

# STRUCTURAL RELIABILITY



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## Design

Past



Present / Future

Experience

Lessons learned

Conservatism



Innovative designs/materials

Uncertain loading

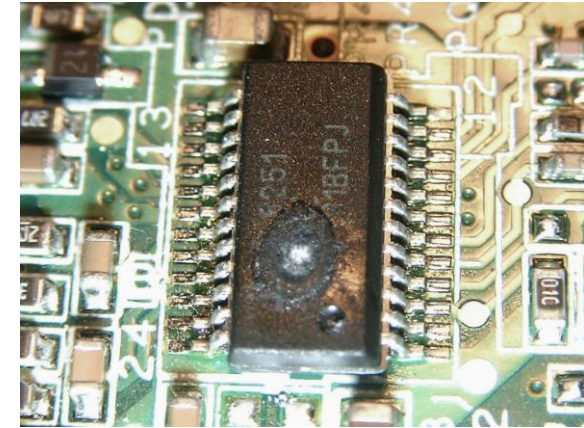
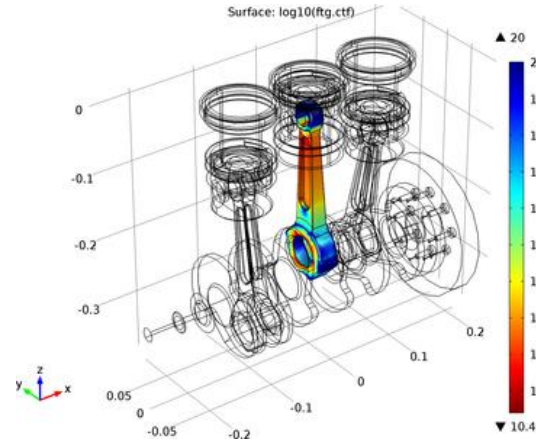
Deterioration

Optimization

Frequentist

Classical

Bayesian



VS

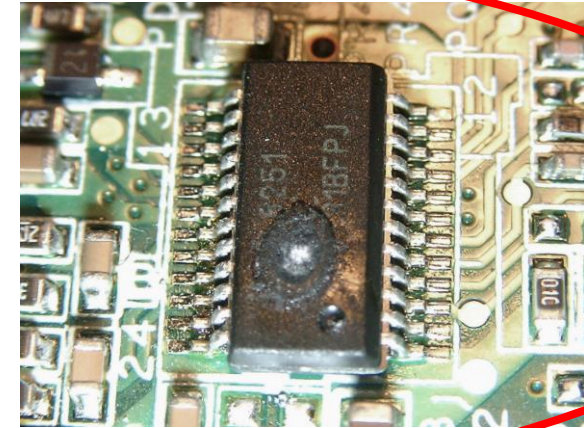
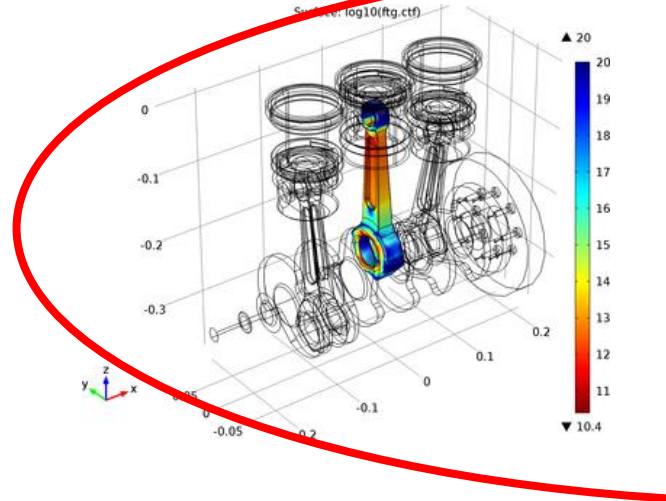




Frequentist

Classical

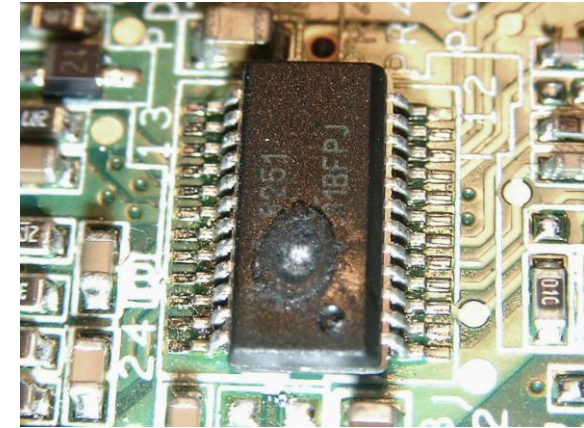
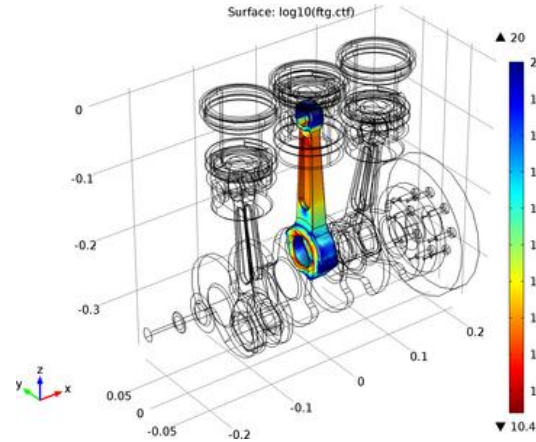
Bayesian



