

# Optimising in-situ testing for historic masonry structures

M. Sykora & J. Markova  
CTU in Prague



D. Diamantidis  
OTH Regensburg



# General overview

- Masonry construction - long history, scatter of properties (age, region-specific constituents, manufacturing)  
→ crucial to obtain case-specific information
  - For heritage structures, non- or minor-destructive tests (NDTs, MDTs) commonly applied along with a few DTs
- uncertainty of spot monitoring?**
- “In some cases, destructive tests may be necessary to calibrate NDT” - ISO 13822



# Current status

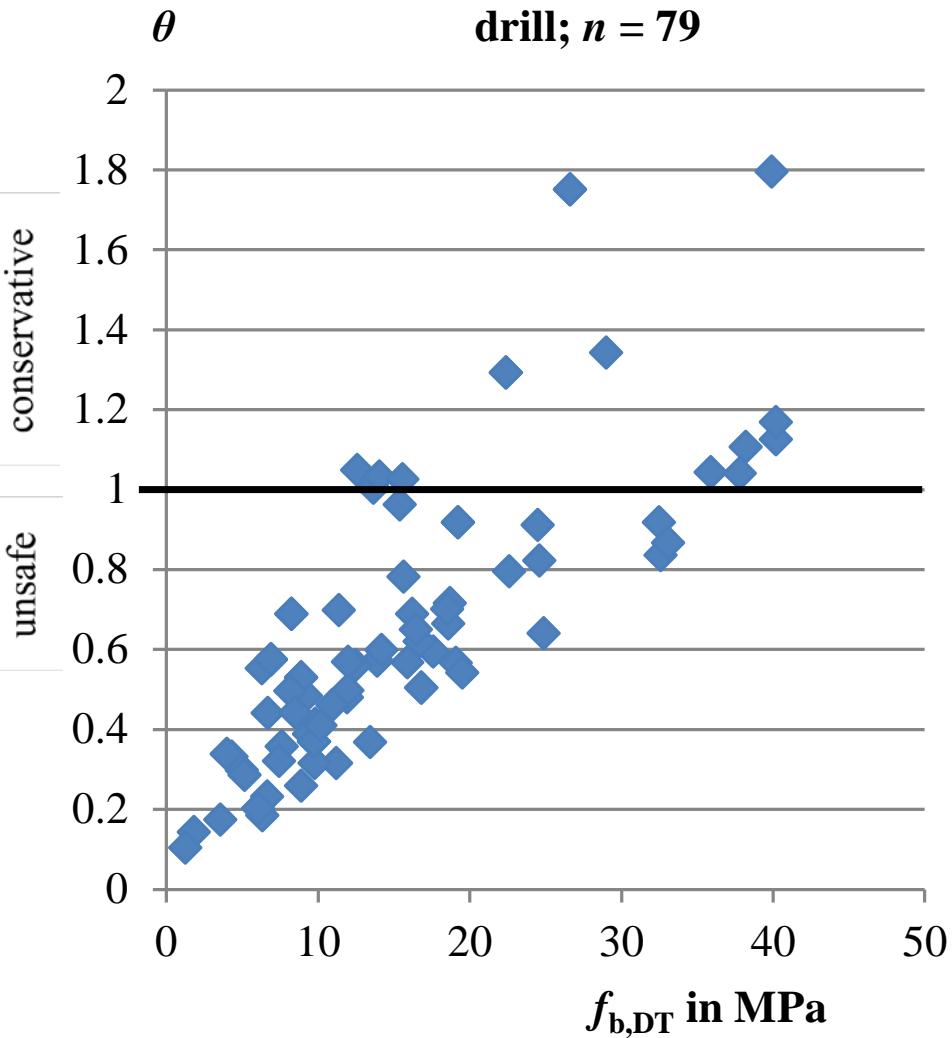
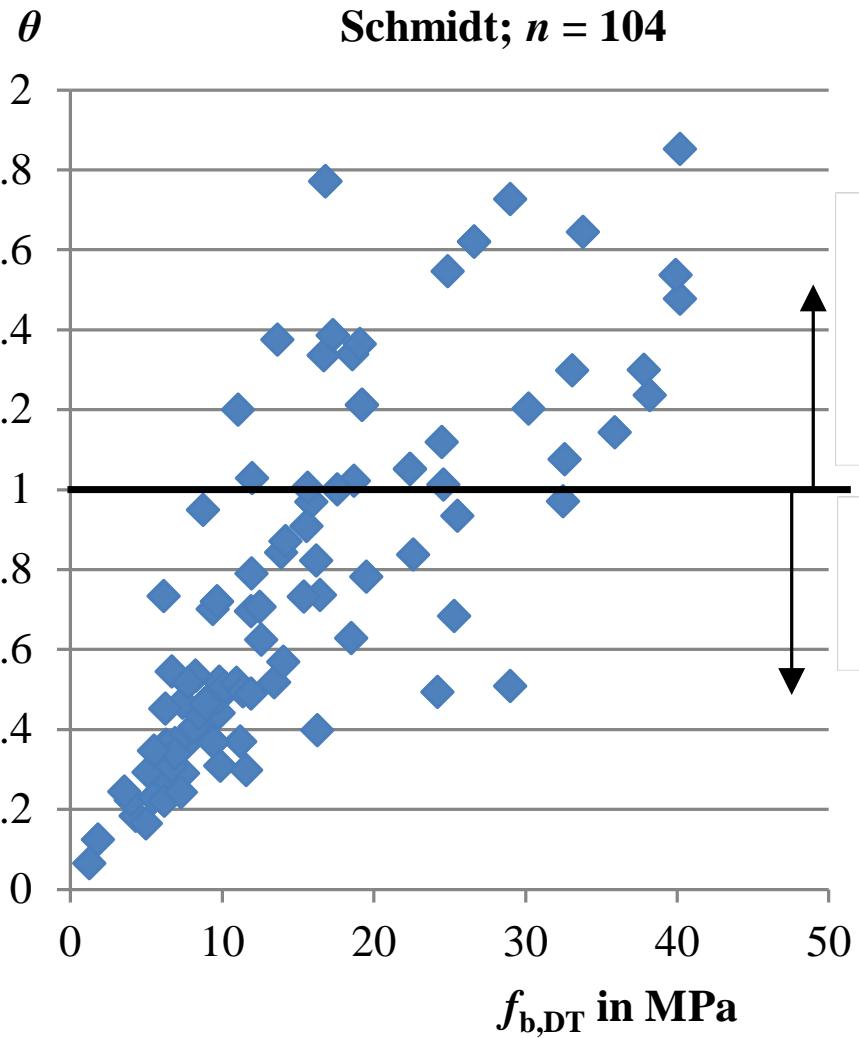
- Database of 14 historic stone and brick masonry structures from the 17th to the 20th century
- Schmidt hammer and modified drill tests verified by DTs of masonry units

