



# **IABSE CONGRESS GHENT 2021**

*Structural Engineering for Future Societal Needs*

International Associating for Bridge and Structural Engineering

IABSE



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## Proceedings

IABSE Congress Ghent 2021  
Online event





## Contents

<b>Message from the President</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Message from the Organising Committee</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Organising Committee</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Message from the Scientific Committee</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Scientific Committee</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>About IABSE</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Sponsors</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Keynote speakers</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Keynotes</b>	<b>20</b>
The transition to sustainable concrete in the Netherlands through network governance	21
How can the construction industry serve the needs of a society threatened by climate change?	25
Risk intelligence of structural systems: concepts and recent developments	33
Oosterweel – from an underground and even underwater road infrastructure plan to an urban transformation project	35
<b>Structural safety and reliability with respect to climate change</b>	<b>42</b>
Influence of climate change on thermal stresses in concrete box girders	43
Assessment of long-term structural reliability considering climate change effects	52
<b>Circularity, re-use and sustainability of structures</b>	<b>61</b>
Lessons learned from using a donor skeleton in a 3 storey office building	62
Re-use of a 300 m steel arch bridge	70
Modeling of the behaviour of concrete elements containing a self-healing agent	79
Choosing an appropriate housing methodology for holistic societal needs	85
Effective re-use of existing structures towards the sustainable society at East Japan Railway Company	94
Rehabilitation of a 200 m long pedestrian bridge with carbon textile reinforced concrete	101
The assessment, strengthening and widening of Thames Bray Bridge	109
Materials in bridge engineering: creating a more sustainable future	115
Influence of the floor systems on the sustainability of reinforced concrete structures	124
Sustainable and environmentally friendly zinc coatings for protecting steel bridges in Europe	133
Exploring circularity: Europengineers on piano	141
The effects of expansion joint design on bridge life-cycle costs - initial investment versus total cost of ownership	150
Small-scale testing for feasibility of rubblized concrete foundations	159
The relocation of a heritage bridge	166
Steel: friend or foe in the face of the climate emergency?	175
Protection and repair of concrete structures as an important contribution to sustainability	183
Overcoming the limitations of recycled concrete aggregates in Belgium	191
The use of a new slab track system in the renovation of the Vierendeel railway bridges in Mechelen	197
The circular arch viaduct: reduce, re-use & recycle in practice	206
Re-using existing prefabricated prestressed concrete girders	215
<b>Emission free building of structures</b>	<b>223</b>
Crafting a framework of embodied carbon education, tracking, and reduction for US-based structural engineers	224
<b>Enhancing resilience of civil infrastructure to hurricane and thunderstorm hazards under changing climate</b>	<b>232</b>
A numerical approach for the assessment of crosswind effects on barrier-protected trains running on bridges	233
Hurricane risk assessment of offshore wind turbines under changing climate	241



Reliability of bridges considering the effect of local scour	249
Afsluitdijk climate resilient with XblocPlus	256
<b>Structural bearings and anti-seismic devices</b>	<b>265</b>
Investigation of seismic response of rocking column with a novel mechanical connection device	266
An energy-robust nonlinear energy sink with inerter	275
Quantifying damage in the steel shims of seismic isolation rubber bearings due to support rotation	284
Dynamic properties of the isolators used in the Green Museum Library (Taiwan)	293
Bearing systems for light rail bridges	299
Condition assessment of in situ elastomeric bearings	305
<b>Towards extending the service life of existing concrete infrastructure through advanced assessment methods</b>	<b>312</b>
Capacity of prestressed concrete bridge decks under fatigue loading	313
Nonlinear finite element analysis of tests of reinforced concrete slabs	322
Measuring heavy traffic with WIM-ROAD and WIM-BRIDGE systems in an urban environment	331
Performance assessment on degrading concrete structures including considerations on the time variant alteration	341
Prolonging the lifetime of existing reinforced concrete infrastructures with thermal sprayed zinc coating anodes	349
Automated structural assessment of existing reinforced concrete underpasses	356
<b>Structural health monitoring</b>	<b>365</b>
A finite element model updated by artificial neural networks to explain the behaviour of the Z24 Swiss bridge in different temperature states.	366
Study on temperature field effects on RC high-pier bridge	376
A fiber optics enriched Digital Twin for assessment of reinforced concrete structures	382
Benchmark model updating for cable stayed bridges	391
Long-term vibration monitoring on railway bridge KW51 in Leuven, Belgium	398
Modelling the non-linear behaviour of the pot bearings of railway bridge KW51	404
Characterization of operational vibrations of highway bridges Via Lidar	412
Condition assessment of several bridges in Sofia based on visual inspection and as-built drawings	418
Predicting strains in embedded reinforcement based on surface deformation obtained by digital image correlation technique	425
Bridge weigh-in-motion using bridge influence surface and computer vision: an experimental study	435
Evaluation of the effect of operational modal analysis algorithms on identified modal parameters of railway bridges	441
Application of close range photogrammetry in structural health monitoring by processing generated point cloud datasets	450
A camera calibration method for bridge live load identification using plane marks on the pavement	459
A 3-D detection method of moving traffic loads based on the stereo vision	467
Bayesian model updating of a large-span steel tied arch bridge: an experimental study	475
Using an ambient vibration test to identify damage in a sculpture	481
The use of SHM to monitor and evaluate bridge movements – absolute and accumulated – at the structure's bearings and expansion joints	489
Comparison on outlier detection methods using measured data from a long span tied-arch bridge	497
Denoising of structural health monitoring data: method and coding	504
An integrated solution for tension monitoring in bridge hangers and stay cable by means of vibration measurement	511
A business case for risk-informed bridge monitoring using the value of information	518
Design and construction of a three-span continuous box girder model	526
Bridge-vessel anti-collision monitoring system: design and implementation	534
Temperature distribution in different bridges types based on data from SHM systems	540



Image stabilization technology for active bridge-vessel anti-collision monitoring system	549
Acceleration data quality assessment for bridge structural health monitoring via statistical and deep-learning approach	555
Benefits of using digital image correlation systems for advanced structural assessment	561
Vibration-based structural health monitoring from operational long-gauge fiber optic strain data	571
The application of black-box modeling in long-term tunnel deformation monitoring	580
<b>All types of bridges</b>	<b>588</b>
Dynamic loadings of moving vehicles on curved concrete segmental single box girder bridges	589
Slip coefficient of 90-year-old riveted joint surface with red lead paint for corrosion	598
Structural design criteria for road bridges made of UHPC large prefabricated parts - approaches to possible CO2 savings potential in bridge construction	605
FE analysis of continuous shear connector	615
Climate impact estimation – from feasibility study to handover	622
Framework for facility management of bridge structures using digital twins	629
Control and optimization of UAV measurement parameters for alignment measurement in bridge construction	638
A prediction method for cable forces of cable-stayed bridges using fuzzy processing and Bayes estimation	644
Durability design of composite bridges with given life in seasonal freezing region	653
Exploitation problems with particular road and railway composite bridges in Bulgaria	660
Addressing society's various needs in the selection and use of key bridge components	666
Lateral torsional buckling of plate girder composite bridges – general method	675
City of Ghent – adapting infrastructure to societal needs	682
Design of a funicular concrete bridge with knitted formwork	690
The impact of heavy vehicle platoons on bridge traffic loads	700
The modernisation of the Albert Canal and its bridges	709
Eldvatn bridge – Iceland's first network arch bridge	718
Framework for investigating the effect of different design lives on the design of bridges	726
Development of a traffic load model for bridge structures within an urban subway system	734
"La Belle Liégeoise", the new footbridge in Liège	741
Updating bridge axle loads using WIM in Switzerland	748
<b>Additive manufacturing</b>	<b>757</b>
Automated structural design for 3D printed circular composite bridges	758
<b>Structural analysis and optimisation</b>	<b>767</b>
Out-of-plane buckling of arches with rectangular cross-sections and curved webs	768
Numerical evaluation of horizontal cracking potential in continuously reinforced concrete pavement under varying saw-cut depths	776
Elaboration of a rapid assessment method for masonry arches	783
Application of mobile devices for the rapid assessment of masonry arch bridges – worked example and benchmarking	793
Numerical analyses on flexural performance of prefabricated UHPC link slab	801
Nonlinear structural analysis of a masonry wall	809
Resistance of prestressed bridge girders to diagonal tension cracking	819
Optimization in a realistic structural engineering context: redesign of the Market Hall in Ghent	828
Application potential of textile reinforcement in concrete construction for infrastructure buildings: environmental performance and availability	836
Experimental study on anti-collision device using titanium steel and recycle tires	845
Large-scale load carrying capacity test of curved steel box girders with/without horizontal stiffeners subjected to bending	852
Parametric bridge design – reinforcement design	860
Experimental performance of optimized trusses	868





