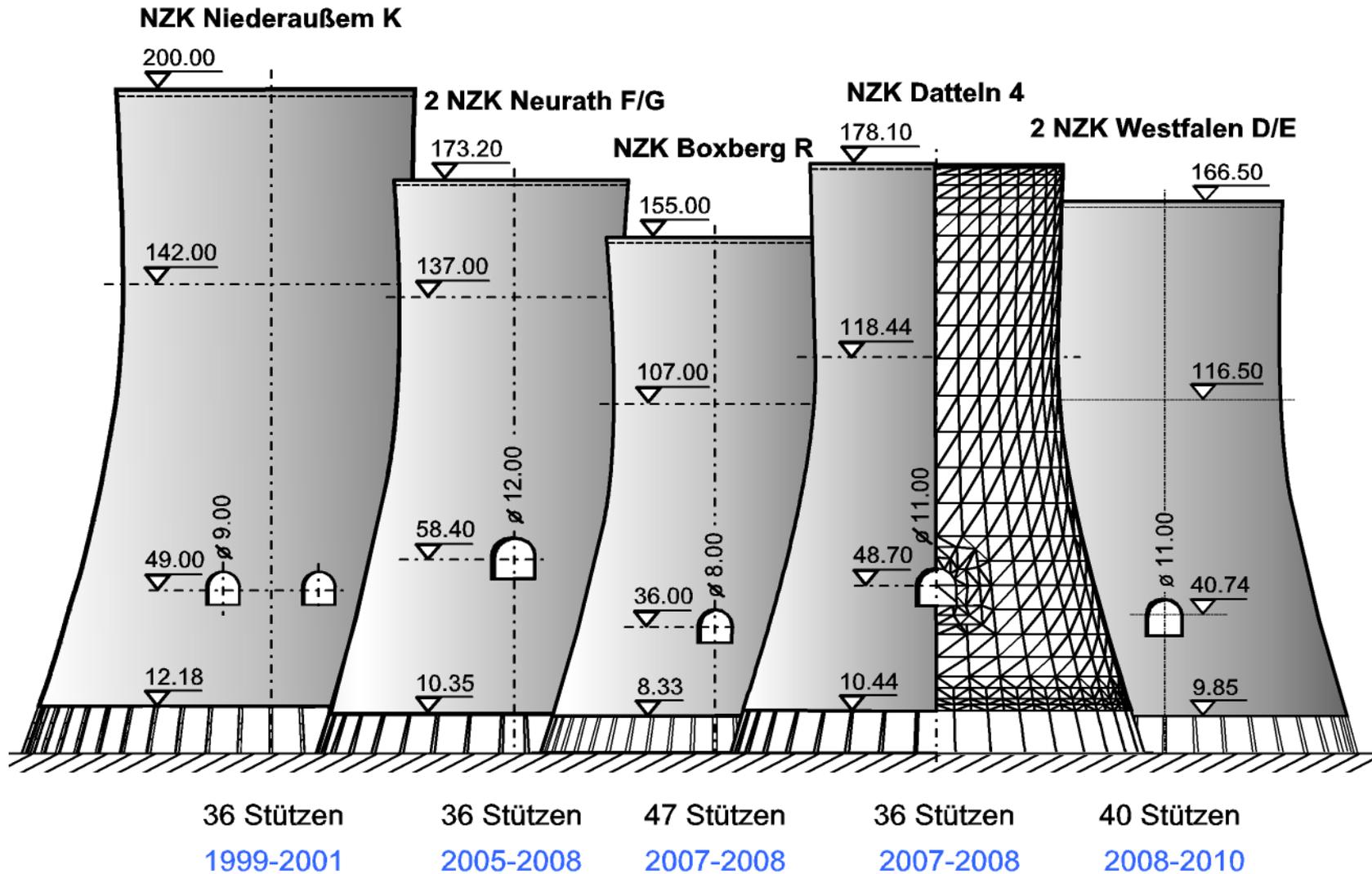


## Thermal power plant with cleaned flue gas injection

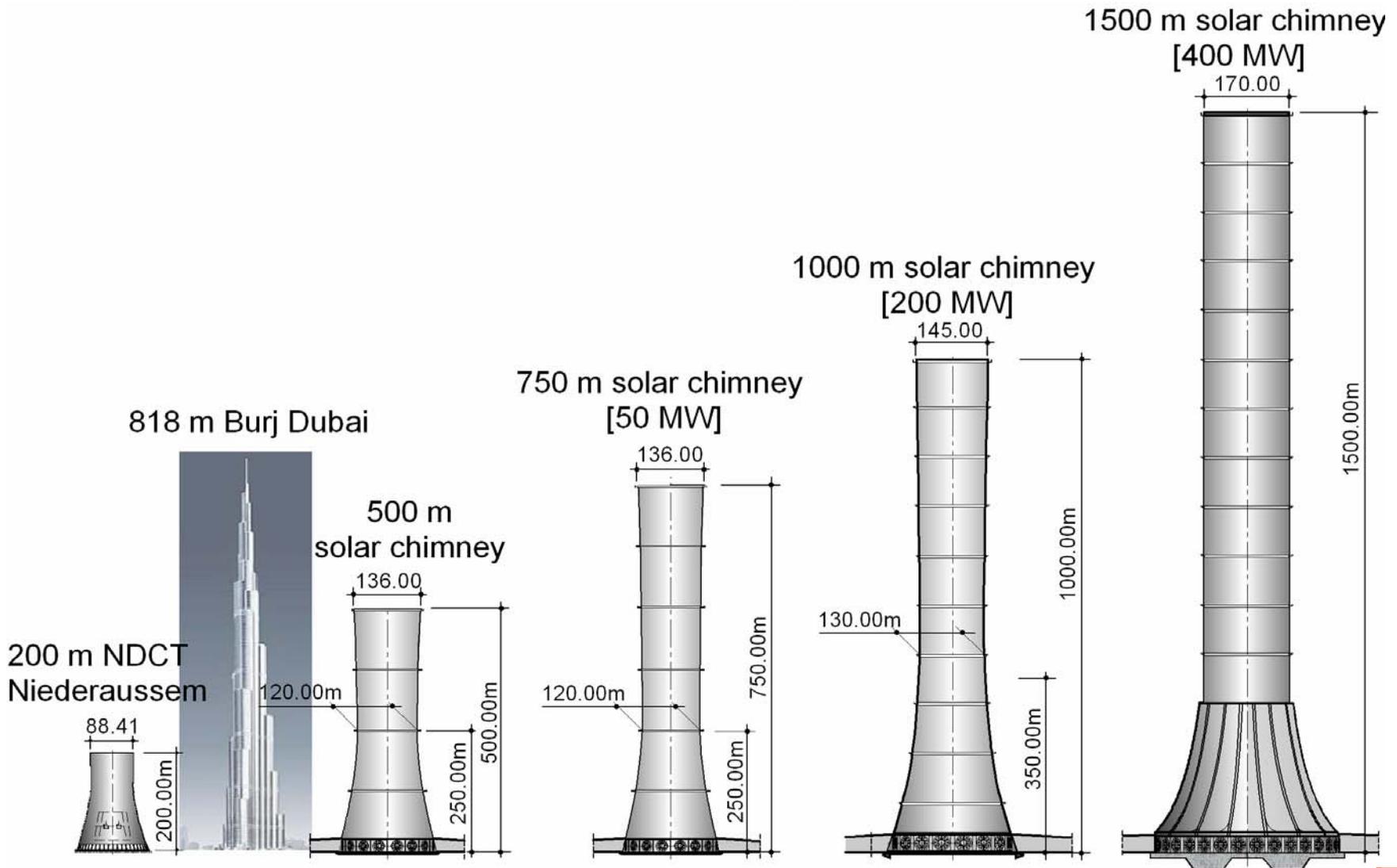


## Development of natural draft cooling towers

# Actual cooling tower projects made of high-performance concrete in Germany



# From natural draft cooling towers to solar chimneys

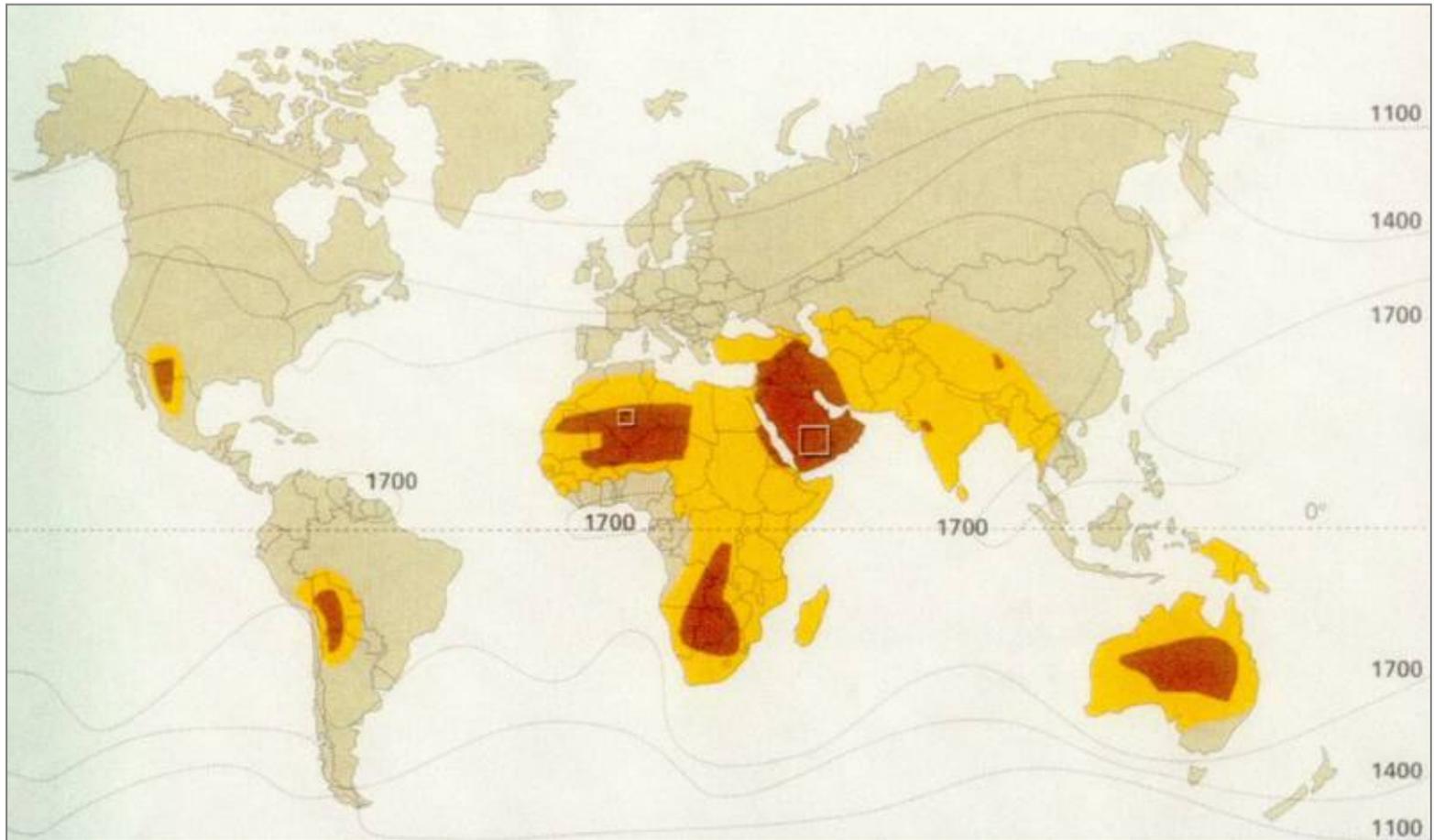


# Solar GreenTower<sup>®</sup> Competence Network

- **W.W. Stinnes** M.Sc.(Phys.), Haiger (Germany) und Pretoria (RSA)
  - **Prof. Dr. R. Harte**, U. Wuppertal + Krätzig & Partner, Bochum
  - **Prof. Dr. Dr. E.h. W.B. Krätzig**, Ruhr-University + Krätzig & Partner, Bochum
  - **Prof. Dr. H.- J. Niemann**, Ruhr-Universität und Niemann & Partner, Bochum
  - **Prof. Dr. D.G. Kröger**, University of Stellenbosch, RSA
  - **Prof. Dr. T.W. von Backström**, University of Stellenbosch (RSA)
  - **Prof. Dr. G.P.A. van Zijl**, University of Stellenbosch und T.U. Delft
  - **Dr. V. Wittwer**, ISE Fraunhofer Institut für Solare Energiesysteme, Freiburg
  - Prof. Dr. J. Meins**, T.U. Braunschweig
- further research institutes and industrial enterprises from different countries

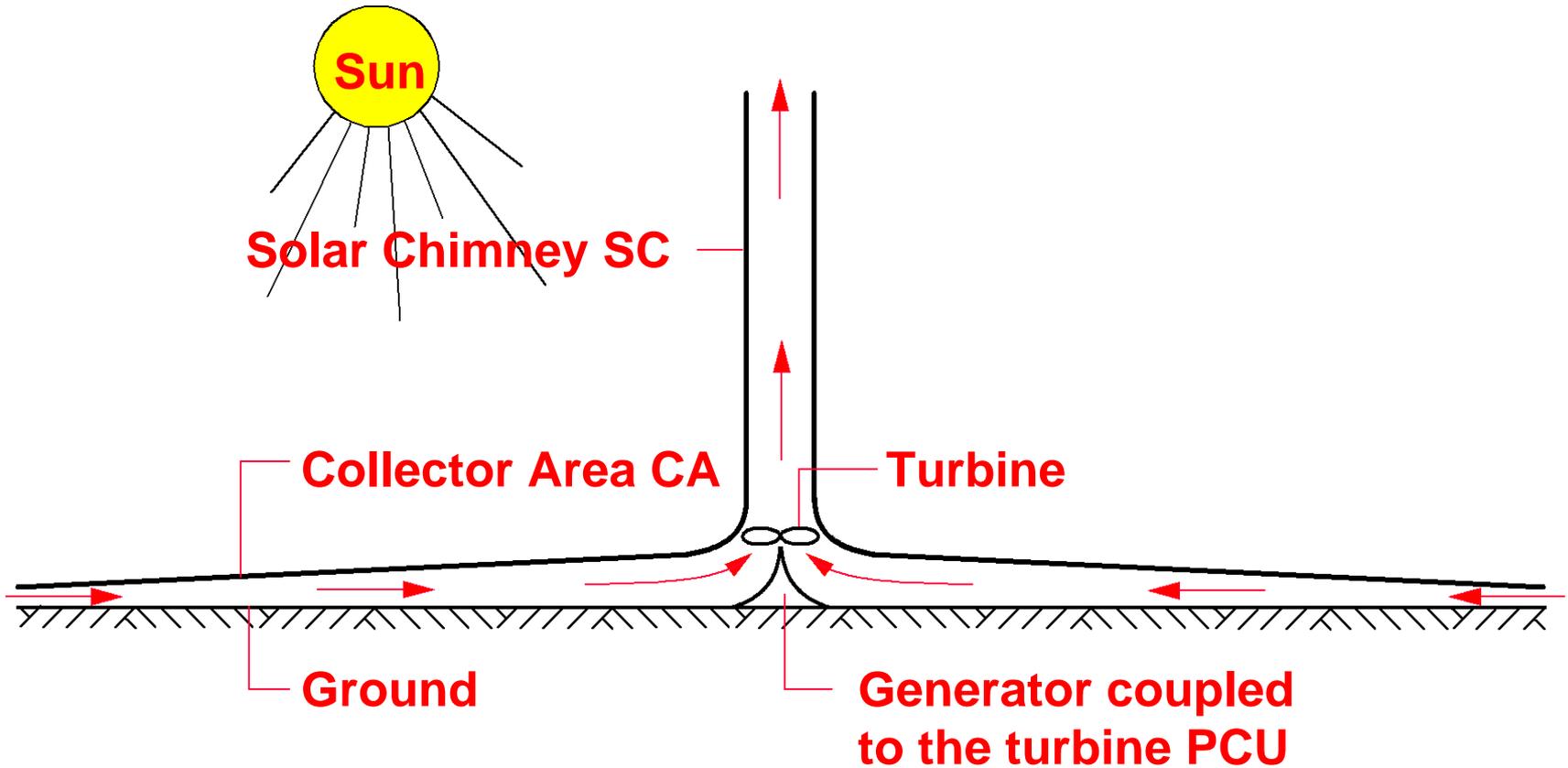
# Annual global solar radiation (kWh / m<sup>2</sup>)

- Yellow areas – more than 1950 kWh / m<sup>2</sup>
- Red areas – more than 2200 kWh / m<sup>2</sup>



# Schematic solar chimney power plant

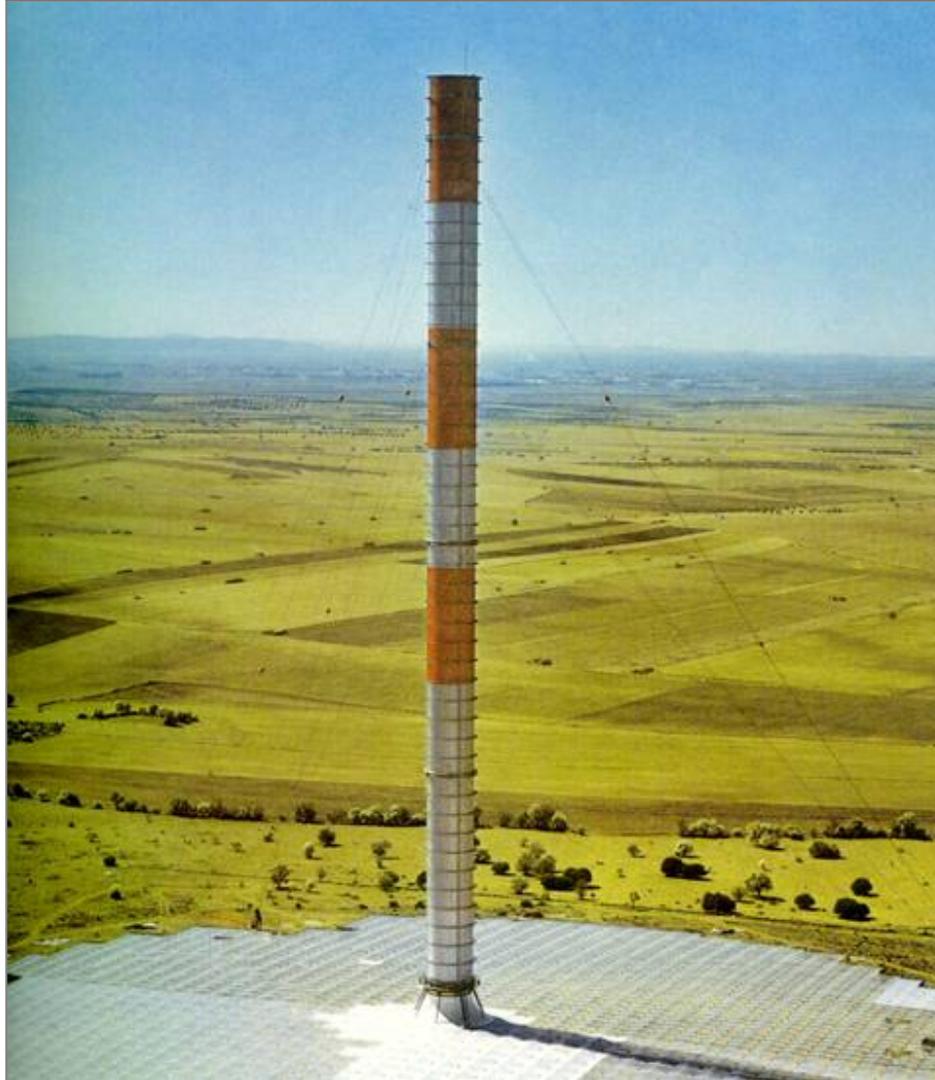
Acc. Kroeger/Praetorius (Univ. Stellenbosch):  
Solar Chimney Power Plant Performance



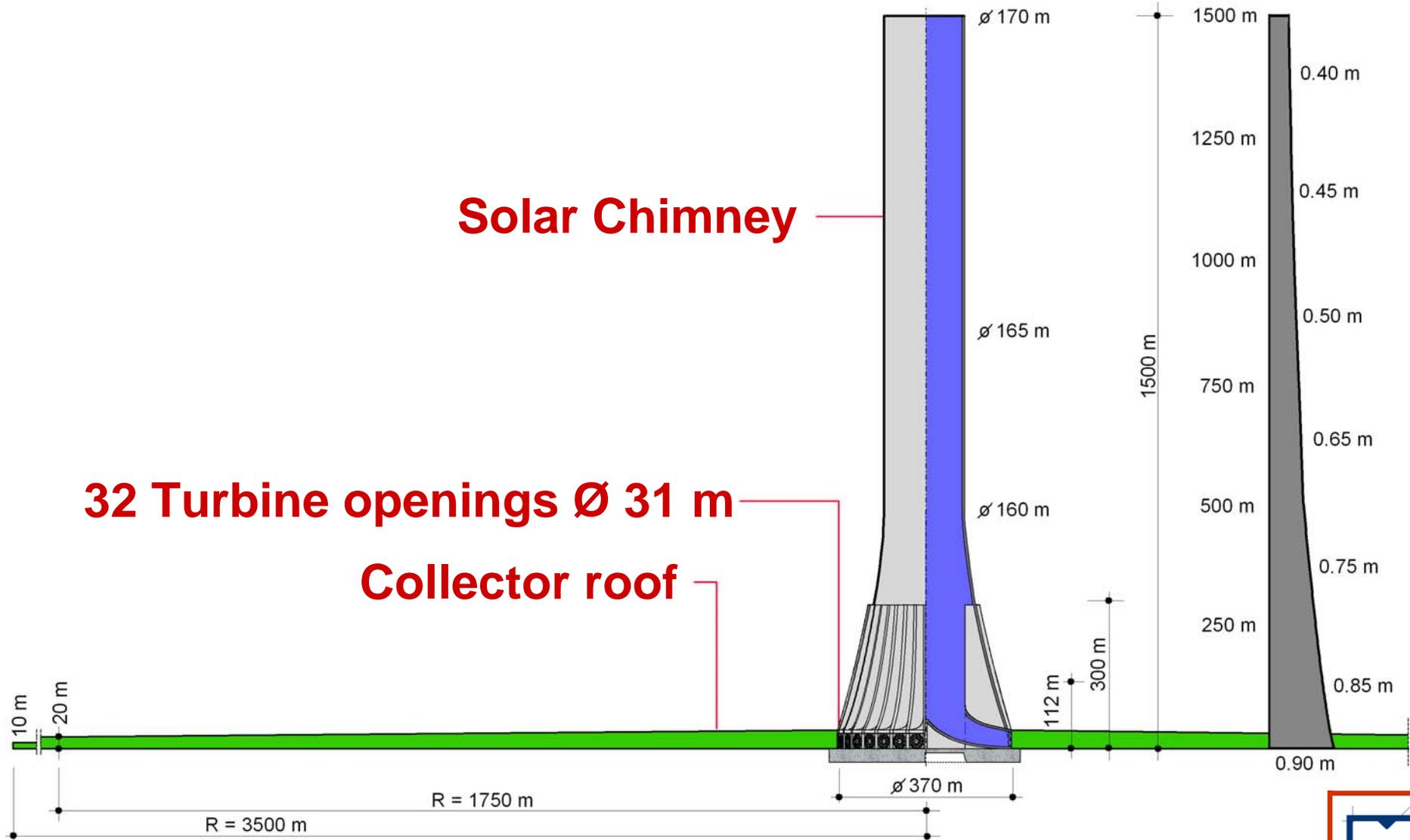
# Prototype solar chimney power plant

Manzanares, Spain (1982), prototype project Prof. J. Schlaich

Acc. Kroeger/Praetorius (Univ. Stellenbosch):  
Solar Chimney Power Plant Performance



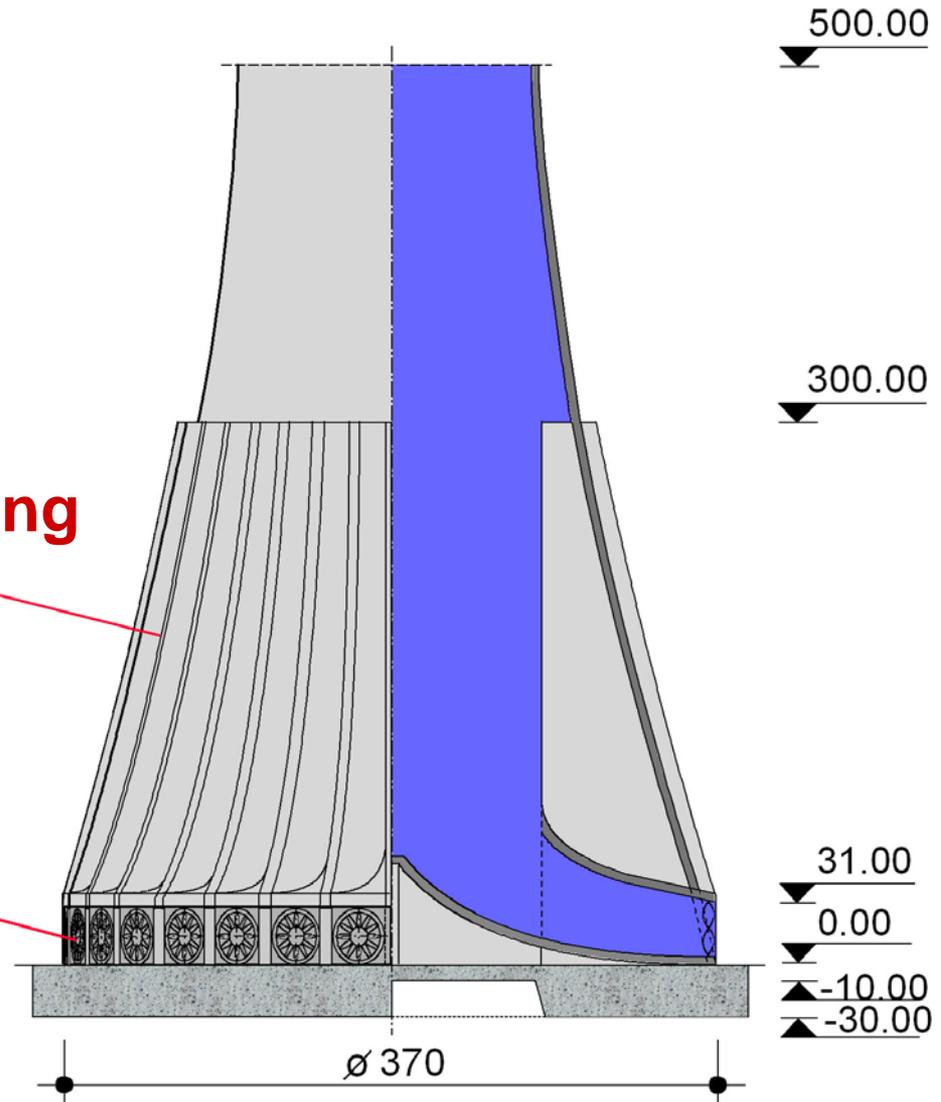
# Natural Hazard Resistant Design of the Green Tower



# GreenTower Project Namibia: Tower foot alternative

**32 Additional Stiffening  
Walls d = 2.0m**

**32 Turbines  
Ø 31 m**



# Artist's view of large solar chimney power plant



Acc. Stinnes (GreenTower Ltd.):  
Short Executive Summary June 2007

Wilfried B. Krätzig, Reinhard Harte, Ralf Wörmann:

# Large shell structures for power generation technologies

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4. Conclusions





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**X**  
Foto 14

# NDCT RWE Lignite Power Plant Neurath 2007





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Foto 24



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Foto2

# NDCT RWE Lignite Power Plant Neurath 2007



## **Collapses of natural draft cooling towers of more than 100 m of height**

- 1965 Ferrybridge GB, 01.11.**
- 1973 Ardeer GB, 27.09.**
- 1978 Willow Islands USA, 27.04  
46 casualties**
- 1979 Bouchain F, 30.08.**
- 1981 Mississippi USA,**
- 1984 Fiddler 's Ferry GB, 15.01.**
- 1984 Worldwide  $\approx$  160 cooling towers of more than 100 m of height;  
Lost in 19 years: 8 towers  $\approx$  5%.**

