

# Hierarchical Modeling of Pipeline Defect Growth Subject to ILI Uncertainty

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deterioration of pipelines as a result of internal and external corrosion processes

-> subject to uncertainties:

- material uncertainties
- uncertainties in external influences (loading, environment)
- uncertainties in operating conditions
- various spatial and temporal uncertainties
- inspection uncertainties
- modeling uncertainties



NY-times online; largest U.S. oilfield in Alaska



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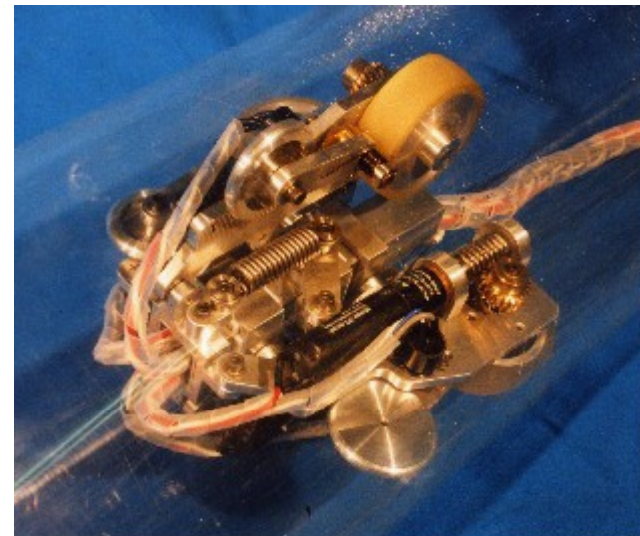
## challenges in life-time inspection

1. imprecise inspection data to estimate the progress of deterioration
2. heterogeneity in the degradation paths of distinct corrosion features
3. many types of corrosion can occur simultaneously such as internal pitting corrosion and micro-bacterial corrosion -> use of flexible stochastic processes.

inline inspection using an intelligent pig can only be performed infrequently and suffers from various uncertainties

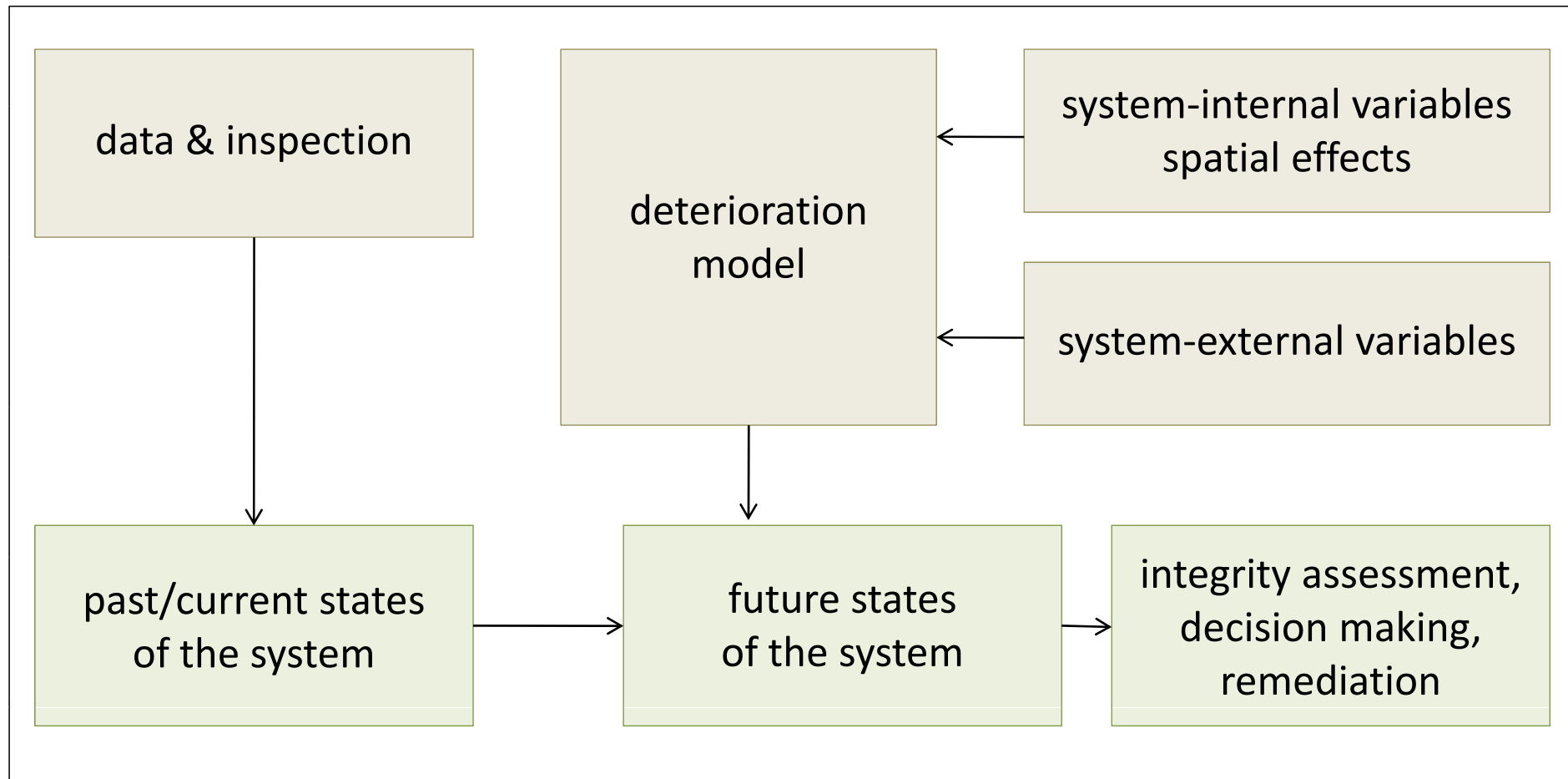


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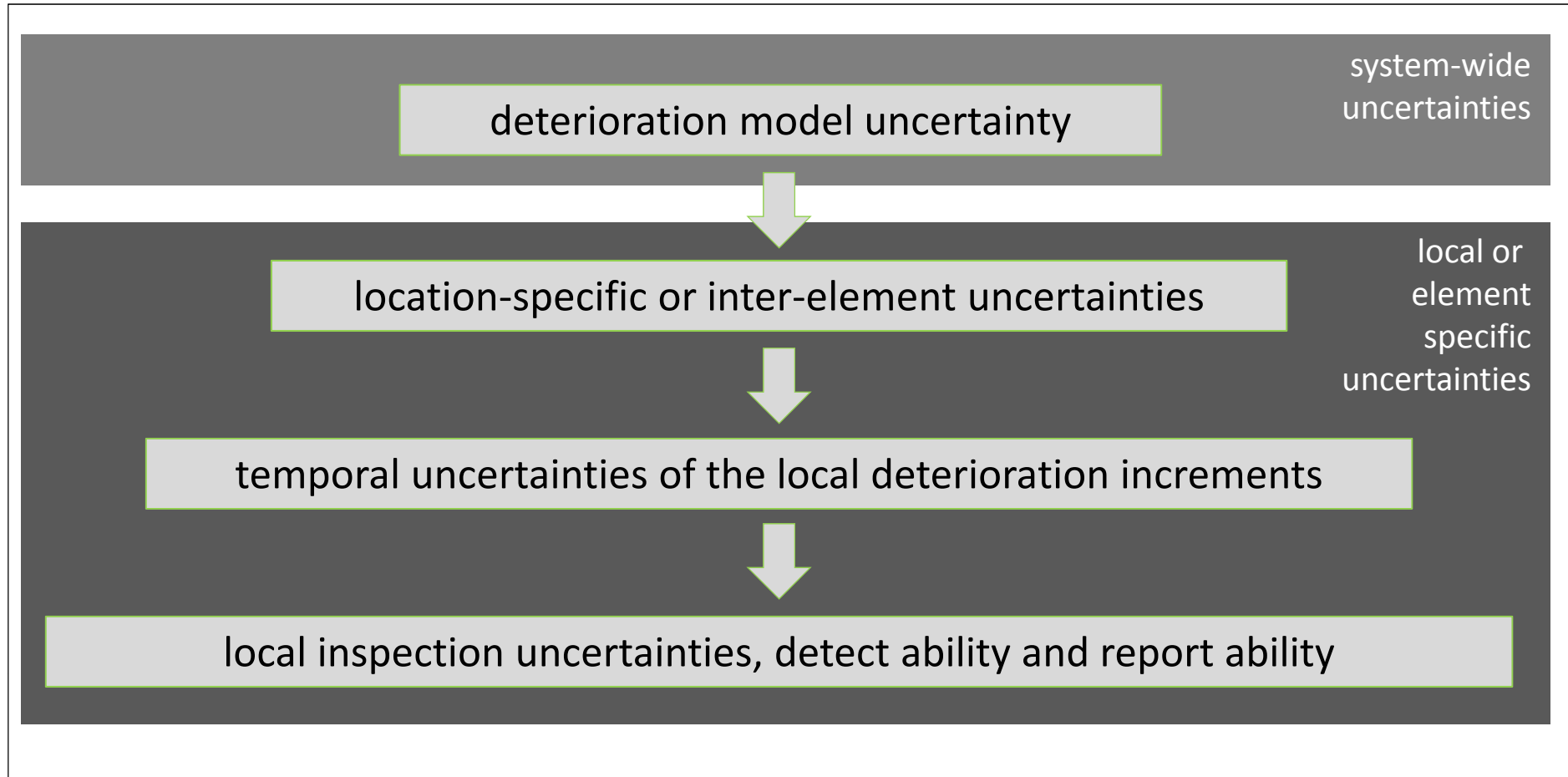


[www-robot.mes.titech.ac.jp](http://www-robot.mes.titech.ac.jp)

“Given imprecise past and current data, how can we estimate the future integrity and lifetime of the system in response to variables internal and external to the system?”



