

# **SAVING THE PLANET, A NEW CHALLENGE FOR STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS**

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INFRARISK - Analysis and Mitigation of Risks in Infrastructures  
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Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto (FEUP), Portugal, 04/11/2022

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



Ancient Egyptian Temple of Karnak, ~ 1200 BC

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



Segovia Aqueduct, Segovia, ~ 80 AD

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



The Pantheon, Rome, ~ 120 AD

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



Hagia Sophia Grand Mosque, Istanbul, ~ 530 AD

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



Notre-Dame Cathedral, Paris, 1163

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



Luís I Bridge, Porto, 1886

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...

Burj Khalifa, Dubai, 2004



Empire State Building  
New York, 1930





# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



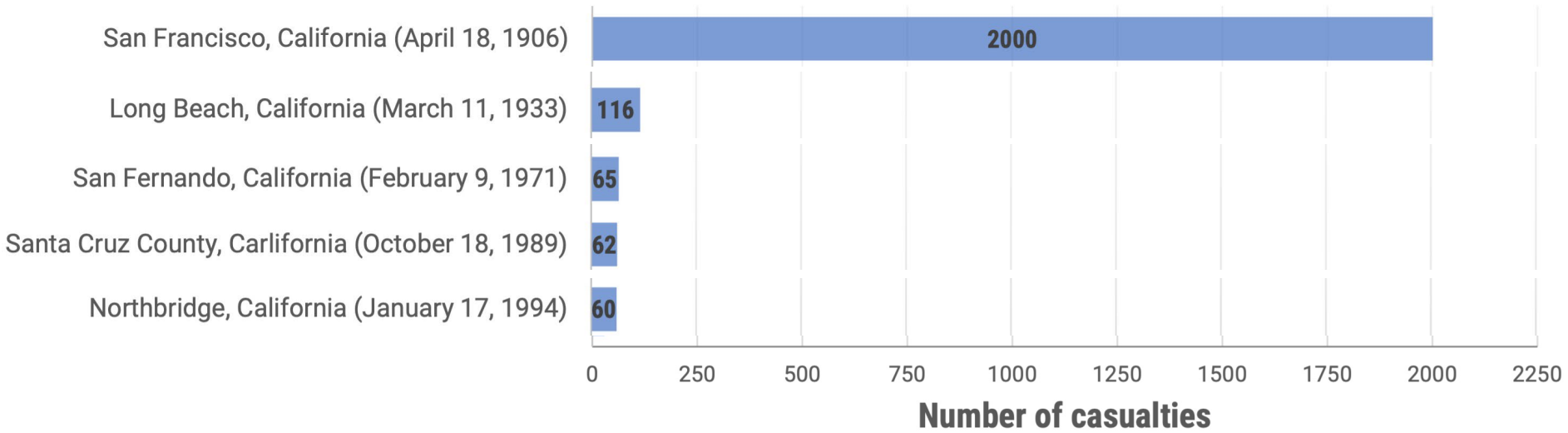
Marina Bay Sands, Singapore,  
2009

# Structural Engineering – we have come a long way...



Sky Mile Tower, Tokyo, 2045

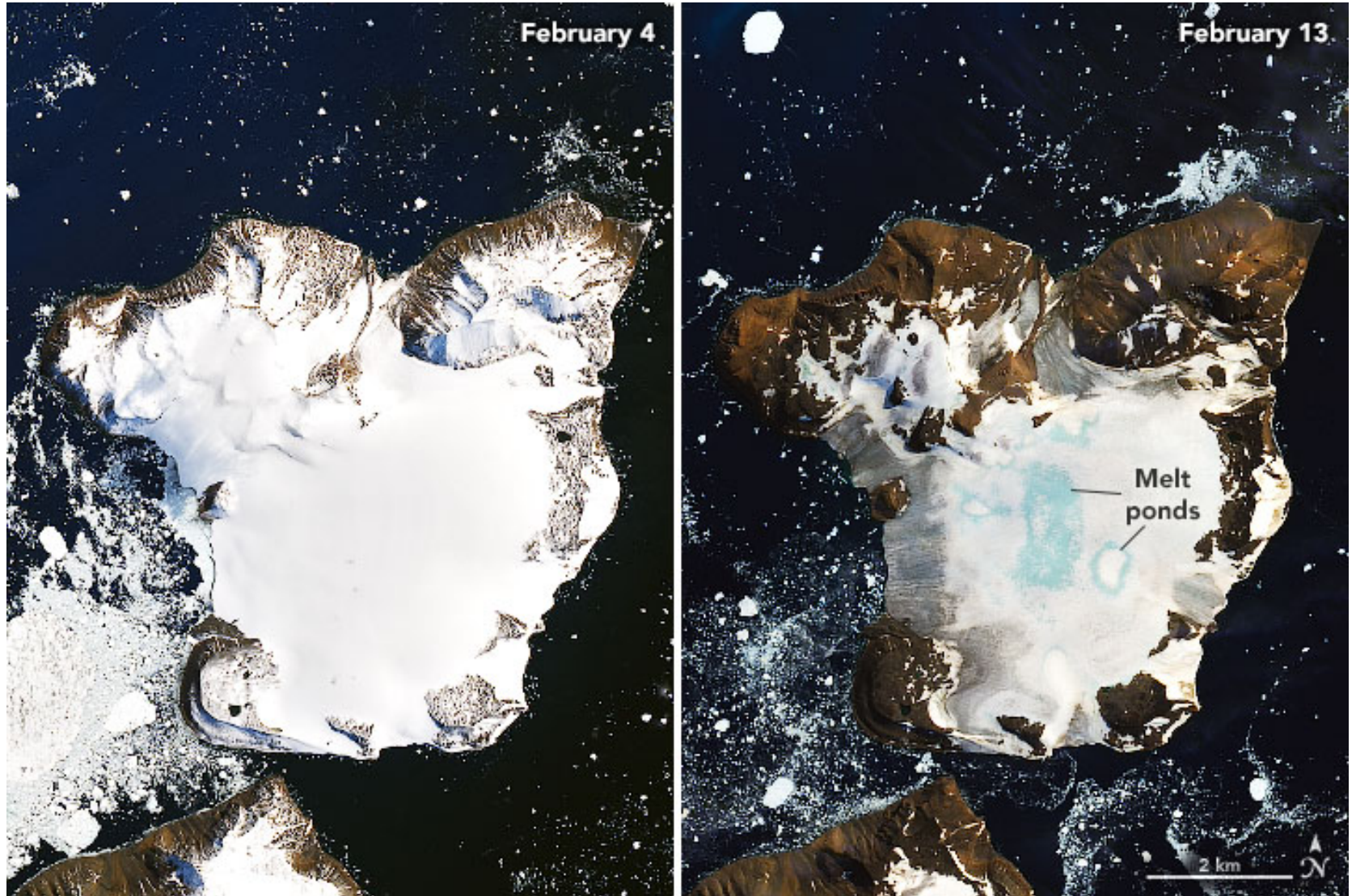
# Structural Engineering advancements have saved lives (and continue to do so)...



But now also the Planet needs saving...



But now also the Planet needs saving...



Melting glaciers, Antarctica, 2020

But now also the Planet needs saving...



