# towards engineered structures made of bamboo culms: **3 questions answered**

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### outline

#### intro & motivation

- design for variability
- explain flexural behavior
- predict embedment behavior
- full-scale bamboo footbridge
- conclusions



#### my research

- non-smooth and nonlinear structural dynamics
- seismic pounding
- rocking dynamics
- vehicle-bridge interaction

Nonlinear Dyn https://doi.org/10.1007/s11071-022-07578-1

ORIGINAL PAPER

#### Chattering: an overlooked peculiarity of rocking motion

Anastasios I. Giouvanidis · Elias G. Dimitrakopoulos · Paulo B. Lourenço

 $a_{cr}$  depends solely on the coefficient of restitution  $\eta$ , reads:

$$a_{cr} = \frac{a_{g,cr}}{g\alpha} = -0.3941\eta^3 + 0.5763\eta^2 - 0.45\eta + 1.271$$
(77)







#### why bamboo?

- high carbon sequestration capacity
- high strength-to-weight ratio
- low-cost
- abundant where mostly needed



#### challenges

#### $engineering \ design \rightarrow lack$

- standardization and design codes
- member connections
- durability
- fire resistance



Dixon & Gibson, JRSI 2014, The structure and mechanics of Moso bamboo material

#### bamboo forms/types

- timber mimicking laminated, cross laminated etc processed and industrialized
- culm morphology

(akin to uni-directional, fiber-reinforced polymers) low tensile strength perpendicular to the fibers



lashing

fish-mouth



#### bamboo structures



IBUKU Green Village, Bali



### state of the art

#### dowel-type connections

rational design

Wang & Yang (2019), Correal et al. (2021)

Sassu et al. (2016)

### earliest systematic research empirical design Janssen (1981) Columbian code NSR-10 (2010) 0 P/2 connections with strength connections with ductility

Morisco and Mardjono (1995)

### question 1

#### axial member behaviour





### question 2

#### embedment behaviour



- 2 bamboo species (Moso and Kao Jue)
- testing standard ASTM D5764 for timber

experimental force-displacement curves exhibit **high variability** can we predict the behaviour?



### question 3

#### bamboo culm flexure



<sup>1</sup>Lorenzo et al, CBM 2021, Non-linear behavior and failure mechanism of bamboo poles in bending <sup>2</sup>Trujillo et al, ICE-Struct and Build 2017, Flexural properties as a basis of bamboo strength grading



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#### multi-culm bamboo member with steel connectors



- proposed structural members: multiple bamboo culms bolted on steel connectors at their ends
- multiple culms per member:
   more bamboo species
   increased redundancy on structural member
- steel ends enable the steel-to-steel connection of structural members, negating many design ambiguities
- thorough understanding of mechanical behaviour of the proposed structural members → emphasis on the **bolt embedment** phenomenon
- conventional structural forms (trusses) → facilitates adoption of bamboo



#### coping with variability



natural variability of bamboo culms managed through an **original combination** of

#### i. grading

- unviable and defective culms removed
- use bamboo culms with
   eg 40 60 mm external diameters

#### ii. multiple bamboo culms

 eg 4 bamboo culms combined into a single member

#### iii. capacity design principles

• establish a desired hierarchy of capacities

#### coping with variability



multiple parallel elements in a member is a common practice/ observed in nature

#### multiple culms - premise:

- highly unlikely for multiple culms to possess unfavourable values of (e.g. geometric/material) properties simultaneously
- same average value:

$$\bar{X} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} (X_i/N)$$

• variance reduces:

$$\sigma_{\bar{X}}^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_{X_i/N}^2 = \sigma_X^2/N$$

$$CV_{\bar{X}} = CV_{X_1}/\sqrt{N}$$



#### coping with variability



**coping with variability** - example: **tensile strength** of bamboo (Kao Jue) culms

- found to be normally distributed
- expected value and variance of a single bamboo culm:

$$\mu_X = 127.33 \text{ MPa}$$
  $\sigma_X^2 = 521.3$ 

expected value and variance of average tensile strength in

- **2-culm** axial member  $\mu_{\bar{X}} = 127.33 \text{ MPa} \quad \sigma_{X}^{2} / 2 = 260.6$
- **4-culm** axial member  $\mu_{\bar{x}} = 127.33 \text{ MPa}$   $\sigma_x^2 / 4 = 130.3$



#### coping with variability



characteristic values as per EN 1990:2002:

•  $5^{th}$  ( $\bar{x}_{0.05}$ ) and 95<sup>th</sup> ( $\bar{x}_{0.95}$ ) percentile values

#### design values

- 0.1<sup>th</sup> (x
  <sub>0.001</sub>) percentile values of material properties
- material partial safety factor for N-culm member:

$$\gamma_{\bar{X},m} = \frac{\bar{x}_{0.05}}{\bar{x}_{0.001}}$$

 the specific percentile values and material partial safety factors become less conservative as number of bamboo culms N increases in the member

[Pradhan & Dimitrakopoulos ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]

108.6 MPa

1.18

4 culm







[Pradhan & Dimitrakopoulos ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]

coping with variability



bamboo

culms

### design premise

#### coping with variability



premise: establish a desired hierarchy of capacities

#### I. dowel connections yielding

predictable and ductile → should fail first !