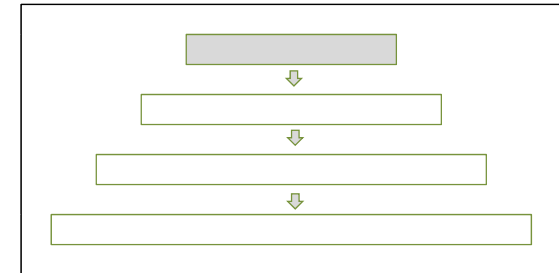
# hierarchical representation of uncertainties



Top level represents system-wide uncertainties.

Three inferior levels apply to each local point considered in the analysis.

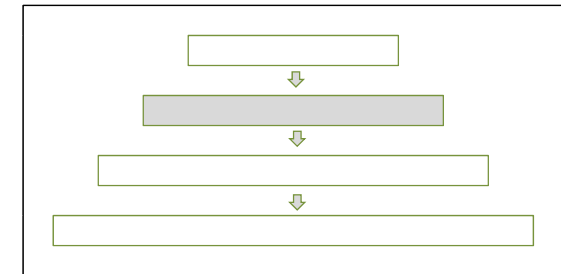
## deterioration model uncertainties



- captures all model uncertainties
  - relating to corrosion model
  - uncertain mechanistic or phenomenological aspects
  - are common to all points within a pipeline segment
  - epistemic uncertainties -> reflect assumed or postulated behaviour

## second level:

### location-specific or inter-element uncertainties



- some deterministic -> explained by local variations of internal or external covariates (temperature, exposure, stress, material susceptibility)
- cause and effect relationships also subject to model uncertainties

# second level:

## location-specific or inter-element uncertainties

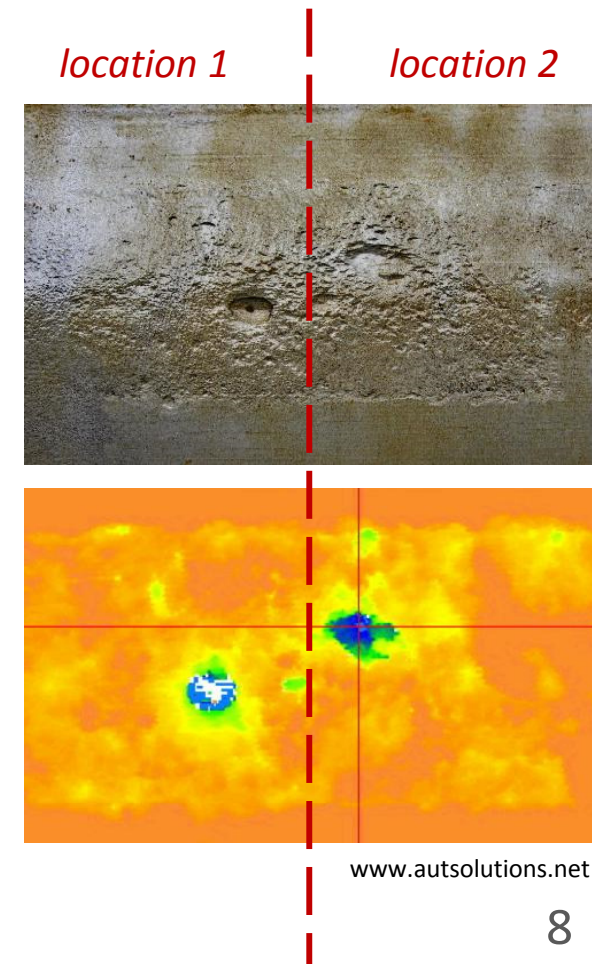
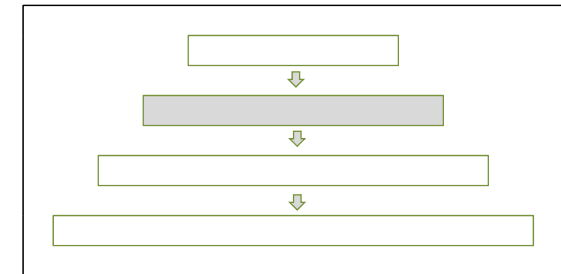
### spatial variation

stochastic corrosion model  
-> 2 steps of classifying “local” variation:

- explained by variation of the other local parameters  
= “COVARIATES” (include material property fluctuations, exposure, operating conditions)

+

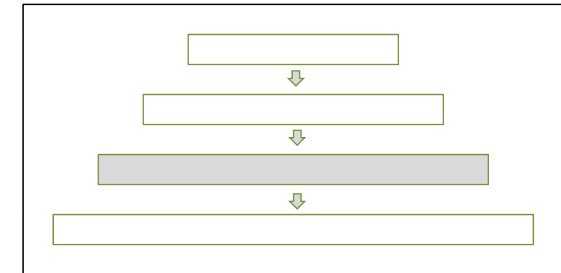
- additional local aleatory effects which cannot be explained by 1.





## third level:

temporal uncertainties of the local deterioration increments



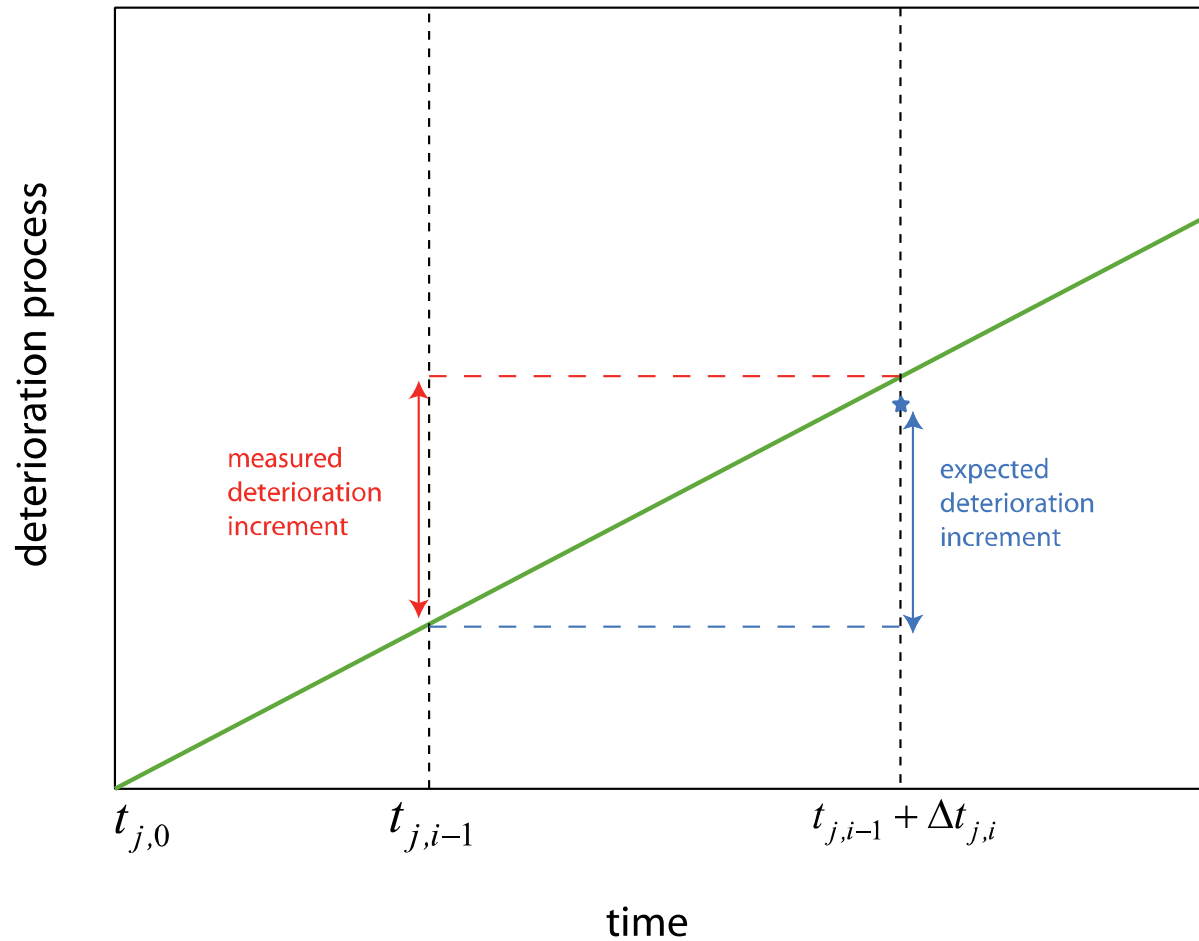
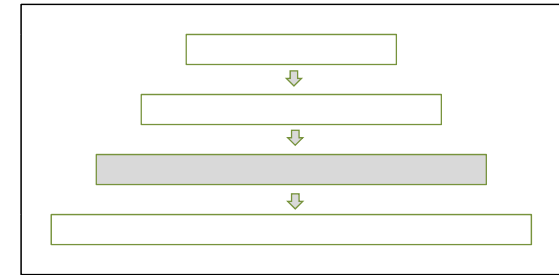
Given the uncertainties of the two levels above, ...

