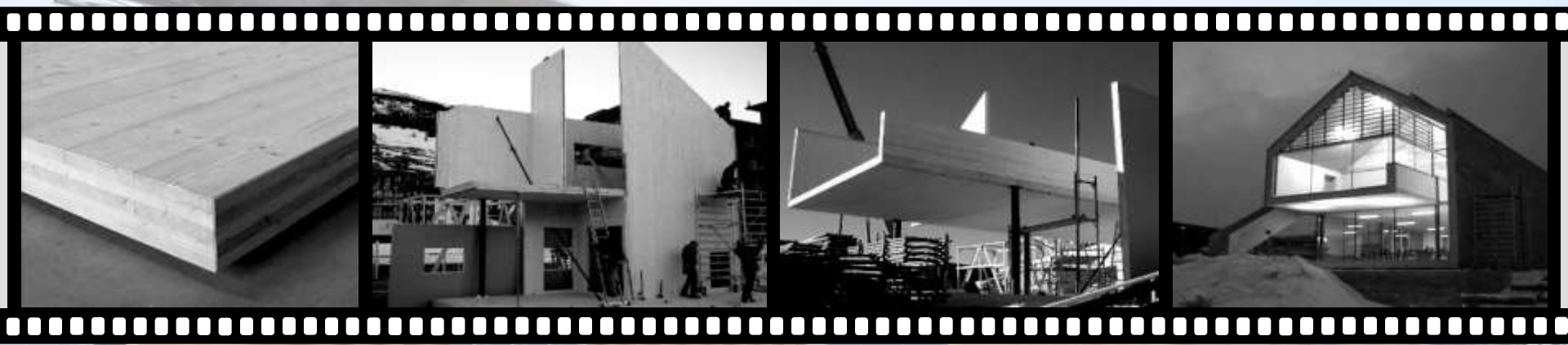


# CLT – Research and Testing at TU Graz



Cross-Laminated Timber Symposium  
Vancouver Convention Center

**Univ.-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr.techn. Gerhard Schickhofer**  
**Dipl.-Ing. Dr.techn. Alexandra Thiel**

Institute for Timber Engineering and Wood Technology, Graz University of Technology | AT  
Competence Centre holz.bau forschungs gmbh Graz | AT

# CONTENT

- Research Topics on Cross Laminated Timber (CLT)
  - Point supported Ceilings and Roofs
  - Verifications regarding Serviceability Limit State (SLS)
  - In-Plane Shear Capacity and Verification Methods
  - CLTdesigner – Software Tool for Designing CLT Elements [A. Thiel]
- Summary | Outlook

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# Compression Perpendicular to the Grain

design value for compression stress perp. to grain

$$\sigma_{c,clt,90,d} = \frac{F_d}{A_{c,90}}$$

with:  $A_{c,90}$  ... contact area

point supported



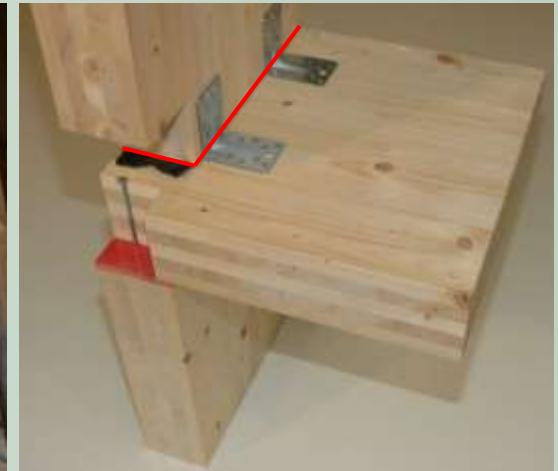
© Picture: DI R. Salzer (AUT)

point supported



© Picture: Architect Reinberg (AUT)

line supported



© Picture: TU Graz (AUT)

# Compression Perpendicular to the Grain

material resistance against compression perp. to grain ( $f_{c,clt,90,d}$ )

## publications regarding CLT:

- Y. Halili | TU Graz, 2008
- E. Serrano | Linnæus University, 2010
- C. Salzmann | TU Graz, 2010

## characteristic parameters:

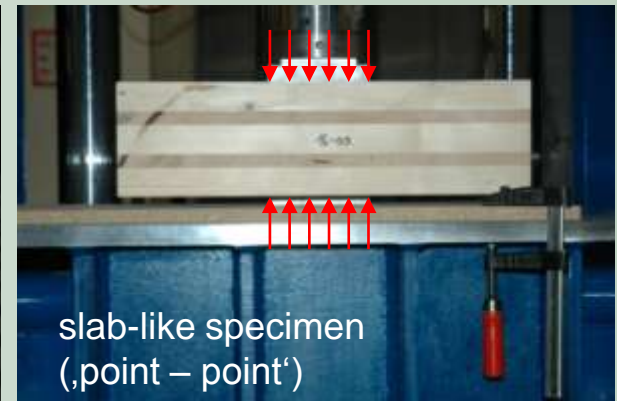
- $f_{c,clt,90,d}$  | cube | slab-like specimen
- $k_{c,clt,90}$  (‘hang-in effect’)
- $E_{c,clt,90,mean}$



specimen formed like a cube



slab-like specimen

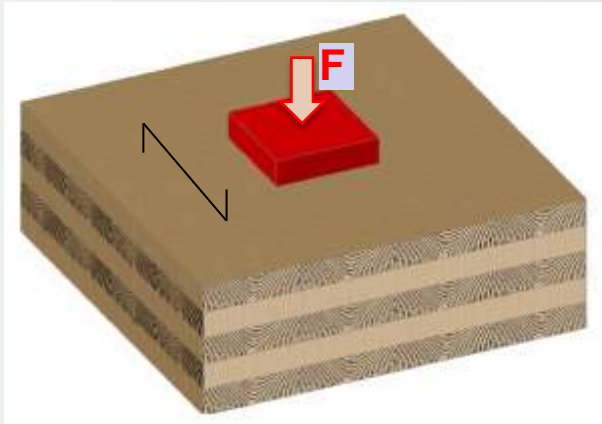


slab-like specimen  
(‘point – point’)

# Compression Perpendicular to the Grain

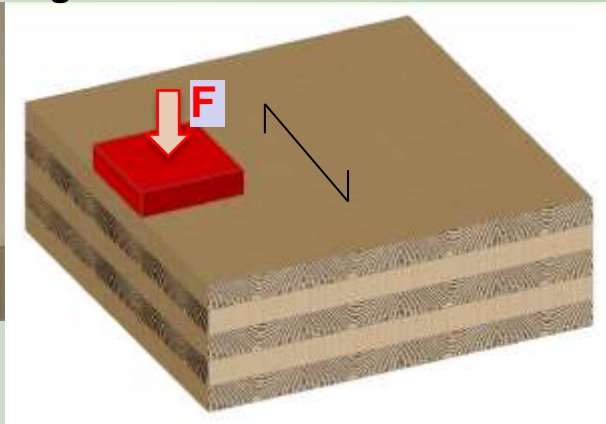
different loading situations | configurations on CLT elements

center load

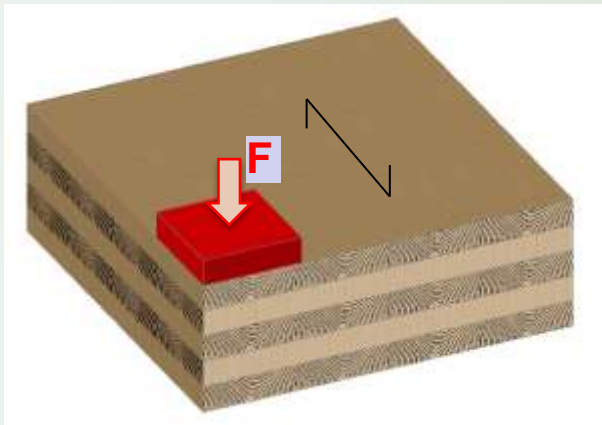


'hang-in effect' (two sides)

edge load

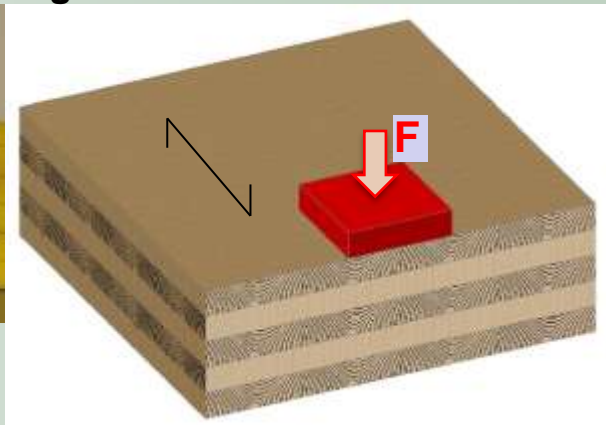


corner load



'hang-in effect' (one side)

edge load



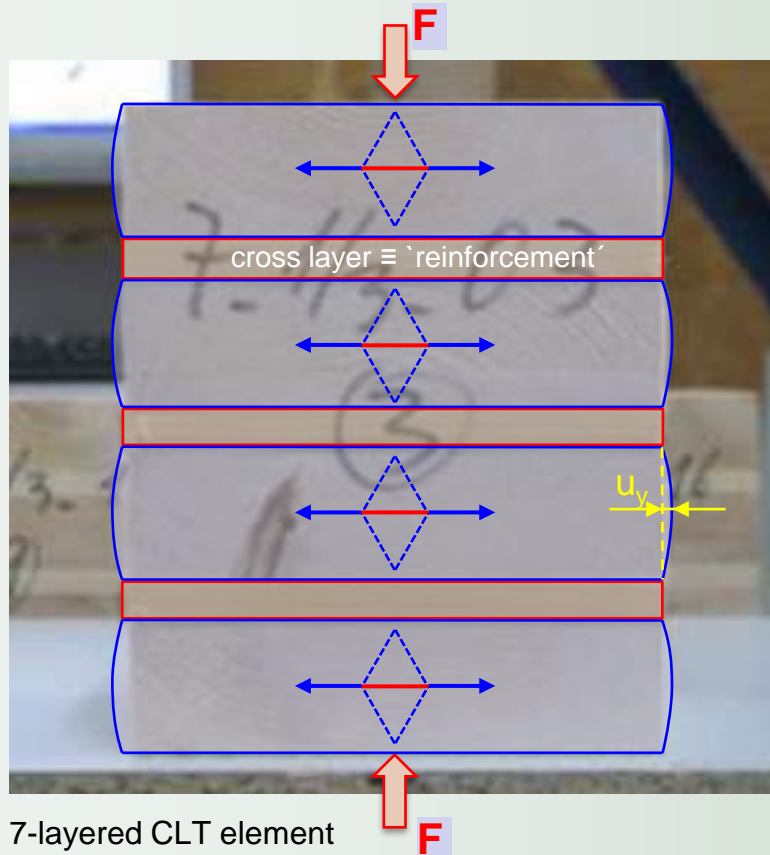
# Compression Perpendicular to the Grain

‘framework model’

## CLT cubes

failure mode:

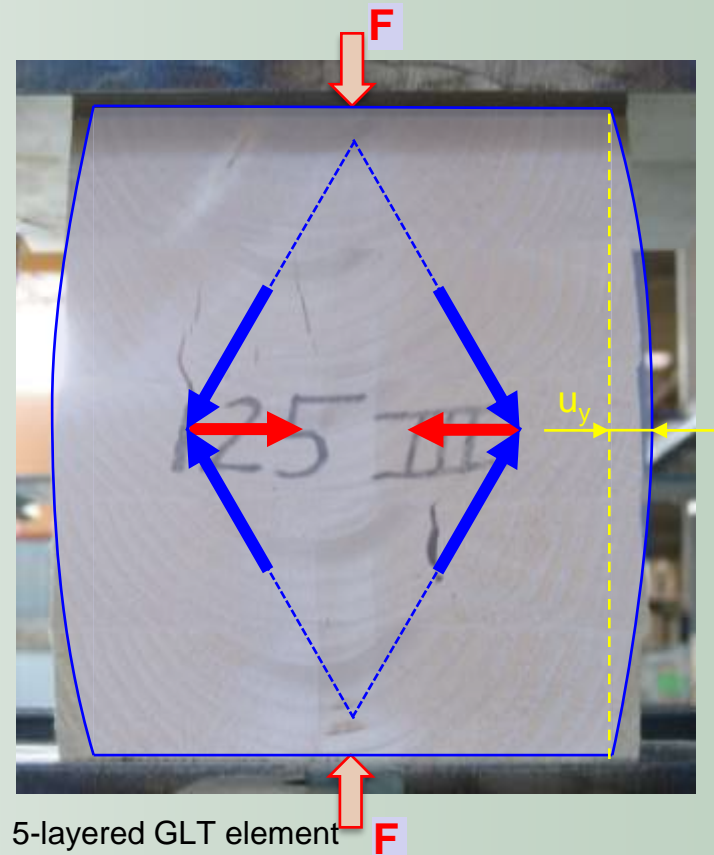
deformation at defined failure stage



## GLT cubes

failure mode:

e.g. tension perp. to grain



## Compression Perpendicular to the Grain

The cross layers cause a `locking effect` and therefore a reduction of deformation.