Parametric study of orthotropic steel decks with open ribs using FEA	877
Analysis for optimization of spiral reinforcement in pre-fabricated bridge columns	885
A multi-objective genetic algorithm for optimal design of cable networks with external dampers and cross-ties	893
Design and analysis of the Wing-spread Bridge: a pedestrian bridge in the Binjiang Avenue, Shanghai	901
Impact of the structural model used on the steel hall fire resistance assessment	909
Multi-level objective optimization method for high rise frame shear wall structure	917
Application of viscous dampers for structural response reduction in building renovation	925
<b>Concepts and methods for the performance assessment of existing structures</b>	<b>932</b>
Nonlinear finite element analysis for structural assessment of existing bridges: network manager experiences	933
Correlation between the rust colour distribution rate and corroded surface characteristics of galvanized steel wires	941
The development of a BIM data structure for bridge maintenance	949
Evaluation method of defects in concrete structures using hammer test by time-frequency analysis and neural networks	955
Full scale test of a PC bridge to calibrate assessment methods	965
Investigating the effects of climate change on structural resistance and actions	974
Fatigue assessment of a steel truss bridge based on multi-dimensional finite element modelling	986
Non-destructive and effective bridge monitoring through fast-falling weight deflectometer	995
Study on after-slip strength of high-strength bolted frictional joints with a filler plate	1005
Bridge management systems: overview and framework for smart management	1014
Longitudinal response of a cable-stayed bridge to wind loads using fluid-structure interaction simulations	1023
Standardised bridge weigh-in-motion data and its applications in bridge engineering	1031
Traffic loads for the assessment of existing bridges	1040
Structural robustness as an extended status indicator in bridge maintenance management systems	1049
Anchorage/lap strength of bars in RC structures in case of low concrete cover thickness	1057
A methodology for resiliency assessment of existing bridges – a study on a bridge from 1930	1066
Parametric approach in BIM environment for the assessment of existing masonry buildings	1074
An interdisciplinary approach to landslide damage assessment in urban areas	1083
Updating of the corrosion degree based on visual data combined with strain or modal data	1092
<b>Innovative structures</b>	<b>1102</b>
Multidimensional load-bearing behaviour of timber-concrete-composite road bridges with consideration of flexibility of connections	1103
Concepts for walkable coverings of historic site	1110
Butt welded connections of high strength steel	1118
Early-age cracking behavior of advanced reinforced concrete pavement under environmental loading	1126
Timber-granite-composite structures for pedestrian and cycle path bridges	1135
The hyperion tower, an audacious demonstration of the use of materials	1144
Innovative TBM traffic tunnels	1153
Investigations on the structural behaviour of CFRP reinforced concrete members for modular bridge constructions	1163
Reliability, sustainability and innovation in bridges and structures	1172
The Enshi funicular	1181
Footbridge Nelson Mandela in Béziers: a contemporary slender arch bridge in UHPFRC	1189
A deployable tensegrity footbridge: static design and optimization	1196
The Samuel De Champlain Bridge – A holistic approach to sustainability and durability	1205
New concept of high voltage overhead line between Avelin and Gavrelle – structural and dynamic design	1215
Design, simulation and matched structure of a living ecological & energized modules (EEMs) bridge system	1224



<b>Case studies</b>	<b>1232</b>
Interaction of normal and shear loads in carbon reinforced slab segments	1233
Real condition experiment on a new bridge weigh-in-motion solution for the traffic assessment on road bridges	1242
Design of Jakarta Mass Rapid Transit package CP103	1249
Gaining a realistic fatigue load model using sensor-based measurements	1258
Numerical calibration of railway bridge based on measurement data	1264
Equivalent nosing force for a steel railway bridge based on in situ measurements	1273
Timber and concrete hybrid superstructures – a potential step towards sustainability?	1280
Fixed link crossings: a global perspective	1288
Combined solution: the structures of the A120 Little Hadham bypass and flood alleviation scheme	1296
Verification calculation of the Cortenoeverse bridge using finite element analysis	1304
Challenges when enhancing the infrastructure – case studies	1313
Using movable modular grandstands in large sports stadia	1323
Construction in Antarctica and South Georgia: delicate works in a pristine environment	1330
Permanent glass-fibre-reinforced under water concrete floor	1339
<b>Exceptional loads on structures</b>	<b>1347</b>
Accidental impact by ships in the updated EN 1991-1-7	1348
<b>Structural behaviour under fire conditions</b>	<b>1356</b>
Fire behaviour of large scale loaded tunnel segment tests for project Rotterdamsebaan, The Netherlands	1357
<b>Design for earthquakes</b>	<b>1365</b>
Classification of earthquake-induced building damage using innovative methods	1366
Simplified approach for the seismic analysis of precast girder bridges with gap	1375
Time history analysis of an existing structure in accordance with Turkish and European standards	1383
Effect on buckling behavior and seismic performance of steel piers corrosion-damaged near ground	1392
Ground motion spatial variability and cable-stayed bridges: do we need to consider the asynchronous motion?	1398
Investigation on the reasonable area of energy-dissipation bars for hybrid rocking columns	1407
Investigation of hybrid multi-core buckling-restrained brace components	1415
Variations in seismic retrofit design of cable-stayed bridges of different sizes	1422
Evaluation of a low-cost seismic energy dissipation device for buildings	1430
Repair project of a vehicular bridge damaged during the 2017 Puebla-Morelos earthquake: seismic evaluation	1437
Influence of Mullins and hardening effects of seismic isolation rubber bearings on the seismic response	1444
<b>Soil-structure Interaction</b>	<b>1453</b>
Numerical analyses on mechanical performance of flat buried approach slab and soil deformation	1454
Finite element analyses of a buckling-restrained pile	1462
WTF design software	1471
<b>Fatigue and fracture</b>	<b>1478</b>
Fatigue strength of large diameters tension rods with metric cut thread	1479
Evaluation of the contact area of lorry tyres in Eurocode's fatigue load model 4 (FLM4)	1488
Refurbishment of orthotropic steel decks with steel plates	1496
Development of ductile cast-iron bridge slabs for onsite replacement	1504
Ultimate strength and fatigue life of cable-stayed bridges considering cable corrosion	1511
Highway bridge deck made of ductile-cast-iron	1519
Numerical analysis of the fatigue behaviour of friction stir welded joints in aluminum bridge decks	1528
Improving economic efficiency of wind energy using data-based fatigue assessment methods	1537
Influence of inspection on the safety of fatigue loaded welded cruciform steel joints – comparison of simplified and advanced crack growth models	1546
Fatigue behaviour of Vossloh SKL14 tension clamps	1555





