



SMART QUAY WALLS PORT OF ROTTERDAM

Smart quay walls & trends in quay-wall engineering
Alfred Roubos: Port of Rotterdam Authority & TU Delft

Kivi Symposium:
Data-gedreven Assetmanagement van Kademuren
Delft, The Netherlands



Introduction: Alfred Roubos

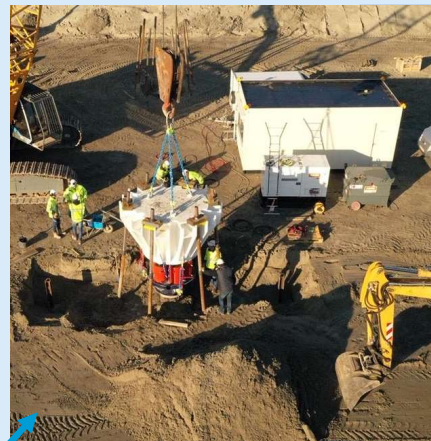
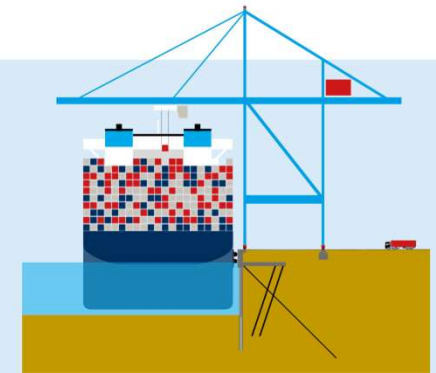
- Port Engineer (≈ 15 years)
- Researcher Delft University of Technology (Doctoral defence 2019)
- Member of national & international committees (Eurocode CEN/NEN, CROW, PIANC, BS)

Main research focus:

- Marine structures (e.g. quay walls, jetties, dolphins)
- Dredging, scour protection
- Innovations & full scale field tests



PhD: reliability of quay walls



Full scale field test foundation piles

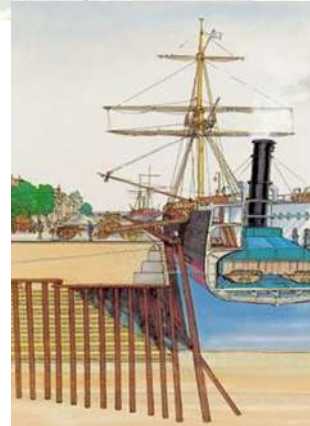
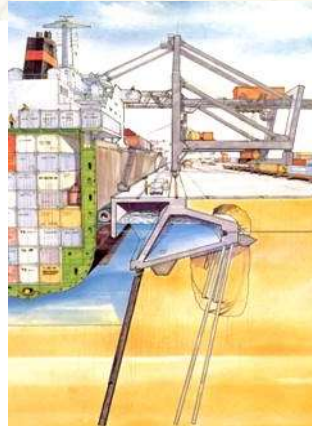
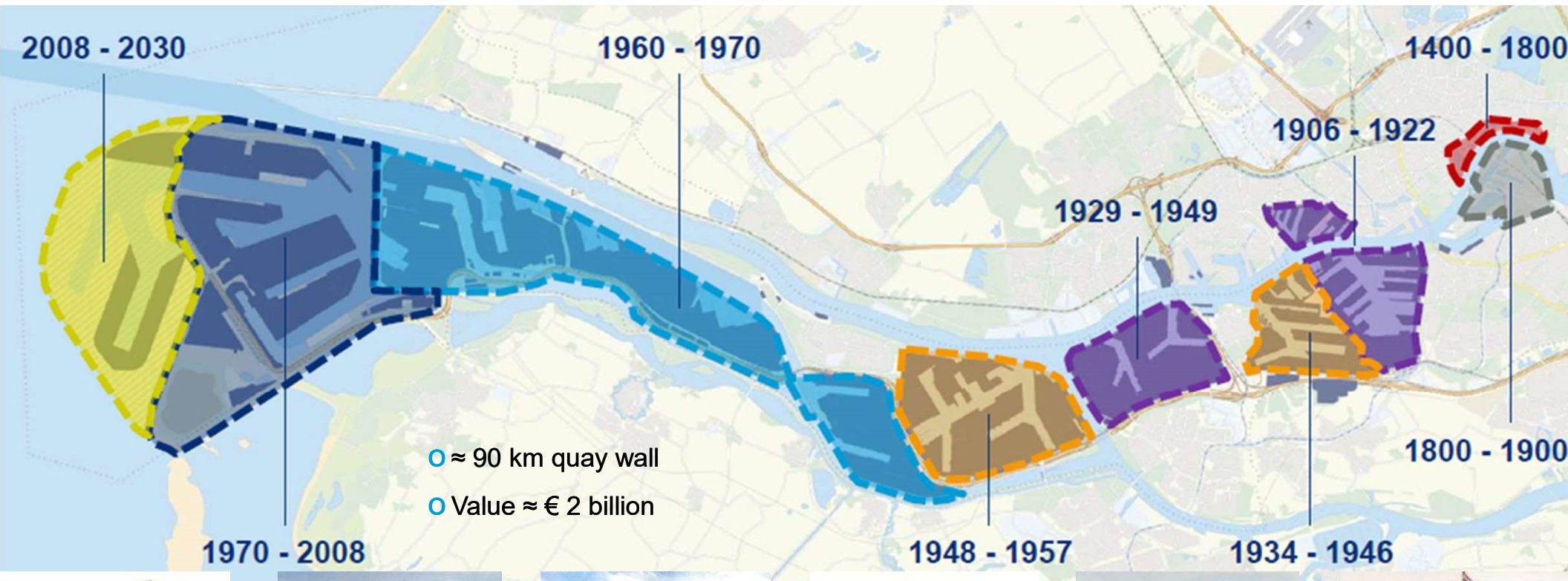


Bow-thruster induced scour

Content

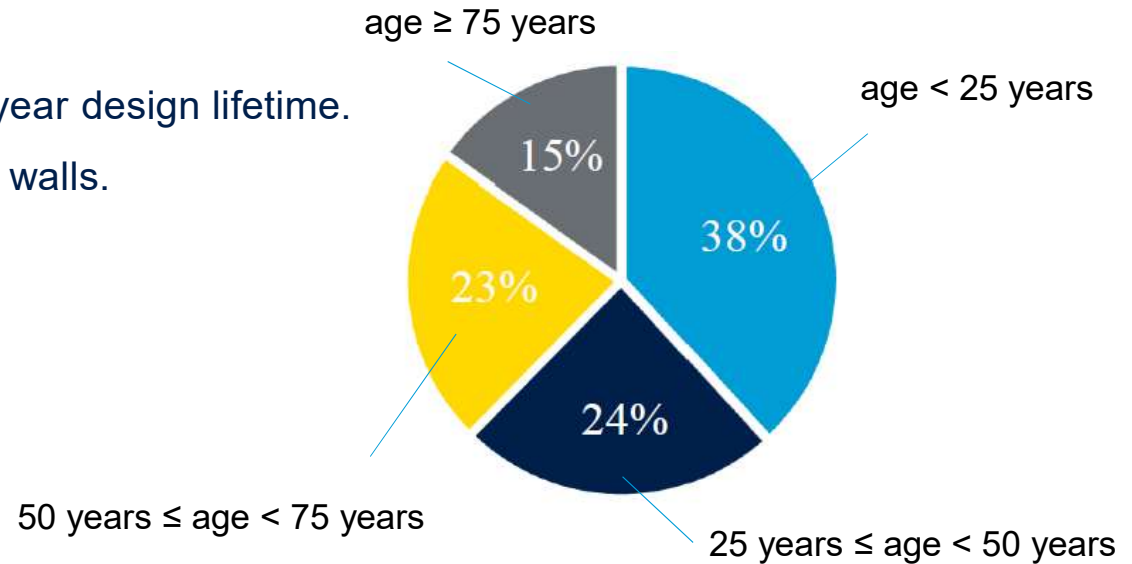
- Introduction
- Trends in quay-wall engineering
 1. Reliability-based assessment
 2. Advanced modelling
 3. Sensoring & digitisation
 4. Stress testing / field observations



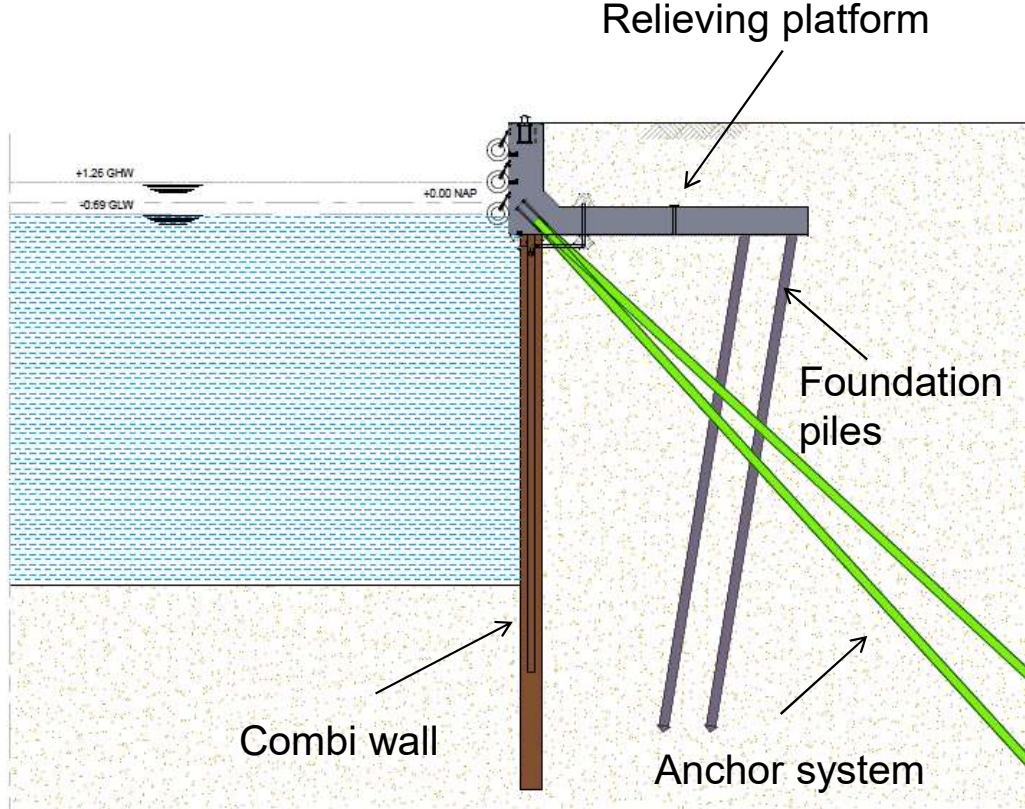
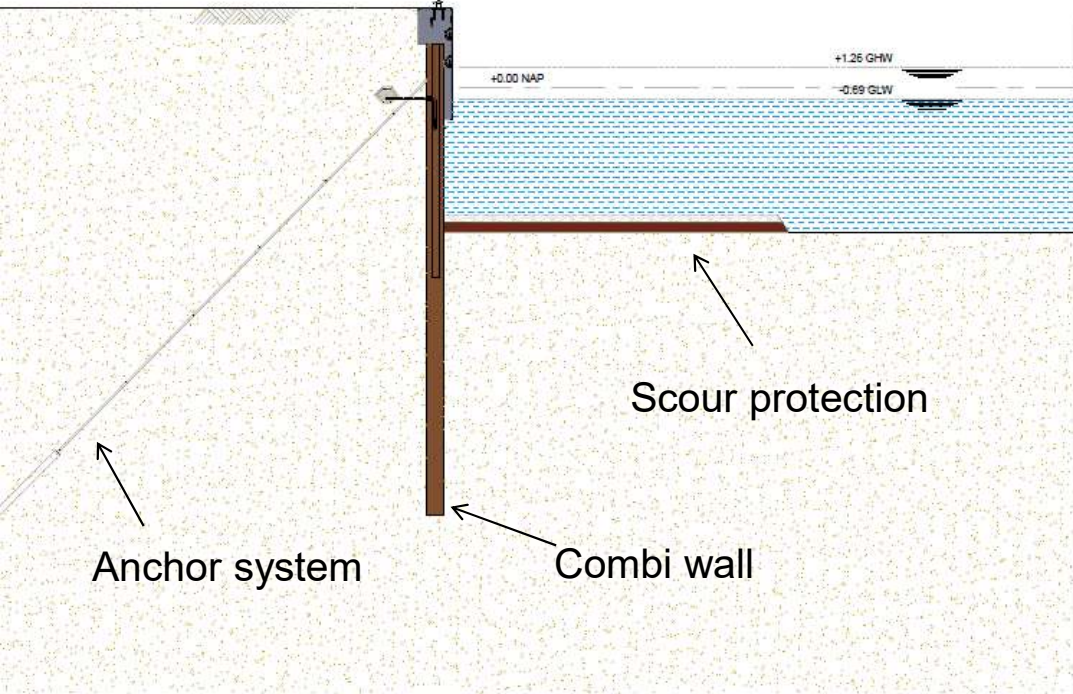