### comparison of CLT to GLT at the same load level

- ✓ CLT shows reduced deformation perp. to grain ( $u_y$ ) concentrated on each single layer
- ✓ CLT shows higher stiffness and lower stresses in tension perp. to grain

### result:

**lower failure probability** at the same load level and **higher load bearing capacity** perpendicular to the grain

# Compression Perpendicular to the Grain

strength determined on standardised full-loaded prismatic specimen

## GLT



$$f_{c,glt,90,k} = 2.1 \dots 2.4 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ [res. publ.]}$$

$$f_{c,glt,90,k} = 2.5 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ (prEN 14080)}$$

## CLT



$$f_{c,clt,90,k} = \dots 3.0 \dots 3.1 \text{ N/mm}^2$$

$$f_{c,clt,90,k} = 3.0 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ (proposal TU Graz)}$$



**basic value for design**

# Compression Perpendicular to the Grain

## bearing capacity in constructions

### GLT



### CLT



edge  
'line supported'



centric  
'point supported'

### GLT

$$k_{c,glt,90} = 1,0 \dots 1,5 \dots 1,75$$

$$f_{c,glt,90,k} \cdot k_{c,glt,90} = 3.75 \text{ N/mm}^2$$

### proposal TU Graz

$$k_{c,clt,90} = \sim 1.5 \qquad = \sim 2.0$$

$$f_{c,clt,90,k} \cdot k_{c,clt,90} = 4.5 \dots 6.0 \text{ N/mm}^2$$

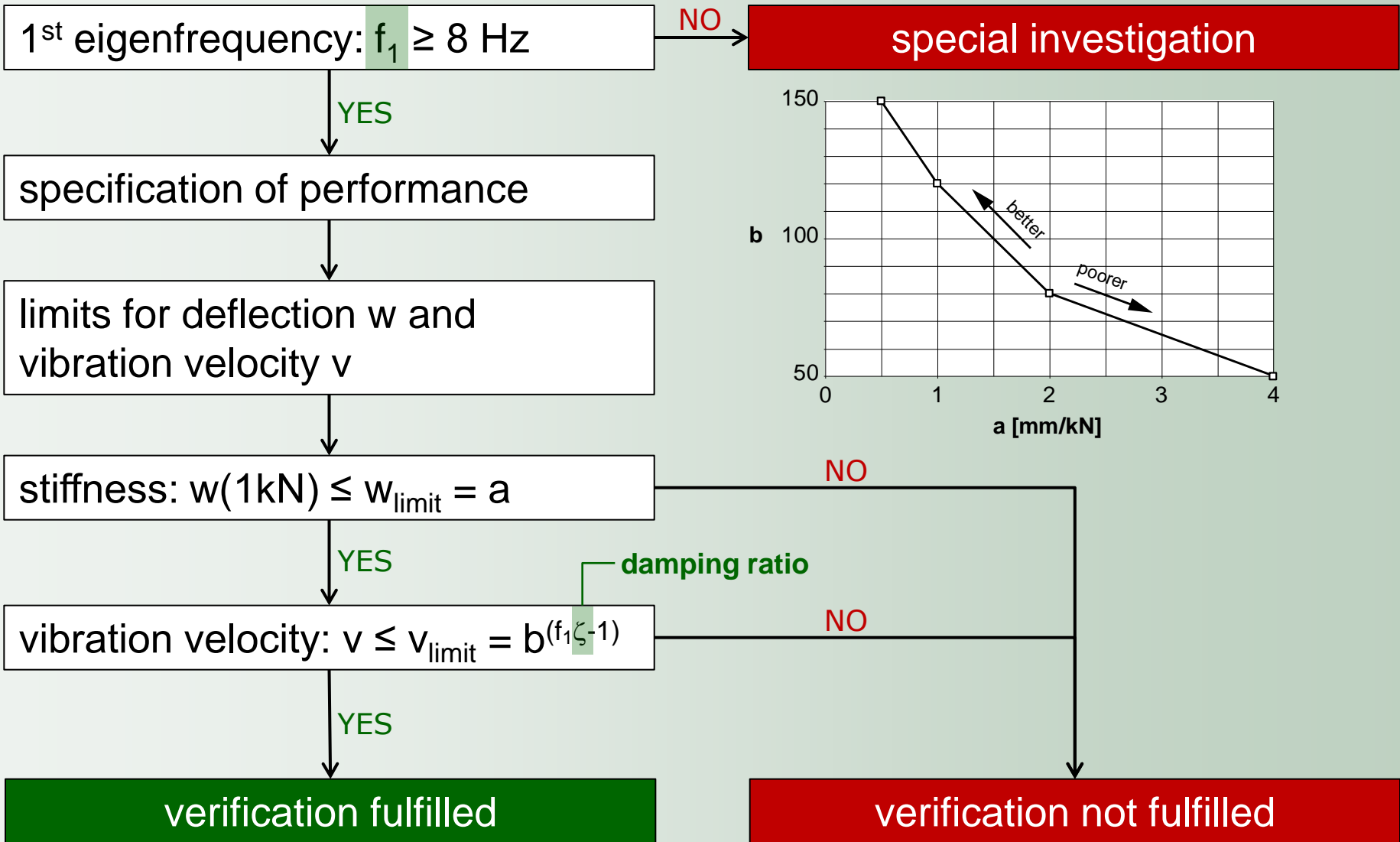
+ 20 %

+ 60 %

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# Process for Design of Vibration acc. to EN 1995-1-1



# Eigenfrequency of a Single Span Girder

$$EJ \cdot u''''(x, t) + m \cdot \ddot{u}(x, t) = 0$$

$$(\quad)' = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \quad (\quad)\dot{=} = \frac{d}{dt}$$

$$u(x, t) = c \cdot \sin \frac{\pi}{l} x \cdot \sin \omega \cdot t$$

$$f = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} = \frac{\pi}{2l^2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{EJ}{m}}$$

EJ ... bending stiffness [Nm<sup>2</sup>]

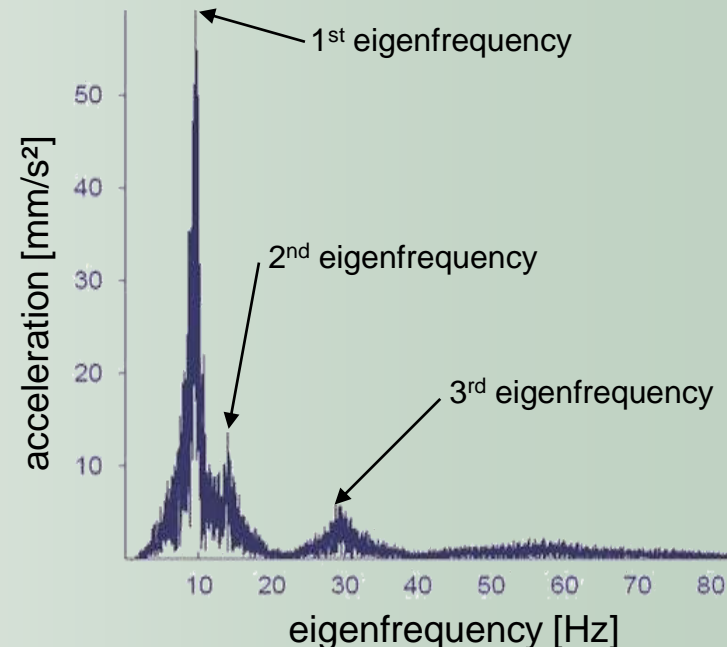
m ... mass [kg/m]

l ... length of the single span girder [m]

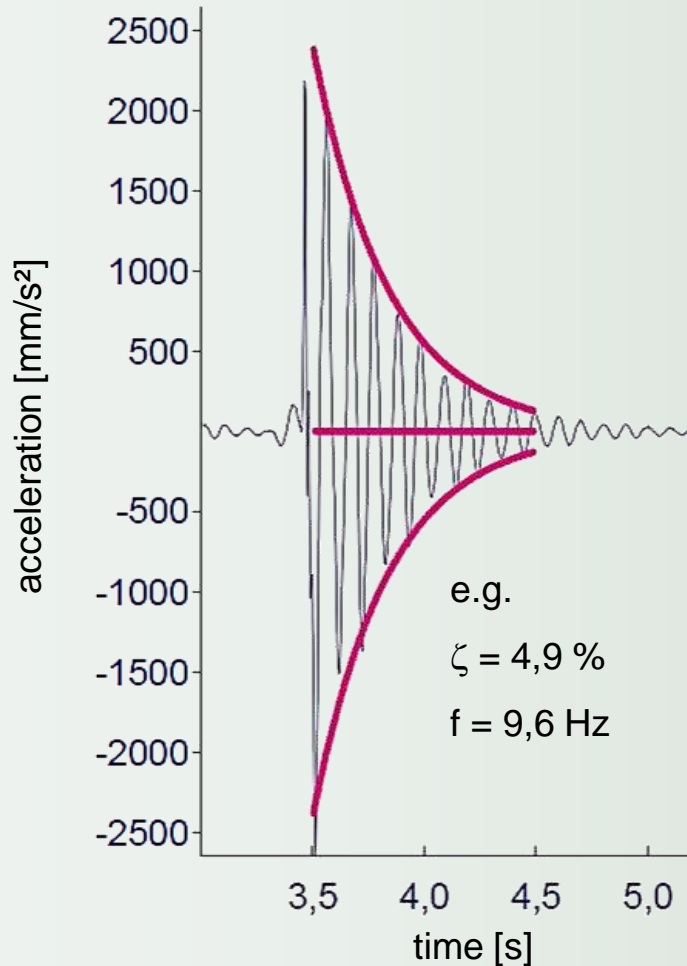
identification of eigenfrequencies by **FFT**:

in situ determination of eigenfrequency requires various test methods, e.g.:

- **‘heeldrop’**  
(frequencies 0 ÷ 30 Hz)
- **‘punch from underneath’**  
(frequencies > 30 Hz)



# Proposal for the Damping Ratio for CLT



support	construction	test results $\zeta_{50}$ [%]	proposal $\zeta_{CLT}$ [%]
2 side	heavy	2.77	<b>2.50</b>
4 side	light	3.95	<b>3.50</b>
4 side	heavy	3.71	

## damping ratio

- damping ratio depends on the position and type of excitation
- calculation by means of 2<sup>nd</sup> ÷ 11<sup>th</sup> amplitude

## damping ratio needed e.g. for

- determination of maximum vibration velocity  
 $v_{limit}$  acc. to EC 5

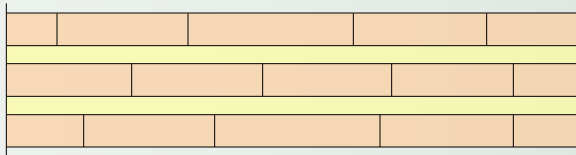
$$v \leq b^{(f_1 \cdot \zeta - 1)}$$

# Vibration tests on CLT slabs – Test Configurations

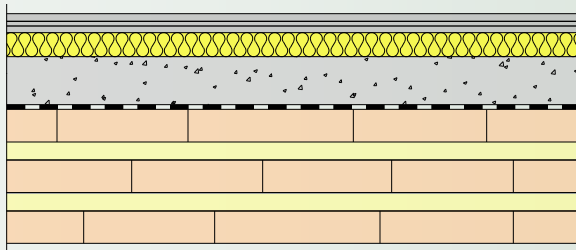
(in cooperation with Munich University of Technology)

