



NTNU

Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology

# **Reliability of an offshore wind turbine with an uncertain S-N curve.**

S. Drexler, 2021-01-14

NTNU, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

# Overview

- Introduction to structural reliability
- Uncertainties within the FLS
- Reliability analysis of an OWT MP structure
- Results and Discussion

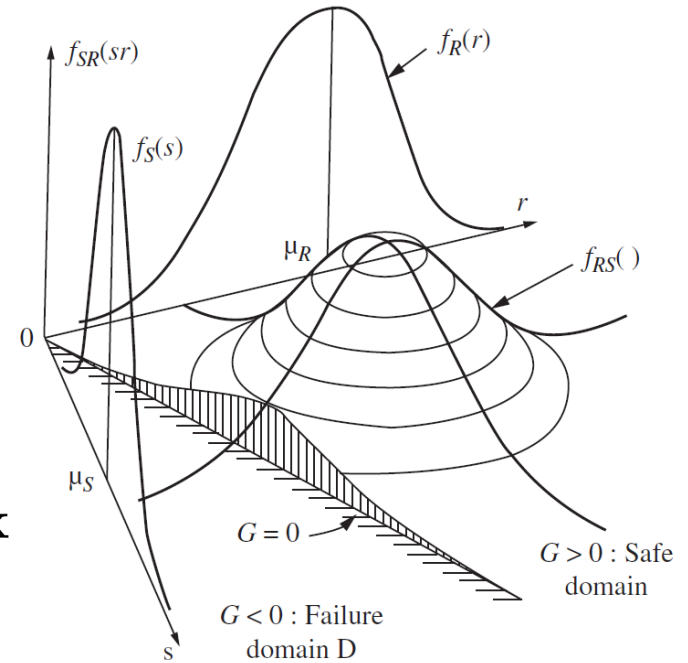
# Introduction to structural reliability

# Reliability Analysis

- Limit state violation  $G(\mathbf{X}) \leq 0$
- Reliability  $\mathfrak{R}(\mathbf{X}) = 1 - p_f$
- Failure probability  $p_f$

$$p_f = P[G(\mathbf{X}) \leq 0] = \int \cdots \int_{G(\mathbf{X}) \leq 0} f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

- Determination of  $p_f$ 
  - First-Order-Reliability Methods (FORM)
  - Monte Carlo Simulation (MCS)



$$G = R - S \quad G(R, S) \leq 0$$

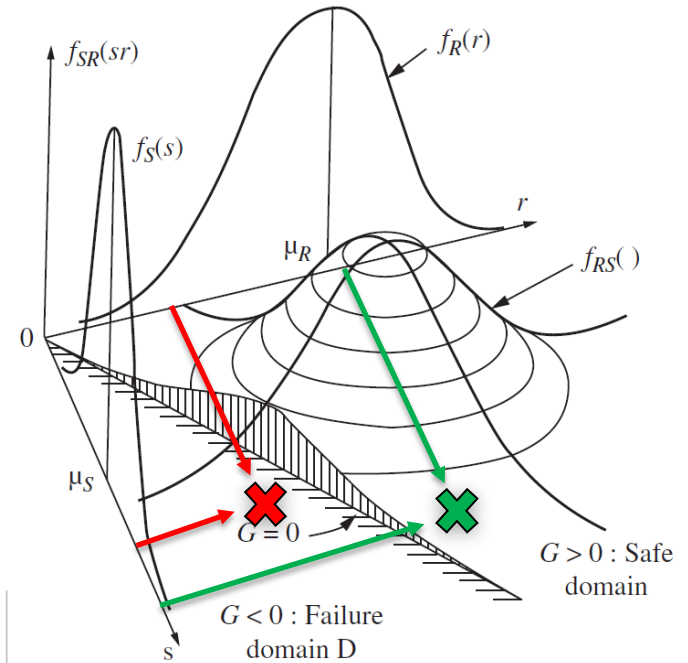
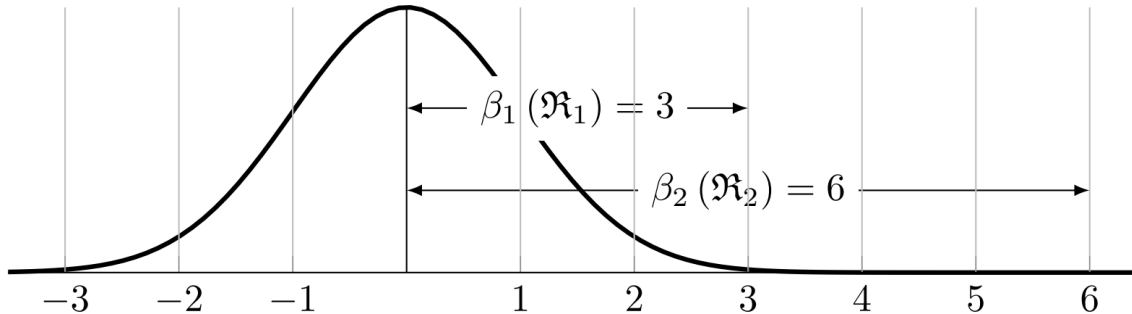
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# Reliability Analysis