Situation in Rotterdam

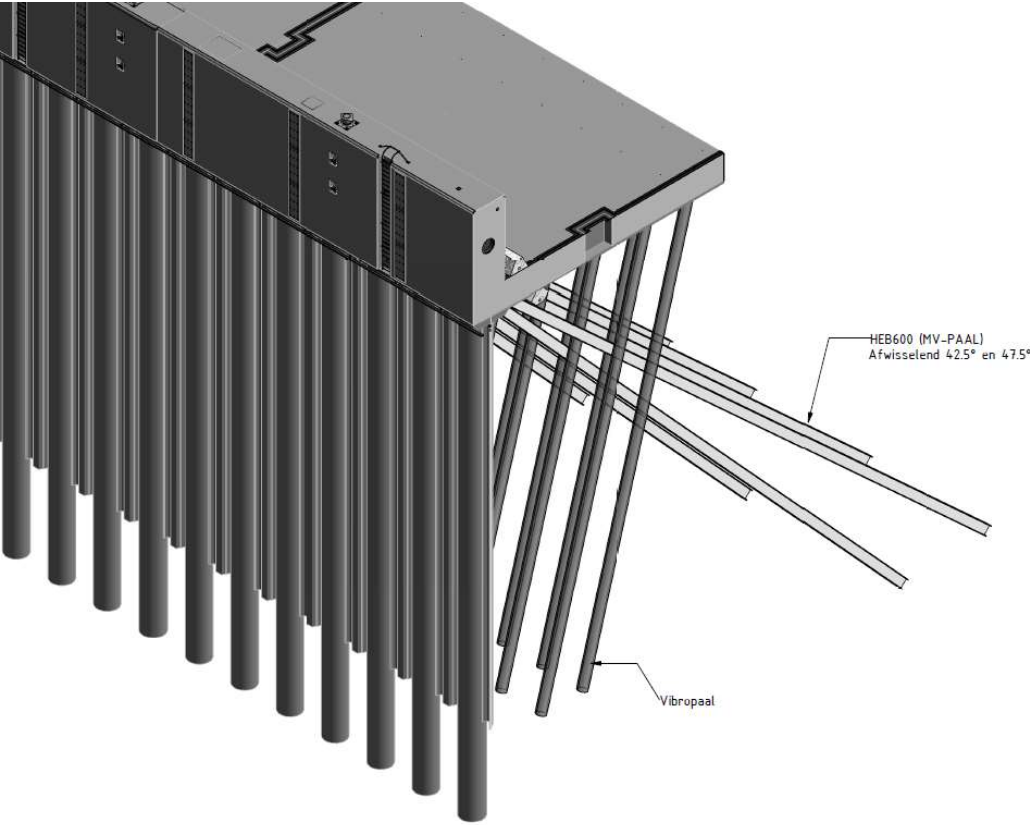
- Many quay walls approach the end of their fifty-year design lifetime.
 - Focus will shift towards assessing existing quay walls.
 - Most quay walls are in good condition.
- ⇒ Not yet the end of their service life!



Standard quay-wall design solutions



Typical combi wall



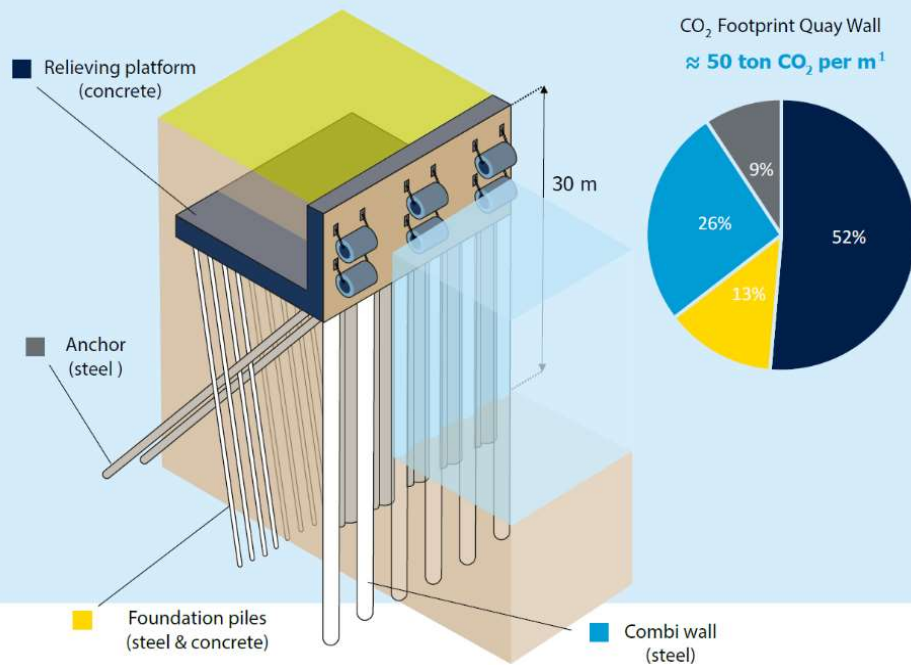
Typical combi wall



Vision & Ambition

Existing structures

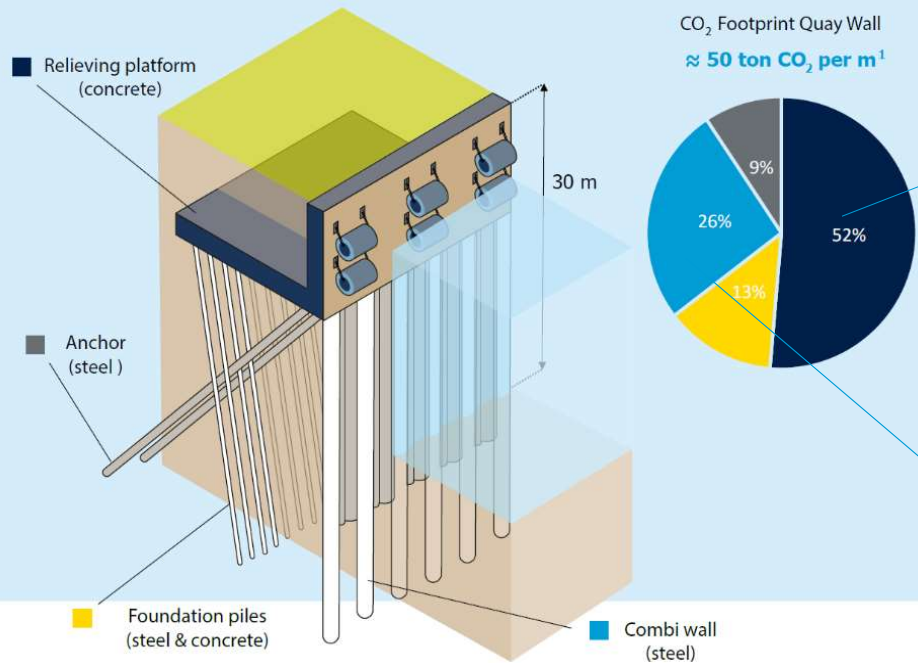
- Lifetime extension and optimize/maintain functionality.



Vision & Ambition

Existing structures

- Lifetime extension and optimize/maintain functionality.



New types of concrete



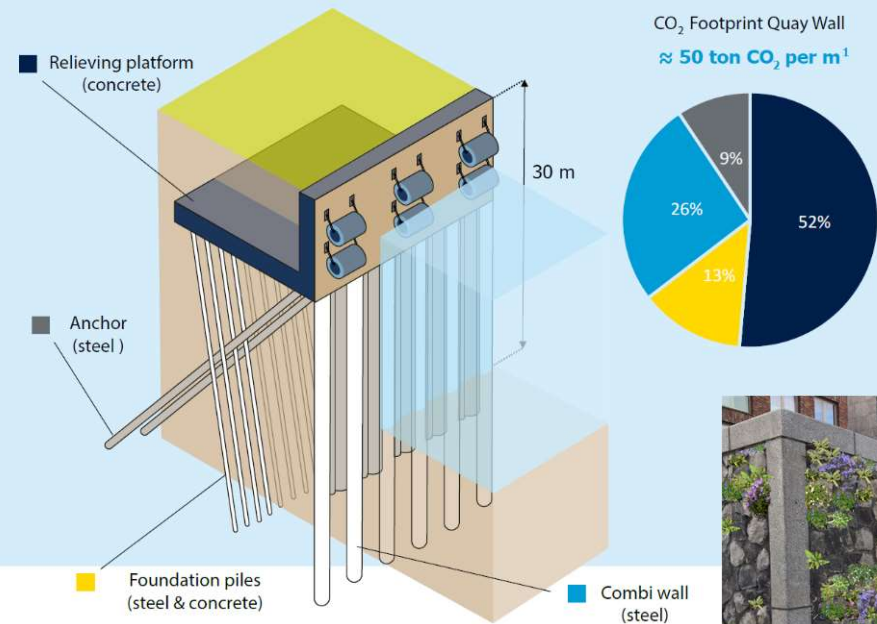
Optimal use of steel materials



Vision & Ambition

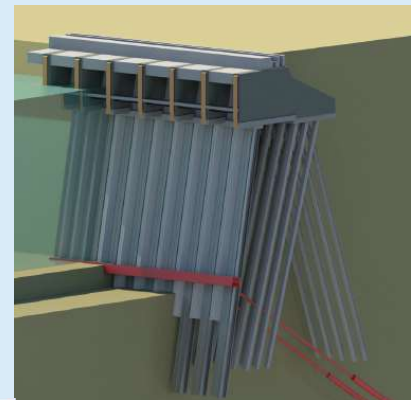
Existing structures

- Lifetime extension and optimize/maintain functionality.
- > 1500km soil retaining walls (Netherlands)