# NDCT Goesgen: Aerial view



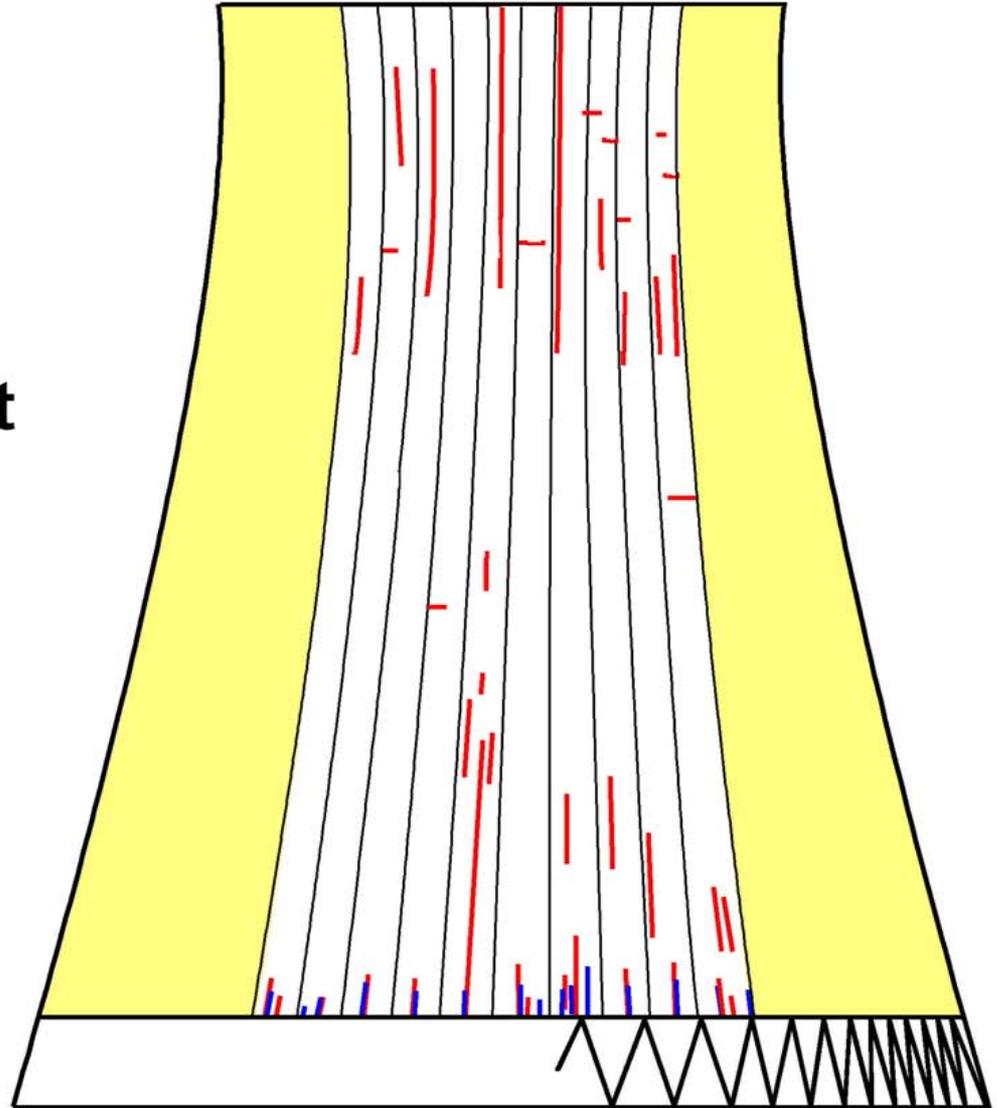
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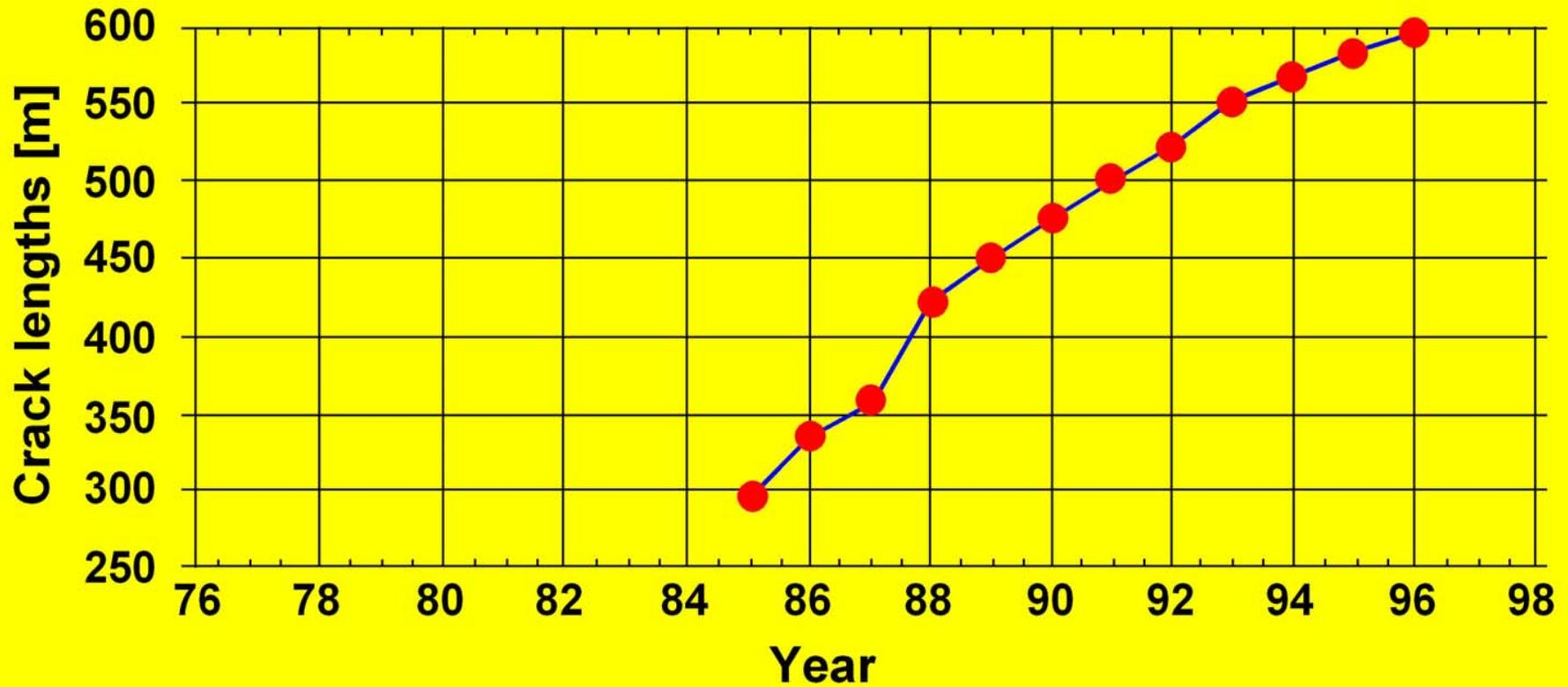
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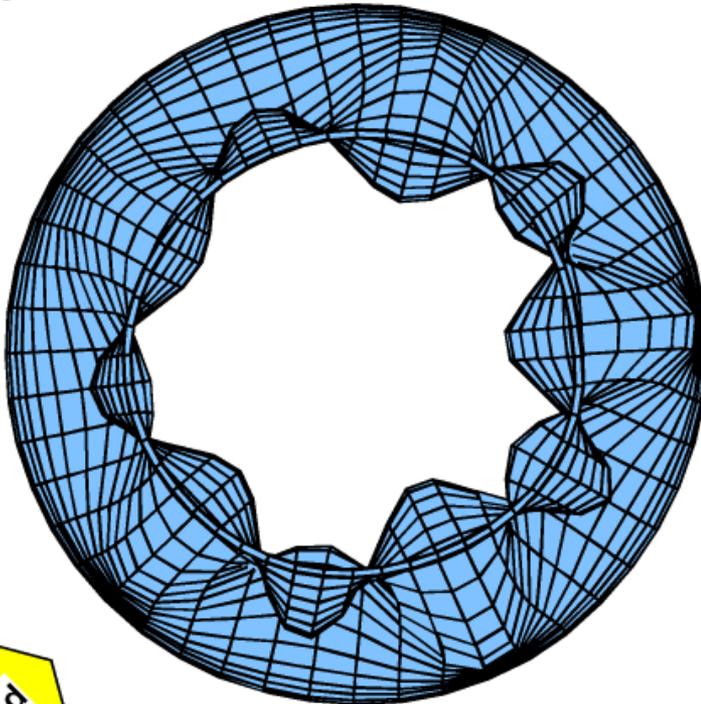
## Monitored cracks of a cooling tower segment



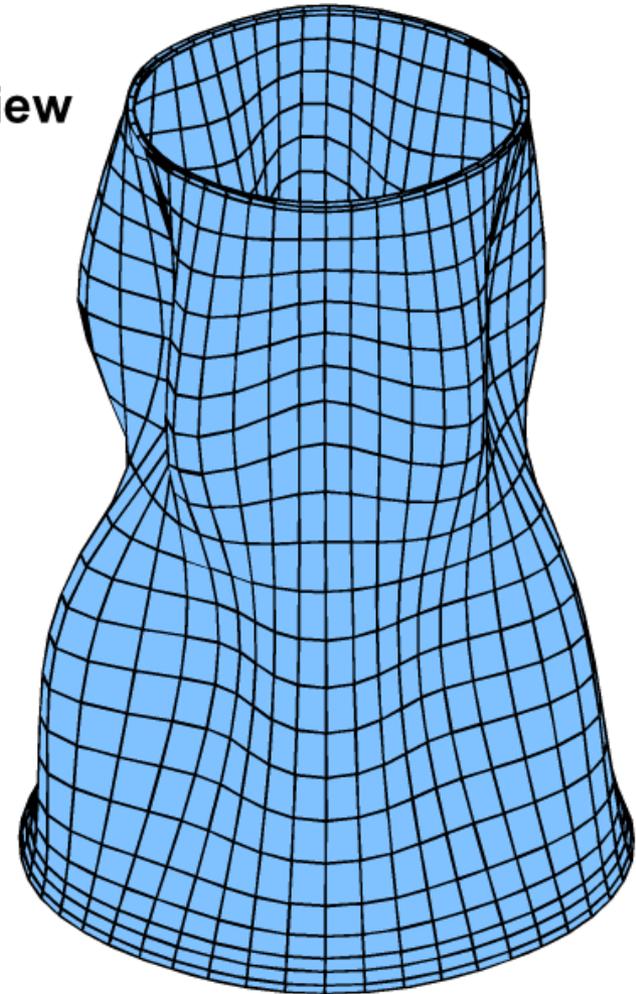


**Crack growth:  
Accumulated lengths of monitored cracks**

Top View



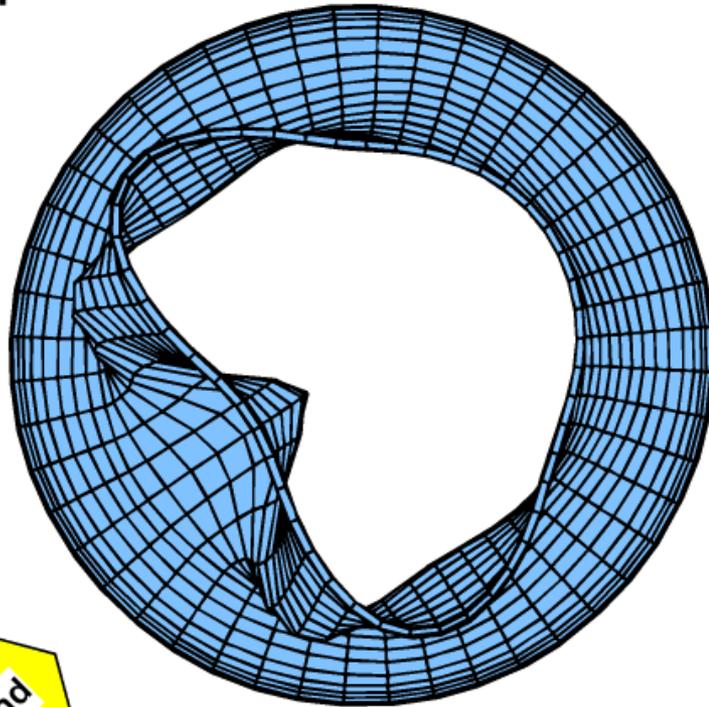
Side View



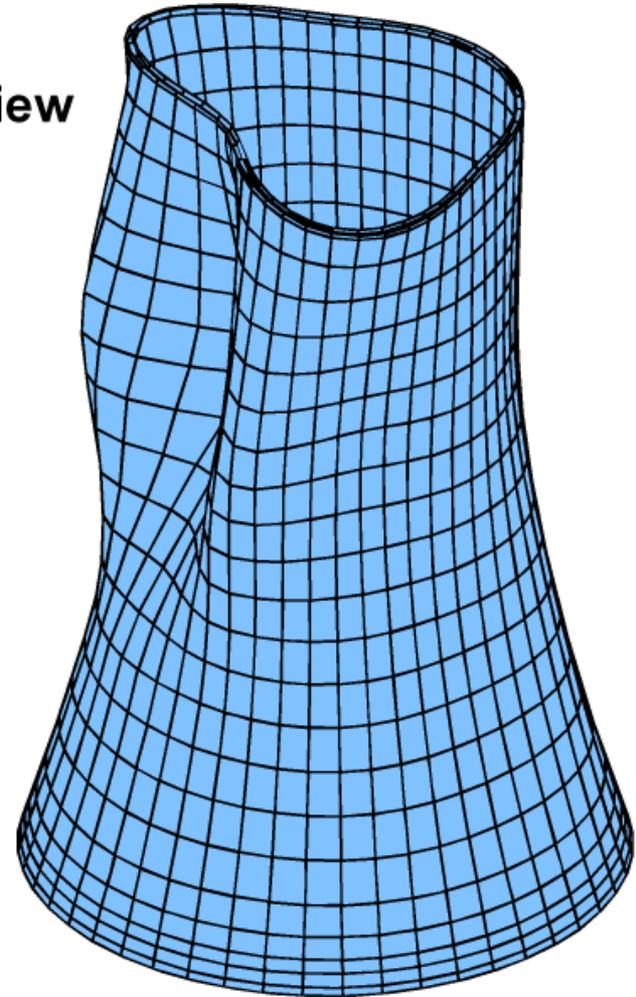
**Pre-design NDCT Niederaussem:  
First eigenmode of virgin tower**



Top View

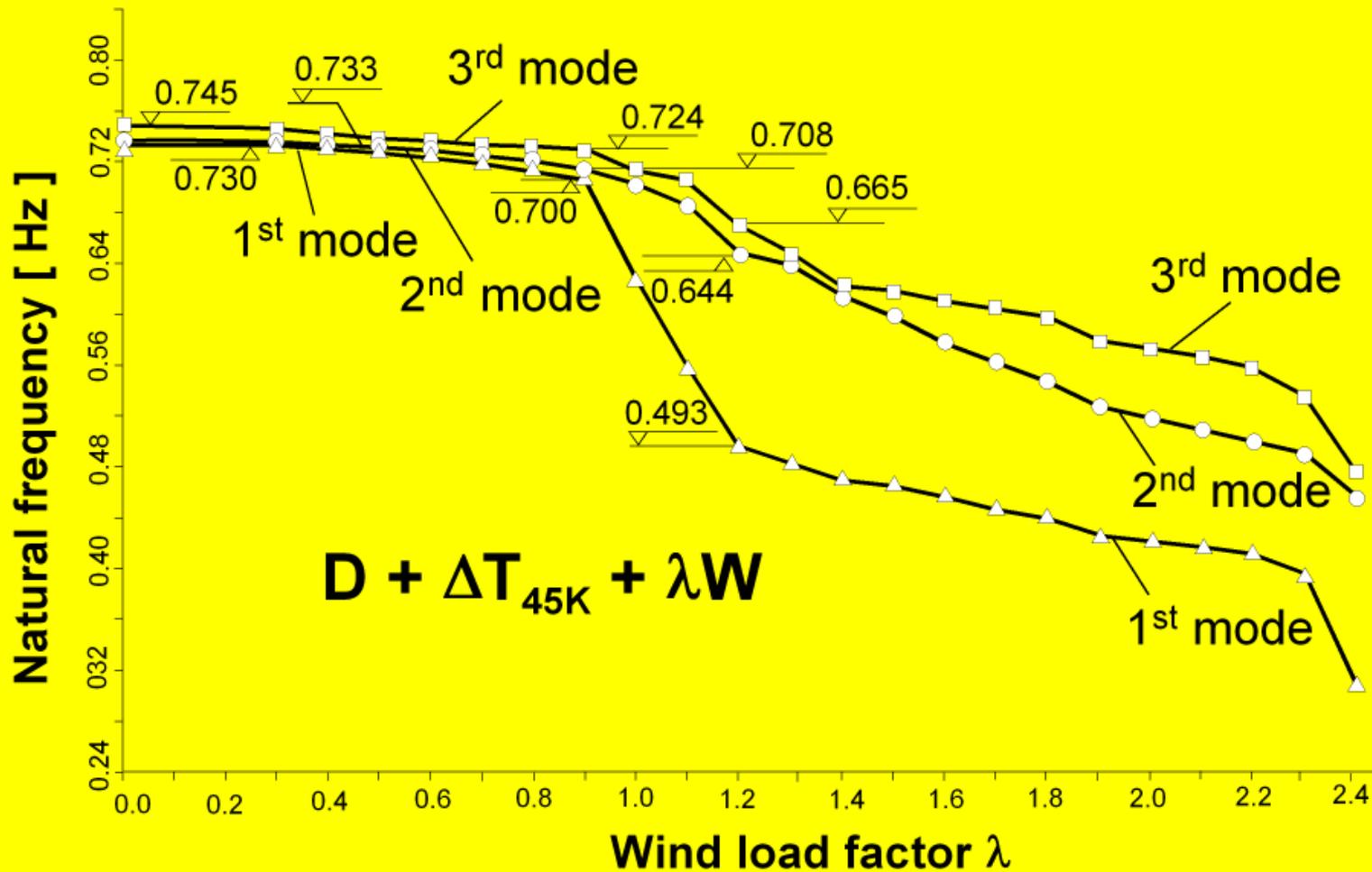


Side View



Pre-design NDCT Niederaussem:  
First eigenmode at  $D + 1.4W$

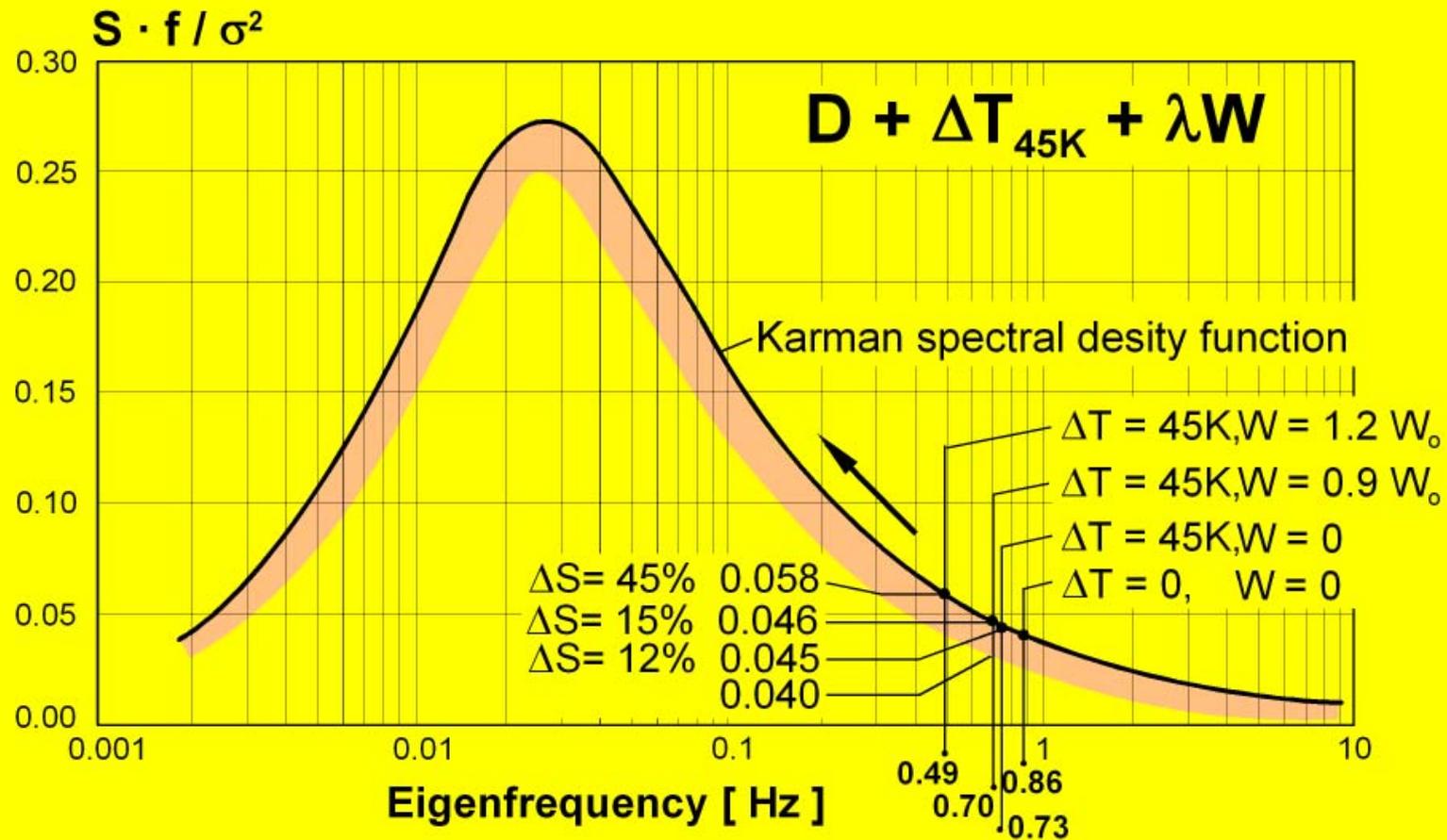




## Wind load factor versus natural frequencies



Plane and open ground, WZ II Germany:  $v_m = 40.0$  m/s,  $z = 100.0$  m,  $L_{ux} = 225.0$  m



## Increase of Wind-Dynamics due to Cracking



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## New challenges for cooling tower shells:

- Height of 200 m for environmental reasons
- High-performance concrete ARHPC 85/35
- Detailed shape optimization
- Design for durability
- Lifetime design for ~ 55 years



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**NDCT Niederaussem:  
Computervision of  
new power station  
with existing blocks**



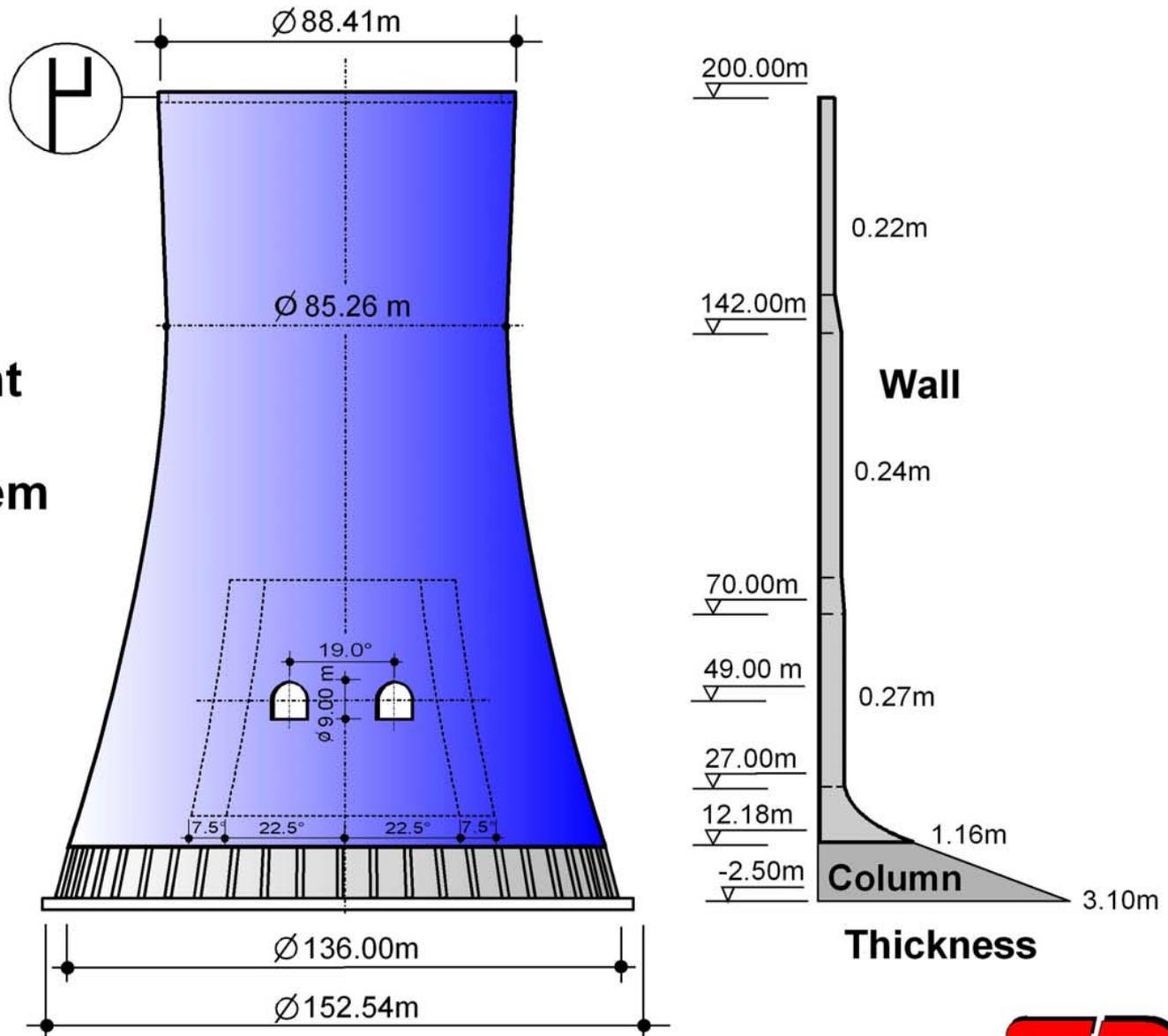
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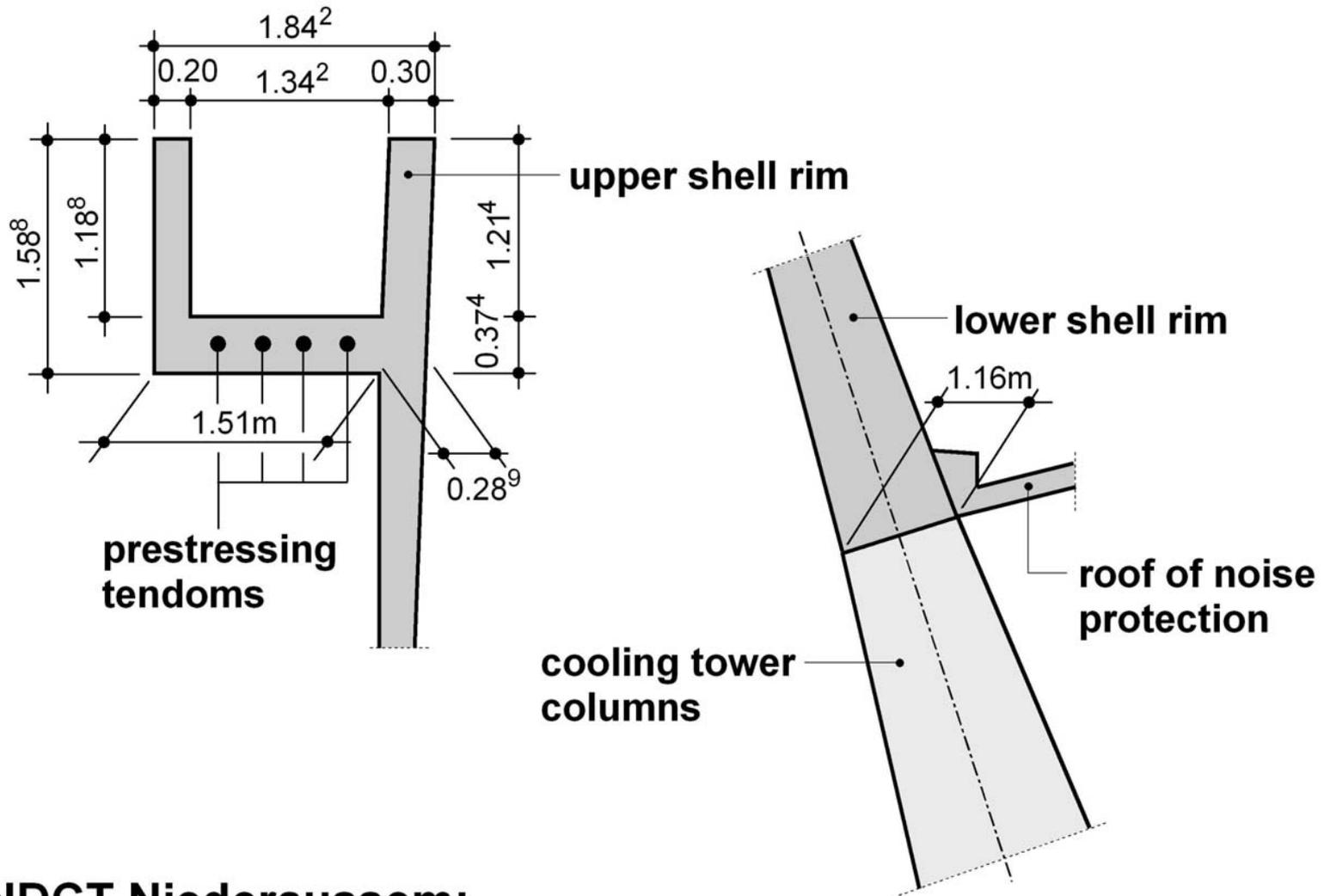
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# Natural draught cooling tower at Niederaussem Power Station (Execution)





## NDCT Niederaussem: Geometry of both edge members

## Geometry

### Shell

$$r = r_0 + \frac{a}{b} \sqrt{b^2 + (H_T - z)^2}$$

#### Lower shell:

$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &= -7.2435 \text{ m} \\ a &= 49.8735 \text{ m} \\ b &= 114.9326 \text{ m} \\ H_T &= 142.00 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

#### Upper shell:

$$\begin{aligned} r_0 &= 42.3703 \text{ m} \\ a &= 0.2597 \text{ m} \\ b &= 8.2940 \text{ m} \\ H_T &= 142.00 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

### Columns

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= 72.0^\circ \\ H_o &= 12.18 \text{ m} \\ H_u &= -2.50 \text{ m} \\ W_o \cdot D &= 1.16 \cdot 1.40 \text{ m} \\ W_u \cdot D &= 3.10 \cdot 1.40 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

