

ISWIM
Webinar Unlocking the Potential of WIM Data for Bridges
16th May 2024

Using WIM data to optimise decisions on under-strength bridges – the Slovenian experience

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1. Safety of bridges and Bridge-WIM
2. Monitoring bridge performance with Bridge-WIM systems
3. Case study

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Safety of bridges and Bridge-WIM

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Traffic loading and bridges

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Structural safety of bridges

$R > S$

- bridge condition/capacity
- Bridge Assessment Trio

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Structural safety of bridges

$R > S$

- bridge condition/capacity
- measurements and monitoring:
 - material characteristics and damage extent
 - actual traffic loads **WIM**
 - transformation into load effects/stresses/strains
 - distribution across the structure
 - dynamic amplification **B-WIM**

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Bridge WIM system...

... or **B-WIM** is a measuring device that uses an existing instrumented structure – a **bridge or a culvert** – to 'weigh' road vehicles or trains in motion, at normal operating speed.

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Bridge WIM system

- since 1979
- research in Europe from 1993 to 1999
- **COST** 323 system since 2000
- **WAVE** system since 2000
- >5000 installations across the globe

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Bridge WIM system

- since 1979
- research in Europe from 1993 to 1999
- **SWIM** system since 2000
- >5000 installations, 30 countries
- strain measurements
- developments in Europe, USA, Asia...
- main benefits:
 - portable, does not disturb traffic
 - measure bridge performance under traffic

Žnidarič, A., Kalin, J., Kreslin, M. (2018). Improved accuracy and robustness of bridge weigh-in-motion systems. Structure and Infrastructure Engineering, 14(4), 412-424

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Typical bridges for B-WIM installation

Brazil

Slovenia

USA

The Netherlands

France

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Viaduc de Millau – France

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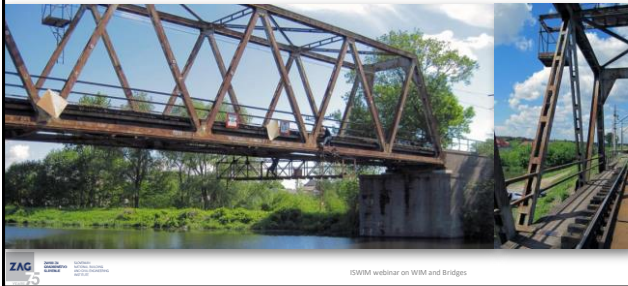
Moerdijk bridge – the Netherlands

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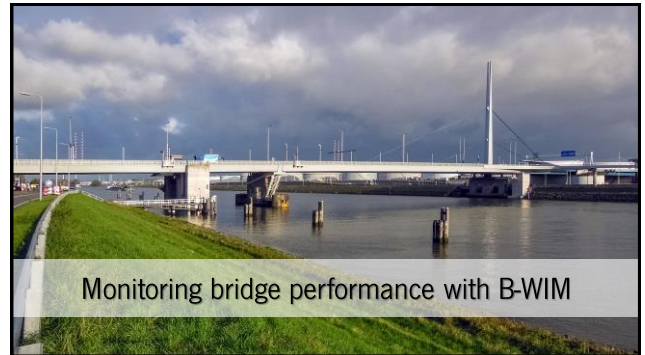
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Nieporęt railway truss bridge – Poland

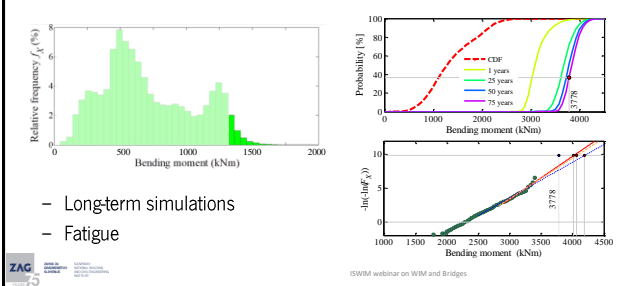


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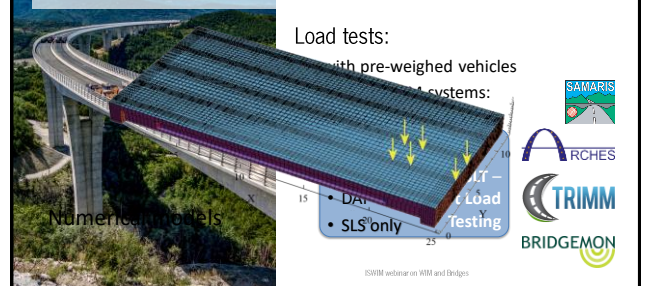
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Modelling traffic load effects on bridges