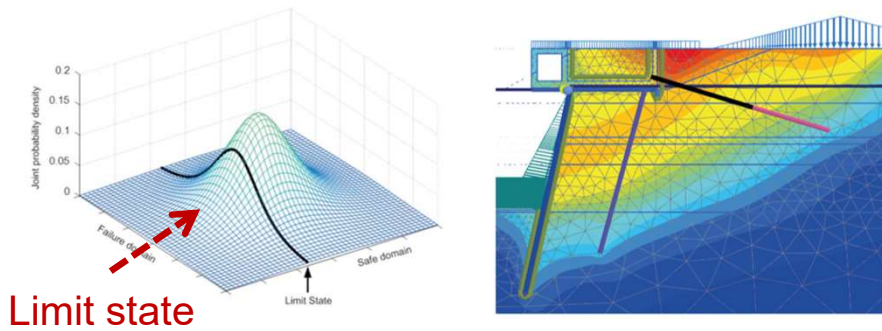
New marine structures

- 2023 - @2035@ => Upgradeable / adaptive
- @2035@ - 2050 => Circular / modular / “green”

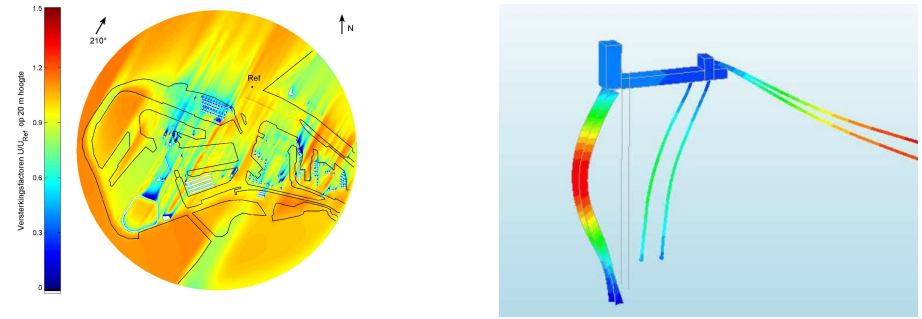


Main trends in quay-wall engineering

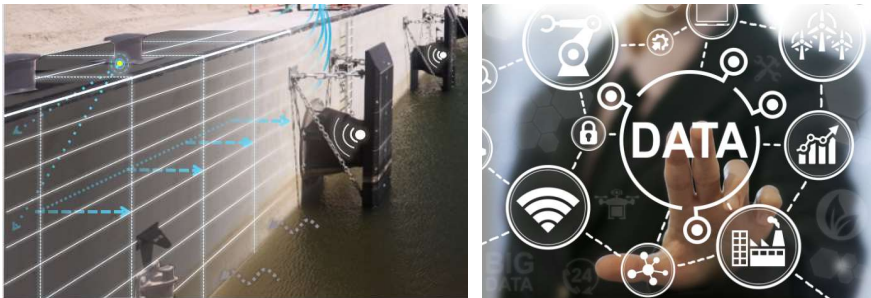
1) Reliability-based assessments



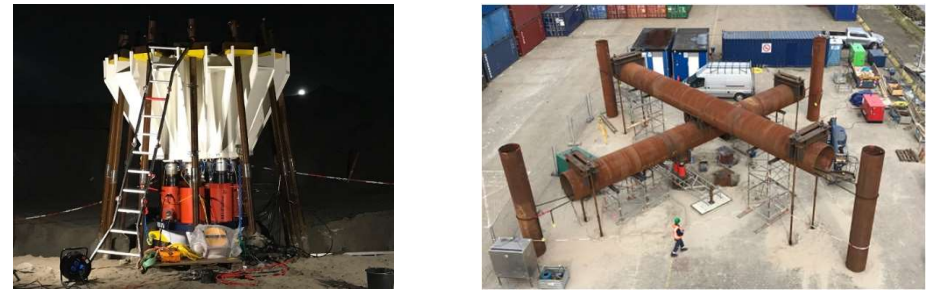
2) Advanced modelling & new methods



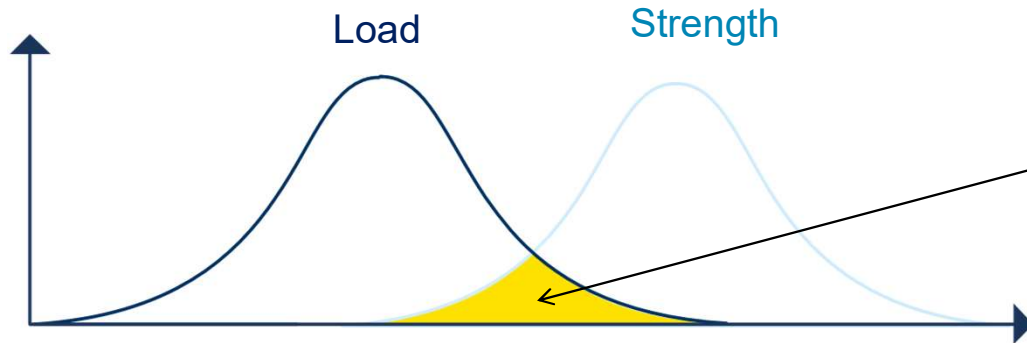
4) Sensoring & digitisation



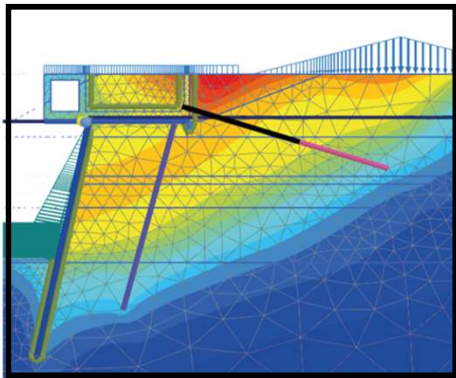
3) Full scale field tests / stress testing



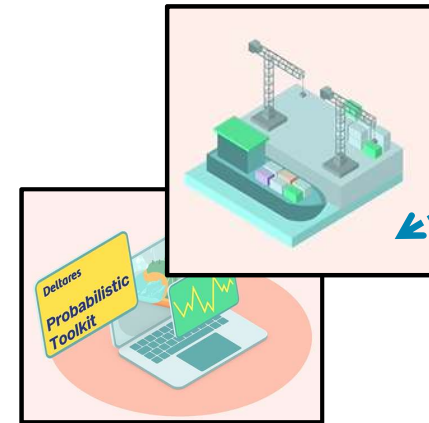
1) Reliability-based assessment: Probability of failure?



Finite element model



Probabilistic toolbox

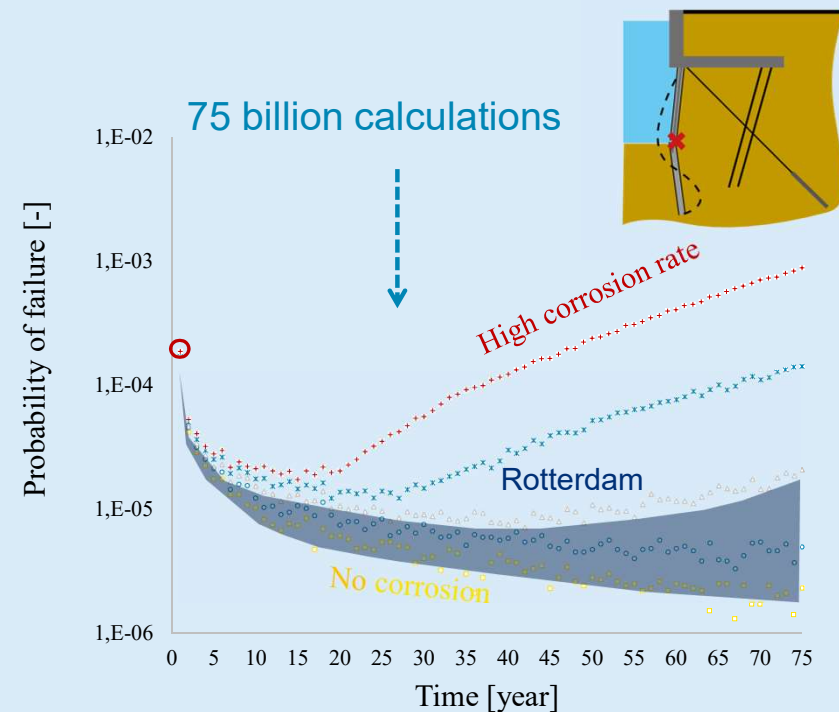


Open-source library with statistical methods

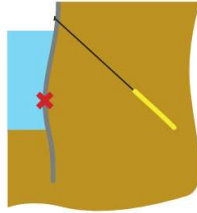
- Prob2B®
- Probana®
- Deltares Toolkit

1) Reliability updating & past service performance

- New reliability classes in national annex Eurocode (CC1, CC2 and CC3) for maritime structures.
- Lifetime existing quay walls 35% longer compared to prediction (KMS degradation model PoR).
Approx. 25 years extra service life

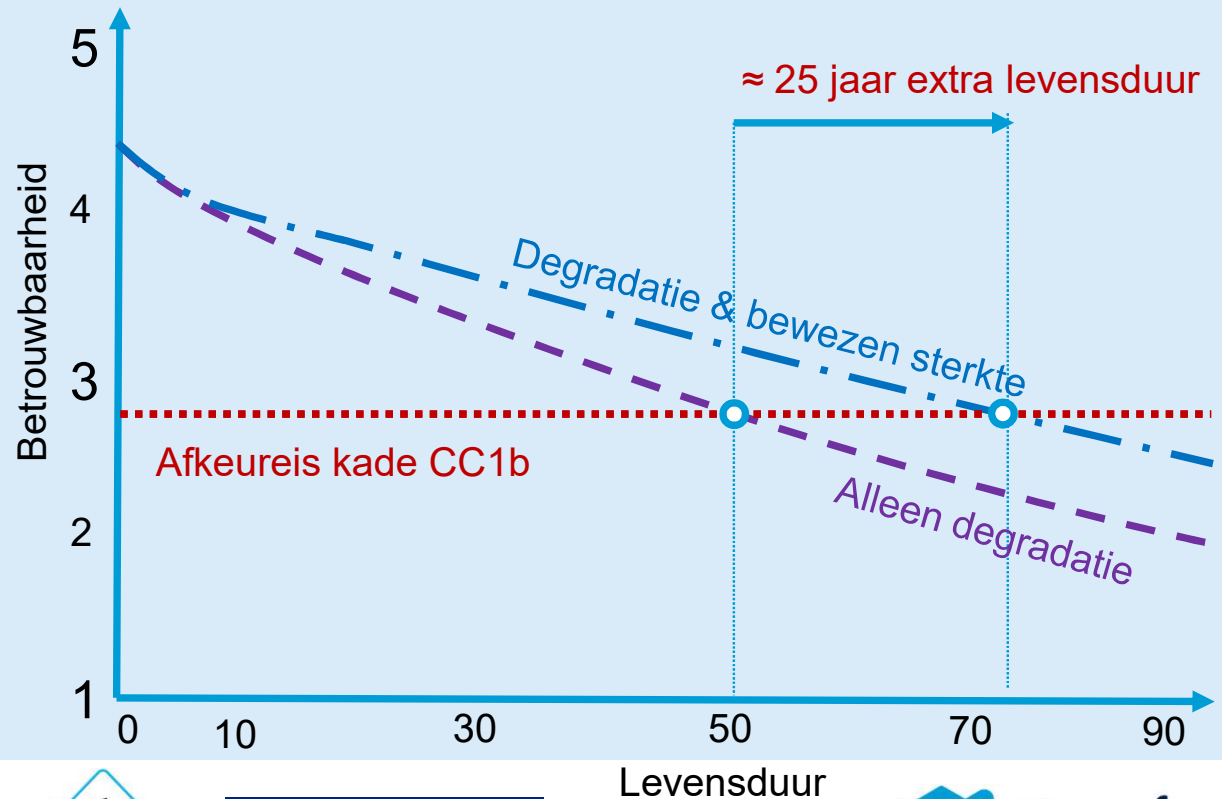


1) NEN “past service performance” (2023-2024)