<b>Failures and forensic engineering</b>	<b>1564</b>
Contributing human and organizational factors to the collapse of the FC Twente stadium roof	1565
Evaluation, repair & rehabilitation of 2 flyovers using advance assessment methods – a case study	1572
Effect of loading rate, surface flaw length and orientation on strength of laser-modified architectural glass	1581
<b>Dynamics of structures</b>	<b>1589</b>
Vibration serviceability performance of prefabricated cross-laminated timber steel rib composite floors	1590
Vibration of structurally connected high-rise buildings under wind force	1598
Long-term extreme buffeting response of long-span bridges considering uncertain turbulence parameters	1606
FEM based approach for development of a new high-speed load-model for railway bridges	1614
Dynamic behavior of aluminum deck-on-steel girder bridges under vehicular traffic loads considering the effect of road roughness	1623
Railway bridge dynamics: development of a new high-speed train load model for dynamic analyses of train crossing	1633
Numerical modeling strategy for deteriorated concrete decks in SHM applications	1643
An experimental study of cable tension identification based on measurements of mode shapes	1651
The Arc Majeur, when art challenges technology	1658
Dynamic response under pedestrian loading of the footbridge “La Belle Liégeoise”	1667
Wind response sensitivities of a long suspension bridge	1675
<b>Strengthening and retrofitting</b>	<b>1683</b>
Exploration of novel faying surface treatment for high-strength frictional bolted joints to enhance its after-slip performance	1684
Strengthening of box girder bridges with external prestressing - case study for the Langeland Bridge.	1692
Testing of composite girders with coiled spring pin shear connectors	1700
Monitoring of a Norwegian steel-concrete bridge strengthening for composite action	1709
Strengthening old steel railway bridges: a review	1718
Performance assessment on influence zone of existing structures for metro construction	1728
Conservation of historical buildings – concepts and details	1738
Advancements in shear strengthening of prestressed concrete I-girders using fiber reinforced polymers	1746
A method for replacing lower flange splice plate of a steel I-girder connection using BPL	1754
Condition assessment, rehabilitation and upgradation of stadia in Delhi using modern technology	1761
Numerical study on rehabilitation of the U-rib butt weld fatigue crack in orthotropic steel deck using carbon fiber reinforced polymer strip	1771
<b>Safety, reliability and risk</b>	<b>1778</b>
Risk management and criticality ranking of civil infrastructures – case study	1779
Structural reliability of RC frames under sudden column removal scenarios considering static and dynamic methods	1789
Fire performance of reinforced concrete slabs: a numerical analysis	1797
Accounting for spatial variability in partial factor based design verifications	1805
Response surface method strategies coupled with NLFEA for structural reliability analysis of prestressed bridges	1813
Eurocode structural fire design of Brazilian masonry buildings	1823
Enhancement of structural safety by safety factors – a case against the common approach	1831
Reliability-based structural assessment of a historical steel railway bridge	1839
Impact evaluation of human-made hazards on terrestrial transport infrastructure assets: modelling variables and failure modes	1847
<b>All structural materials</b>	<b>1854</b>
Assessment of the aftertreatment quality of concrete	1855
Climatic advantages of the spread of timber constructions in peripheral regions - the case of southern Switzerland	1863



Investigation of the load-bearing behavior of composite joints in cross-section supplements for concrete structures	1872
Slussen – the lock of Stockholm	1882
Engineering of a contemporary version of the stone arches of the “Pont des Trouis” in Tournai	1891
<b>High-rise buildings</b>	<b>1900</b>
Numerical study on multi-cell CFT column under lateral force in different direction	1901
Silver Tower Brussels – Adaptative outriggers	1909
Automation of seismic design of high-rise structure with braced steel frame	1917
Bi-direction evolutionary structural optimization in seismic design of braced steel frame tall buildings	1924
Sensitivity data driven optimal design for steel frame tall buildings	1931
High-rise building analysis considering construction stages: floor structure stiffness influence over vertical element axial shortening	1941
<b>Parametric design</b>	<b>1948</b>
Automated framework for optimized path-planning for pile foundation drilling machines based on 4D BIM modelling	1949
Optioneering of long viaducts via parametric design	1957
Automated design of high voltage pylons	1965
<b>Large span structures</b>	<b>1973</b>
Trysfjord bridge, parametric analysis and modelling for drawingless construction of a concrete balanced cantilever bridge	1999
Investigations on the buckling behaviour due to different launching bearings	1974
Super-long span bridge aerodynamics benchmark: additional results for TG3.1 Step 1.2	1982
Design of the A1-M1 link road extradosed bridge in Mauritius	1990
Indicative implied safety level in ULS of a suspension bridge deck	2005
<b>Architecture of structures</b>	<b>2015</b>
A low-carbon, funicular concrete floor system: design and engineering of the HiLo floors	2016
Lannion downstream bridge over the Léguer River	2025
ViA15 - A paradigm switch for bridge design	2035
<b>Light-weight structures</b>	<b>2043</b>
Numerical study of a blind bolted connection between an aluminum bridge deck and steel girders	2044
Design, construction and structural response of a lightweight FRP footbridge	2053
<b>Author index</b>	<b>2062</b>
<b>IABSE Reports</b>	<b>2069</b>



## Message from the President

The International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE) is a scientific/technical Association comprising members of almost 100 countries and counting 58 National Groups. The aim of the Association is to exchange knowledge and to advance the practice of structural engineering worldwide in the service of the profession and society. Founded in 1929, IABSE hosted a series of Congresses every four years from 1932 to 2016 and every year from 2019 onwards. The IABSE Congress 2021 was planned to be held in Ghent, Belgium, but due to the pandemic, it is now an online event taking place on the originally planned days from 22 to 24 September 2021.



Yaojun Ge

The theme of the Congress is “Structural Engineering for Future Societal Needs”, comprising building and maintaining safe and reliable buildings and infrastructures under the effects of climate change in a world with scarcer resources and the ambition to reduce mankind’s CO<sub>2</sub> footprint. Future Societal Needs can be divided into three parts, Structural Safety and Reliability with Respect to Climate Change, Circularity, Re-use and Sustainability of Structures and Emission Free Building of Structures.

This IABSE Congress is organised by the Belgian and Dutch Groups of IABSE in co-operation with Ghent University. Both National Groups are among the earliest IABSE Groups and are very active and productive. This Congress is, respectively, the first and eighth international IABSE event hosted in the BENELUX since the successful IABSE Conference 2013 in Rotterdam and the third IABSE Congress 1948 in Liege. I wish to express my special thanks and compliment the Organising Committee and the Scientific Committee, for excellently mastering the preparations of this promising event under the difficult circumstances of the past year and months.

I look forward to meeting you online and to exchange the latest knowledge in structural engineering.

**Yaojun Ge**, President of IABSE



## Message from the Organising Committee

The Organising Committee is pleased that the IABSE Congress Ghent 2021 can be held from 22 to 24 September 2021. Originally planned as a hybrid Congress, partly on site and partly online, the Organising Committee had to take the difficult decision end of May 2021 to change the Congress into an online event, due to the uncertainty associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. The Congress is organised by the Belgian and Dutch Groups of IABSE in co-operation with Ghent University.

Due to the unpredictable situation of the Covid-19 pandemic, travel bans, and the fear to travel factor, the Organising Committee of the IABSE Congress Ghent 2021, on recommendation of the Administrative Committee of IABSE, decided to change the format of the Congress into an entirely online event for the safety of IABSE members and Congress participants.