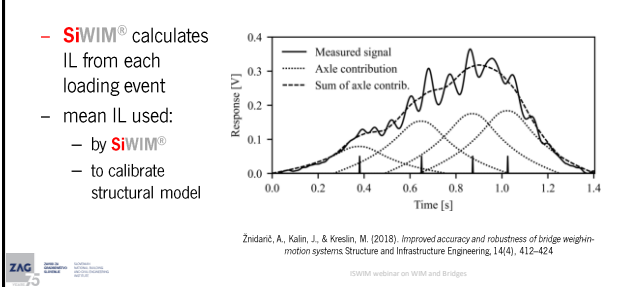
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Bridge performance under traffic



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Measurement of bridge KPIs – Influence line



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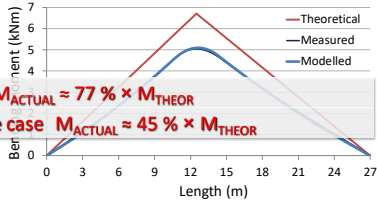
27-m long New Jersey underpass



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Measurement of bridge KPIs – Influence line

- IL measured from each loading event
- always different than in theory



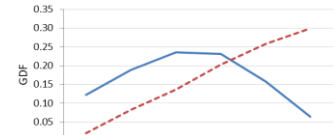
Znidarič, A., Kalin, J. (2020). Using bridge weigh-in-motion systems to monitor single-span bridge influence lines. Journal of Civil Structural Health Monitoring, 10.743-756

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Measurement of bridge KPI – GDF

- measured & statistically evaluated (mean & STD);
- Girder Factors – GDF
- Lane Factors – LF
- substantial differences btw. bridges



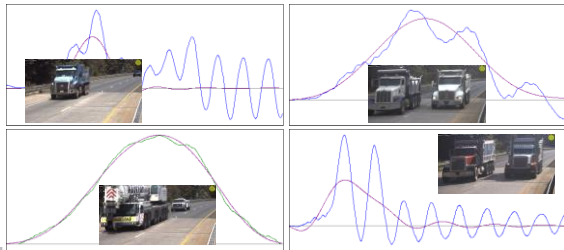
	1	2	3	4	5	6
— Driving lane	0.12	0.19	0.24	0.23	0.16	0.07
- - - Fast lane	0.02	0.08	0.14	0.20	0.26	0.30

Znidarič, A., Kalin, J. (2020). Using bridge weigh-in-motion systems to monitor single-span bridge influence lines. Journal of Civil Structural Health Monitoring, 10.743-756

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Dynamic response of a bridge



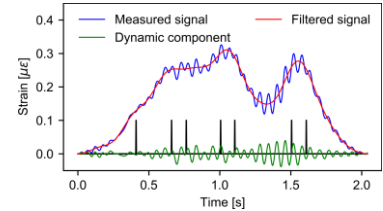
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Measurement of dynamic amplification

$$DAF = \frac{S_{total}}{S_{static}}$$

- 1000s bridge responses



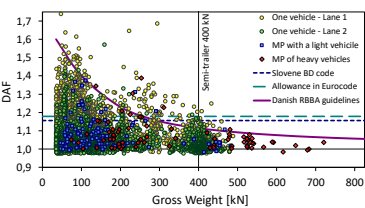
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Measurement of dynamic amplification

$$DAF = \frac{S_{total}}{S_{static}}$$

- 1000s bridge responses



34-m bridge – 5004 measured DAF values

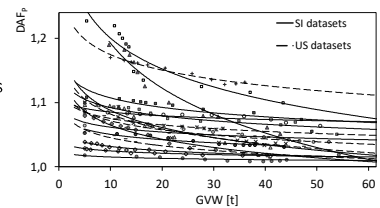
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Measurement of dynamic amplification