Sheet pile calculation CUR 166:

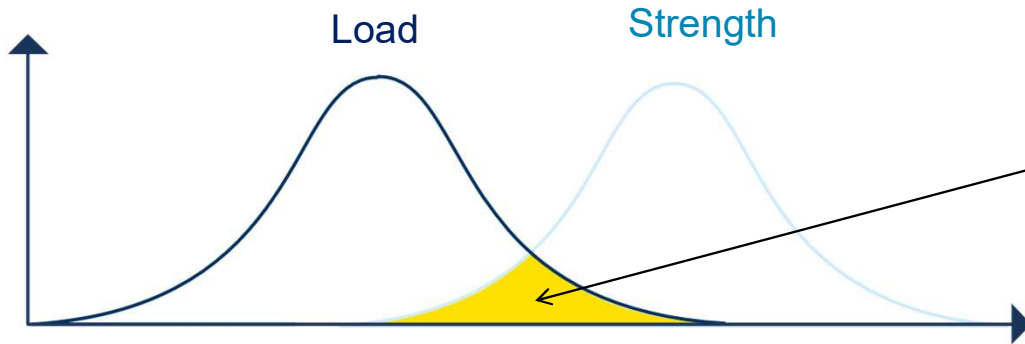
- Example used to determine safety factors for new sheet pile walls conform CUR 166.
- Despite corrosion lifetime extension of about 10 to 40 years. In this example lifetime extension of about 25 years.
- Annual reliability targets



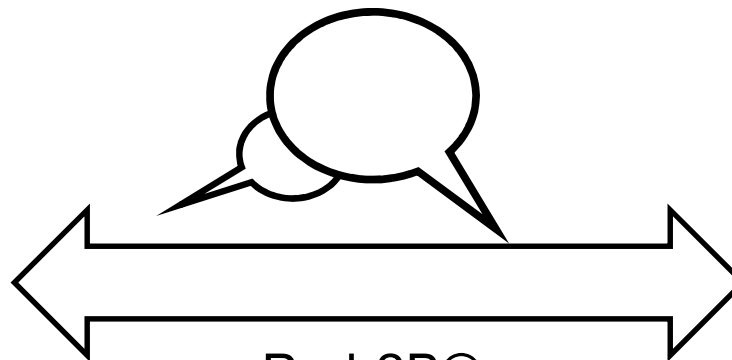
Gevolgklasse	Jaarlijkse betrouwbaarheidsindex		
	Afkeur	Verbouw	Nieuwbouw
CC1a	1,8	3,6	nvt
CC1b	2,8	3,6	4,2 (3,3)
CC2	3,3	4,0	4,7 (3,8)
CC3	4,0	4,4	5,2 (4,3)



1) Reliability-based assessment: Probability of failure?

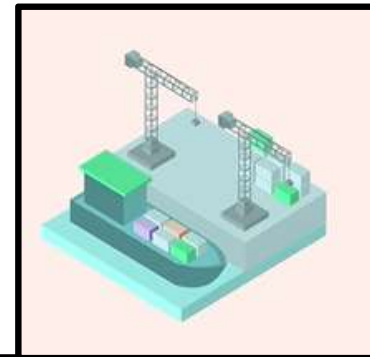


P-Y curves



- Prob2B®
- Probana®
- [Deltares Toolkit](#)

Probabilistic toolbox



1) Reliability-based assessment flexible dolphin

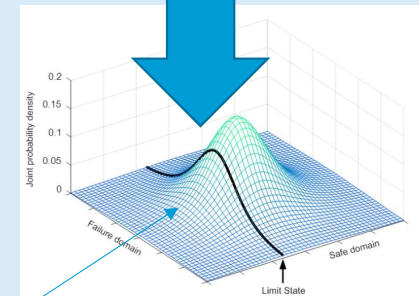
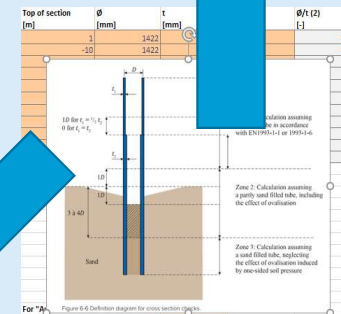
- Reference design D=ø2400mm; L=48m)
- AIS vessel data (actual displacement)
- Measurements berthing velocity

Preliminary results

- Reference design => $\beta_{\text{design}} \approx 3.59$.
- Update using data => $\beta_{\text{update}} \approx 4.87$.

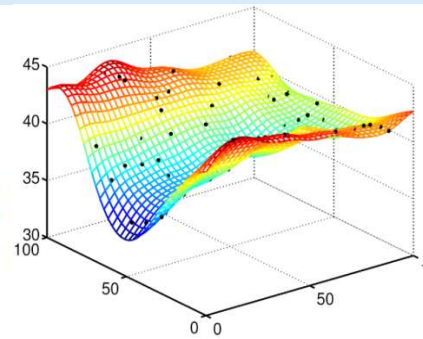
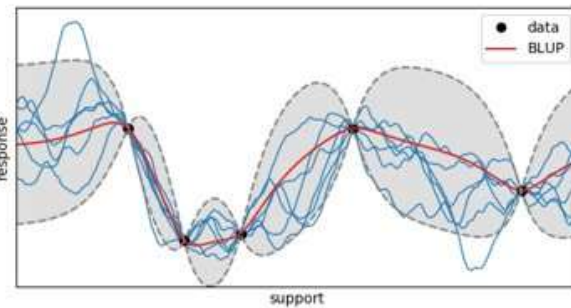
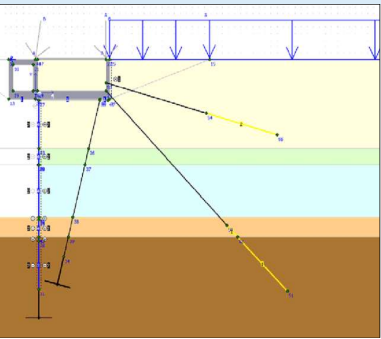
- ⇒ Calculation time about 3 days
- ⇒ Lifetime extension/ bigger vessels

Automated dolphin design tool

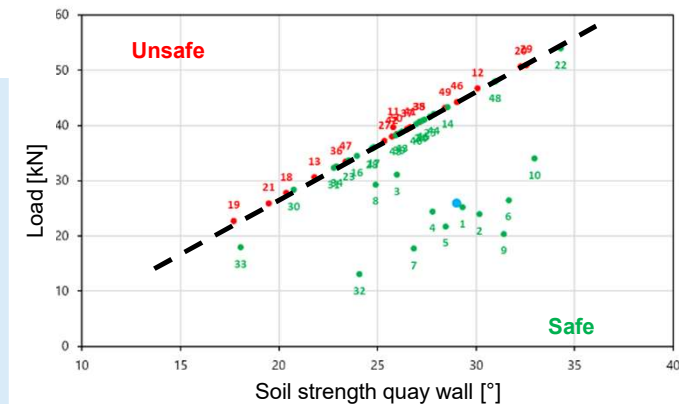


1) Geotechnical Reliability Analysis for Practical Applications (GRAPA)

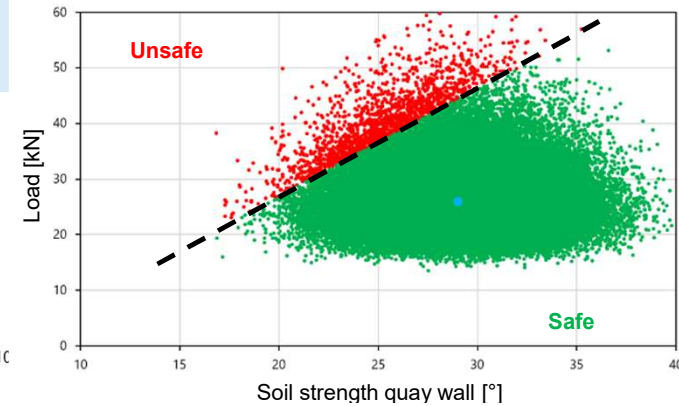
- Robustness reliability-based assessment using FEM
 - Failure response surface (kriging).
 - ≈ 40 deterministic Plaxis calculations.
- ⇒ 10 times faster



New method: ERRAGA



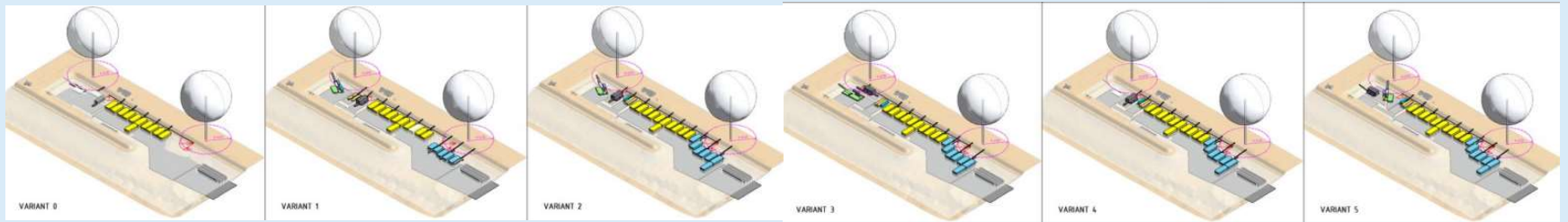
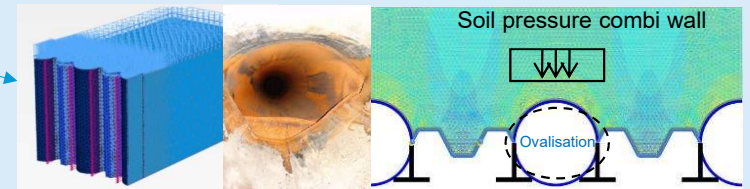
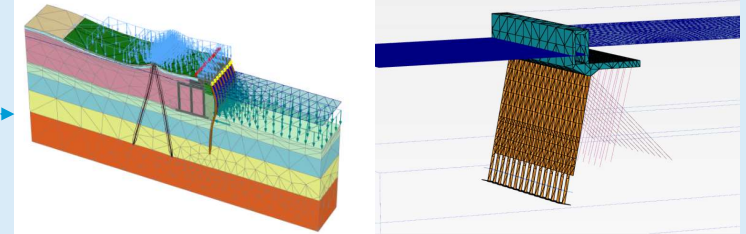
Existing method: Monte Carlo