- ... any prediction of the degree of deterioration  $X(t + \Delta t)$  given its state  $X(t)$  at time  $t$ , is still subject to temporal uncertainty.
- ...the quantity  $X(t + \Delta t) - X(t)$  is a random variable.
- -> serial correlation (typical for any random process)  
-> refute of the traditional use of simple regression models

# third level:

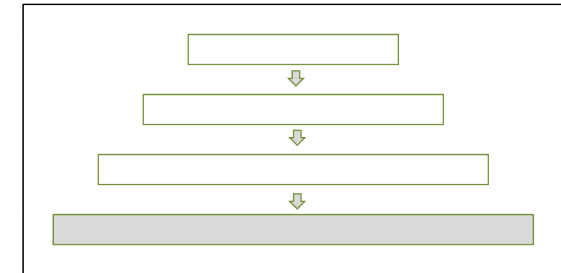
## temporal uncertainties of the local deterioration increments

at one particular location  $j$



# lowest level:

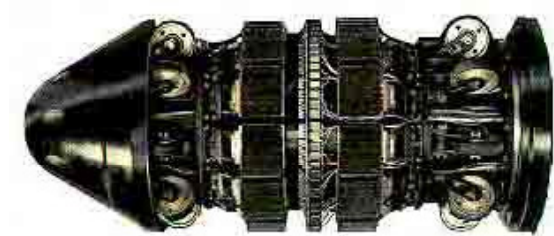
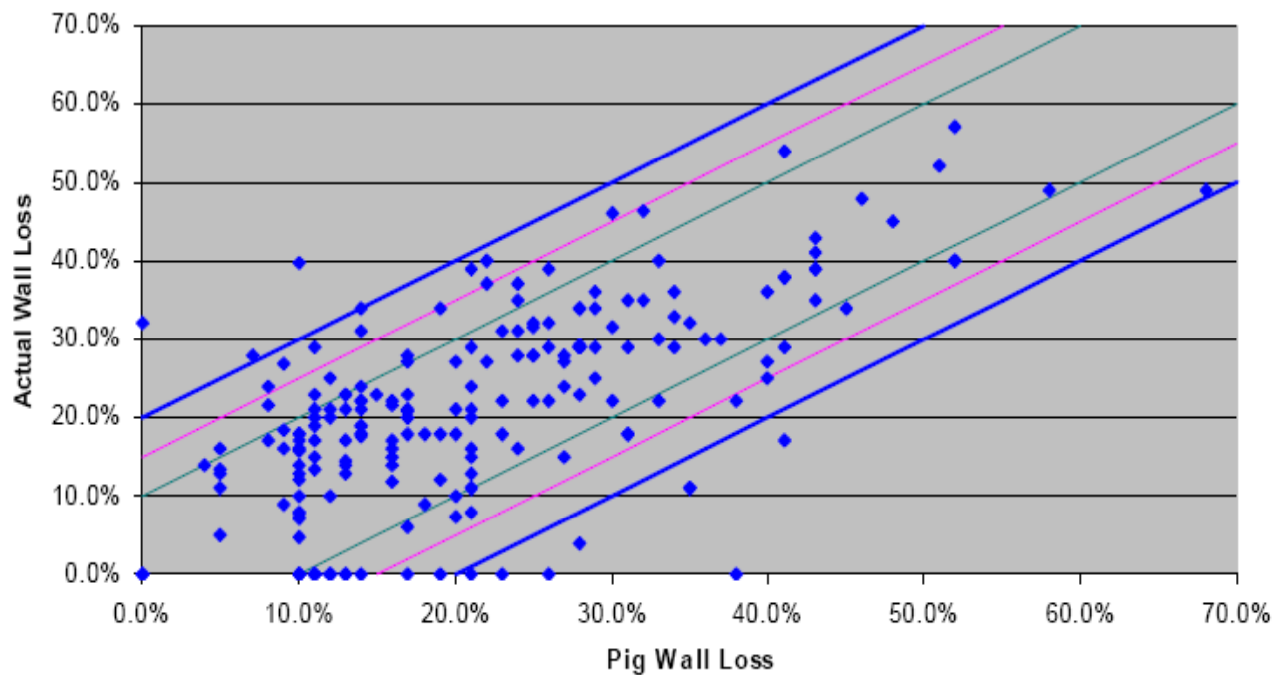
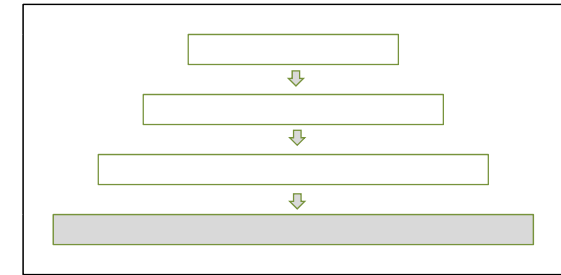
local inspection uncertainties,  
detect ability and report ability



- represents observational uncertainties
- imprecise measurement and inspection
- ->  $X'(t)$  is observed instead of the true but unobservable  $X(t)$ , both bivariate stochastic processes
- values of  $X'(t)$  at discrete points in time  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$
- conditional distribution of  $X'(t_i)$  given  $X(t_i)$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$
- $X'(t)$  accounts for detection, interpretation and reporting defects.

# lowest level uncertainties

Actual % pipeline wall loss due to internal corrosion versus measured % wall loss as observed by high resolution Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL) in-line-inspection pig

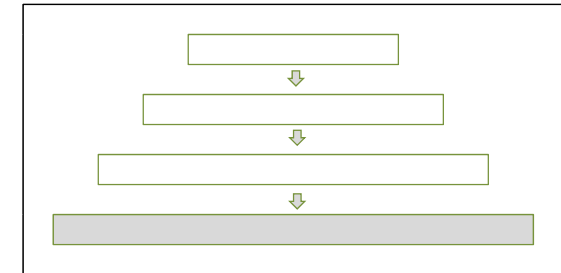


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-> considerable uncertainties are associated with in situ in-line-inspection defect reports

# lowest level:

local inspection uncertainties,  
detect ability and report ability



3 effects errors:

a) sizing

b) detect ability

c) report ability

inspection devices measure an inaccurate defect size:  $X_{M,j,i}$

actual true deterioration:  $X_{j,i}$  at one of  $m$  specific locations  $j (i = 1, \dots, n_j)$  and at one of  $n_j$  inspections  $i (i = 1, \dots, n_j)$  in time  $t_{j,i}$ .

$$X_{M,j,i} = X_{j,i} + \varepsilon_{j,i} \longrightarrow \text{measurement error due to inaccurately observed defect size}$$

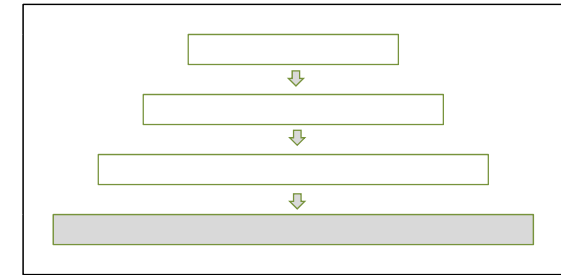
$$\varepsilon_{j,i} | \mathbf{C}_{\varepsilon,j}, j \sim \text{multi-normal}(0, \mathbf{C}_{\varepsilon,j})$$

↓  
known variance-covariance matrix

Errors at given locations are usually correlated due to device bias and algorithmic interpretation.

# lowest level:

local inspection uncertainties,  
detect ability and report ability



3 effects errors:

a) sizing

b) detect ability

c) report ability

Probability of detection:  $PD$  .

Depending on size of deterioration, defects may not be properly detected.

The larger the defect the higher the probability that the defect will be detected.

undetected defect:

$$1 - PD(X_{j,i})$$

detection indicator variable:

$$D_{j,i} | PD(X_{j,i}) \sim \text{bernoulli}(PD(X_{j,i}))$$

successful

detection:  $D = 1$

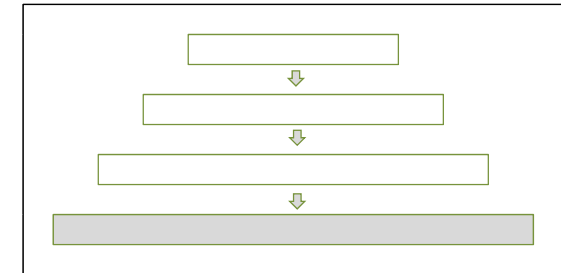
observable deterioration:

$$X_{o,j,i} = D_{j,i} \cdot X_{M,j,i}$$

detection threshold:  $x_T$

# lowest level:

local inspection uncertainties,  
detect ability and report ability



3 effects errors:

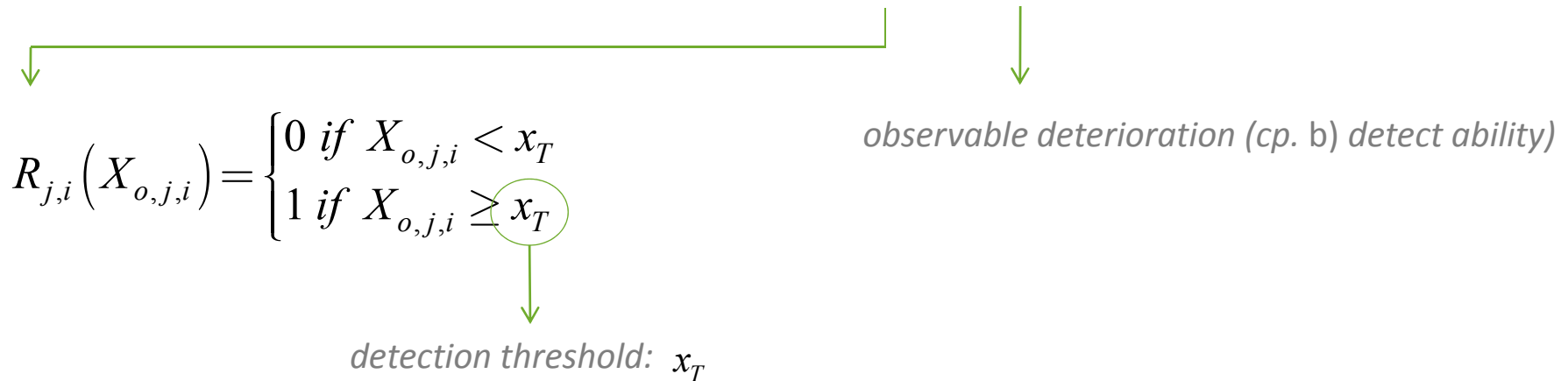
a) sizing

b) detect ability

c) report ability

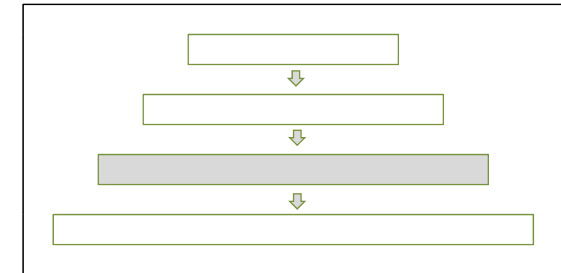
The deterioration reported by the inspection device as the actually observed deterioration corresponds to:

$$X_{R,j,i} = R_{j,i} \cdot X_{o,j,i}$$



## third level:

### temporal uncertainties of the local deterioration increments



#### assumptions:

- actual deterioration is sum of previous inspection deterioration and increment between last two inspection times.
- at the beginning of process deterioration is 0 with probability 1
- deterioration increments are independent
- increments positive
- -> deterioration modeled as gamma process

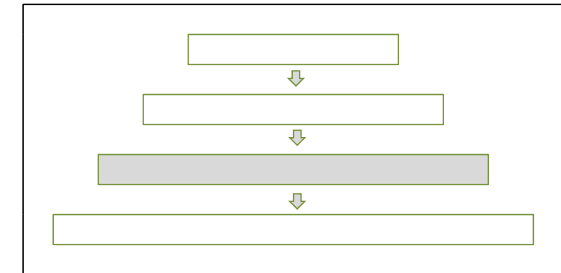
$$\Delta X_{j,i} \mid \Delta a_{j,i}, \beta_j \sim \text{gamma}(\Delta a_{j,i}, \beta_j)$$



## third level:

temporal uncertainties of the local deterioration increments

$$\Delta X_{j,i} \mid \Delta \alpha_{j,i}, \beta_j \sim \text{gamma}(\Delta \alpha_{j,i}, \beta_j)$$



$$\Delta X_{j,i} = \text{deterioration increment} = X_{j,i} - X_{j,i-1}$$

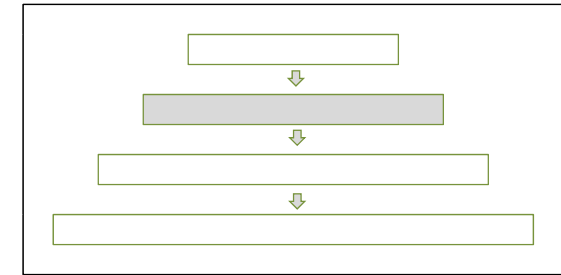
*difference of actual deterioration and deterioration at previous inspection*

$$\Delta \alpha_{j,i} = \text{shape param. of gamma distr.} = \theta_1 \left\{ \left( t_{j,i-1} + \Delta t_{j,i-1} \right)^{\theta_2} - \left( t_{j,i-1} \right)^{\theta_2} \right\}$$

*reflects increase of deterioration as a function of time depending on the physics of the process;  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are system-wide deterioration model epistemic uncertainties -> top level; exponent  $\theta_2 > 1$  denotes an accelerating process,  $\theta_2 < 1$  implies a decelerating process over time;*

## second level:

### location-specific or inter-element uncertainties



$$\Delta X_{j,i} \mid \Delta \alpha_{j,i}, \beta_j \sim \text{gamma}(\Delta \alpha_{j,i}, \beta_j)$$

gamma distribution is parameterized by:  $f(x|\alpha, \beta) = \left(\frac{1}{\beta}\right)^\alpha \cdot x^{\alpha-1} \cdot e^{-x/\beta} / \Gamma(\alpha)$

$\beta_j$  is the positive location specific parameter representing the heterogeneity between the locations.

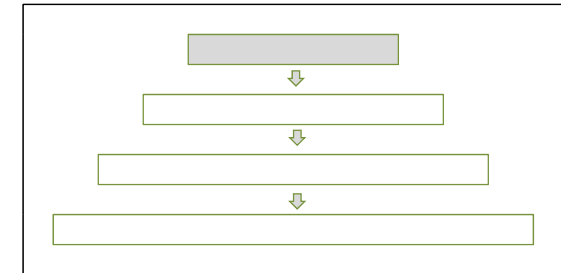
$$\beta_j = \exp \left\{ \mathbf{z}_j^T \cdot \boldsymbol{\kappa} + \xi_j \right\}$$

$\mathbf{z}_j = \{1, z_{j,1}, z_{j,2}, \dots, z_{j,q}\}^T$  *(q+1)-vector of local covariates aiming to explain the heterogeneity between locations*

$\boldsymbol{\kappa}_j = \{\kappa_0, \kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_q\}^T$  *(q+1)-vector of cause-effect regression coefficients associated with  $\mathbf{z}_j$*

$\xi_j \mid \sigma_\xi^2 \sim \text{normal}(0, \sigma_\xi^2)$  *local random effect representing local aleatory effects which cannot be explained by the covariates of  $\mathbf{z}_j$*

## system-wide deterioration model uncertainties



- time and shape variables  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$
- random effects variance  $\sigma_{\xi}^2$
- cause effect variable vector  $\mathbf{K}$

prior distributions can be implemented

## Objective:

Parameter estimation by maximizing a *pseudo log-likelihood function*  $l_j$

= simplified version of the actual HB log-likelihood function  
-> equivalent log-likelihood

Gamma distributed independent deterioration increments  $\Delta X_{j,i}$  at location  $j$  at inspection  $i$  are replaced by normal **independent increments** having the same first and second moments as the gamma increments:

$$\Delta X_{j,i} \mid \Delta \alpha_{j,i}, \beta_j \sim \text{normal} \left( \Delta \alpha_{j,i} \beta_j, \Delta \alpha_{j,i} \beta_j^2 \right)$$

the observed increments  $\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}$  at any location  $j$  are multi-normally distributed with a mean vector  $\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} = \{ \Delta X_{j,1}, \Delta X_{j,2}, \dots, \Delta X_{j,nj} \}^T$

The measurement errors  $\varepsilon_{j,i}$  and the corresponding temporal increments  $\Delta \varepsilon_{j,i} = \varepsilon_{j,i} - \varepsilon_{j,i-1}$  have zero means and a location-specific variance-covariance matrix of the measurement error increments  $\mathbf{C}_{\Delta \varepsilon, j}$ .

$$\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} \mid \Delta \mathbf{X}_j, \mathbf{C}_{\Delta \varepsilon, j} \sim \text{multi-normal}(\Delta \mathbf{X}_j, \mathbf{C}_{\Delta \varepsilon, j})$$



*covariance matrix of the measurement error increments*

the observed increments  $\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}$  have an  $n_j$ -mean-vector  $\Delta \alpha_j \beta_j$  with  $\Delta \alpha_j = \{\Delta \alpha_{j,1}, \dots, \Delta \alpha_{j,n_j}\}^T$  and a variance-covariance matrix  $\mathbf{C}_{\Delta \mathbf{X},M,j}$ .

*shape and scale parameters of deterioration increments*



$$\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} \mid \Delta \alpha_j, \beta_j, \mathbf{C}_{\Delta \mathbf{X},M,j} \sim \text{multi-normal}(\Delta \alpha_j \beta_j, \mathbf{C}_{\Delta \mathbf{X},M,j})$$

$\mathbf{C}_{\Delta \mathbf{X},M,j}$  is the sum of  $\mathbf{C}_{\Delta \mathbf{X},j}$  and  $\mathbf{C}_{\Delta \varepsilon,j}$ .




