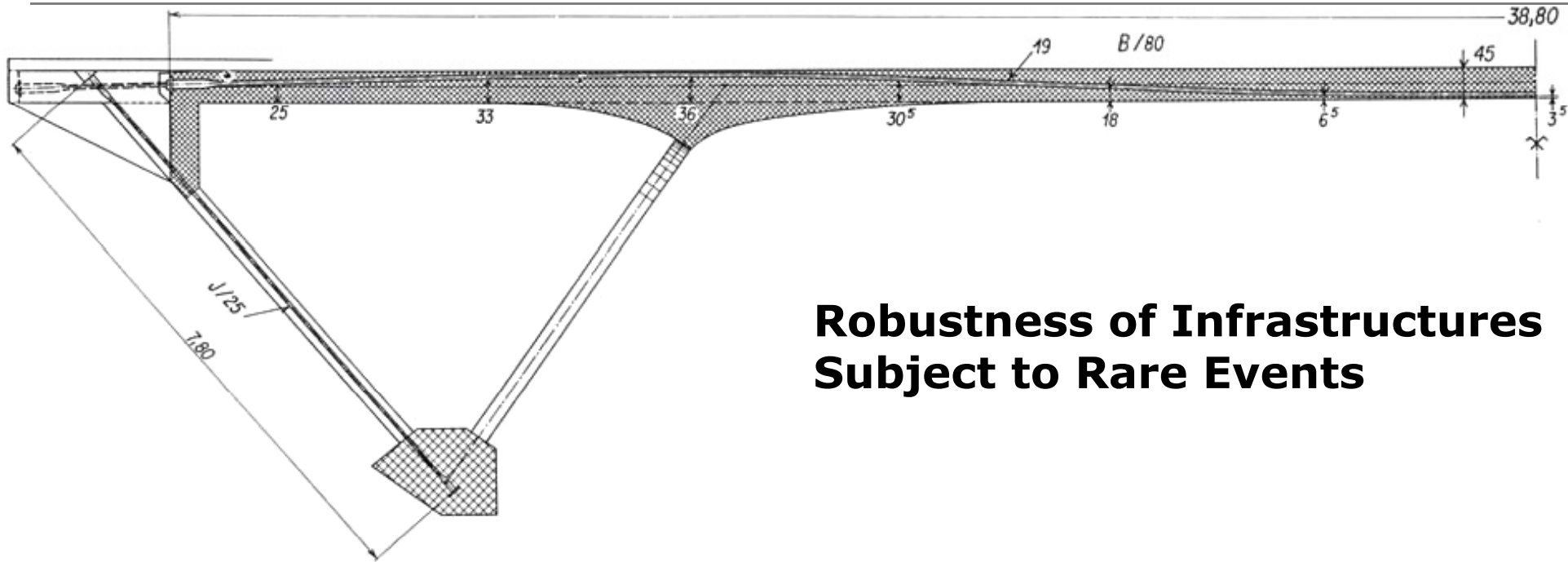


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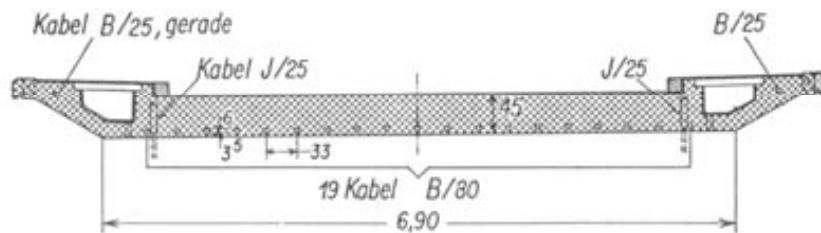
## Robustness of Infrastructures Subject to Rare Events

*Matthias Schubert*

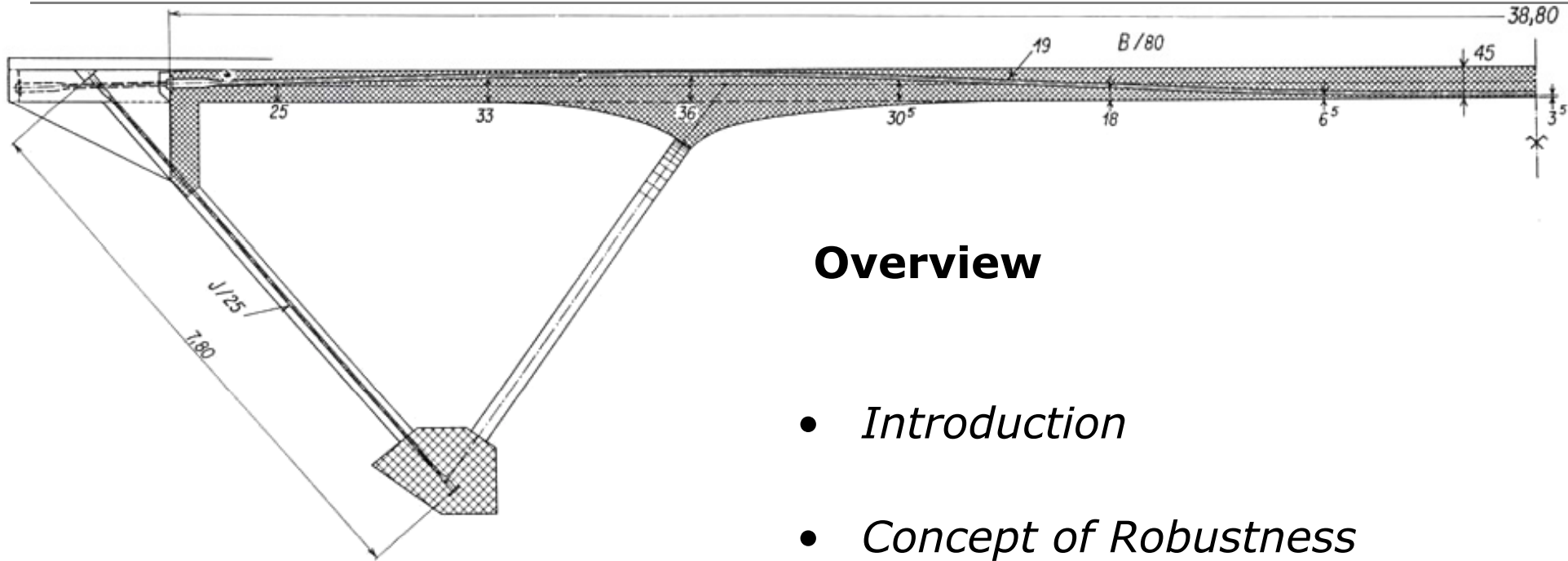
ETH Zürich, Institute for Structural Engineering,  
Group Risk & Safety