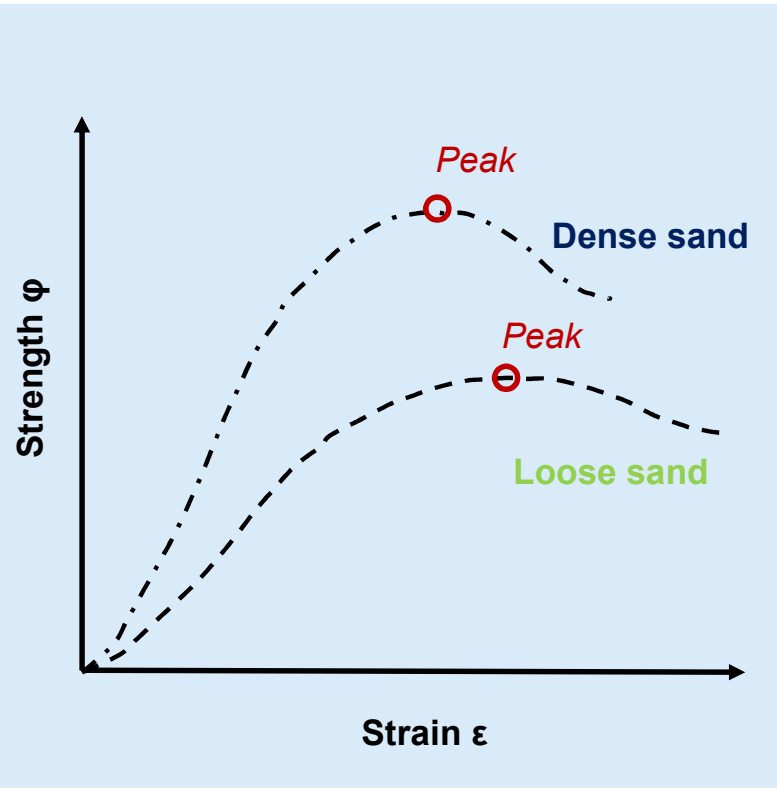
--- Failure response surface

2) Advanced modelling & new methods

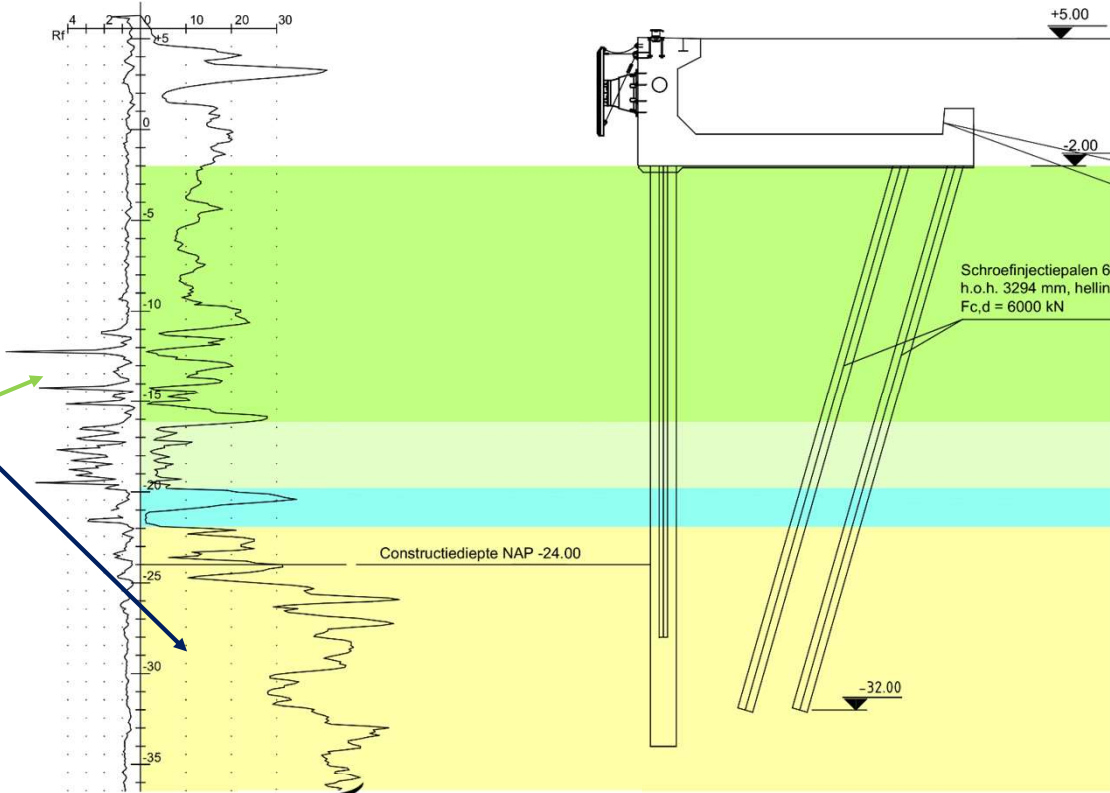
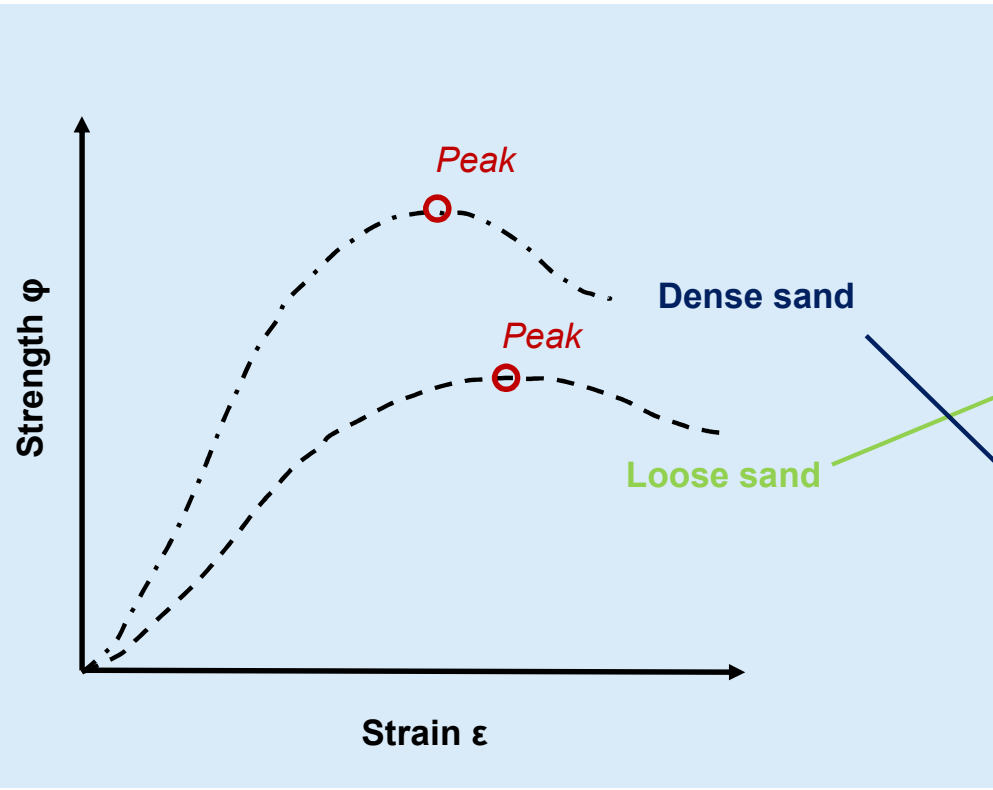
- New soil models (FEM 3D). Combining structural and geotechnical models.
- Local buckling of open steel tubes
- Generative design.
- Implementation of sensor data.



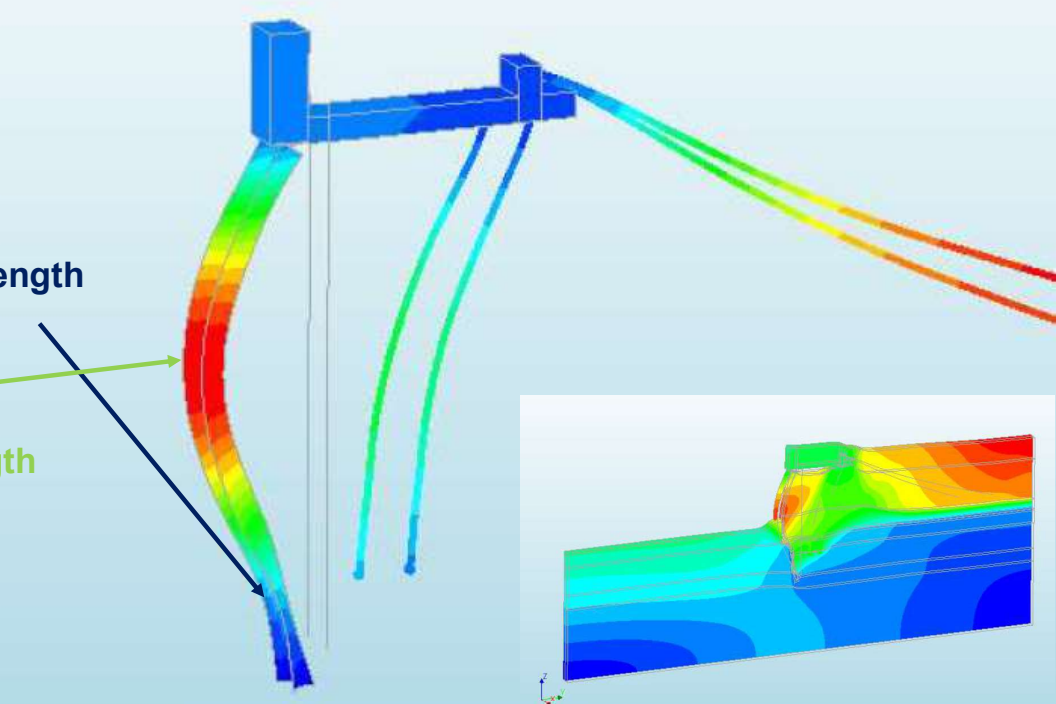
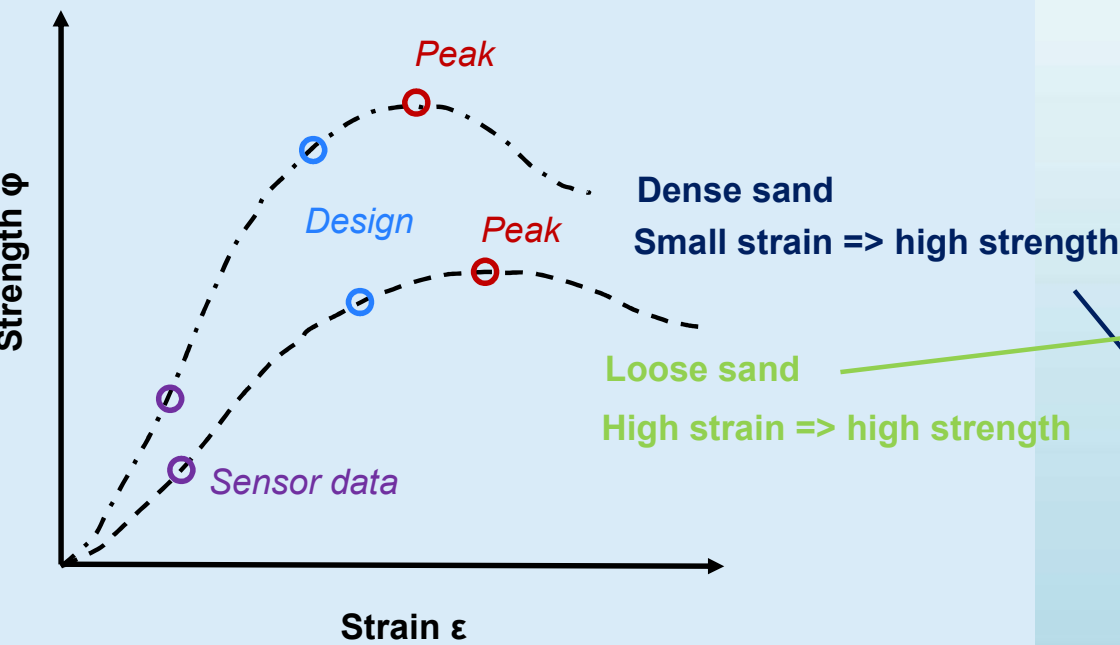
2) Strain-dependent capacity