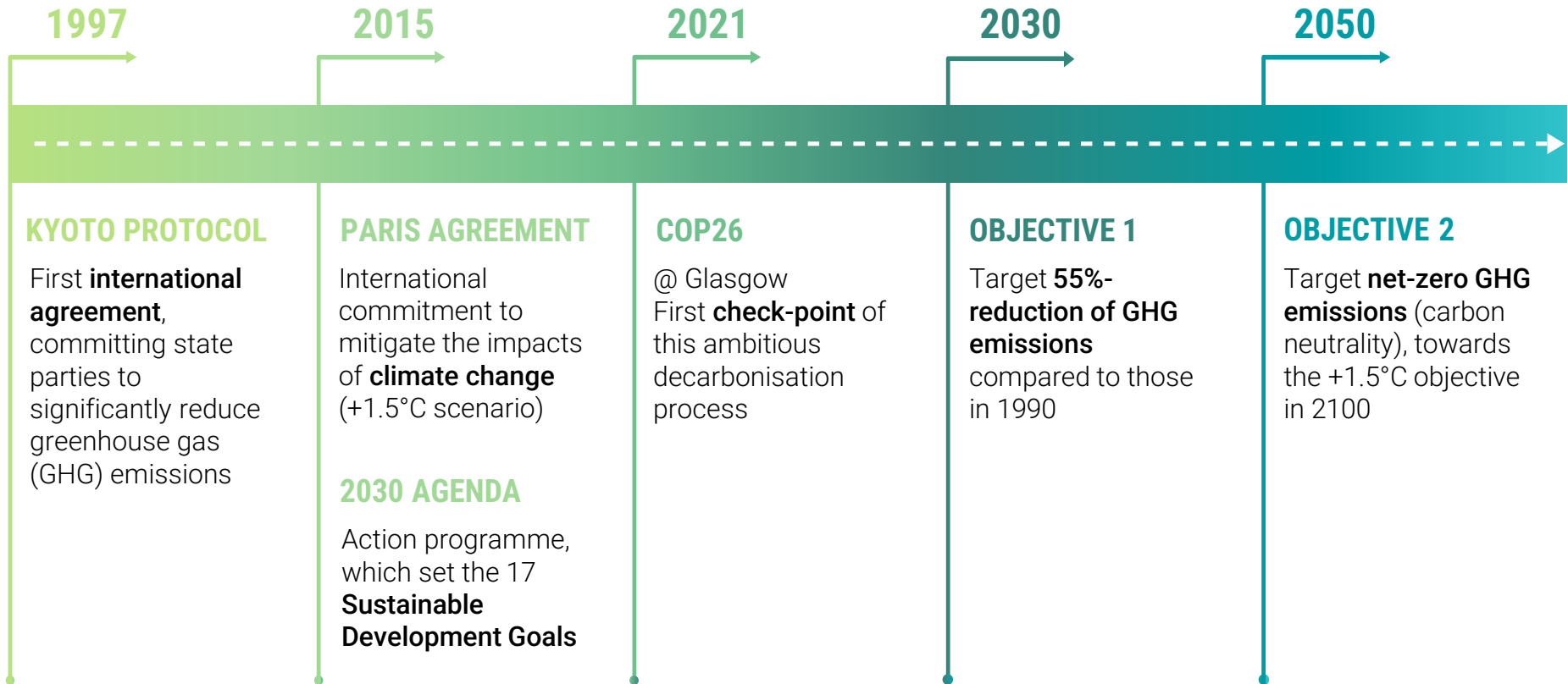
Floods, Brisbane, 2022

But now also the Planet needs saving...



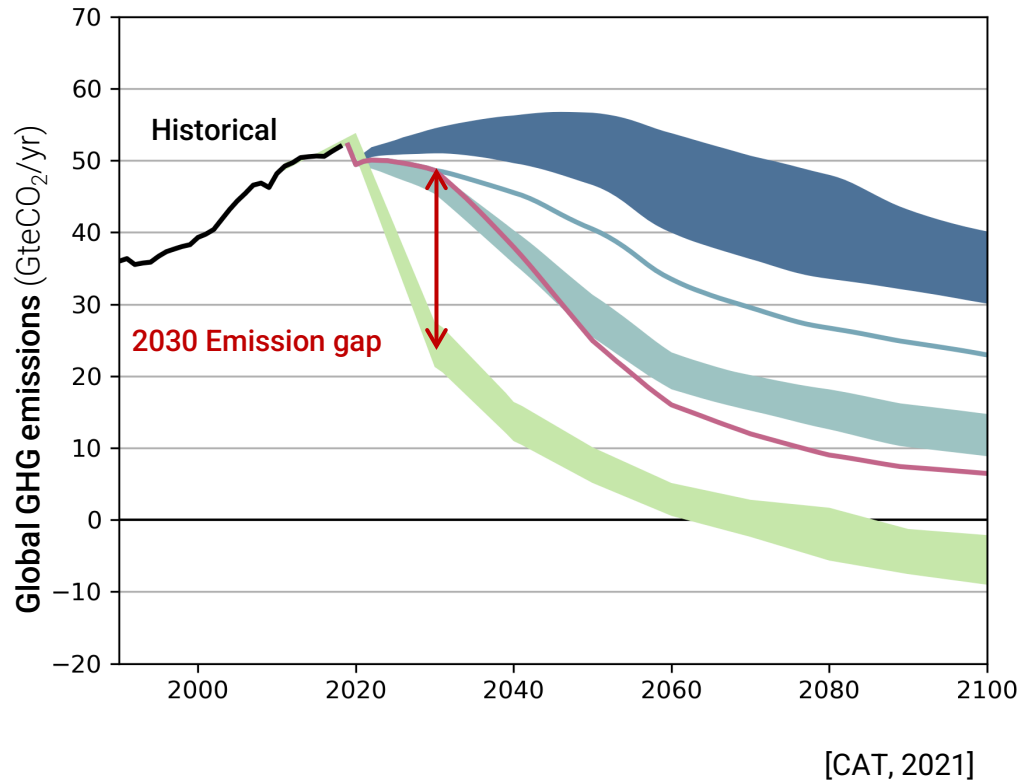
Drought, Po river, Cremona,  
2022

# Sustainable development: targets and objectives













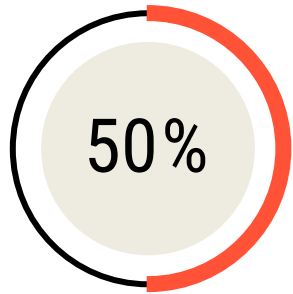
# Sustainable development: are we on track?



## What happens if we fail to reach our goals?

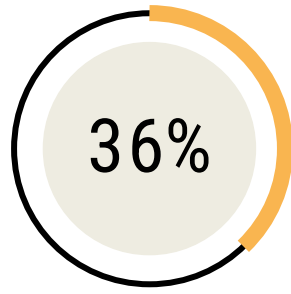
- Extreme weather events (e.g. tornados, floods) 
- Rising sea levels and melting glaciers 
- Desertification and land degradation 
- Climate migration 
- Loss of wildlife and biodiversity 
- Climate-sensitive diseases and pandemics 
- Mortality rate increase 
- Food and water scarcity 

# The construction sector is responsible for...



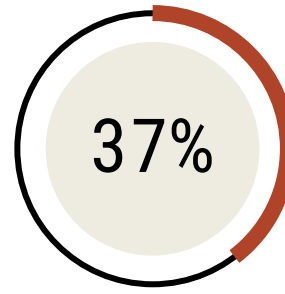
## Raw materials

extraction for construction and retrofitting activities



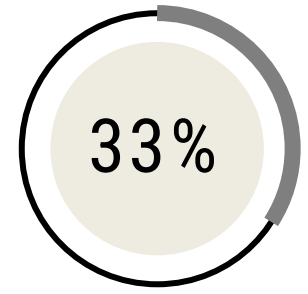
## Energy consumption

for residential, non-residential and buildings construction industry



## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

for residential, non-residential and buildings construction industry



## Waste production

due to construction and demolition activities

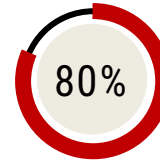


[GlobalABC, 2021]

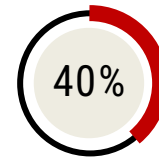
# Strategies towards buildings sustainability

- 1 Energy demand**  
Reduction of energy consumption
- 2 Power supply**  
Use of zero-energy technologies
- 3 Embodied carbon**  
Limitation of CO<sub>2</sub> in construction materials

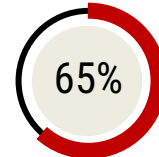
However, in e.g. the European building stock...



of buildings was built **before 1990**



of buildings is located in **seismic regions**



of buildings needs **integrated energy and seismic retrofitting**

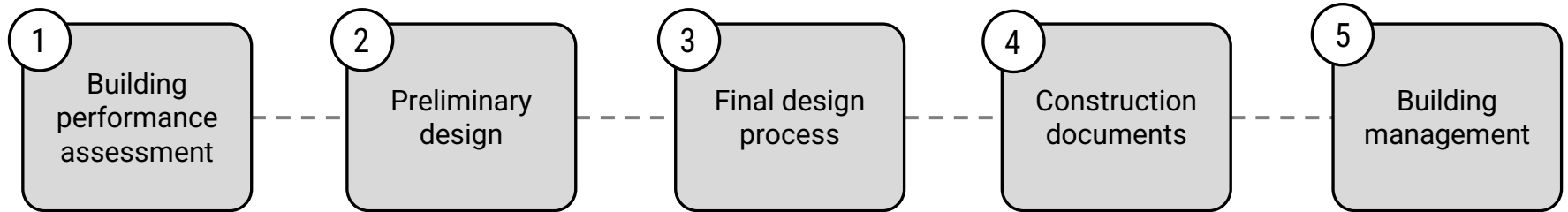
[Gkatzogias et al., 2021]