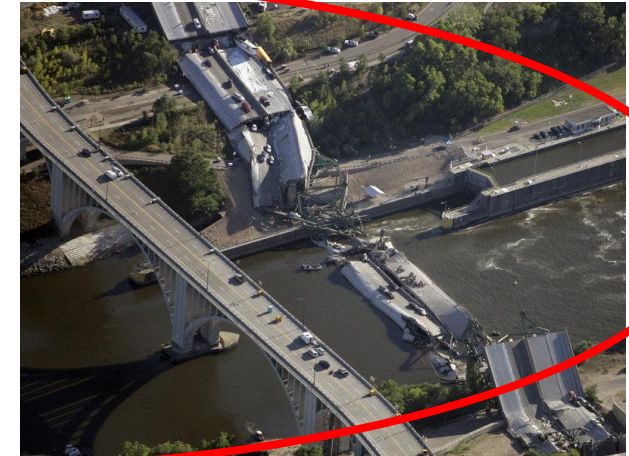
Frequentist

Classical

Bayesian



Structural reliability



## Why uncertainty quantification?

**Example:** penalization due to late arrival (1000 €) and the meeting is taking place in 60 minutes.

- Option 1 (fast taxi): average 40 mins
- Option 2 (taxi with gps): average 50 mins



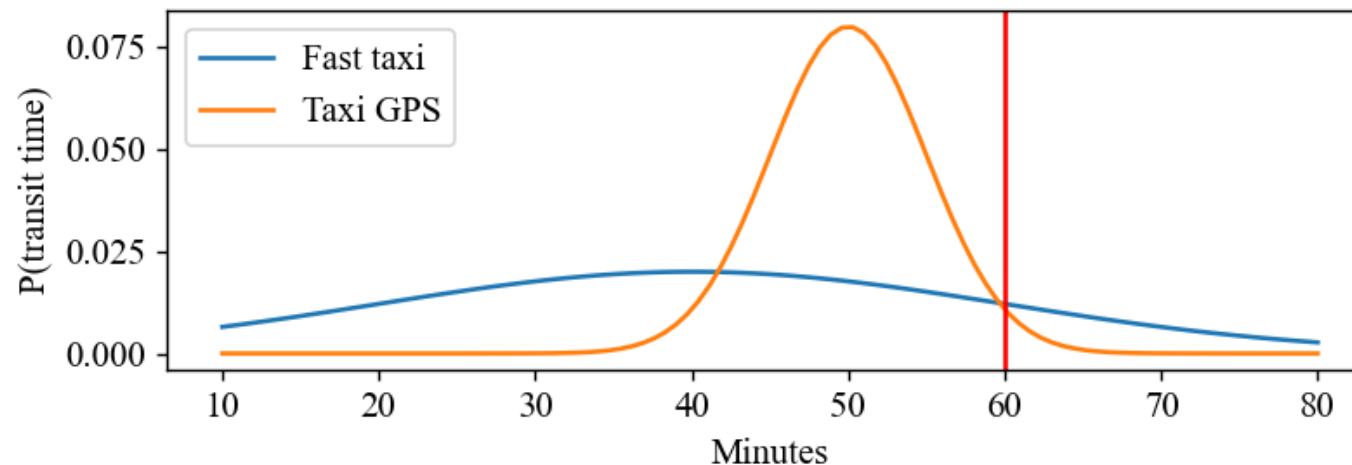
## Why uncertainty quantification?

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**Example:** penalization due to late arrival (1000 €) and the meeting is taking place in 60 minutes.

- Option 1 (fast taxi): average 40 mins, std 20 mins, CoV=0.50;
- Option 2 (taxi with gps): average 50 mins, std 5 mins, CoV=0.10.



