

Meeting Minutes

IABMAS Technical Committee on Bridge Load Testing

Online, Zoom https://usfq.zoom.us/j/84240253010

Wednesday April 13th 2022, 8am – 10 am EDT (US Eastern) / 2 pm – 4 pm CEDT (Central European)

Mission: Bridge Load Testing is a field testing technique that can be used to obtain more information about the performance of bridges. In particular, diagnostic load tests can be used to quantify elements of structural performance such as transverse distribution, unintended composite action, repair effectiveness, etc. and the information of a diagnostic load test can serve to develop field-validated models of existing bridges that can be used to develop a more accurate assessment of the bridge's performance. Proof load testing can be used to demonstrate directly that a bridge can carry a load that is representative of the code-prescribed live load, provided that the bridge does not show signs of distress. Other types of load testing include testing for dynamic properties, and parameter-specific tests. Load test data as well as the analytical assessment of the data can be used to make more informed decisions and manage the life-cycle performance and maintenance of bridges.

Aspects of bridge load testing that are of particular interest to bridge owners are having an overview of the typical uses for bridge load tests, the decision on when to load test or not, which information to obtain from the load test, and how this information can be used to reduce the uncertainties regarding the tested bridge. This committee is eager to learn about and disseminate the potential for applying new technologies for bridge load testing through learning from technologies used in other industries.

Associated with bridge load testing, the following topics are also of importance to this committee: instrumentation used during load testing and the interpretation of the obtained measurements during the load test, determination of required load, method of load application, methods of updating assessments using collected field data, the link between load testing and structural health monitoring, the uncertainties (probabilistic aspects as well as risks during test execution) associated with load testing, the interpretation of load test results, laboratory testing of bridge components to improve assessment methods in the field, and optimization of related costs keeping adequate reliability to spread their use worldwide.

The IABMAS Bridge Load Testing Committee aims to be an international committee of participants from academia, industry, and bridge owners, which provides a forum for the exchange of ideas on bridge load

testing. Best practices as well as the insights from the development of national codes and guidelines will be exchanged among participants from countries that use load testing for the assessment of their existing bridges, those who are exploring the possibilities of this method, and those who are in the process of standardizing the procedures or developing guidelines.

Goals:

- Organize dedicated sessions to the topic of load testing at IABMAS conferences.
- Develop national IABMAS group events on the topic of load testing.
- Exchange information on the use of load testing in different countries.
- Exchange lessons learned and best practices.
- Inform about case studies of bridge load testing.
- Communicate load testing guides or standards that have been developed.
- Provide a forum for new ideas and applications of technology.
- Identify potential research topics.
- Establish international collaborations.

- Liaise with relevant committees internationally outside of IABMAS and liaise with the national IABMAS groups.

Committee Members

Eva Lantsoght	Marcelo Marquez
Jesse Grimson	Johannio Marulanda
Mitsuyoshi Akiyama	Piotr Olaszek
Sreenivas Alampalli	Joan Ramon Casas
Fabio Biondini	Pavel Ryjacek
Alok Bhowmick	Gabriel Sas
Jonathan Bonifaz	Marek Salamak
Anders Carolin	Gregor Schacht
Dave Cousins	Jacob Schmidt
Dan Frangopol	Tomoki Shiotani
Boulent Imam	Matias Valenzuela
David Jauregui	Esteban Villalobos Vega
Ho-Kyung Kim	David Yang
David Kosnik	C C

Guests: Alex Lazoglu to replace Gregor Schacht

Regrets: Mitsuyoshi Akiyama, Anders Carolin, David Kosnik, Gregor Schacht, Esteban Villalobos Vega, David Yang

1. Administrative [10 min]

1.1. Welcome and introduction

All those present introduced themselves with their name and affiliation.



1.2. Review and approval of agenda

The agenda was reviewed and no comments were mentioned.

2. Strategic Planning and Discussion

2.1. Membership

Lantsoght welcomed new member Sas.

Lantsoght informed about potential members from the owner side. Schmidt will liaise with the Danish road directorate for a member. Sas will reach out to colleagues in Norway and Finland. Bhowmick will contact engineers at the bridge owner side in India.

2.2. Website

On the IABMAS website, the committee information is included. Lantsoght showed the committee members where to find the information on the website, including the approved minutes of the inaugural meeting.