- Principle of MCS
  - estimation by sampling  $p_f \approx \frac{n_f}{N}$
- Reliability index  $\beta$ 

$$\beta = \Phi^{-1}(\mathfrak{R}) = \Phi^{-1}(1 - p_f)$$

$$\mathfrak{R}_1 = 99.865\% \quad \mathfrak{R}_2 = 99.999\%$$



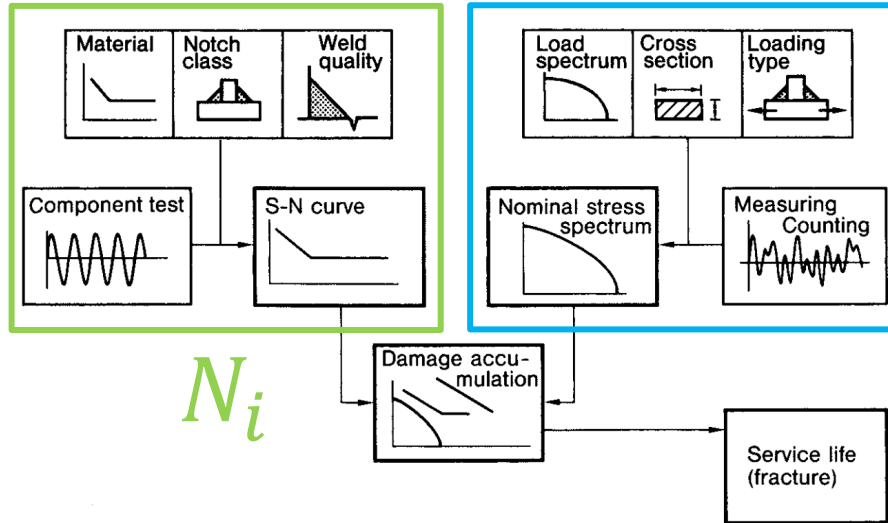
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# Uncertainties within the FLS

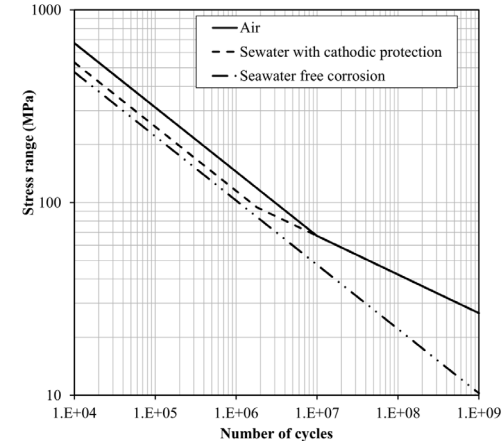
# Fatigue evaluation

- Palmgren-Miner damage hypothesis



$D$  = accumulated fatigue damage  
 $k$  = number of different stress ranges  
 $n_i$  = number of stress cycles experiences at  $\Delta\sigma_i$   
 $N_i$  = number of stress cycles to failure at  $\Delta\sigma_i$