Physical



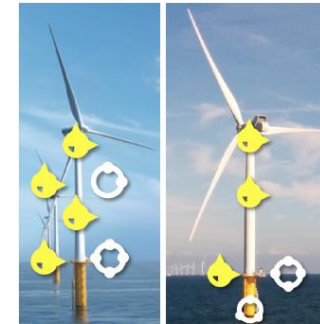
**Aleatory**

**Bayesian** Inference

Model



Statistical



Measurement



**Epistemic**

KNOWLEDGE



Design

KNOWLEDGE



Production

KNOWLEDGE



Operation

Decommissioning



- **Level I methods**

- Uncertainty → one value
- Partial Safety Factor

- **Level II methods**

- Gaussian (Mean & std)
- ‘Reliability index method’

- **Level III methods**

- Joint distribution functions
- ‘Probability of failure’



- **Level IV methods**

- Consequence (cost) of failure
- Risk = Probability of failure \* cost



<https://ascelibrary.org/doi/10.1061/AJRUA6.0001104>

## Level II and III methods

- First order reliability method (FORM)
  - Cornell's reliability index for **linear failure function** (Level II & independent variables)
  - Hasofer & Lind's reliability index for **non-linear failure function** (Level II & independent variables)
  - ...
- Second order reliability method (SORM)
- Simulation techniques
  - Monte Carlo simulations
  - Importance sampling
  - ...

1. Formulate limit state function.
2. Identify random variables (uncertainties) and deterministic parameters.
3. Specify distribution types and statistical parameters for random variables.
4. Estimate the reliability (probability of failure).



## Limit state functions

- Fatigue limit state
- Serviceability limit state
- Ultimate limit state
- Accidental limit state

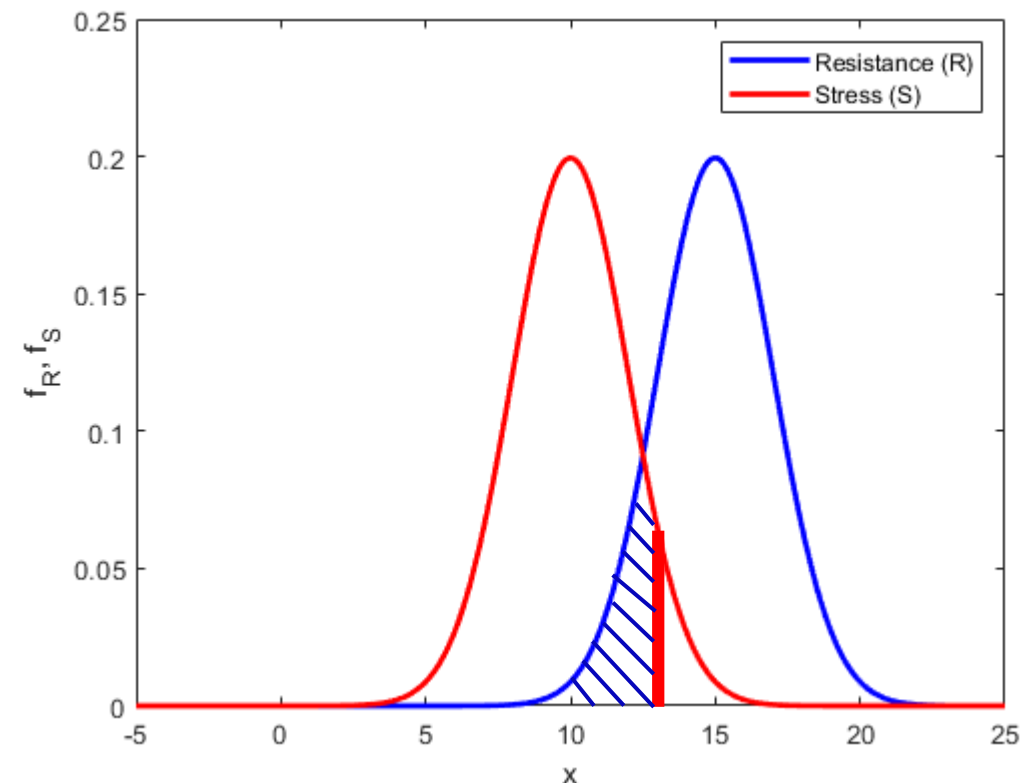
Note: A combination of more than one limit state is also possible (e.g., the failure function of a system can be a combination (series or parallel system) of those of its components.

Let's consider a fundamental limit state:  
*failure is expected when the load exceeds  
the resistance of the structure.*

