

ADVANCED DESIGN FIRE MODELS

Travelling fire

Ing. Kamila Cábová, Ph.D.



Fire design of structures





Thermal analysis





Thermal analysis





The principles and methods for thermal analysis are given in EN 1991-1-2.

Compartment fire





Flashover – as the hot gas layer increases all combustibles are heated by radiation. If the temperature is enought high, the room breaks out into open flame at once. It generates big heat, smoke and pressure (window breakage).

Phases of the fire

- ignition
- smouldering
- flash over
- heating
- cooling



Modelling of fire





Design fire models



According to EN 1991-1-2

Simple models



- standard temperature-time curve (ISO 834)
- hydrocarbon temperature-time curve
- external temperature-time curve



Advanced models

localised fire

one zone model

two zone model

CFD model



Simple design fire models

• Simple models





- Advanced models
 - Local fires
 - One zone model
 - Two zone model
 - CFD models



• Local fire and zone models





• Local fire models



the flame does not reach the ceiling (Heskestad)

the flame impacts the ceiling (Hasemi)



• Zone models



Software available:

• OZONE, C-FAST, Argos, ...

Computational Fluid Dynamics models (CFD)

Principles:

- numerical solution of partial differential equations thermodynamic and aerodynamic variables at any location in the compartment
- mathematical description of equations:
 - mass balance of gas and fuel;
 - energy balance;
 - Newton's law









CFD models

- Complicated geometry, all materials, prediction of smoke development, verification/validation needed
 - Hardware demands, huge amount of input/output data, long computational time





Application of design fire models

Application

Nominal curves

for heating phase in simple cases

• Parametric temperature curve

also for cooling phase

• Zone models

for difficult geometry, ventilation conditions



Application of design fire models

Application

Local fire models

new application also to vertical members (columns)

• CFD models

for all types of fires difficult geometry, boundary conditions for large space buildings cost and time consuming

Design fire models



Simple models



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Advanced models

localised fire
 one zone model
 two zone model
 Two zone model
 CFD model

Travelling fire - motivation



Increase of architectural demands

- Missing compartmentalization
 - Large open spaces
 - Connected floors, atria
- Modern materials







Travelling fire - motivation



Extension of desing fire models





Travelling fire - motivation

Travelling fire

- In real fires and experiments
- Fields with higher and lower temperatures, longer duration
- Closer to real fire behaviour

Design fire models of TF



Madrid, 2005



- Bailey (1996)
 - Parametric temperature-time curve
 - Time offset equal to peak temperature





- Clifton (1996)
 - Design areas with fully-developed burning
 - Parametric temperature-time curve
 - Moving into next area in 20 min





- Rein, Stern-Gottfried (2007) TFM
 - Near-field temperature (flames, 1200 °C)
 - Far-field temperature (hot layer gases)
 - Description of various sizes of fire (from 1 % to 100 %)
 - Fire spread along longer side of an enclosure





- Rackauskaite, Rein (2015)
 - Improvement of TFM iTFM
 - Reducing range of fire sizes
 - Modifying T_{ff}
 - Flame flapping





- Dai (2016)
 - Combination of Hasemi's localized fire and hot smoke layer
 - Propagation along a trajectory
 - Implementation into SIFBuilder





HRR parametrical model

- Zehfuss, 2002
- Relationship with HRR more realistic description of fire
- Implemented in DIN code





HRR parametrical model

- Zehfuss, 2002
- •





Fire Test in Veselí n. L.

- 6th September 2011
- fire test on two floors administrative building
- travelling fire scenario in upper floor





- 10.4 x 13.4 x 9.0 m
- composite structure
- steel wires reinforcement
- IPE beams
- CFT columns
- window 2.0 x 5.0 m

- 20 thermocouples Ø 3 mm (gas)
- 8 thermocouples and 7 plate thermometers (steel beam)



Fire Test in Veselí n. L.