This has been a very difficult decision, since we have tried our best to become the first “normal” IABSE event after the Covid- 19 pandemic. However, it was not meant to be. But the good news is that the quality of the technical programme did not suffer from this, that the authors of many interesting papers remained very supportive, that our sponsors showed their understanding, so that we can have a fantastic online Congress, simulating the actual conference experience as much as possible.

This entire trajectory has been a very difficult experience for all of us. Still, as organisers, we feel strengthened by the number and quality of contributions we have received and by the reactions of everybody involved in the organisation. We look forward to interacting with all participants during the Congress and hope that there will be new opportunities to really meet in person, once Covid-19 is truly behind us.

**Hans De Backer**, Organising Committee Chair, Belgium

**Bert Hesselink**, Organising Committee Vice-Chair, The Netherlands



Hans De Backer



Bert Hesselink



## Organising Committee

The Organising Committee is chaired by Prof. H. De Backer, Ghent University, Belgium. The full committee consists of following members:

Hans De Backer (Chair), Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium  
Ane de Boer, formerly at Rijkswaterstaat, The Netherlands  
Alain Dumortier, Bureau Greisch, Liege, Belgium  
Bernard Espion, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium  
Bert Hesselink (Vice-Chair), Royal HaskoningDHV, Amersfoort, The Netherlands  
Aad van der Horst, BAM Infraconsult, Gouda, The Netherlands  
Pierre Mengeot, Besix, Brussels, Belgium  
Bart De Pauw, TUC Rail, Brussels, Belgium and Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium  
Rudi Roijackers, ABT, Velp, The Netherlands  
Bert Snijder, Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven, The Netherlands  
Sven Somers, Lantis, Antwerp, Belgium  
Gilles Van Staen (Secretary), Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium



## Message from the Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee of the IABSE Congress Ghent 2021 is pleased to offer the structural engineering community an interesting technical programme to discuss and contribute to the theme 'Structural Engineering for Future Societal Needs'. Future societal needs comprise building and maintaining safe and reliable buildings and infrastructures while coping with the effects of climate change in a world with scarcer resources and satisfying the ambition to reduce mankind's CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.

Sub-themes are therefore amongst others:

- Structural safety and reliability with respect to climate change
- Circularity, re-use and sustainability of structures
- Emission free building of structures

Our call for sub-themes resulted in four interesting special sub-themes connected to the main Congress theme:

- Enhancing resilience of civil infrastructure to hurricane and thunderstorm hazards under changing climate
- Structural bearings and anti-seismic devices: innovation, standards and testing requirements
- Towards extending the service life of existing concrete infrastructure through advanced assessment methods
- Concepts and methods for the performance assessment of existing structures

Besides these sub-themes, also the following ones are part of the programme: All types of bridges, Large span structures, Light-weight structures, High-rise buildings, All structural materials, Structural health monitoring, Design for earthquakes, Case studies, Failures and forensic engineering, Strengthening and retrofitting, Dynamics of structures, Innovative structures, Fatigue and fracture, Structural analysis and optimisation, Parametric design, Structural behaviour under fire conditions, Soil-structure Interaction, Exceptional loads on structures, Safety, reliability and risk, Architecture of structures, Additive manufacturing.

The Congress takes place online and all papers are presented orally, either pre-recorded or live, with discussion afterwards. All written papers submitted were peer-reviewed by the Scientific Committee. Apart from the opening session containing one keynote presentation, a keynote session containing two keynote presentations and the closing session containing one keynote presentation, there are normal parallel sessions and a Pecha Kucha session. To accommodate all sessions and speakers, parallel sessions run online in 8 breakout rooms on the three main Congress days. Keynote Speakers introduce relevant topics to the Congress theme and/or give a state-of-the-art overview on these topics. We are pleased that four esteemed Keynote Speakers have confirmed to contribute to our Congress (See page 23).

The technical programme has attracted all those involved and interested in the state of the art and the future of bridge and structural engineering. We received just over 400 abstracts which resulted in about 270 papers to be presented. We can present an interesting technical programme and invite you to contribute to this IABSE Congress and join us online.

**Bert H.H. Snijder**, Scientific Committee Chair, The Netherlands

**Bart De Pauw**, Scientific Committee Vice-Chair, Belgium



Bert Snijder



Bart De Pauw





## Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee (SC) is chaired by Prof. H.H. (Bert) Snijder, Vice President of IABSE, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands. The Vice-Chair is Prof. Bart De Pauw, Ghent University and TUC Rail, Belgium. The SC consists of more than 90 expert members from all over the world and was elected by the Technical Committee of IABSE.

Bert Snijder, <i>Netherlands</i> (Chair)	Christos Giarlelis, <i>Greece</i>	Luís Oliveira-Santos, <i>Portugal</i>
Bart De Pauw, <i>Belgium</i> (Vice-Chair)	Bruno Godart, <i>France</i>	André Orcesi, <i>France</i>
Sander van Alphen, <i>NL</i> (Secretary)	Rade Hajdin, <i>Switzerland</i>	Fabrizio Palmisano, <i>Italy</i>
Pierre Mingeot, <i>Belgium</i> (Secretary)	Bert Hesselink, <i>Netherlands</i>	José Oliveira Pedro, <i>Portugal</i>
Anthony Abu, <i>New Zealand</i>	Stephen J. Hicks, <i>UK</i>	Marion Rauch, <i>Germany</i>
Mitsuyoshi Akiyama, <i>Japan</i>	Niels Peter Hoj, <i>Switzerland</i>	António Reis, <i>Portugal</i>
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## About IABSE

The **International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE)** is a scientific / technical Association comprising members in 100 countries and counting 58 National Groups worldwide. Founded in 1929 it has its seat in Zurich, Switzerland. The President of IABSE (2019-2022) is Yaojun Ge, China.

IABSE deals with all aspects of structural engineering: the science and art of planning, design, construction, operation, monitoring and inspection, maintenance, rehabilitation and preservation, demolition and dismantling of structures, taking into consideration technical, economic, environmental, aesthetic and social aspects. The term 'Structures' includes bridges, buildings and all types of civil engineering structures, composed of any structural material.

### Mission

The aim of the Association is to exchange knowledge and to advance the practice of structural engineering worldwide in the service of the profession and society.

### IABSE has the following objectives:

- to promote cooperation and understanding among all those concerned with structural engineering and related fields by worldwide exchange of knowledge and experience
- to encourage awareness and responsibility of structural engineers towards the needs of society
- to encourage actions necessary for progress in structural engineering
- to improve and foster cooperation and understanding between organisations having similar objectives.

### For this purpose, the Association:

- organises conferences worldwide
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## Keynote speakers

**Jacqueline Cramer, Utrecht University (NL)**

Title: The transition to sustainable concrete in the Netherlands through network governance

Jacqueline Cramer is professor of sustainable innovation at Utrecht University and member of the Amsterdam Economic Board, particularly in charge of the circular economy. Before she was Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment in The Netherlands (2007–2010). Her background is primarily related to industry, working for many years with more than 200 companies on the implementation of corporate social responsibility and circular economy. She was and still is member of numerous international and national non-executive boards of the government, industry and non-profit organisations, among which Chair of the Dutch Concrete Agreement and chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Plastic Soup Foundation.