## cross sections

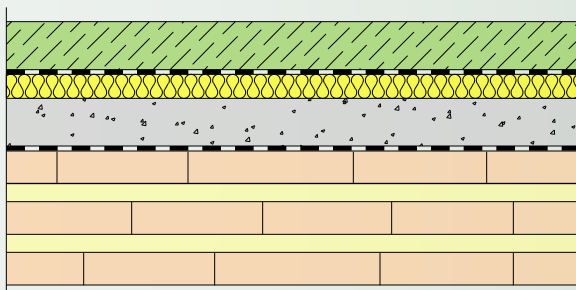
**clt | -** 5-layered CLT element



**clt | I** with light floor construction (gypsum board)

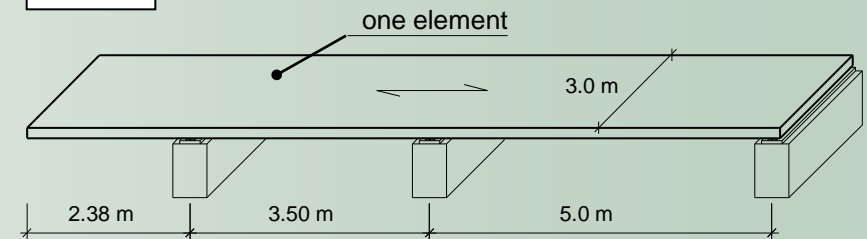


**clt | h** with heavy floor construction (floating floor)

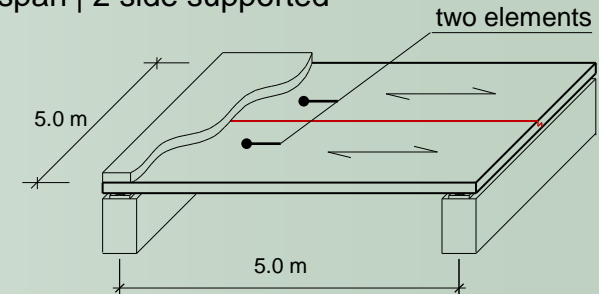


## systems

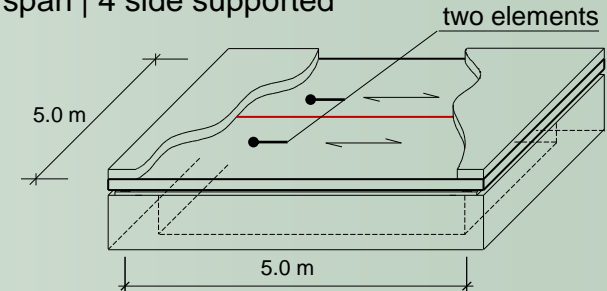
**cont** continuous beam with 2 fields and cantilever



**2s** single span | 2 side supported



**4s** single span | 4 side supported



# Vibration tests on CLT slabs – Test Configurations

(in cooperation with Munich University of Technology)

## joins

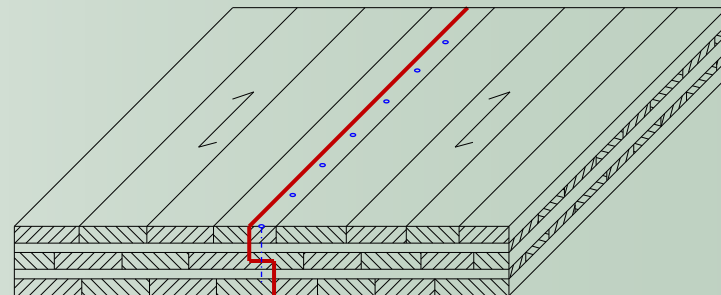
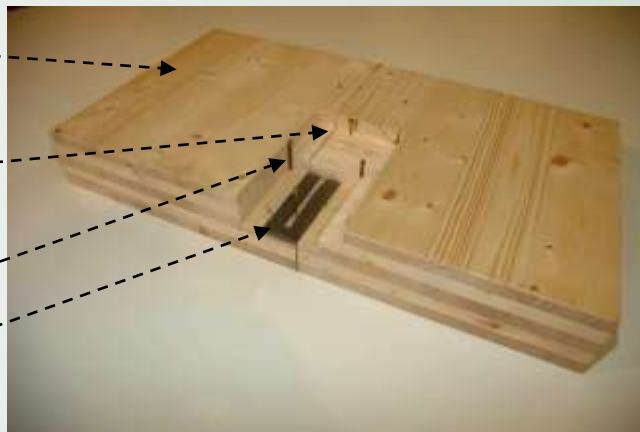
### v transverse force joint

5-layered CLT element

overlapping / interlocking joint

positively tied by screws

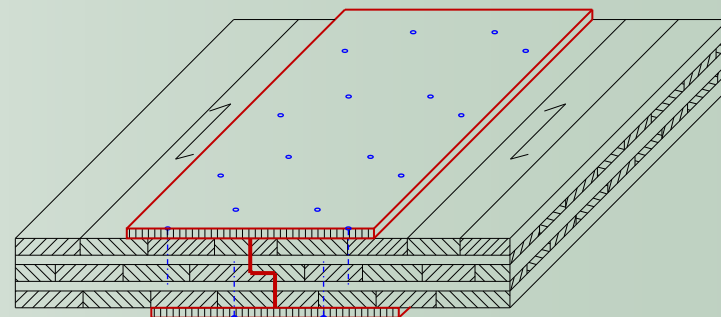
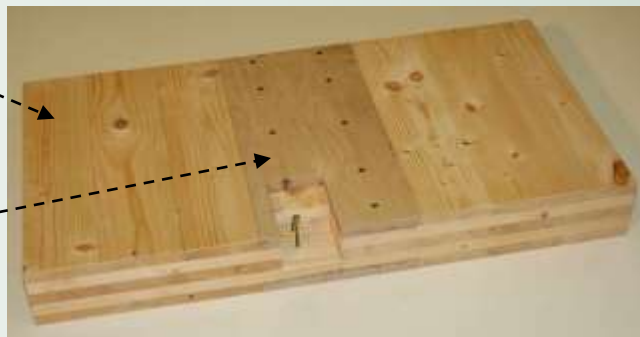
sealing tapes (compression band)



### m bending resistant joint

5-layered CLT element

on top and underneath strapping (adhesion by screwing pressure)



# Some Impressions of the Test Configurations



5-layered CLT element (clt|-)



roller support



continuous beam with cantilever and measurement equipment (cont;clt|-)



single span | 4 side supported with light floor construction (4s;clt|l)

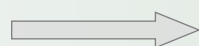


single span | 4 side supported with heavy floor construction (4s;clt|h)

# Eigenfrequencies

comparison between test configurations and numerical modeling (FEM)

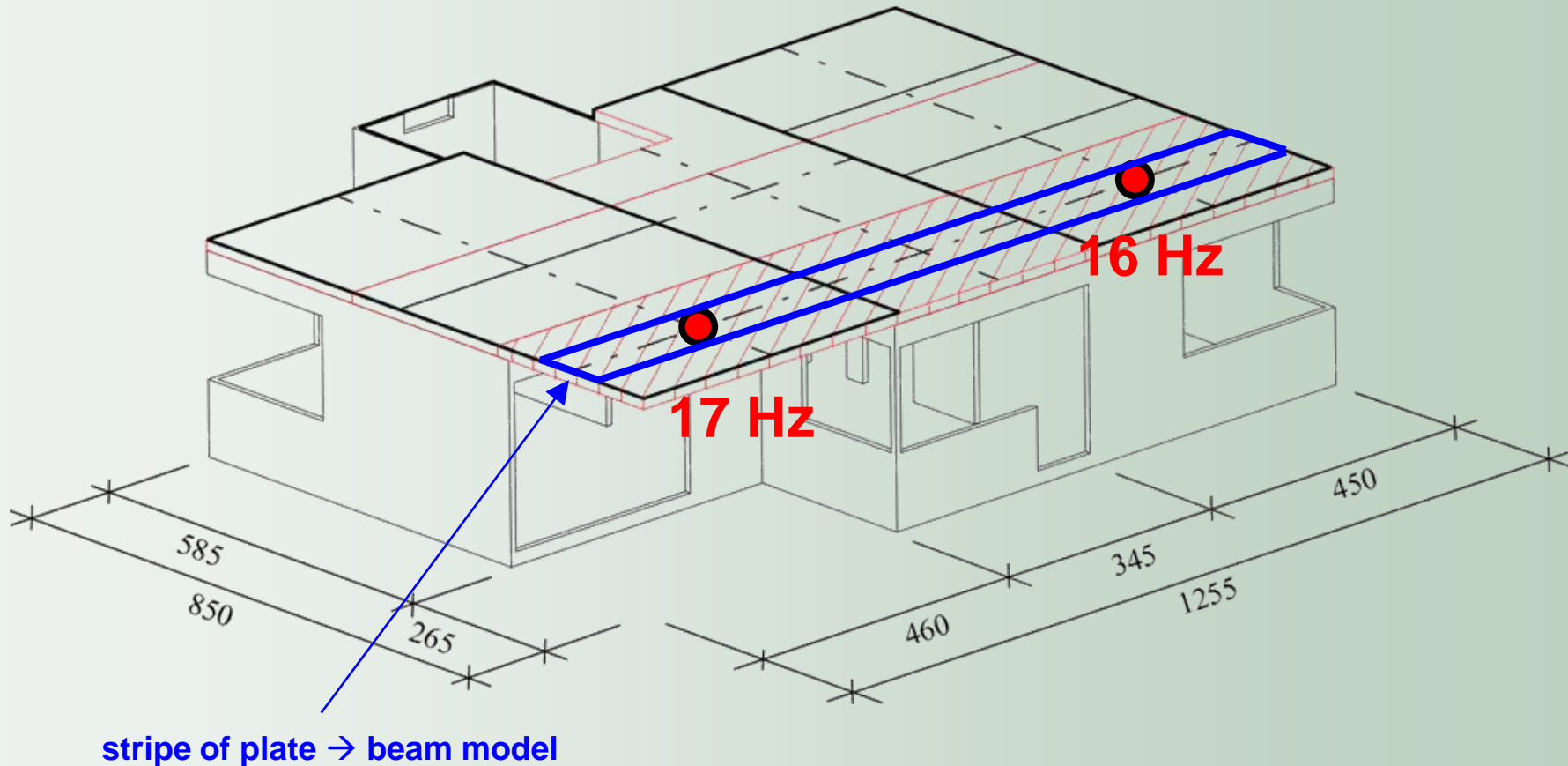
configuration			1 <sup>st</sup> eigenfrequency		
system	cross section	joint	testing [Hz]	FEM [Hz]	diff [%]
cont	clt   -	-	11.10	11.11	0.06
2s	clt   -	v	12.00	12.00	0.03
2s	clt   h	v	7.90	7.41	-6.25
4s	clt   -	v	15.71	15.49	-1.39
4s	clt   l	v	9.70	9.92	2.28
4s	clt   h	v	10.00	9.92	-0.77
4s	clt   -	m	16.68	16.72	0.23



The numerical results and the tests show a high compliance!

