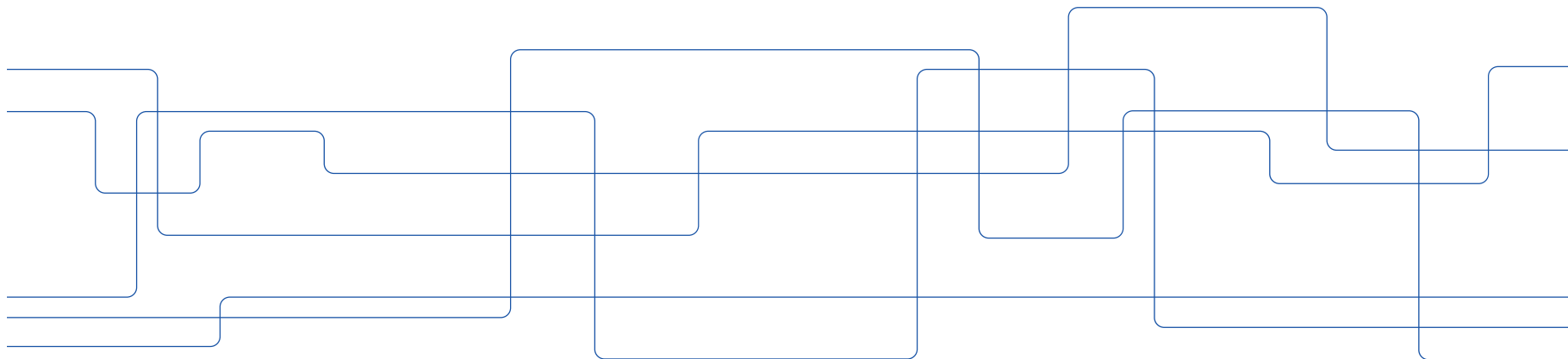


Safe and durable concrete structures

- A prerequisite for sustainable hydropower

Erik Nordström, KTH / Vattenfall R&D

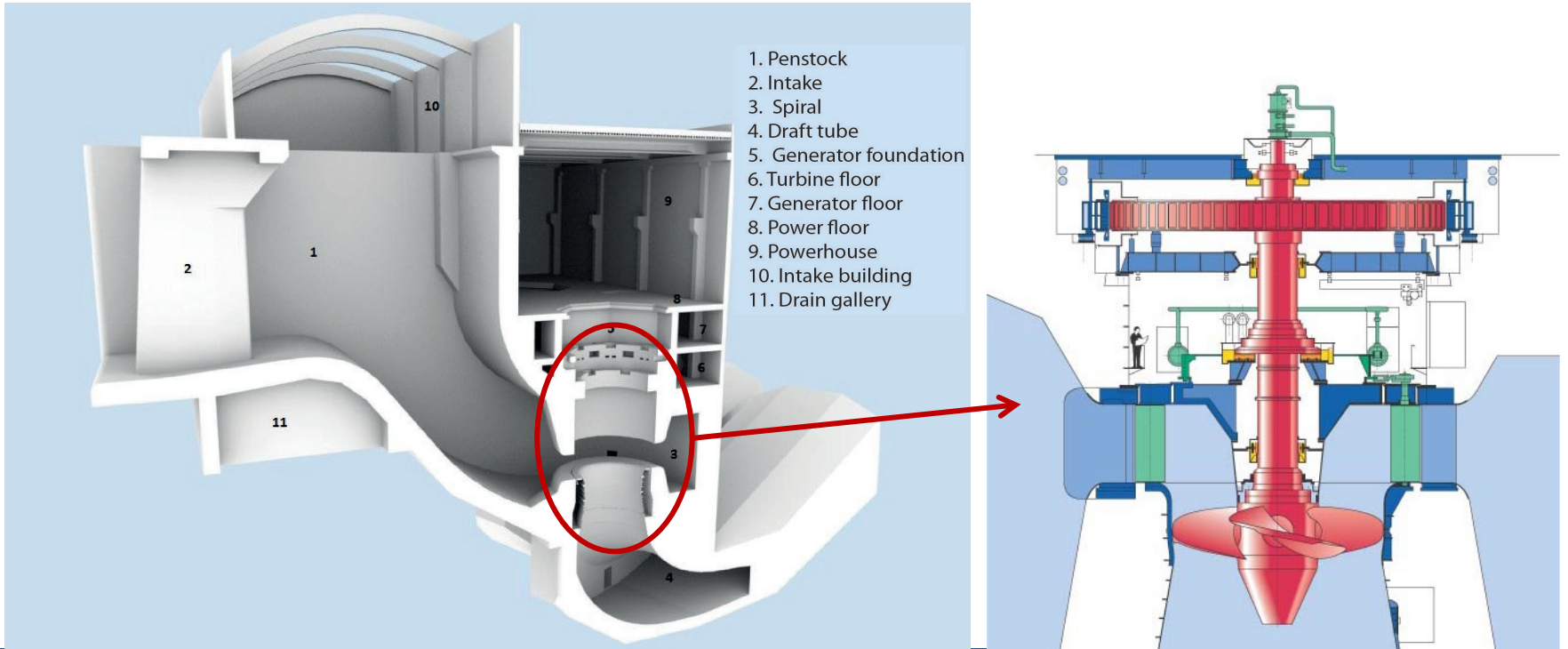


Concrete in dam structures

- Water retaining structures – dam body, intake structures
- Discharging structures – spillways, outlets, guiding walls
- Energy dissipating structures – baffle blocks, splitters, bassins
- Supporting structures – soil retaining walls etc.