[adapted from Passoni et al., 2022b]

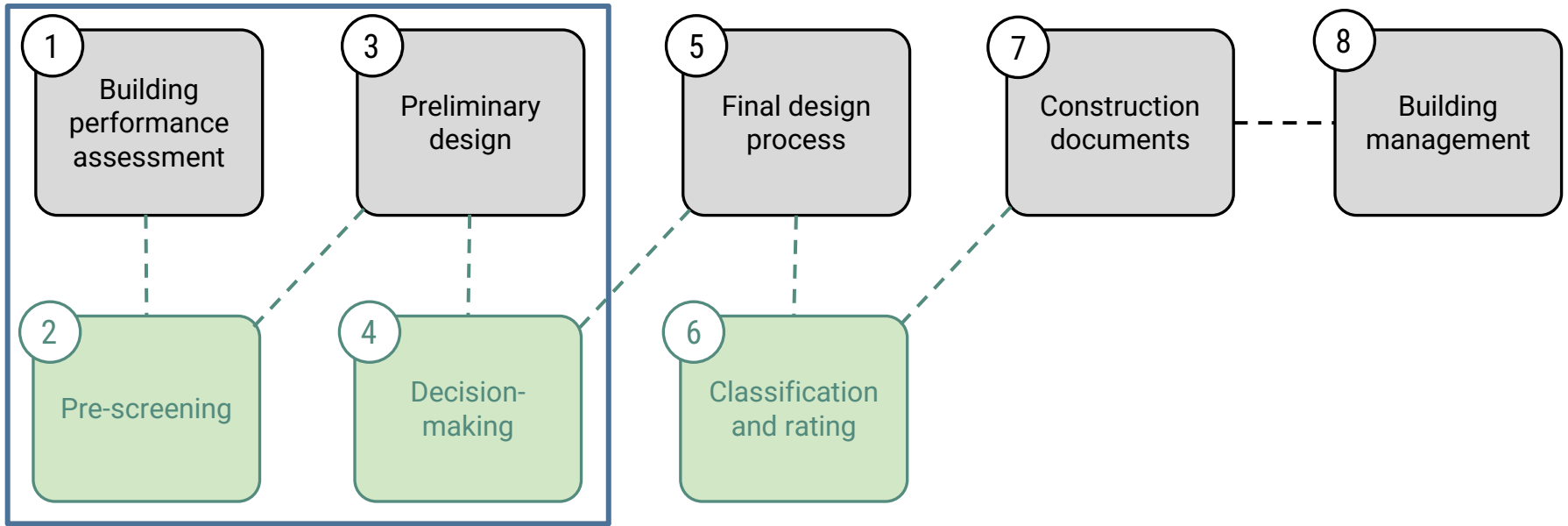
# Life Cycle Structural Engineering: the future of design and retrofiting

## Standard approach



# Life Cycle Structural Engineering: the future of design and retrofitting

## Standard approach



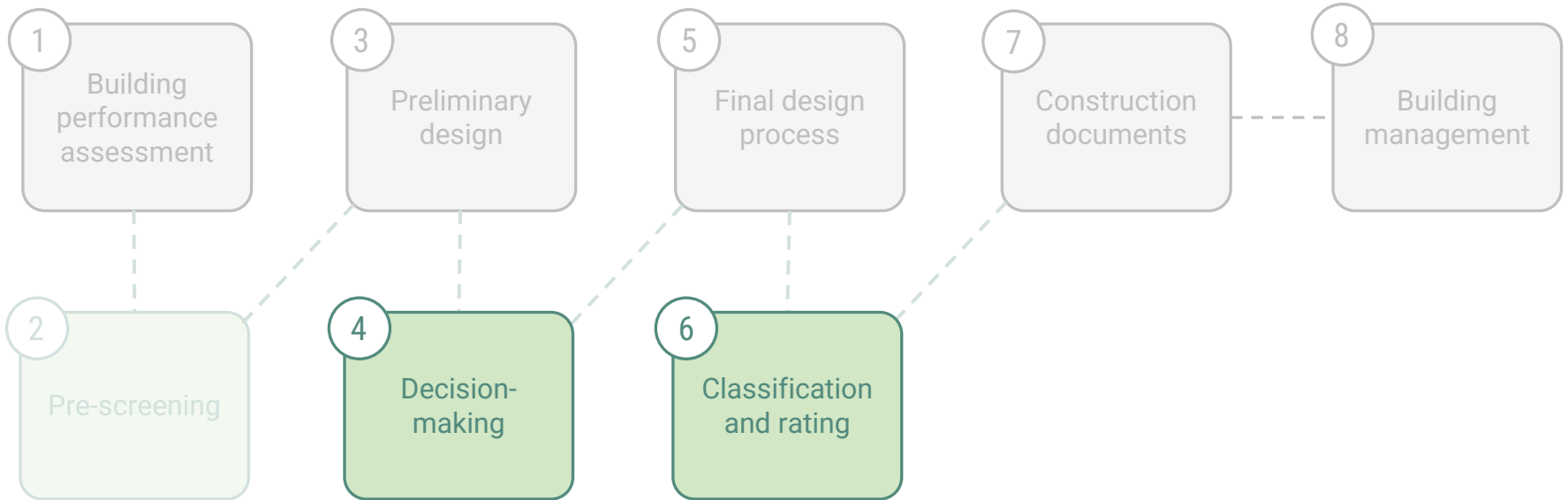
**Sustainable Building Renovation** framework  
[Passoni et al., 2021]

**Life Cycle Thinking** approach

[Passoni et al., 2022a]

# Life Cycle Structural Engineering: the future of design and retrofitting

Standard approach

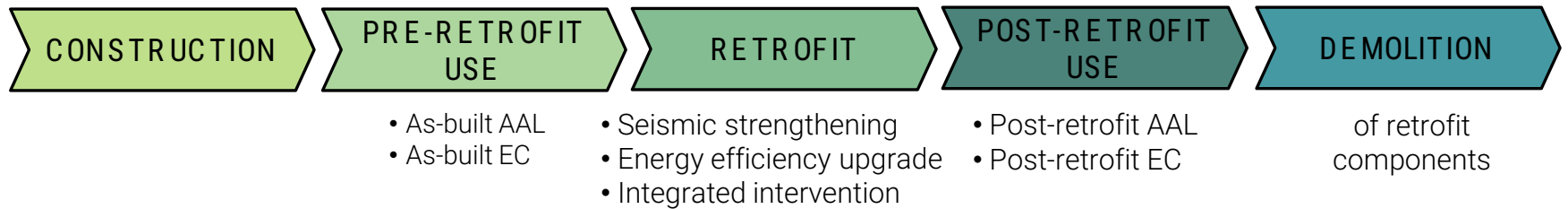


Life Cycle  
Thinking approach

[Caruso et al., 2020-2021-2022]

# Decision-making approach for integrated assessment and retrofitting

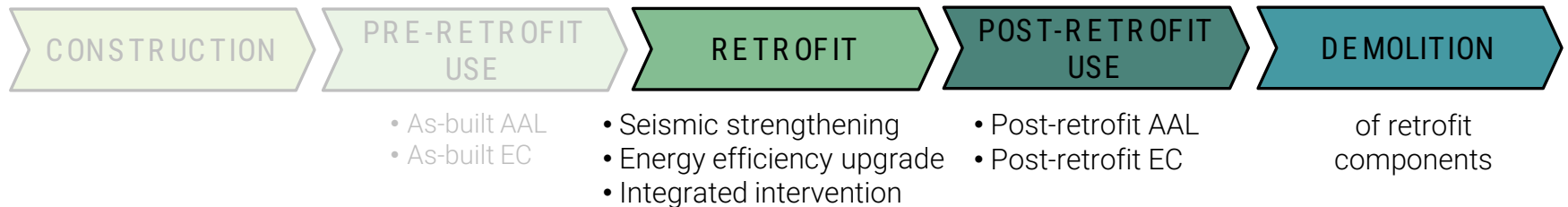
## Building Life Cycle



[AAL: average annual loss; EC: annual energy consumption]

# Decision-making approach for integrated assessment and retrofitting

## Post-retrofit building Life Cycle



[AAL: average annual loss; EC: annual energy consumption]



### Economic impacts

- cost of retrofitting
- expected seismic economic losses
- possible downtime due to seismic events
- cost of energy consumption
- payback period of the retrofit investment



### Environmental impacts

- carbon emissions of the retrofitting intervention
- expected carbon emissions due to earthquake-induced damage and repair activities
- carbon emissions due to energy consumption