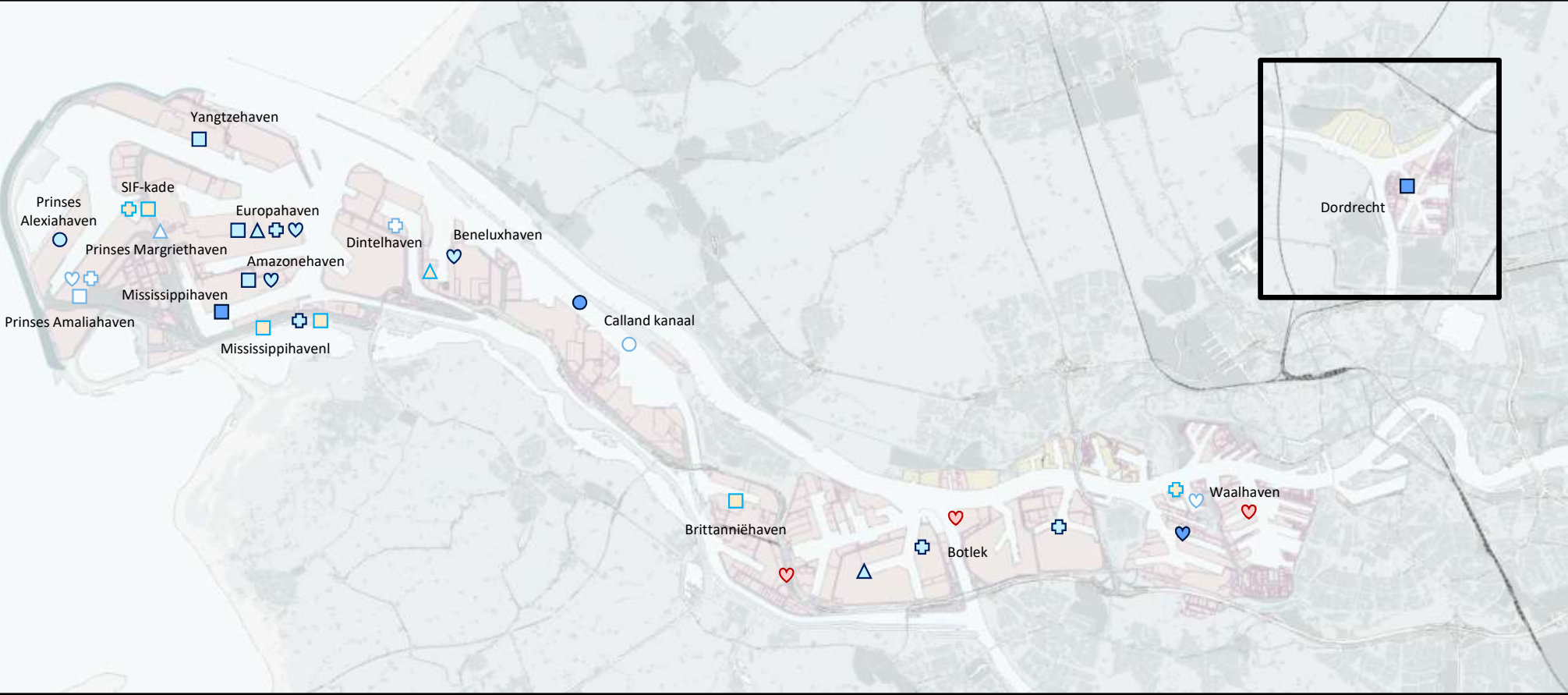
2) Strain-dependent capacity



2) Strain-dependent capacity



3) Sensoring & digitization



- Smart quay wall
- Quick Release Hook
- ⊕ Impressed current
- ▲ Shore Power
- ♥ Other

3) Smart quay walls

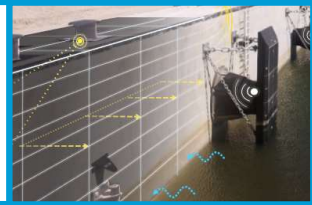
- 10 quay walls equipped with sensors.
- Input for advanced modelling or reliability-based assessments.
- Digital twin => Inspector of the future is a sensor!



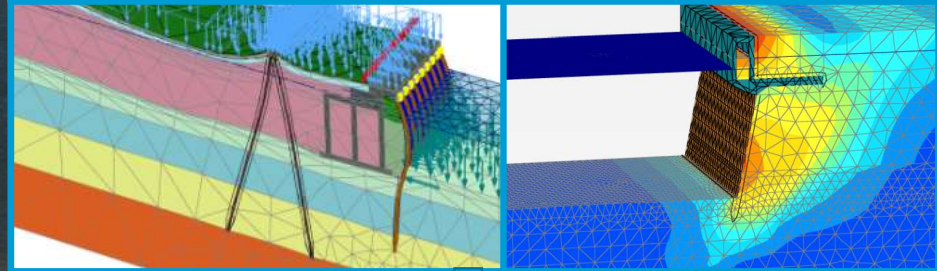
Sensor data

INPUT REVERSE ENGINEERING:

- As-built data
- Slimme kademuren (sensordata)
- Installatie data, anker- & paalproeven
- Nieuwe kennis (o.a. uit I² & SmartPort)

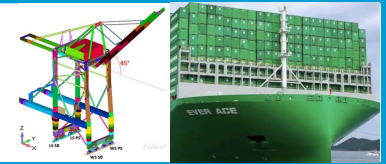


PLAXIS MODEL KADEMUUR (2D of 3D)

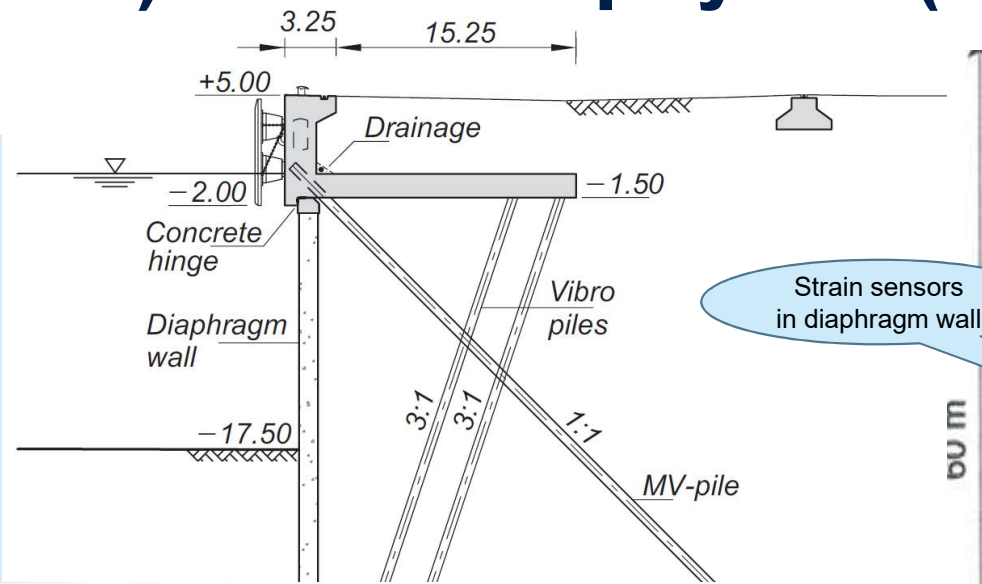


Mogelijke OUTPUT:

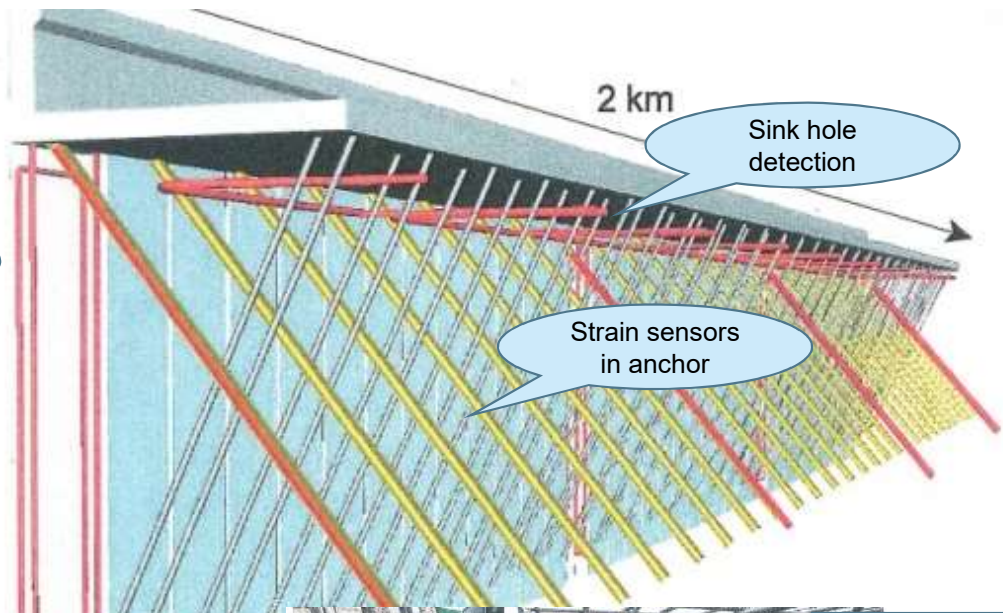
- Grotere kraan.
- Meer terreinbelasting.
- Meer waterdiepte.