# Residential Building

eigenfrequency measurements in situ



# Residential Building

eigenfrequency acc. to EC 5  
(beam theory including shear flexibility)

results, based on simple beam model

construction	mass [kg/m <sup>2</sup> ]	bending stiffness [MN·m <sup>2</sup> /m]	1 <sup>st</sup> eigenfrequency [Hz]
with screed	214	3.038·10 <sup>6</sup>	9.7
without screed	214	2.588·10 <sup>6</sup>	9.0

1<sup>st</sup> eigenmode



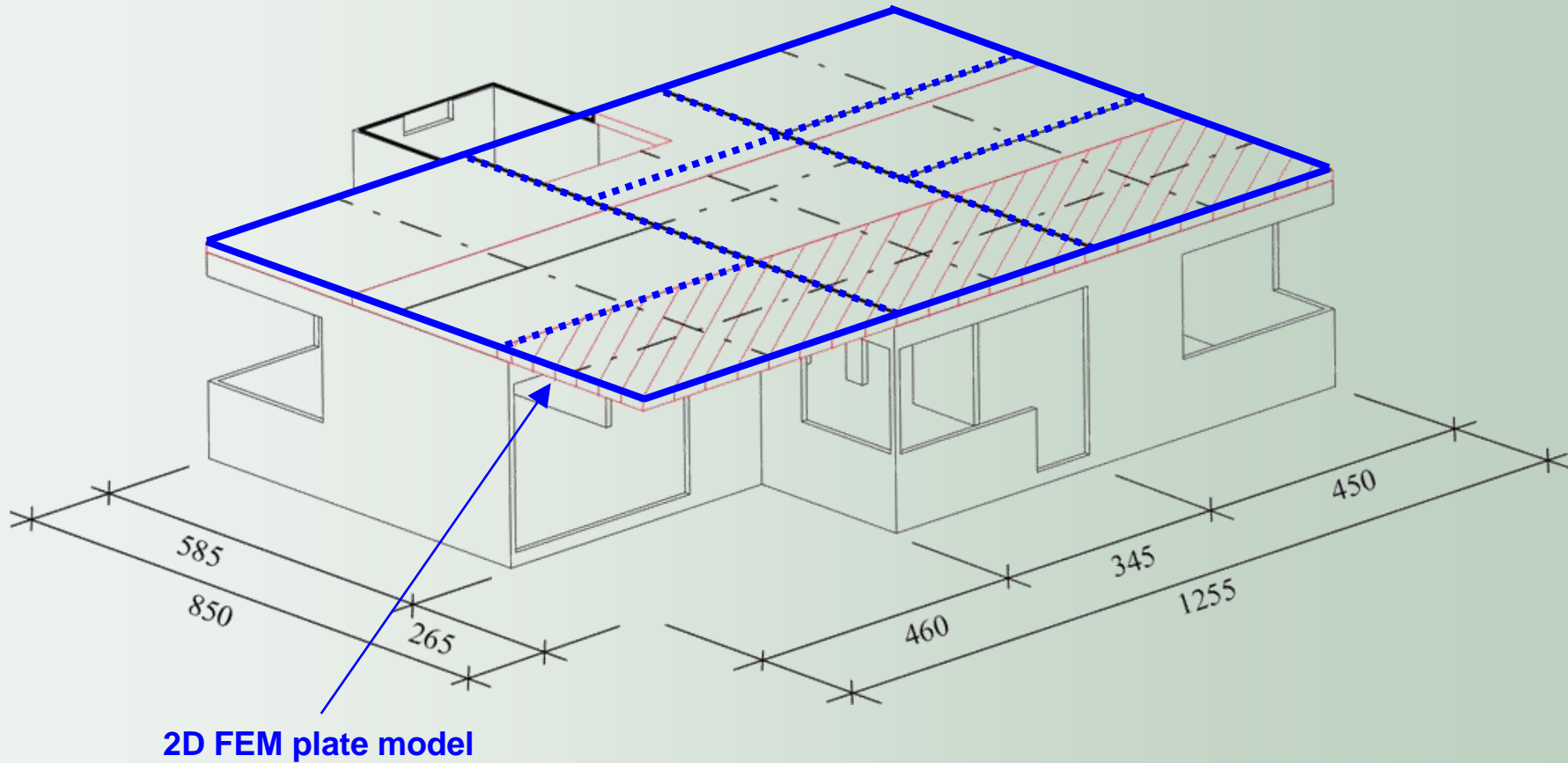
**conclusio:**

remarkable differences between measured and calculated (simple beam model) eigenfrequencies

→ detailed investigation in modeling (2D FEM plate model, hinge / fixed support, ...)

# Residential Building

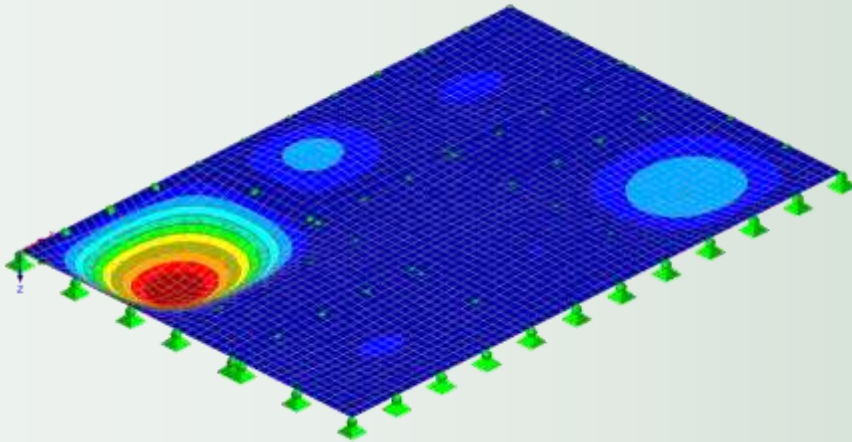
special investigation with FEM plate theories



# Residential Building

special investigation with FEM plate theories

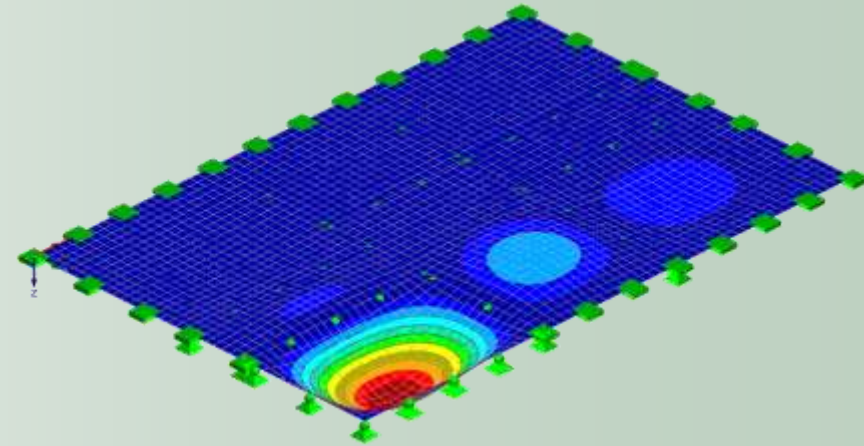
investigation of 8 different models of CLT slab, range of values [10.9 Hz ÷ 17.0 Hz]



calc. eigenfrequency: **13.8 Hz**

model details:

- **not considered** stiffness of **screed**
- interior boundaries are modeled with hinge support
- **hinge support** of exterior boundary



calc. eigenfrequency: **17.0 Hz**

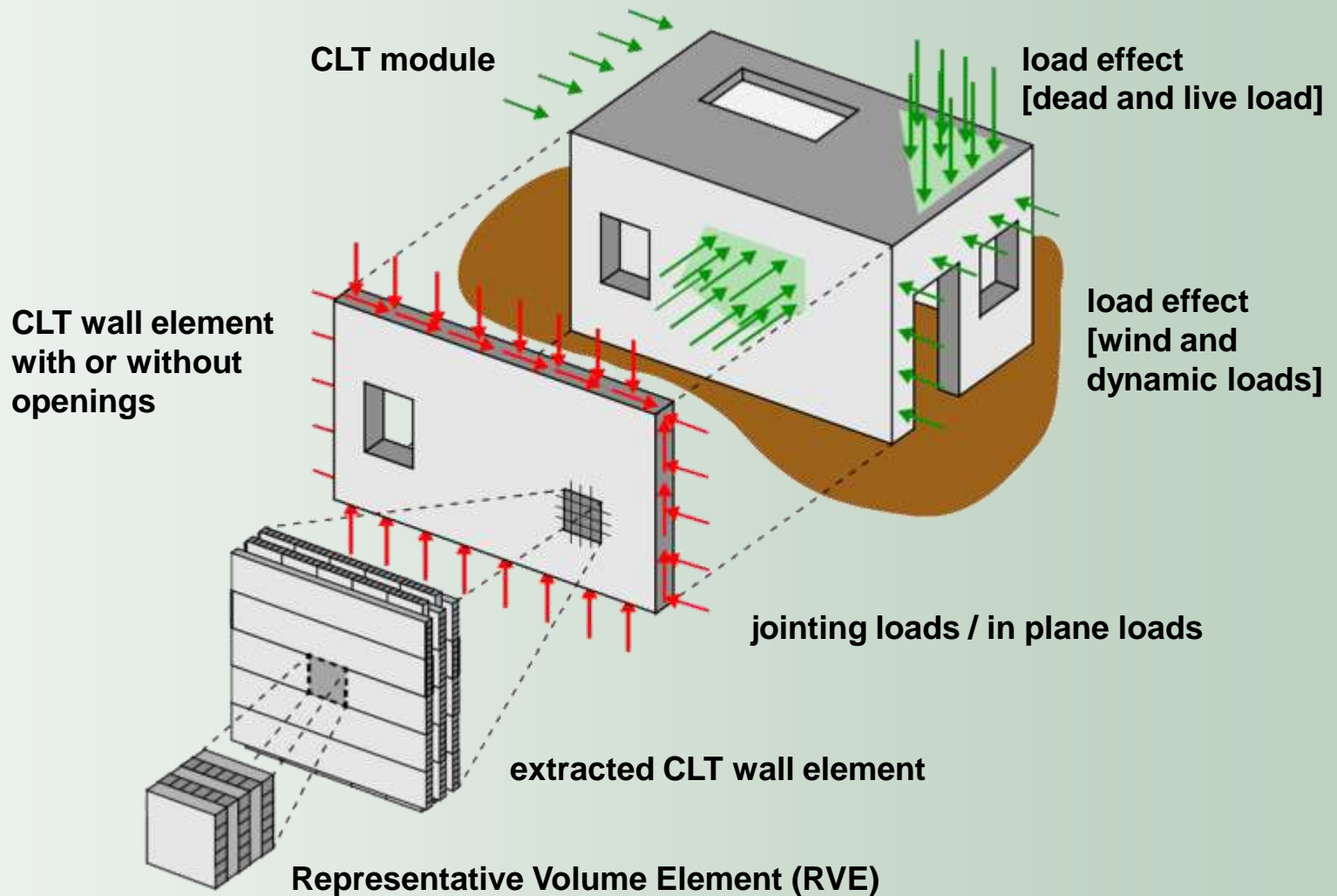
model details:

- **considered** stiffness of **screed**
- interior boundaries are modeled with hinge support
- **fixed support** of exterior boundary