*Michael H. Faber*

ETH Zürich, Institute for Structural Engineering,  
Group Risk & Safety

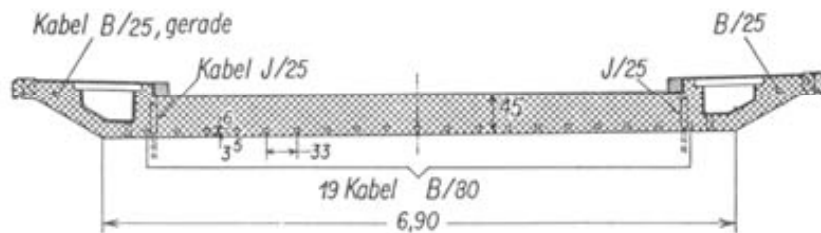


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## Overview

- *Introduction*
- *Concept of Robustness*
- *Risk assessment using Influence Diagrams*
- *Results*
- *Conclusions*

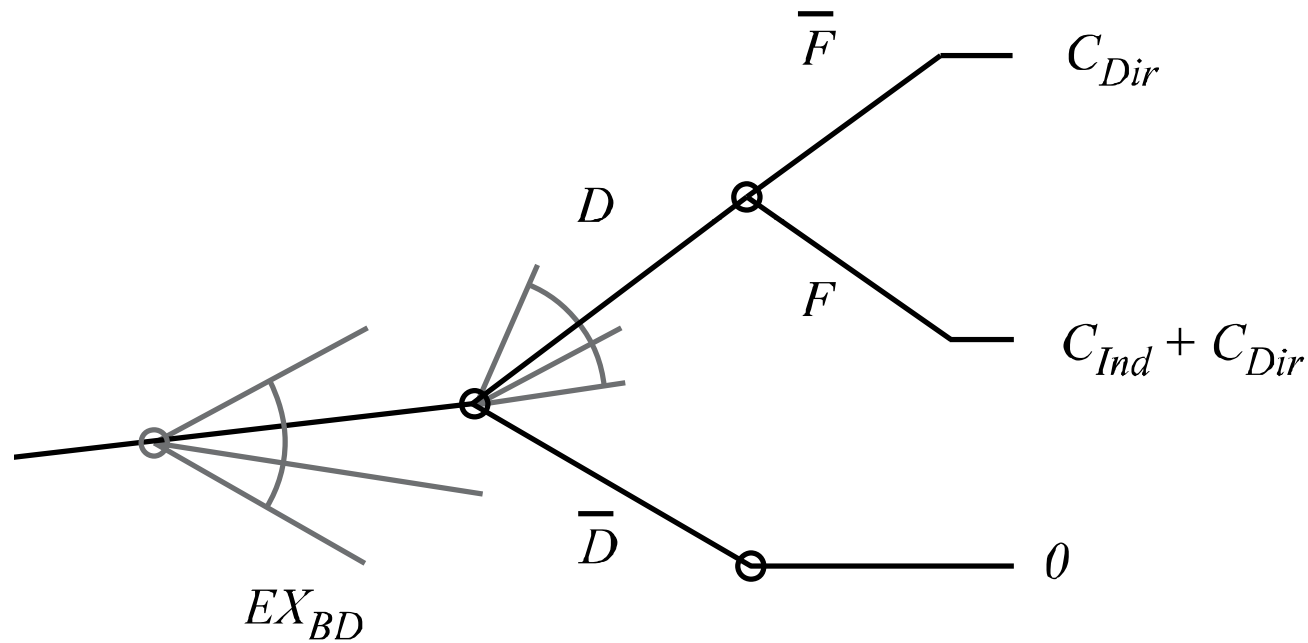


## Introduction

- Robustness is generally accepted as a characteristic of a good system design
- Objective quantification of robustness is needed
- Robustness is interpreted here as damage tolerance:

*The consequences of structural failure should not be disproportional to the effect causing the failure*

## Concept for the quantification of robustness



$$I_{Rob} = \frac{\text{Direct Risk}}{\text{Direct Risk} + \text{Indirect Risk}}$$