### Steel: BSt 500 S

$$\begin{aligned} E_s &= 2.1 \cdot 10^8 \text{ kN/m}^2 \\ f_{ym} &= 5.0 \cdot 10^5 \text{ kN/m}^2 \\ f_{tm} &= 5.5 \cdot 10^5 \text{ kN/m}^2 \\ \varepsilon_{sh} &= 0.02 \\ \varepsilon_{su} &= 0.01 \end{aligned}$$

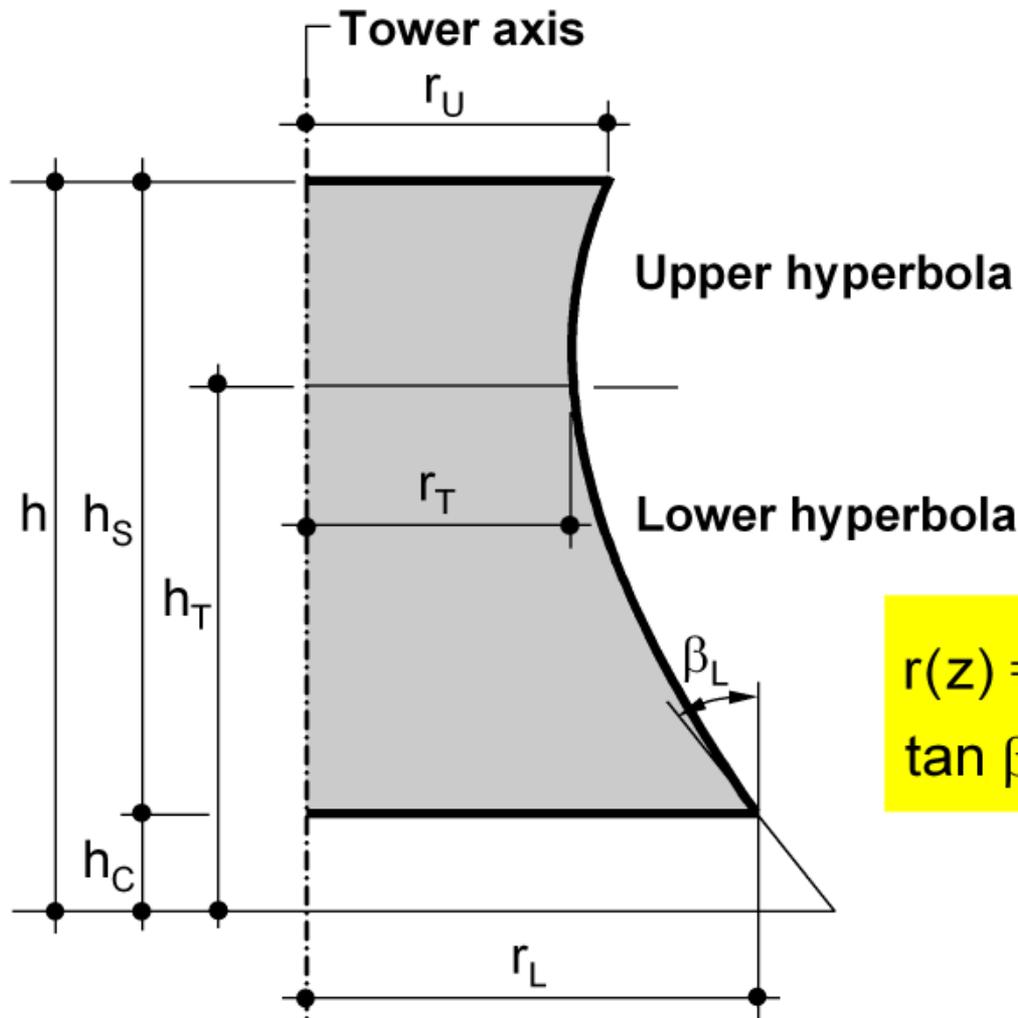
## Material

### Concrete: C 85/35

$$\begin{aligned} E_c &= 4.04 \cdot 10^7 \text{ kN/m}^2 \\ \nu &= 0.20 \\ f_{cm} &= 8.20 \cdot 10^4 \text{ kN/m}^2 \\ f_{ctm} &= 2.88 \cdot 10^3 \text{ kN/m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

NDCT Niederaussem:

Geometry and material data of cooling tower ( ARHPC 85/35)



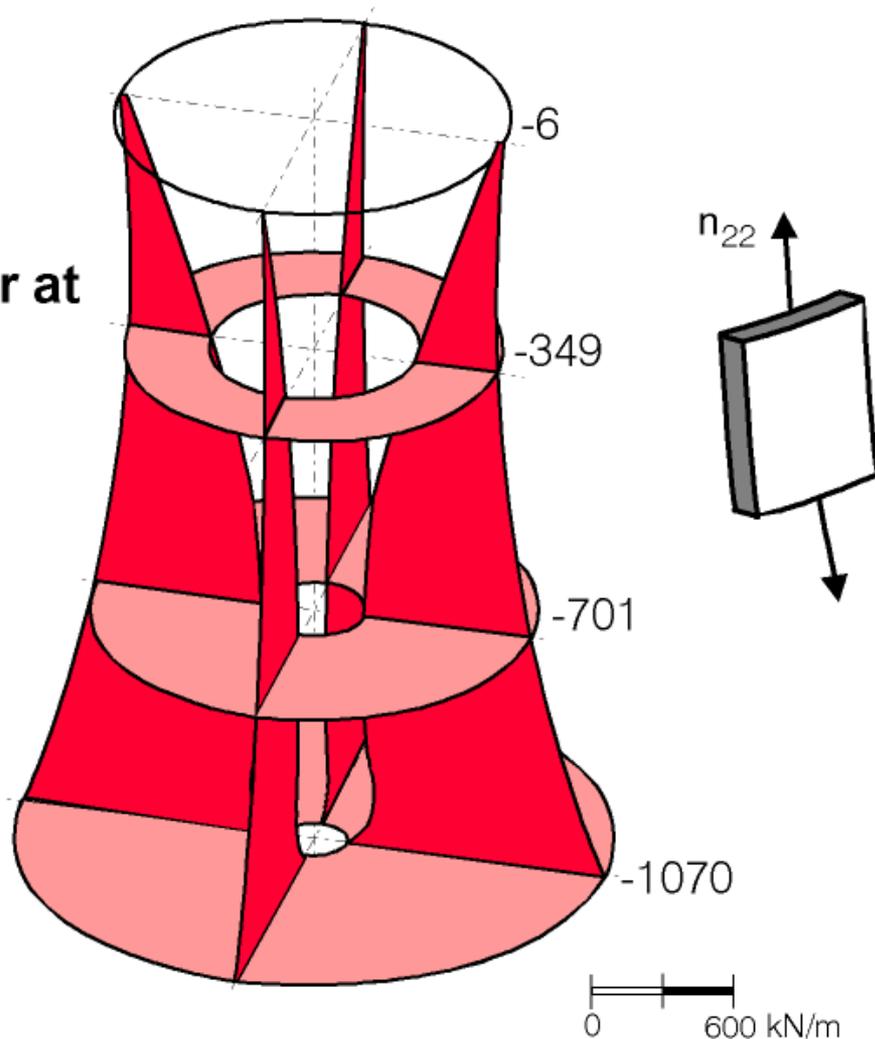
$$r(z) = r_o + a \sqrt{1 + (h_T - z)^2 / b^2}$$

$$\tan \beta_L \geq (r_L - r_T) / (h_T - h_C)$$

**NDCT Niederaussem:**  
**Basic dimensions for tower shape optimization**

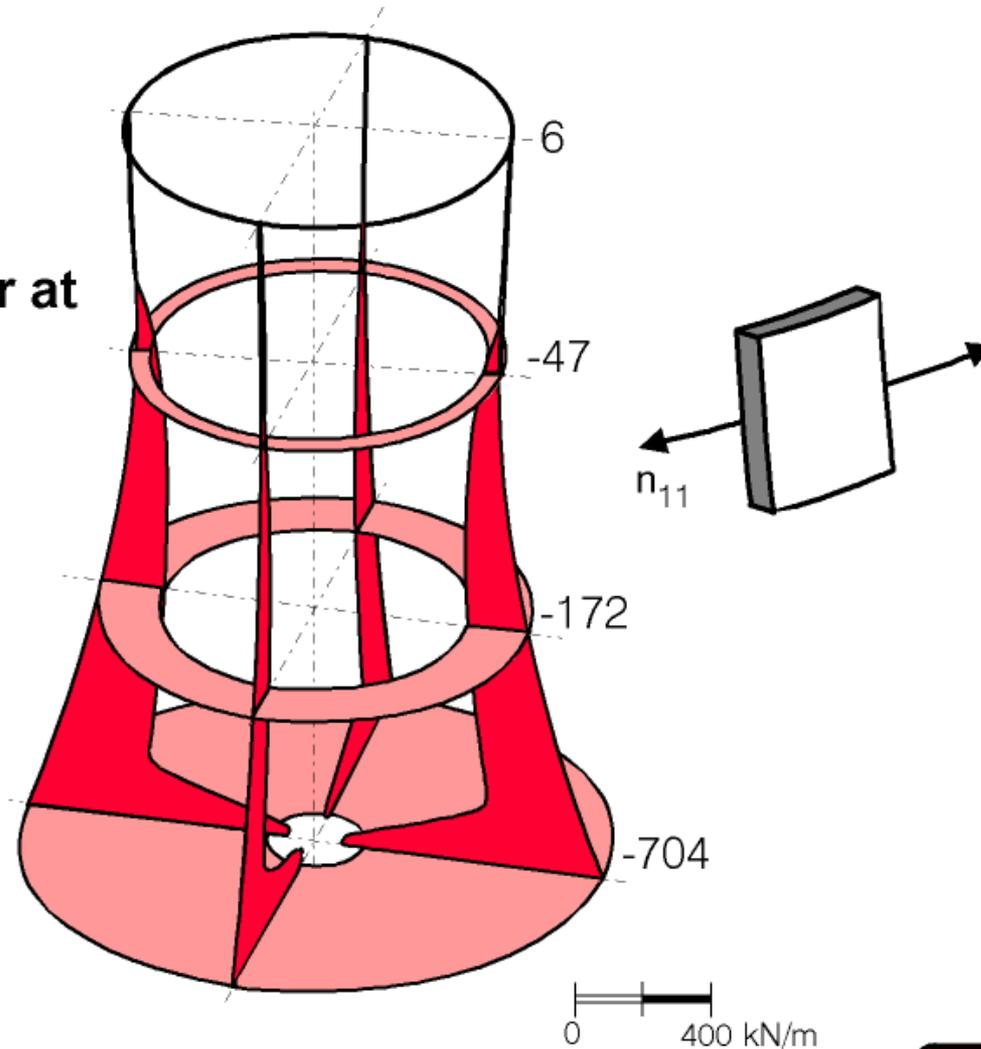
# Meridional Forces $n_{22g}$ under Deadweight

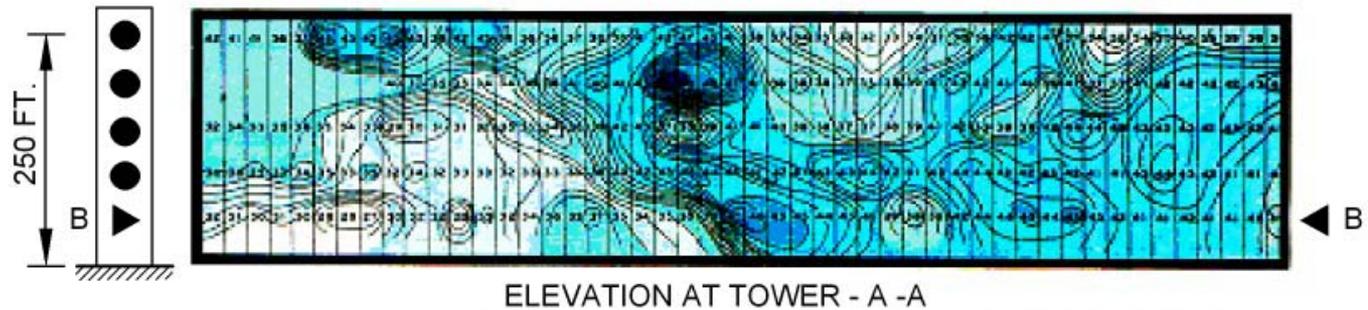
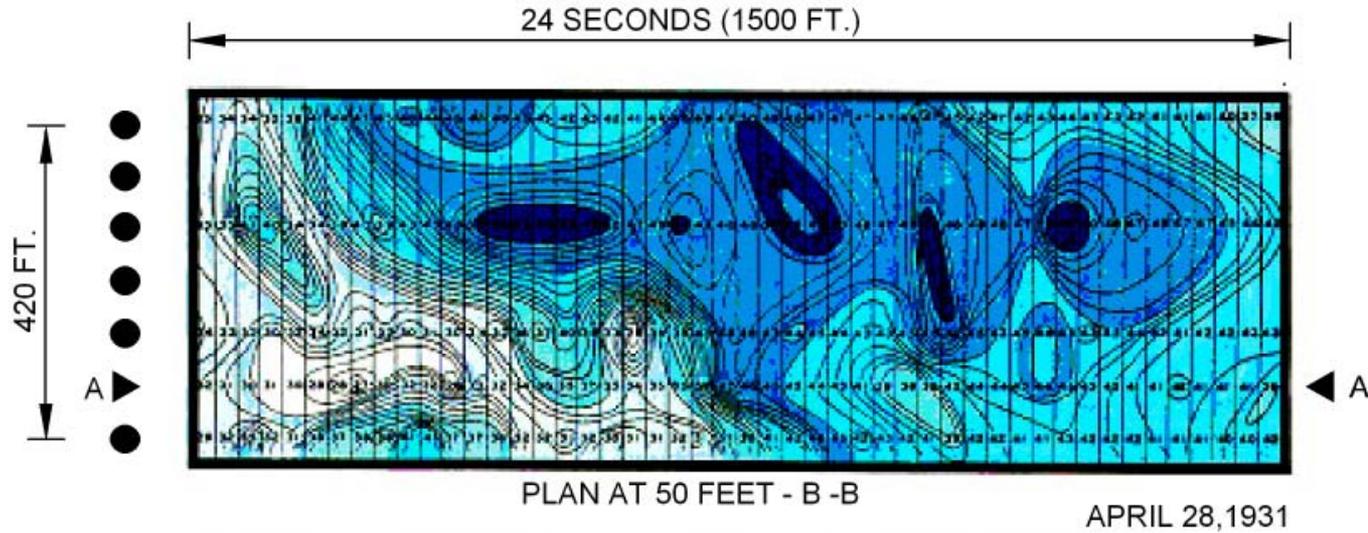
200 m Cooling Tower at  
KW Niederaussem



# Circumferential Forces $n_{11g}$ under Deadweight

200 m Cooling Tower at  
KW Niederaussem





**24 Seconds of a storm profile**  
 (R.H. Sherlock, M.B. Stout: J. Aer. Sc. 5(1937), 53 - 61)



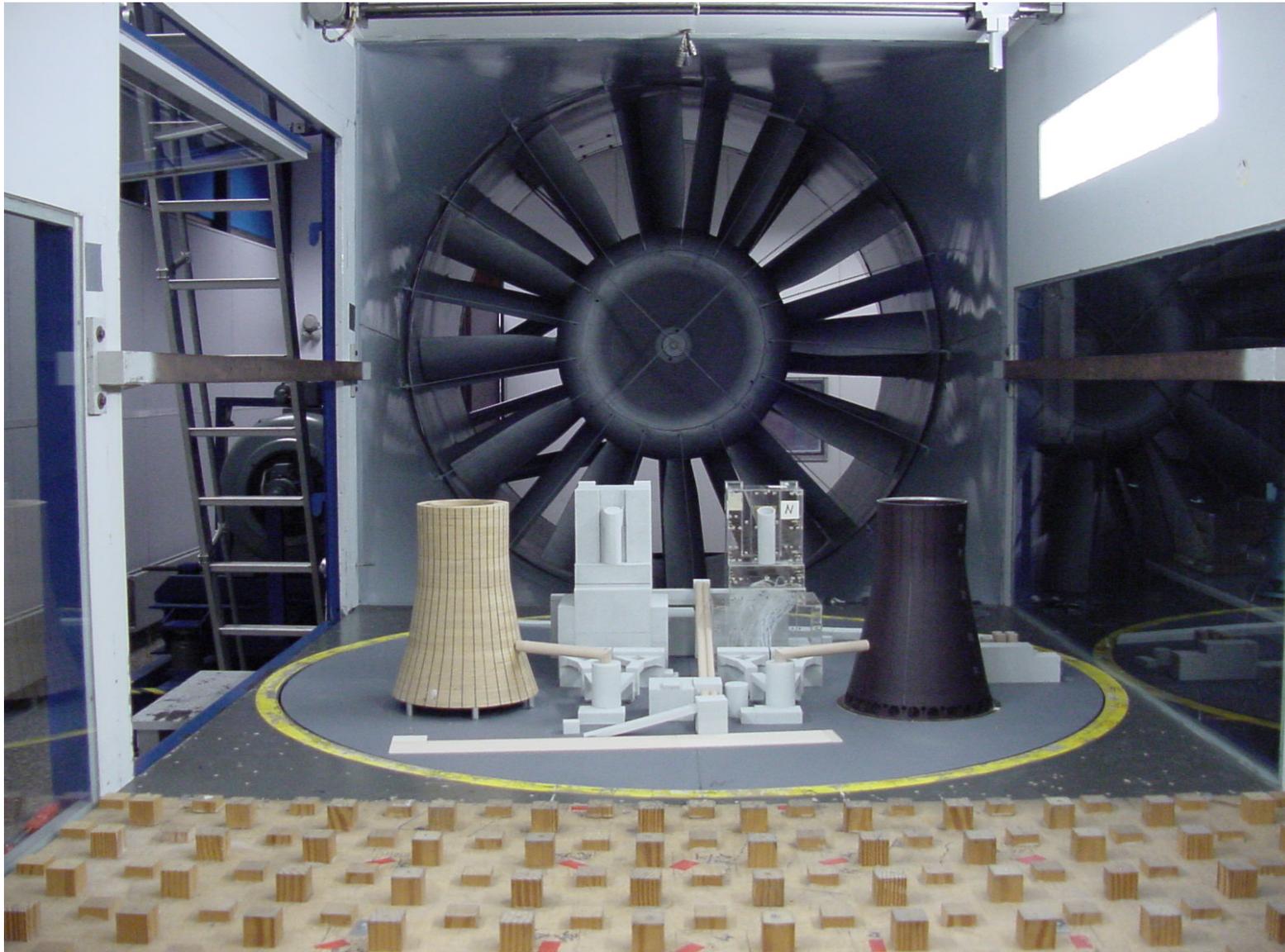
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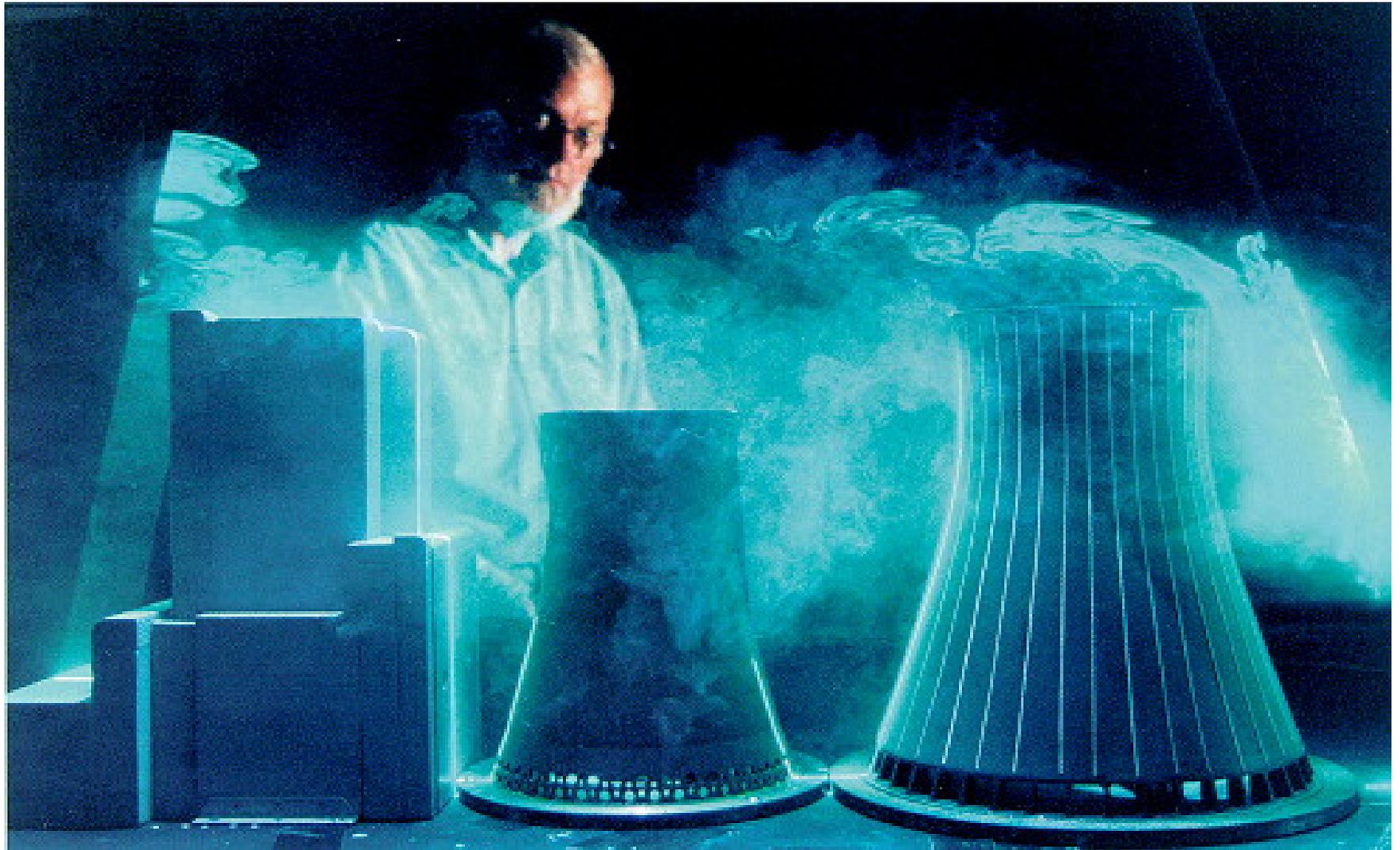
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# Lignite power station Neurath in boundary wind tunnel



# Gust modeling in the wind tunnel

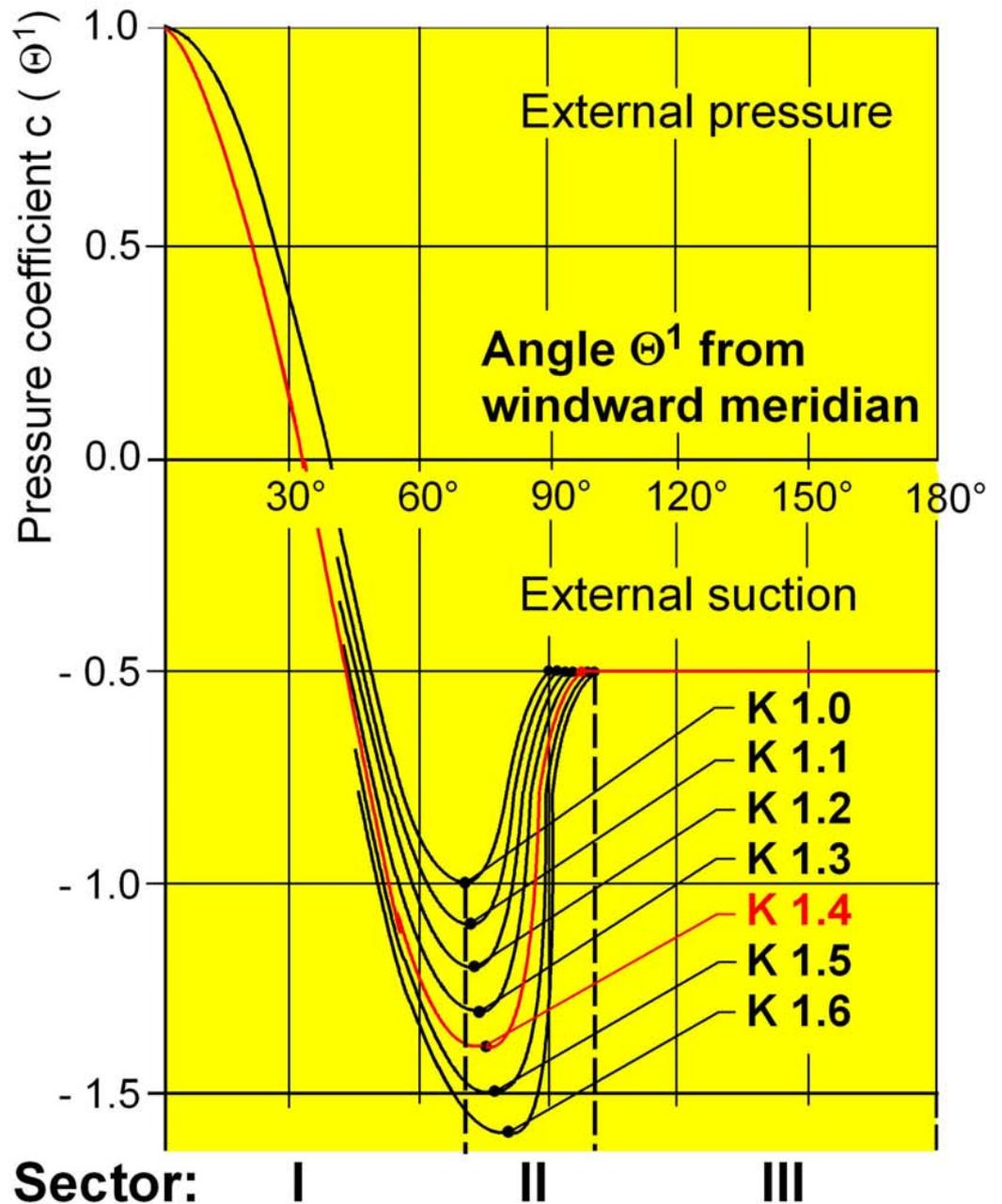


**NDCT Niederaussem:**  
**Types of circumferential**  
**wind pressure**  
**distribution  $c(\Theta^1)$**

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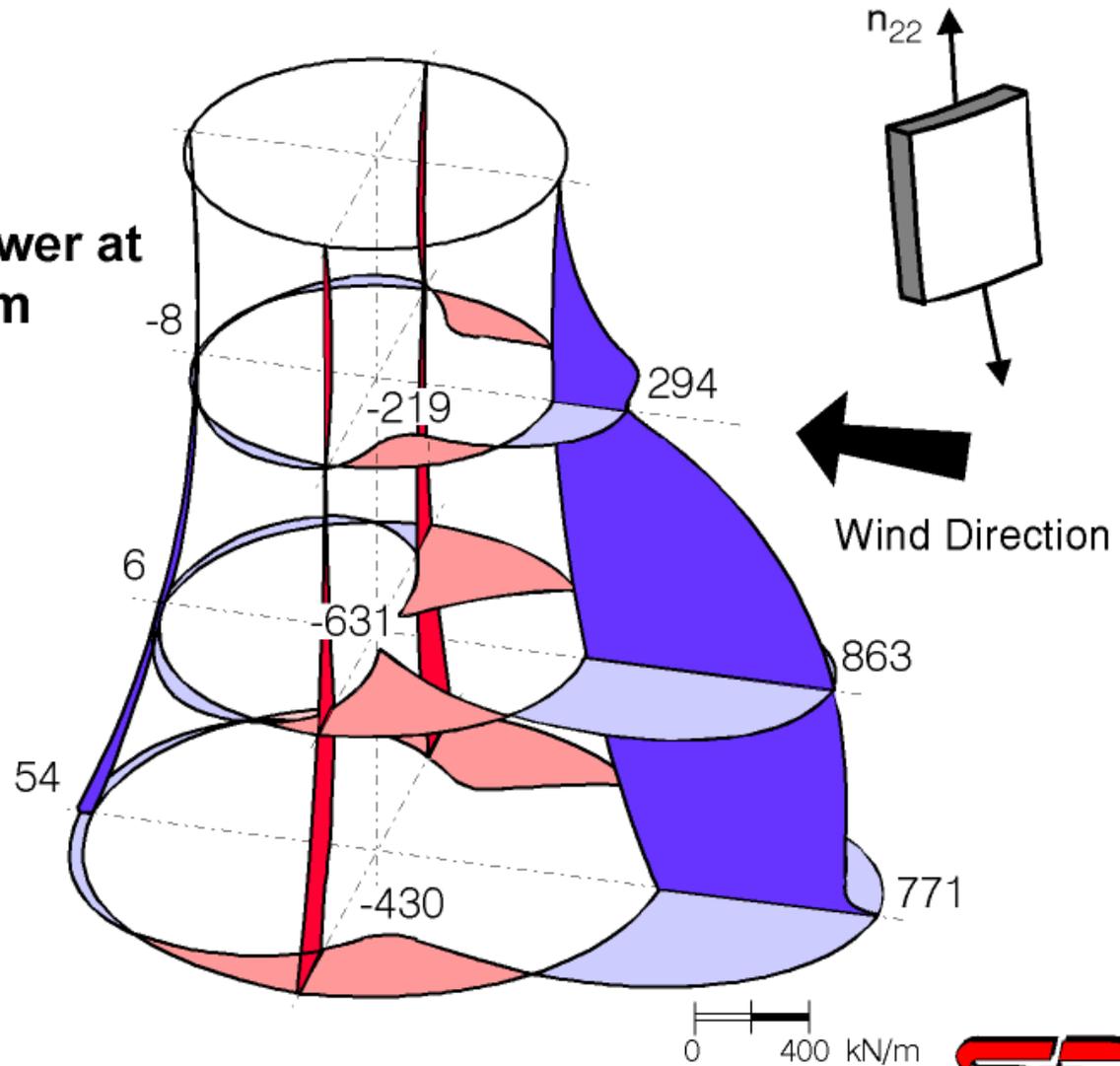