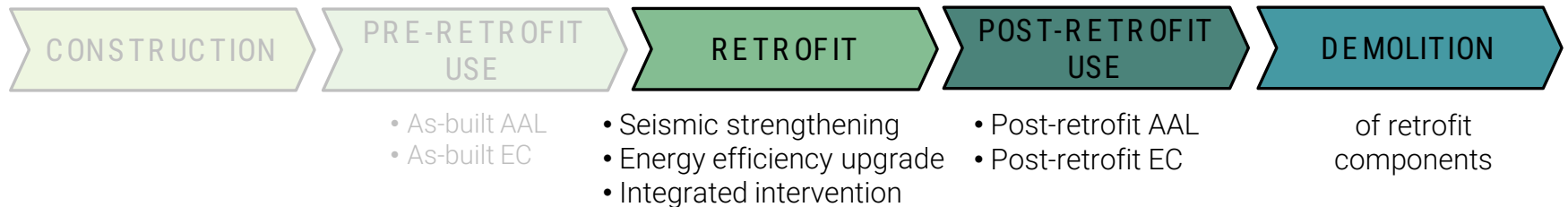
### Social impacts

- expected life losses due to seismic events



# Decision-making approach for integrated assessment and retrofitting

## Post-retrofit building Life Cycle



[AAL: average annual loss; EC: annual energy consumption]



### Economic impacts

- cost of retrofitting
- expected seismic economic losses
- possible downtime due to seismic events
- cost of energy consumption
- payback period of the retrofit investment

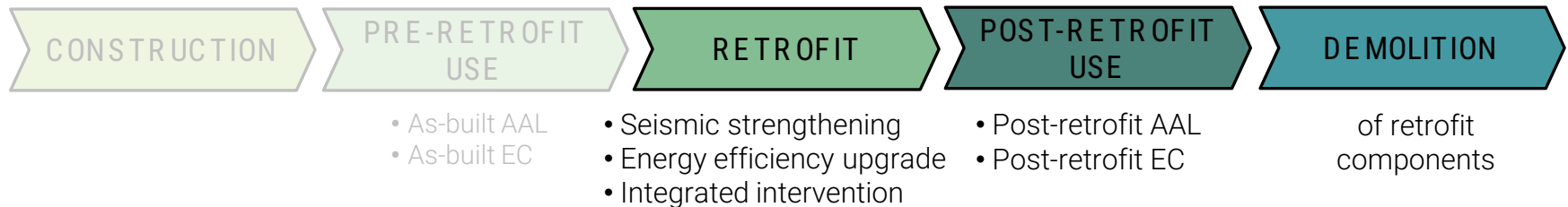
### Parameter 1 (Life cycle costs)

$$LCPM_{\epsilon} = \frac{RI + (AAL_{\text{post-retrofit}} + EC_{\text{post-retrofit}}) \cdot SL_2 + D(RI)}{FA \cdot SL_2}$$

[LCPM: life cycle performance metric; RI: retrofitting intervention;  $SL_2$ : post-retrofit service life;  $D(RI)$ : demolition of retrofit components; FA: floor area]

# Decision-making approach for integrated assessment and retrofitting

## Post-retrofit building Life Cycle



[AAL: average annual loss; EC: annual energy consumption]



## Economic impacts

- cost of retrofitting
- expected seismic economic losses
- possible downtime due to seismic events
- cost of energy consumption
- payback period of the retrofit investment

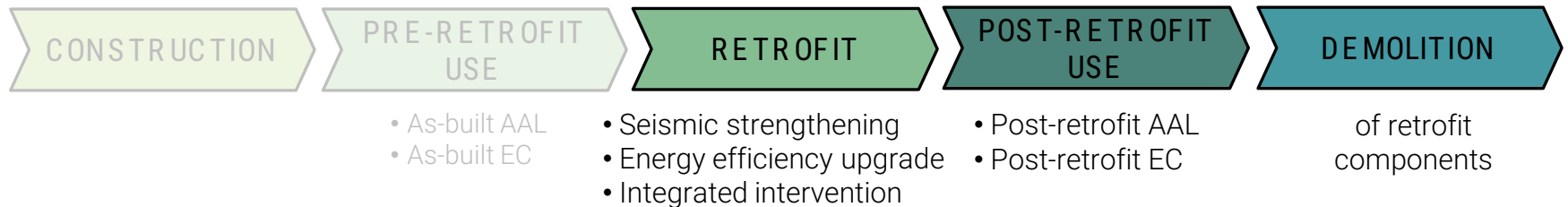
## Parameter 2 (Payback period)

$$t \text{ such that } NPV = \sum_{t=0}^{SL_2} \left[ \frac{\Delta AAL}{(1+r_d)^t} + \frac{\Delta EC}{(1+r_d)^t} \right] - RI = 0$$

[t: years from the retrofitting intervention; NPV: net present value;  $r_d$ : discount rate]

# Decision-making approach for integrated assessment and retrofitting

## Post-retrofit building Life Cycle



[AAL: average annual loss; EC: annual energy consumption]



## Environmental impacts

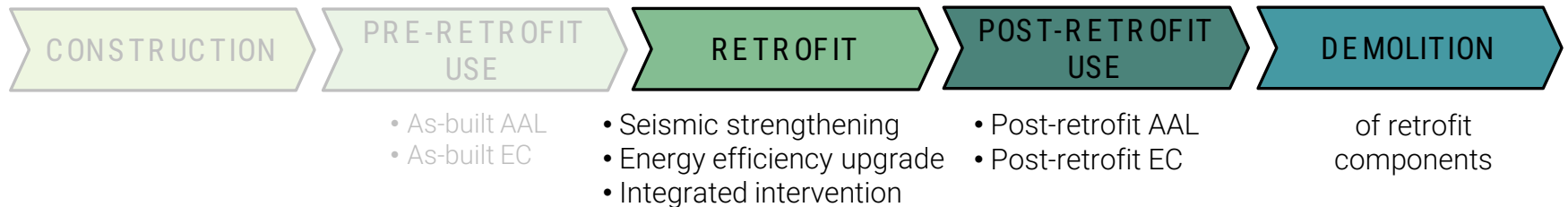
- carbon emissions of the retrofitting intervention
- expected carbon emissions due to earthquake-induced damage and repair activities
- carbon emissions due to energy consumption

## Parameter 3 (Life cycle carbon emissions)

$$LCPM_{\text{kg eCO}_2} = \frac{RI + (AAL_{\text{post-retrofit}} + EC_{\text{post-retrofit}}) \cdot SL_2 + D(RI)}{FA \cdot SL_2}$$

# Decision-making approach for integrated assessment and retrofitting

## Post-retrofit building Life Cycle



[AAL: average annual loss; EC: annual energy consumption]