$$g(x) = \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{S}$$

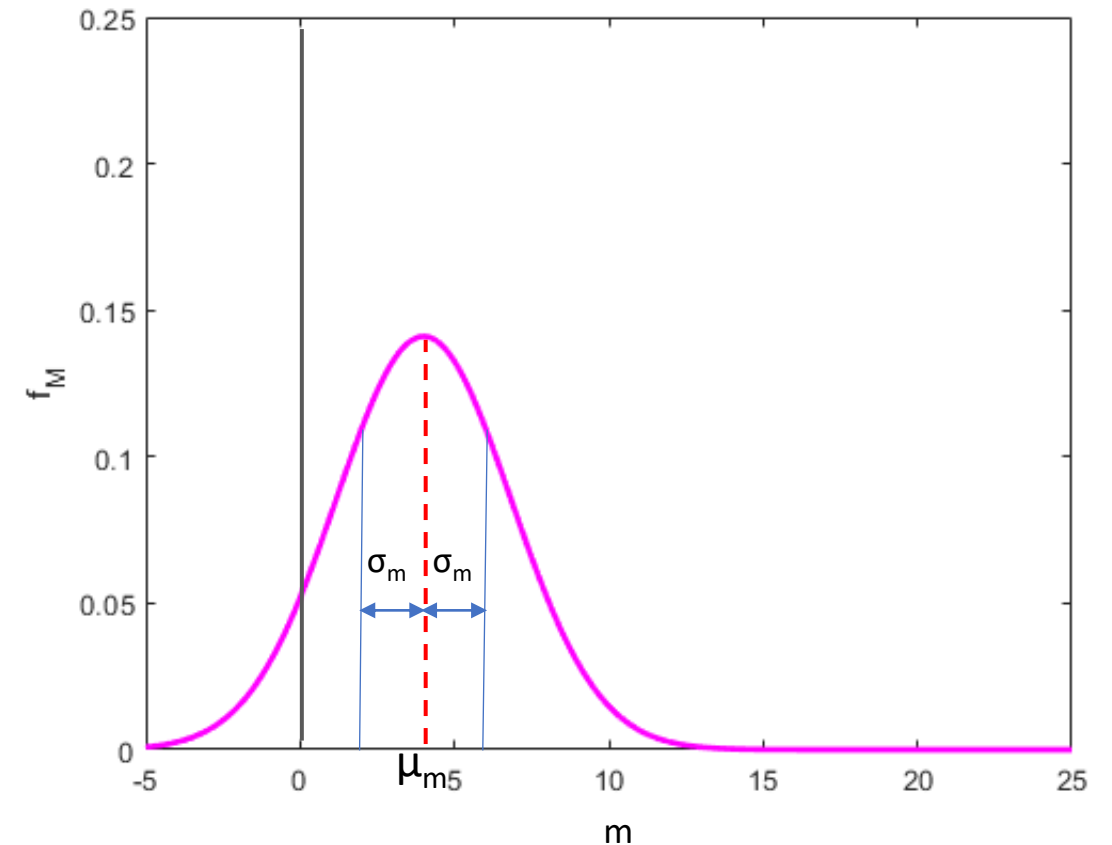
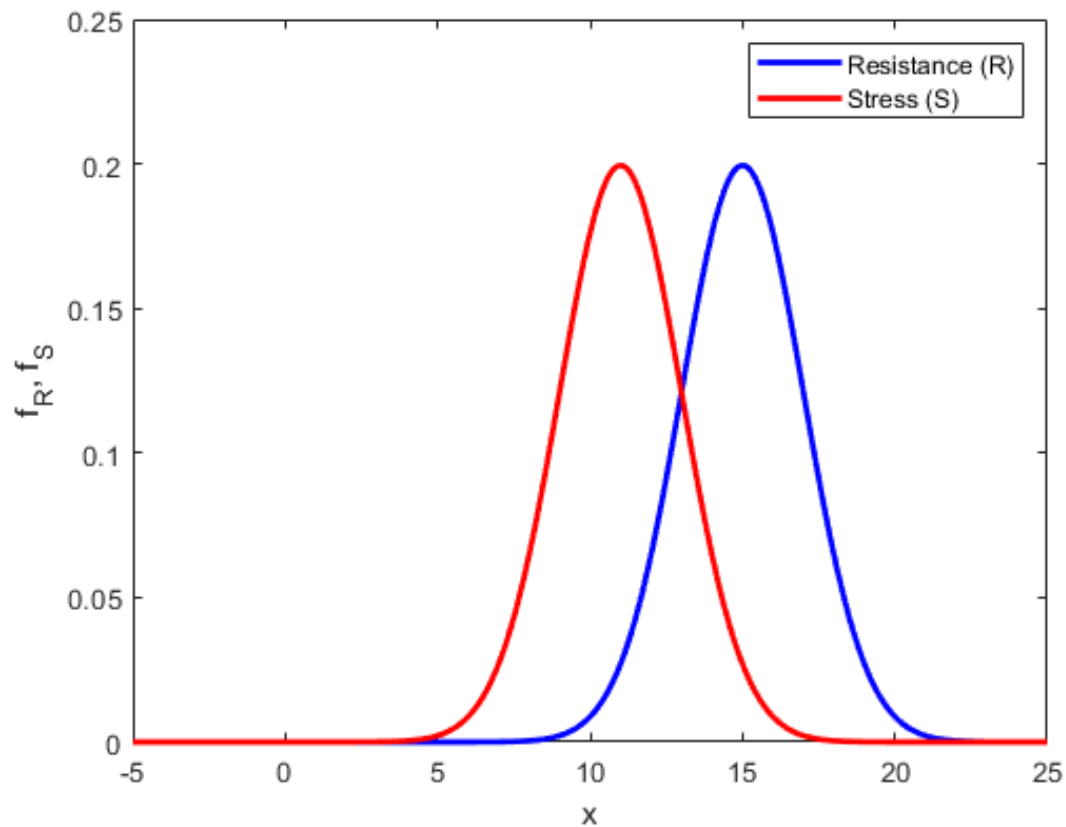
Failure event  $\rightarrow R \leq S$  or  $g(x) \leq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} P_F &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(R \leq S) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(R \leq x) P(x \leq S \leq x + dx) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F_R(x) f_S(x) dx \end{aligned}$$