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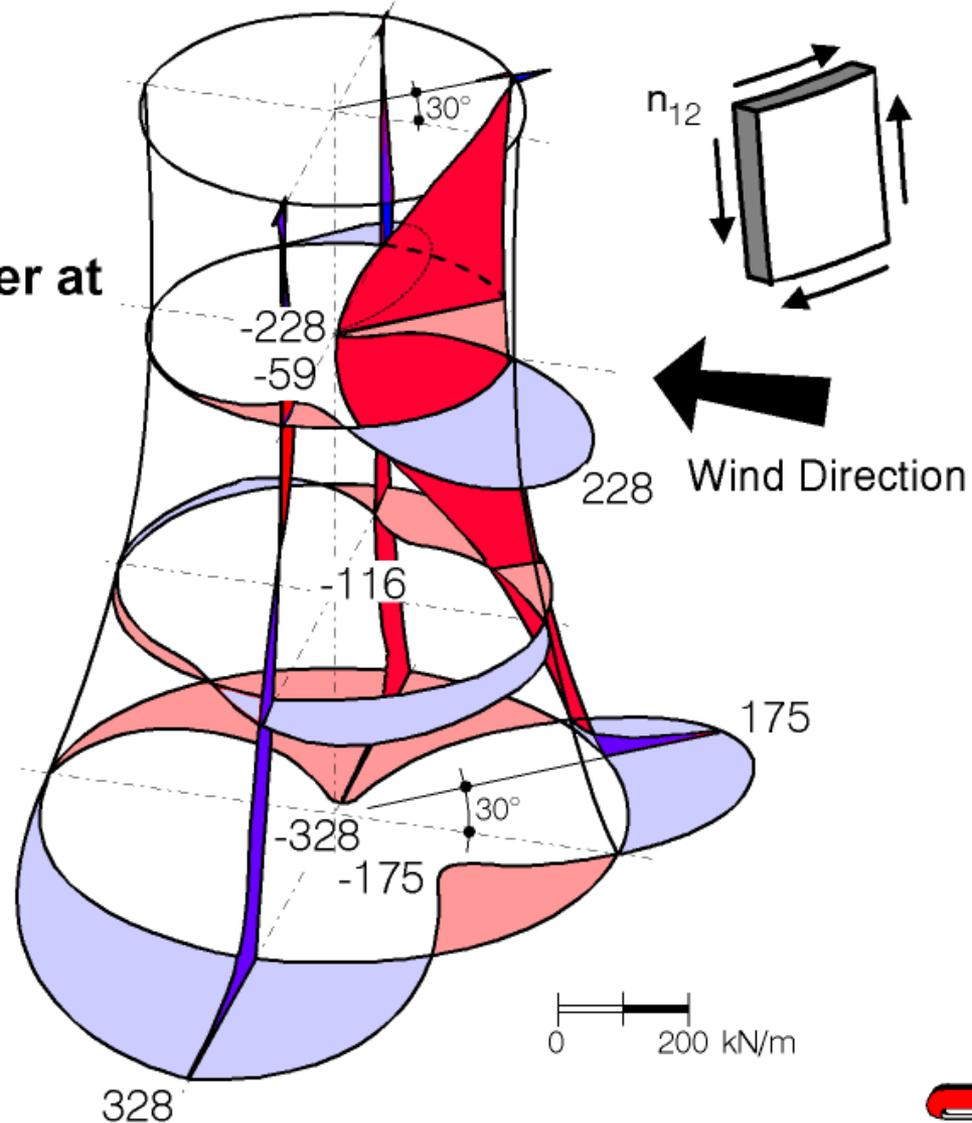
# Meridional Forces $n_{22w}$ under Wind Actions

200 m Cooling Tower at  
KW Niederaussem



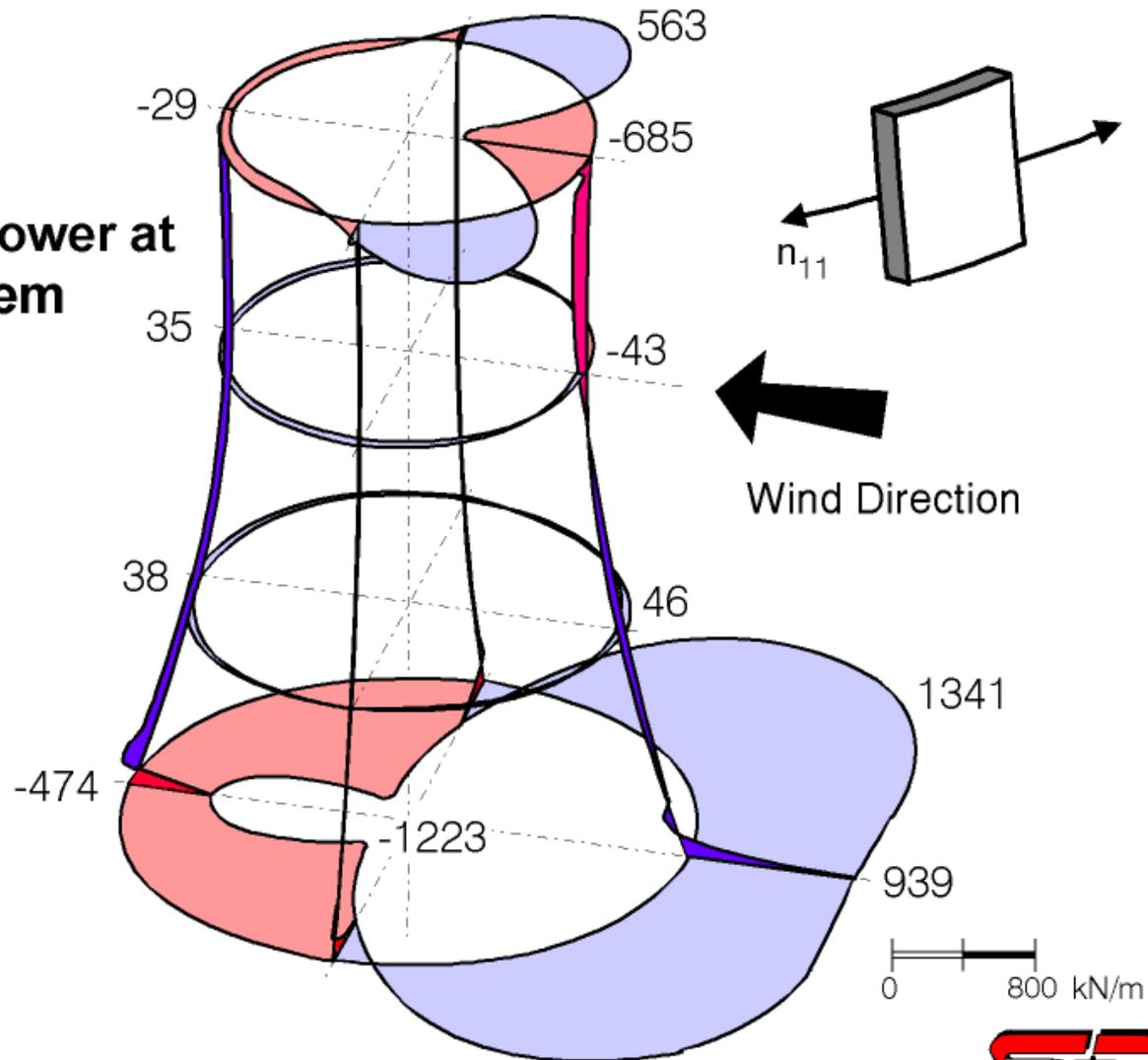
# Shear Forces $n_{12w}$ under Wind Actions

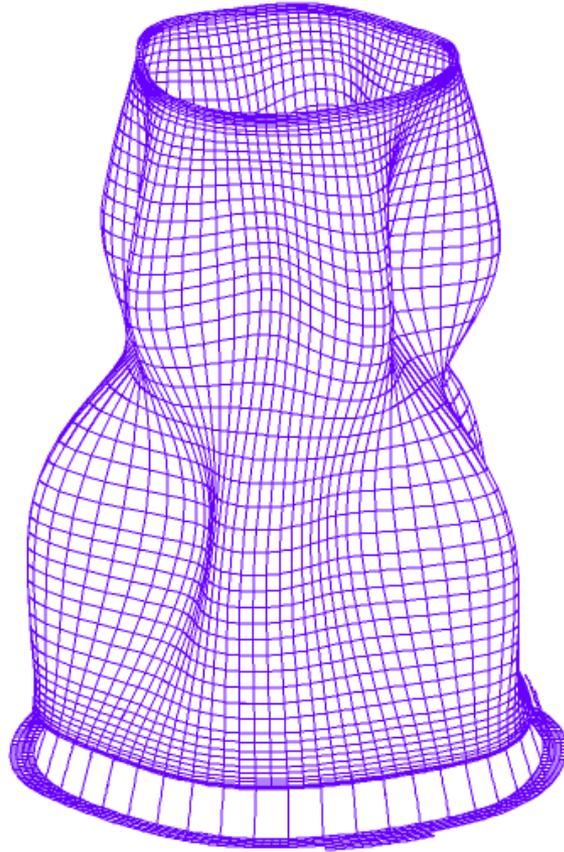
200 m Cooling Tower at  
KW Niederaussem



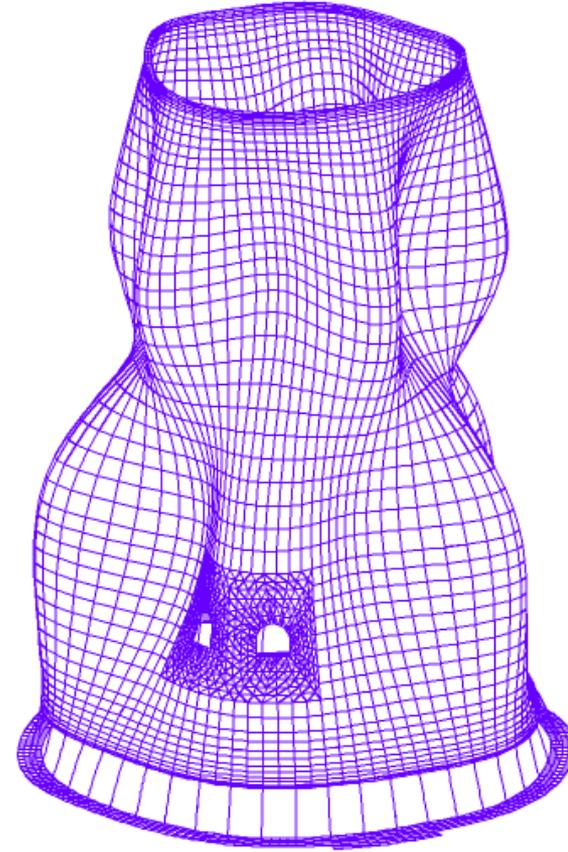
# Circumferential Forces $n_{11w}$ under Wind Actions

200 m Cooling Tower at  
KW Niederaussem





$$f_{\min} = 0.7302 \text{ Hz}$$



$$f_{\min} = 0.7335 \text{ Hz}$$

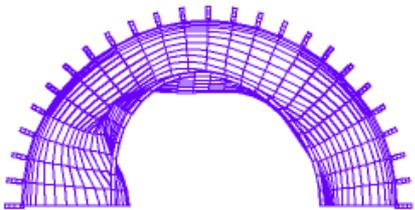
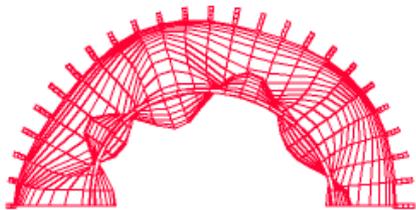
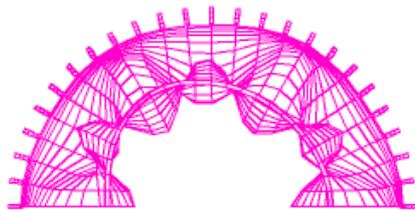
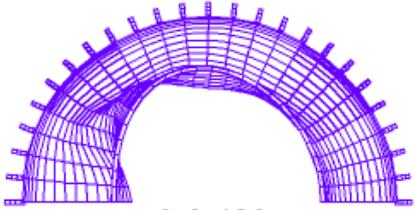
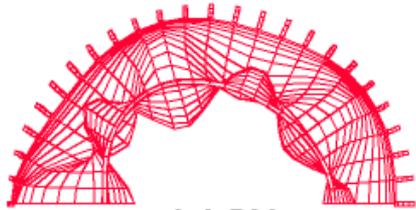
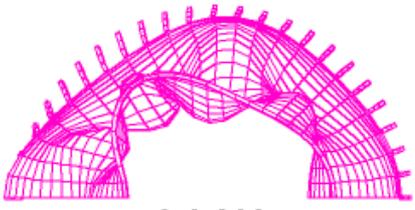
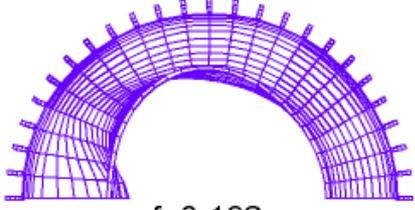
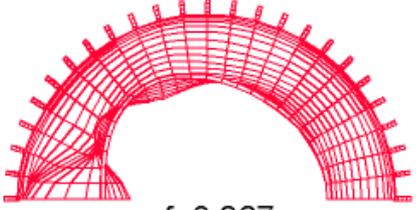
**NDCT Niederaussem:  
Lowest natural frequencies for shells without / with holes and  
corresponding modes**



1 <sup>st</sup> mode	2 <sup>nd</sup> mode	3 <sup>rd</sup> mode	Load
 f=0.711	 f=0.834	 f=0.846	G
 f=0.593	 f=0.682	 f=0.790	G + $\Delta T_{45K}$
 f=0.599	 f=0.709	 f=0.733	G + $\Delta T_{45K}$ + 1.0 W

**NDCT Niederaussem:  
Change of natural modes due to crack damage**

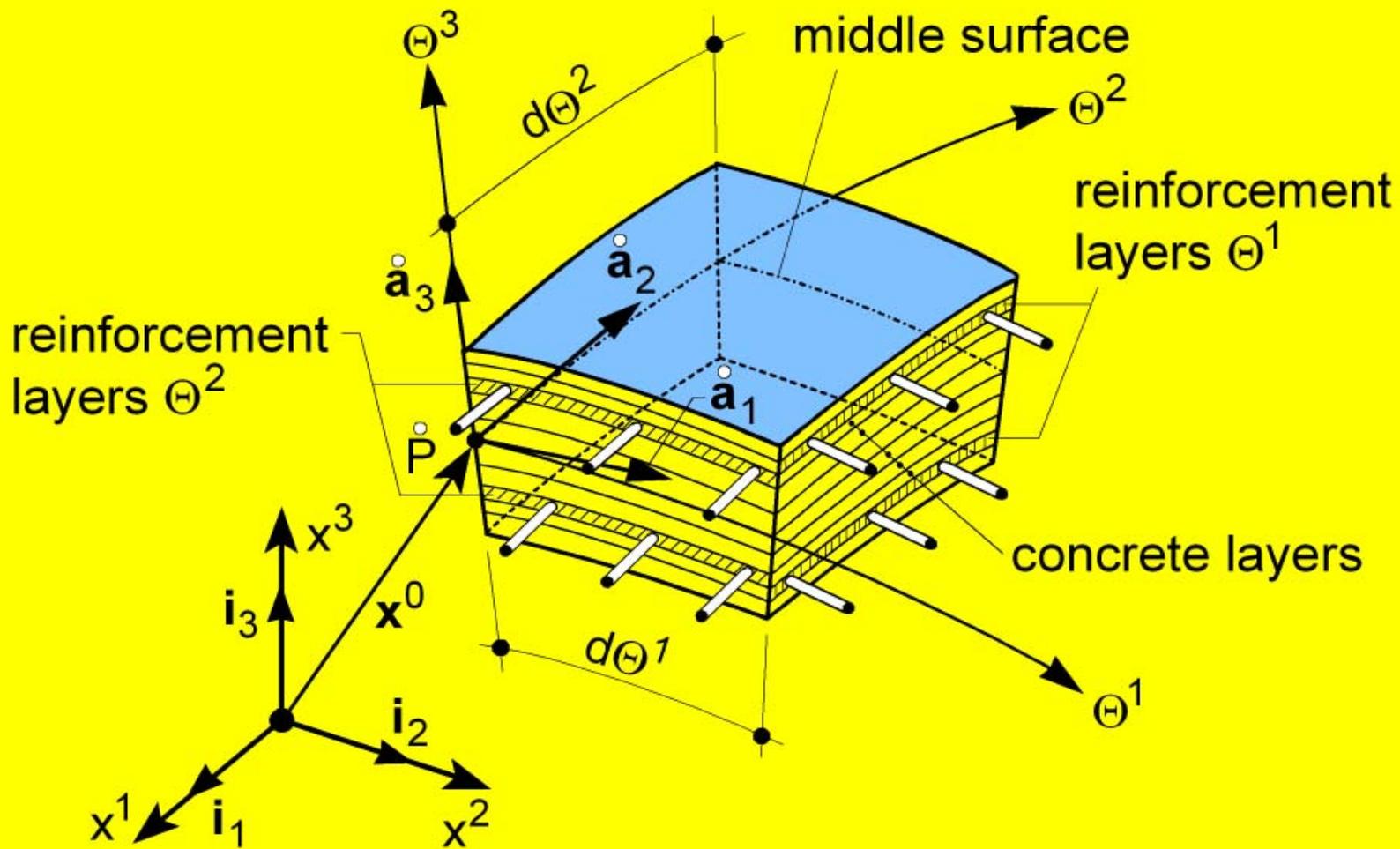


1 <sup>st</sup> mode	2 <sup>nd</sup> mode	3 <sup>rd</sup> mode	Load
 f=0.586	 f=0.590	 f=0.715	G + $\Delta T_{45K}$ + 1.2 W
 f=0.439	 f=0.568	 f=0.688	G + $\Delta T_{45K}$ + 1.5 W
 f=0.192	 f=0.367	 f=0.517	G + $\Delta T_{45K}$ + 2.3 W

**NDCT Niederaussem:  
Change of natural modes due to crack damage**

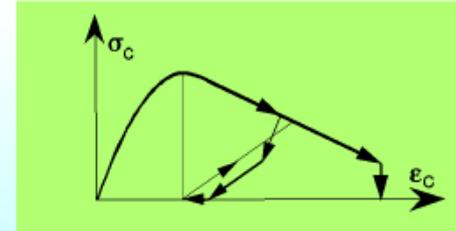
# NDCT Vattenfall Lignite Power Plant Boxberg 2008



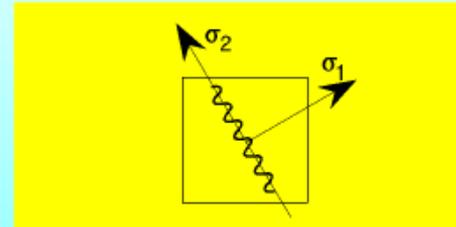


## Layered model of reinforced concrete shell

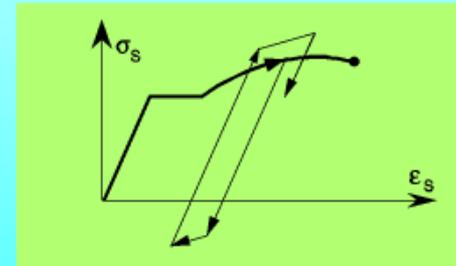
- **Nonlinear stress - strain relationship in compression**



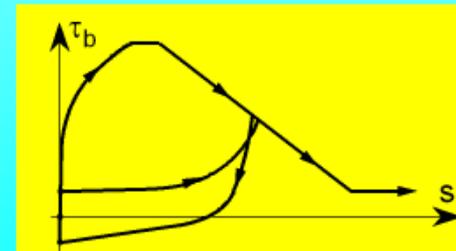
- **Tension cracking**



- **Yielding of reinforcement**

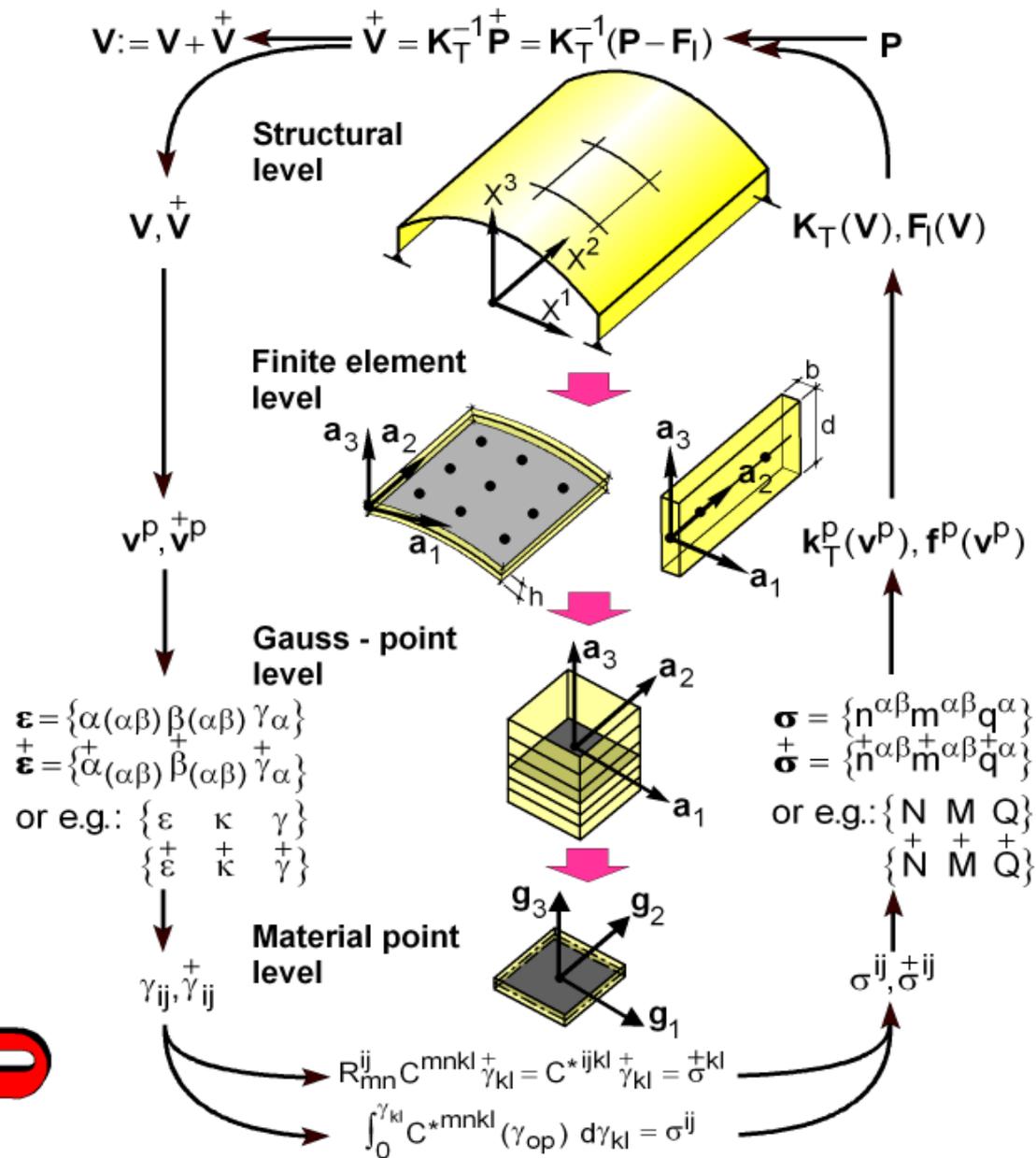


- **Nonlinear concrete - steel bond**



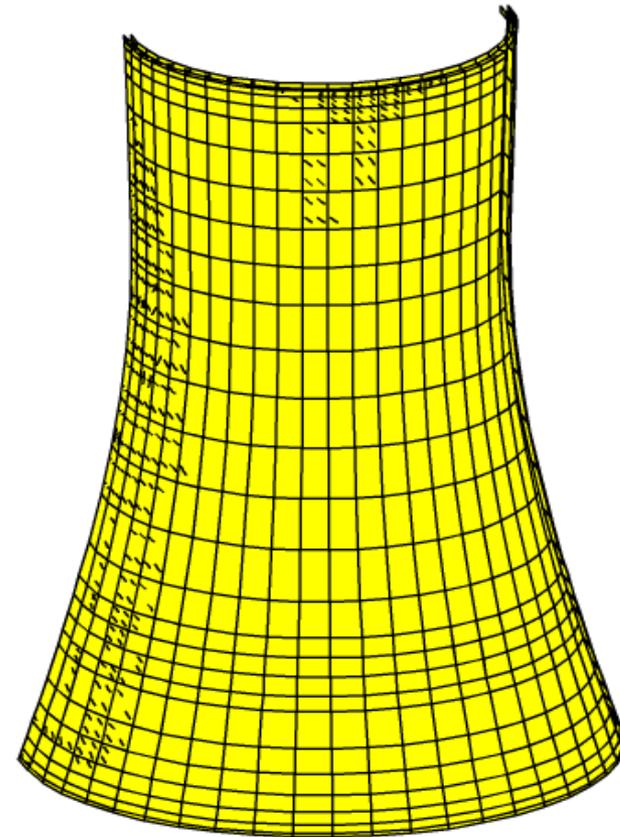
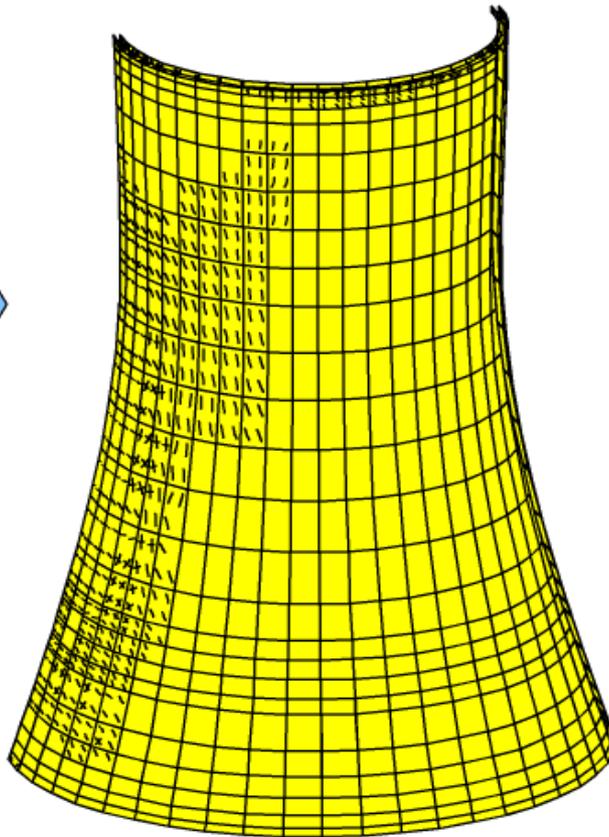
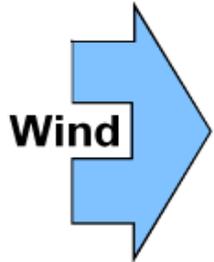
**Nonlinear behavior of reinforced concrete including material damage**

# Sets of variables and iterations



Outer face

Inner face



**NDCT Niederaussem (ARHPC 85/35):**  
**Crack patterns at  $D + 1.48 W$ ;  $w > 0.00$  mm**



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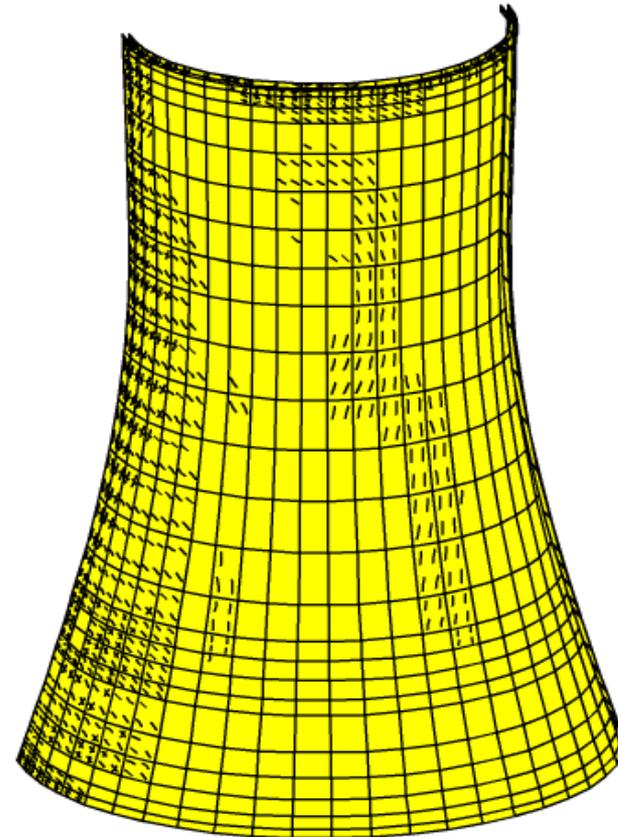
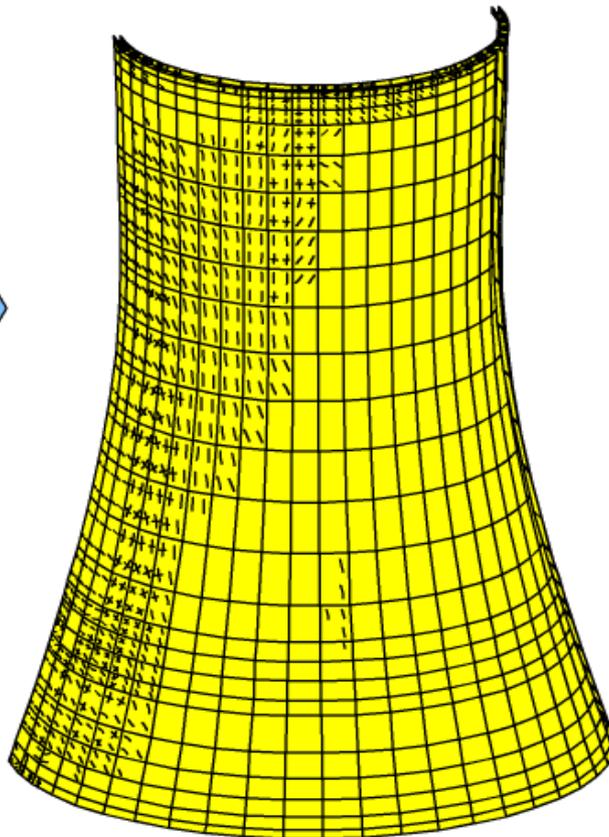
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Outer face