Concrete in HPP



Safe?



**Dam safety –
"License to operate"**

**High availability and
production capacity**

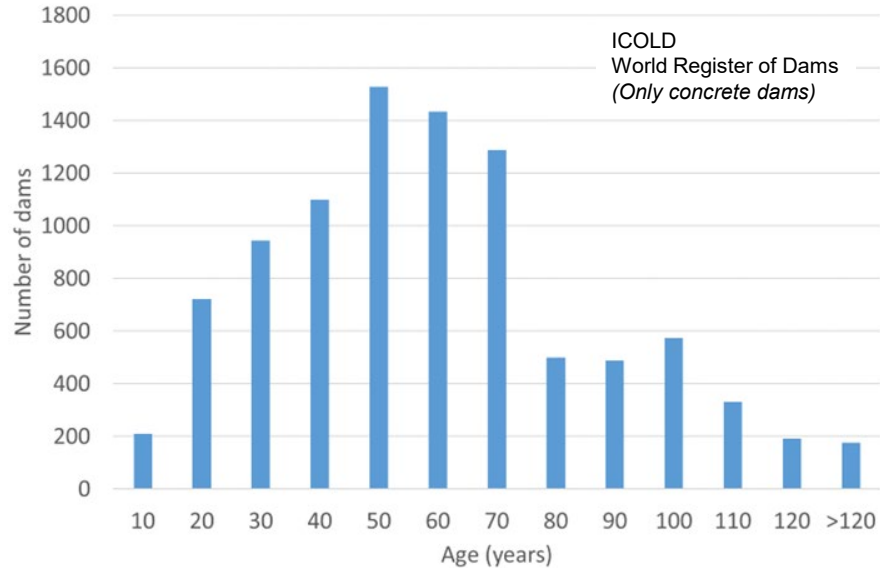


Dam safety?

Safely store and discharge water

- Acceptable stability & act monolithically
- Sufficient load-bearing capacity
- Impervious to prevailing hydrostatic pressure

Durable?



- Ageing dams – Seldom replaced



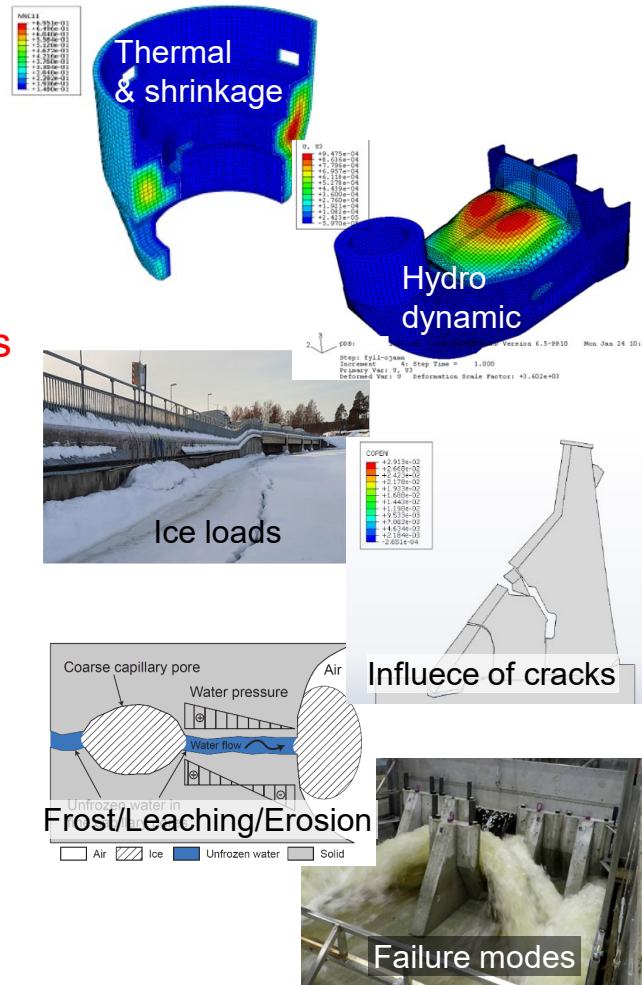
- New HPP-unit, same structure

Focus for research

- Better understanding for, and prediction of, **paramount loads**
- Increase knowledge of **degradation** mechanisms and impact on concrete **properties**
- More realistic assessment of concrete dam **stability** and design of **monitoring**