Table 1: Basic information about the experimental database for strength of masonry units.

No.	Use of building	Built in	Masonry units	Number of measurements		
				DT	Schmidt*	drill*
1	vicarage	17 <sup>th</sup>	sandstone	3	3	3
2	church**	17 <sup>th</sup>	sandstone bricks pudding stone	11 6 1	11 6 1	11 6 1
3	printing works***	1930s	bricks	18	18	17
4	residential	end of 19 <sup>th</sup>	bricks	4	4	4
5	offices, storage	1890	bricks	6	6	3
6	monastery, barrack	1638	bricks marlstone	11 3	10 3	8 3
7	offices, archive	early 20 <sup>th</sup>	bricks marlstone	4 2	4 2	2 0
8	textile mill	second half of 19 <sup>th</sup>	bricks	6	6	4
9	boiler house	1959	bricks unspecified stone	4 1	4 1	1 1
10	water mill	1930	bricks unspecified stone	4 1	4 1	4 0
11	residential	1867	bricks granite	6 1	6 1	3 0
12	engineering works	1870	bricks	5	5	5
13	residential	1890	bricks marlstone	2 1	2 1	0 0
14	residential	1871	bricks	6	6	0

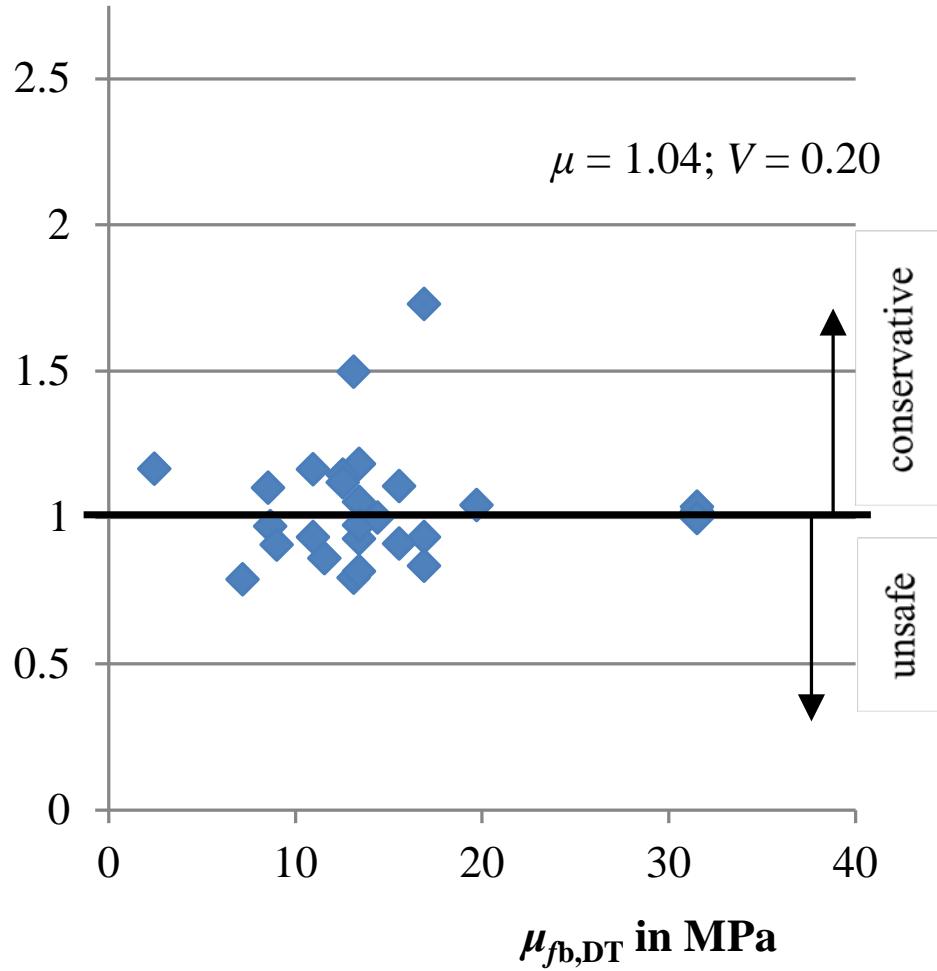
# Current status

$$\theta = f_{b,DT} / f_{b,NDT}$$

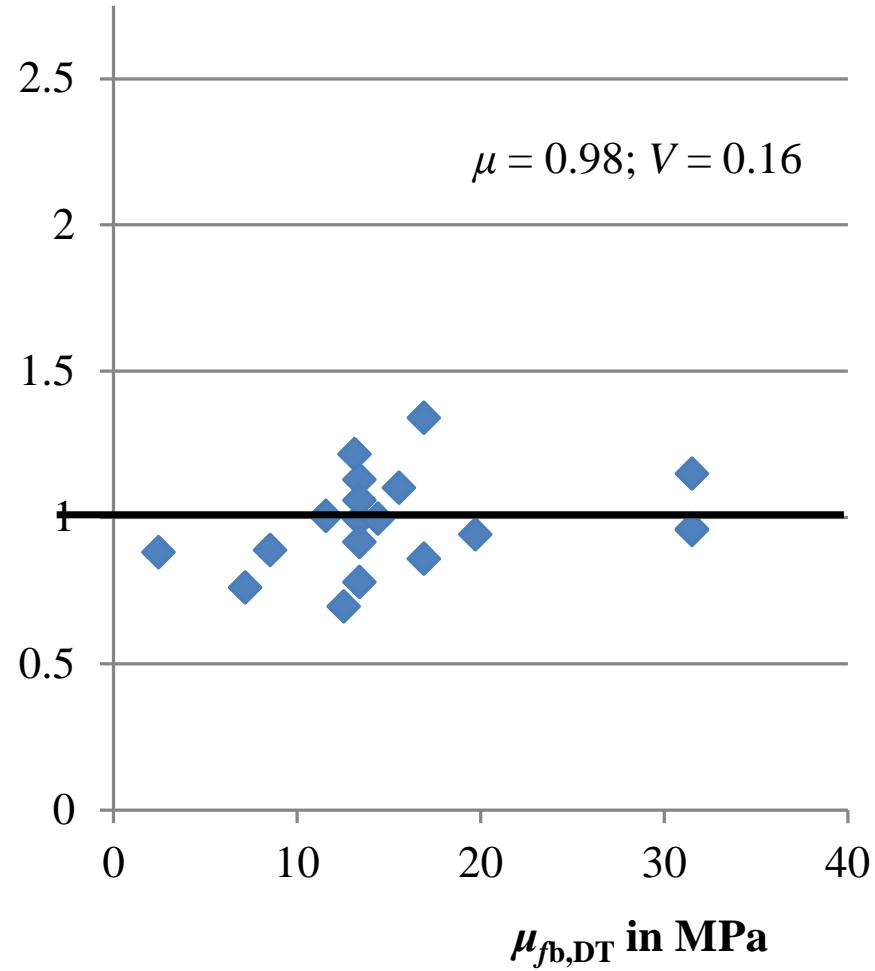


## NDTs calibrated by 3 DTs

$f_{k,DT}/f_{k,Schmidt}; n = 27$

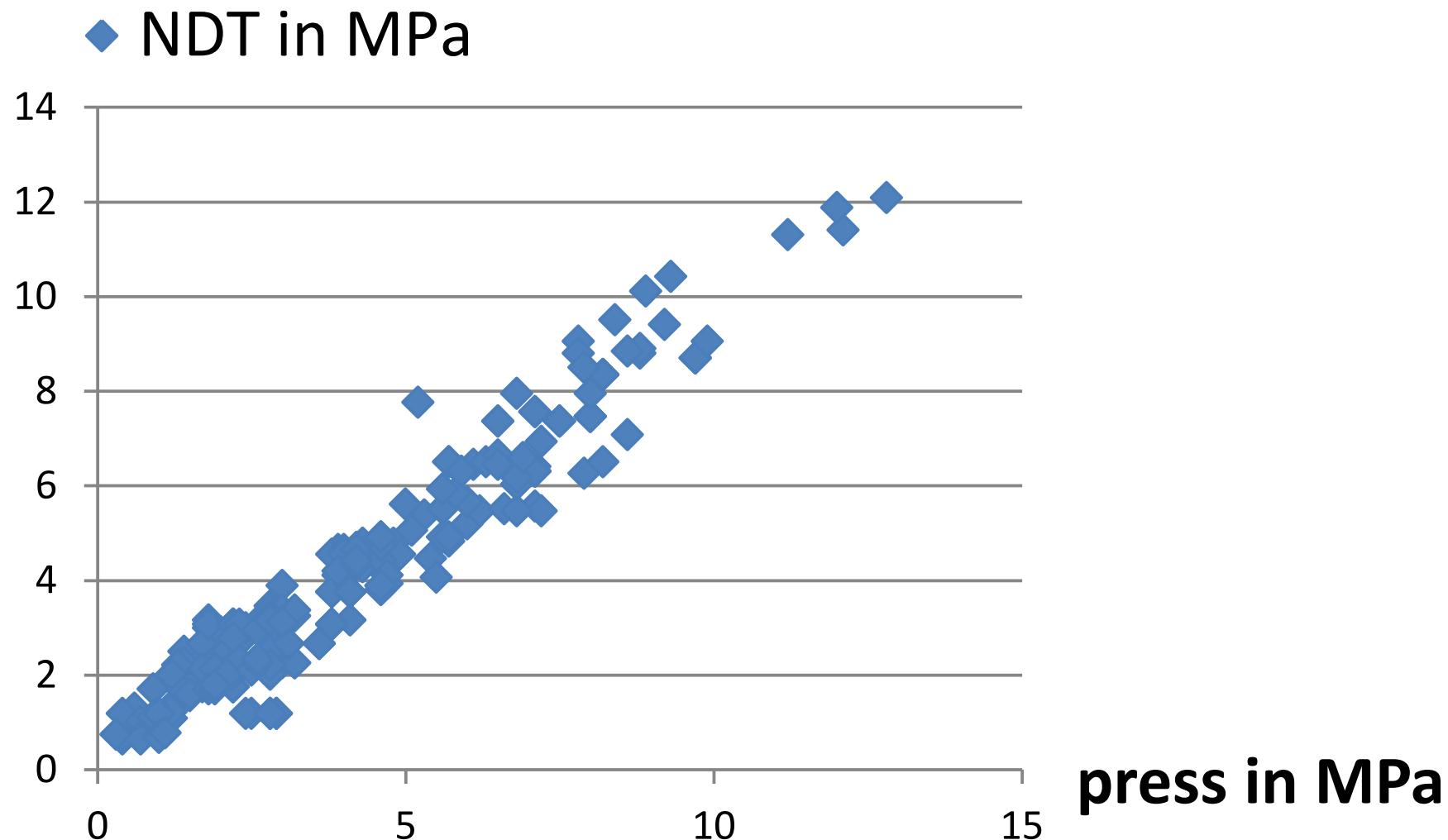


$f_{k,DT}/f_{k,drill}; n = 19$



## Current status

- Database for NDT to estimate mortar strength (lower importance)



# VoI analysis implementation

- *Appropriate method for survey*

Balance between related costs, uncertainty in outcomes and required precision.

- *Costs  $\sim n NDTs + m DTs$*

DTs may affect a cultural heritage value.

- $\beta(n, m)$

Assuming masonry compressive strength is a key parameter for reliability analysis.

- *Consideration of upgrade cost (if any)*

Upgrade may affect a cultural heritage value.

Optimum decision depends on how  $\beta_{\text{real}}$  is close to the target level (reason for assessment can be indicative).