Jacqueline Cramer

**Michael J. Cook, Buro Happold (UK) and Imperial College (UK)**

Title: Urgent Steps to Achieve a Net-Zero Carbon Construction Industry: Lessons from the IABSE (UK) Henderson Colloquium 2020

Michael Cook was a Partner of Buro Happold from 1994 to 2020 and the Chairman from 2011 to 2017. Having retired from the partnership in 2020 he is now employed as a consultant. He is also Professor of Creative Design in the Department of Civil Engineering at Imperial College, London. He is well known for his contribution to designing innovative and award-winning buildings around the world. In 2019 he initiated the Engineers Declaration of Climate Emergency in the UK and he leads the Institution of Structural Engineer's Climate Emergency Task Group which is setting out the skills required by future generations of engineers. In recognition of his contribution to sustainable engineering design over the past 20 years, he was awarded the IABSE Milne Medal in 2009, Fellowship of the Academy of Engineering in 2010, an honorary Doctorate of Engineering from the University of Bath in 2017 and the Gold Medal of the Institution of Structural Engineers in 2020.



Michael J. Cook

**Junho Song, Seoul National University (S. Korea)**

Title: Risk intelligence of structural systems: concepts and recent developments

Junho Song received his BSc. and MSc. in Civil Engineering from Seoul National University, Korea and his PhD in Civil & Environmental Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley, USA in 2004. After working as a postdoctoral researcher at UC Berkeley (2004-2005) and a senior vulnerability engineer at Risk Management Solutions, Inc. (2005), he joined the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. In 2014, Dr. Song joined the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Seoul National University (SNU) as a Young Scholar for the Next Generation. At SNU, Dr. Song is currently serving as Professor, and Associate Director of Education and Research Program of InfraSPHERE. Dr. Song has research interests in structural & system reliability analysis, reliability-based design/topology optimization and decision-making, risk, reliability and resilience analysis of urban communities and networks, earthquake engineering & random vibrations, and statistical/machine learning for urban infrastructure systems under uncertainties. Dr. Song has presented his research outcomes through 89 papers published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. His technological innovations in the area of System Reliability and Optimization were recognized by awards including the IASSAR Research Prize (the 10th ICOSSAR conference, 2009). Prof. Song has been serving as a member of the Probabilistic Methods Committee of the ASCE Engineering Mechanics Division, five editorial boards of international journals (including Structural Safety, and Reliability Engineering & System Safety), SC3 subcommittee of the International Association for Structural Safety and Reliability, Joint Committee on Structural Safety (JCSS), and the Board of Directors of the International Civil Engineering Risk and Reliability Association (CERRA). Dr. Song is currently the President of CERRA and the Chairman of the IFIP Working Group 7.5 on Reliability and Optimization of Structural Systems.



Junho Song

**Luc Hellemans, Lantis (BE)**

Title: Oosterweel – from an underground and even underwater road infrastructure plan to an urban transformation project

With over 25 years of professional experience in engineering, Luc Hellemans has spent more than half of it at Arcadis. He held several functions and was the CEO of Arcadis Belgium (2012-2015) and also of Italy, France and Spain as CEO of Europe South (2015-2017). Yet three distinguished threads run through his career and come together in his role as CEO of Lantis: public infrastructure, large, complex projects, and his hometown area Antwerp (Belgium). With the Oosterweel project, Luc is facing Belgium's biggest and most challenging infrastructure project of the century, matching industrial and economic needs with enhanced quality of life, spatial planning, and environmental benefits.



Luc Hellemans



bridge is above 5 Hz. As the footbridge described in this work is lightweight and flexible, higher harmonics of the human actions seemed to excite the simply supported structure.

To achieve a certain degree of comfort at VSLs and complete the adopted motion-based design approach, inertial devices (passive, semi-active or active) should be installed in the future to reduce the undesired vibrations of the footbridge.

Finally, the performed experimental campaign is an initial approach to assess the dynamic behavior of the FRP structure. Since changes in the dynamic properties of the structure are expected due to human-structure interaction phenomenon, more and better tests will be carried out varying the numbers of pedestrians and the frequencies of the human actions.

## 7 Acknowledgements

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## Author index

Adachi, Junichi: 852  
Ai, Zubin: 459  
Akamatsu, Shinsuke: 1504  
Akkermann, Jan: 1049  
Akula, Rohith: 1949  
Allsop, Andrew: 1982  
Amerio, Luca: 1982  
Amira, Sofiene: 1528  
Andersen, Ulrik Sloth: 1692  
Annan, Charles-Darwin: 1415, 1528, 1623, 2044  
Anžlin, Andrej: 1264  
Aoki, Yukari: 1511  
Arai, Shintaro: 852  
Araki, Kenji: 1754  
Arason, Magnús: 718, 1709  
Argentini, Tommaso: 233, 1982  
Auguste, Thierry: 511  
Ayoub, Essam: 1375  
Bagge, Niklas: 965  
Bakker, Pieter: 256  
Bakker, Rien: 215  
Ballester, Jorge: 974  
Banfi, Marco: 299  
Bao, Zehua: 266, 1407  
Bargstädt, Hans-Joachim: 1949  
Barros, Brais: 1839  
Bashir, Rashid: 43  
Bastidas-Arteaga, Emilio: 974  
Baumgartner, Sebastian : 949  
Becks, Henrik: 101, 1233  
Belis, Jan: 1581  
Bello, Vanessa: 629, 1014  
Ben Afia, Achraf: 1623  
Bertels, Emma Lien: 191  
Berten, Karlien: 197  
Bhowmick, Alok: 1572  
Bielak, Jan: 101, 1233  
Bienefelt, Jos: 1357  
Biliszczuk, Jan: 540  
Binder, Fritz: 341  
Bissing, Hendrik: 1537  
Blanksvärd, Thomas: 425, 450, 629, 1014  
Block, Philippe: 690, 2016  
Bodarwé, Eric: 2035  
Boiadjieva, Raina: 1941  
Bontemps, Philippe: 1144  
Boros, Vazul: 1040  
Bos, Clémence: 1855  
Bosbach, Sven: 1163, 1872  
Bosch-Sijtsema, Petra: 622  
Bottaro, Sara: 1590  
Botte, Wouter: 1092, 1789, 1805  
Bouten, Sam: 690  
Bouzas, Óscar: 1839  
Braml, Thomas: 783, 793  
Brehm, Eric: 1313, 1831  
Briseghella, Bruno: 801, 1454  
Brouste, Alexandre: 1242  
Bruchner, Marc: 166  
Burtscher, Stefan L.: 341  
Cabaleiro, Manuel: 1839  
Caetano, Elsa: 481  
Cai, Jinlun: 1917, 1931  
Cairns, John: 1057  
Camara, Alfredo: 1398  
Carolin, Anders: 965  
Cartiaux, François-Baptiste: 1242  
Caspeelee, Robby: 1092, 1789, 1805  
Cayatte, Charles: 1181  
Cervantes, David: 1437  
Cervenka, Jan: 885  
Chaabouni, Mohamed: 2025  
Chardakova, Tanya : 124  
Chen, Lin: 893, 1651  
Chen, Yu: 598  
Chiocciariello, Ambra: 2025  
Choi, Carol: 1205  
Cid Montoya, Miguel: 1982  
Claesson, Anders: 1280  
Coene, Renaat: 682  
Collin, Peter: 1700, 1709, 1718, 1882  
Collings, David: 109, 1288  
Combescure, Etienne: 1144  
Comelieu, Ludivine: 741  
Conde, Borja: 1839  
Coni, Mauro: 995  
Cook, Michael J.: 25  
Coric, Ibrahim: 965