- designed stronger than the dowels
- **confinement** (hose-clamps) to prevent premature failure by longitudinal splitting

#### III. gusset plates

for joint integrity Gusset plates should be designed stronger than dowel connection

gusset plate

dowel

connections

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### design premise

#### capacity design principle: hierarchy of failure modes



only the experimental distribution of connection yield capacity required

[Pradhan & Dimitrakopoulos ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]





### experimental program

### hollow section tension (Type B)



- average yield capacity: 34.11 kN
- average maximum capacity: 78.33 kN
- average ductility: 7.44
- 15 samples

[Pradhan & Dimitrakopoulos ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]





### experimental program

#### hollow section compression (Type B)



- average yield capacity: 35.04 kN
- average maximum capacity: 79.95 kN
- average ductility: 7.94
- 15 samples

[Pradhan & Dimitrakopoulos ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]





### experimental program



[Pradhan NPN & Dimitrakopoulos EG, ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]

### capacity design

#### calibration of partial factors



**overstrength factor**:  $\gamma_{Rd} = \gamma_{sc} \times \gamma_{an} \times \gamma_M$ 

- $\gamma_{sc} = R_{v,0.95}/R_{v,0.05}$  = scatter in experimental yield capacity
- $\gamma_{an} = R_{\nu,0.05}/R_{\nu,k}$  = error in analytical prediction of yield capacity
- $\gamma_M = R_{\nu,k}/R_{\nu,d}$  = safety factor of resistance
- $R_{v,k}$  is estimated analytically using European Yield Model equations
- $R_{v,d} = R_{v,0.001}$  as per EN1990

[Pradhan NPN & Dimitrakopoulos EG, ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]

### capacity design

#### calibration of partial factors



total factor of safety against undesirable failure is:

$$\gamma_F = \gamma_{Rd} \times \gamma_{\bar{X},m}$$

•  $\gamma_{\bar{X},m}$  is the pertinent average material partial factor of safety for *N*-culm member

[Pradhan NPN & Dimitrakopoulos EG, ASCE J. of Struc. Eng., 2021]



### calibration of partial factors

type	$\bar{\gamma}_{sc}$	$\bar{\gamma}_{an}$	$\bar{\gamma}_M$	$ar{\gamma}_{Rd}$
hollow-section	1.65	1.02	1.31	2.20
infilled-section	2.05	0.97	1.61	3.09

$$\gamma_{sc} = \frac{R_{\nu,0.05}}{R_{\nu,0.05}} \rightarrow \text{variability}$$
  
 $\gamma_{an} = \frac{R_{\nu,0.05}}{R_{\nu,k}} \rightarrow \text{error in analytical}$   
prediction of **EYM equations**

$$\gamma_M = \frac{R_{\nu,k}}{R_{\nu,d}} \rightarrow \text{safety factor}$$
  
to achieve desired  
probability of failure

Rugor

- $\gamma_{an} \approx 1$ , i.e.  $R_{v,k} \approx R_{v,0.05}$ 
  - analytical approach can predict experimental yielding
  - this is partial verification of proposed approach
- $\bar{\gamma}_M = 1.31$  for hollow-section specimens, is same as that recommended for timber connections (i.e.  $\gamma_M = 1.30$  in EN 1995)
- partial factors are **larger** for mortar infilled specimens
  - larger variability compared to hollow-section specimens



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Wegst & Ashby, JMS 2007, The structural efficiency of orthotropic stalks, stems and tubes







#### falure load prediction: circumferential tension





#### falure load prediction: shear failure



\*Hoogenboom & Spaan, 2005, Shear stiffness and maximum shear stress of tubular members



#### falure load prediction: failure maps

#### critical failure modes:

- circumferential tension
- longitudinal compression





falure load prediction: comparison with experimental data

#### Moso





W

 $W/(2\cos\omega_1)$ 

 $W/(2\cos\omega_1)$ 

#### Moso (circumferential tension failure)

- prediction of Case 3 is closer to  $F_u$
- prediction of Case 1 is closer to F<sub>max</sub>

experimental data from: Lorenzo et al, CBM 2021, Non-linear behavior and failure mechanism of bamboo poles in bending

Lorenzo et al, Colvi 2021, Non-Illieur benuvior una junare mechanism of bamboo poles in benamg

falure load prediction: comparison with experimental data



experimental data from:

Trujillo et al, ICE-Struct and Build 2017, Flexural properties as a basis of bamboo strength grading



#### stiffness loss prediction: two parallel cracks



#### cracked cross-section:



cross-section moment of inertia:

$$\frac{I_{CC}}{I} = 1 - \frac{64}{9\pi^2} = 0.28$$

 $I_{CC}$ : cracked cross-section

*I*: intact cross-section

#### stiffness loss (virtual work method):







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### bolted connections: embedment property prediction