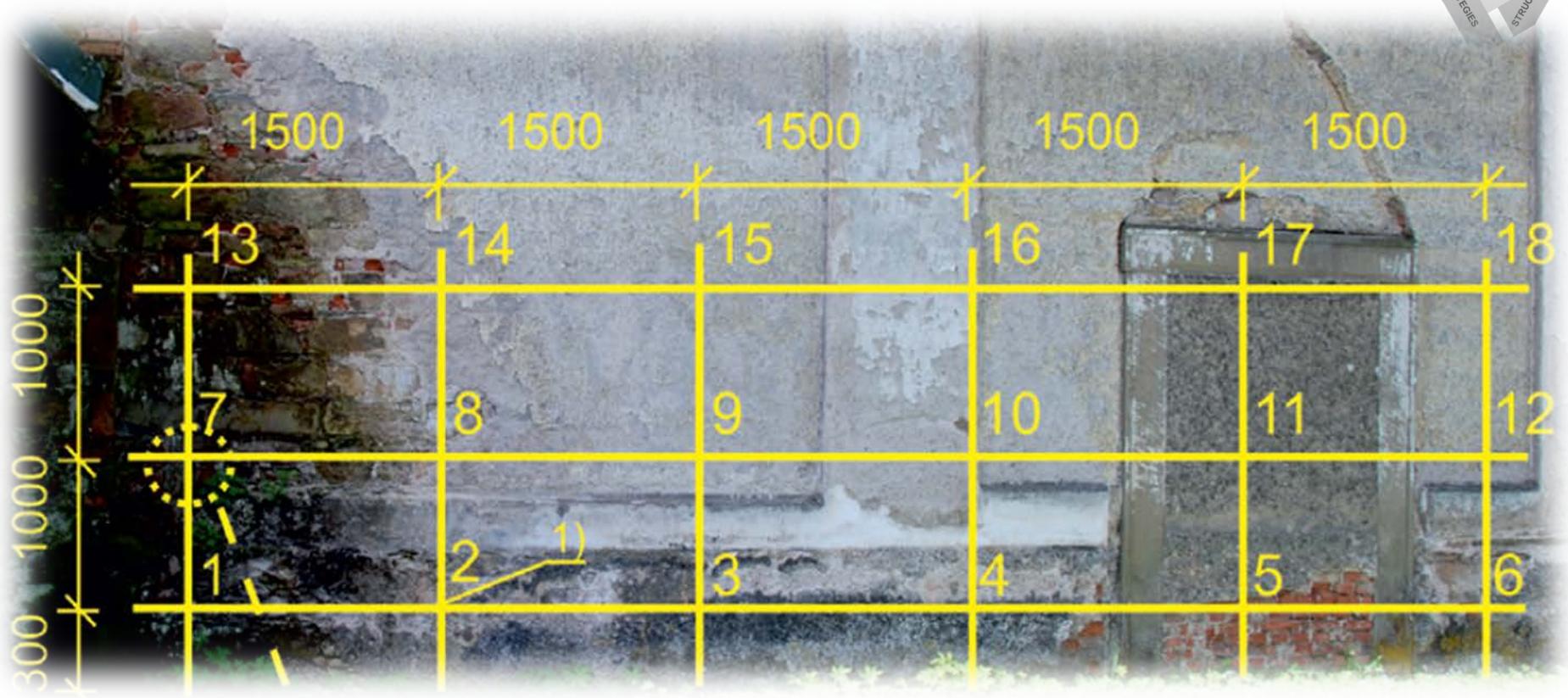
# Open questions

1. Calibration of NDTs by using the limited database?  
*All types of materials x materials individually – small samples.*
2. Number of tests for components of different areas?  
*Spatial variability, degradation effects.*
3. NDTs able to identify material non-homogeneity?
4. Distinction between preliminary and detailed assessment?
5. Quantification of related uncertainties for practical applications?