## Social impacts

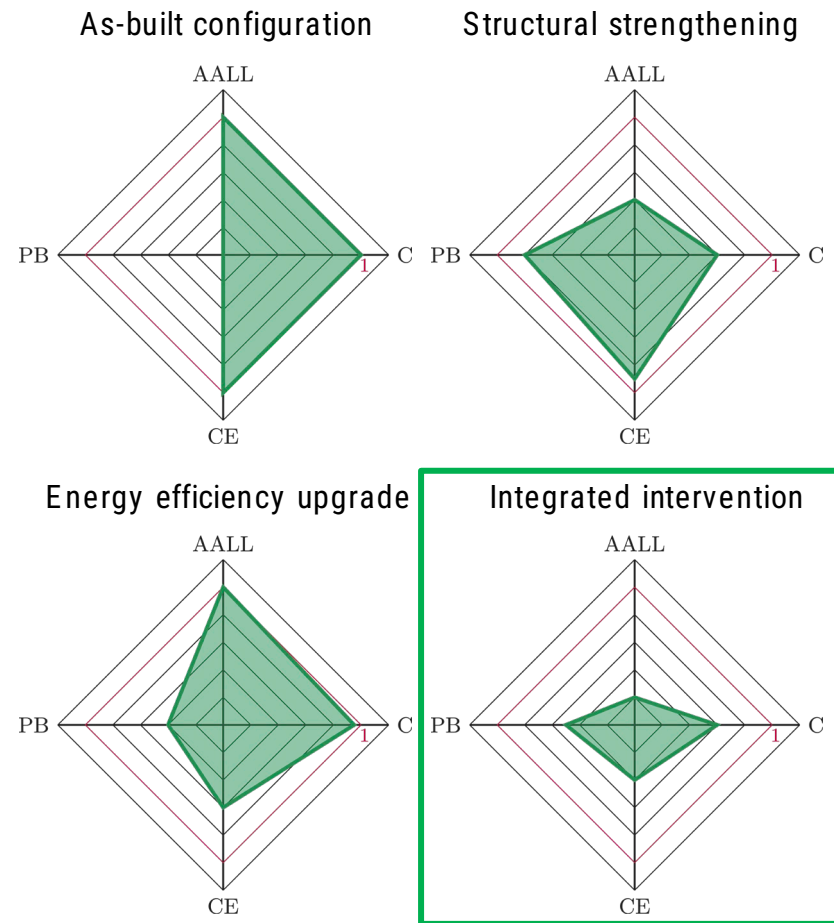
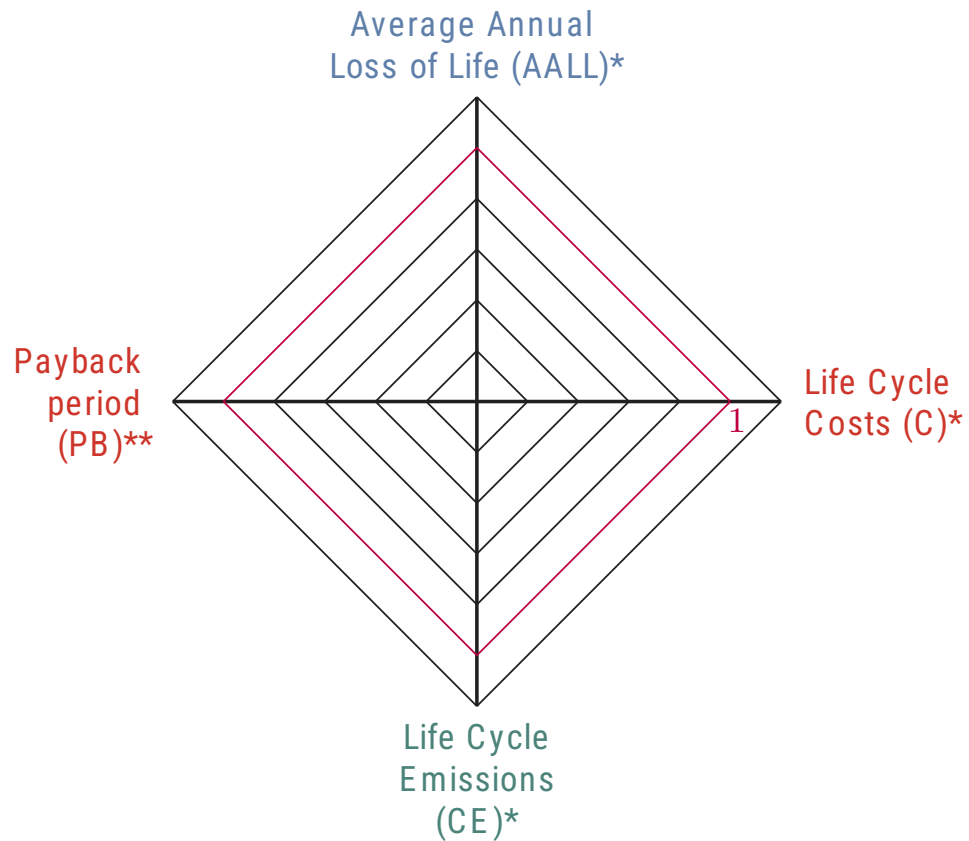
- expected life losses due to seismic events

## Parameter 4 (Expected casualties due to seismic hazard)

$$\lambda(DV|O) = \iiint P(DV|DM, O)P(DM|EDP, O)P(EDP|IM, O)P(IM|O) dIM dEDP dDM$$

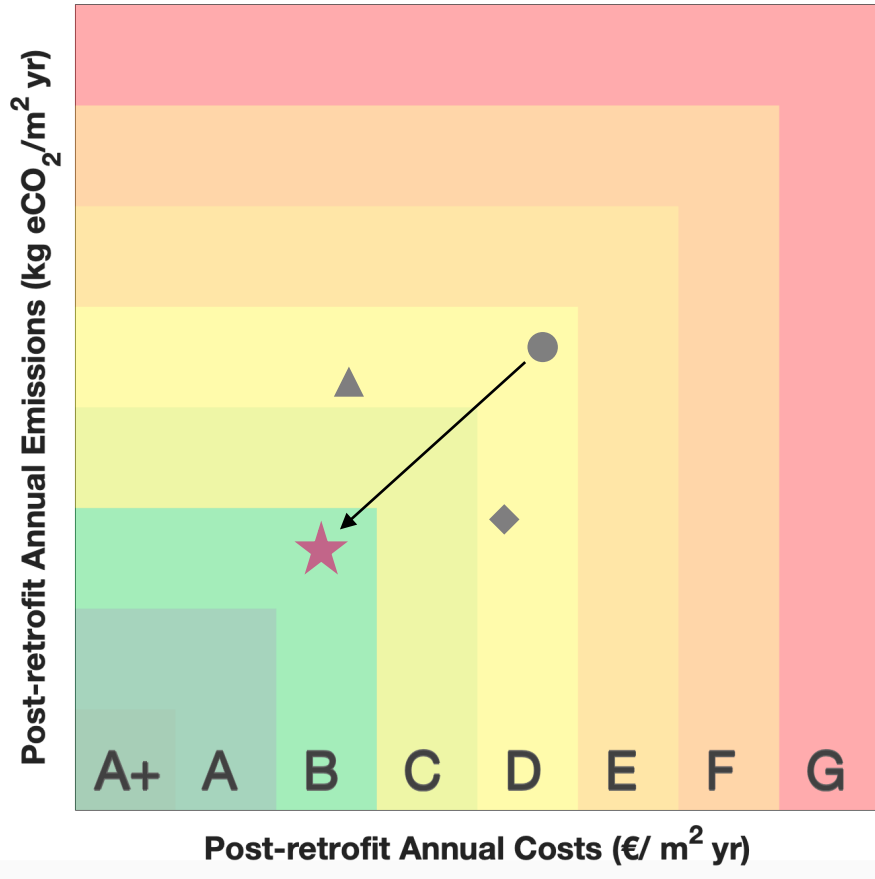
[DV: decision variable; O: building location and design; IM: intensity measure; EDP: engineering demand parameter; DM: damage measure]

# Decision-making approach for integrated assessment and retrofitting



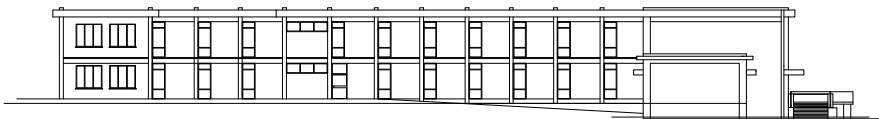
\*normalised by the corresponding values in the as-built configuration  
 \*\*normalised with respect to the extended post-retrofit life of the building

# Integrated classification



# Case-study applications

## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)

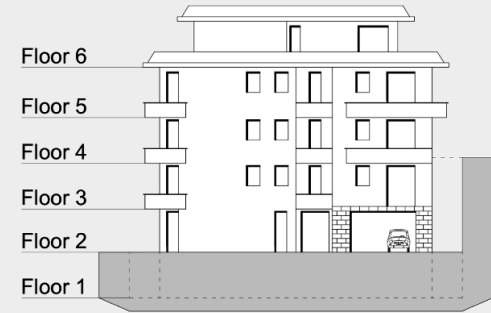


North elevation

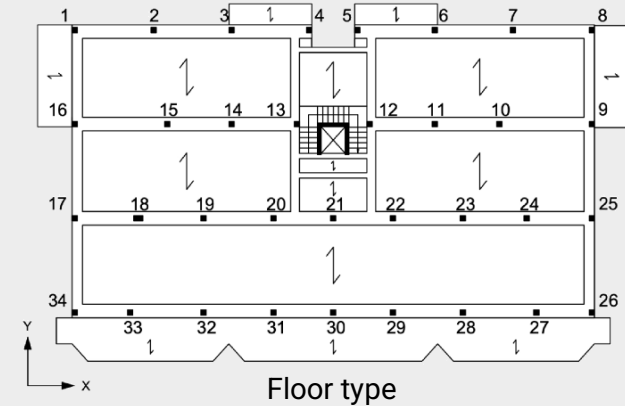


South elevation

## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)