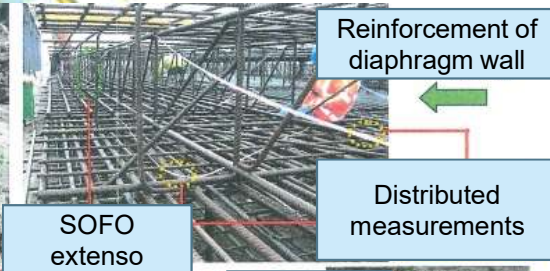
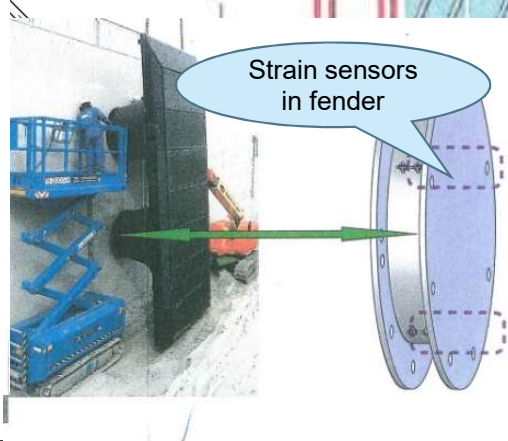
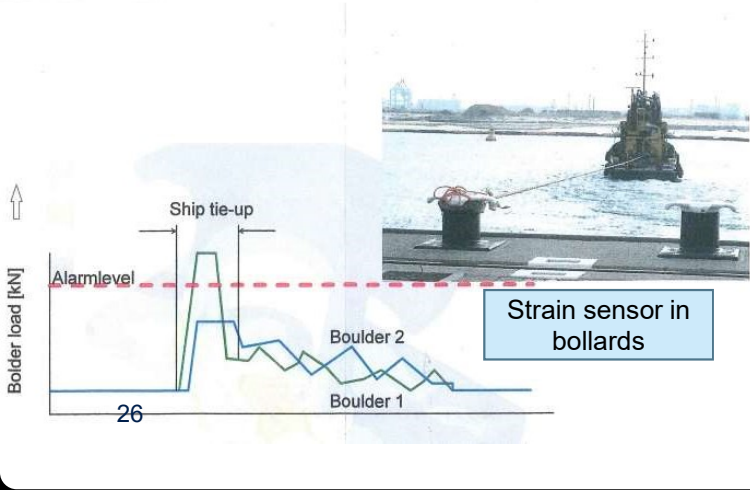
3) First smart quay wall (2008)



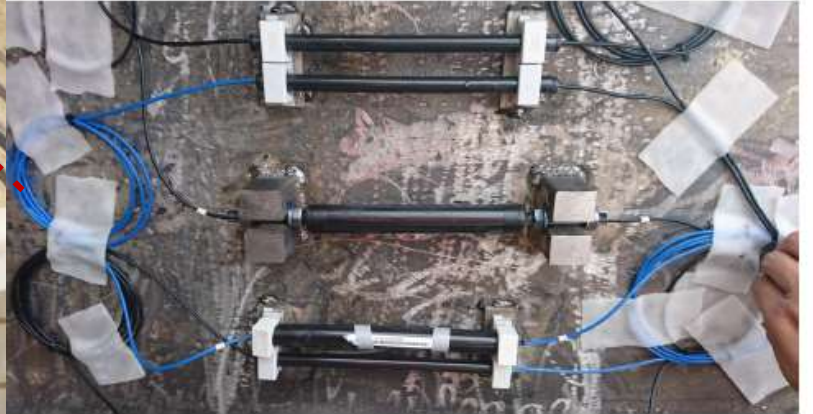
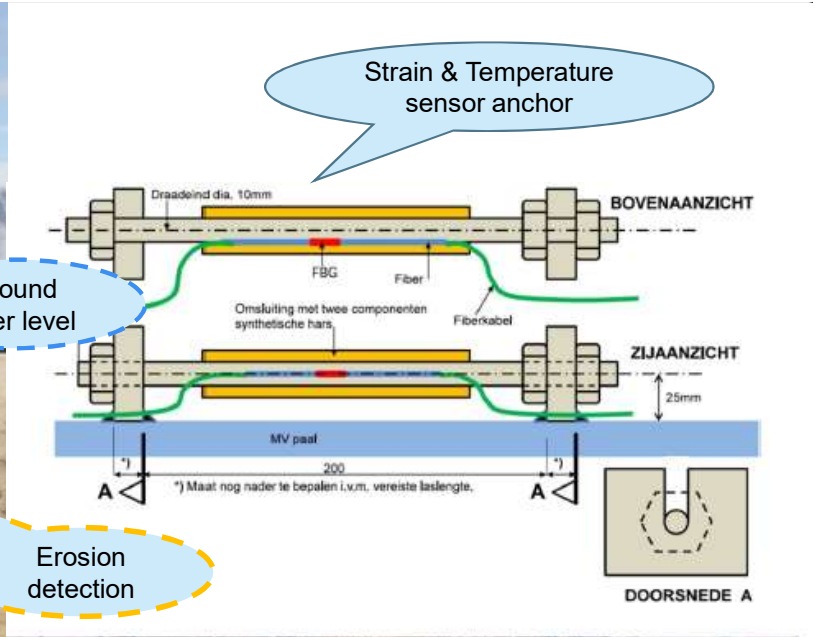
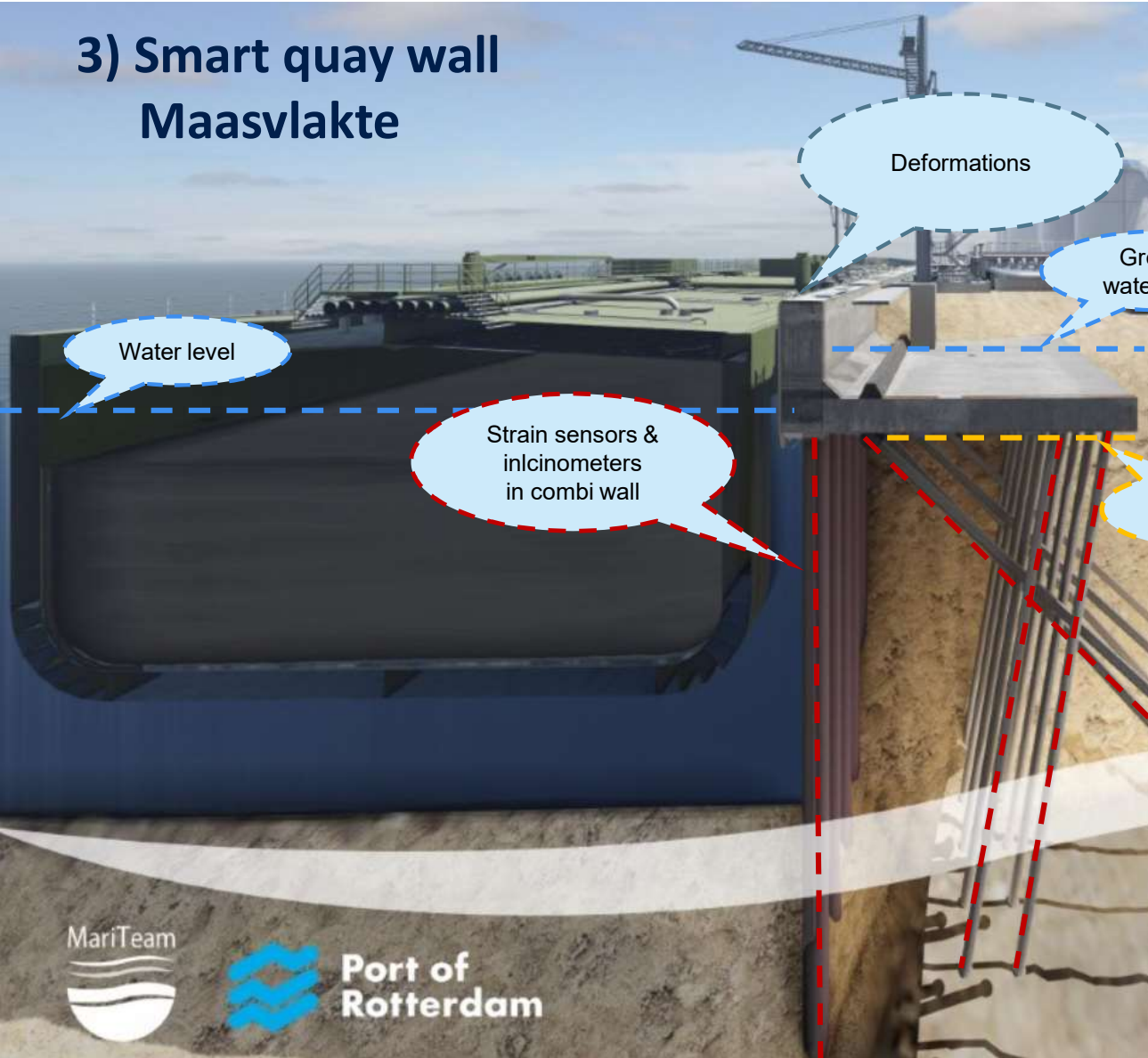
Strain sensors in diaphragm wall



Strain sensors in anchor



3) Smart quay wall Maasvlakte

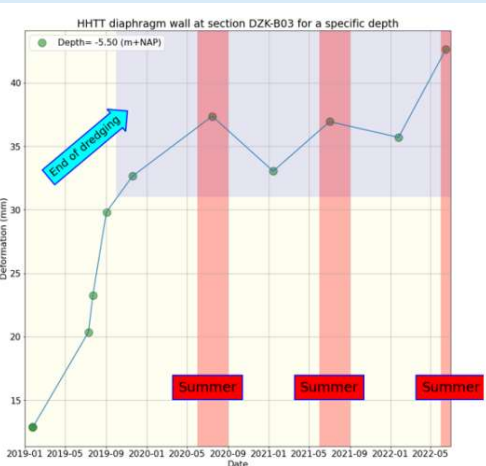
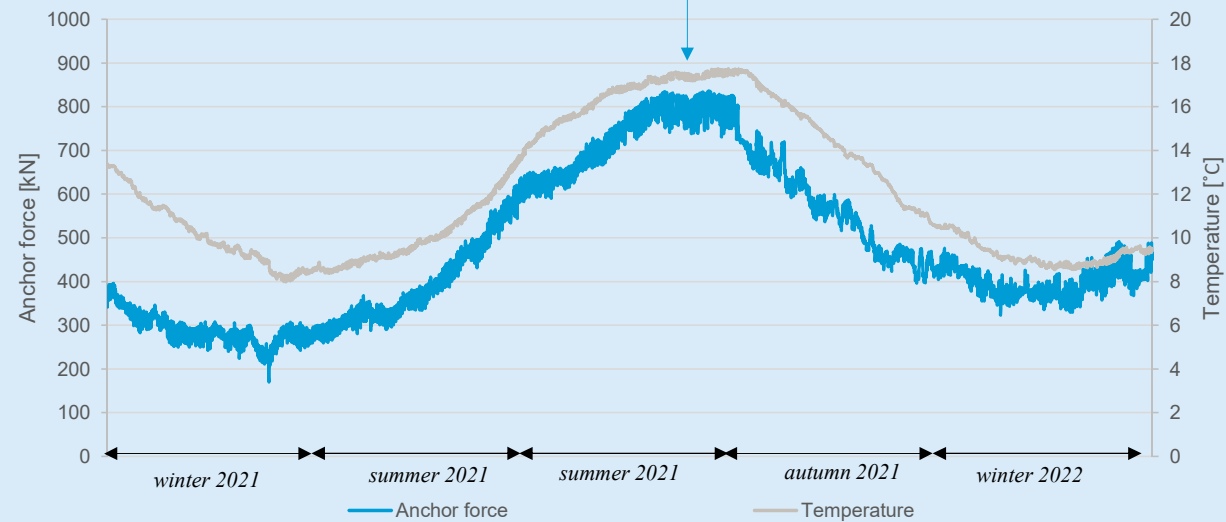