Inner face



**NDCT Niederaussem (ARHPC 85/35):**  
**Crack patterns at  $D + 2.03 W$ ;  $w > 0.00$  mm**



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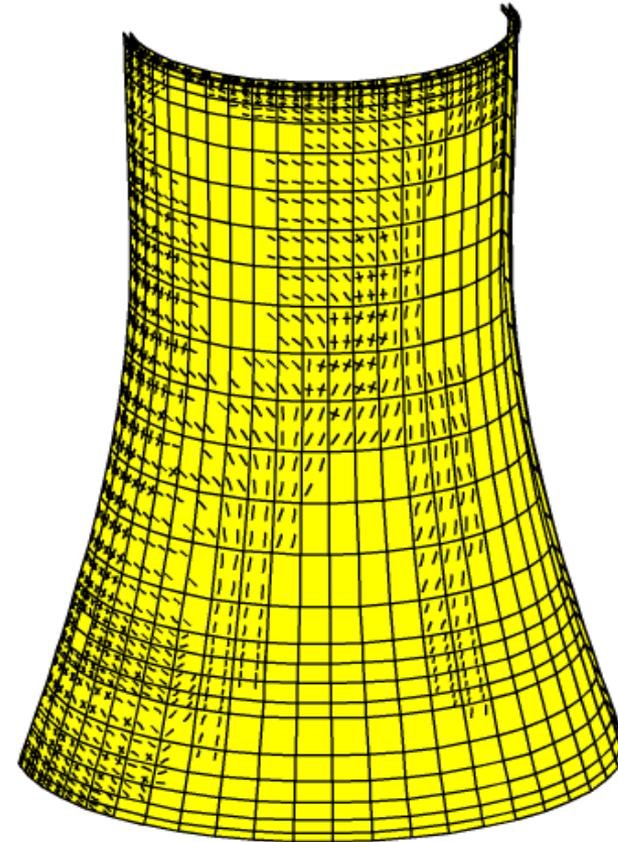
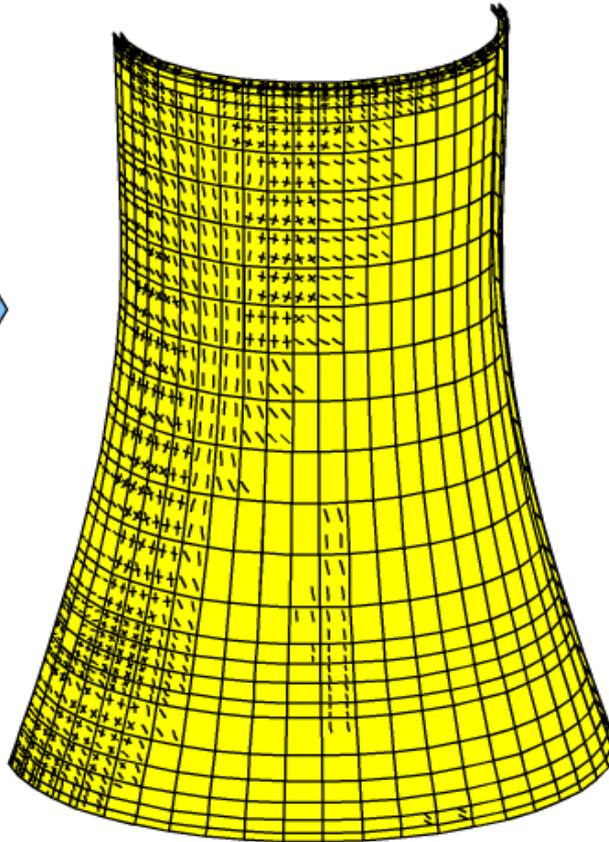
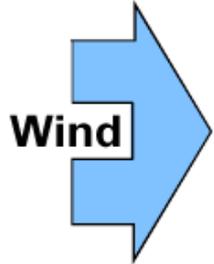
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Outer face

Inner face



**NDCT Niederaussem (ARHPC 85/35):  
Crack patterns at  $D + 2.51 W$ ;  $w > 0.00$  mm**

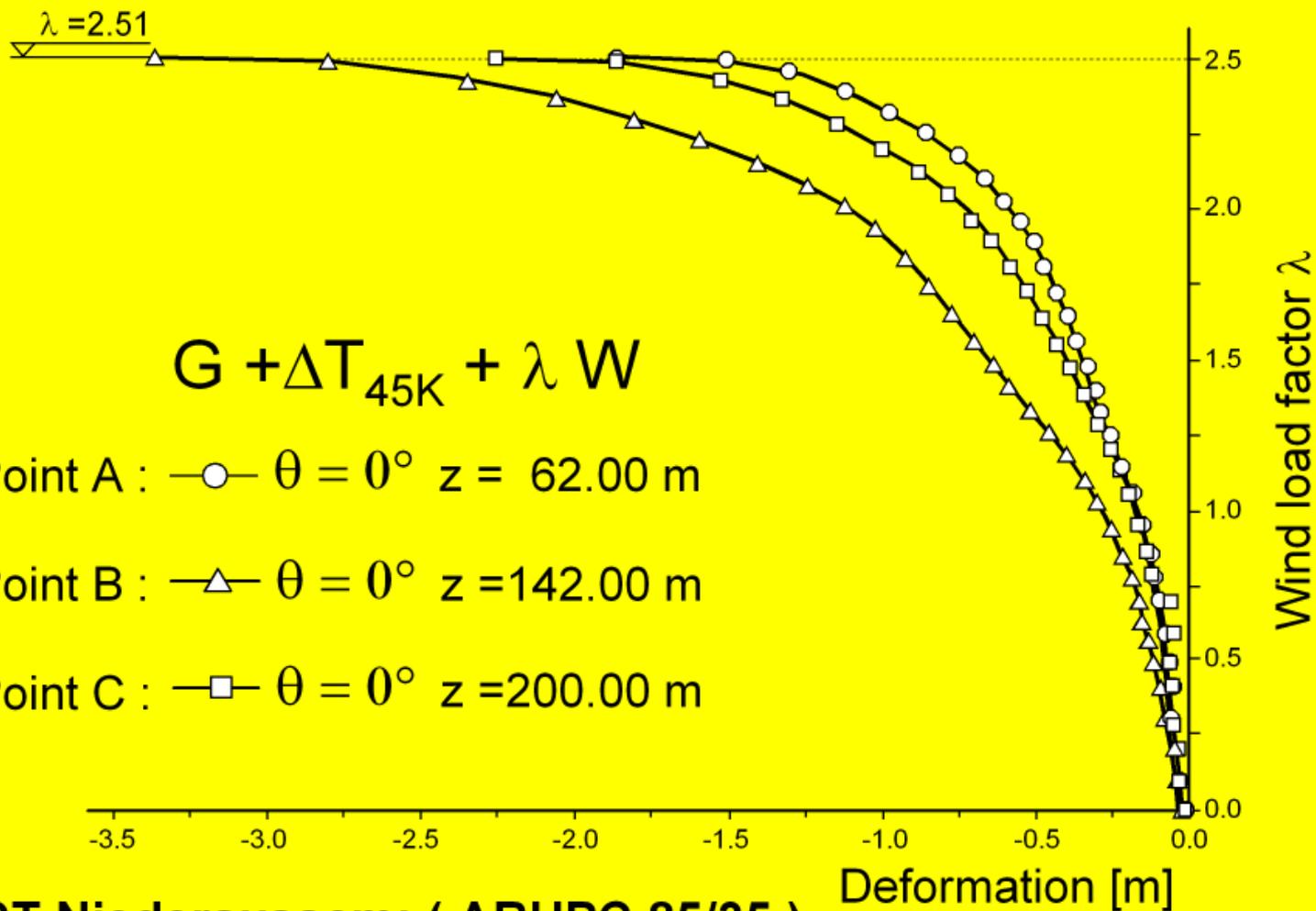


**Krätzig & Partner \* Bochum \* Ingenieurgesellschaft für Bautechnik mbH**

05 - 1-23

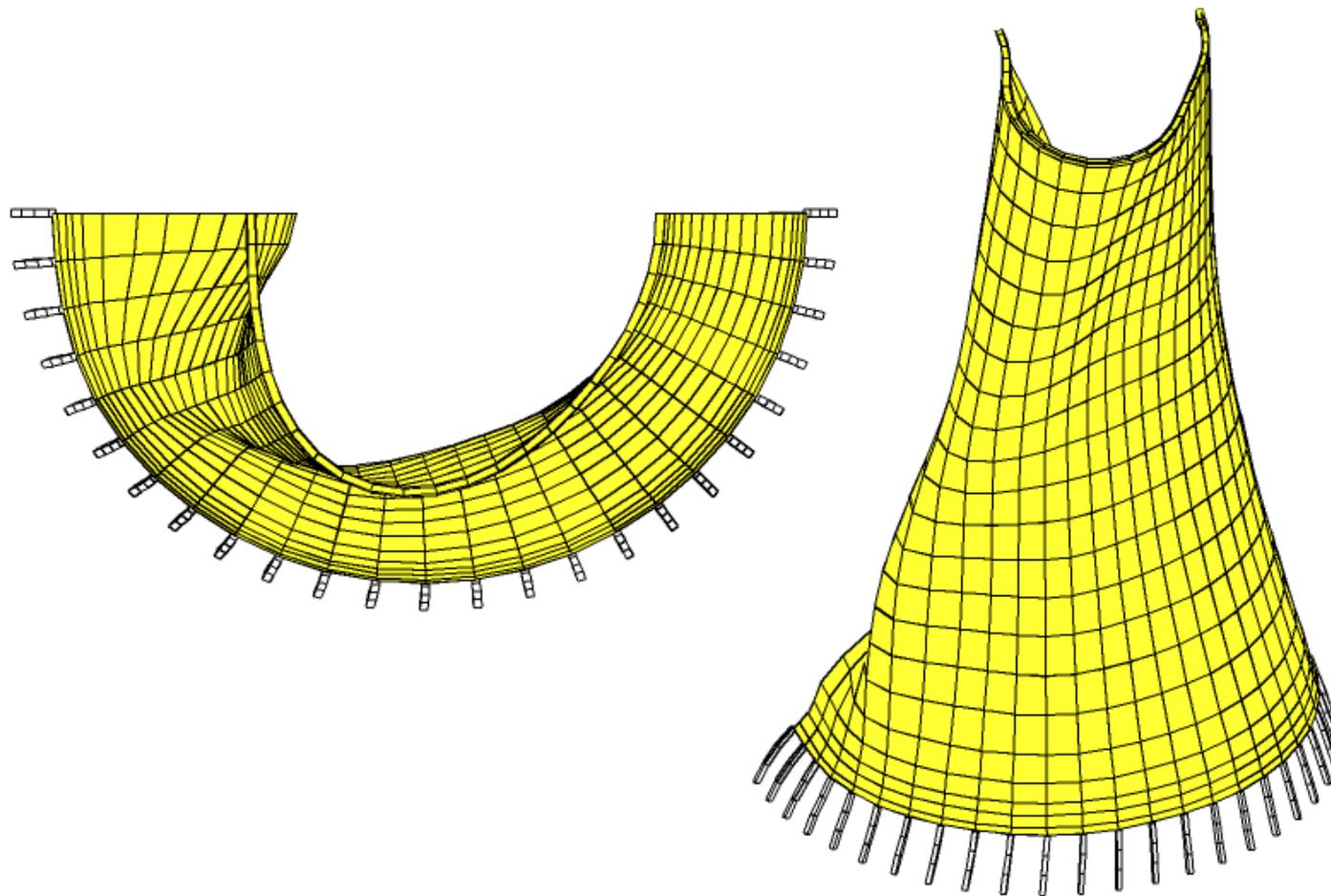
**Ruhr - Universität Bochum \* Statik und Dynamik**





**NDCT Niederaussem: ( ARHPC 85/35 )**  
**Load - deformation curves at points A, B and C**





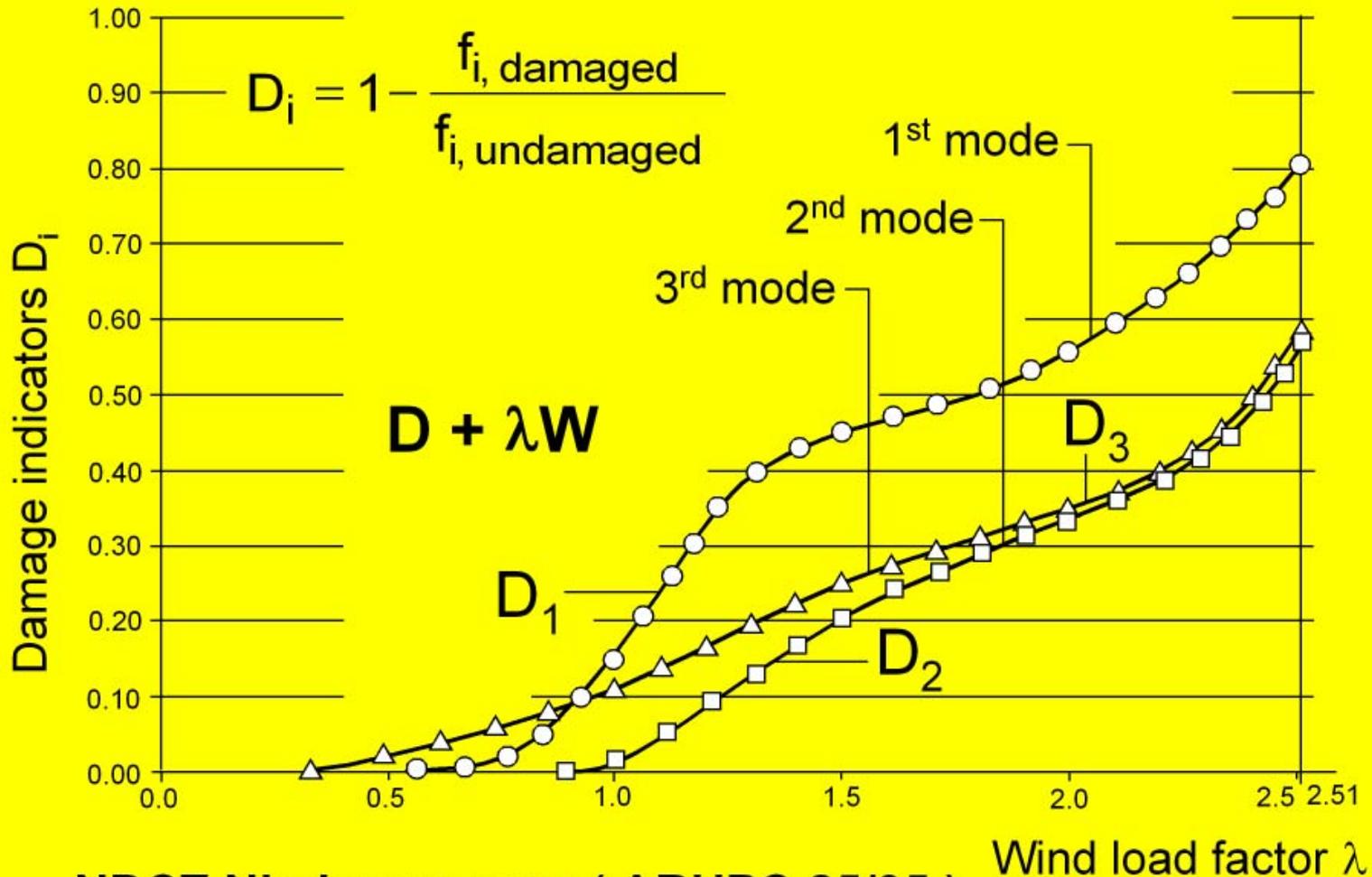
**NDCT Niederaussem:**

**30 - times exaggerated deformation at  $G + \Delta T_{45K} + 2.30 W$**

02 - 2-17

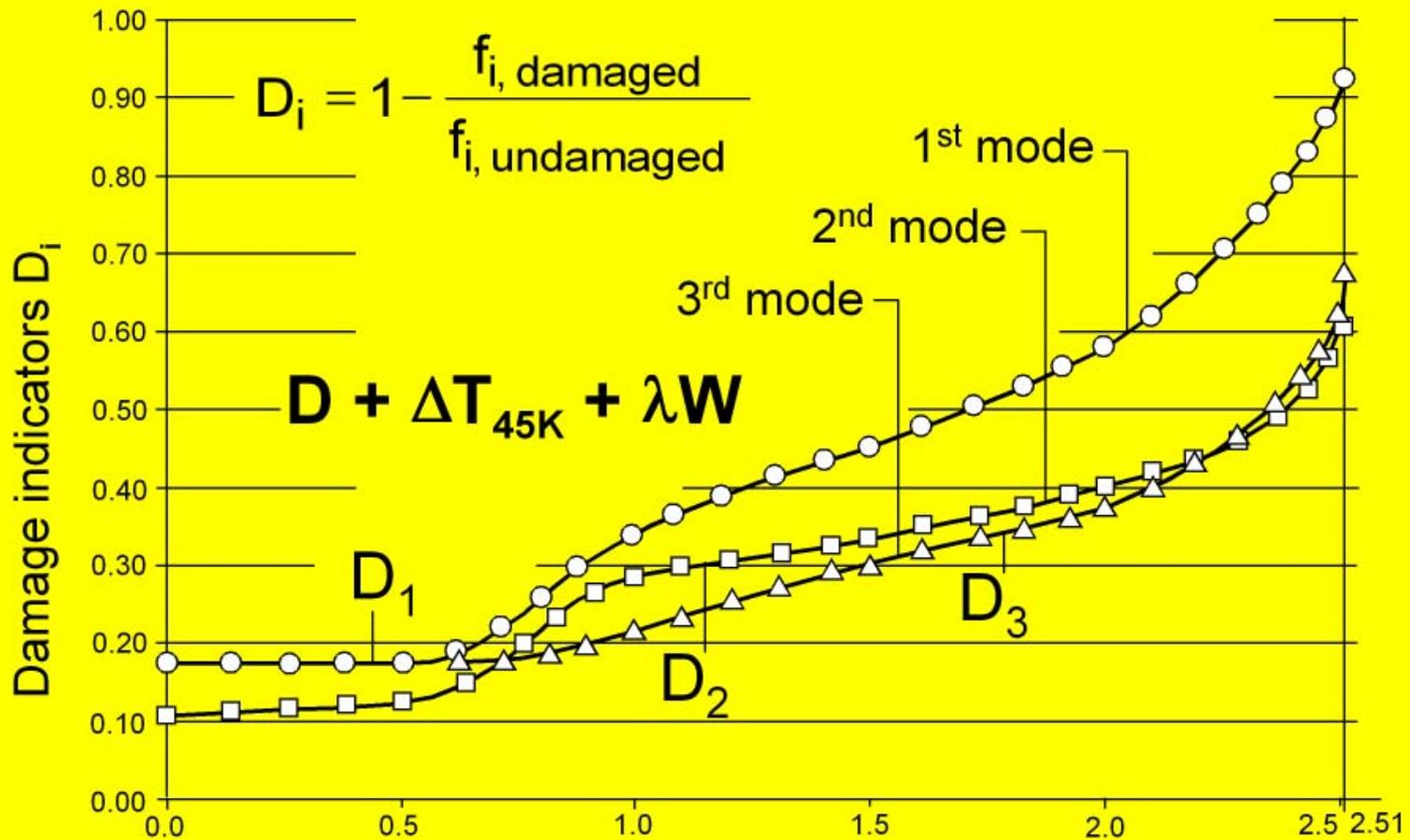
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**NDCT Niederaussem: ( ARHPC 85/35 )**  
**First 3 damage indicators for  $D + \lambda W$**





Wind load factor  $\lambda$

NDCT Niederaussem: ( ARHPC 85/35 )

First 3 damage indicators for  $D + \Delta T_{45K} + \lambda W$



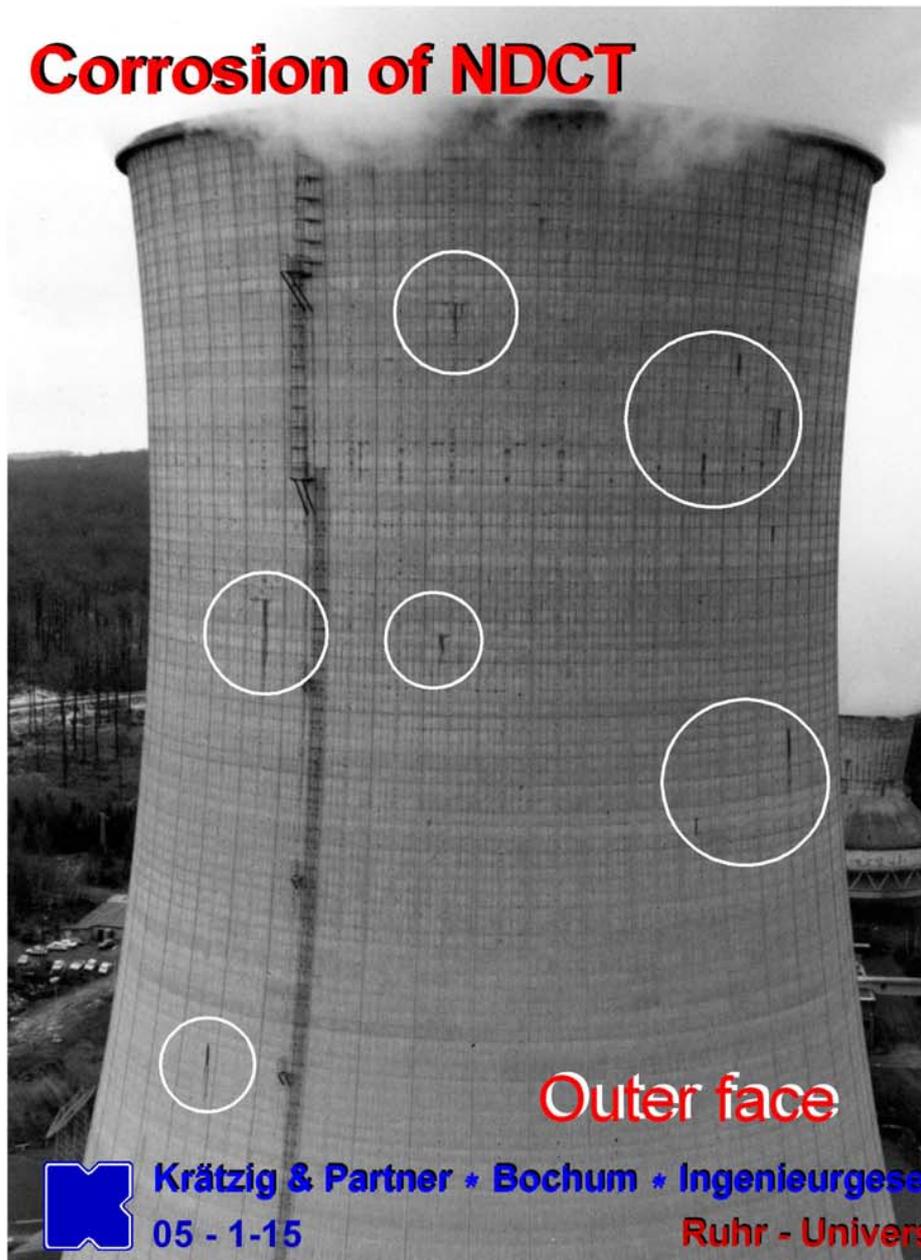
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05 - 1-14

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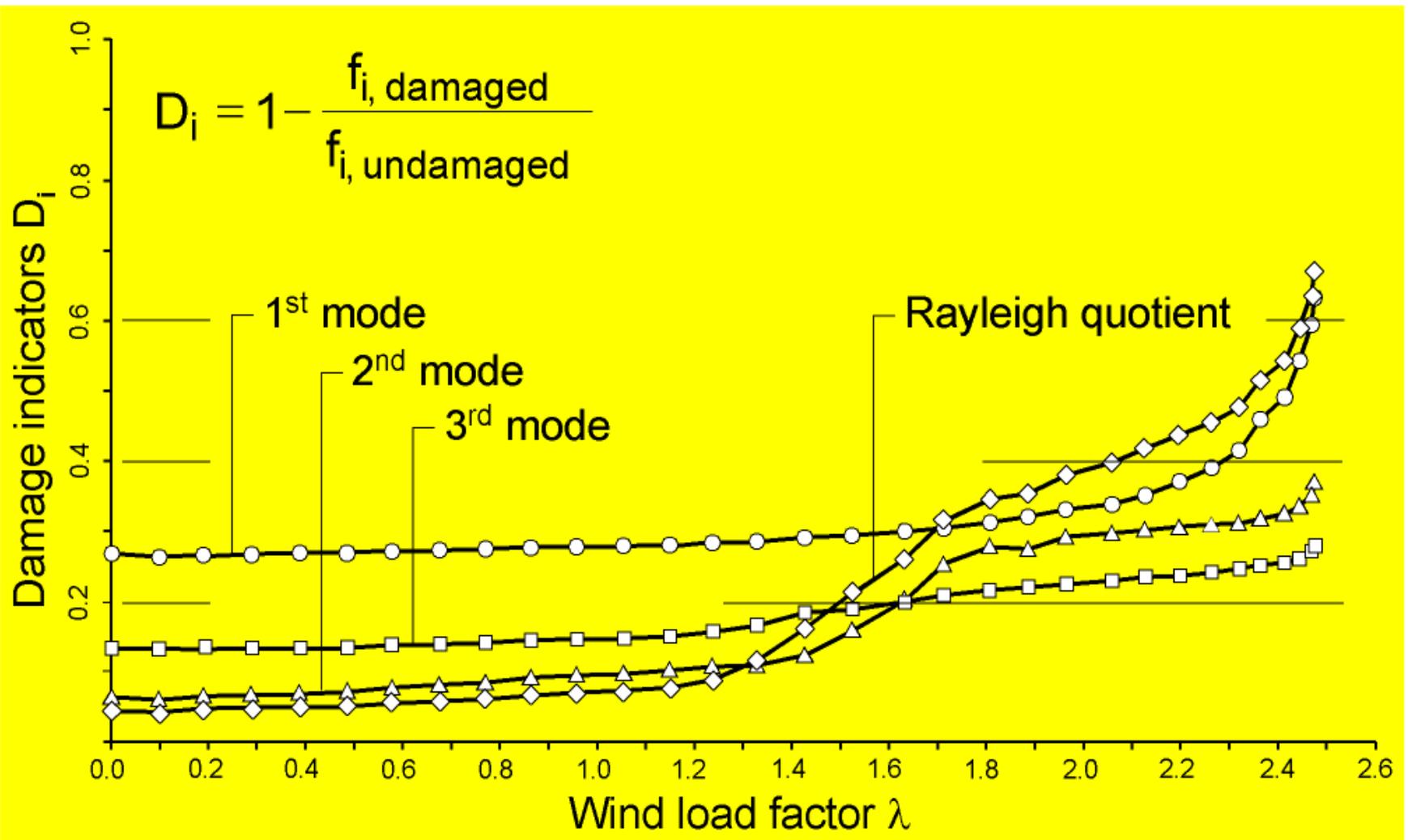
# Corrosion of NDCT