3. New Business

3.1. Technical presentations

- Kalix bridge proof loading and demolition Gabriel Sas
- Field testing of a full-scale riveted railway bridge removed from service Boulent Imam
- Research on bridge load testing in Denmark Jacob Schmidt

Grimson introduced the speakers and chaired the discussion. We had three technical presentations and resulting discussions. The slides are attached to these minutes.

3.2. Opportunities for collaboration

TRB AKB40 liaison Kosnik sent his regrets for the meeting. Committee members were invited to reach out to relevant organizations and committees to establish liaisons.

3.3. Upcoming conferences and events

- IABMAS USA will meet virtually on May 13th. Alampalli mentioned there will be a onehour long webinar by Limongelli followed by the business portion of the meeting.
- IALCCE 2023 will be held in July 2023 in Milan. Biondini will provide further updates in the upcoming committee meetings: https://ialcce2023.org/
- IABSE Congress 2023 will be in New Delhi Engineering for Sustainable Development. <u>More information here</u>. Bhowmick is part of the organizing committee and invited all to send in their contributions.
- IABMAS 2022 will be in 11-15th of July in Barcelona. <u>Website</u>. Casas mentioned the keynotes of committee members Lantsoght and Alampalli, as well as the MS organized by these members, which received good interest in terms of abstracts and papers.

4. Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on the 12th of July 2022, at IABMAS in Barcelona. We will explore the possibility of setting up a Zoom link for hybrid participation.





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4/14/22





















































IABMAS Technical Committee on Bridge Load Testing

Field testing of a full-scale riveted railway bridge removed from service

Dr Boulent Imam

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering University of Surrey, UK

b.imam@surrey.ac.uk







Project Objectives

- Understand U-frame action on metallic riveted railway bridges (especially with offset stiffeners) and factors affecting it
- Assess fatigue criticality of double-angle riveted connections and developed advanced assessment methods
- Contribute to updating of metallic railway bridge rules for the assessment of existing bridges
- Partners include Mott MacDonald, James Fisher & MISTRAS





Yetminster Bridge

- Located in Dorset, SW UK
- Constructed in 1892
- Removed from service in 2020
- Riveted metallic bridge
- Wrought-iron main girders
- Old mild steel cross-girders
- Timber girders carrying railway line
- Approximately 9.4m span
- Offset stiffeners
- Transported to University of Surrey as a whole for testing







Yetminster Bridge





Yetminster Bridge



add|t|ona| bottom plate 220"x15"x3"

bearing plate 20"x15"x2"



76"



76"

bearing plate

20"x15"x2"

Testing Regime

- In-service monitoring before removal *Deflections, accelerations*
- Controlled field testing of entire bridge at University of Surrey *Deflections, strains*
- Modal testing of entire bridge at University of Surrey *Accelerations*
- Cutting bridge into components
- Static testing of components to understand U-frame action
- Fatigue testing of components to obtain fatigue life
- Small-scale tests for mechanical property characterisation





- Carried out before the bridge was removed from service by James Fisher
- 1 iMetrum Video Gauge (viewing 23 targets on the bridge)
- 6 single axis accelerometers
- Focus on behaviour of off-set U-frames
- Measurements under 4 passenger train passages









• 1 iMetrum Video Gauge (viewing 23 targets on the bridge)











• 1 iMetrum Video Gauge (viewing 23 targets on the bridge)





• 6 single axis accelerometers











• Acceleration measurements

BMAG

JABMAS




In-Service Monitoring

• Displacement measurements











In-Service Monitoring

Displacement measurements •











Bridge Removal

• Removed from service in February 2020 and replaced with new bridge









• Understanding concrete surface bearing strength and pull-out strength











• Bridge unloaded on concrete surface for the field testing



• Bearing plates retained for seating the bridge on supports







• Preparing the bridge supports





• Preparing the bridge supports





• Lifting the bridge to position



• Lifting the bridge to position

















• Timber girder pre-camber



• Offset stiffeners



• Double-angle riveted connections

























• Instrumentation – 39 LVDTs for horizontal and vertical displacements



LVDT locations for vertical displacement measurement.

• Instrumentation – 39 LVDTs for horizontal and vertical displacements



LVDT locations for horizontal displacement measurement (all dimensions in m).