*deterioration  
increment*



*measurement error  
increment*

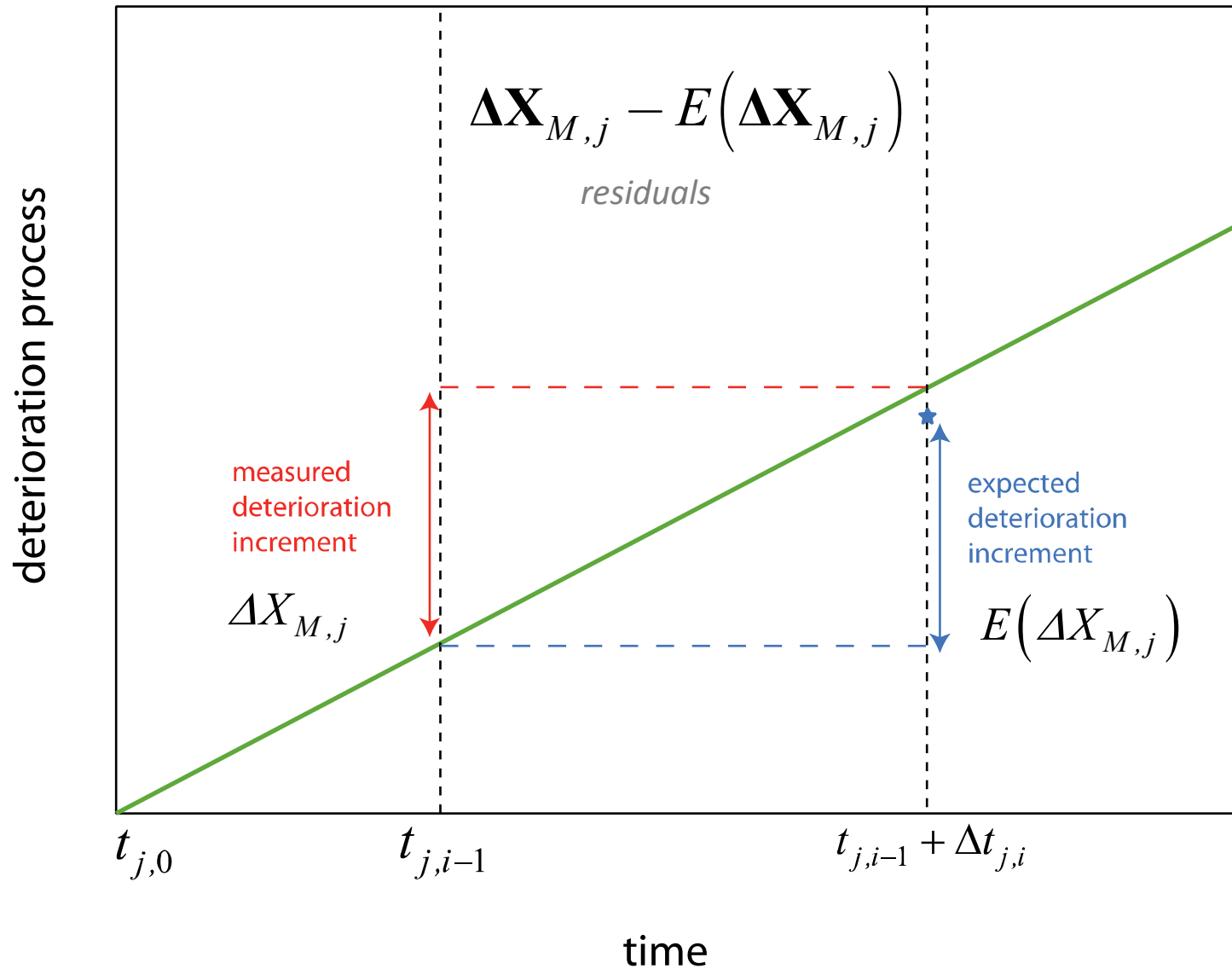
as  $\Delta\alpha_j, \beta_j$  and  $\mathbf{C}_{\Delta\mathbf{X},M,j}$  are functions of the unknown hyperparameters  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \boldsymbol{\kappa}$  and the random effect  $\xi_j$ , the corresponding log-likelihood function  $l_j$  **at one location**  $j$  is given by:

$$l_j(\theta_1, \theta_2, \boldsymbol{\kappa}, \xi_j | \Delta\mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \propto -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \log |\mathbf{C}_j| + \left[ \Delta\mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta\mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right]^T \cdot \mathbf{C}_j^{-1} \cdot \left[ \Delta\mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta\mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right] \right\}$$

  
*variance-covariance matrix of observed deterioration increments*

where

$$E(\Delta\mathbf{X}_{M,j}) = \theta_1 \underbrace{\left[ (t_{j,i-1} + \Delta t_{j,i})^{\theta_2} - (t_{j,i-1})^{\theta_2} \right]}_{\Delta\alpha} \underbrace{\exp(\mathbf{z}_j^T \boldsymbol{\kappa} + \xi_j)}_{\beta}$$





extension **for all locations** is given by:

$$l(\theta_1, \theta_2, \boldsymbol{\kappa}, \xi_j | \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \propto -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^m \left\{ \log |\mathbf{C}_j| + \left[ \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right]^T \cdot \mathbf{C}_j^{-1} \cdot \left[ \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right] \right\}$$

estimation of parameters now by maximization of  $l$  .

random effects are assumed to have zero mean value

-> maximization of  $l$  by setting random effects  $\xi = 0$

$$l(\theta_1, \theta_2, \boldsymbol{\kappa} | \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}, \xi = 0) \propto -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^m \left\{ \log |\mathbf{C}_j| + \left[ \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right]^T \cdot \mathbf{C}_j^{-1} \cdot \left[ \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right] \right\}$$

if covariates are neglected, hyperparameters are:  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  and  $\boldsymbol{\kappa}_0$

given the point estimates of the hyperparameters, the remaining unknown random effects are estimated for each location separately by maximizing  $l$  :

$$l_j(\xi_j | \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}, \hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \hat{\boldsymbol{\kappa}} = 0) \propto -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^m \left\{ \log |\mathbf{C}_j| + \left[ \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right]^T \cdot \mathbf{C}_j^{-1} \cdot \left[ \Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j} - E(\Delta \mathbf{X}_{M,j}) \right] \right\}$$

finally, a point estimate of the standard-deviation  $\hat{\sigma}_\xi$  can be obtained as the sample standard deviation of the estimated random effects  $\hat{\xi}_j (j = 1, \dots, m)$

statistical uncertainties of the estimated parameters can be established using standard maximum likelihood techniques and the first and second derivatives of the equivalent log-likelihood function

the variance-covariance matrix for the hyper-parameters  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  and  $\kappa_0$  of the simplified procedure is determined as the inverse of their information matrix **I**

the standard deviation of  $\hat{\sigma}_\xi$  can be estimated based on the chi-squared sampling distribution of the variance of the random effects

# comparative example – approach

deterioration process, inspections at  $m = 5$  defect locations, each having  $n = 4$  inspections at times  $\mathbf{t} = \{4, 6, 8, 10\}$  years.

**Table 1:** Observed deterioration  $x_{M,j,i}$  in location  $j$  at inspection  $i$ .

Inspection $i$	1	2	3	4
Time $t_i$ [years]	4	6	8	10
Location $j$	Observed Deterioration $x_{M,j,i}$ [% of metal loss]			
1	8.9	19.6	26.9	30.5
2	12.7	14.1	16.8	20.5
3	8.9	14.7	23.3	29.8
4	14.1	21.0	25.0	30.2
5	7.2	10.7	13.8	22.3

## assumptions:

- All locations are subject to the same operational and material conditions -> covariates are not considered in this analysis.
- standard deviation  $\sigma_\varepsilon$  and correlation coefficient  $\rho_\varepsilon$  of the measurement device are given to be 2.0 and 0.20 , respectively.
- $R = D = 1$

**Table 2:** Posterior hyper-parameters, random effects  $\xi_j$  and location specific parameters  $\beta_j$  for HB and ELL.

	HB		ELL	
	median	sd	point. est.	sd
$\theta_1$	4.363	3.103	3.971	2.386
$\theta_2$	1.025	0.120	1.023	0.120
$\kappa_0$	-0.541	0.569	-0.452	0.524
$\sigma_\xi$	0.120	0.133	0.209	0.099
$\xi_1$	0.048	0.137	0.163	0.143
$\xi_2$	-0.061	0.144	-0.253	0.217
$\xi_3$	0.028	0.133	0.101	0.152
$\xi_4$	0.039	0.137	0.140	0.147
$\xi_5$	-0.061	0.147	-0.236	0.214
$\beta_1$	0.620	0.423	0.749	0.508
$\beta_2$	0.538	0.400	0.494	0.357
$\beta_3$	0.606	0.422	0.704	0.481
$\beta_4$	0.615	0.415	0.732	0.498
$\beta_5$	0.537	0.399	0.502	0.362

assessment of posterior distribution of deterioration  $f_{X_j(t)}(x, t | \mathbf{x}_M)$   
at a future time  $t$

based on **HB** conditionally independent deterioration increments  
between 0 and  $t$  for any specific location  $j$  are added

$$X_j(t | \mathbf{x}_M) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_j} \Delta X_{j,i}(t_i, t_{i-1} | \mathbf{x}_M) + \Delta X_j(t, t_{n_j} | \mathbf{x}_M)$$