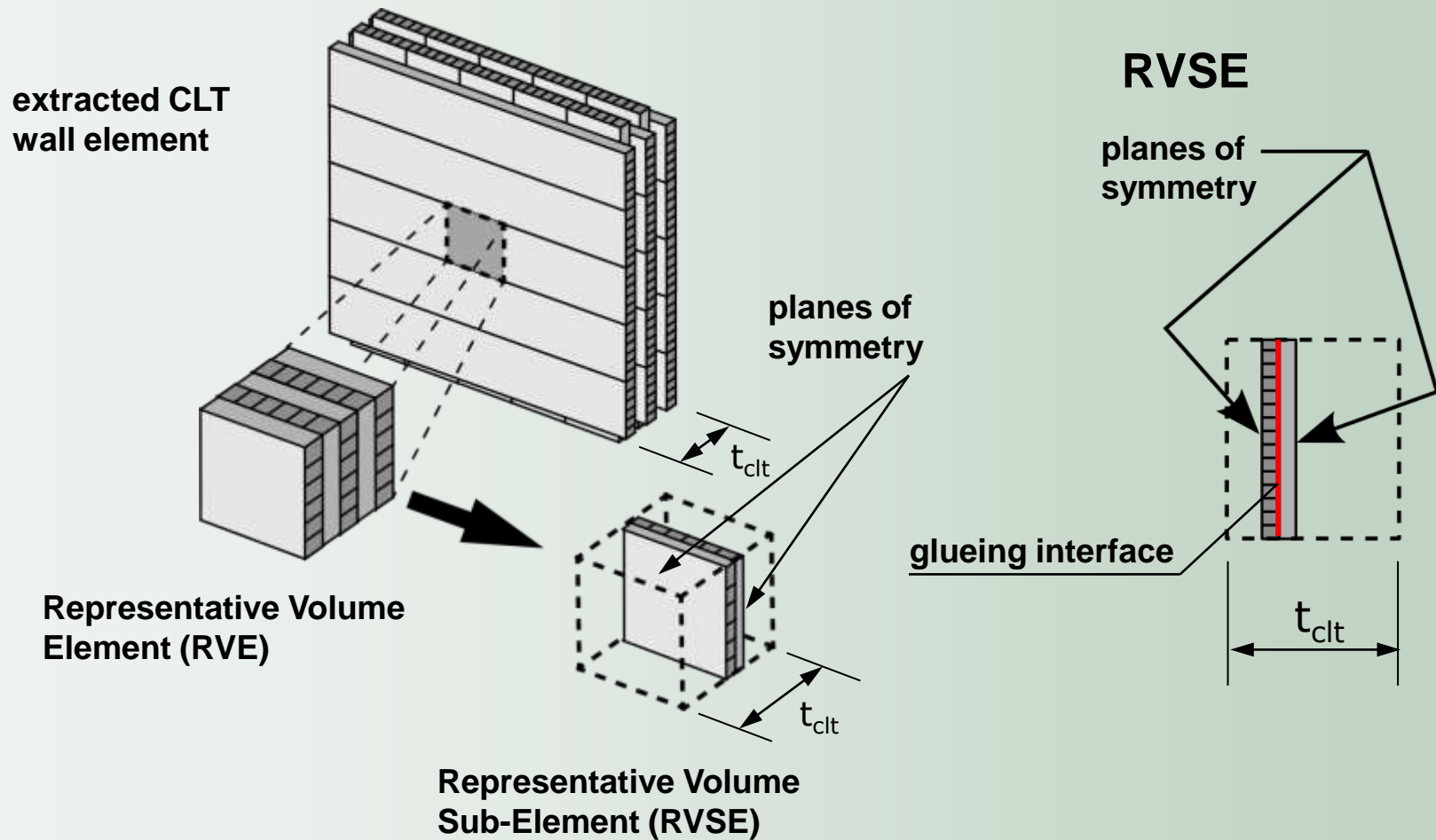
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# From the Building to the Representative Volume Sub-Element (RSVE)



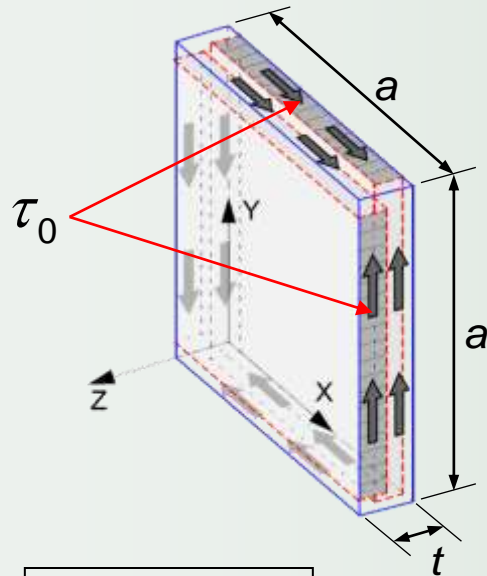
# From the Building to the Representative Volume Sub-Element (RVSE)



# Shear Stresses in RVSE

determination for infinite number of layers

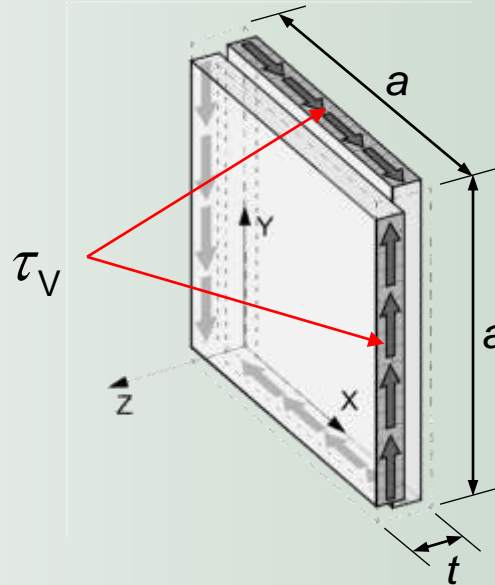
edge bonded



$$\tau_0 = \frac{n_{xy, RVSE}}{t}$$

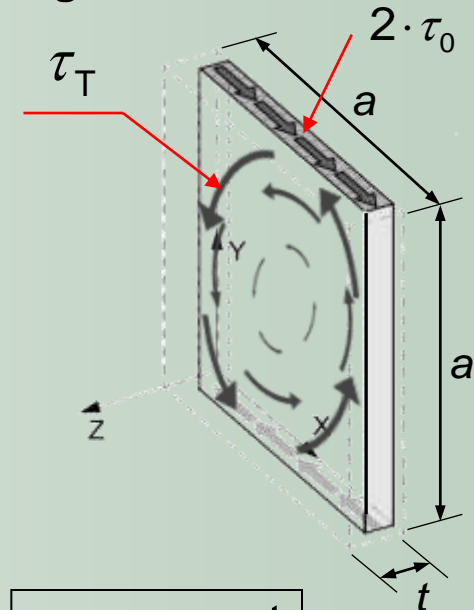
$\tau_0$  ... nominal shear stress in plane

without edge bonding / cracked



$$\tau_V = 2 \cdot \tau_0$$

$\tau_V$  ... shear stress in cross section



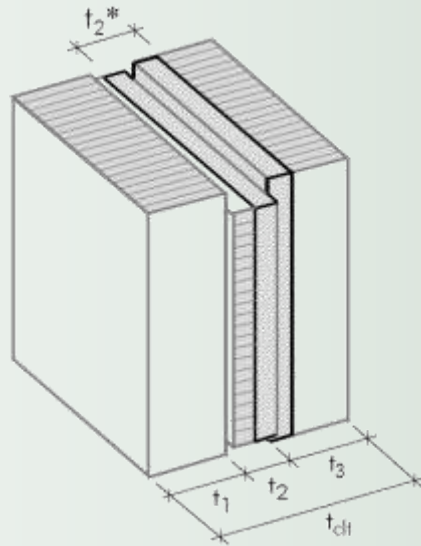
$$\tau_T = 3 \cdot \tau_0 \cdot \frac{t}{a}$$

$\tau_T$  ... shear stress due to torsional moment in glueing interface

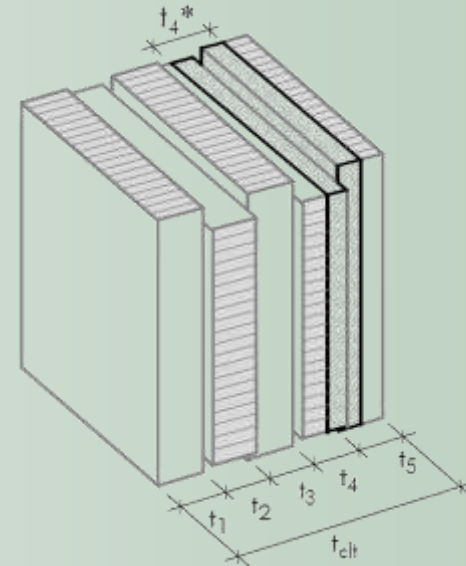
# Shear Stresses in RVSE

determination of the substituted thickness for each RVSE, denoted with  $t_i^*$

3-layered  
CLT element  
e.g. RVSE-2



5-layered  
CLT element  
e.g. RVSE-4



# of RVSE	substituted thickness $t_i^*$
1	$t_1^* = \min(2 t_1; t_2)$
2	$t_2^* = \min(t_2; 2 t_3)$

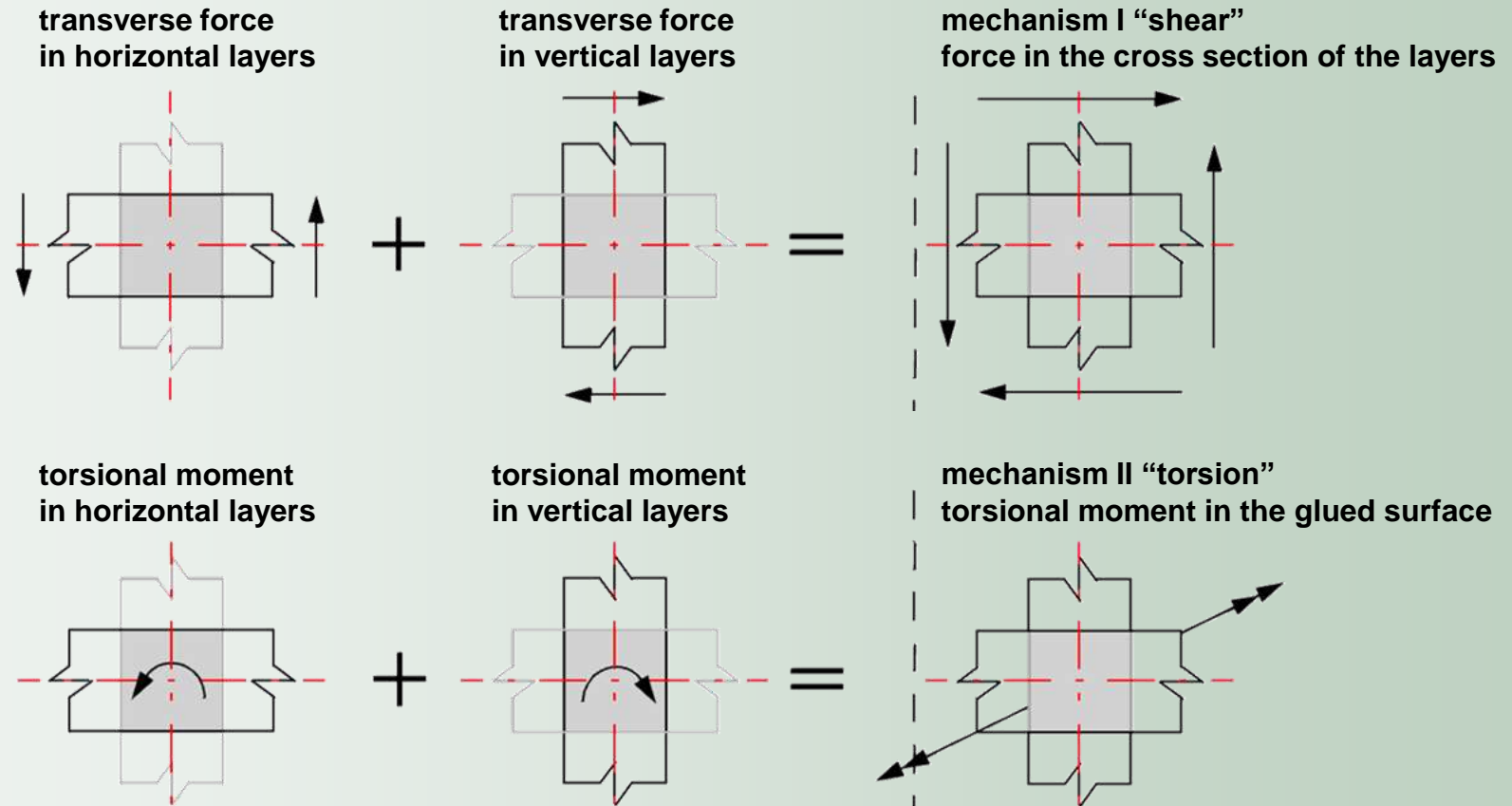
$$\tau_0^* = \frac{n_{xy}}{\sum^{n-1} t_i^*}$$