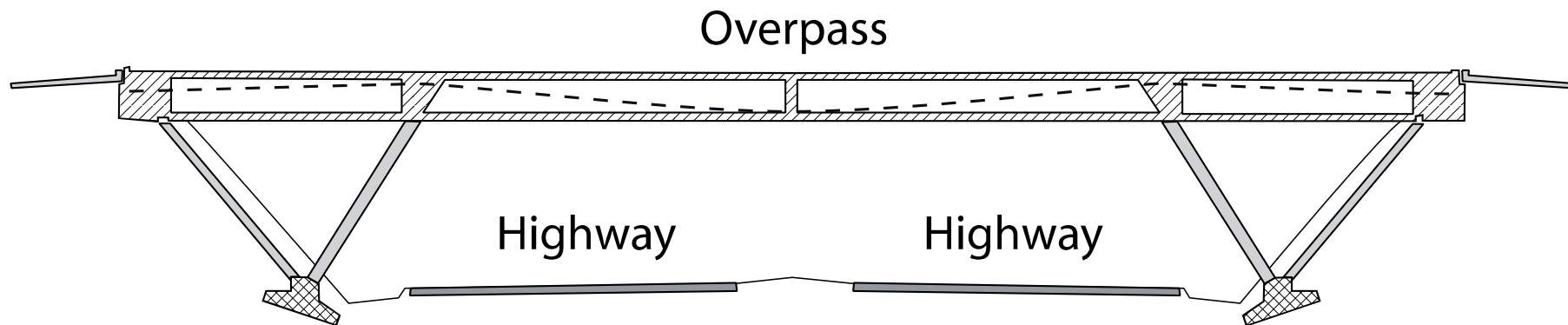
## The Index of Robustness

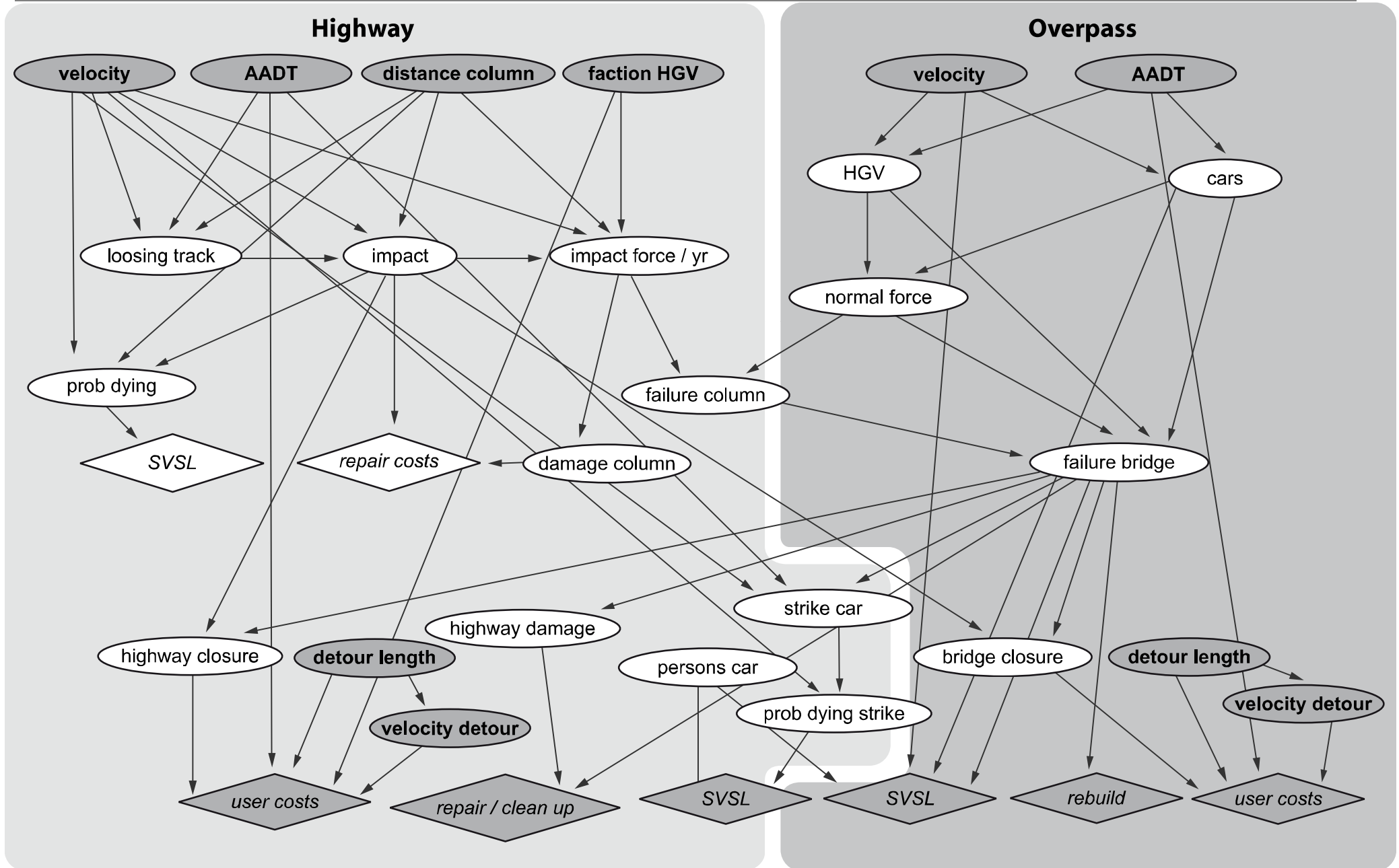
$$I_{Rob} = \frac{Direct\ Risk}{Direct\ Risk + Indirect\ Risk}$$

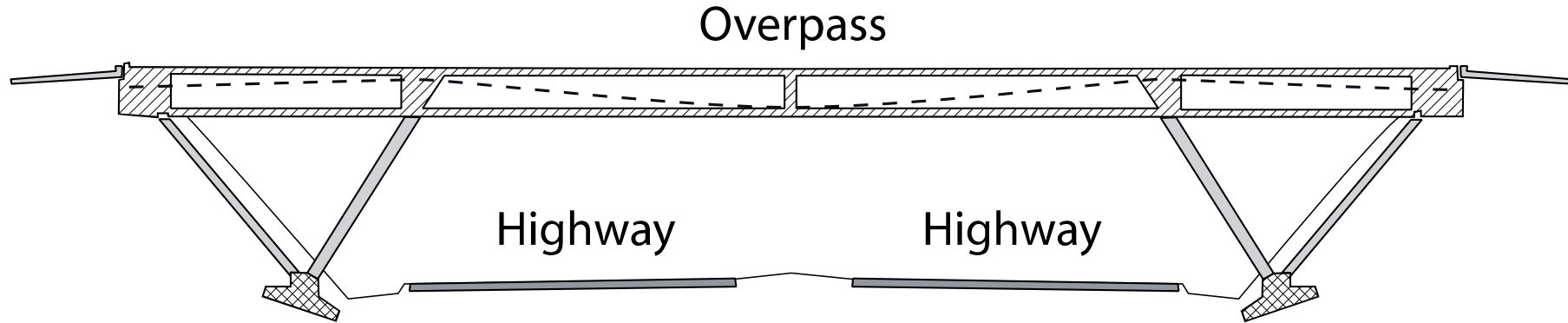
- Assumes values between zero and one
- Measures relative risk only
- Dependent upon the probability of damage occurrence
- Dependent upon consequences
- Is more than a characteristic of the structure