• Instrumentation – 30 strain gauges (linear + rosettes)


• Instrumentation – 30 strain gauges (linear + rosettes)



• iMetrum Video Gauge





• 4 Load cells & hydraulic jacks



• 4 Load cells & hydraulic jacks



- Field testing was carried out over 3 days
- Load cells and hydraulic jacks were placed on the timber girders.
- 4 loading scenarios representing different train positions
- Loading in 10kN increments, with a pause of 5 minutes between loadings to check for creep, up to 50 kN each
- Timbers girders subsequently removed to investigate load distribution

• Loadcases (with timber girders)







Some challenges encountered:

- Reaction plate breakage
- Hydraulic jack reaching full extension before full load
- Ground anchors slackening
- Unequal distribution of applied loads due to stiffness variation of the reaction frame







• Applied load time histories



• Applied load time histories



• Removal of timber girders



• Removal of timber girders



• Removal of timber girders



• Loadcases (without timber girders)





• Displacement measurements



61

• Strain measurements



62



63

• Load distribution from timber girders

Loading	Loading type	Strain	Strain	Strain
identifier		in CG2 in	in CG3 in	in CG4 in
		microstrains	microstrains	microstrains
Ι	Loading scenario 8 (Two 50 KN loads on CG4	4	16	164
	(without timber), Fig 1.13)			
П	Loading scenario 5 (Two 50 KN loads on CG4 (with	79	12	8
	timber), Fig 1.10)			
III	Loading scenario 6 (Two 50 KN loads on CG4 and	150	32	153
	two 50 KN loads on CG2 (without timber), Fig 1.11)			
IV	Loading scenario 1 (Two 50 KN loads on CG4 and	115	78	42
	two 50 KN loads on CG2 (with timber), Fig 1.6)			
v	Loading scenario 9 (Two 50 KN loads on CG3 and	22	143	5
	two 50 KN loads on CG1 (without timber), Fig			
	1.14)			
VI	Loading scenario 2 (Two 50 KN loads on CG3 and	90	71	8
	two 50 KN loads on CG1 (with timber), Fig 1.7)			
VII	Loading scenario 7 (Two 50 KN loads on CG2	153	15	2
	(without timber), Fig 1.12)			
VIII	Loading scenario 4 (Two 50 KN loads mid-length	100	73	25
	between CG4 and CG3 , and two $50\ \mathrm{KN}$ loads mid-			
	length between CG2 and CG1 (with timber), Fig			
	1.9)			



• U-frame behaviour



• Removal of paint to better determine condition



• Corrosion at connections





• Corrosion on members



• Corrosion on members



• Missing rivets



• Thickness measurements



• Thickness measurements



• Thickness measurements















• 1st mode shape



 1^{st} bending mode of main girder from modal testing at **51Hz**.

• 2nd mode shape



 2^{nd} bending mode of main girder from modal testing at **122Hz**.

Small-scale Coupons

Material property characterisation

- Young's modulus (wrought-iron & mild steel)
- Yield strength
- Ultimate tensile strength



Bridge Cutting

• Cutting into full-scale components


Bridge Cutting

• Static & cyclic fatigue laboratory tests





The Danish Bridge Testing project 2016-21

Jacob Wittrup Schmidt Associate professor

Danish Faculty of Engineering and Science Section of Civil Engineering | Department of Built environment



The Danish Bridge Testing project 2016-21



General aims and deliveries of the bridge testing project version (V1):

- Description and design of test set-ups for loading tests, including related structural elements
- Planning and perform bridge test on six bridges at the Holstebro Herning main road stretch in 2016.
- A simple methodology (using advanced back ground knowledge) where measurements and inspections are optimized for in-situ testing.
- Calculation models should produce results which conform with the results of the load-carrying capacity tests.
- Thus calculation models shall reflect the actual fracture mechanics and load-carrying capacity of the bridge in question.
- Guideline with specific instructions for the completion of bridge proof loading









Background, Interplay of project activities

Research areas



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DENMARK

Monitoring

strategy

Outcom

Figure: Boundary equilibrium. a) Full continuity element b) Kirchhoff element

Background, Danish classification system

- Administration and control of heavy vehicles in Denmark
- Handled through a unique bridge classification system,
- based on different sizes of "standard vehicles" with a defined load configuration.
- A heavy vehicle can pass the bridge if the bridge class is higher than the vehicle class.
- the weight shall be reduced or re-arranged (to reach a lower class), otherwise an alternate route must be found.
- Strategic road map based on this system, where heavy vehicles can drive safely.
- However, the number of heavy vehicles has increased significantly during the last decades