Linear safety margin for fundamental limit state:  $M = R - S$

If  $R$  and  $S$  are normally distributed,  $M$  is also normally distributed.





Mean:  $\mu_M = \mu_R - \mu_S$

Variance:  $\sigma_M^2 = \sigma_R^2 + \sigma_S^2$

Probability of failure:

$$P_F = P(R \leq S) = P(M \leq 0) = \int_{-\infty}^{+0} f_M dm$$

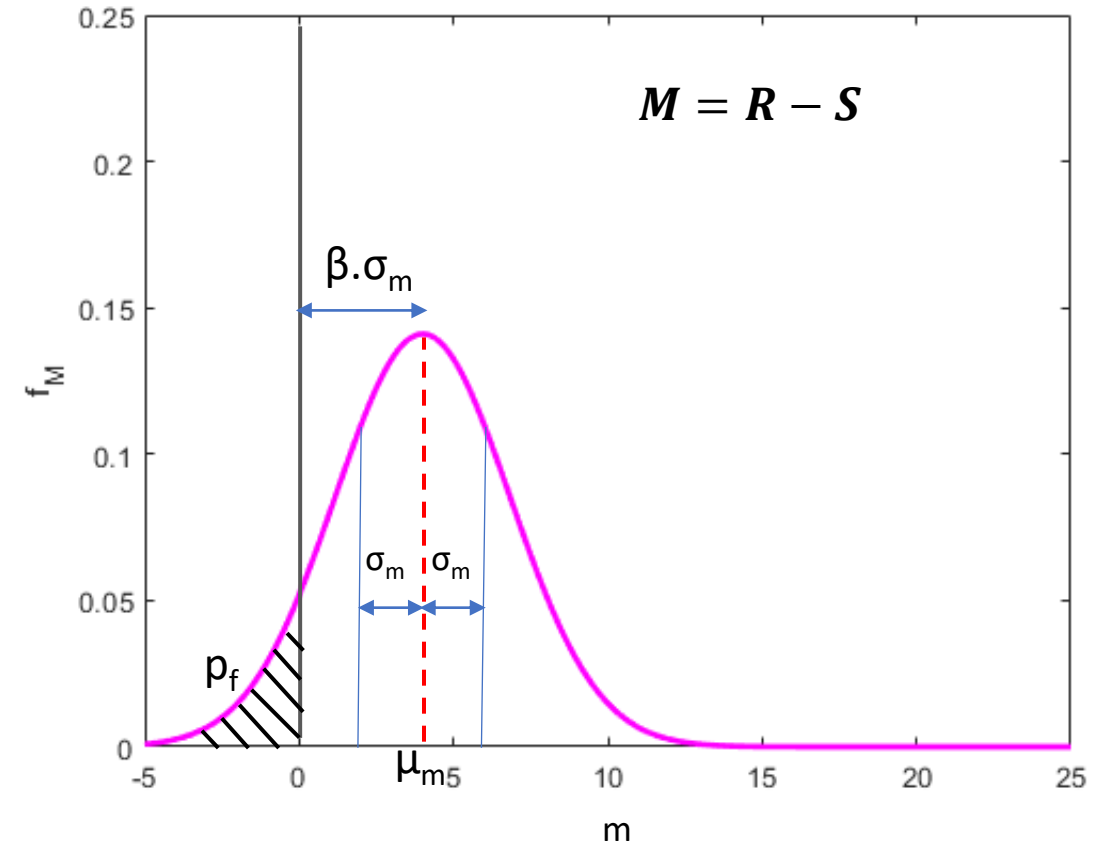
Reduce to standard normal distribution function  $N(0,1)$