## Risk Assessment

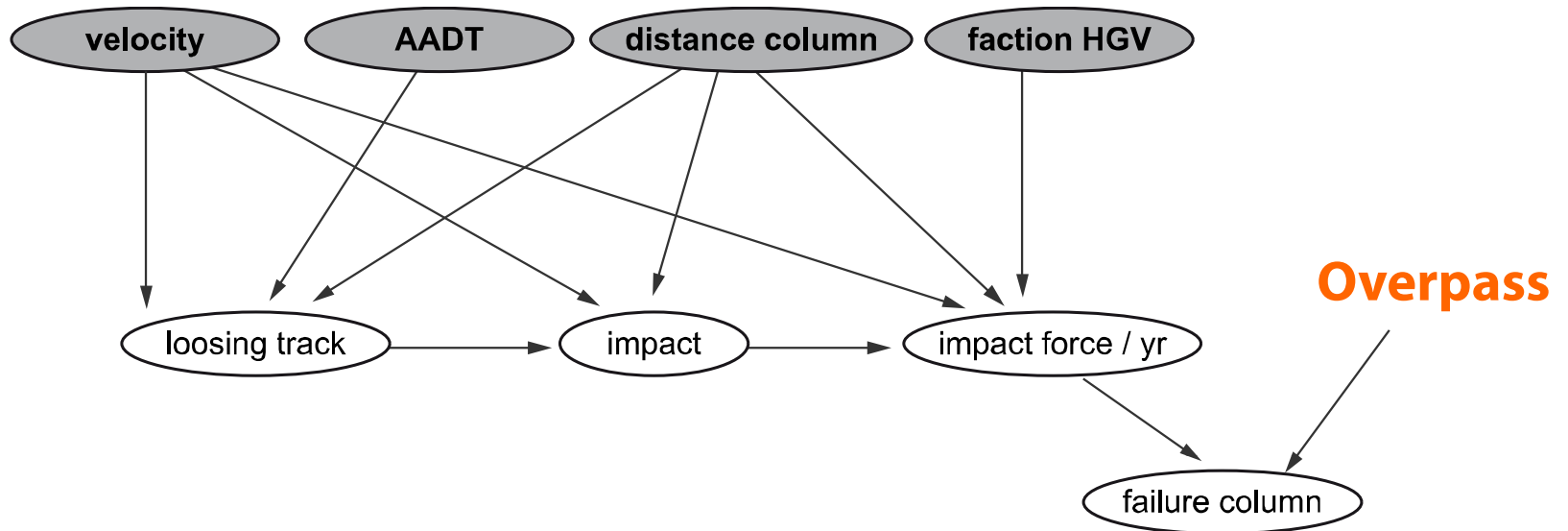
- This concept is applied to a V-column overpass consisting of:
  - pre-stressed box girder
  - columns
  - tension elements
- The risk due to vehicle impact is calculated by using influence diagrams



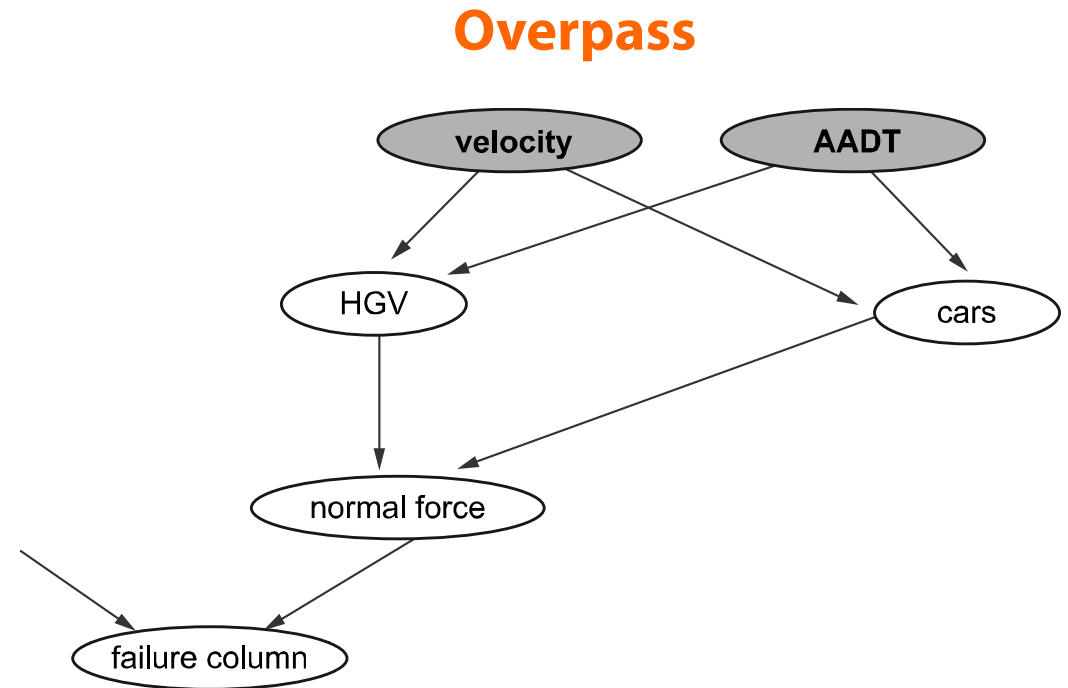
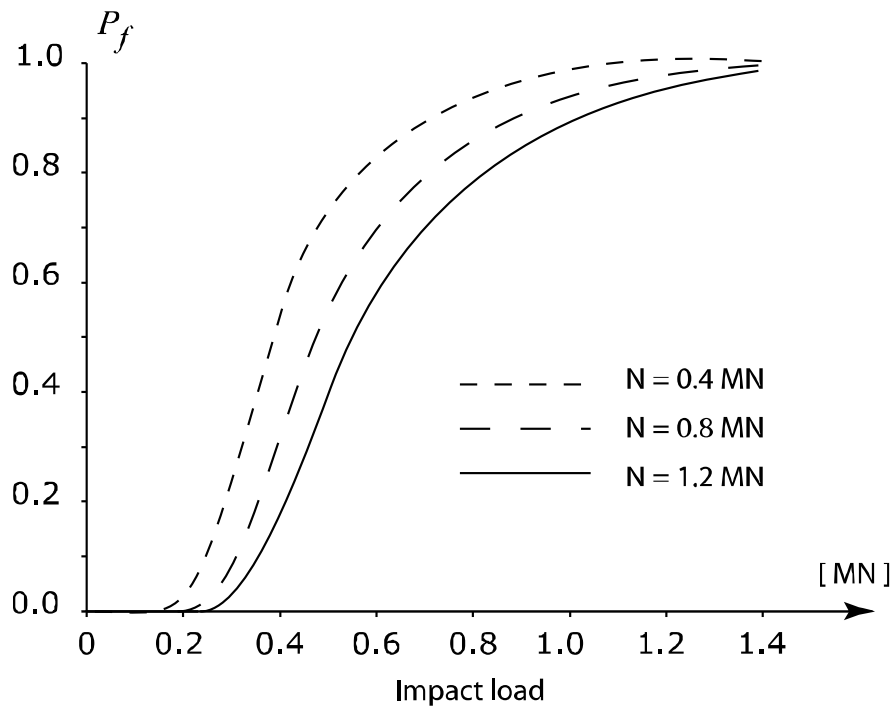
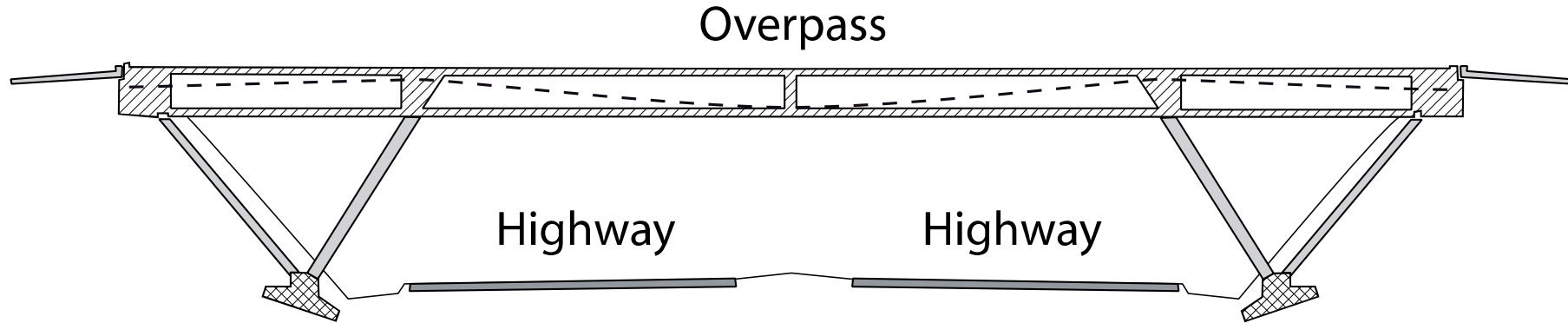