Cornelius, Thomas: 809  
Costa, Carla Neves: 1823  
Cotecchia, Federica: 1083  
Cramer, Jacqueline: 21  
Croce, Pietro: 52, 1074  
Culek, Bohumil: 1555  
Czaderski, Christoph: 1746  
Dai, Yu: 1304  
Dallaire, Pierre-Olivier: 1066  
Dalpedri, Roberto: 299  
D'Amato, Michele: 305  
Daohang, Hu: 925  
Datry, Jean-Bernard: 1144  
de Almeida, Luiz Carlos: 1797, 1823  
De Backer, Hans: 768, 776, 877, 1110, 1126, 1323  
de Boer, Ane: 331  
de Boon, Johan: 726, 933  
De Bruijn, Jos: 1965  
de Meijier, Felix: 70  
De Pauw, Bart: 197  
de Ville de Goyet, Vincent: 709, 1215, 1658, 1667, 1891, 1909, 1982  
De Winne, Pieter: 776, 1126  
Delrue, Sabine: 70  
Demirlioglu, Kultigin: 441  
Denoel, Vincent: 511  
Dey, Pampa: 1415, 1623, 2044  
Di, Fangdian: 893  
Diamantidis, Dimitris: 974  
Diana, Giorgio: 1982  
Díaz, Iván M.: 2053  
Dillen, Wouter: 828  
Ding, Luchuan: 1789  
Dong, Li: 644  
Dorr, Rachel: 868  
Dreifke, Paul: 1103  
Drenth, Eize: 726  
Du, Guangli: 809  
Duchêne, Yves: 1658  
Duchêne, Yves: 1667, 1891  
Dumortier, Alain: 709  
Duran, Bernardo: 133, 349  
Durand, Paul-Emile: 1990  
Duxbury, James: 1205  
Efthymiou, Eleftheria: 1398  
Ehrlacher, Alain: 1242  
Einarsson, Baldvin: 718  
Ekambaram, R.: 1728, 1761  
el Ogrî, Soufiane: 2044  
Elfgren, Lennart: 965  
El-Mahrouk, Omar : 949  
Enoksson, Ola: 965  
Erduran, Emrah: 441  
Erskine, Theresa: 1066  
Escobar, J. Alberto: 249, 1430, 1437  
Euler, Mathias: 1479  
Fan, Shushu: 955  
Fang, Heng: 877  
Fanselow, Michael: 666  
Fantón, Andreia Romero: 1797, 1823  
Farina, Xavier: 191  
Fenerci, Aksel: 1606  
Feremans, Gerrit: 580  
Ferlisi, Settimio: 1083  
Fernandez, Ignasi: 382  
Feron, Jonas: 1196  
Firus, Andrei: 1614, 1633  
Fischer, Oliver: 734  
Flesch, Rainer: 1614  
Flock, Julian: 1215  
Flores-Vidriales, David: 249  
Formichi, Paolo: 52  
François, Stijn: 580  
Frangi, Andrea: 1863  
Fu, Wurong: 497  
Fujiwara, Masaki : 1005  
Furunes, Eirik Wie: 1999  
Gagné, Martin: 133, 349  
Gallegos-Calderón, Christian: 2053  
Gallo, Christoph: 1258  
Galvão, Neryvaldo: 1847  
Gao, Hao: 845  
Geist, Phillip: 868  
Gens, Frédéric: 741, 1667, 1891  
Georgiev, Lazar: 418, 660, 1273  
Geuzaine, Margaux: 511  
Giacchetta, Stéphane: 1215  
Gibert Suñé, Emma: 1330  
Gibson, Rupert: 1496  
Gigliotti, Rosario: 305  
Gil Berrocal, Carlos: 382  
Giordano, Pier Francesco: 1643



- Göckel, Tim: 1103, 1135  
Gómez-Martínez, Roberto: 249, 1023, 1430, 1437  
Gonzalez-Libreros, Jaime: 965, 1813  
Göttgens, Bastiaan: 141  
Gration, David: 1496  
Gryniuk, Michael: 224  
Guerrero, Hector: 1430, 1437  
Guo, Junchen: 1917  
Häggström, Jens: 965  
Hällmark, Robert: 1700, 1709  
Hansen, Lars Zenke: 809  
Hanus, François: 175  
Haring, Frank: 1357  
Harsányi, Peter: 561  
Haslbeck, Matthias: 783, 793  
Havelange, Charles: 1215  
Hectors, Kris: 986  
Hegger, Josef: 101, 1163, 1233, 1872  
Hekič, Doron: 1264  
Hellemans, Luc: 35  
Hendriks, Max: 819, 933  
Hengeveld, Sjoerd: 1488  
Hernandez, Santiago: 1982  
Hertle, Robert: 1313, 1831  
Hertle, Thomas: 793, 1313  
Hewson, Nigel: 1249  
Hildebrand, Maciej: 540  
Hogesteeger, Paul: 166  
Hou, Shengjun: 459  
Huang, Dongzhou: 589  
Huang, Fuyun: 1454  
Huang, Yicheng: 589  
Huang, Yong: 1931  
Huber, Tobias: 836  
Iakovidis, Iason: 366  
Imam, Boulent: 974  
Iqbal, Nouman: 1126  
Ivanov, Radan: 79  
Ivanov, Stoyan: 660, 675  
Jackson, Chris: 1296  
Jacob, Bernard: 1242  
Jaigopal, RK: 1572  
Jaspaert, Dirk: 828  
Jensen, Rasmus Neigaard Lund: 1692  
Jia, Shuaidong: 459  
Jian, Xudong: 435, 526  
Jiang, Chuanbin: 459  
Jiang, Haili: 497  
Jiang, Xu: 1771  
Jilissen, Danny: 356  
Jing, Guoqiang: 526  
Jinlun, Cai: 1924  
Jiponov, Alexander: 418  
Johansson, Mikael: 1280  
Junchen, Guo: 1924  
Jurado, José Ángel: 1982  
Jussila, Antti: 1031  
Kajita, Atsuto : 941  
Kalfas, Konstantinos N.: 284  
Kaneda, Takao: 1422  
Kardas, Maurice: 758  
Karlsson, Mats: 622  
Kashif, Muhammad: 776, 1126  
Kavrov, Igor: 1982  
Kertaoui, Zakaria: 1144  
Kestner, Dirk: 224  
Kino, Junichi: 94  
Kitahara, Takeshi: 1392  
Knight, Alan: 175  
Knobloch, Markus: 1537  
Knorrek, Christian: 1163, 1872  
Koekkoek, Rutger: 313  
Kohl, Antonia: 1614, 1633  
Kohns, Julia: 1366  
Köhserli, Mehmet: 1598  
Konstantinidis, Dimitrios: 284  
Kopp, Michaela : 949  
Korthagen, Paul: 62  
Kosič, Mirko: 1264  
Kozai, Senju : 1005  
Kreilova, Katerina: 974  
Kromoser, Benjamin: 836  
Kuhlmann, Ulrike: 1118, 1479  
Kunz, Claus: 1348  
Kusser, Georg: 1135  
Kvock, Vincent: 615  
Kwapisz, Maciej: 1614  
Laagland, Jeroen: 1339  
Lachinger, Stefan: 1264  
Lædre, Ola: 622  
Lage, Rangel Costa: 1823  
Lagerkvist, Johan: 622