$$P_F = \Phi\left(\frac{0 - \mu_m}{\sigma_m}\right)$$

$$P_F = \Phi(-\beta) \Leftrightarrow \beta = -\Phi^{-1}(P_F)$$

CDF of  $N(0,1)$

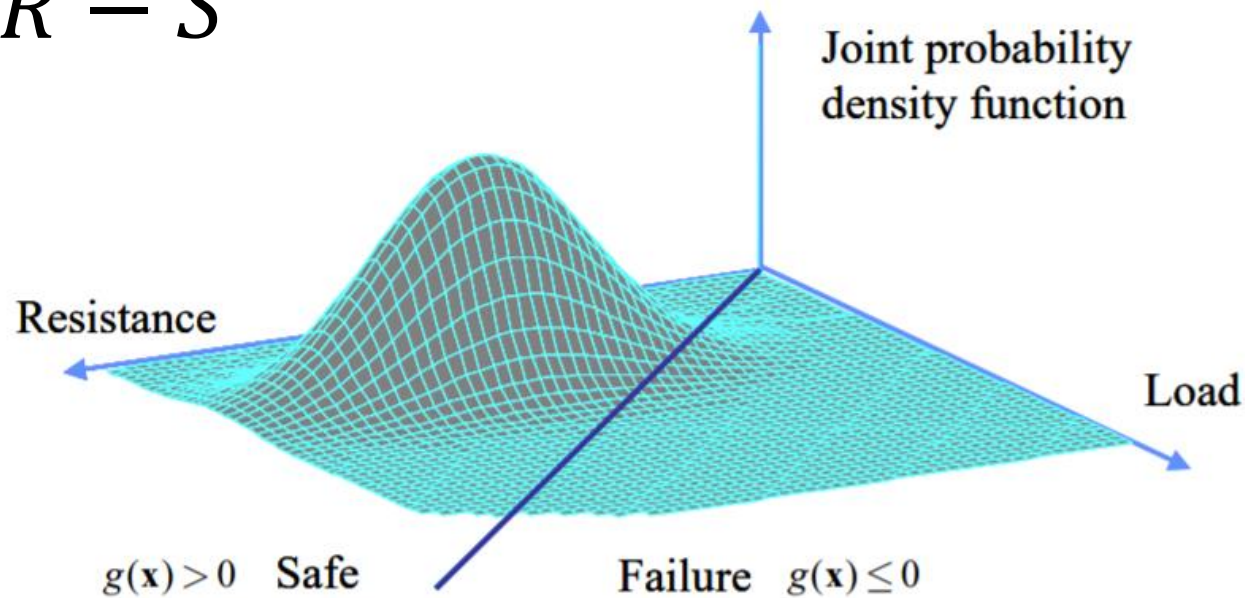
Reliability index

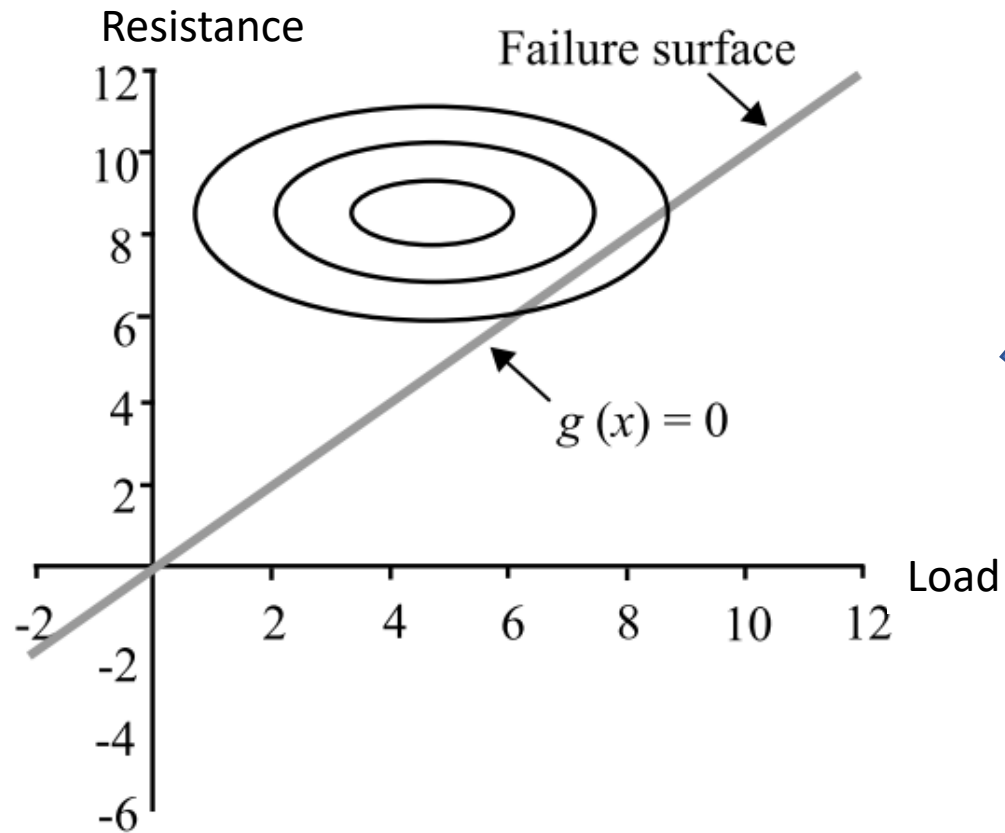


Joint probability distribution function  $f(R, S)$ :

$$P_F = \int_{g(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0} f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N]^T$$