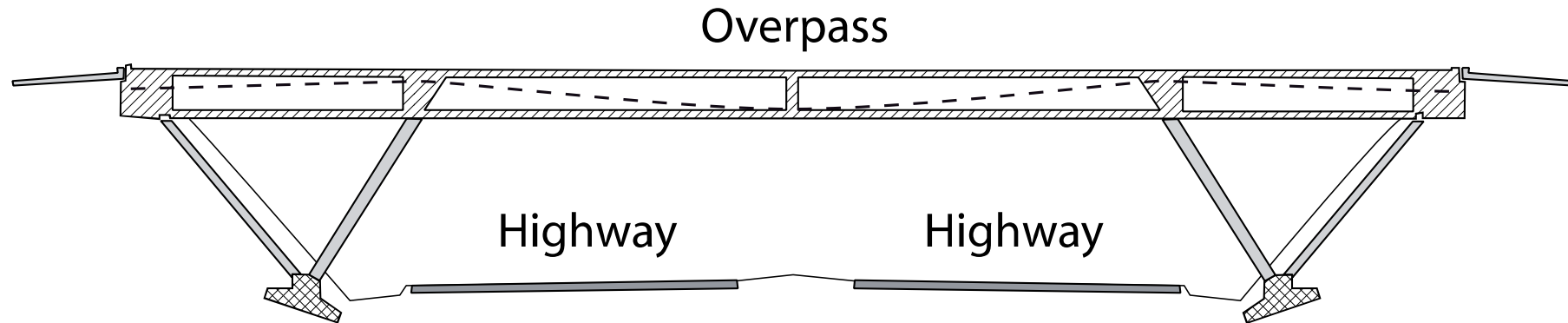


**Highway**



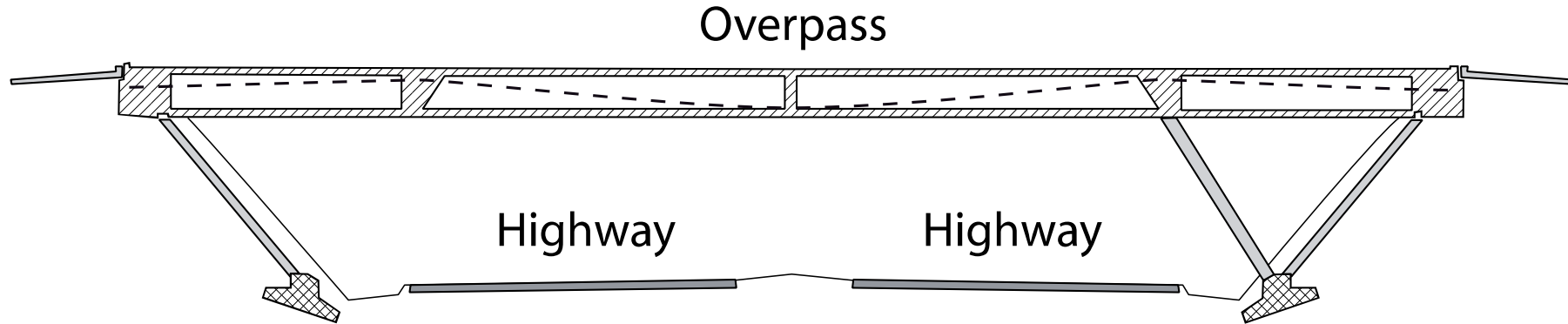






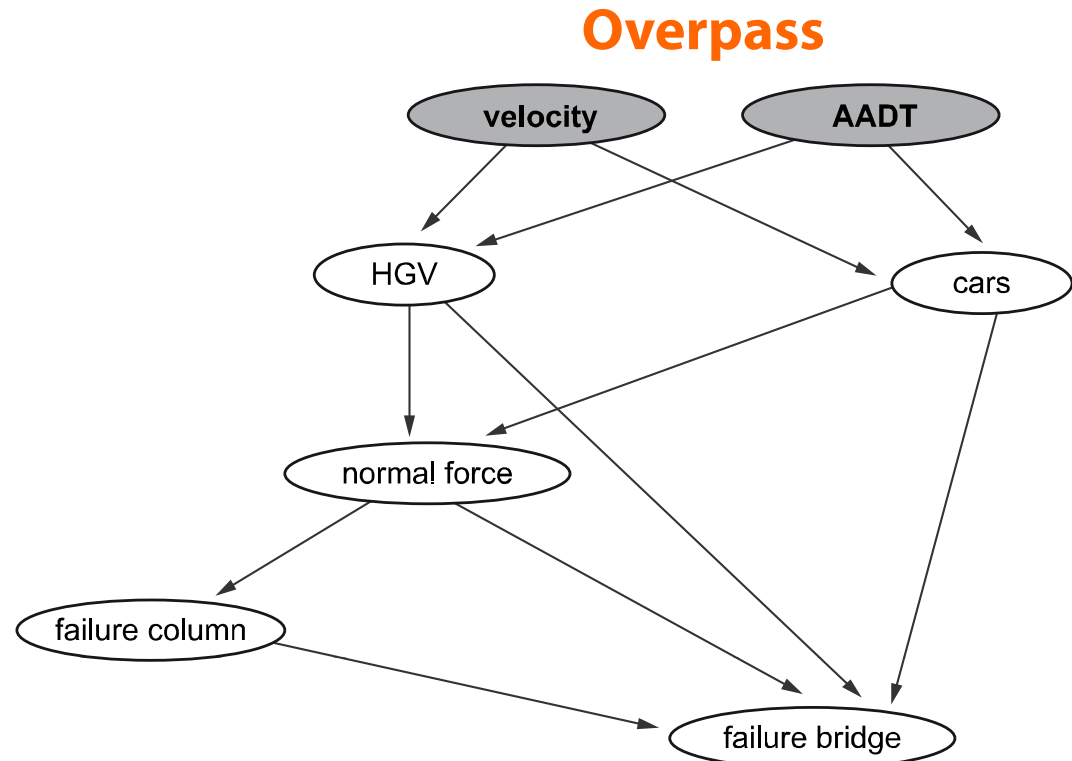
## Direct Consequences

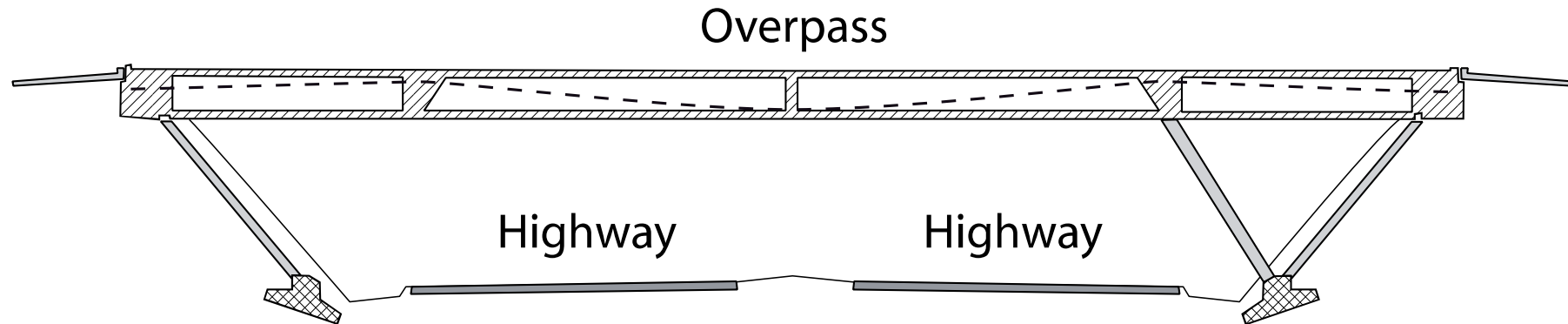
- fatalities / LQI
- repair costs
- property damage
- clean up costs