# Synergies with other case study proposals

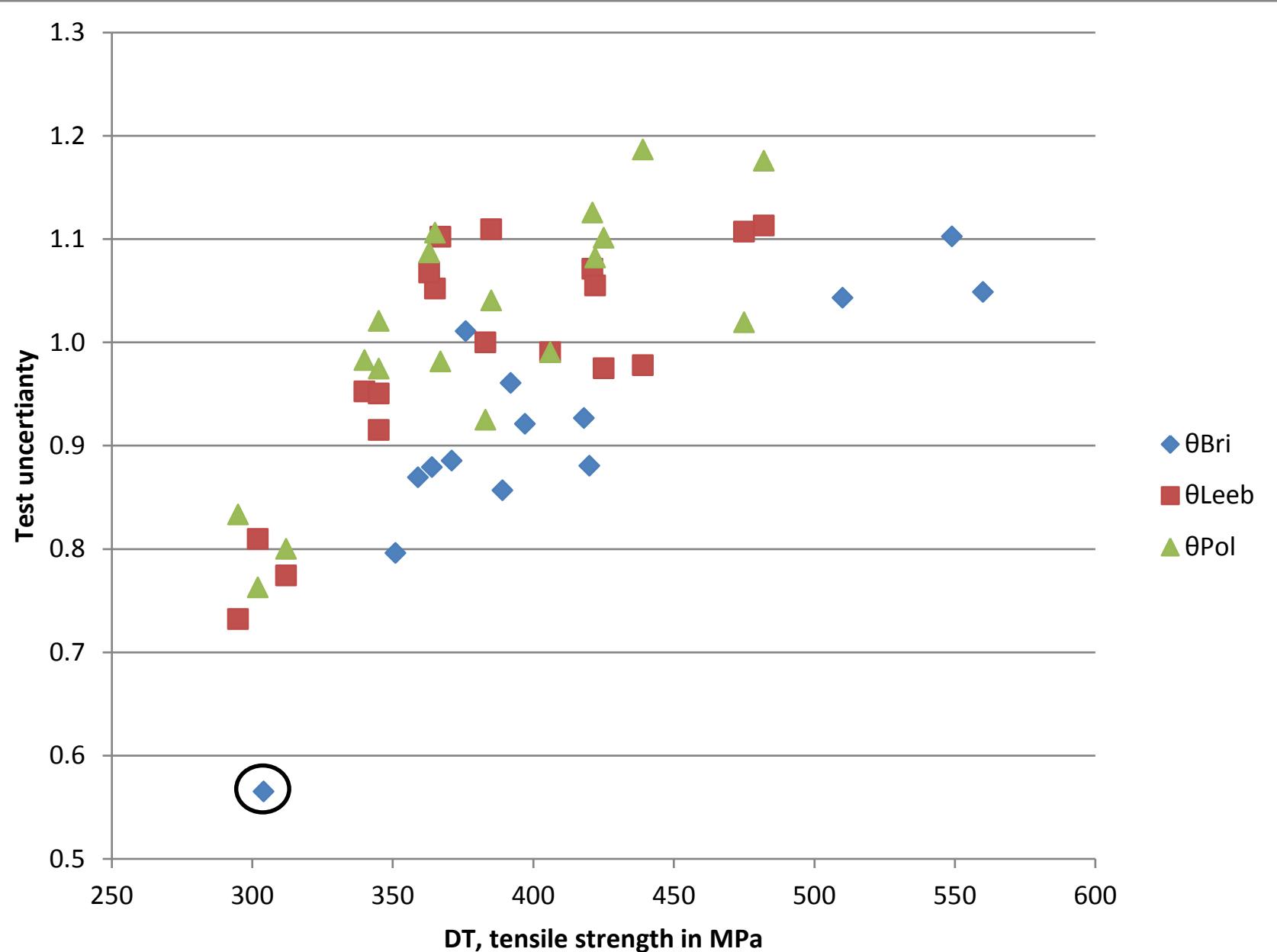
- Other TU1402 studies – to be discussed
- Similar database and needs for historic metal structures





Thank you for your attention.

# NDT – historic metal materials - current status



1. Poorly calibrated methods – trends of  $\theta$  with tensile strength
2. Limited dataset – indicative for methods with reduced test uncertainty?

	$\theta_{\text{Bri}}$	$\theta_{\text{Leeb}}$	$\theta_{\text{Pol}}$
n	14	18	18
m	0.91	0.99	1.01
s	0.13	0.12	0.12
V	0.14	0.12	0.12

# Open questions

1. Effect of a material type?

Wrought steel, different types of irons etc. – too small samples.

2. Number of tests for large structures?

Small spatial variability ( $V_{fu} < 0.12$ ), need to detect defects.

3. NDTs able to identify material non-homogeneity?

4. Distinction between preliminary and detailed assessment?

5. Quantification of related uncertainties for practical applications?