#### experimental program





#### based on individual parameters





#### based on individual parameters





#### dimensional analysis

#### embedment property determining parameters:

- bolt diameter d<sub>b</sub>
- material density p
- culm thickness t

#### 2 fundamental`,

general dimensionless product

$$\square_{Gen,K} = K_{emb}^{x_1} \times (\rho g)^{x_2} \times t^{x_3} \times d_b^{x_4}$$

gravity acceleration (for dimensional consistency)





#### dimensional analysis

#### average property prediction





<sup>1</sup>Trujillo & Malkowska, CBM 2018, Empirically derived connection design properties for Guadua bamboo



#### dimensional analysis



Mouka& Dimitrakopoulos (2022) Construction and Building Materials



#### dimensional analysis

dimensionless bilinear embedment stress-displacement curve



Mouka& Dimitrakopoulos (2022) Construction and Building Materials



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description



- Kao Jue bamboo (*Bambusa pervariabilis*)
- stainless steel gusset plates (3 mm)
- M6 bolts of A2-70 grade
- hose-clamps (40-63 mm)



#### bilinear model of axial member



#### from structural element tests, back-calculate

- connection yielding  $(u_y, F_y)$  and maximum  $(u_{max}, F_{max})$  states
- connection elastic stiffness  $k_{c,e}$  and plastic stiffness  $k_{c,p}$

#### estimate elastic stiffness of bamboo culms $k_m$ from material strength tests

[Pradhan, Paraskeva, Dimitrakopoulos EngStr 2022]



#### bilinear model of axial member



**SAP2000** implementation/validation of the **model** 

- a single frame element develops the total elastic stiffness k<sub>e</sub>
- connection plastic behavior developed by means of plastic hinges
- validated numerical model is implemented on 2-culm and 4culm members of truss footbridge
- non-linear response and damage progression simulated in SAP2000



#### experimental testing



- first failure by yielding of bolted connections
- further loading results in buckling of steel plate, causing tilting of upper story nodes A5-B5

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### full-scale bamboo footbridge

### numerical simulation vs experiment



- first failure by yielding of bolted connections
- further loading results in buckling of steel plate,

causing unbounded displacement of nodes

[Pradhan, Paraskeva, Dimitrakopoulos EngStr 2022]

10

20

vertical displacement (mm)

30

40



### outline

connection design

design premise

experimental program

capacity design

implementation of full-scale bamboo footbridge

embedment simulation

#### conclusions



### conclusions

#### connection design

- proposed method manages variability of bamboo culms through
   (i) grading, (ii) use of multiple culms, and (iii) capacity design principles
- axial members display high ductility and predictability owing to dowel yielding before other components
- characteristic values of average material/geometric properties can predict 5<sup>th</sup> percentile yielding of dowel connections

#### implementation on an original footbridge

- proposed bilinear model of axial member can simulate the non-linear behavior of bolted connections
- numerical simulation of the footbridge predicts correctly the non-linear response and damage sequence of the experimental structure



### relevant publications

Mouka Th, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG, Lorenzo R (**2022**) "Effect of a longitudinal crack on the flexural performance of bamboo culms" **Acta Mechanica** doi: 10.1007/s00707-022-03314-3

Mouka Th, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG (**2022**) "Prediction of bamboo culm embedment properties parallel to grain via dimensional analysis" **Construction and Building Materials** doi: 10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2022.128434

Mouka Th, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG, Lorenzo R (**2022**) "Insight into the behavior of bamboo culms subjected to bending" **Journal of the Royal Society Interface** doi: 10.1098/rsif.2021.0913.

Pradhan NPN, Paraskeva TS, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG (**2022**) "Simulation and experimental verification of an original full-scale bamboo truss" **Engineering Structures** doi: 10.1016/j.engstruct.2022.113965

Pradhan NPN, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG (**2021**) "Pilot study on capacity-based design of multiculm bamboo axial members with dowel type connections" **ASCE Journal of Structural Engineering** doi: 10.1061/(ASCE)ST.1943-541X.0002995

Mouka Th, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG (**2021**) "Simulation of embedment phenomena on bamboo culms via a modified foundation modelling approach" **Construction and Building Materials** doi: 10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2020.122048

Pradhan NPN, Paraskeva TS, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG (**2020**) "Quasi-static reversed cyclic testing of multi-culm bamboo members with steel connectors" **Journal of Building Engineering** doi: 10.1016/j.jobe.2019.100983

Paraskeva TS, Pradhan NPN, Stoura CD, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG (**2019**) "Monotonic loading testing and characterization of new multi-full-culm bamboo to steel connections" **Construction and Building Materials** doi: 10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2018.12.198

Paraskeva TS, Grigoropoulos G, **Dimitrakopoulos** EG (**2017**) "Design and experimental verification of easily constructible bamboo footbridges for rural areas" **Engineering Structures** doi: 10.1016/j.engstruct.2017.04.044





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# ×

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