## Indirect Consequences

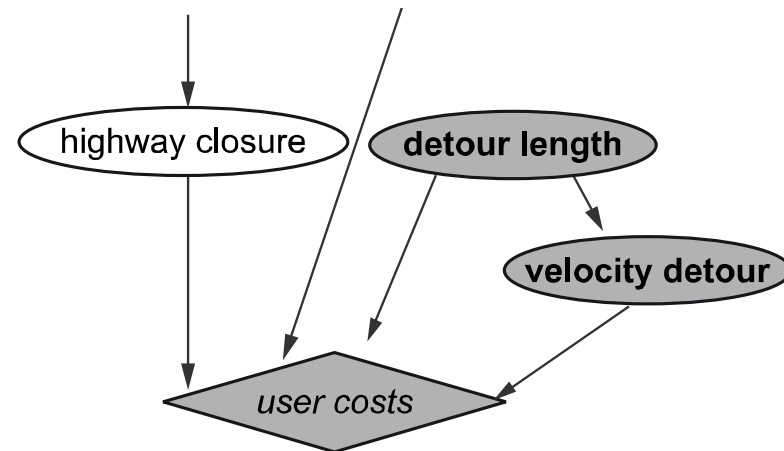
- fatalities / LQI
- clean up costs
- rebuild costs
- property damage
- user costs





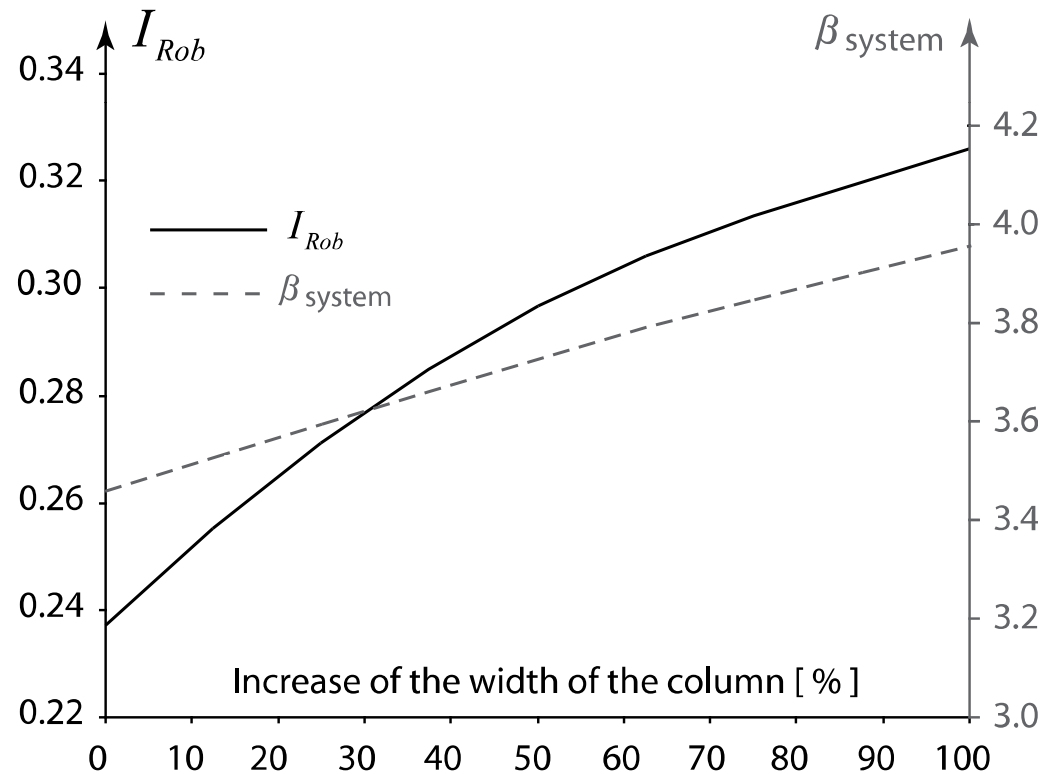
## Indirect Consequences

- fatalities / LQI
- clean up costs
- rebuild costs
- property damage
- user costs