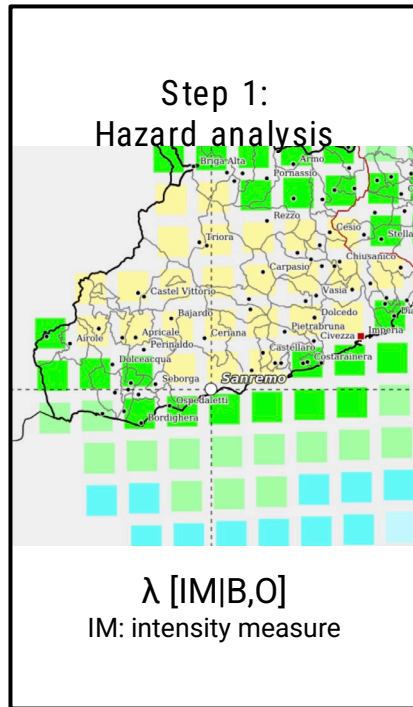


East elevation

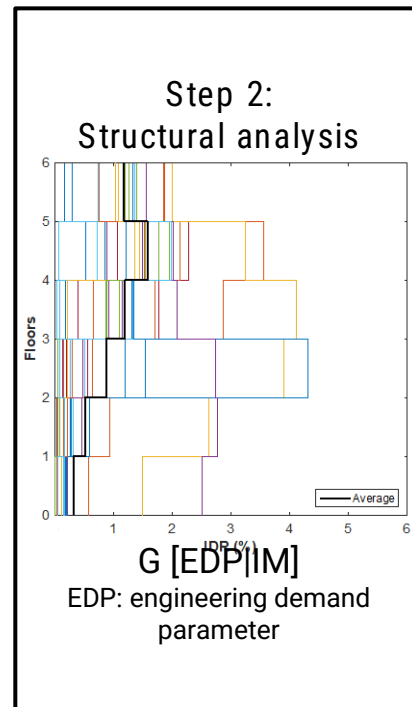


Floor type

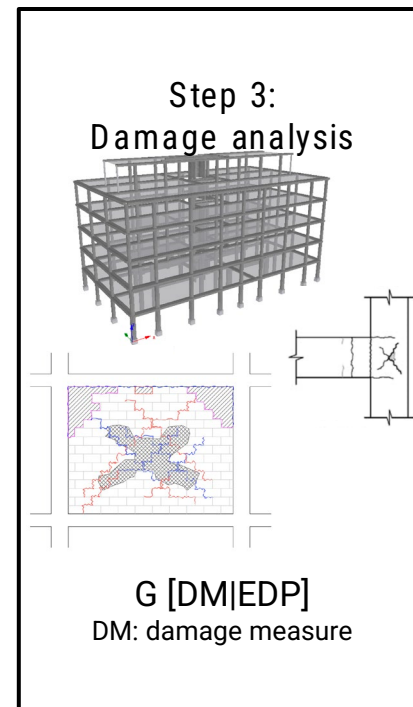
# Earthquake loss assessment



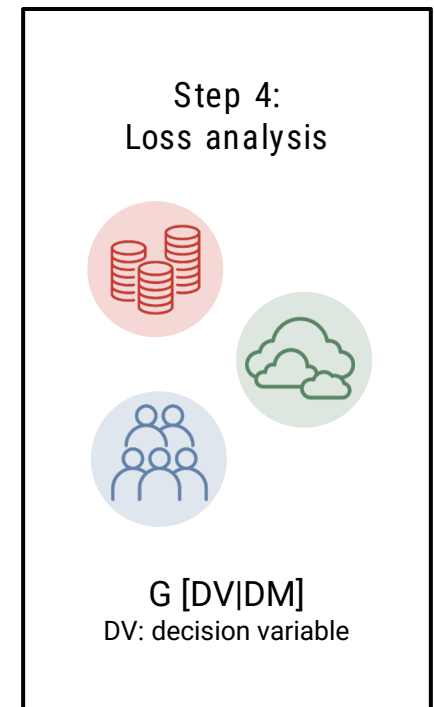
How frequently will an event of intensity IM occur, given the building B located in site O?



What engineering demand parameters will the building's components be subjected to, given the occurrence of such an event?



What damage will the building's components experience, given the attainment of such engineering demands?



What losses will the building undergo, given the attainment of such damage states in its members?

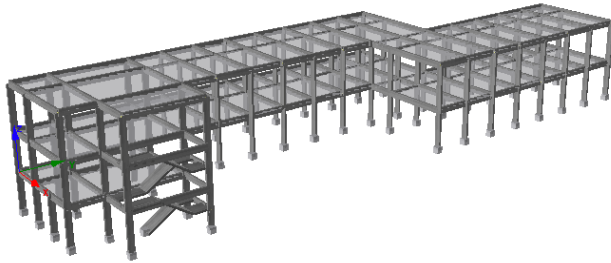
[ATC (2018a-d), Cardone and Perrone (2015), Cardone (2016), Seismosoft (2022)]



# Earthquake loss assessment

## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)

- Pushover-based loss analysis;
- Consideration of direct costs only.



4,800 €/year  
(0.38% of the replacement cost)



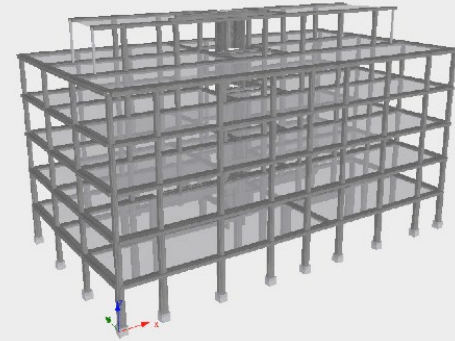
1,800 kg eCO<sub>2</sub>/ year  
(0.28% of the replacement impact)



0.03 expected  
casualties/year

## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)

- NTHA-based loss analysis;
- Consideration of costs of downtime.



13,000 €/ year  
(0.36% of the replacement cost)



4,000 kg eCO<sub>2</sub>/year  
(0.27% of the replacement impact)

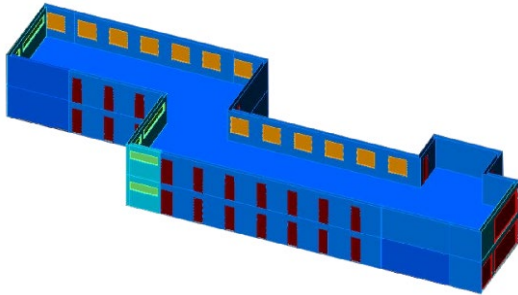


0.11 expected  
casualties/year

# Energy performance assessment

## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)

- Semi-stationary analysis;
- Contribution of heating only.



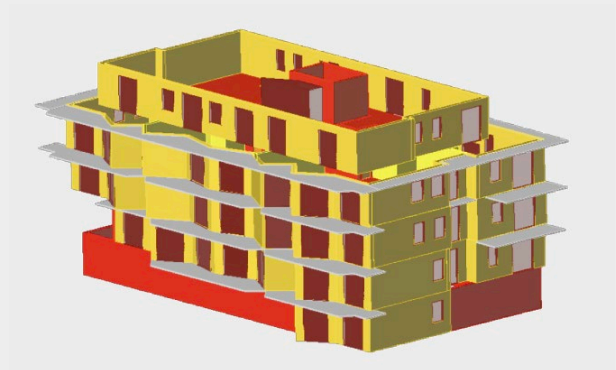
27,000 €/year  
(2.16% of the replacement cost)



53,000 kg eCO<sub>2</sub>/year  
(8.15% of the replacement impact)

## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)

- Dynamic analysis;
- Heating, cooling, hot water, elevator.