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{N_i}$$



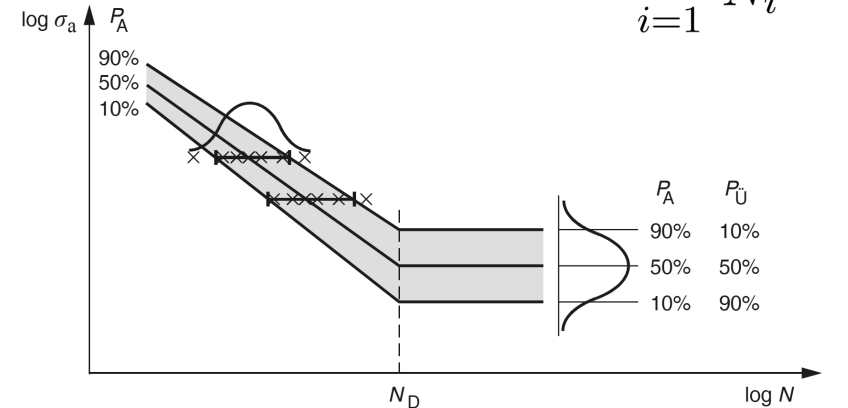
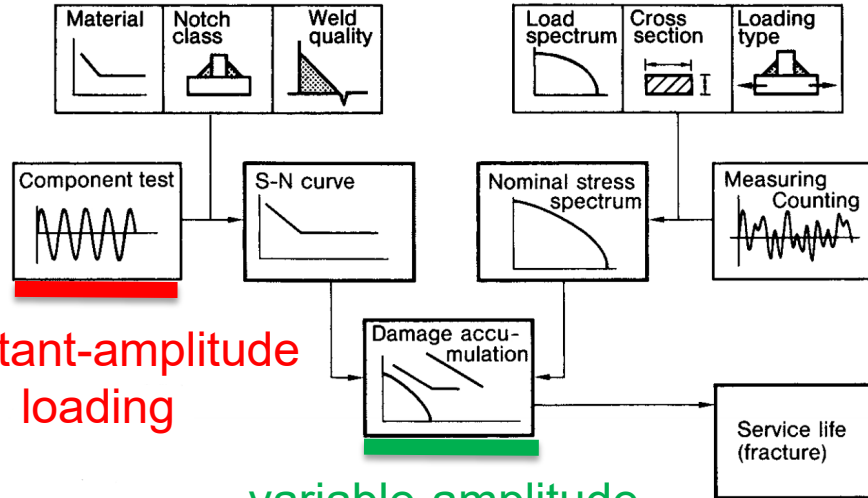
© DNVGL. Recommended practice DNVGL-RP-C203 - Fatigue design of offshore steel structures. Tech. rep. DNVGL AS, 2016-04.

© D. Radaj, C. M. Sonsino, and W. Fricke, Fatigue assessment of welded joints by local approaches. Cambridge, England: Woodhead, 2006.

# Uncertainties within the FLS

- Limit state function for fatigue

$$G(R - S) \leq D_{cr} - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{N_i}$$



© M. Sander, "Sicherheit und Betriebsfestigkeit von Maschinen und Anlagen Konzepte und Methoden zur Lebensdauervorhersage," 2018.

JCSS recommends 2 r.v.