$$DAF = \frac{S_{total}}{S_{static}}$$

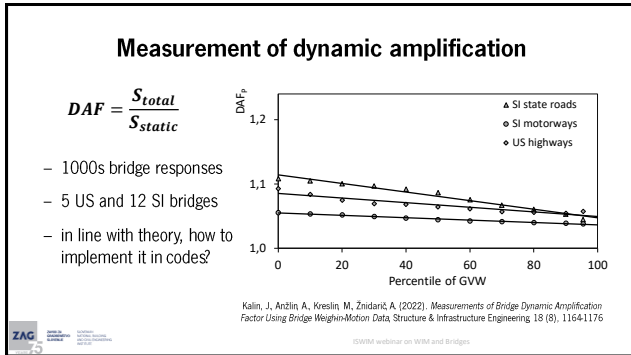
- 1000s bridge responses
- 5 US and 12 SI bridges



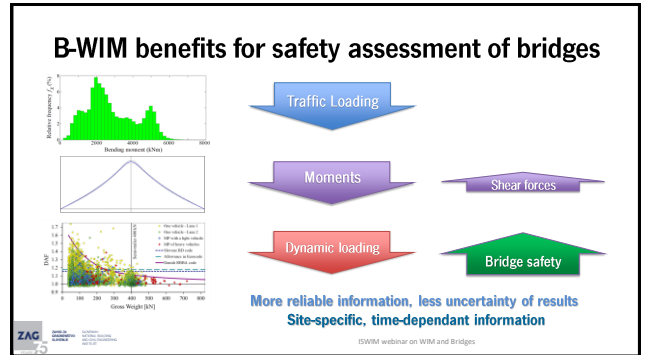
17 datasets, 202 to 747 000 DAF values

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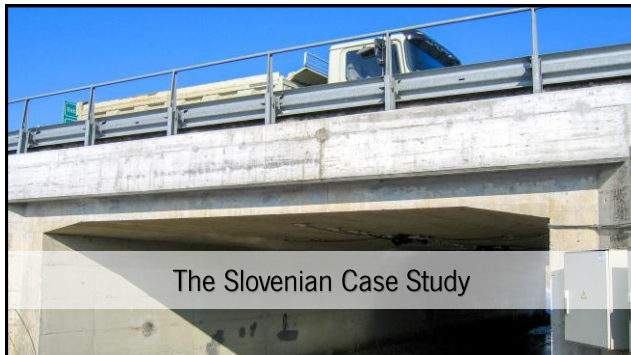
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Safety Assessment in Slovenia

Bridge Assessment Recommendations:

- Rating Factor approach:

$$RF = \frac{\Phi R - S_D \gamma_D}{S_L \gamma_L DAF}$$

- developed:
- rating/assessment loading schemes from WIM
- procedures to select safety factors γ_D and γ_L
- procedure to select capacity reduction factor Φ

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Case study Slovenia

- 2006-14: 154 very bad & critical bridges
- initial assessments: 118 bridges found safe
- 36 bridges: SLT, material testing and detailed analysis:
 - 23 bridges found safe
 - 13 bridges posted, strengthened or replaced

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Case study Slovenia – costs

- replacement value of all bridges 100 M€
- initial safety assessment 26 M€
- use of SLT, material testing and detailed analysis left 13 bridges for 9 M€ cost

Indirect costs at least twice the direct ones!

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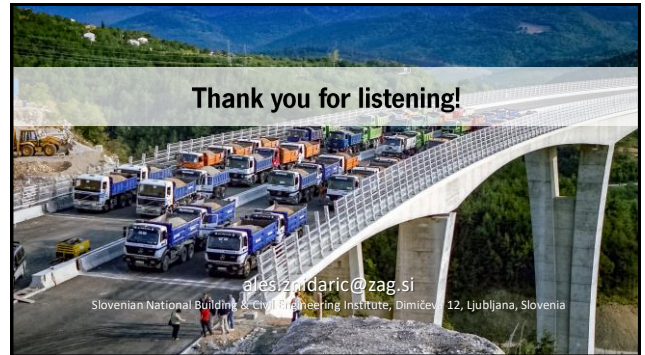
Summary

- too costly to replace all questionable bridges → optimal measures
- challenge is availability of quality data:
 - (almost) any measured/monitored data is better than no data
 - (B-)WIM data:
 - reduces uncertainties
 - ideal for smaller, older bridges
 - substantial savings in BM
- bridge engineering knowledge, judgment and experience needed
- work in progress: monitoring with B-WIM

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Thank you for listening!

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