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Background, In-situ challenges and experience 🕼

Standard vehicle B Standard vehicle A

Maximum 12m opening

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DENMARK

Dead load on cradle

Dead load on rig girder Dead load on loading frame

- Planning with short testing time and high safety measures
- Loading rig, imitating classification vehicle
- In-situ monitoring- and testing is significantly in the structure more demanding than laboratory testing
- Practical challenges (electrical outlets, tooling, etc.)
- Weather conditions(light, moisture, temperature) Supporting cradle, HE500B etc.)
- Limited time detailed adjustments and processing
- Large structure Working above and below bridge
- Difficult access
- Several unknown parameters compared to very controlled laboratory testing

Initial in-situ testing in 2016

- Example of bridges on the Herning Holstebro stretch
- Experience with load testing, response and possible failure mechanism











DENMARK



Forsøg i januar

• 11 beam strip with and without asphalt





Strip testing

- In-situ DIC measurements (wide angle)
- Full-scale strip tests (1 strip = 11 beams cut from bridge)
 - No surface pattern applied
 - Challenging lighting conditions
 - Areas blocked by instrumentation
- Results
 - Camera distance of 3.8 m and 2.6 m
 - Crack detection at the end of the elastic regime
 - Crack widths at crack detection (0.104 mm to 0.332 mm)

Christensen, C.O.; Schmidt, J.W.; Halding, P.S.; Kapoor, M.; Goltermann, P. Digital Image Correlation for Evaluation of Cracks in Reinforced Concrete Bridge Slabs. Infrastructures 2021, 6, 99.



OT laboratorie tests

- Down scaled element
- Reinforcement ratio same and cross section height 2/3
- To provide further knowledge in regards to the interaction between the elements
- Monitoring as input for the probabilistic analysis
- Stop criterion investigations! •
- Real time evaluations

Class 50







- Christensen, C.O.; Schmidt, J.W.; Halding, P.S.; Kapoor, M.; Goltermann, P. Digital Image Correlation for Evaluation of Cracks in Reinforced Concrete Bridge Slabs. Infrastructures 2021, 6, 99.
- Christensen, C.O.; Zhang, F.; Garnica, G.Z.; Lantsoght, E.O.L.; Goltermann, P.; Schmidt, J.W. Identification of Stop Criteria for Large-Scale Laboratory Slab Tests Using Digital Image Correlation and Acoustic Emission. Infrastructures 2022, 7, 36

SITY

OT laboratory tests

The monitoring included:

- Regular contact measurements
 - LVDT's
 - Wire potentiometers
 - Inclinometers
 - Strain gauges
- Non-contact and other measurements
 - Distance lasers
 - 2-D digital image correlation with camera distance similar to bridge tests (3.8 m), and a wide-angle lens for full-field coverage of the entire span
 Acoustic emission in OT test 2

<u>- Christensen, C.O.; Schmidt, J.W.; Halding, P.S.; Kapoor, M.; Goltermann, P. Digital Image</u>
 <u>Correlation for Evaluation of Cracks in Reinforced Concrete Bridge Slabs. Infrastructures 2021, 6, 99.</u>
 <u>- Christensen, C.O.; Zhang, F.; Garnica, G.Z.; Lantsoght, E.O.L.; Goltermann, P.; Schmidt, J.W.</u>

<u>- Christensen, C.O.; Zhang, F.; Garnica, G.Z.; Lantsoght, E.O.L.; Goltermann, P.; Schmidt, J.VV.</u> <u>Identification of Stop Criteria for Large-Scale Laboratory Slab Tests Using Digital Image Correlation</u> and Acoustic Emission. Infrastructures 2022, 7, 36



OT laboratory tests

- Collaboration with TU Delft
- Acoustic emission (AE) in combination with crack measurements
- Surface and interior evaluation
- Sensors are placed in a grid setup
- Is it possible to measure activity in the most critical areas?
- Does the AE and DIC measurements support each other?