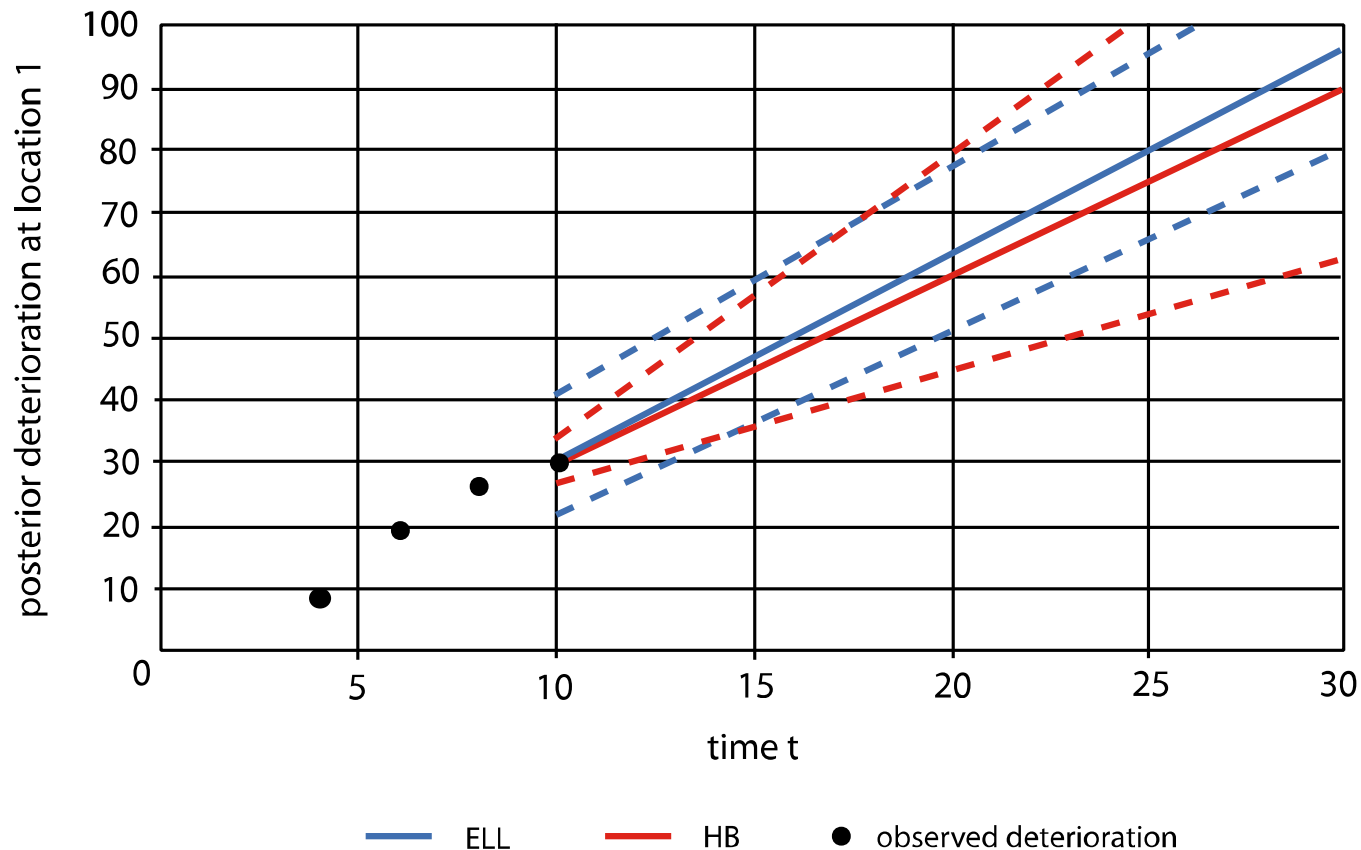
**ELL** only allows approximation, epistemic uncertainties are not taken  
into account. estimate of the actual deterioration at time  $t$  by ELL:

$$X_j(t | \mathbf{x}_M) \cong X_j(t | \hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \hat{\mathbf{k}}_0, \hat{\xi}_j) \sim \text{gamma}\left(\hat{\theta}_1 \cdot t^{\hat{\theta}_2}, \exp\{\hat{\mathbf{k}}_0 + \hat{\xi}_j\}\right)$$

# comparative example – results

posterior deterioration medians (full lines)

2.5%- and 97.5%-quantiles (dashed lines)



in general good agreement, but uncertainty bands differ between the HB model and the ELL approach due to the simplified treatment of statistical uncertainty in ELL.

# comparative example – results

assessment of posterior cumulative lifetime distribution  $F_{L_j}(t)$   
at location  $j$

lifetime is defined as the time required to achieve a critical metal loss equal to a threshold value  $x^*$ .

$$P[L_j < t | \mathbf{x}_M] = P[X_j(t) > x^* | \mathbf{x}_M] = 1 - \int_0^{x^*} f_{X_j(t)}(x_j, t | \mathbf{x}_M) dx_j$$

lifetime calculation by simulation using MCMC for HB and approximation of integration for ELL

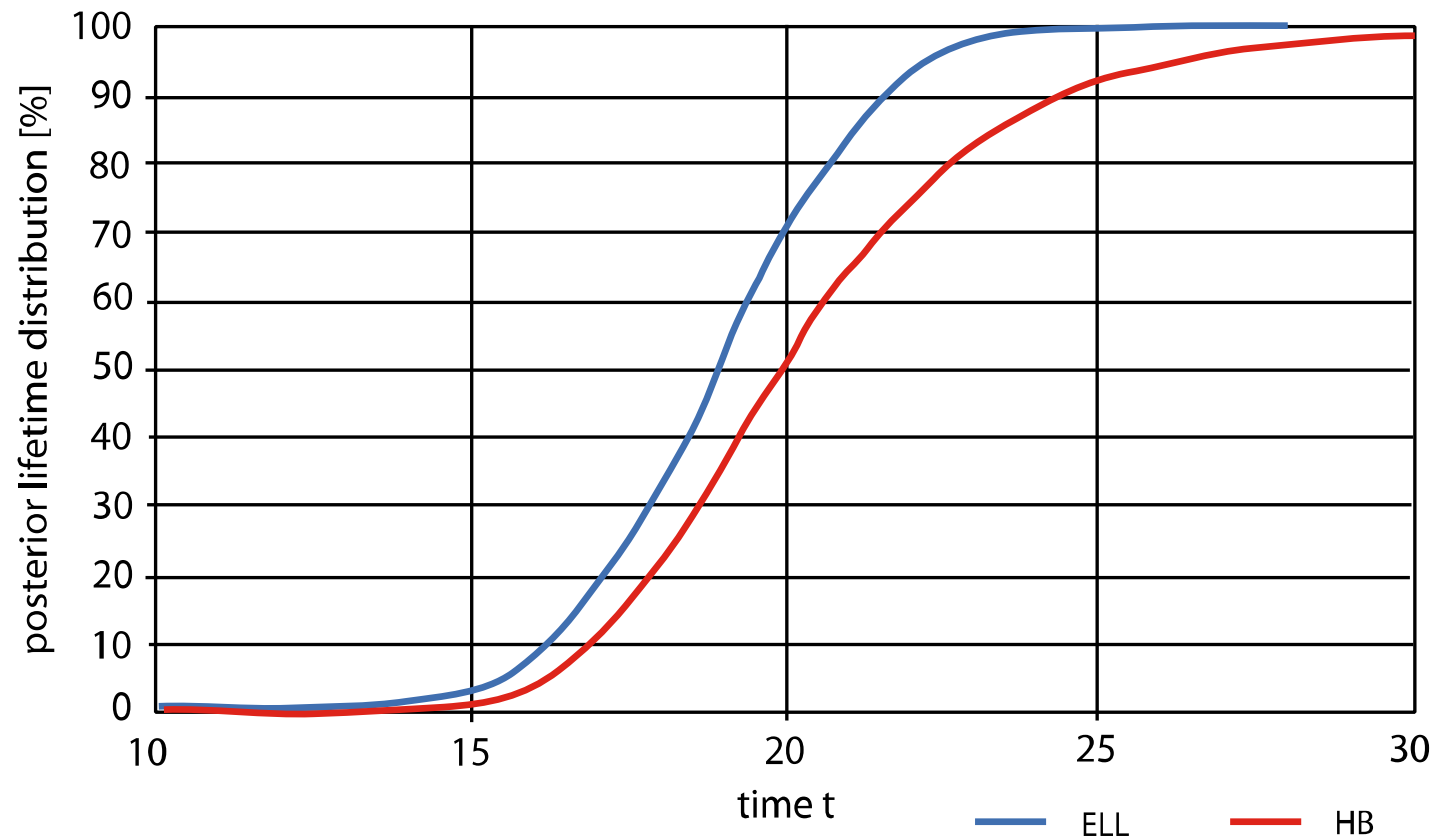


# comparative example – results

posterior cumulative lifetime distribution at location 1

threshold  $x^* = 60$

both approaches (HB and ELL) are in good agreement



Scenario:

- gas pipeline is subject to metal loss due to internal corrosion
- inspections at  $m = 24$  locations
- 11 locations inspected in a first ILI at time  $t = 2$  years
- two additional ILI inspections for all locations at time  $\mathbf{t} = \{4, 6\}$  years

## results of inspection – part I

**Table 3:** Observed percentage of metal loss at the 24 defect locations as well as the observed defect widths  $w_{j,obs}$  and defect lengths  $L_{j,obs}$  at  $t=6$  years.