## Reduction of

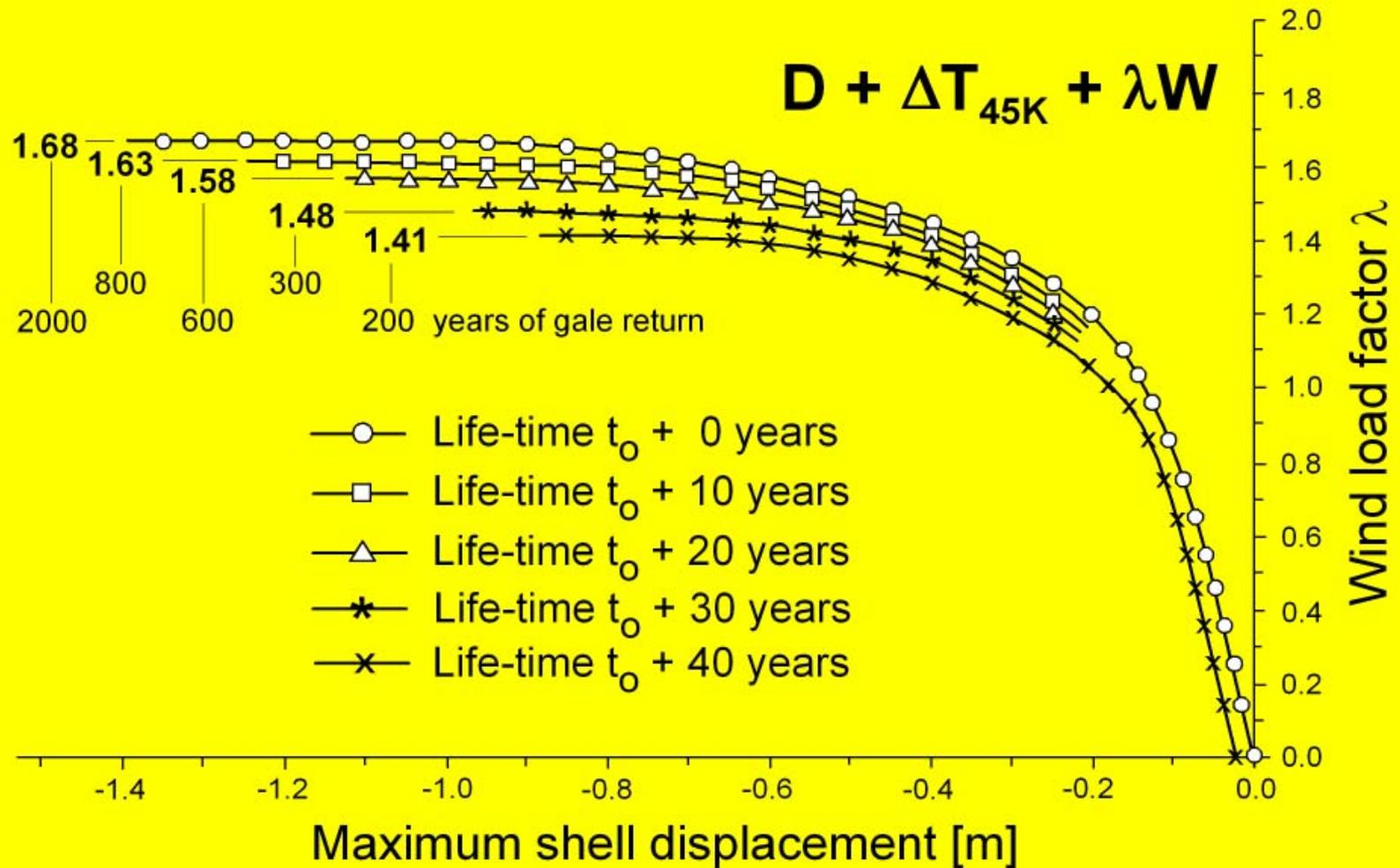
Deterioration due to:	Dimensions		Stiffness		Strength	
	concrete	steel	concrete	steel	concrete	steel
1. Carbonation		●				
2. Chloride penetration		●	○			
3. Sulfate attack	●		●		●	
4. Abrasion, erosion	●	●				
5. Freeze-thaw-cycles			●		●	
6. Fire: permanent ●, during fire ○	●		●	○	●	○

## Mechanistic empirical deterioration models for RC members



NDCT Goesgen: First 3 damage indicators:  $G + \Delta T_{45K} + \Delta T_{\text{hygr}} + \lambda W$

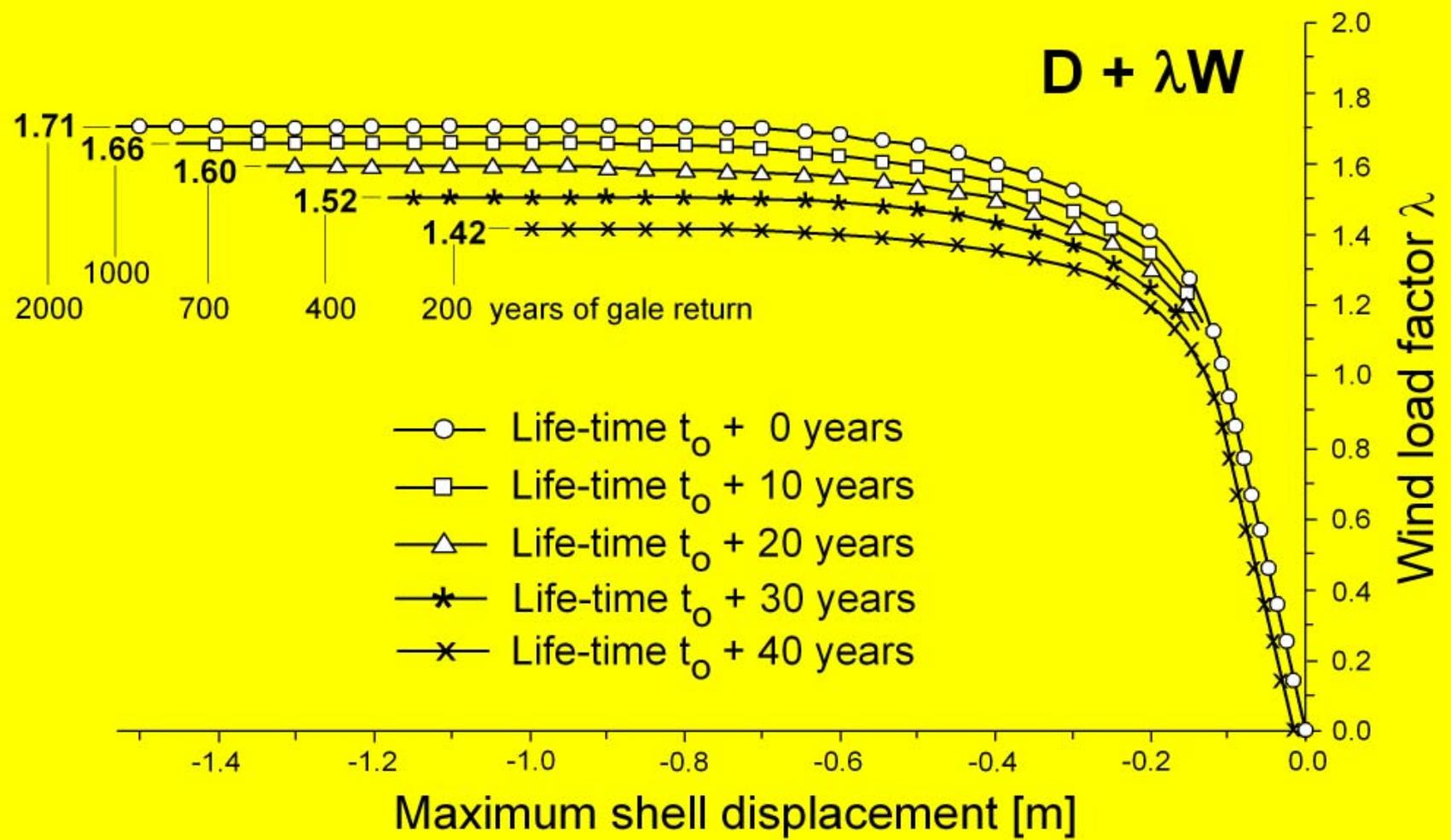




## Life-time simulations



**D + λW**

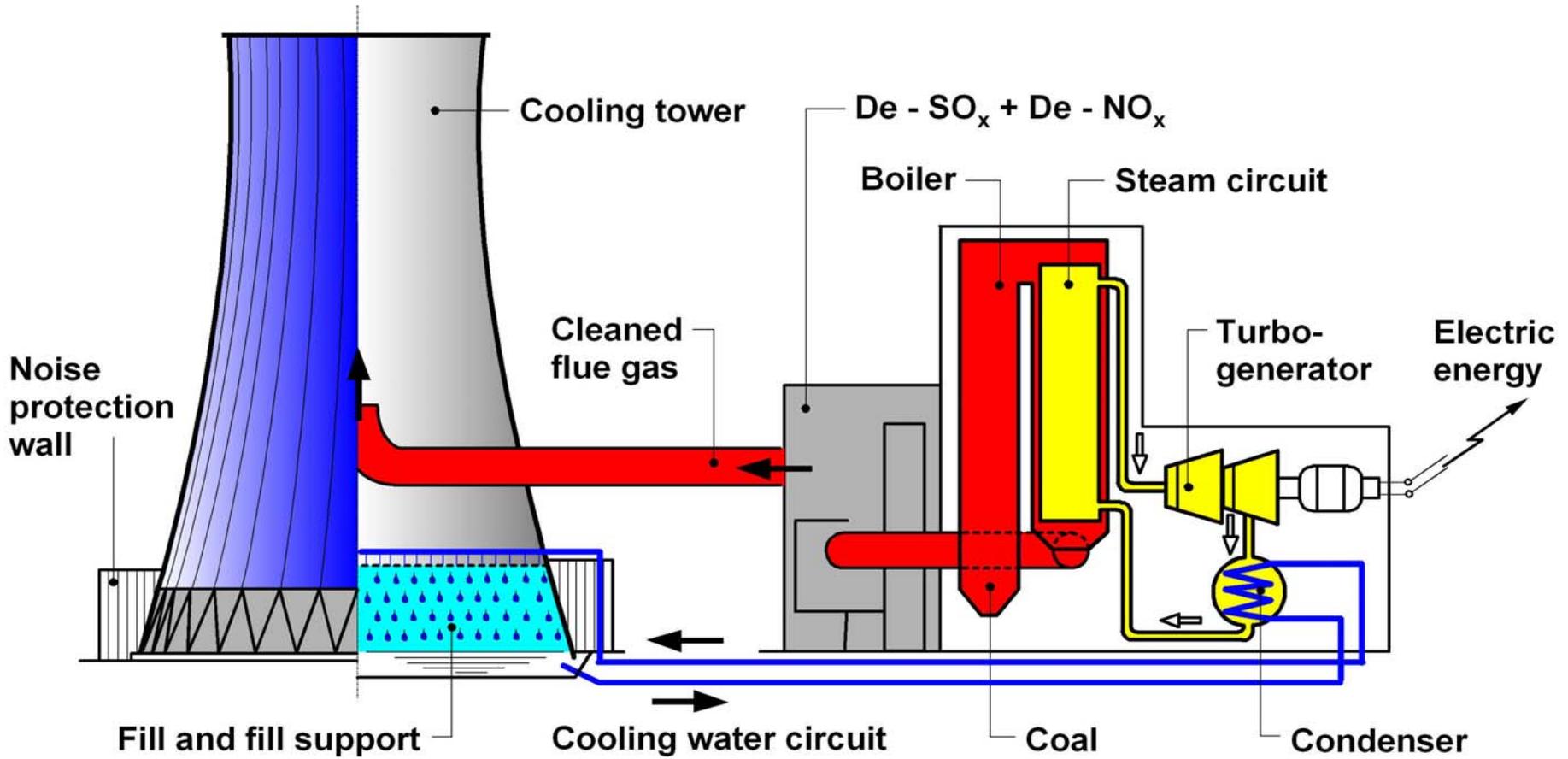


## Life-time simulations



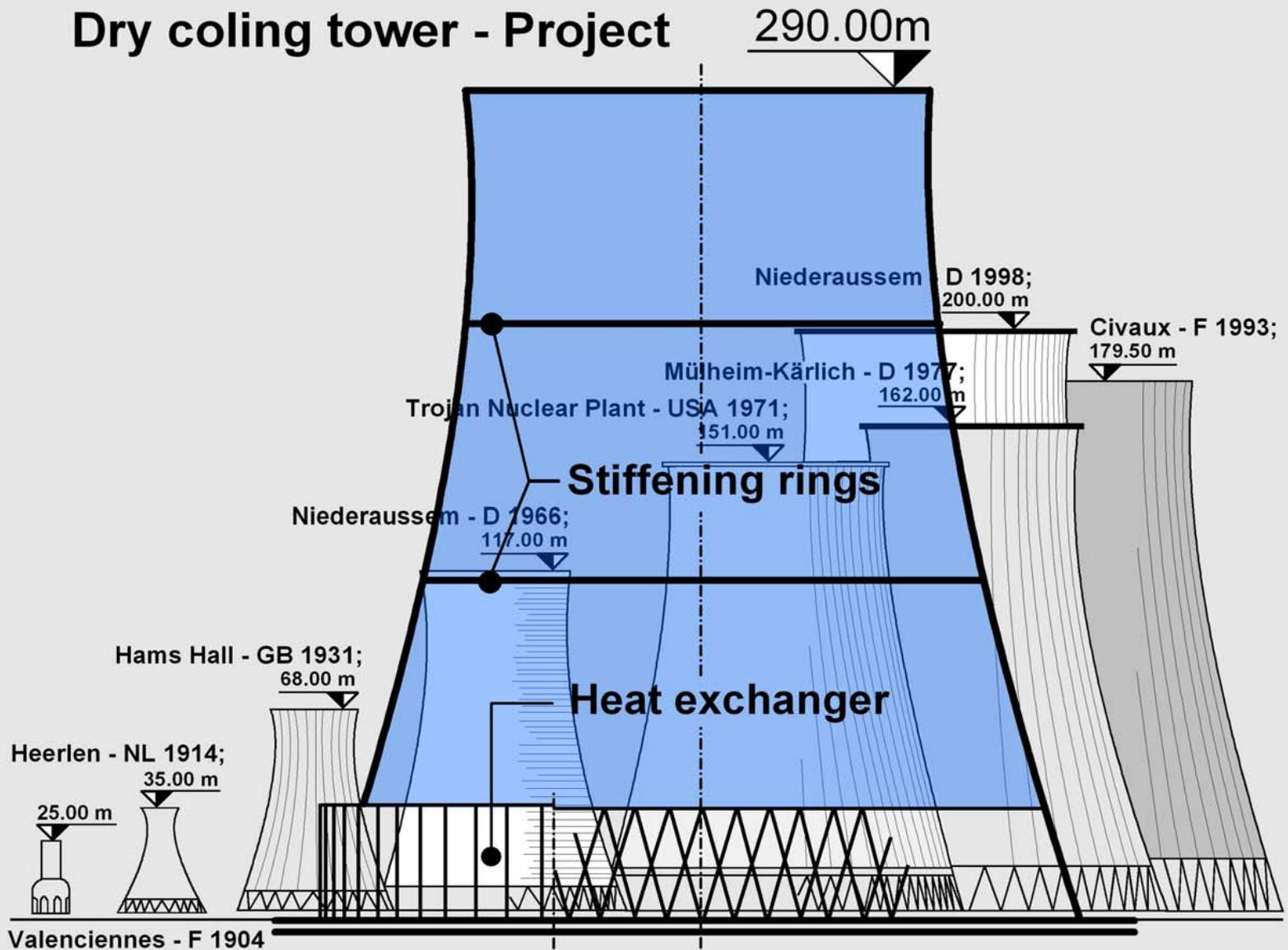
# NDCT RWE Lignite Power Plant Neurath 2007





## Thermal power plant with cleaned flue gas injection

# Dry cooling tower - Project



Development of natural draft cooling towers

Wilfried B. Krätzig, Reinhard Harte, Ralf Wörmann:

# Large shell structures for power generation technologies

1. Natural draft cooling towers and solar updraft chimneys:  
Why large?

2. Natural draft cooling towers:

Construction principles • loading and internal stress variables • shape optimization • instability and vibrations • damage and life-duration

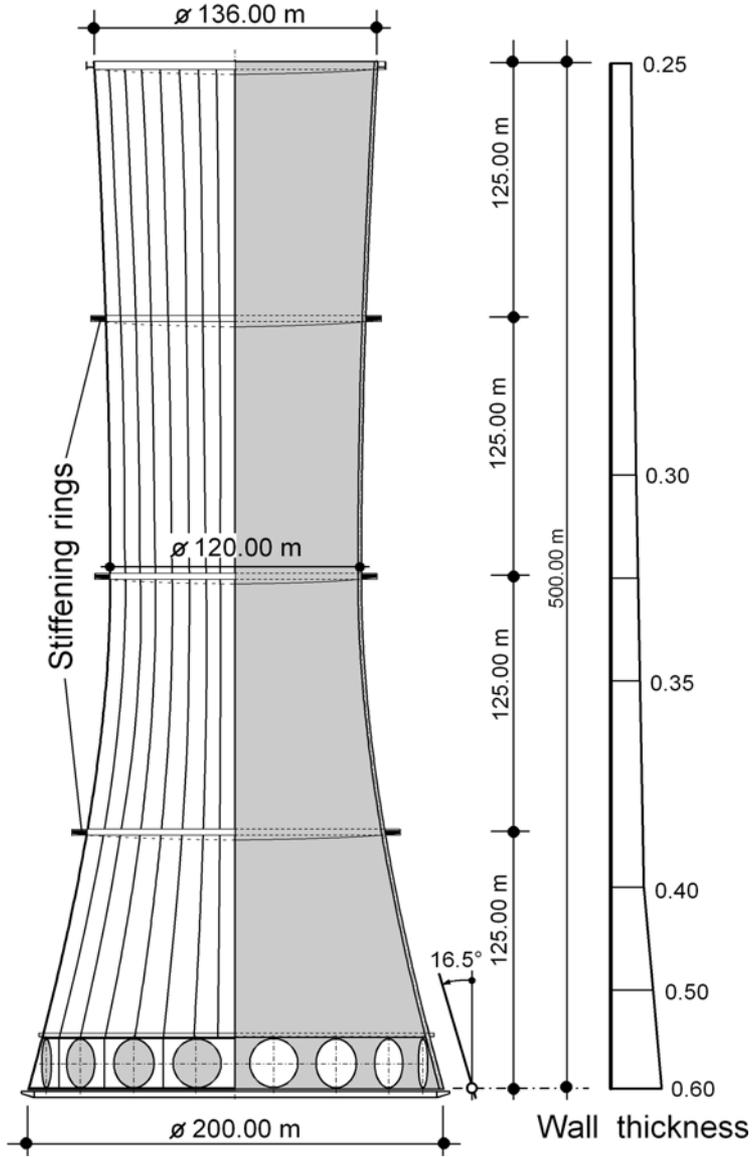
3. **Solar updraft power plant chimneys:**

Construction principles • shell strength versus ring stiffening • instability and vibrations

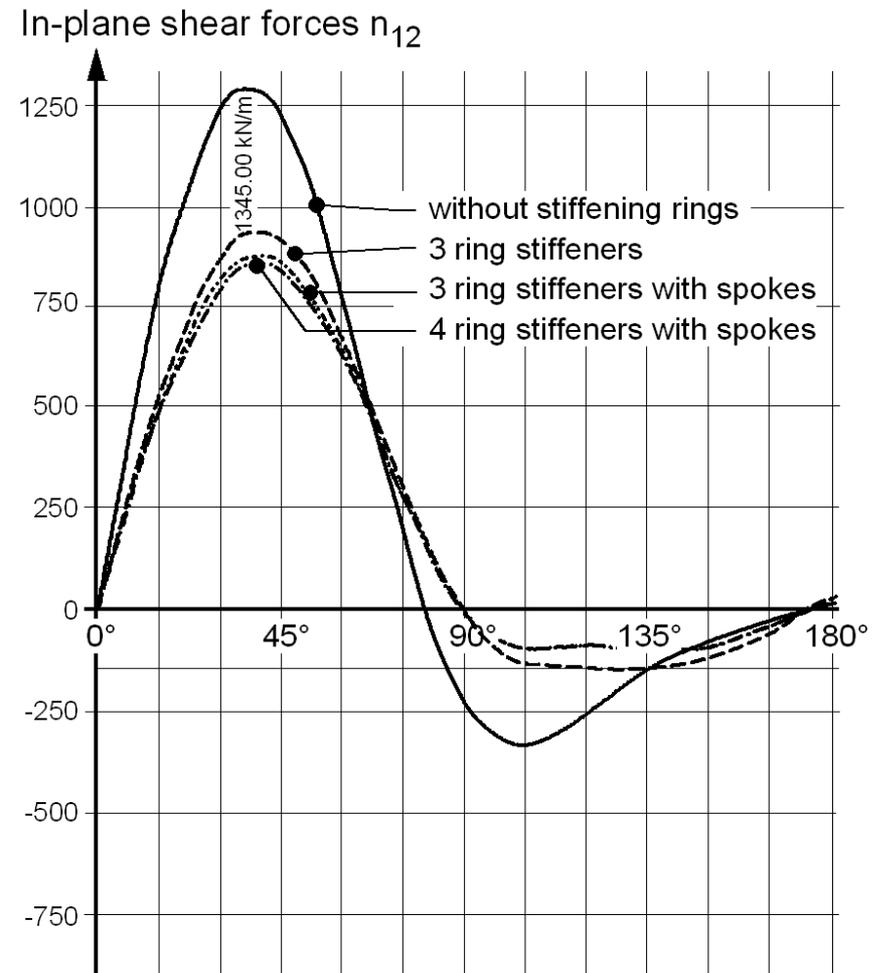
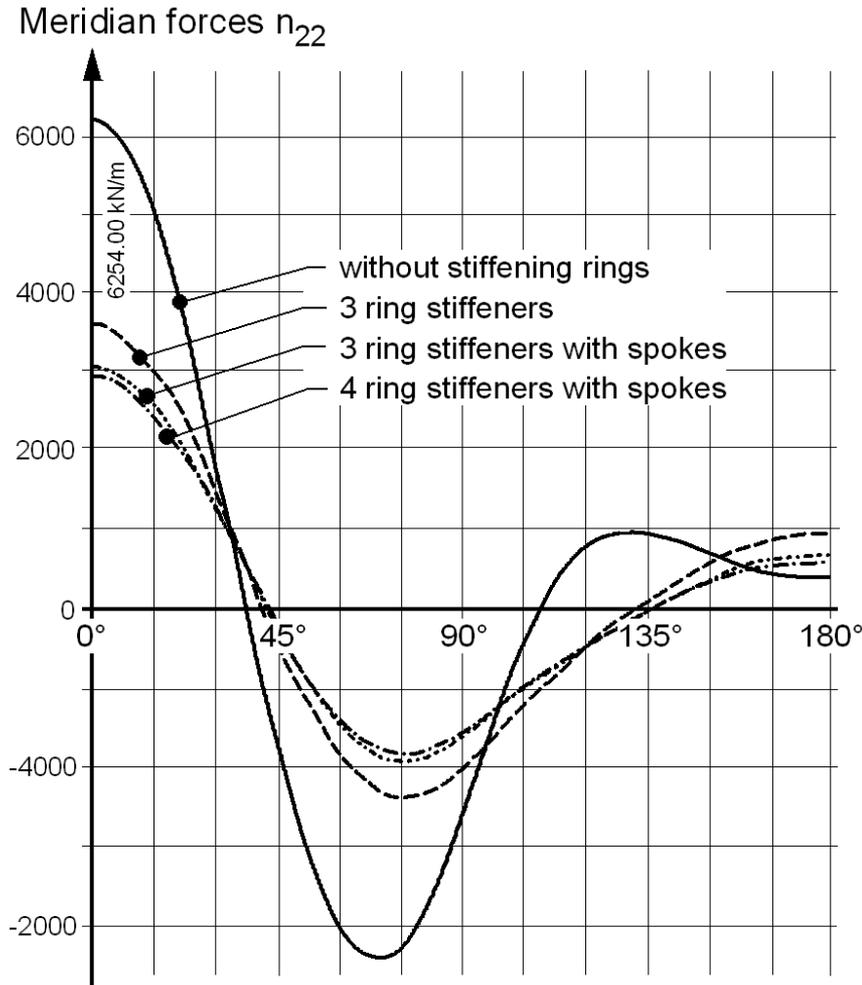
4. Conclusions



# Small solar tower of 500m of height



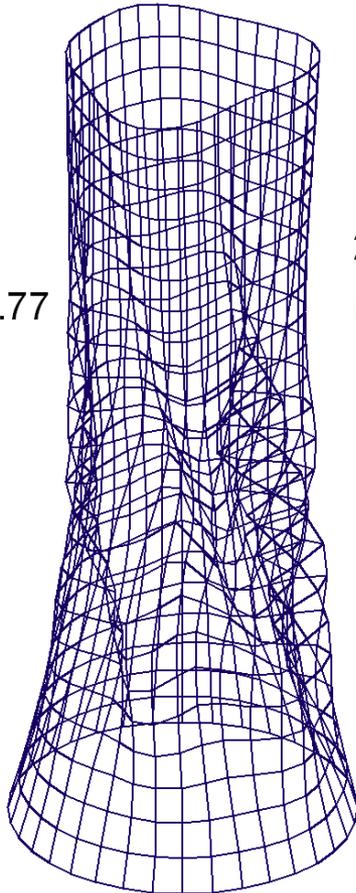
# Meridional ( $n_{22w}$ ) and in-plane shear ( $n_{12w}$ ) forces, 500m tower