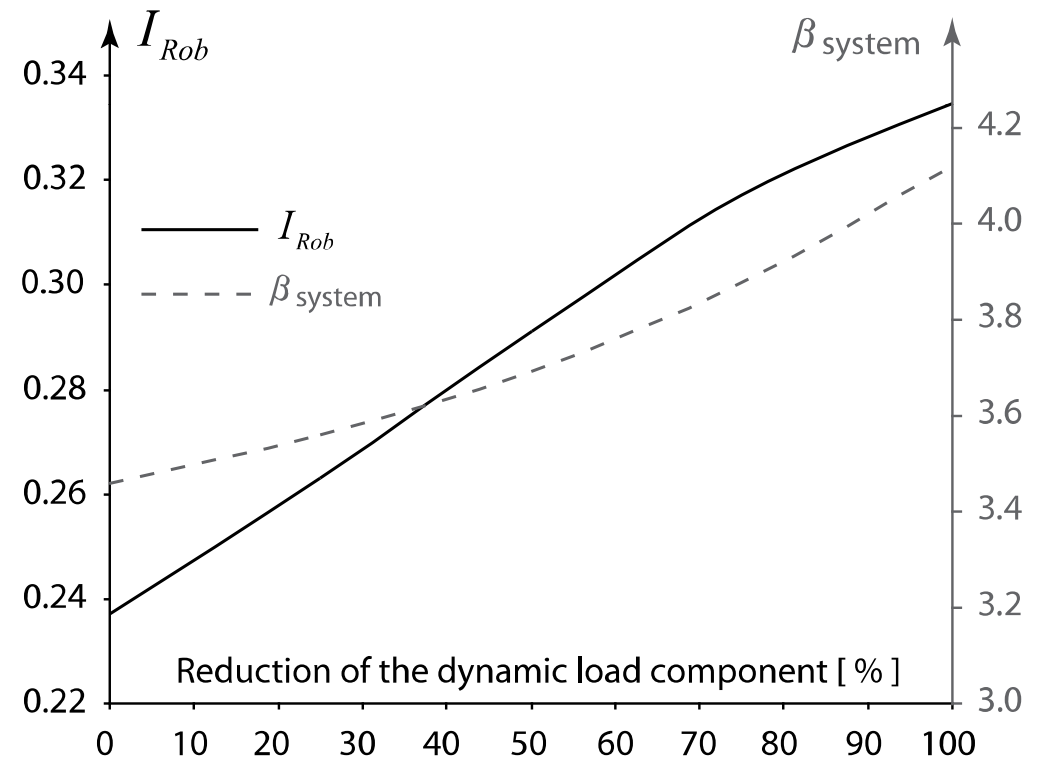
## Measures to increase the robustness – Structural performance

- Increase reliability of components – vulnerability of one member is reduced
- Expected value of the indirect consequences decreases faster than direct consequences



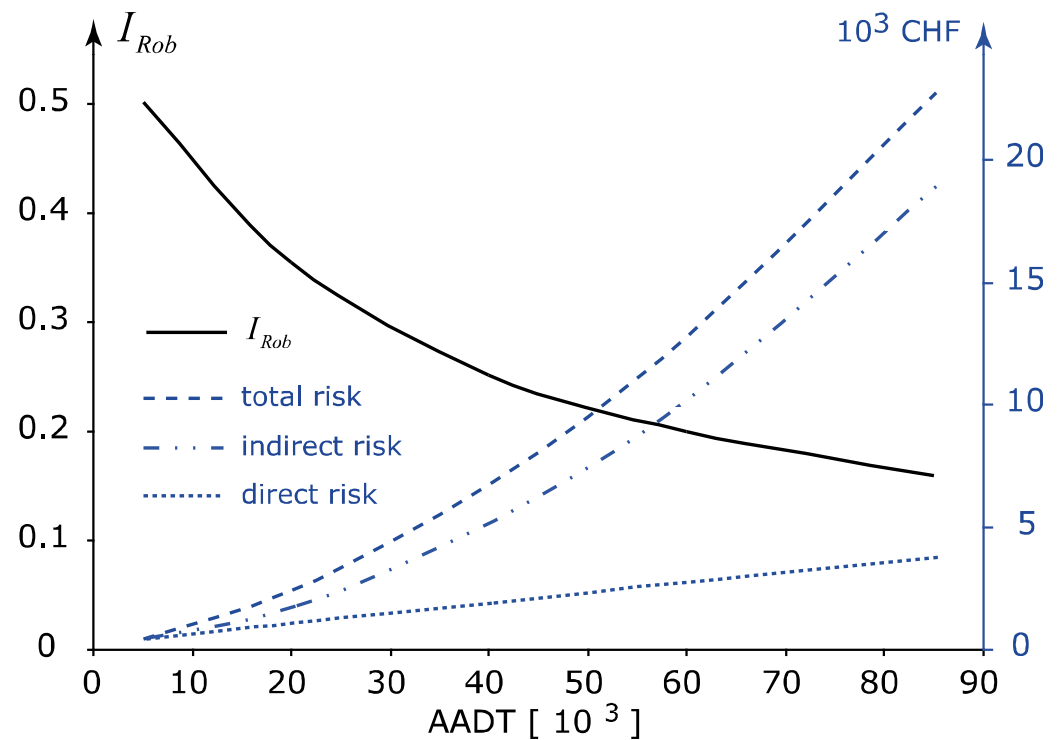
## Measures to increase the robustness – Structural performance

- Increase reliability of components – increase of the damage tolerance.
- The index is converging to an upper limit.