- Lai, Minghui: 391  
Landi, Filippo: 52, 1074  
Lantsoght, Eva: 313  
Lantsoght, Eva O.L.: 322, 356  
Larose, Guy L.: 1066, 1982  
Larsen, Allan: 1982  
Latteur, Pierre: 1196  
Laubach, Andreas: 1103, 1135  
Lavigne, Thomas: 2025  
Le Corvec, Véronique: 1242  
Le Dem, Clement: 1144  
Leen, Pieter: 758  
Lemaire, Arnaud: 1181  
Lenner, Roman: 1040  
Leonetti, Davide: 1546  
Lepoev, Milcho: 1273  
Leroy, Amaury: 1909  
Li, Jianzhong: 266, 1407  
Li, Wanheng: 504  
Li, Wencong: 1901  
Li, Xiaoliang: 467  
Li, Yue: 974  
Ligot, Jérôme: 1658  
Lilja, Heikki: 1031  
Limongelli, Maria Pina: 1643  
Lin, Jianhui: 801  
Lin, Weiwei: 1031  
Liu, Che: 141  
Liu, Hanyong: 504  
Liu, Jian: 653  
Liu, Xinhong: 459, 467  
Liu, Zhanhang: 901  
Liu, Zhan-hang: 1651  
Lombaert, Geert: 398, 404, 828, 1092, 1633  
Lombardi, Luke: 224  
Loss, Cristiano: 1590  
Luo, Lanxin: 475, 901  
Lv, Zhilin: 1771  
Lystad, Tor Martin: 1606  
Ma, Haiying: 391, 534, 549, 638, 653, 845  
Maag, Iben: 1692  
Maas, Toon: 2035  
Maes, Kristof: 398, 404, 580  
Maier, Nadine: 1974  
Mailhot, Guy: 1205  
Maljaars, Johan: 726, 1488, 1546  
Maneo, Alessio: 1074  
Marenda, Ivan: 293, 299  
Marioni, Agostino: 299  
Markogiannaki, Olga: 974  
Martino, Massimiliano: 1074  
Mashayekh, Adel: 1462  
Maslak, Mariusz: 909  
Masse, David: 1144  
Matos, José C.: 1383, 1779, 1847  
Matsui, Shun: 1754  
Matthys, Stijn: 1746  
Mattiello, Emanuele: 1066  
Mauris, Georges: 1990  
Meijer, Emiel: 1330  
Mellenthin Filardo, Martina: 1949  
Meng, Niculin: 150, 489, 666  
Menga, Antonia: 1057  
Mengeot, Pierre: 690, 1196  
Mengeot, Pierre: 1196  
Mensingher, Martin: 1974  
Mertens, Ruben: 828  
Mészöly, Tamás: 561  
Miccoli, Stefano: 1863  
Miebach, Frank: 1135  
Mirzazade, Ali: 450  
Mirzazade, Ali : 425  
Missinne, Jeroen: 1581  
Mistretta, Fausto: 995  
Mitoulis, Stergios: 284  
Miyachi, Kazuhiro: 941  
Moons, Matthij: 62  
Moor, Gianni: 666  
Moreira, Camila de Queiroz: 1823  
Morfidis, Konstantinos: 366  
Morgenthal, Guido: 1982  
Moriyama, Hitoshi: 1684  
Mullins, Paul: 1288  
Murayama, Minoru: 1519  
Muszynski, Mark: 159  
Nader, Marwan: 1205  
Nady, Peter: 1375  
Nagata, Kazutoshi: 1392  
Nakamura, Shunichi: 1511  
Naranjo-Pérez, Javier: 2053  
Naseem, Ahsan: 1126  
Nategh, Shahryar: 1581



Navratil, Jaroslav: 860	Pisani, Marco Andrea: 1643
Ndogmo, Joseph: 1974	Pompeu-Santos, Silvino: 1153
Ney, Laurent: 206, 2035	Popescu, Cosmin: 425, 450, 629, 1014
Ney, Laurent: 2035	Popescu, Mariana: 690
Ni, Peng: 497, 504	Porpiglia, Giuseppe: 233
Nicodemo, Gianfranco: 1083	Pozzuoli, Chiara: 1066
Nielsen, Joergen: 809	Pregolato, Maria: 974
Nielsen, Silja Tea: 2005	Preinstorfer, Philipp: 836
Nilforoush, Rasoul: 1700	Prenger, Frank: 133, 349
Nilimaa, Jonny: 965	Ptacek, Lisa: 1855
Nohara, Norihiro: 1504	Puccini, Benedetta: 1074
Nosiglia, Luis: 1909	Pukl, Radomir: 885
Nowak, Marcel: 734	Pulido, Dolores G.: 2053
Nussbaumer, Alain: 700, 748	Puppio, Mario Lucio: 995
Nuti, Camillo: 801, 1454	Puurula, Arto: 965
O'Connor, Alan: 974	Qiang, Xuhong: 1771
O'Connor, Alan: 1040, 2005	Qvisen, Jami: 1031
Øiseth, Ole: 1606	Rakovec, Tomas: 1357
Olipitz, Michael: 605	Ralbovsky, Marian: 1264
Omarini,, Simone: 1982	Ramirez, Sergio: 1990
Onysyk, Hanna: 540	Ranaudo, Francesco: 690, 2016
Orcesi, André: 974, 1040	Randl, Norbert: 561
O'Riordan, Kieran: 141	Rat, M. Dominique: 141
Oshima, Kunihiro: 1504	Rauch, Marion: 1537
O'Suilleabhain, Colm: 489	Reedijk, Bas: 256
Ou, Yangxun: 376	Rehounek, Lubos: 885
Outtier, Amelie: 776, 1323	Reichenbach, Sara: 836
Owolabi, David: 1590	Reis, António: 1172
Palermo, Mattia: 1643	Reiterer, Michael: 1633
Palmisano, Fabrizio: 1057, 1083	Rempel, Sergej: 101
Pantazopoulou, Stavroula: 43	Rempling, Rasmus: 382, 622
Papastergiou, Dimitrios: 748	Retzepis, Ioannis: 183
Parlikad, Ajith Kumar: 518	Reynders, Edwin: 571
Parwani, Kamakshi: 1357	Richli, Thomas: 489
Pazdanowski, Michal: 909	Riego, Nicolás: 1839
Pedersen, Claus: 2005	Riemens, Kris: 1304
Pedersen, Øivind: 2005	Rikken, Maarten: 1496
Pedro, José: 1172	Riveiro, Belén: 1839
Peduto, Dario: 1083	Rocchi, Daniele: 1982
Peigneux, Christophe: 1189	Rokutani, Takuma: 1392
Pelke, Eberhard: 1258	Roldsgaard, Joan Hee: 2005
Peltomaa, Mikko: 1031	Roosen, Marco: 819, 933
Pětioký, Marek: 1555	Rossi, Edoardo: 305, 561
Peyerl, Martin: 1855	Roy, Bidhan Chandra: 1728, 1761
Philippart, Arnaud: 1658	Rutten, Christophe: 511
Piroglu, Elişan Filiz: 1383	Ryan, Paraic: 974