→  $\tau_V^*, \tau_T^*$

# of RVSE	substituted thickness $t_i^*$
1	$t_1^* = \min(2 t_1; t_2)$
2	$t_2^* = \min(t_2; t_3)$
3	$t_3^* = \min(t_3; t_4)$
4	$t_4^* = \min(t_4; 2 t_5)$

# Determination of in Plane Shear Strength Properties for CLT

mechanism I 'shear' and mechanism II 'torsion'



**Both mechanisms are interacting and have to be verified!**

# Determination of Shear Strength Properties for Mech. I 'Shear'

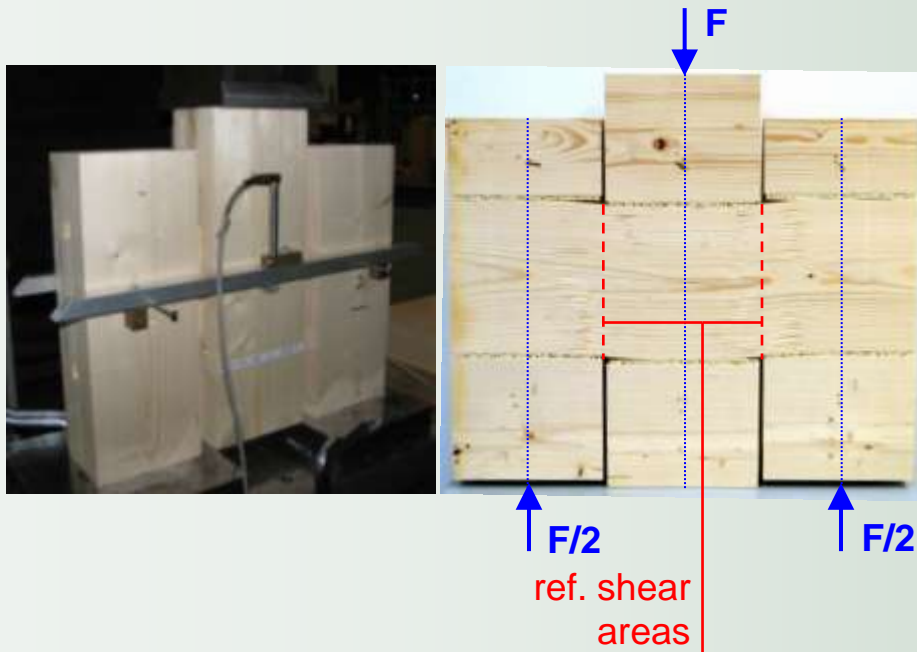
(diploma thesis by B. Hirschmann – ongoing)

$$f_{v,clt,k} \leq 5,2 \text{ N/mm}^2$$

... acc. current technical approvals, based on tests performed acc. to the CUAP procedure (→ bending failure)

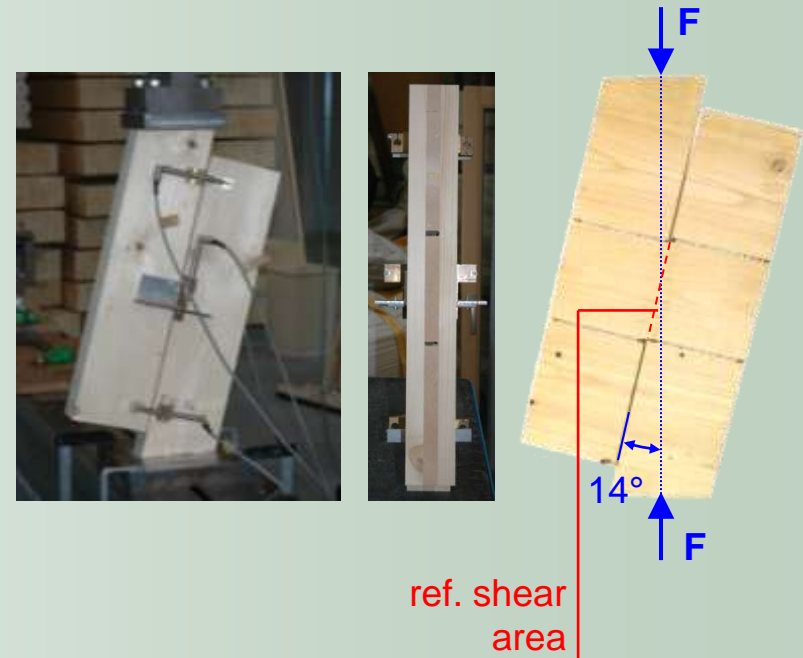
## configuration 1 (C1)

(R. Jöbstl, CIB-W18:2008)



## configuration 2 (C2)

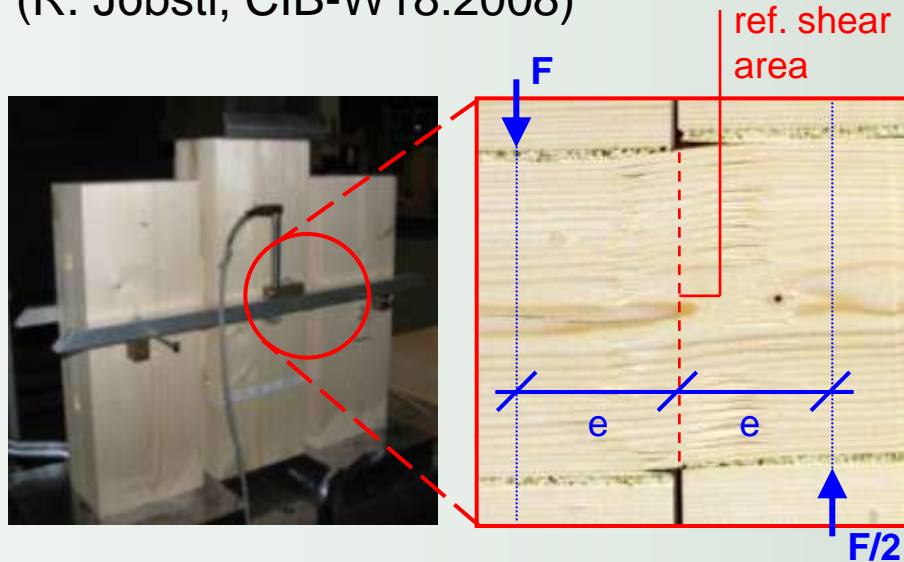
(based on EN 408 and EN 789)



# Determination of Shear Strength Properties for Mech. I 'Shear'

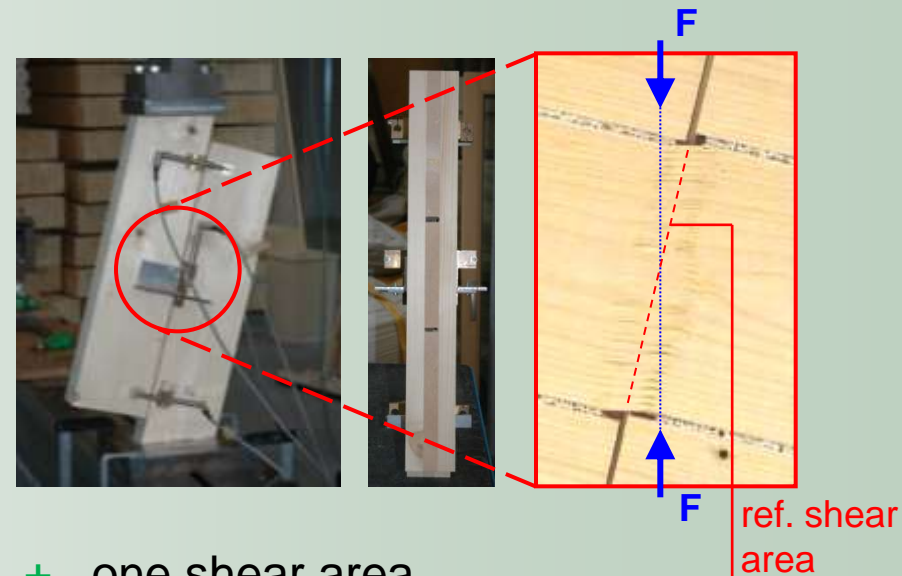
(diploma thesis by B. Hirschmann – ongoing)

## configuration 1 (C1) (R. Jöbstl, CIB-W18:2008)



- shear failure up to  $t = 20 \text{ mm}$
- interaction between bending and shear

## configuration 2 (C2) (based on EN 408 and EN 789)



- + one shear area
  - + shear failure up to  $t = 40 \text{ mm}$
  - interaction between compression in fibre direction and shear
- **recommended test configuration for mechanism I 'shear'**

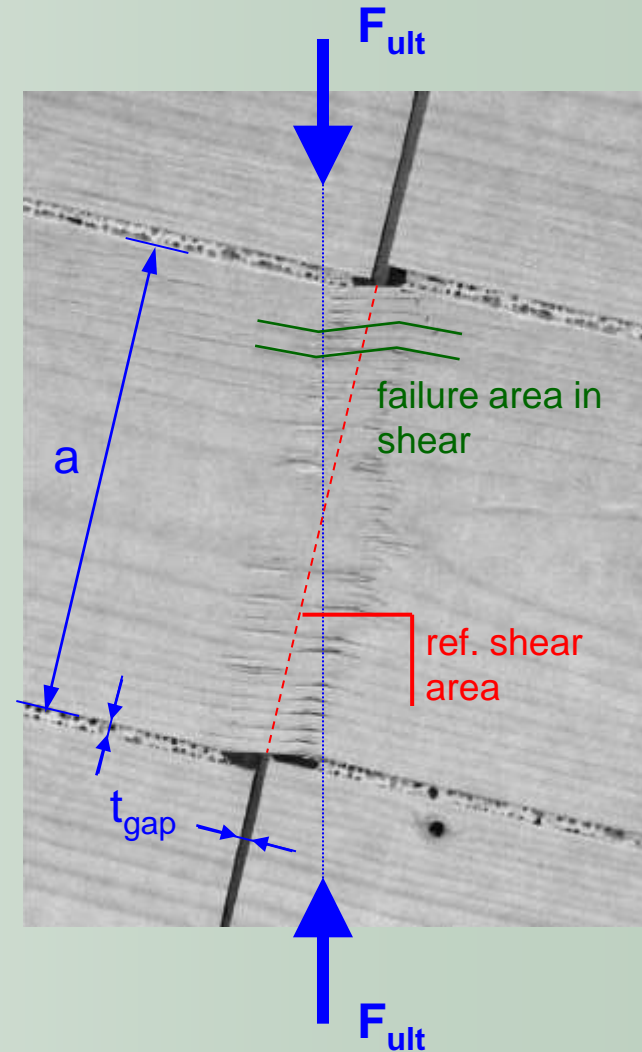
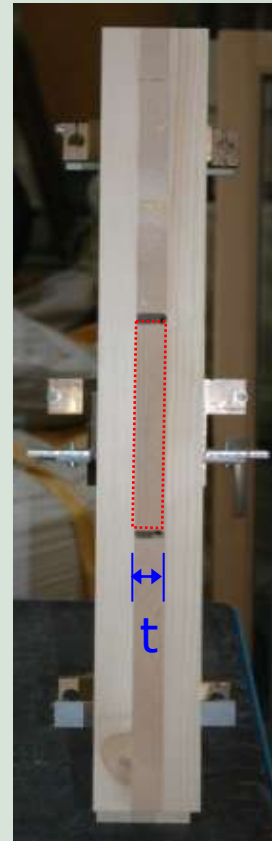
# Shear Strength Test – Mechanism I ‘Shear’ overview

investigated parameters:

a [mm]	150	200	-
t [mm]	10	20	30
t <sub>gap</sub> [mm]	1,5	5	25

$$f_{v,clt} = \frac{F_{ult} \cdot \cos(14^\circ)}{a \cdot t}$$

ref. shear area



# Shear Strength Test – Mechanism I `Shear`

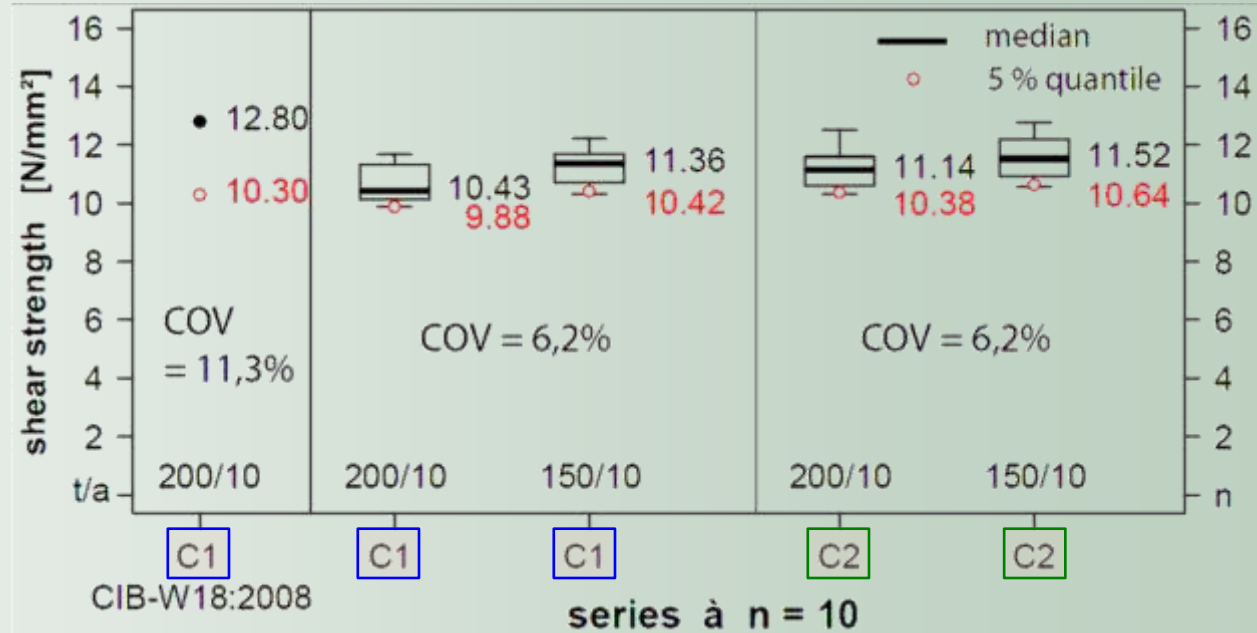
## comparison of configuration C1 and C2

### parameter and variations

a [mm]	150	200
t [mm]	10	
t <sub>gap</sub> [mm]		5

- fixed parameters
- varied parameters

### results:



- influence of width `a` [reference dimension: a = 150 mm] (not relevant in practice)
- $f_{v,clt,05,t=10} = 9.9 \div 10.6 \text{ N/mm}^2$

# Shear Strength Test – Mechanism I ‘Shear’

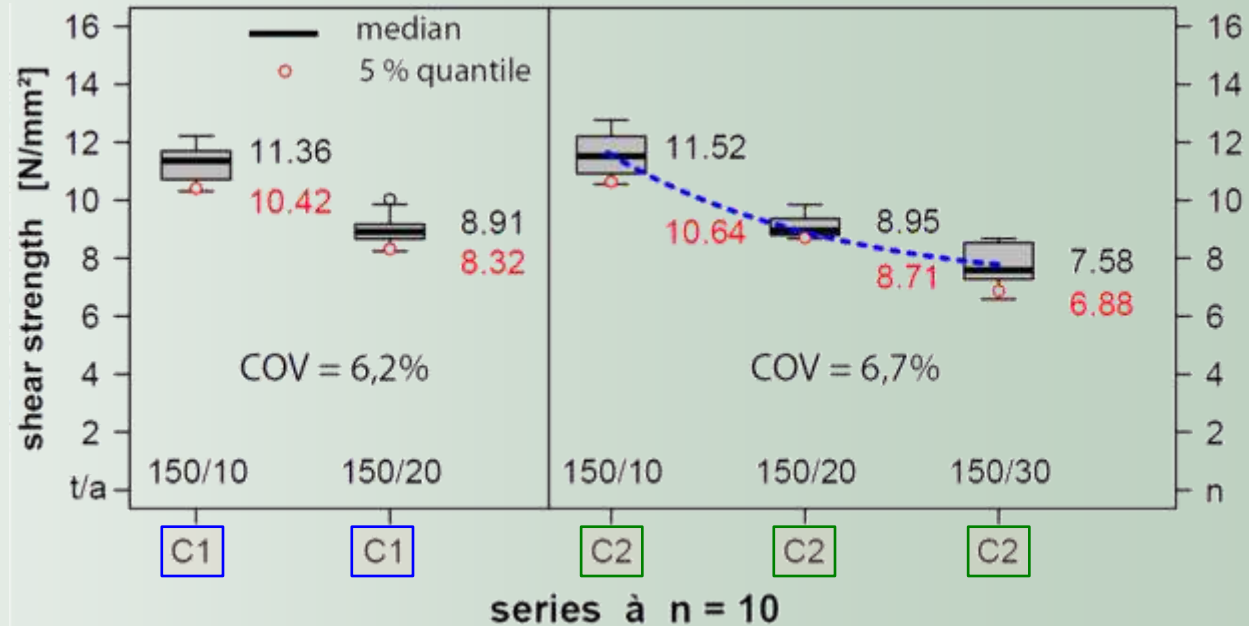
## comparison of configuration C1 and C2

### parameter and variations

a [mm]	150		
t [mm]	10	20	30
t <sub>gap</sub> [mm]		5	

- fixed parameters
- varied parameters

### results:



- **significant influence of thickness ‘t’ (size and boundary effects!)**
- $f_{v,clt,05,a=150} \sim 10.6$  (t=10) |  $\sim 8.7$  (t=20)  
 $\sim 6.9$  (t=30) |  $\sim 5.2$  (t=40) N/mm<sup>2</sup>
- **recommended value for “mech. I”  $f_{v,clt,k} \sim 5.0$  N/mm<sup>2</sup> (→ CLTdesigner)**

# Shear Strength Test – Mechanism II ‘Torsion’

## overview

### torsional shear stresses in the glueing interface

$$\tau_{T,\max} = \frac{M_T}{I_P} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot a = \frac{3 \cdot M_T}{a^3}$$



torsional test configuration



test specimen

with  $J_P = \frac{a^4}{6}$

$M_T$  ... torsional moment

$J_P$  ... polar sectional moment  
... of glueing interface

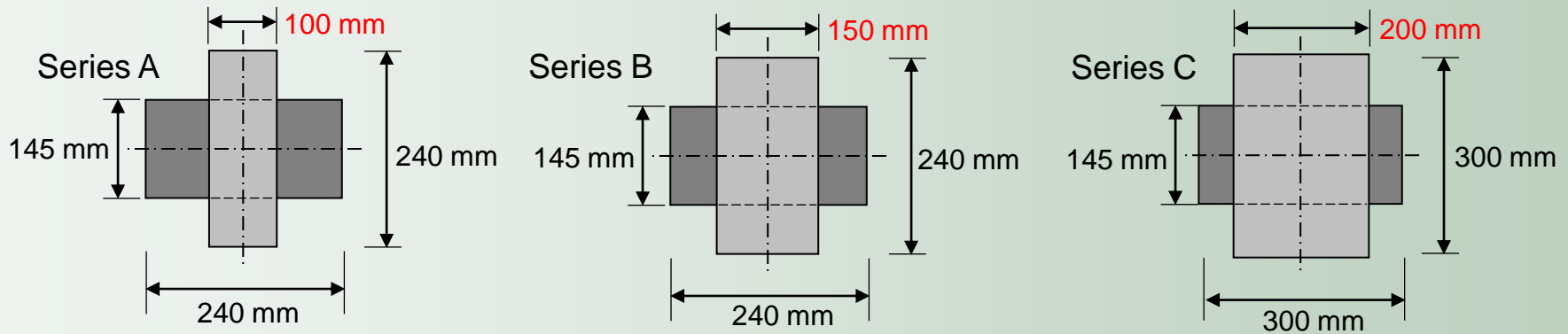
$a$  ... dimension of RVE

2004: diploma thesis G. Jeitler

„Versuchstechnische Ermittlung der Verdrehungskenngrößen von orthogonal verklebten Brettlamellen“ (in German)

# Shear Strength Test – Mechanism II ‘Torsion’

## variation of glued surface geometry



## annual ring gradient spruce



## shear stresses in the gluing interface

series	annual ring orientation	5%-quantile [N/mm <sup>2</sup> ]
A	edge grained	3.67
A	flat grained	2.79
B	edge grained	3.20
B	flat grained	2.69
C	edge grained	2.98
C	flat grained	3.10

$$\tau_{T,max} = \frac{3 \cdot M_T}{a^3}$$

$$f_{T,clt,k} = 2.5 \text{ N/mm}^2$$

**remark:**  
**Value generally accepted!**

# CONTENT

- Research Topics on Cross Laminated Timber (CLT)
  - Point supported Ceilings and Roofs
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  - In-Plane Shear Capacity and Verification Methods
  - CLTdesigner – Software Tool for Designing CLT Elements [A. Thiel]
- Summary | Outlook

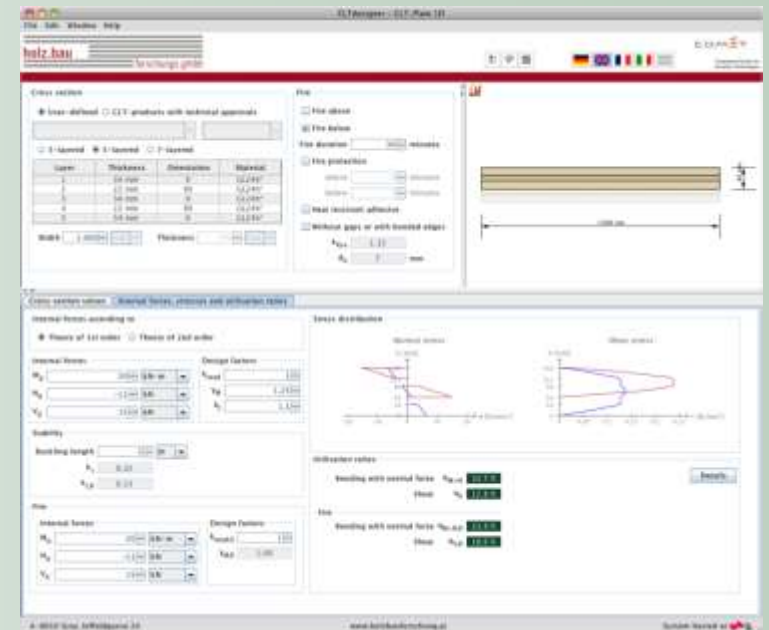
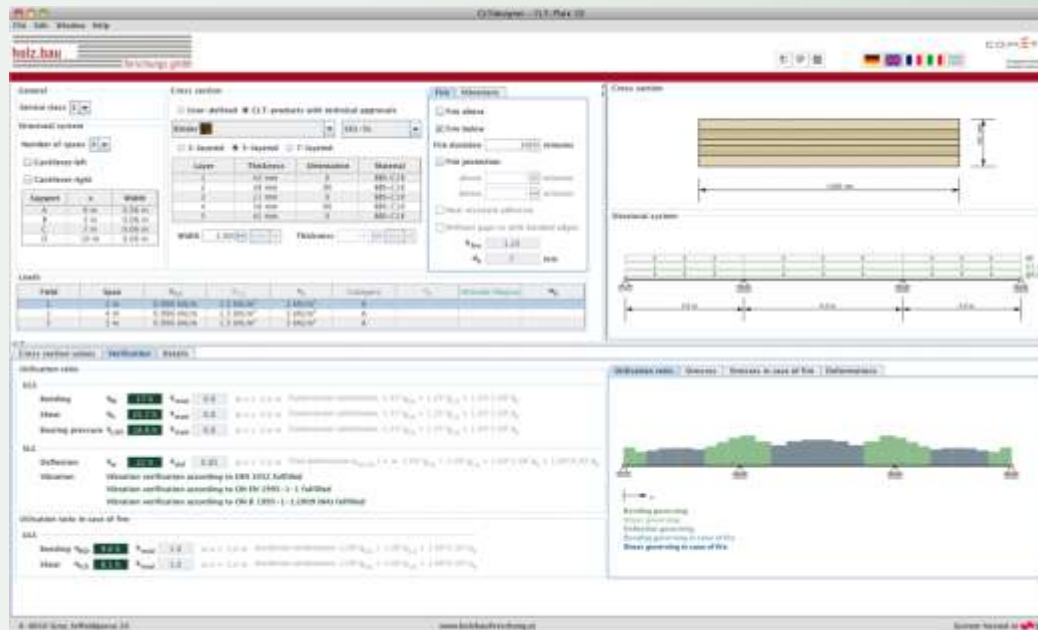
# CLTdesigner – The Software Tool for Designing Cross Laminated Timber Elements (CLT) based on Eurocode 5