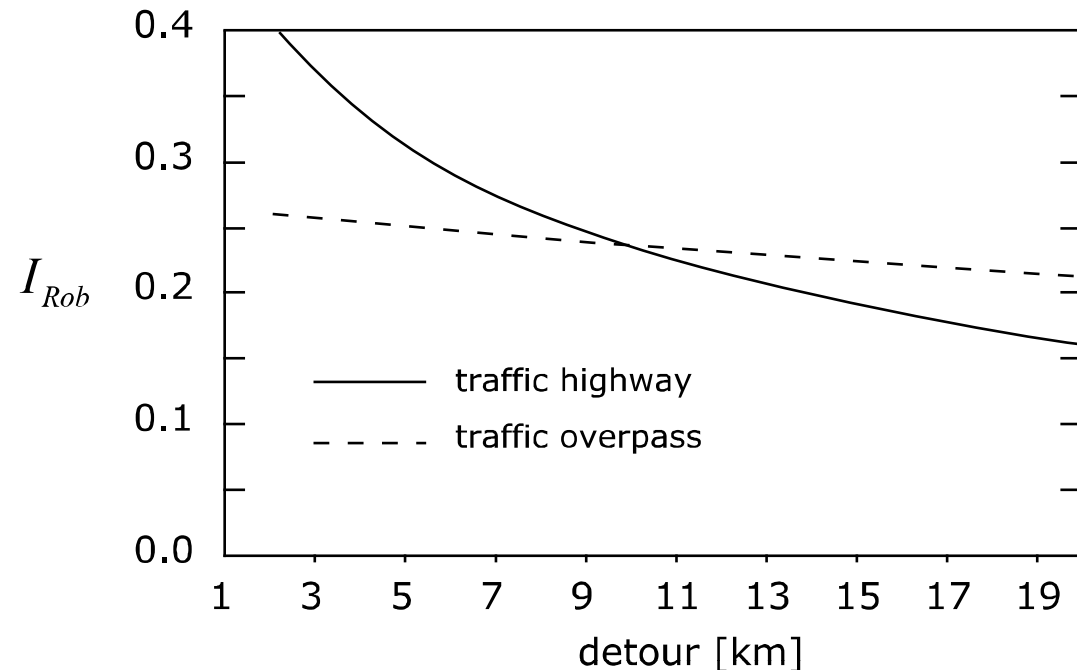
## Measures to increase the robustness – System performance

- Reduction of consequences
- Indirect risk increases disproportional to the average daily traffic



## Measures to increase the robustness – System performance

- Increase the redundancy of the roadway network
- Affects mainly the risk due to user costs
- User costs have a large influence on the decision making in roadway networks

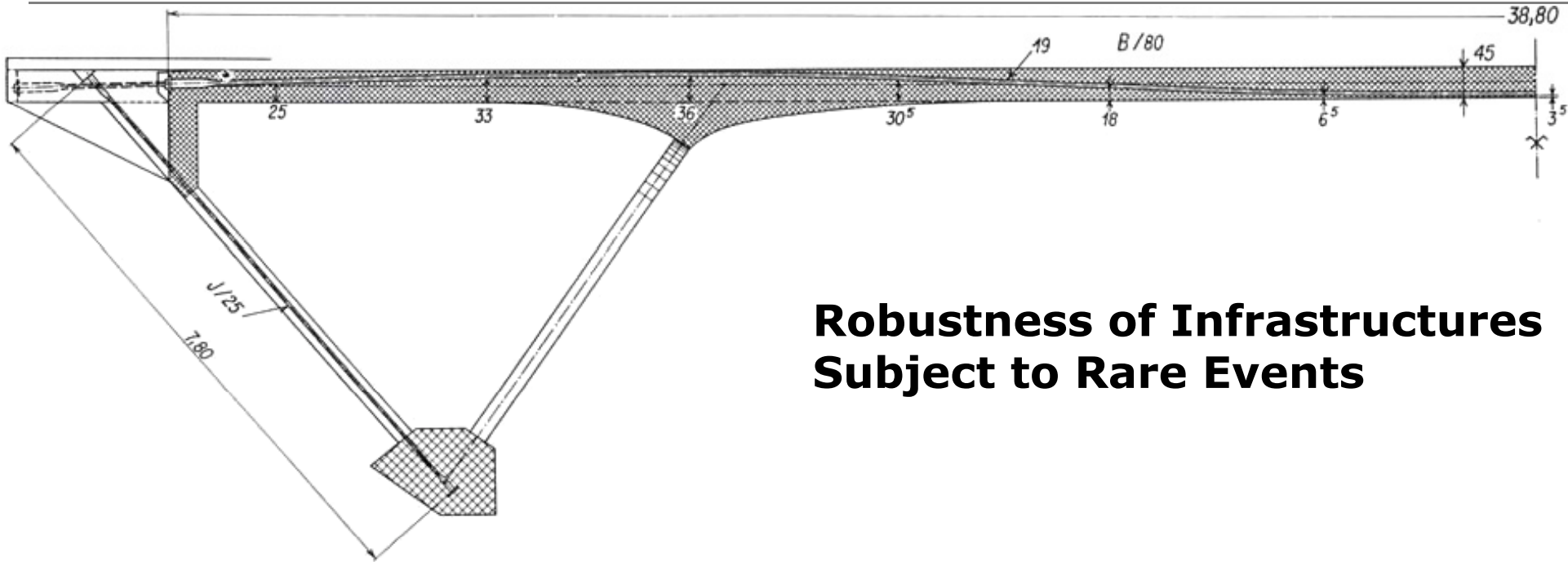




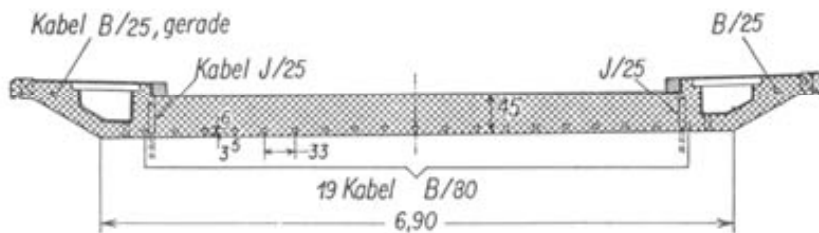
## Conclusions

- The proposed index of robustness is applicable to complex and realistic systems.
- It accounts consistently for different robustness related aspects
- It is shown that influence diagrams have a large potential for the risk assessment of rare events
- The site and object specific character of rare events can be accounted for by implementing specific information in the network.
- Further work is necessary to set criteria's for acceptable values of the index of robustness.

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## Robustness of Infrastructures Subject to Rare Events



*Thank you for your attention*