Loads

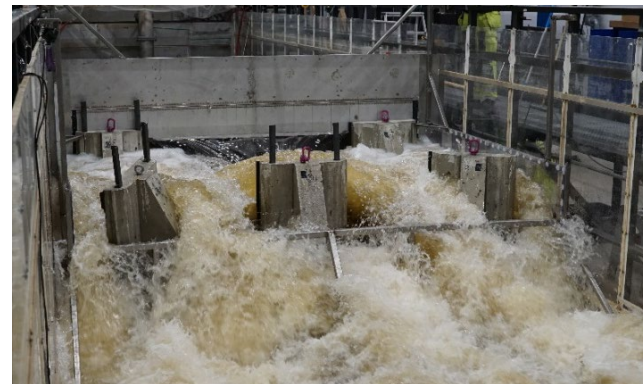
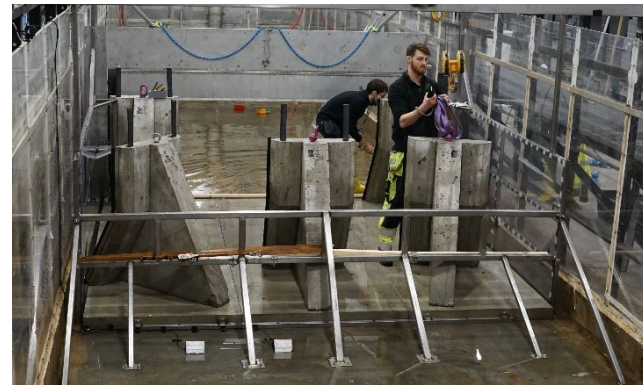
Status



Realistic failure modelling of concrete dams

(PhD-project, part II)

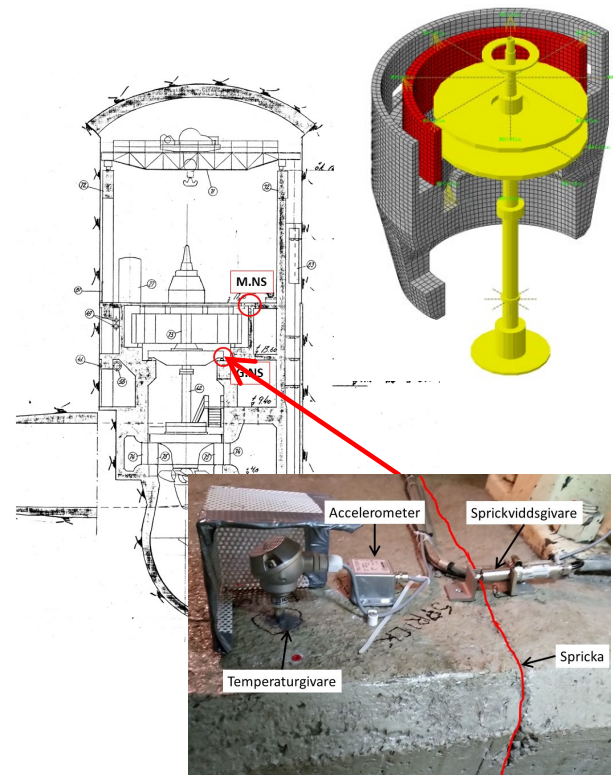
- Simplified methods for **stability design** in guidelines
- Uncertainties regarding **failure progress** and parameters of importance
- Physical **model tests** executed 2022 – Utilize data
- Study impact from **boundary conditions** (*dam length, abutment type, joint type, cracks etc.*)
- Numerical modelling – **Validation**
- **Updated methods** for assessment of stability
- Created knowledge for design of **monitoring**



Dynamic load and response interaction for hydropower civil structures (PhD-project)

NEW

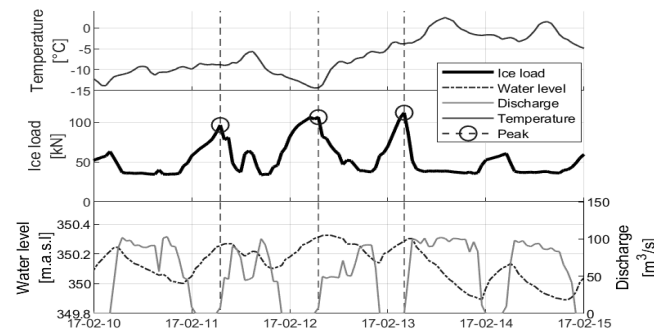
- Concrete structures exposed to **several unit renewals**
- **Operational patterns** different than during design
- Model **interaction** between unit and concrete structure
- Analyze impact from **flexible operation**
- Utilize **collected data** from structure and unit measurements
- Study impact from **cracks** (short and long-term)
- Coupled **dynamic FEM** + **non-linear** behavior of concrete
- Co-operate with PhD-student in **WP3**



Forecasting of ice-loads on concrete dams (Senior project)



- **Significant load** - costs for stabilizing measures
- Magnitude, spatial distribution and **ruling parameters** unclear
- **2:nd** load panel installed in Stornorrfors
- **Utilize data** from the sites - different boundary conditions
- Evaluate and develop drafted **prediction models**
- Study impact from changed **reservoir operation**
- Study **spatial distribution** of ice-load along a dam





Thanks for your attention!