- S/N curve
- Palmgren-Miner

$D_{cr}$

# Reliability analysis of an OWT MP structure

# Objective

- Comparison of
  - Two r.v. approach
    - S/N curve
    - Palmgren-Miner
  - Single r.v. approach
    - Palmgren-Miner

	Parameter	Distribution	Mean $\mu$	CoV
$K$	Stiffness	lognormal	1.0	0.005
$G$	Geometry	lognormal	1.0	0.010
$D_{cr}$	Miner sum	lognormal	1.0	0.300
$S$	S-N data	normal	–	$\sigma = 0.2$

NREL 5-MW Baseline Wind Turbine	
Rating	5 MW
Rotor orientation, configuration	Upwind, 3 blades
Drivetrain	High speed, multiple-stage gearbox
Rotor, hub diameter	126 m, 3m
Hub height	90 m
Cut-in, rated, cut-out wind speed	3 m/s, 11.4 m/s, 25 m/s
Cut-in, rated rotor speed	6.9 rpm, 12.1 rpm
OC3 Monopile	
Monopile diameter	6 m
Wall thickness	60 mm
Considered length	30 m
Upwind shallow water site	
Water depth	21.4 m MSL
Current normal, extreme	0.6 m/s, 1.2m /s
Weibull parameters wind	$A=10.61$ m/s, $k=2.08$ m/s
Design assumptions	
Design lifetime	20 years

# Methodology

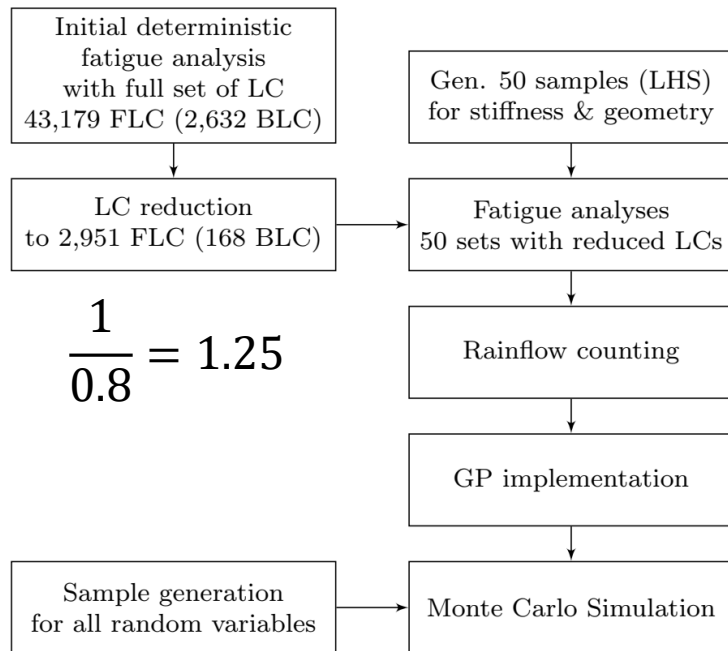
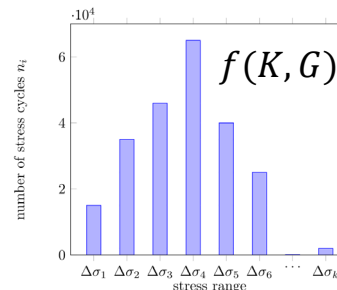
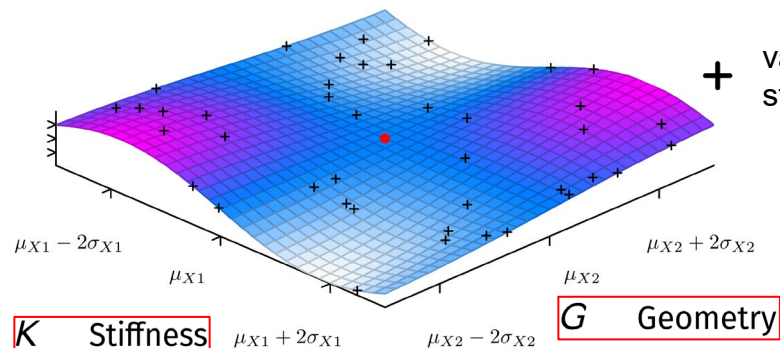
$$G(R - S) \leq D_{cr} - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{n_i}{N_i}$$