- Saad, Saad: 43  
Sakura, Ryo: 1684  
Salehi, Mohammadreza: 441  
Salens, Wim: 580  
Salman, Abdullahi: 974  
Sanabria, Rafael: 1813  
Sanchez, Raul: 1023  
Santaloia, Francesca: 1083  
Sarmiento, Silvia: 965, 1816  
Sas, Gabriel: 965, 1813  
Sasaki, Eiichi: 955  
Sasidharan, Manu: 518  
Sassu, Mauro: 995  
Scantlebury, Richard: 1249  
Schaafsma, Dick: 819, 933  
Schaffitzel, Jürgen: 1103, 1135  
Schaller, Melanie: 1258  
Schevenels, Mattias: 828  
Schito, Paolo: 233  
Schmidová, Eva: 1555  
Schmidt, Franziska: 974, 1040, 1242  
Schneider, Jens: 1633  
Schoefs, Franck: 974  
Schöning, Markus: 734  
Schooling, Jennifer: 518  
Schultz, Joshua: 159, 868  
Sebastiani, Marco: 305  
Segher, Koen: 580  
Semiao, Jorge: 1242  
Seret, Sébastien: 1658  
Servais, Vincent: 1189  
Sevcik, Peter: 860  
Shamsan, Sanad: 1990  
Shao, Zhufeng: 534, 549  
Shi, Xuefei: 638, 653  
Shimmyo, Hiroshi: 1444  
Silva, Cecilia: 1813  
Simonsson, Peter: 622, 1718  
Sjaarda, Matthew: 700, 748  
Skarmoutsos, Georgios: 1479  
Sleiman, Martin: 1280  
Sliedrecht, Henk: 313  
Smits, Joris: 206  
Snaiki, Reda: 241  
Snijder, H.H. (Bert): 726, 1546  
Sobota, Paul: 1957  
Song, Jun: 638  
Song, Junho: 33  
Song, Yanchen: 845  
Soudijn, Maarten: 331  
Sousa, Hélder S.: 1779, 1847  
Spaargaren, Tom: 206  
Spiegler, Jennifer: 1118  
Stampler, Johann: 860  
Stark, Alexander: 1163  
Stempniewski, Lothar: 1366  
Stewart, Mark: 974  
Stirk Andersen, Michael: 1982  
Stoyanoff, Stoyan: 1982  
Strauss, Alfred: 341, 1855  
Strekelj, Gregor: 860  
Stringer, Megan: 224  
Su, Dan: 534  
Suchodola, Maciej: 909  
Suhm, Marina: 1049  
Sun, Dongli: 644  
Sun, Limin: 376, 435, 467, 475, 497, 504, 526, 555, 893, 901  
Sun, Li-min: 1651  
Sun, Pingkuan: 391  
Svechnikov, Egor: 726  
Svendsen, Martin N.: 1675, 1982  
Svensson, Dan: 1882  
Swann, Walter: 175  
Sýkora, Miroslav: 974  
Symoens, Evelien: 1581  
Takai, Toshikazu: 1684  
Takao, Michiaki: 852  
Takeya, Kouichi: 955  
Täljsten, Björn: 425, 450, 629, 1014  
Tallushi, Enea: 1974  
Tamm, Philipp: 734  
Tanev, Vaty: 1273  
Tang, Yufeng: 1454  
Teichgraeber, Marco: 540  
Teixeira, Elisabete: 1779  
Tepho, Thibault: 734  
Terwel, Karel: 62, 1565  
Thibault, Pierre: 1415  
Thielemans, Jonas: 682  
Tinoco, Joaquim: 1383  
Tirkkonen, Timo: 1031





- Tjepkema, Daan: 70, 1496  
Tobinaga, Hironobu: 1504, 1519  
Toda, Kensuke: 1754  
Tola, Sinem: 1383  
Tomek, Peter: 1555  
Toussaint, Patrice: 511  
Trautwein, Leandro Mouta: 1797, 1813, 1823  
Traykov, Alexander: 1738  
Traykova, Marina: 124, 1738  
Trias-blanco, Adriana: 412  
Trimech, Mahmoud: 1528  
Tromp, Liesbeth: 758  
Turmo, Jose: 391, 555  
Ueno, Keita: 598  
Uni Oskarsson, Kristjan: 718  
Urbina, Oscar: 1779  
Valée, Hendrik: 783  
Valur Guðmundsson, Guðmundur: 718  
van Alphen, Sander: 1965  
Van Beurden, Hanne: 828  
Van Bogaert, Philippe: 768, 1110  
Van Coile, Ruben: 1789  
Van De Velde, Menno: 404  
Van der Gaag, Bart-Jan: 758  
van der Spuy, Pierre: 1040  
van der Veen, Cor: 313, 819  
Van der Watt, Gerdus: 85  
van Dooren, Frank: 70  
van Dooren, Maikel: 1471  
van Doremaele, Koen: 1330  
van Eck, Gert-Jan: 215  
van IJselmuiden, Kees: 758  
van Leeuwen, Martin: 133, 349  
Van Mele, Tom: 690, 2016  
Van Roosbroeck, Thijs: 206  
van Rossum, Sebastiaan: 331  
Van Staen, Gilles: 768, 877, 1110, 1323  
Vandenbergh, Thomas: 1196  
Vanova, Patricia: 615  
Várkonyi, Péter L.: 1598  
Vassart, Olivier: 175  
Venturi, Giorgia: 1718  
Vereecken, Eline: 1092  
Vergoossen, Rob: 166, 215, 356  
Verstraelen, Edouard: 511, 1658  
Vervuurt, Adri: 1488  
Vestman, Victor: 1700, 1709, 1882  
Vide L'eau, Arneaux: 150  
Vill, Markus: 949  
Villafán, Tomás: 1614  
Vitone, Claudia: 1083  
Vnenk, Petr: 1555  
von Arnim, Mareike: 1118  
Vorwagner, Alois: 1264, 1614, 1633  
Vospernig, Michael: 1614  
Walbridge, Scott: 1528  
Walgenbach-Albat, Florian: 1135  
Walther, Tino: 1949  
Wang, Ao: 376, 526, 901  
Wang, Bin: 275  
Wang, Gang: 1917  
Wang, Jingjing: 275  
Wang, Junjie: 549, 845  
Wang, Yafei: 435, 526  
Wang, Zhongjie: 376  
Warnotte, Viviane: 1215  
Webster, Mark: 224  
Whitsell, Brooke : 868  
Will, Norbert: 101  
Wingo, Lauren: 224  
Wisal Khattak, Muhammad: 776  
Wise, Lucas: 1990  
Wium, Jan : 85  
Wong, Mary: 115  
Wu, Mingzi: 1224  
Wu, Teng: 241, 974, 1982  
Wyns, Kenneth: 690  
Xi, Ziheng: 845  
Xia, Ye: 435, 459, 467, 475, 497, 504, 526, 534, 549, 555, 901  
Xie, Bin: 644  
Xin, Zhao: 1924  
Xiong, XiangWen: 1224  
Xu, Dong: 1454  
Xu, Qi: 638, 653  
Xu, Wei: 801  
Xue, Junqing: 801, 1454  
Yamaguchi, Eiki: 1519  
Yamaguchi, Kazunori: 1422  
Yamaguchi, Takashi: 598, 852, 1684, 1754  
Yamaguchi, Takashi : 1005  
Yamamoto, Yuta: 1684



Yamauchi, Motoshi: 598, 1754  
Yang, Frances: 224  
Yang, Yuguang: 322, 356, 819  
Yao, Jie: 917  
Yaqub, Muhammad Arslan: 1746  
Youakim, Maher: 1375  
Yousfi, Adel: 150  
Zarate Garnica, Gabriela I.: 322  
Zasso, Alberto: 233  
Zdravkov, Lyubomir: 1273  
Zeidan, Talina: 191  
Zevenhoven, Bart: 1471  
Zhang, Chenyun: 1931  
Zhang, Shaoqiang: 376  
Zhang, Yizhuo: 644  
Zhang, Zongkai: 376  
Zhao, Xin: 917  
Zhao, Xin: 925, 1917, 1931  
Zhelyazov, Todor: 79  
Zheng, Yuqiang: 275  
Zhong, Gaojie: 376  
Zhong, Huaqiang: 475, 555  
Zhong, Jiwei: 435  
Zhong, Xueqi: 266, 1407  
Zhou, Mukai: 1771  
Zonco, Audrey: 141, 1144  
Zou, Yi-qing: 1651



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