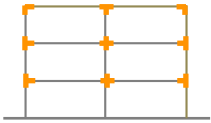
11,000 €/year  
(0.30% of the replacement cost)



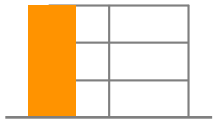
26,000 kg eCO<sub>2</sub>/year  
(1.66% of the replacement impact)

# Retrofitting strategies: seismic strengthening

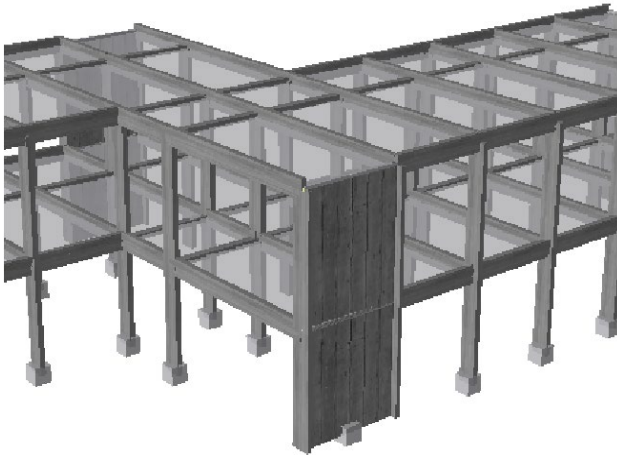
## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)



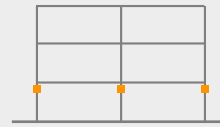
External joints strengthening ('Joint\_Strength' or JS)



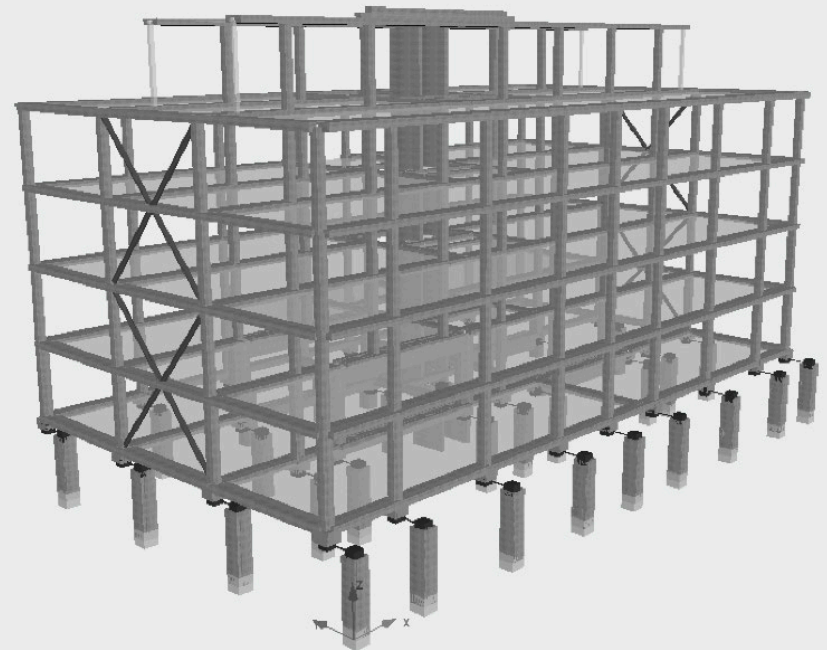
New RC shear walls ('RC\_Walls' or RCW)



## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)

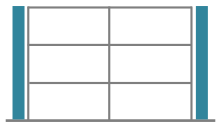


Seismic isolation and cross steel braces ('Seism\_Iso + St\_Braces' or ISO + SB)

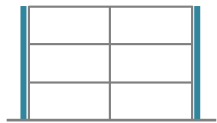


# Retrofitting strategies: energy efficiency upgrade

## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)

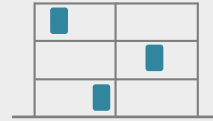


Vertical insulation coating in EPS panels ('ThermInsul' or TI)

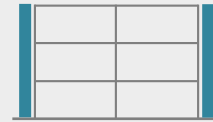


Ultra-thin ceramic insulation layer ('ceramic\_ThermInsul' or cTI)

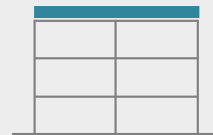
## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)



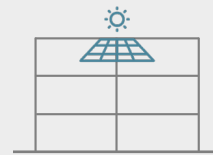
Energy-efficient windows ('Windows' or W)



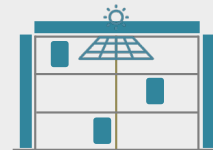
Thermal insulation of wall air gap with cellulose fibers ('Vert\_Thermal\_Insul' or VTI)



Roof insulation coating in XPS panels ('Roof\_Thermal\_Insul' or RTI)



Photovoltaic system with multi-crystalline technology ('Photovoltaic' or PV)



All energy efficiency interventions ('Wind + Vert\_TI + Roof\_TI + Photovoltaic' or W + VTI + RTI + PV)

# Retrofitting strategies: integrated interventions

## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)



External joints strengthening + beams and columns coating ('Joint\_Strength + BC\_Coat' or JS + bcC)



External joints strengthening + thin vertical insulation layer ('Joint\_Strength + thin\_ThermInsul' or JS + tTI)

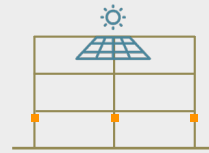


New RC shear walls + vertical insulation coating in EPS panels ('RC\_walls + ThermInsul' or RCW + TI)

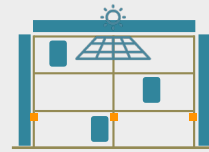


New RC shear walls + ultra-thin ceramic insulation layer ('RC\_walls + ceramic\_ThermInsul' or RCW + cTI)

## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)



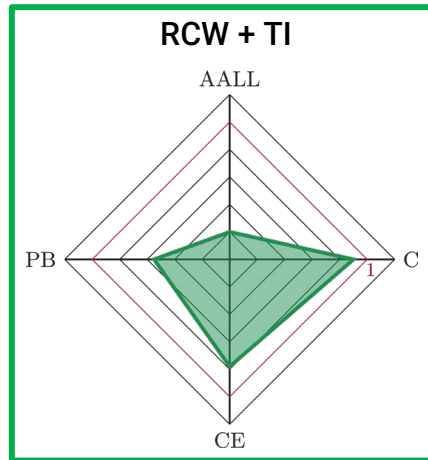
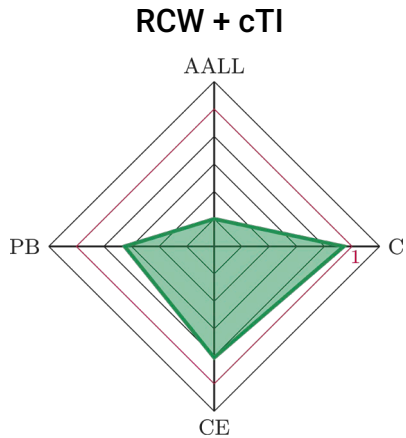
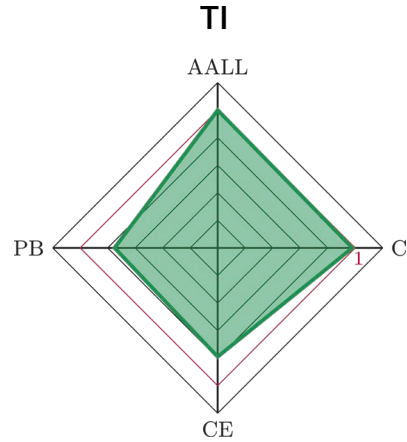
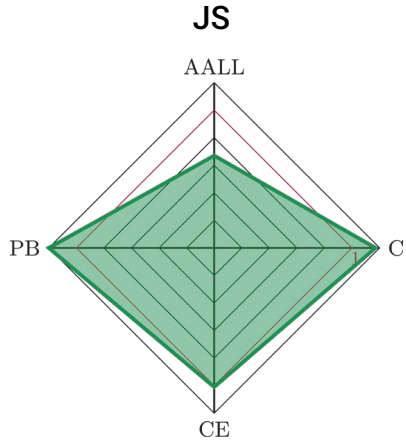
Seismic isolation and cross steel braces + photovoltaic system ('Seism\_Iso + St\_Braces' + Photovoltaic' or ISO + SB + PV)