- 24 wooden piles on area of 24 m²
- 7 cribs of 50 x 50 x 1000 mm in 6 layers
- 2,52 m³ of wood (173,5 MJ/m²)
- linear ignition source
 (U profile, mineral wool, paraffin)





Fire load before the test



Fire load after the test











Numerical study

Software FDS (Fire Dynamics Simulator)

- model of FC from Veselí n. L.
- 4 materials → wood (cone calorimeter)
 T_{ign}, HRRPUA, ramp function
- fire outbreak ",burner" (0.15 x 3 x 0.05 m³)

 \Rightarrow HRRPUA, ramp func. (300 s)

- cell sizes: 10 x 10 x 10 cm, 5 x 5 x 5 cm
- calculation of RHR, gas temperature, beam temperature
- spreading phenomena and high degree of temperature heterogeneity confirmed









HRR parametrical model

- Zehfuss, 2002
- Relationship with HRR more realistic description of fire
- Implemented in DIN code





Validation to fire test n. 2 in Veseli

- Uniformly distributed fire load (28 wooden piles)
- Fire load density 525 MJ/m²
- Ventilation opening 2 m x 5 m







Validation to fire test n. 2 in Veseli

- Lower temperature till 19 min
- Peak temperature 160°C higher
- Decay phase in good agreement





<u>Methodology</u>

- Fire travells in one horizontal direction
- Divison of enclosure into fields
- Temperature described by HRRP curve
- Spread rate influenced by HRR
 - HRR_{max}(t₁) initiate curve 2
- Pre-heating given by T_{ff}
 - T_{ff} shifted back into t_1
 - Linear connection





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(Stern-Gottfried, 2011)

$$T_{ff} = \left[\frac{5}{3} \cdot \left(5.38 \frac{Q^{\frac{2}{3}}}{H}\right)^{4} \cdot \frac{x_{nf} - \frac{5}{3} - x_{ff} - \frac{5}{3}}{x_{ff} - x_{nf}} + 4T_{\infty} \cdot \left(5.38 \frac{Q^{\frac{2}{3}}}{H}\right)^{3} \cdot \frac{x_{nf} - x_{ff} - x_{ff}}{x_{ff} - x_{nf}} + 18T_{\infty}^{2} \cdot \left(5.38 \frac{Q^{\frac{2}{3}}}{H}\right)^{2} \cdot \frac{x_{nf} - \frac{1}{3} - x_{ff} - \frac{1}{3}}{x_{ff} - x_{nf}} + 12T_{\infty}^{3} \cdot \left(5.38 \frac{Q^{\frac{2}{3}}}{H}\right) \cdot \frac{x_{ff} - \frac{1}{3} - x_{nf} - \frac{1}{3}}{x_{ff} - x_{nf}} + T_{\infty}^{4}\right]^{1/4}$$

Validation to fire test n. 1 in Veseli

- Composite structure of 10.4 m x 13.4 m x 9.0 m
- Window 2.0 m x 5.0 m
- 24 wooden piles (2.52 m³ of wood)
- Linear ignition source
- No flashover travelling fire









Validation to fire test n. 1 in Veseli

- Division into 3 fields
- Time t_{α} is equal to 150 s
- RHR_f is equal to 700 kW/m²
- Peak HRR = 16.8 MW
- Fuel-controlled fire
 - t₁ = 10.25 min
 - t₂ = 21.83 min
 - t₃ = 34.49 min
- Max temperature is 1020°C





Good agreement



HRRP model of travelling fire

- Based on repetitious HRRP (iBMB) temperature-time curve
- Including pre-heating by application of T_{ff}
- Simple describtion of gas temperature during TF
- Investigate mechanical behaviour of structures involved in TF
- Validated to full-scale fire test in Veselí









- The thermal analysis is often simplified to standard curve
- The standard curve is usually very conservative (compare to natural fire)
- Parametric curve can be used when more accurate solution is required. In this case, additional input data are required.
- Advanced mathematical models as zone model and CFD may be used for complex systems where simplified methods can not be applied.
- CFD is very complicated, it needs detailed input data, powerfull hardware, skilfull user, etc.
- Model of travelling fire may be implemented into the family of traditional design fire models.



Thank you for your attention!

kamila.cabova@fsv.cvut.cz

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