# Instability modes: 500m tower without stiffenings rings (G+W+S)

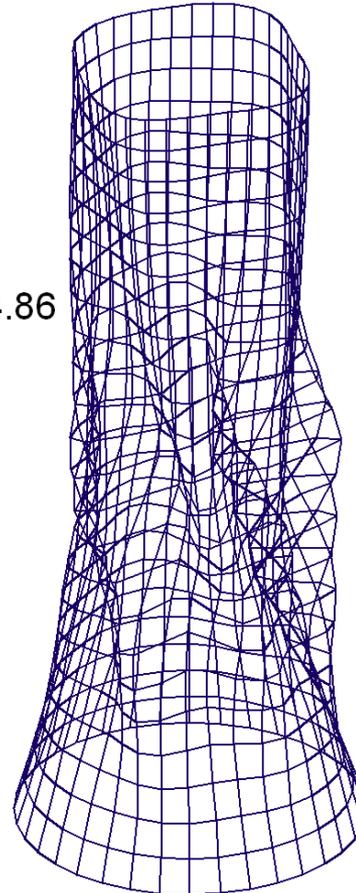
1<sup>st</sup> instability

mode:  $\lambda_1 = 4.77$



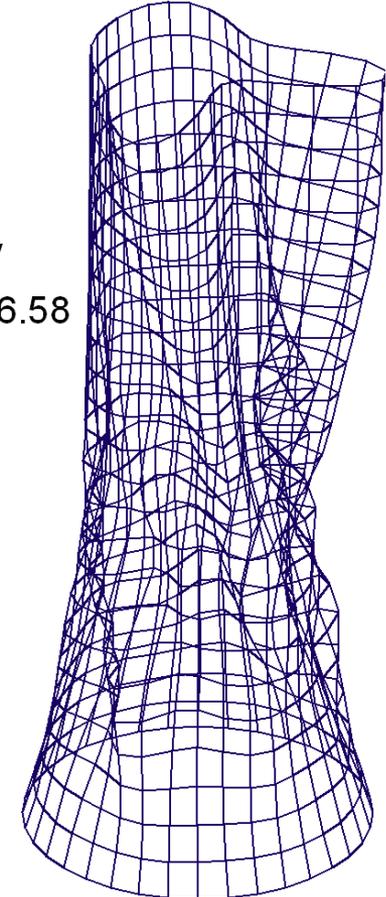
2<sup>nd</sup> instability

mode:  $\lambda_2 = 4.86$



3<sup>rd</sup> instability

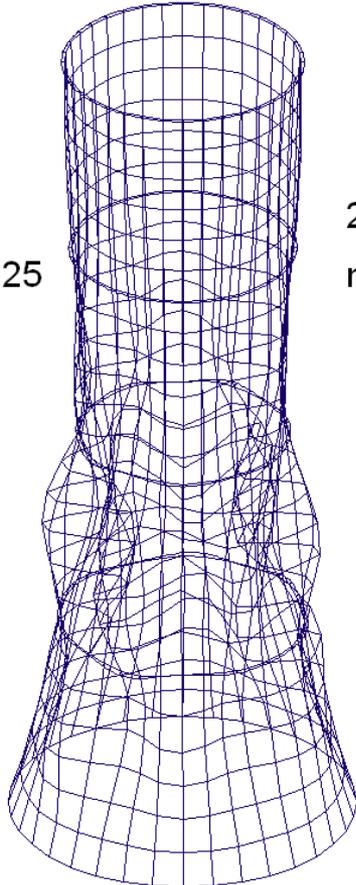
mode:  $\lambda_3 = 6.58$



# Instability modes for 500m tower with 4 stiffenings rings (G+W+S)

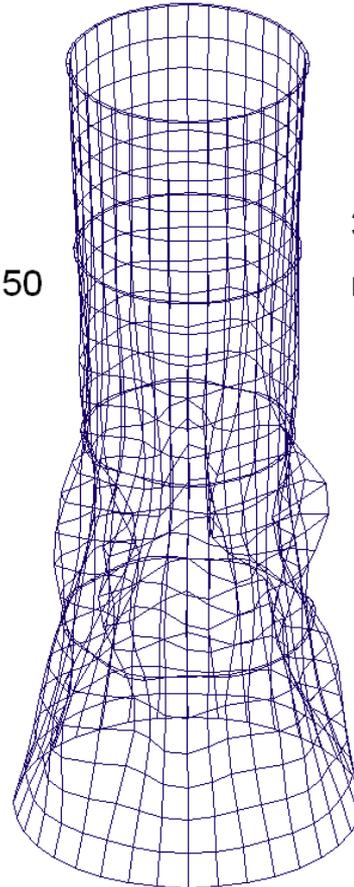
1<sup>st</sup> instability

mode:  $\lambda_1 = 8.25$



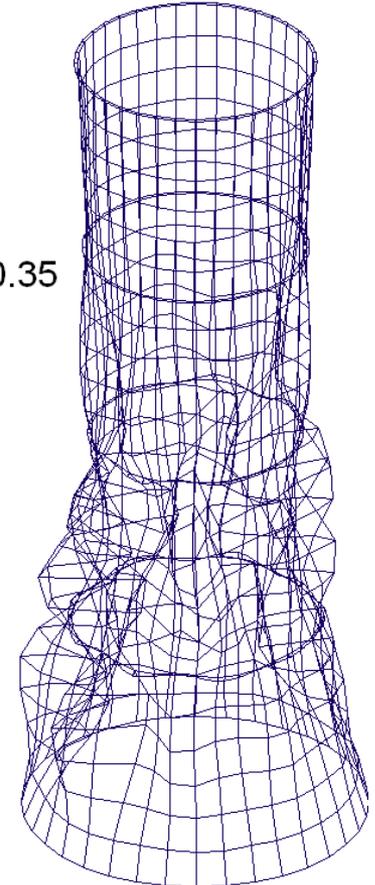
2<sup>nd</sup> instability

mode:  $\lambda_2 = 8.50$



3<sup>rd</sup> instability

mode:  $\lambda_3 = 10.35$

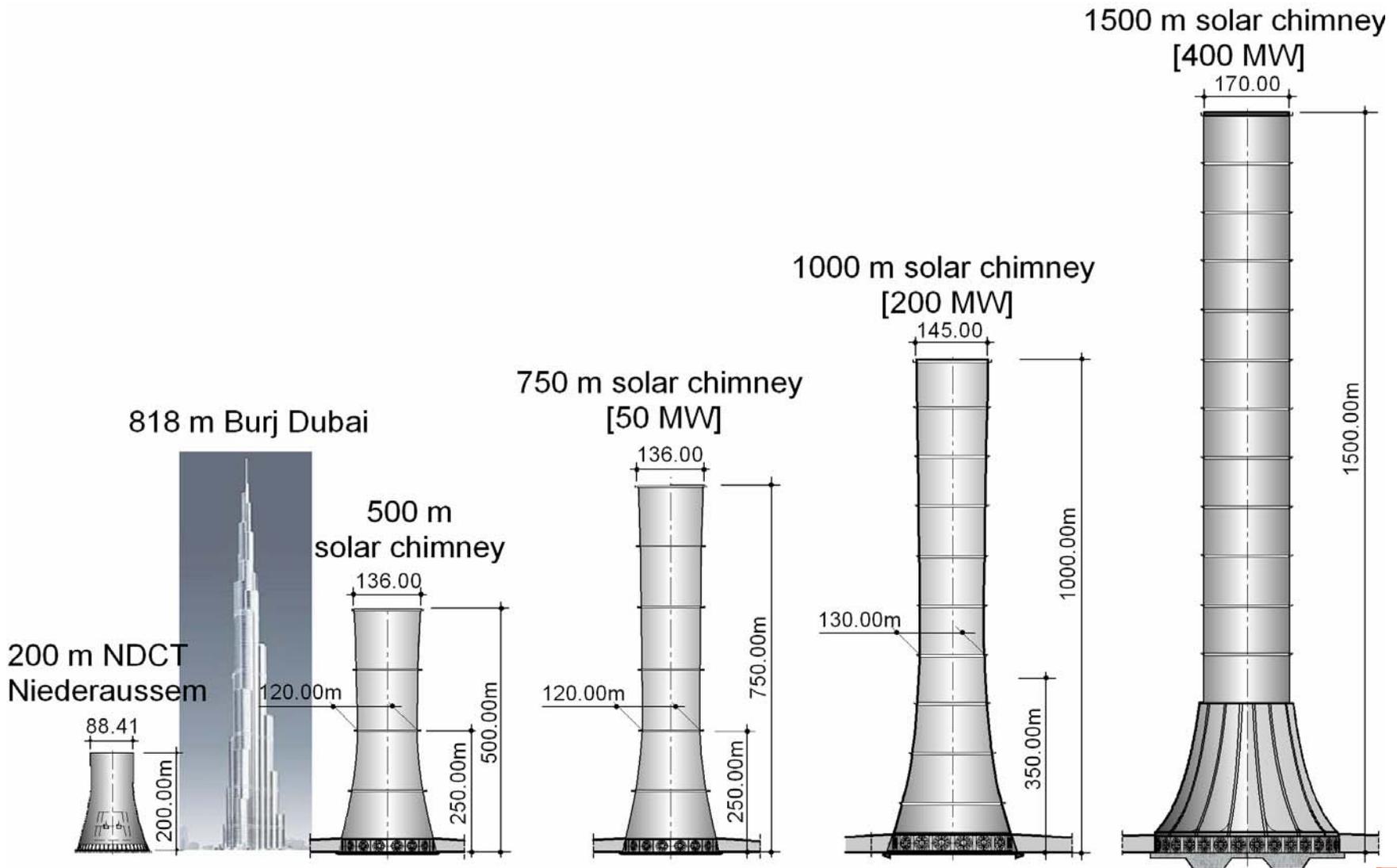


# Artist's view of large solar chimney power plant



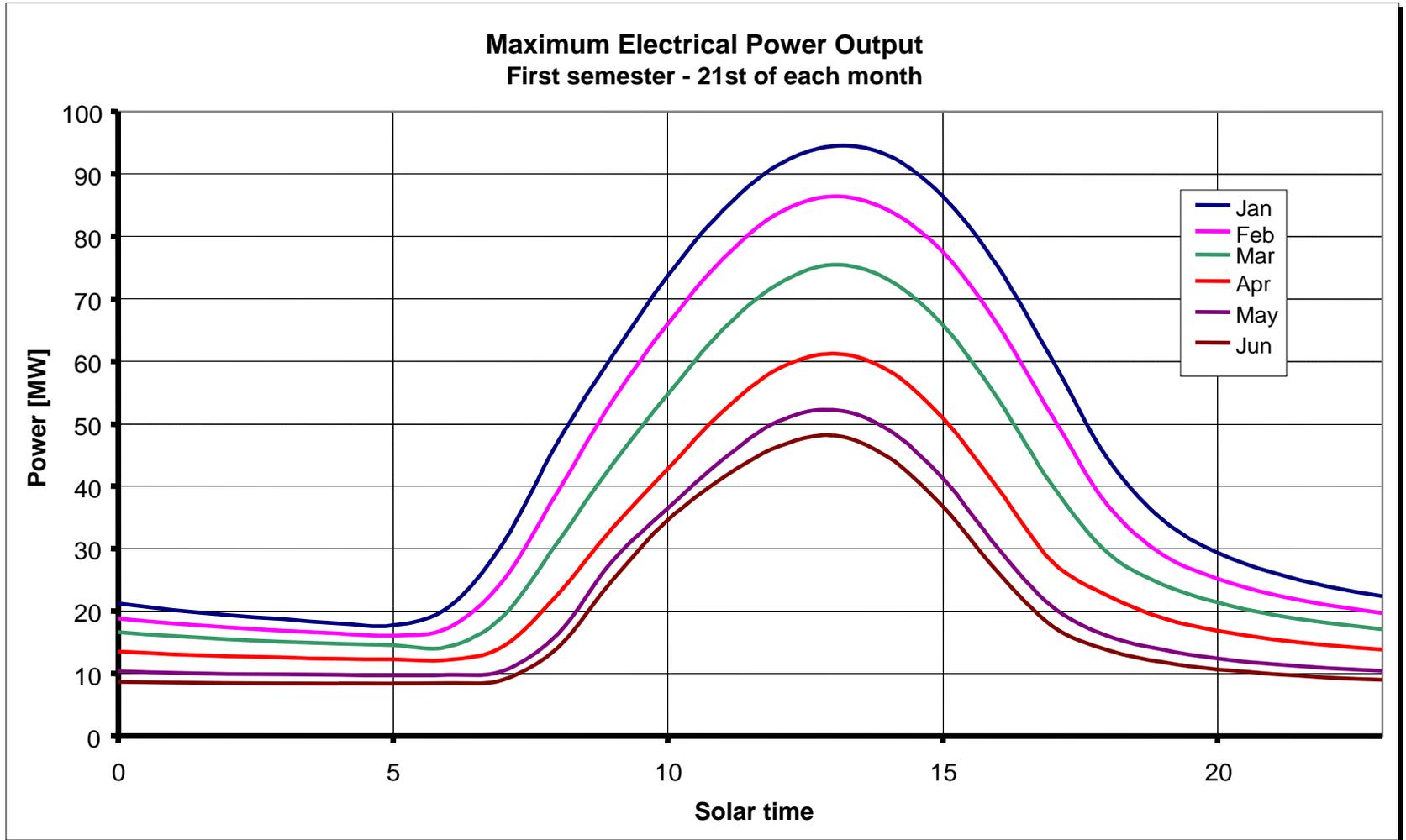
Acc. Stinnes (GreenTower Ltd.):  
Short Executive Summary June 2007

# From high natural draft cooling towers to solar chimneys



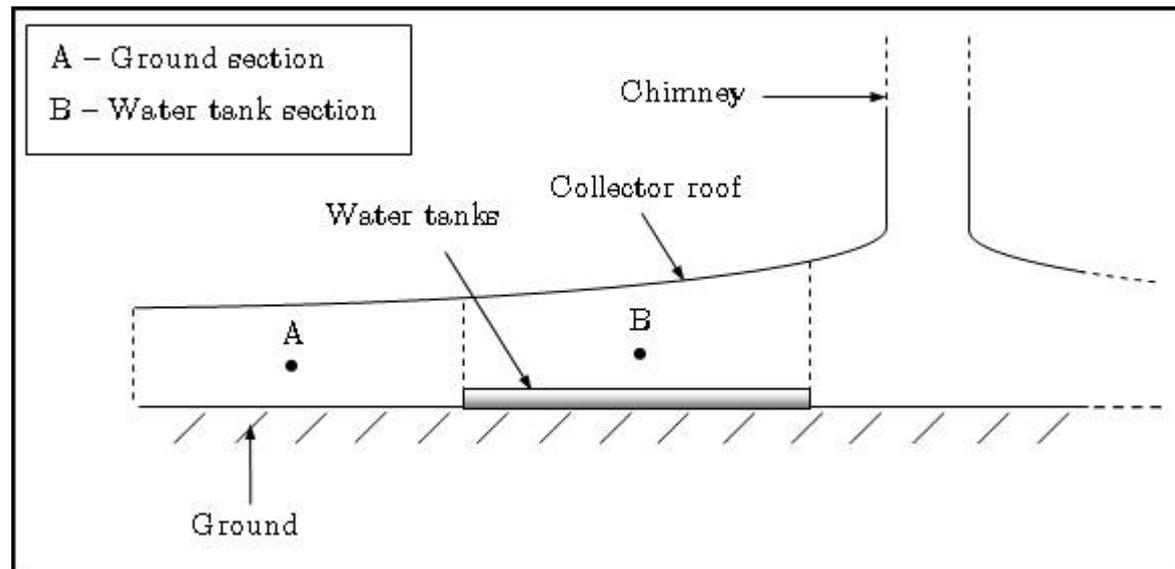
# Results: Power output

Acc. Kroeger/Praetorius (Univ. Stellenbosch):  
Solar Chimney Power Plant Performance



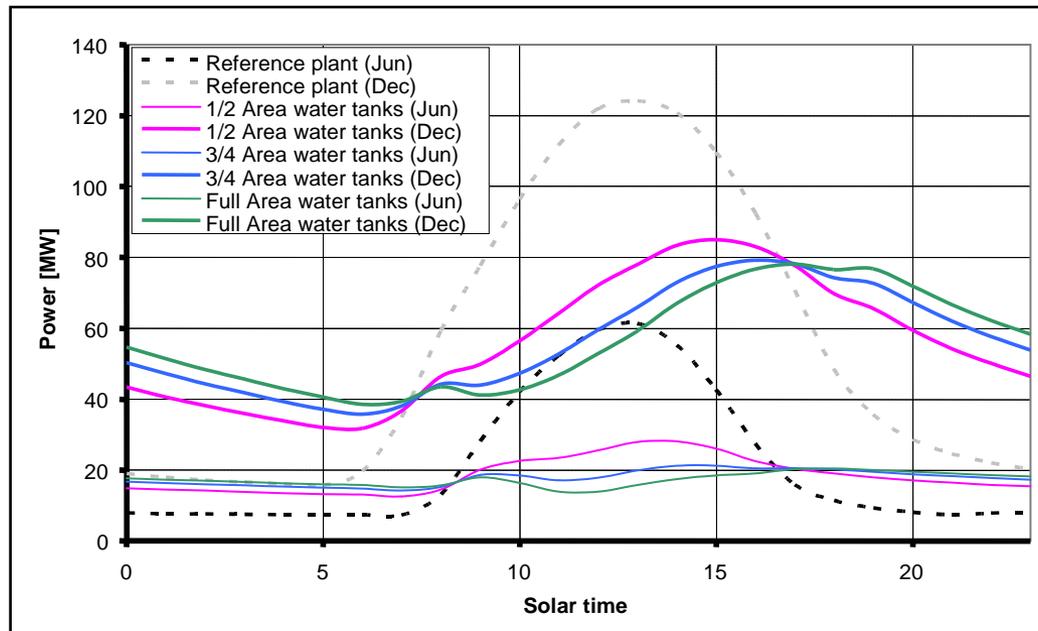
# Regulating plant power output according to demand (cont.)

- Plastic covered water tanks
  - Provide more uniform daily power output profile (static control)
  - Relatively shallow tanks
  - Covered with transparent plastic (no water evaporation)
  - Black inside bottom
  - Insulated outside bottom and sides (no heat losses to environment)



# Regulating plant power output according to demand (cont.)

- Plastic covered water tanks
  - Partially covered collector area, constant tank depth
  - Significant static control
  - 2.4% (1/2 Area), 2.7% (3/4 Area), 2.6% (Full Area) reduction in annual power output



# Regulating plant power output according to demand (cont.)

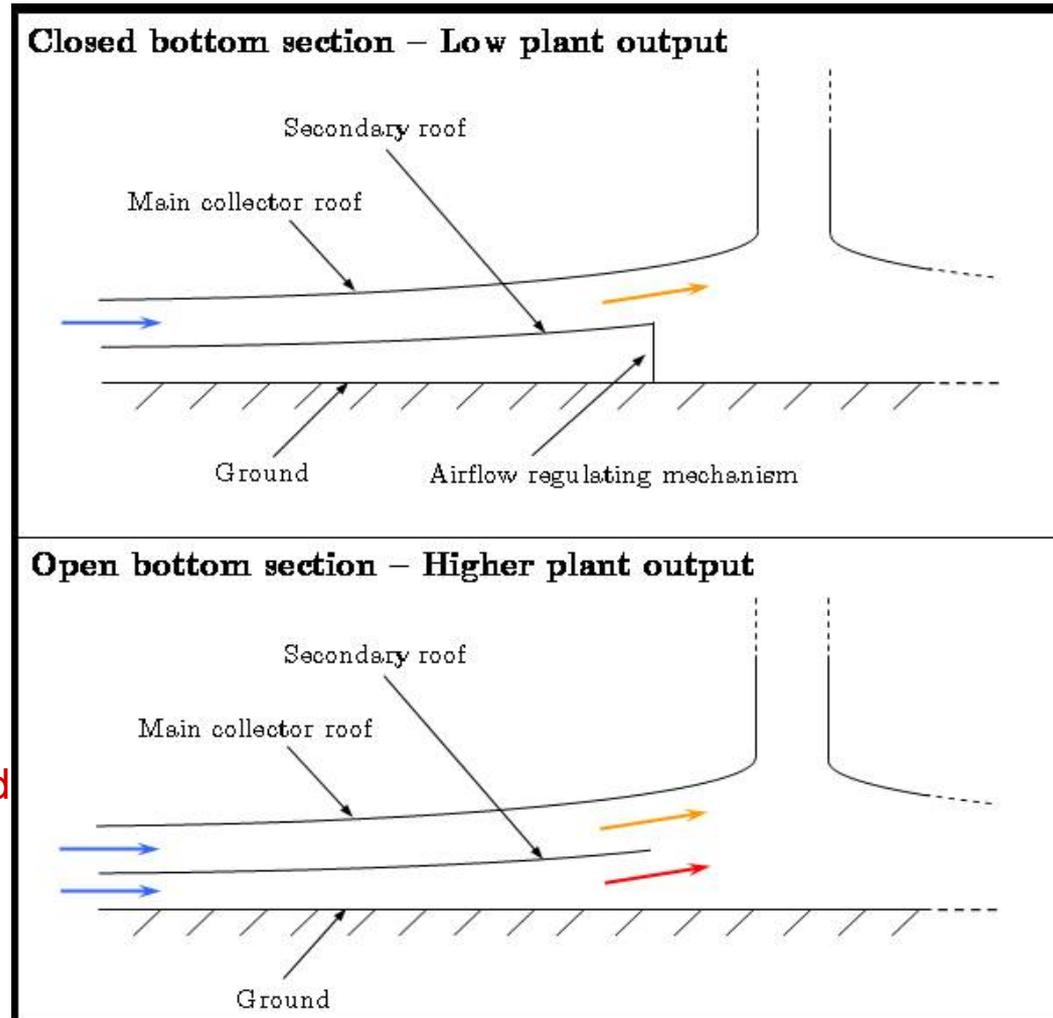
- **Dynamic control**
  - Base or peak power generation facility
  - Inclusion of additional collector roof
  - Inclusion of airflow regulating mechanisms
  - Plant given ability to store or release energy when needed

## Base load strategy

- Keep power as constant as possible

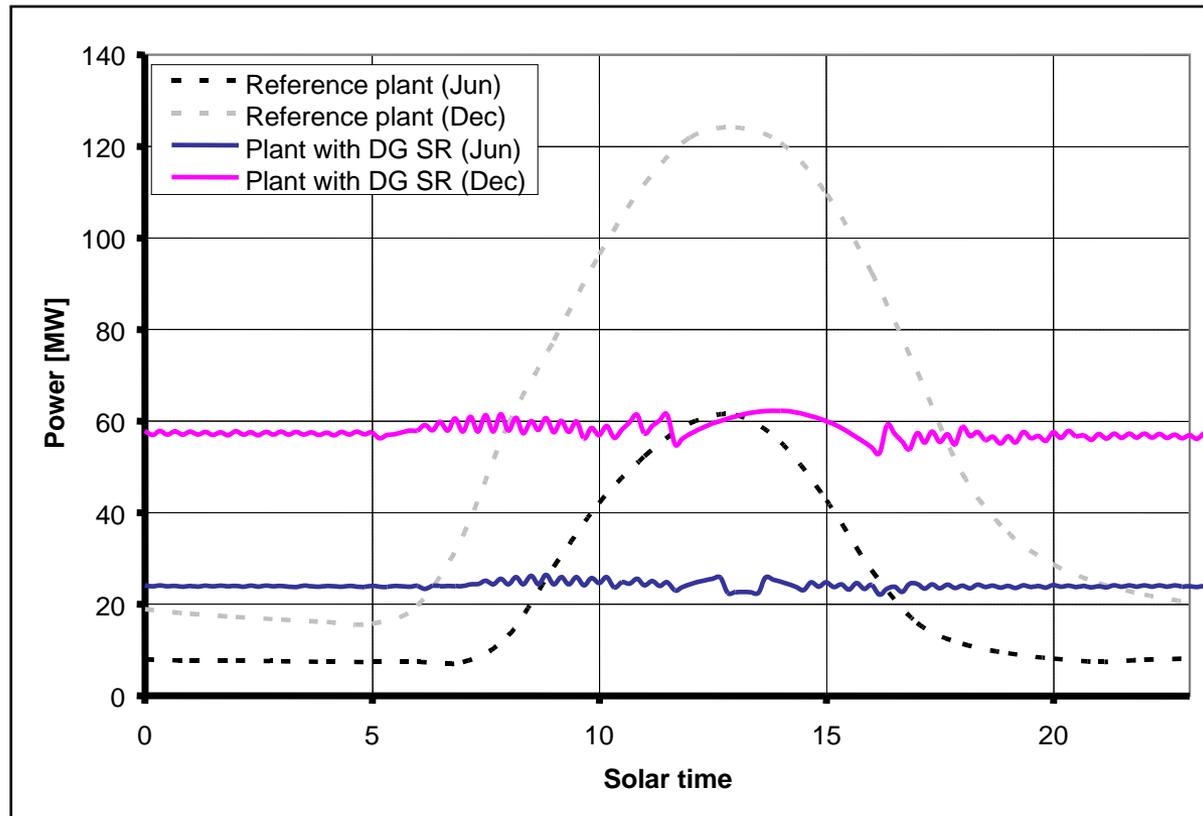
## Peak load strategy

- Maximum power delivered between 07:00 and 12:00 and 17:00 and 22:00 (Eskom)



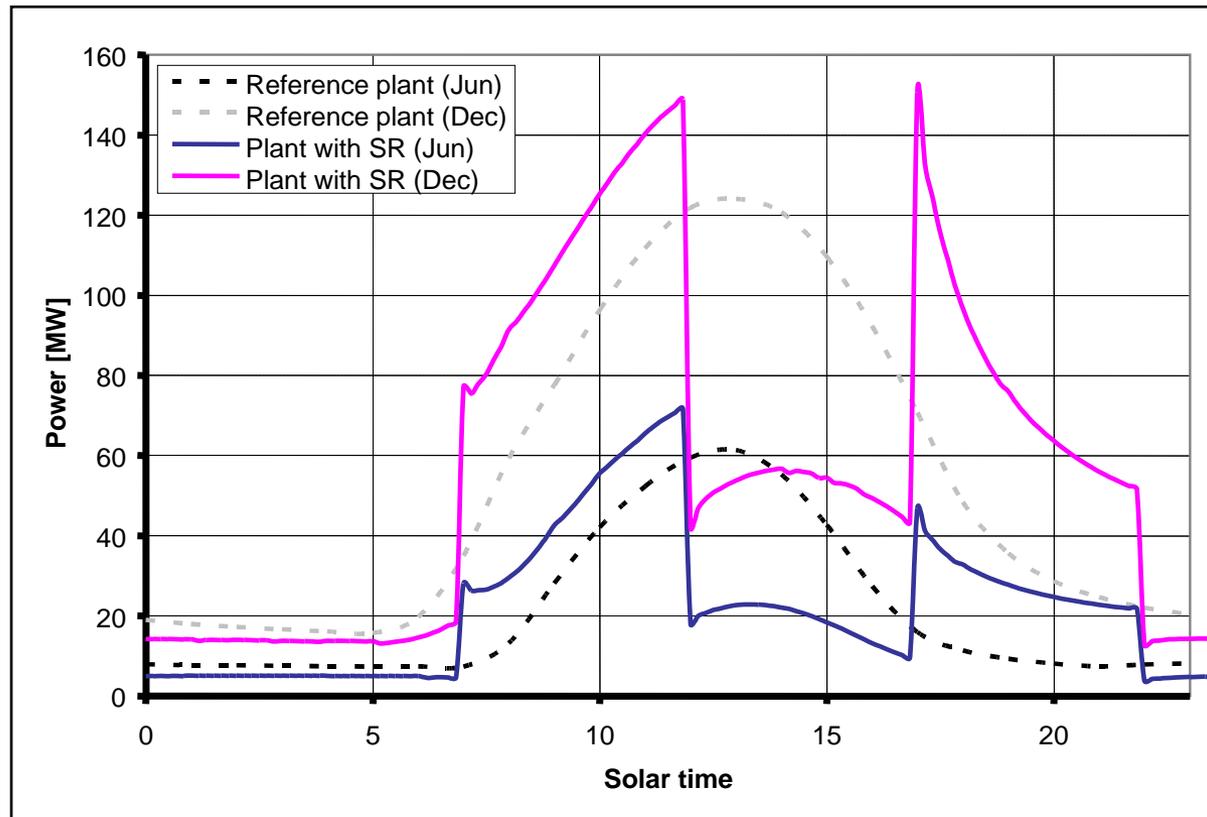
# Regulating plant power output according to demand (cont.)

- Double glazed secondary collector roof
  - Base load: excellent control
  - 7.9% increase in annual power output

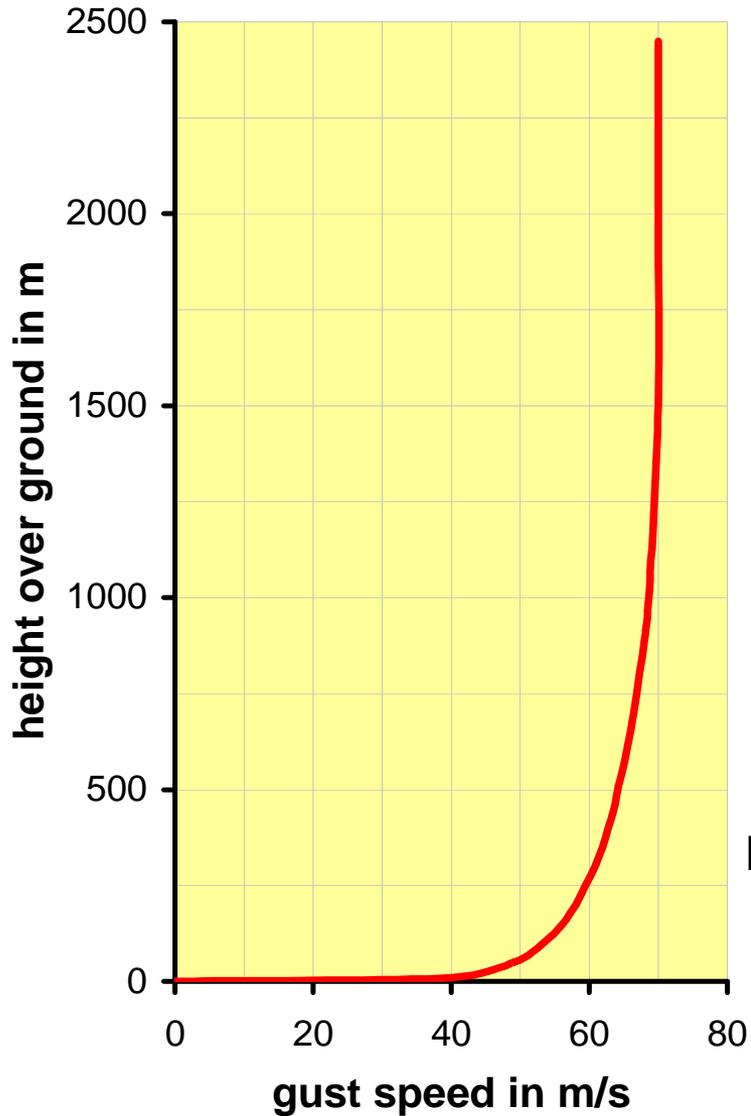


# Regulating plant power output according to demand (cont.)

- Secondary collector roof
  - Peak load: good control
  - 2% increase in annual power output