Time $t$ [years]	Observed defect depth $x_{M,j,i}$ [%]			Defect width $w_{j,obs}$ [m]	Defect length $L_{j,obs}$ [m]	
	2	4	6			
Location $j$	Observed defect depth $x_{M,j,i}$ [%]					
1	9.1	10.9	9.3	0.401	0.147	
2	3.9	3.7	7.9	0.107	0.625	
3	1.8	3.4	5.5	0.508	0.236	
4	1.5	5.8	8.6	0.584	0.455	
5	7.7	7.1	9.2	0.071	0.800	
6	0.4	9.9	8.0	0.231	0.386	
7	5.3	4.2	8.2	0.417	0.221	
<i>wide &amp; extensive</i>	8	0.5	3.2	3.2	0.539	1.171
<i>local &amp; deep</i>	9	7.6	18.4	21.9	0.031	0.038
	10	5.2	5.4	10.4	0.262	0.422
	11	1.8	3.0	15.0	0.216	0.107

# example: integrity assessment by HB

Time $t$ [years]	2	4	6	Defect width $w_{j,obs}$ [m]	Defect length $L_{j,obs}$ [m]
Location $j$	Observed defect depth $x_{M,j,i}$ [%]				
12	n/a	3.9	4.8	0.155	0.272
13	n/a	4.3	10.5	0.323	0.617
14	n/a	5.1	5.7	0.061	0.081
15	n/a	2.8	8.9	0.523	0.723
16	n/a	1.5	6.6	0.185	0.419
17	n/a	1.9	7.8	0.246	0.480
18	n/a	11.7	13.7	0.170	0.305
19	n/a	5.5	2.4	0.231	0.721
20	n/a	3.1	3.7	0.384	0.922
21	n/a	7.8	12.1	0.046	0.051
22	n/a	12.1	13.6	0.307	0.218
23	n/a	3.9	14.2	0.155	0.348
24	n/a	1.7	6.0	0.292	0.688

## 2 steps of analysis

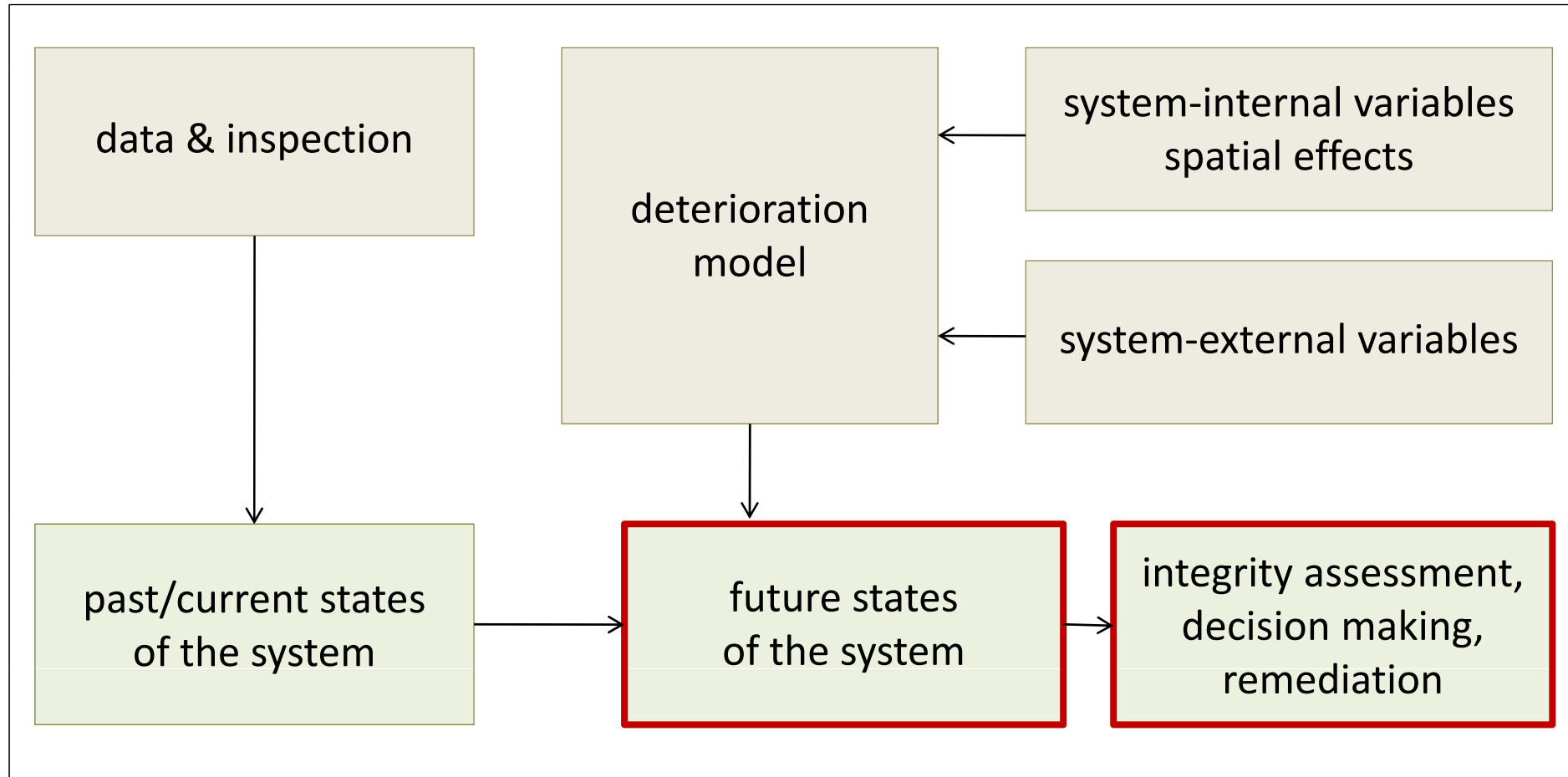
### 1. Hierarchical Bayes analysis

using observed percentage of wall loss for estimation of posterior distribution of future deterioration at all locations

### 2. Reliability analysis

estimation of the posterior probability of failure as a function of time using a defect/burst limit state

# example: integrity assessment by HB



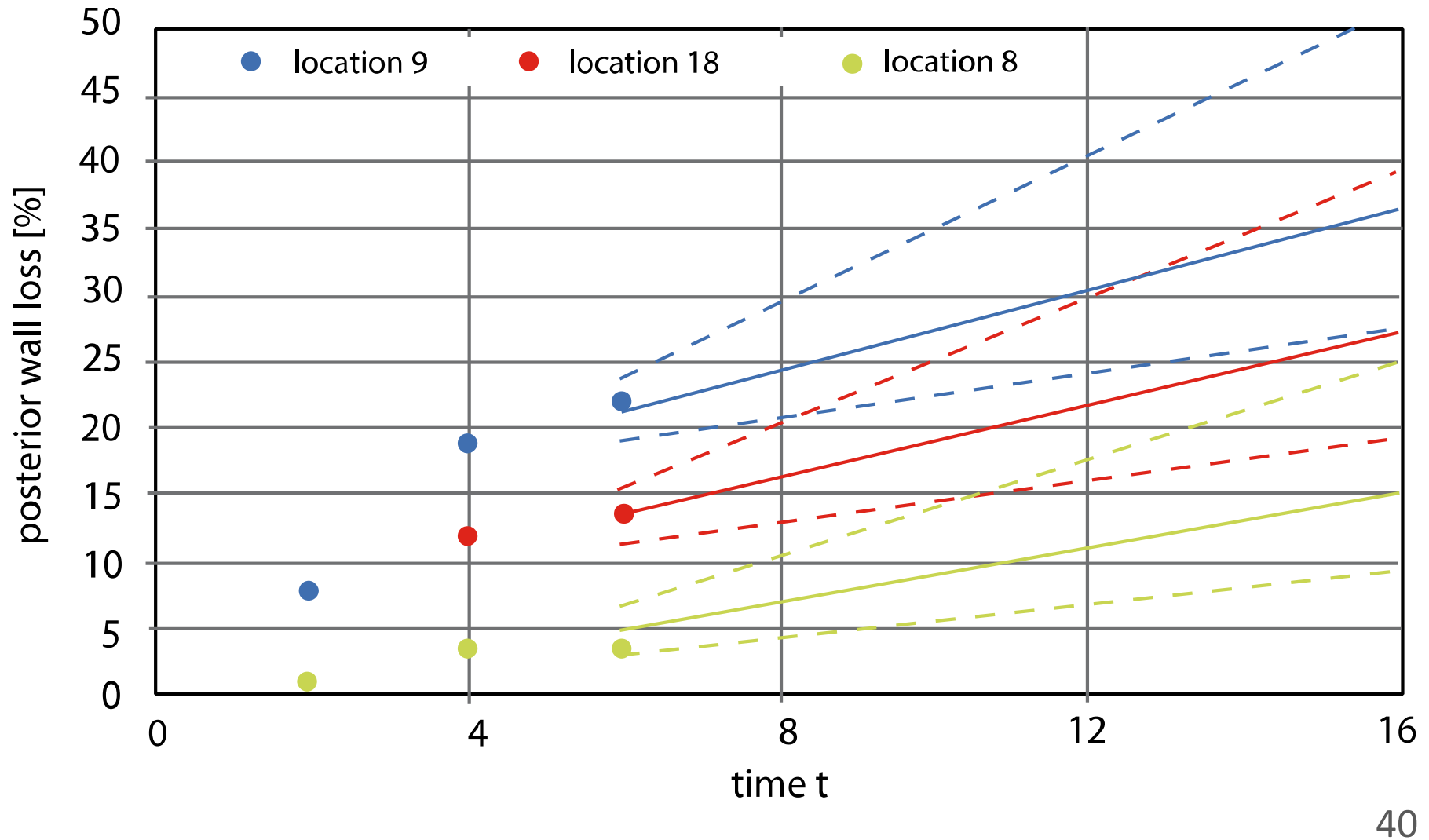
## results of parameter assessment

**Table 4:** Posterior hyper-parameters and posterior scale-parameter  $\beta_j$  for location 8, 9 and 18 given by their mean values  $E[.|\mathbf{x}_M]$ , standard deviations  $SD[.|\mathbf{x}_M]$  as well as 10%-quantile  $q_{0.1}|\mathbf{x}_M$  and 90%-quantile  $q_{0.9}|\mathbf{x}_M$ .