MCS: 1,064,000

$K$	Stiffness
$G$	Geometry
$D_{cr}$	Miner sum
$S$	S-N data

- Surrogate Model

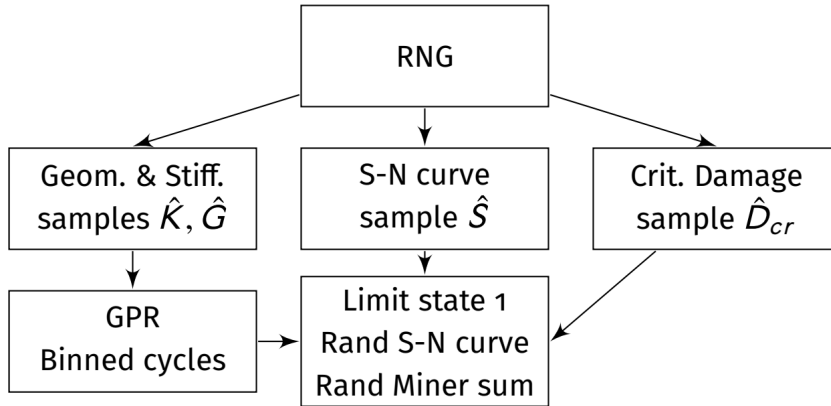
- Gaussian Process Regression (GPR)
- Latin Hypercube Sampling (LHS)



# MCS implementation

$$G_1(K, G, D_{cr}, S) = \hat{D}_{cr} - \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{\hat{n}_i}{\hat{N}_i}$$

- S-N curve is constant



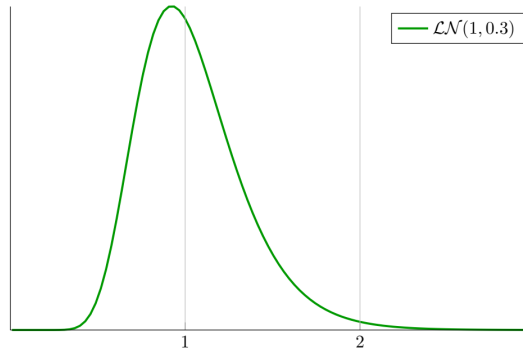
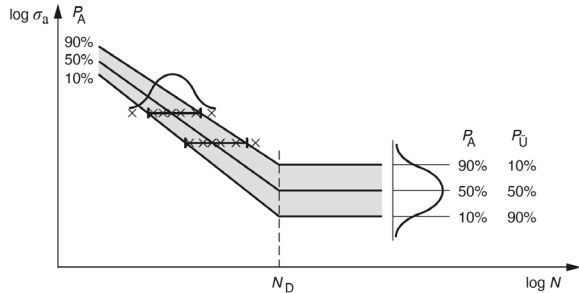
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$D_{cr}$	Miner sum	lognormal	1.0	0.300
$S$	S-N data	normal	—	$\sigma = 0.2$

Item	Amount
Evaluated nodes along the MP height	13
Circumferential evaluation points	60
Stress bins per evaluation point	270
Number of GPR models	210,600

# Results and Discussion

# Results and Discussion

		LSF 1: $G_1$	LSF 2: $G_2$	LSF 3: $G_3$	LSF 4: $G_4$
	Random variables	<u>S/N</u> <u>PM</u>	S/N <u>PM</u>	S/N PM	<u>S/N</u> PM
$N_{total}$	MC trials total	1,064,000	1,064,000	1,064,000	1,064,000
$n_{failed}$	MC trials failed	221	1,696	792	96
$p_f$	Failure probability	$2.077 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$15.940 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$7.444 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$0.649 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$\beta$	Reliability index	3.53	2.95	3.18	3.83





**Thank you for your attention**

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