# Gust Wind Profile



200m  
Niederaußem



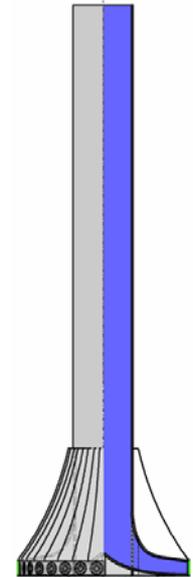
300m  
Eiffelturm



800m  
Burj Dubai



1500m  
Green Tower

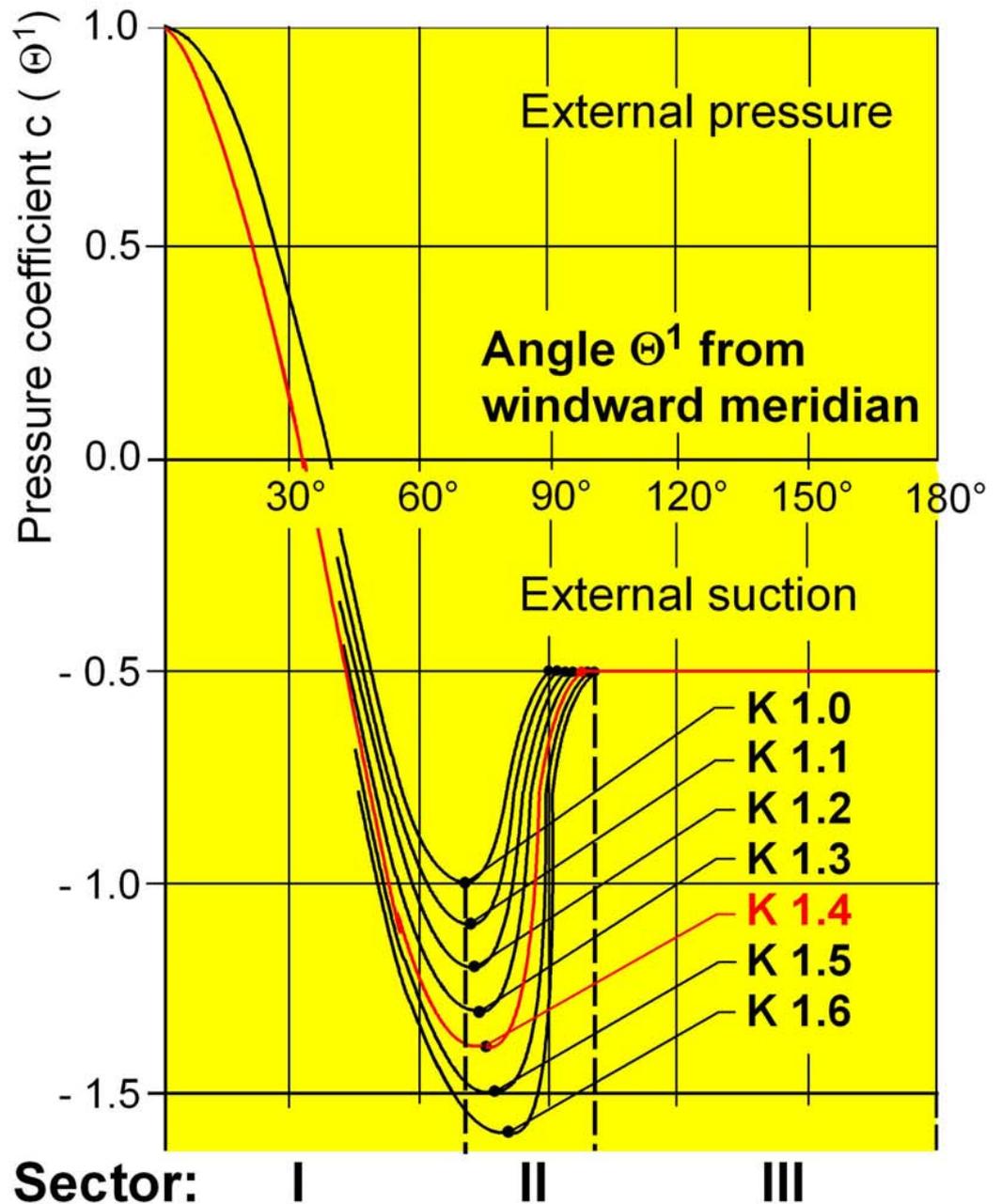


**NDCT Niederaussem:**  
**Types of circumferential**  
**wind pressure**  
**distribution  $c(\Theta^1)$**

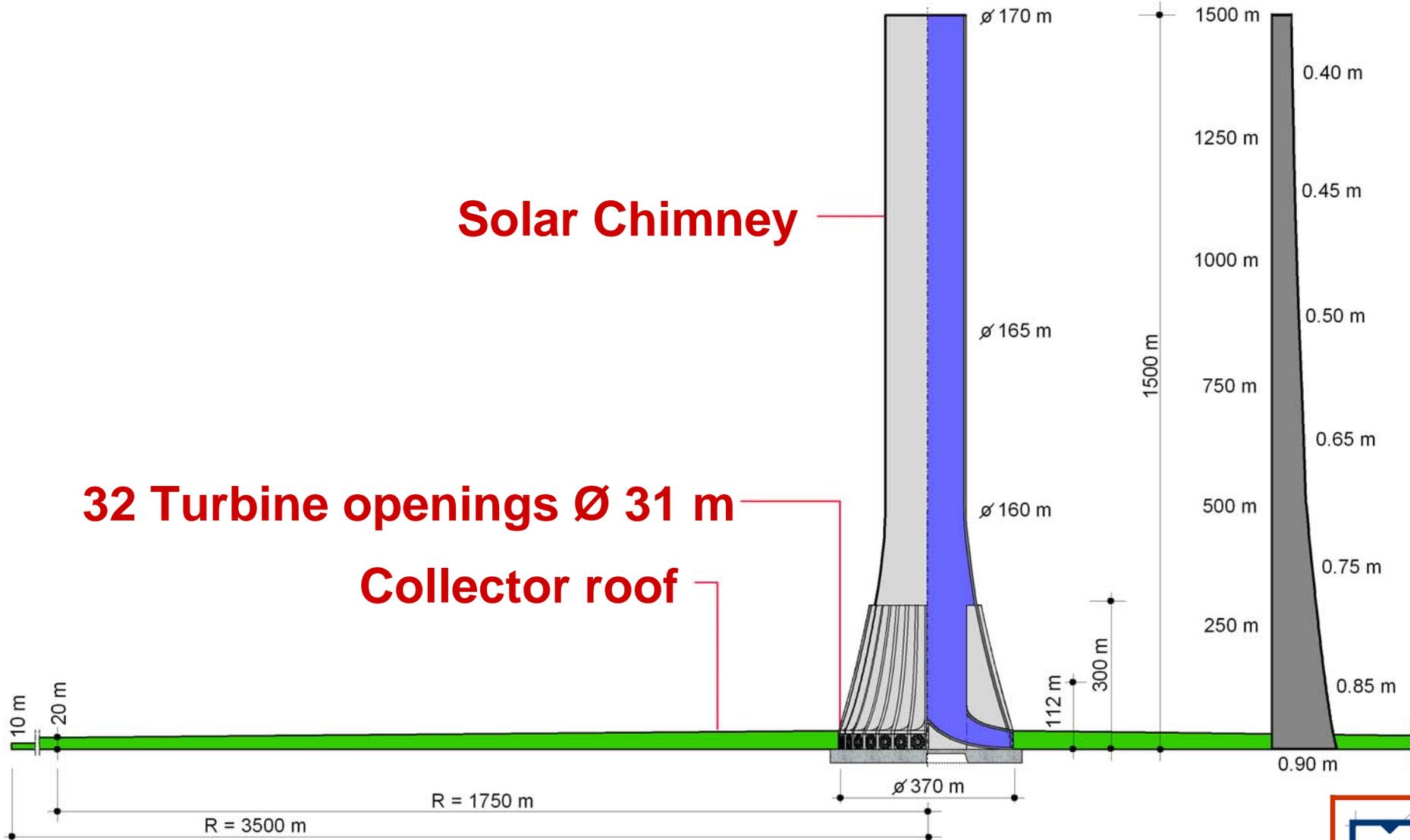
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**Statik und Dynamik**



03-4-5



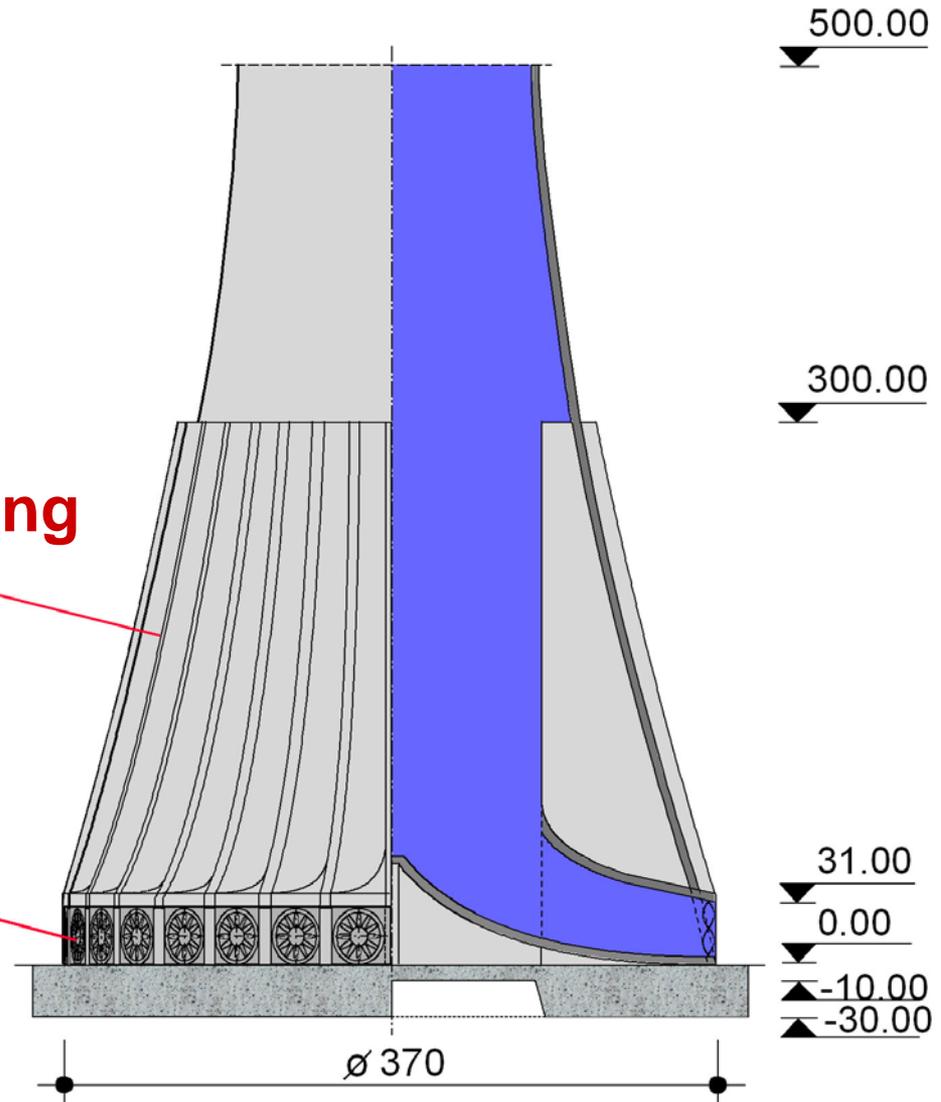
# Green Tower Project Namibia



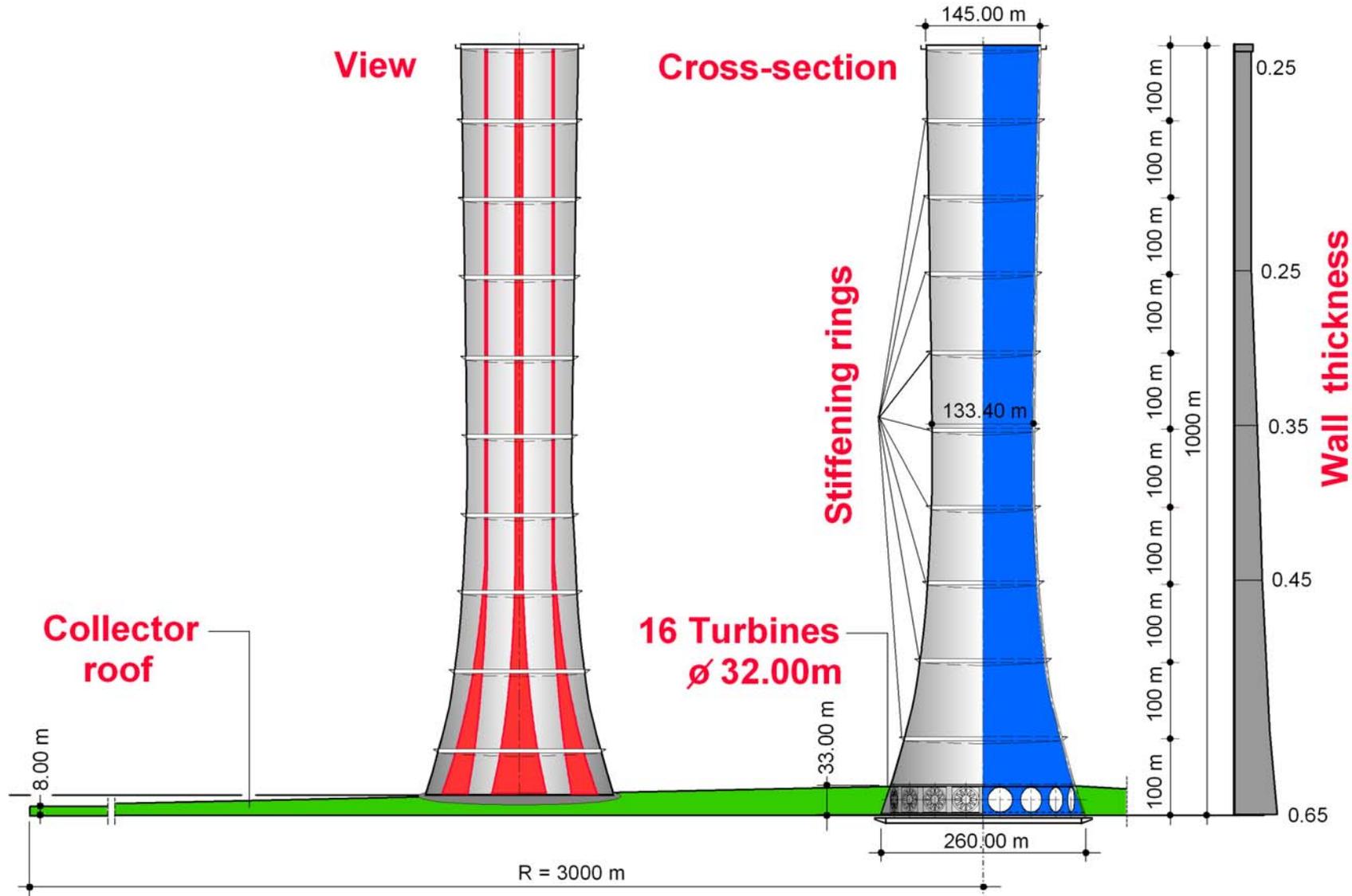
# GreenTower Project Namibia: Tower foot alternative

**32 Additional Stiffening  
Walls d = 2.0m**

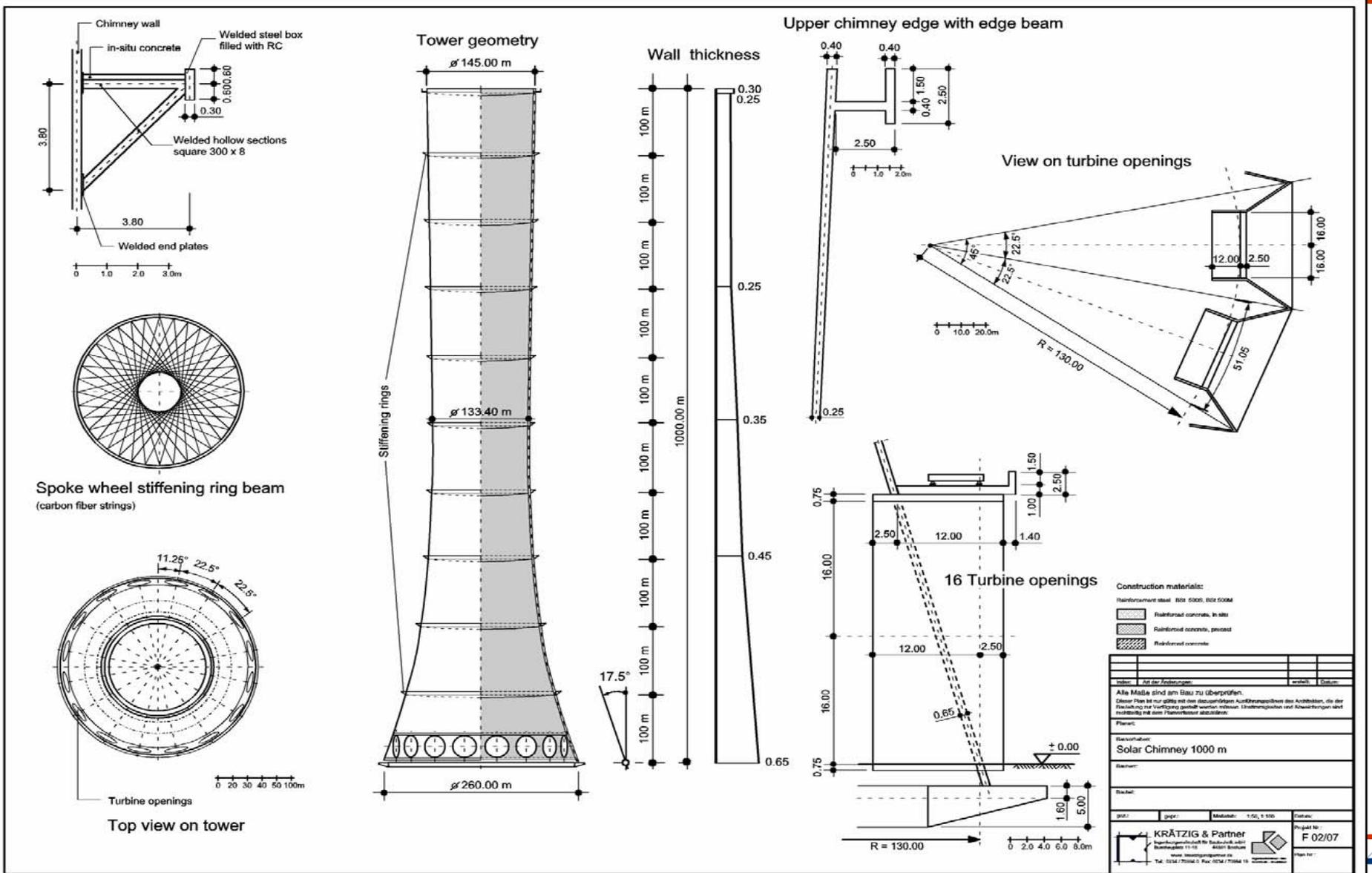
**32 Turbines  
Ø 31 m**



# 1000m tower for a 200MW SCPP

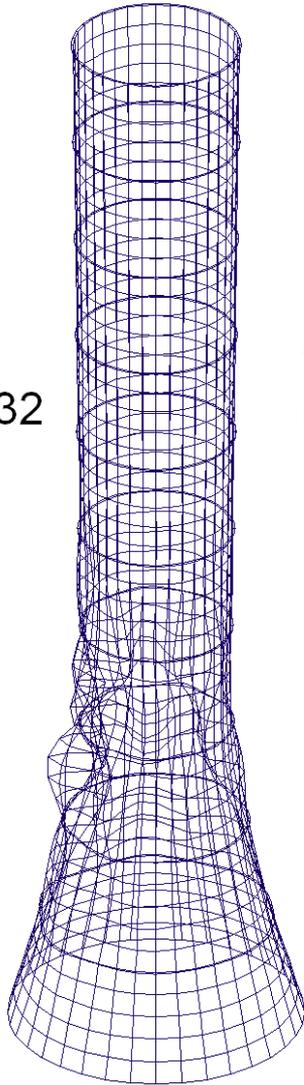


# Solar Chimney Project Arabia: 1000m variant

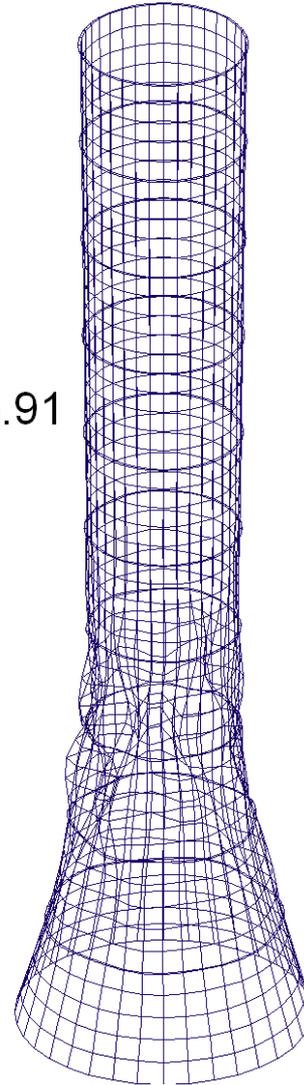


# Instability modes of 1000m tower for G+W+S

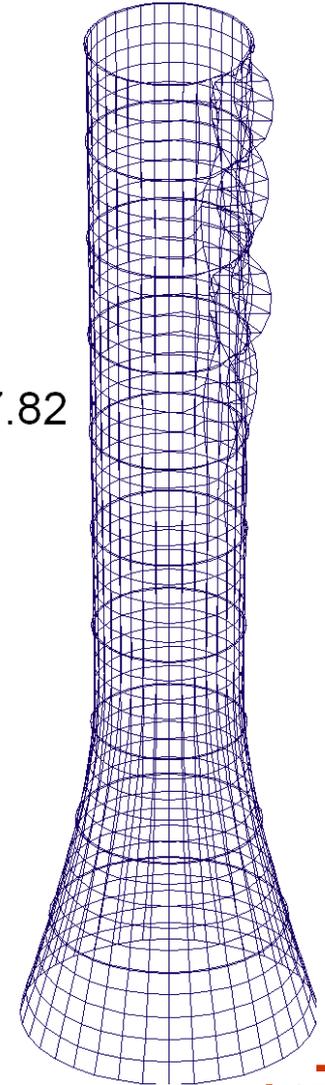
1<sup>st</sup> instability  
mode:  $\lambda_1 = 5.32$



2<sup>nd</sup> instability  
mode:  $\lambda_2 = 5.91$

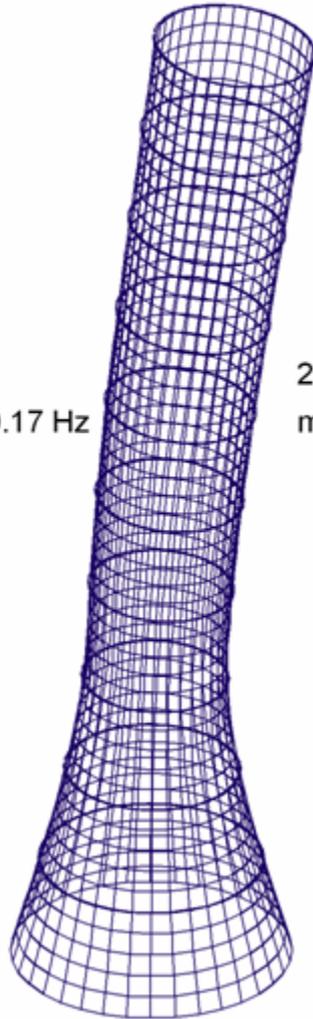


3<sup>rd</sup> instability  
mode:  $\lambda_3 = 7.82$

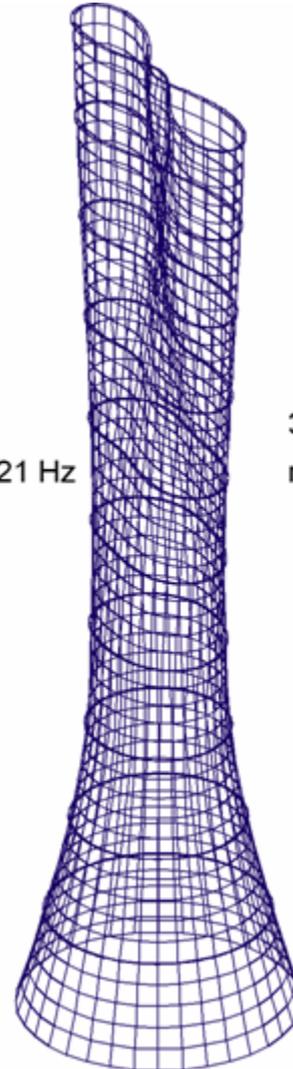


# Vibration modes of 1000m tower

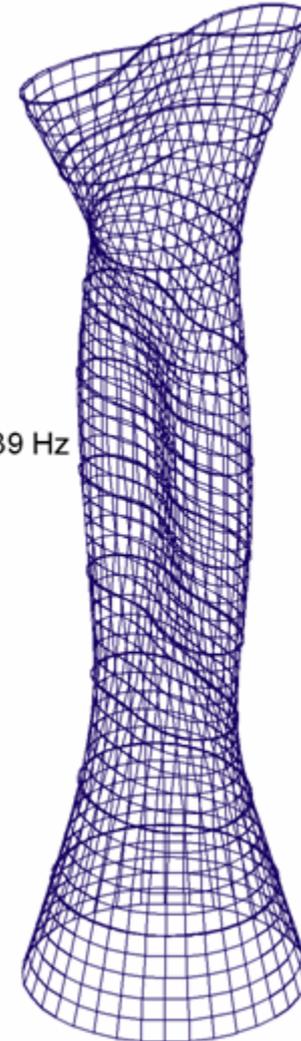
1<sup>st</sup> vibration  
mode:  $f_1 = 0.17$  Hz



2<sup>nd</sup> vibration  
mode:  $f_2 = 0.21$  Hz

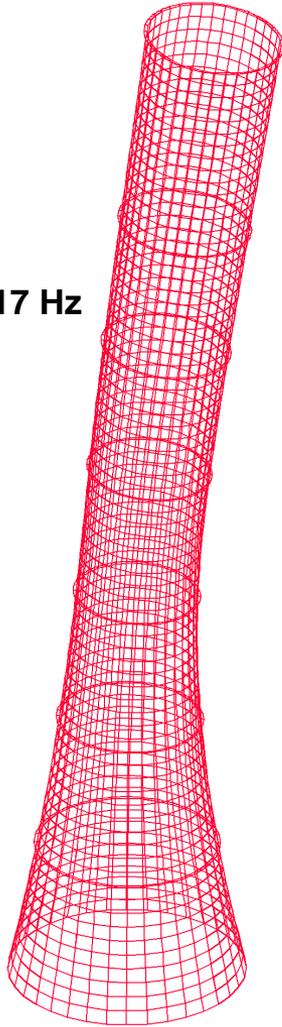


3<sup>rd</sup> vibration  
mode:  $f_3 = 0.39$  Hz

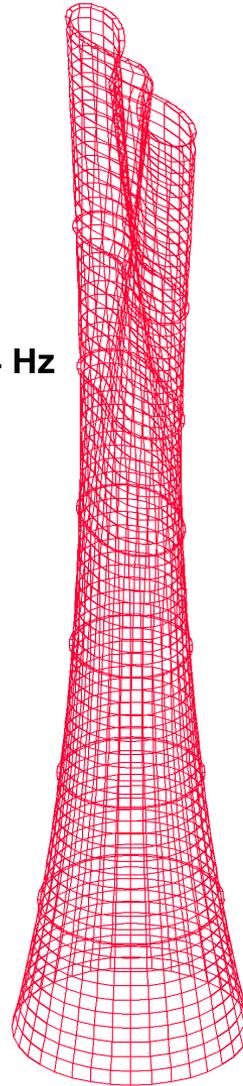


# Vibration modes 1, 2 and 3 of 750m tower

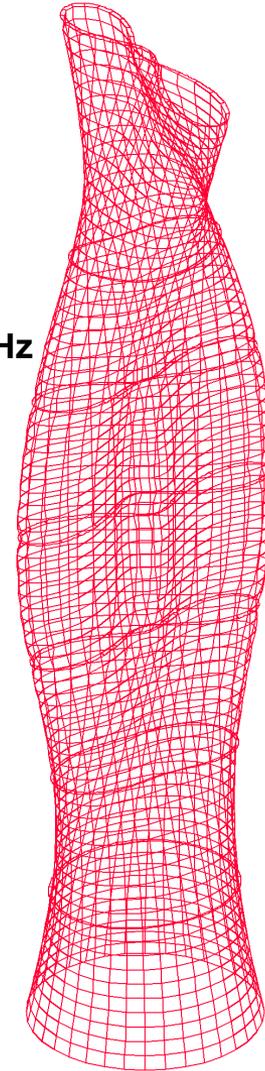
1<sup>st</sup> vibration  
mode  $f_1 = 0.17$  Hz



2<sup>nd</sup> vibration  
mode  $f_2 = 0.34$  Hz

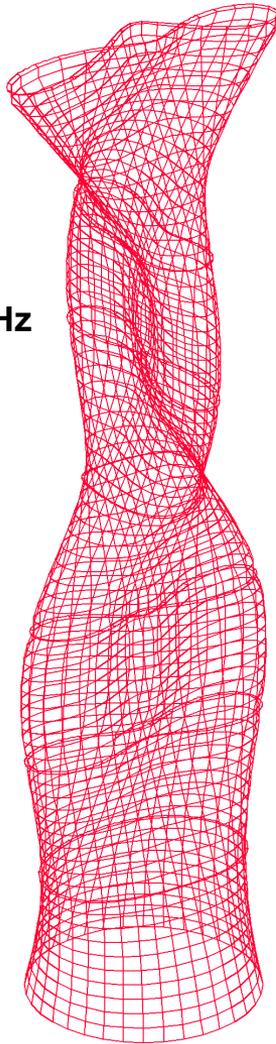


3<sup>rd</sup> vibration  
mode  $f_3 = 0.50$  Hz

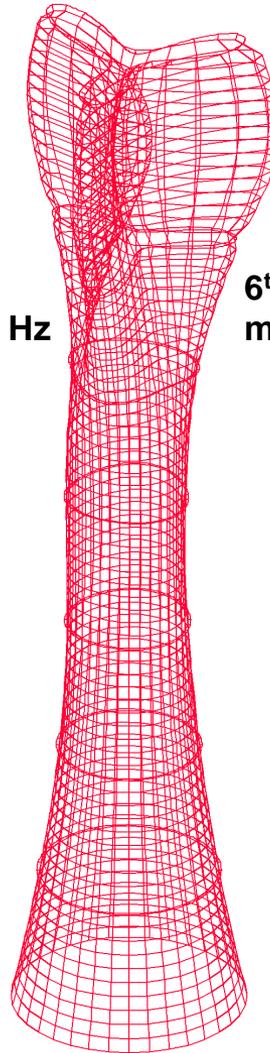


# Vibration modes 4, 5 and 6 of 750m tower

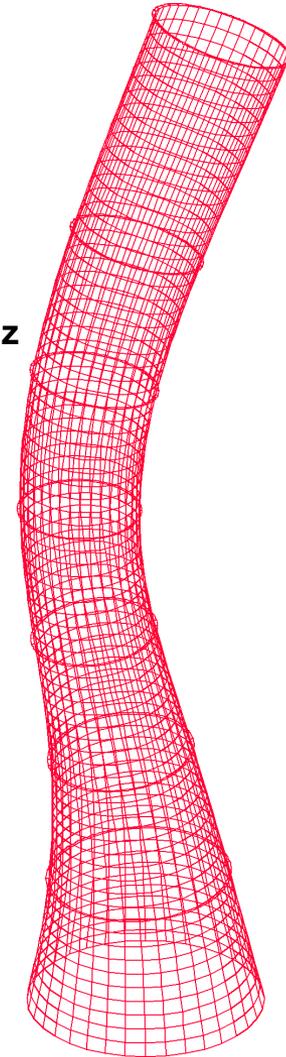
4<sup>th</sup> vibration  
mode  $f_4 = 0.77$  Hz



5<sup>th</sup> vibration  
mode  $f_5 = 0.77$  Hz



6<sup>th</sup> vibration  
mode  $f_6 = 0.84$  Hz



Wilfried B. Krätzig, Reinhard Harte, Ralf Wörmann:

# Large shell structures for power generation technologies

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Why large?

2. Natural draft cooling towers:

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3. Solar updraft power plant chimneys:

Construction principles • shell strength versus ring stiffening • instability and vibrations

4. **Conclusions:** When will SUPCs be improved structures like NDCTs?