## CLT plate 1D – continuous beam

- ULS: bending, shear, bearing pressure, fire design
- SLS: deflection and vibrations

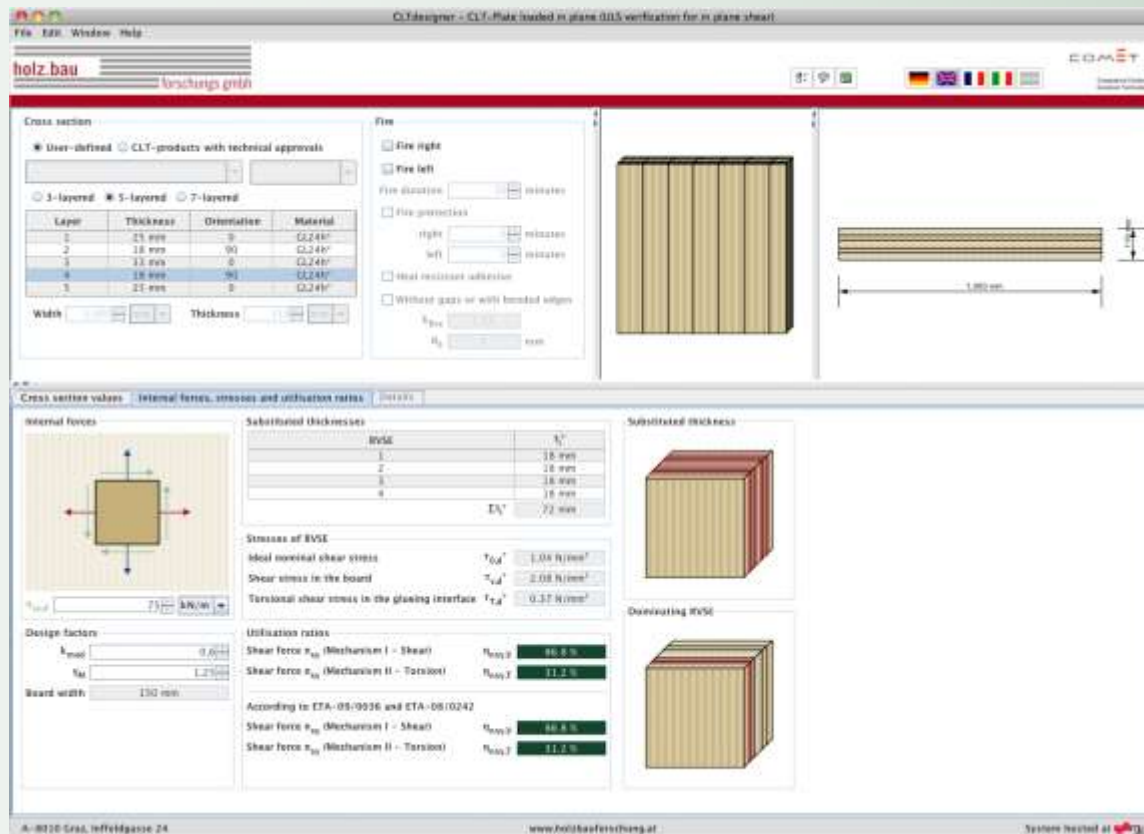
## CLT plate 1D – internal forces

- ULS: normal and shear stresses including stability, fire design



# CLTdesigner – The Software Tool for Designing Cross Laminated Timber Elements (CLT) based on Eurocode 5

## CLT plate – ULS verification for in plane shear (will be published in March 2011)



ULS verification with respect to in plane shear forces for permanent and transient loads as well as accidental design situations (fire)

# CLTdesigner – The Software Tool for Designing Cross Laminated Timber Elements (CLT) based on Eurocode 5

## CLT plate – ULS verification for in plane shear

**Cross section**

User-defined 
  CLT-products with technical approvals

3-layered 
  5-layered 
  7-layered

Layer	Thickness	Orientation	Material
1	25 mm	0	GL24h*
2	18 mm	90	GL24h*
3	33 mm	0	GL24h*
4	18 mm	90	GL24h*
5	25 mm	0	GL24h*

Width  
 Thickness

**Fire**

Fire right  
 Fire left

Fire duration

Fire protection

right    
 left

Heat resistant adhesive

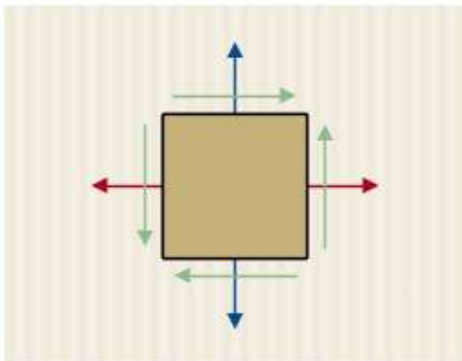
Without gaps or with bonded edges

$k_{fire}$    
 $d_0$

# CLTdesigner – The Software Tool for Designing Cross Laminated Timber Elements (CLT) based on Eurocode 5

## CLT plate – ULS verification for in plane shear

### Internal forces



$n_{xy,d}$   kN/m

### Substituted thicknesses

RVSE	$t_i^*$
1	18 mm
2	18 mm
3	18 mm
4	18 mm
$\Sigma t_i^*$	
72 mm	

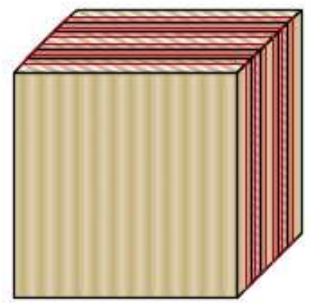
### Stresses of RVSE

Ideal nominal shear stress  $\tau_{0,d}^*$   N/mm<sup>2</sup>

Shear stress in the board  $\tau_{v,d}^*$   N/mm<sup>2</sup>

Torsional shear stress in the glueing interface  $\tau_{T,d}^*$   N/mm<sup>2</sup>

### Substituted thickness



### Design factors

$k_{mod}$

$\gamma_M$

Board width  mm

### Utilisation ratios

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism I – Shear)  $\eta_{nxy,V}$   %

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism II – Torsion)  $\eta_{nxy,T}$   %


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According to ETA-09/0036 and ETA-08/0242

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism I – Shear)  $\eta_{nxy,V}$   %

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism II – Torsion)  $\eta_{nxy,T}$   %

### Dominating RVSE

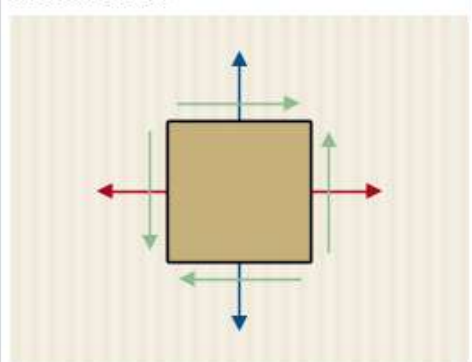


# CLTdesigner – The Software Tool for Designing Cross Laminated Timber Elements (CLT) based on Eurocode 5

## CLT plate – ULS verification for in plane shear in case of fire

**Fire**

**Internal forces**

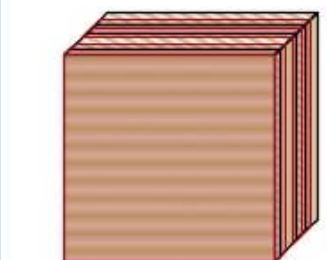


$n_{xy,d}$

**Substituted thicknesses**

RVSE	$t_i^*$
1	24 mm
2	18 mm
3	18 mm
$\Sigma t_i^*$	
60 mm	

**Substituted thickness**



**Design factors**

$k_{mod,fi}$

$Y_{M,fi}$

Board width

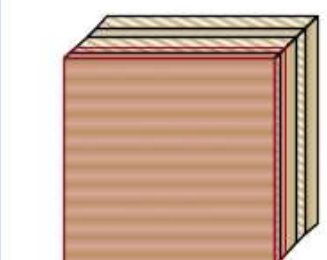
**Stresses of RVSE**

Ideal nominal shear stress  $\tau_{0,d,fi}^*$

Shear stress in the board  $\tau_{v,d,fi}^*$

Torsional shear stress in the glueing interface  $\tau_{T,d,fi}^*$

**Dominating RVSE**



**Utilisation ratios in case of fire**

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism I – Shear)  $\eta_{n_{xy},fi}$

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism II – Torsion)  $\eta_{n_{xy},T,fi}$

---

According to ETA-09/0036 and ETA-08/0242

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism I – Shear)  $\eta_{n_{xy},V,fi}$

Shear force  $n_{xy}$  (Mechanism II – Torsion)  $\eta_{n_{xy},T,fi}$

# CLTdesigner – The Software Tool for Designing Cross Laminated Timber Elements (CLT) based on Eurocode 5

The screenshot shows the CLTdesigner website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'NEWS', 'FEATURES', 'SCREENSHOTS', 'ACCOUNT REQUEST', 'DOWNLOAD', and 'TEAM'. The 'ACCOUNT REQUEST' link is highlighted with a green box. Below the navigation bar, the main content area features a large image of the CLTdesigner software box, titled 'CLTdesigner - CLT-Plate 1D'. To the right of the software box, a callout window titled 'Account request for downloading the CLTdesigner' is displayed. This window contains a registration form with fields for Name, Company, E-Mail, and Address, all marked with an asterisk to indicate they are required. A 'Send' button is located at the bottom of the form. The website footer includes contact information for holz.bau forschungs gmbh, including the address (Inffeldgasse 24, A-8010 Graz), telephone number (+43 (0)316 /873-4601), and fax number (+43 (0)316 /873-4619). It also mentions the registered office in Graz and the commercial register number FN 332582f.

**www.cltdesigner.at**

# CONTENT

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## CLT | Product

- **CLT\_standardization** and definition of minimum requirements for the production and quality management (**CLT\_qm**)
- **CLT\_harmonization** of test procedures for the investigation of product properties and models (**CLT\_models**)
- **CLT\_diversity** regarding the use of different wood species (e.g. **CLT\_poplar**)



**3-storey building  
Graz | AUT, 2011/12  
one apartment: CLT poplar  
(ongoing)**



## CLT | Systems

- use of **folded CLT elements** for different applications  
e.g. bridges, restoration, attic conversion, ...



bridge | Bruneck | IT  
(transport)



bridge | Bruneck | IT  
(mounted bridge)



loft | Graz | AUT  
(Arch. DI Zinganel)

- development of **1D connection systems**  
(useable for statically and dynamically loaded CLT elements)

## CLT | Transfer

- **CLT\_handbooks** are published and **CLT seminars** are realized
  - in Europe (e.g. TU Graz, SAH, FH Biberach, promolegno, ...) and
  - Canada (e.g. FPInnovations, UBC, ...)
- **CLT\_designer** → software tool for designing CLT elements

### PROPOSAL

- **CLT\_summer\_school**
- **CLT\_bachelor\_ | CLT\_master\_courses**  
in the frame of the program  
`EU / CA co-operation in higher education and training`
  - development of innovative curricula (60 ECTS)  
at least two Univ. of Europe and two of Canada are required  
→ mobility of teaching staff and students

dynamic tests | heeldrop



compression perp.to grain | TU Graz



slab shear tests | TU Graz



**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**

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