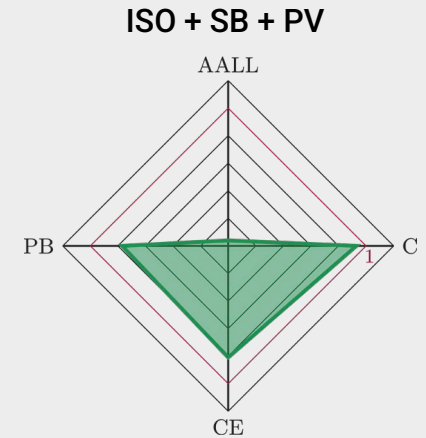
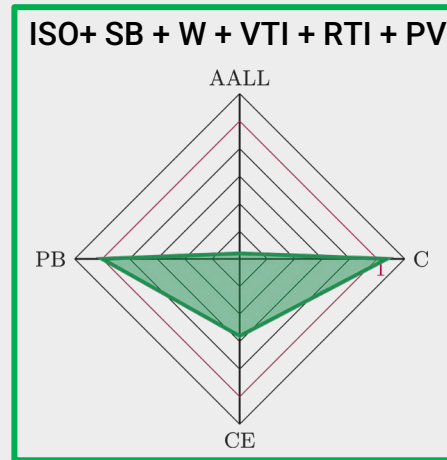
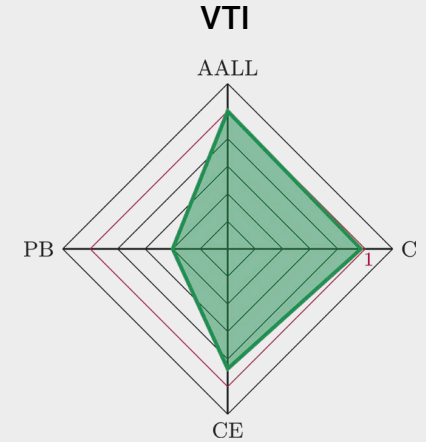
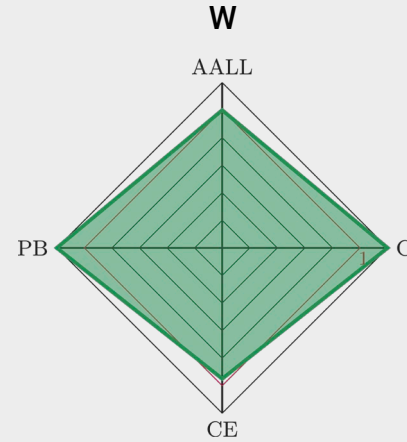
Seismic isolation and cross steel braces + all energy efficiency interventions ('ISO + SB + W + Vert\_TI + Roof\_TI + Photovoltaic' or ISO + SB + W + VTI + RTI + PV)

# Identification of the optimal retrofitting strategies

## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)

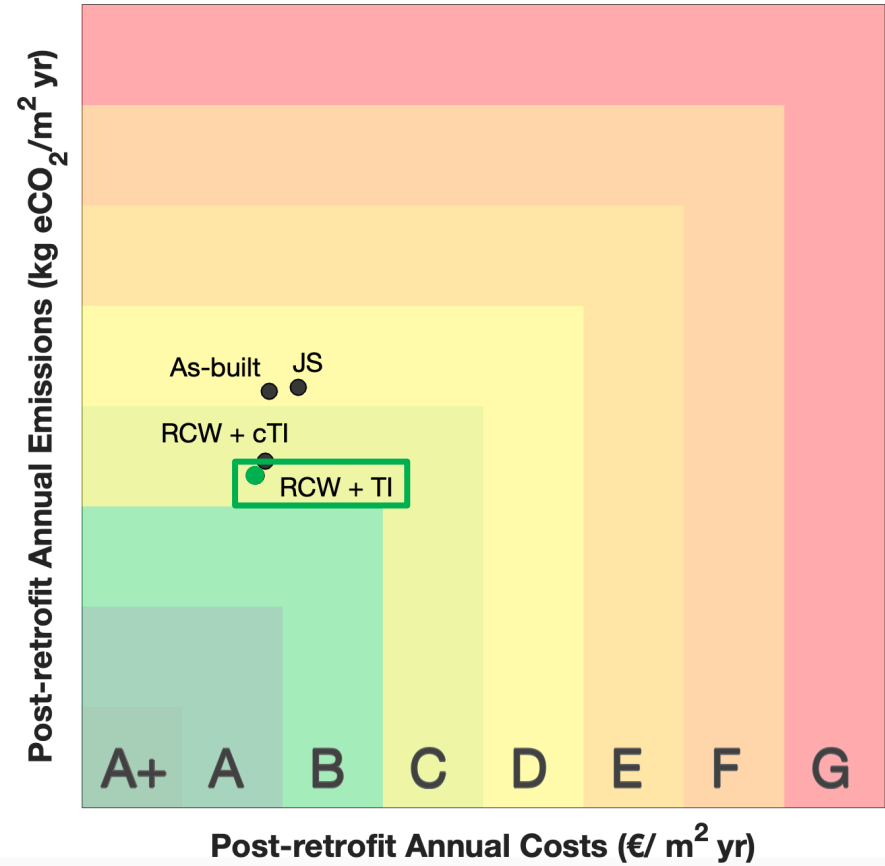
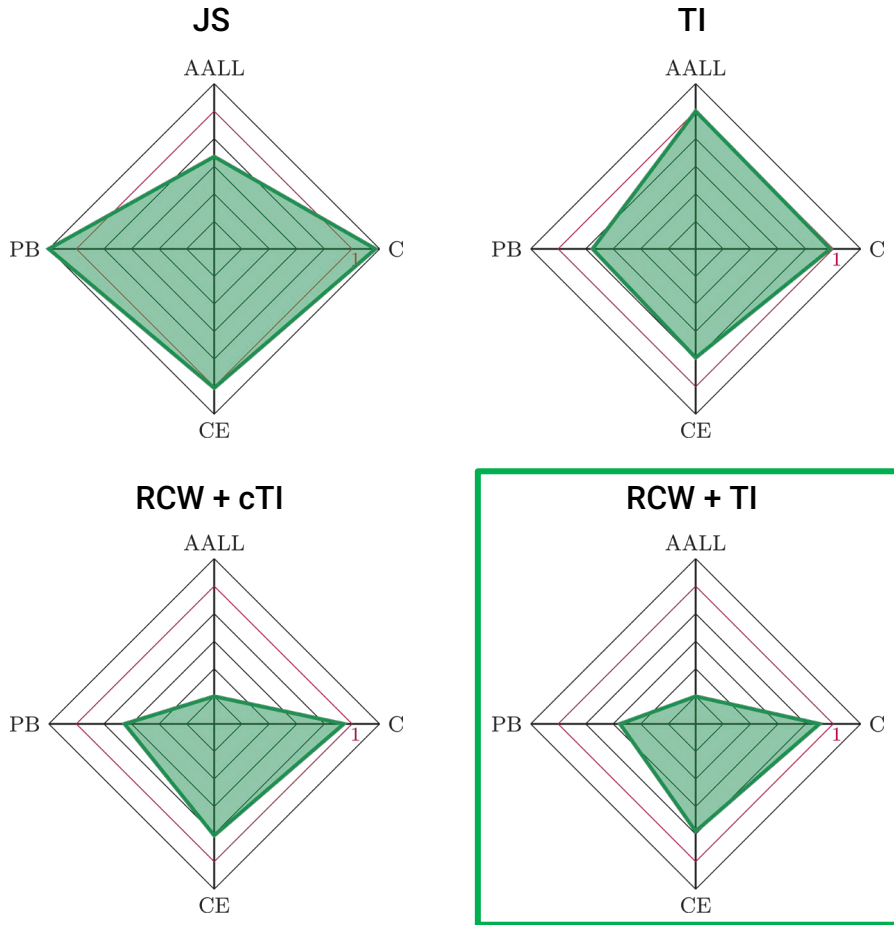


## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)



# Integrated classification

## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)



# Optimal retrofitting strategies at different sites


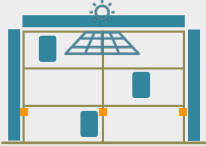
## School building (Abruzzo, Italy)



 **Mild\_AvgEq**  'RC\_walls + ThermInsul'


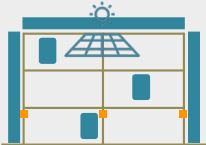
 **Warm\_HighEq**  'RC\_walls + ThermInsul'

 **Cold\_LowEq**  'RC\_walls + ThermInsul'

## Residential building (Liguria, Italy)

 **Warm\_AvgEq**  'ISO + SB + W + Vert\_TI + Roof\_TI + Photovoltaic'

 **Mild\_LowEq**  'Roof\_Thermal\_Insul'

 **Cold\_HighEq**  'ISO + SB + W + Vert\_TI + Roof\_TI + Photovoltaic'



# Closure



**Achieving buildings sustainability** represents a main need of our time, thus we, as building/structural engineers, should all be deeply committed to such an ambitious purpose and challenge!



**Life Cycle Structural Engineering** is expected to become the standard approach for design and retrofiting in actual engineering practice, to foster buildings sustainability by improving their seismic and energy performances at the same time



**Viable and practical approaches are now available** for life cycle-based classification of buildings and for the identification of optimal retrofiting strategies based on economic, environmental and social decision-making parameters

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*“This is Europe’s man on the moon moment. Our goal is to reconcile the economy – the way we produce, the way we consume – with our planet and to make it work for our people.”*

*(Ursula von der Leyen)*



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