<u>- Christensen, C.O.; Zhang, F.; Garnica, G.Z.; Lantsoght, E.O.L.; Goltermann, P.; Schmidt, J.W.</u> Identification of Stop Criteria for Large-Scale Laboratory Slab Tests Using Digital Image Correlation and Acoustic Emission. Infrastructures 2022, 7, 36



- Christensen, C.O.; Zhang, F.; Garnica, G.Z.; Lantsoght, E.O.L.; Goltermann, P.; Schmidt, J.W. Identification of Stop Criteria for Large-Scale Laboratory Slab Tests Using Digital Image Correlation and Acoustic Emission. Infrastructures 2022, 7, 36

OT laboratory tests

- Only top sensors are included.
- showed values of 0.080 mm to 0.132 mm in the laboratory tests. (0.104 mm to 0.332 mm initially)
- Crack pattern compared with surface plot of calm ratio at the third cycle of:
- (a,b) 300 kN, -
- (c,d) 500 kN
- (e,f) 700 kN. •









1400 b Sensors 0.7 Load Distance from edge [mm] 1000 800 400 400 9 0.6 0.5 (8) 0.4 3 4 0.3 0.2 200 0.1 1 -800 -600 -400 -200 0 200 400 600 800 Distance from center [mm]





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Monitoring and response verification

- Example of used monitoring in the project
- Combination of independent monitoring equipment a main scope
- Surface- and interior measurements?
- Verification of loading method and basis for future loading methods
- Response verification

 Standard point measurements: LVDT's, strain gauges, distance lasers, extensometers, Land surveyor, Inclinometers, Wire potentiometers etc.

- **2D DC**: Used for full-field evaluation, with one or multiple cameras for crack detection and crack width monitoring. Wide angle- and conventional camera
- *Acoustic Emission:* Used for internal crack detection and localization, as well as identification of irreversible damage.
- *"Hydra" and IBIS, IDS GeoRadar:* Interferometric radar system designed for early warning and real-time measurements of sub-millimetric displacements
- Not prioritized: (Fiber Optic Sensing (FOS): Used for distributed strain measurements in sections of interest.)





Danish guideline and Eurocode input



DENMARK

- Work concerning a Danish guideline " VEJLEDNING FOR PRØVEBELASTNING AF BROER" was initiated will be finallized in 2021
- Basis in the Danish classification system
- CEN/TC 250/WG 2 Assessment and Retrofitting of Existing Structures Svend Engelund, John Dalsgaard Sørensen

			CEV/TC 250 Mandate M/S15 Background Report of Project Team WG2.12 Development of the Assessment and Retrofitting of 2 rd Generation of EN Eurocodes Existing Structures
Load Testing of Bridges: Current Practice and Diagnostic Load Testing Balanties and the Future of Load Testing Balanties and the Balanties	<section-header></section-header>	<image/> <section-header><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></section-header>	Mandate M/515 Development of 2 nd Generation of EN Eurocodes Project Team WG2.T2 Assessment and Retrofitting of Existing Structures Background Report on Load Testing
	VEJREGLER		Background Report of Project Team WG2.T2 P a g e 1 34 Date Issue No.

The Danish Bridge Testing project 2016-21





Göteborg

Hall

Hali

Helsing

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Rostock Mecklenh

Roskilde

Region Sjælland

dsysse

Randers

Odense

Kiel Bugt

Kiel

Schleswig Holstein

Danmark

319

Region Syddanmar

Esbjerg-

161

- Does the information included in the Danish guide work in real life read life
- Mythologies have to comply with the document
- Is there a road stretch fit for this purpose
- Registered structures in DanBroWeb



- Class 80 road stretch
- Aim to upgrade to class 100
- Location of the tested road stretch
- Proof loading of 4 bridges
- Testing performed in three days











• Testbridge 4, span: 4,0m, F=36,4tone







• Testbridge 4, span: 4,0m, F=36,4tone





Some initial discussions - V2.0 bridge testing project

- Proof loading procedures for 2- and 3 span bridges and in-situ sub-components
- Further stop criterion identification (input from different sources, brittle failure mechanism etc.)
- Optimization and extend load configuration mythology, monitoring methods, synergy effects, etc.
- Value optimization method (CO2 and economical savings)
- Updating of the Danish guideline
- Ensure result- and experience input generation for the upcoming Eurocode provision on "Assessment and retrofitting of existing structures "
- Collaboration synergy to ensure optimal mutual gain