3) Smart quay walls: Anchor Force

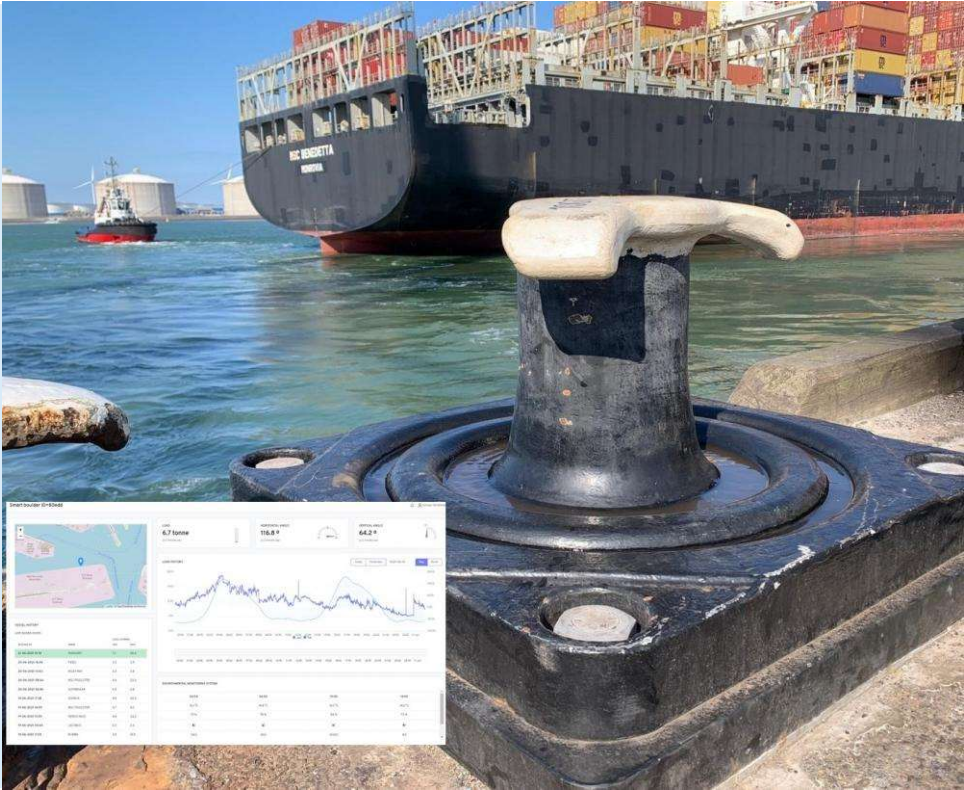
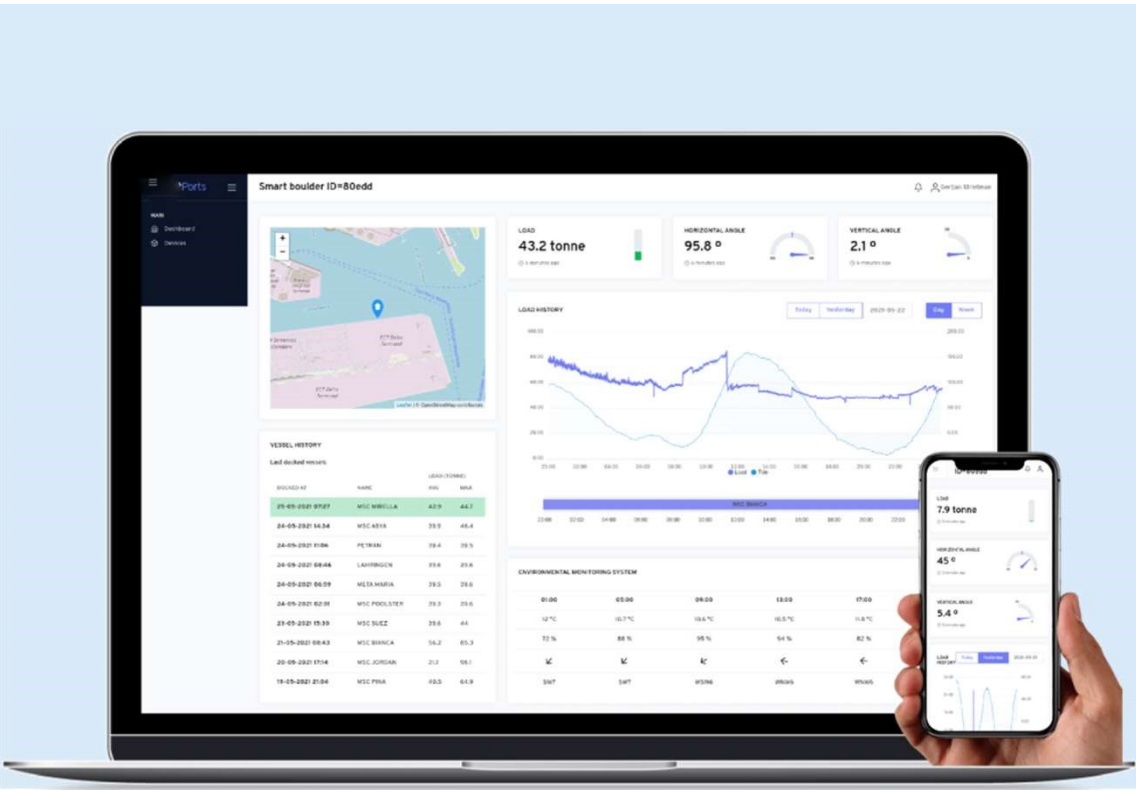
- Lower compared to design value.
- Reduce model uncertainty.
- Input for checking the influence of climate change on quay-wall behaviour.

Design value is 2000kN

Hidden safety?



3) Data analytics: Example Smart Bollard

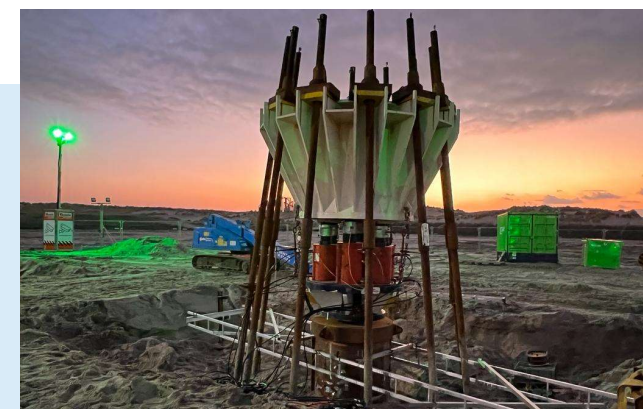


4) Testing bearing capacity open ended steel tubes

- Objective: Selection of design method (NEN, CUR or ISO method)
- Static vs cyclic loads.

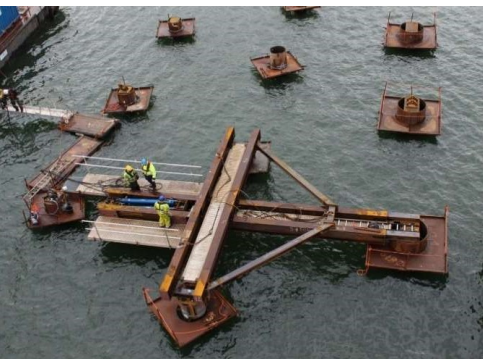
Scope:

- 4 test piles $\varnothing 1220$ (D/t of 60, 80 and 100).
- Spider-shaped test frame for static test
- Tension frame for cyclic test.
- Advanced strain and pressure sensors.
- Max test load 25.000 kN/ 15.000 MN.
- Costs about €2.5m.



4) Full scale field tests & stress testing

Flexible dolphin (2014)



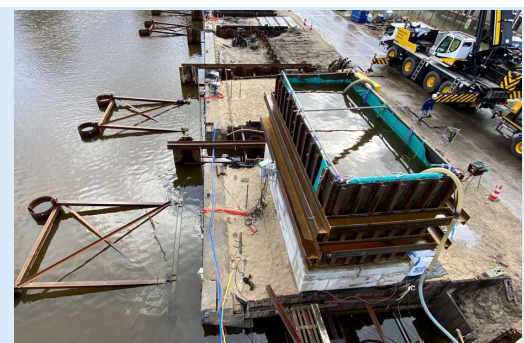
Precast concrete piles (2017;'21)



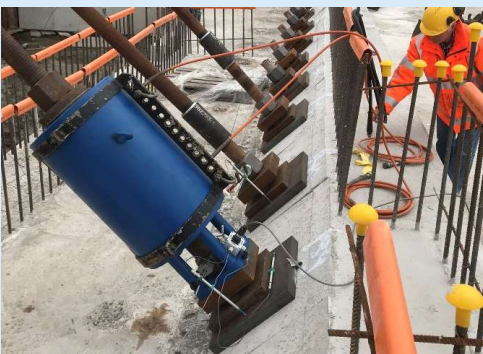
Sheet pile piles (2018)



Urban quay wall (2022)



Anchors (2017;'18,'19,21,'22)



Cast in situ piles (2020)



Bow-thruster loads (2019;'21)



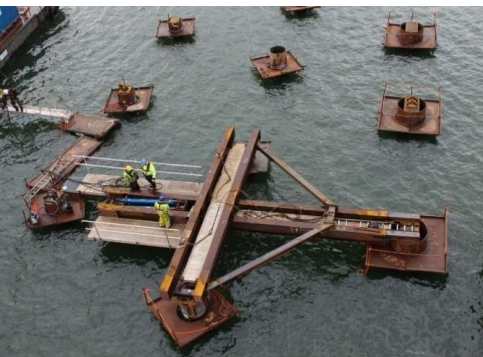
Full-scale test quay wall

Port of Rotterdam

(2023/2024)

4) Full scale field tests & stress testing

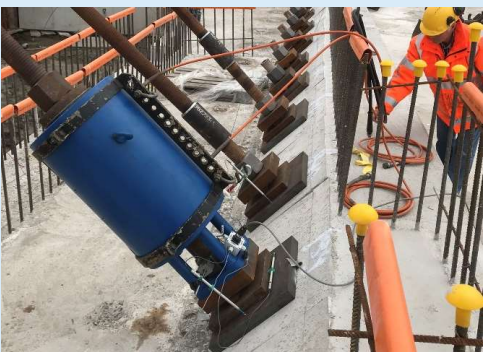
Flexible dolphin (2014)



Precast concrete piles (2017;'21)



Anchors (2017;'18,'19,21,'22)



Cast in situ piles (2020)



Project	n	Costs [m€]	Direct savings		Annual future savings ^a	
			[m€]	[kton CO ₂]	[m€]	[kton CO ₂]
1) Dolphins 2014	8	0.75	6.10	0.25	6.00	0.30
2) Precast concrete 2017	4	0.45	0.55	0.75	n/a	n/a
3) Anchors 2017-2022	6	0.75	4.50	1.00	3.00	1.50
4) Cast in situ 2020	11	2.50	15.50	11.00	12.50	10.00
Total	29	4.45	26.65	13.00	21.50	11.80

An aerial photograph of a large port facility, densely packed with colorful shipping containers. The port is situated along a coastline with a blue sky and scattered clouds. Overlaid on the image are several glowing blue arcs and circular icons, representing a digital or smart port infrastructure. The text "Thank you for your attention." is centered in the upper half of the image.

Thank you for your attention.