	$E[. \mathbf{x}_M]$	$SD[. \mathbf{x}_M]$	$q_{0.1} \mathbf{x}_M$	$q_{0.9} \mathbf{x}_M$
$\theta_1$	1.525	0.986	0.644	2.751
$\theta_2$	0.907	0.176	0.689	1.137
$\kappa_0$	0.287	0.533	-0.428	0.891
$\sigma_{\xi}$	0.200	0.135	0.051	0.390
$\beta_8$	1.403	0.783	0.464	2.402
$\beta_9$	1.875	0.808	1.024	2.873
$\beta_{18}$	1.672	0.771	0.815	2.644

# example: integrity assessment by HB

results of posterior distribution of the deterioration at time t after the last inspection





## input for reliability analysis

**Table 5:** Fixed parameters used in the reliability analysis

Parameter	Value	Unit
Outer pipeline diameter $D$	0.508	m
Maximum annual operating pressure $p_{MAOP}$	32.04	MPa
Correlation coefficient between $\sigma_{UTS}$ and $n_L$	0.73	-

**Table 6:** Random variables used in the reliability analysis

Random variable	Distribution	Mean value	CoV / St.Dev
X70 tensile strength $\sigma_{UTS}$	log-normal	638.45 MPa	5.5 %
X70 strain hardening index $n_L$	log-normal	0.08	20.0 %
Yield-to-tensile ratio $q$	normal	0.83	2.0 %
Original wall thickness $t_s$	normal	0.0181 m	3.0 %
Defect width $w_j$	log-normal	$w_{j,obs}$	0.0254 m
Defect length $L_j$	log-normal	$L_{j,obs}$	0.0254 m
Additive model error $C_1$	normal	0.0	6.68 MPa
Multiplicative model error $C_2$	log-normal	1.0	5.0 %
Annual extreme pressure differential $\Delta p$	gumbel	$1.07p_{MAOP}$	2.0 %

# example: integrity assessment by HB

time-dependent **reliability analysis** -> assessment of increasing annual probability of failure at each defect

limit state: fully plastic, strain-hardening, large-strain burst of a tubular section containing a defect of % depth  $x_j$

$w_j$  = defect width;  $L_j$  = defect length;  $j$  = location;  $t$  = time;

$$g_L = \frac{0.935 \cdot C_2}{\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{4t_s}{D - t_s} \left[ \left( 1 - \frac{1 - f_j (1 - x_{j,thres})}{x_{j,thres}} X_j(t) \right) (1 - r_j(t)) + r_j(t) \right] \times \left( \frac{\sigma_{UTS}}{3^{n_L/2}} + \frac{C_1}{\exp(n_L)} \right) - \Delta p$$

for  $X_j(t) \leq x_{j,thres}$

$\sigma_{UTS}$  = ultimate tensile strength of the steel;

$n_L$  = Ludwik law strain-hardening index;

$t_s$  = original wall thickness;

$D$  = original outer steel diameter;

$C_1$  and  $C_2$  = model uncertainties associated with the burst prediction failure;

$\Delta p$  = annual extreme pressure differential;

# example: integrity assessment by HB

time-dependent reliability analysis -> assessment of increasing annual probability of failure at each defect

limit state: fully plastic, strain-hardening, large-strain burst of a tubular section containing a defect of % depth  $x_j$

$w_j$  = defect width;  $L_j$  = defect length;  $j$  = location;  $t$  = time;

$$g_L = \frac{0.935 \cdot C_2}{\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{4t_s}{D - t_s} f_j \left[ (1 - X_j(t))(1 - r_j(t)) + r_j(t) \right] \times \left( \frac{\sigma_{UTS}}{3^{n_L/2}} + \frac{C_1}{\exp(n_L)} \right) - \Delta p$$

for  $X_j(t) > x_{j,thres}$

$\sigma_{UTS}$  = ultimate tensile strength of the steel;

$n_L$  = Ludwik law strain-hardening index;

$t_s$  = original wall thickness;

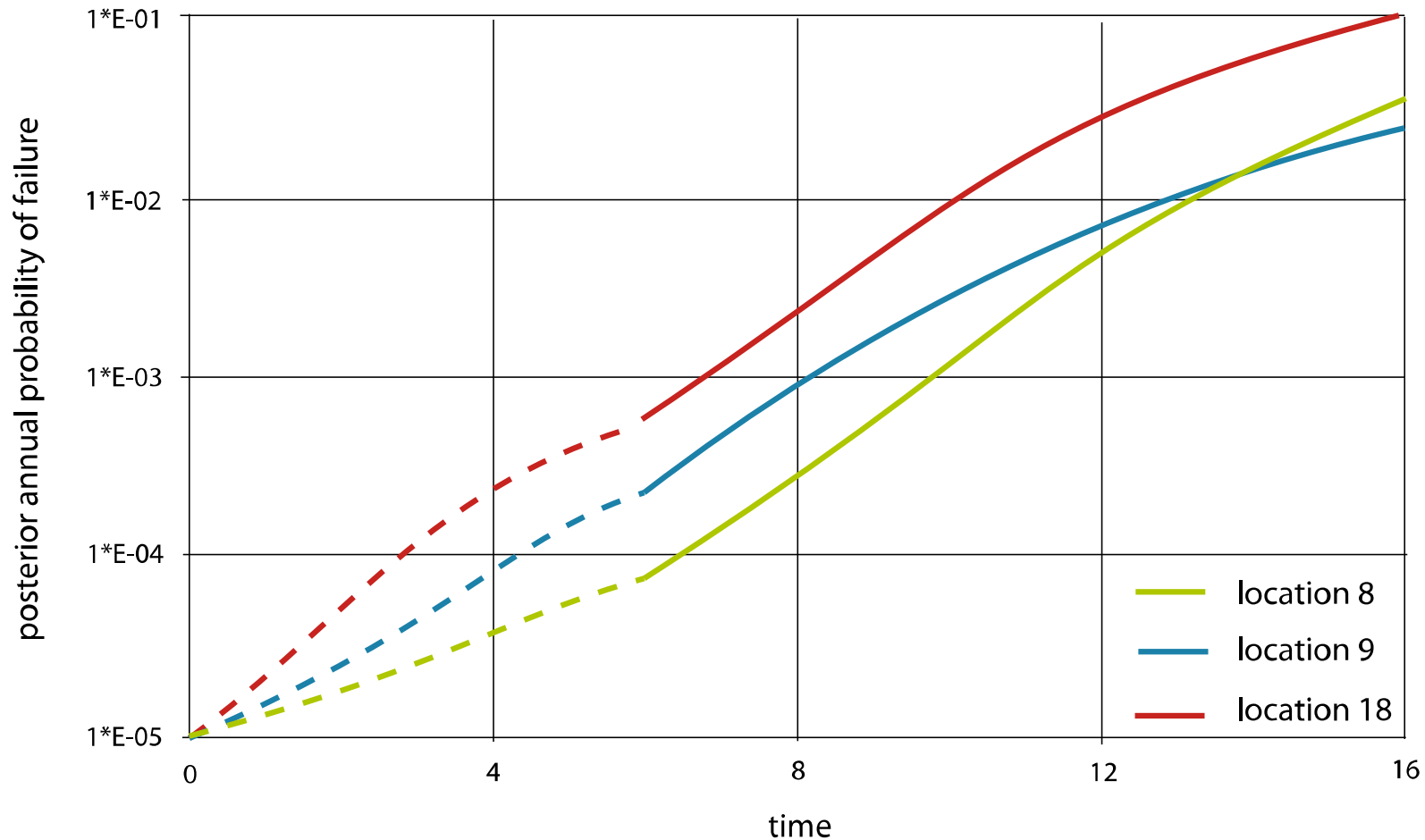
$D$  = original outer steel diameter;

$C_1$  and  $C_2$  = model uncertainties associated with the burst prediction failure;

$\Delta p$  = annual extreme pressure differential;

# example: integrity assessment by HB

posterior annual probability of failure  $P_{F,j}$  for locations 8, 9 and 18 as a function of time after the last inspection



*dashed and solid lines indicate the annual probability of failure during the inspection period and after the last inspection, respectively*

## Hierarchical Bayes

- mirrors 4-level uncertainty structure
- stochastic deterioration model is able to process and assimilate new inspection results
- facilitates a conceptual decomposition of the deterioration process into local, simple conditional relationships and sub-models
- provides satisfactory synthesis of current and future behaviour of complex systems

## Equivalent Log-Likelihood

- can not take into account some model and epistemic uncertainties properly
- simplification treatment of large inspection data sets
- provides reasonably accurate lifetime estimates
- ELL should be used to screen large amounts of measured deterioration data
- a full HB approach should be run on defects/elements which critically affect system integrity

## general

- deterioration affects reliability and safety of all types of structures and infrastructure
- informed lifetime integrity forecasts for a pipeline segment depends on progress of deterioration in all defects or critical locations
- spatial variation is observable from point-to-point or unit-to-unit
- local variation due to locally varying co-variances and aleatory effects
- valid stochastic deterioration model must contain all four levels of the hierarchy