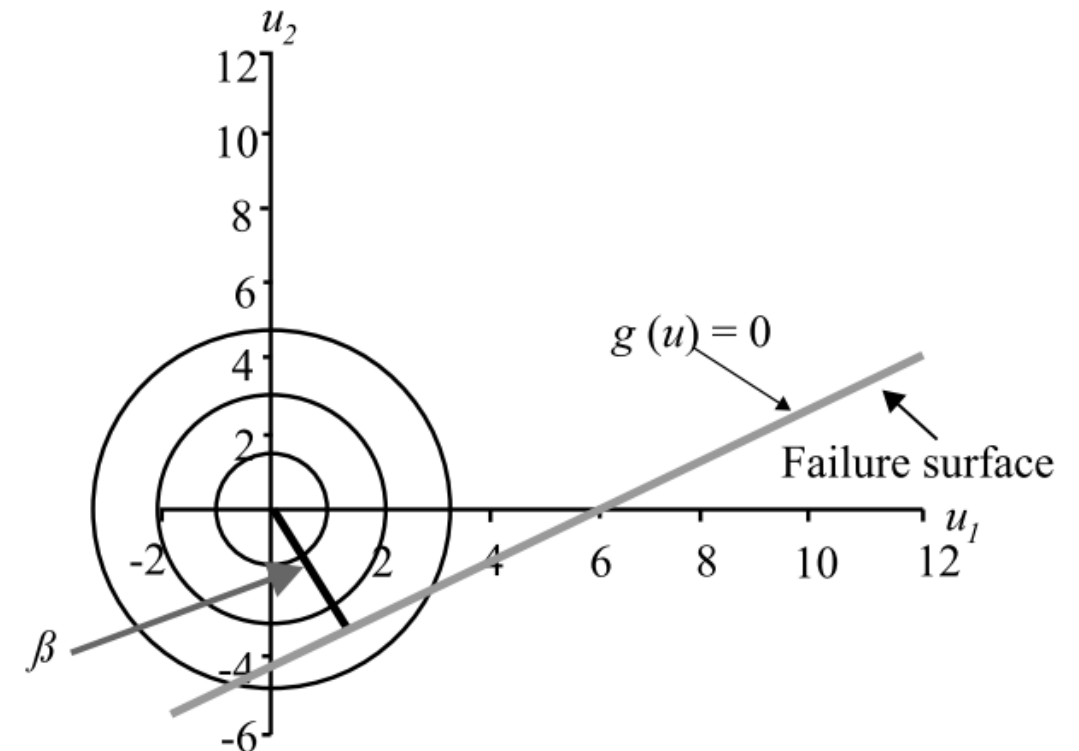
$$g(\mathbf{x}) = R - S$$



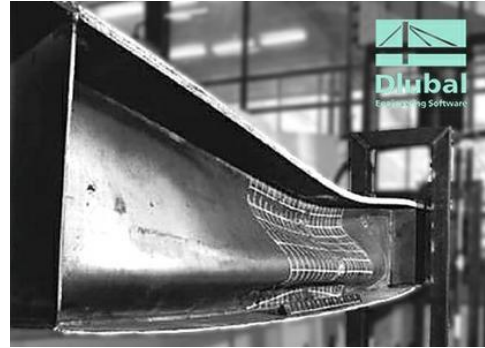


Transformation to standard normal space:

$$u_i = \frac{x_i - \mu_{x_i}}{\sigma_{x_i}}$$





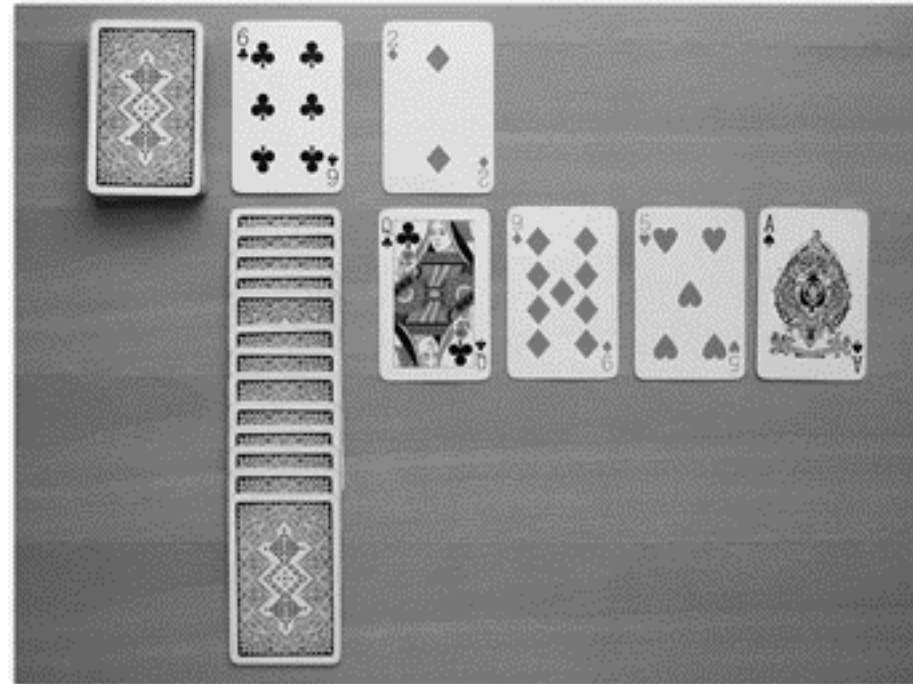


	Serviceability		Collapse/Ultimate	
	$P_f$	$\beta$	$P_f$	$\beta$
Extreme	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	3.1	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-6}$	4.5
Severe	$5.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	2.5	$3.1 \cdot 10^{-5}$	4
Moderate	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-2}$	2.0	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	3.7

Monte Carlo Simulations – named after Monte Carlo casino (Monaco)



Stanislaw Ulam  
(1909-1984)



John Von Neumann  
(1903-1957)

## Example: Rolling a die

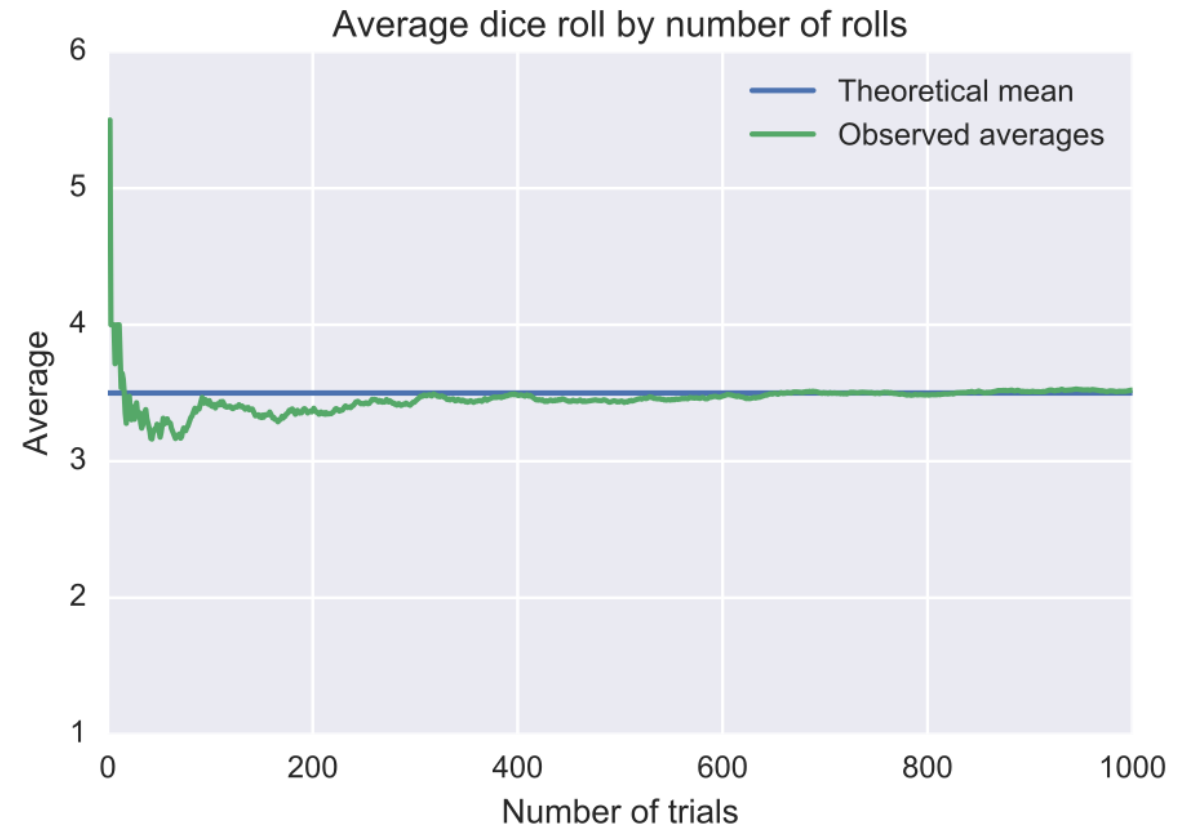


Theoretical mean:

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i$$

$$E[X] = 1\frac{1}{6} + 2\frac{1}{6} + 3\frac{1}{6} + 4\frac{1}{6} + 5\frac{1}{6} + 6\frac{1}{6} = 3.5$$

$i$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$x_i$	5	6	1	6	4	1	2	4	6
$E[X]$	5	5.5	4	4.5	4.4	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.88

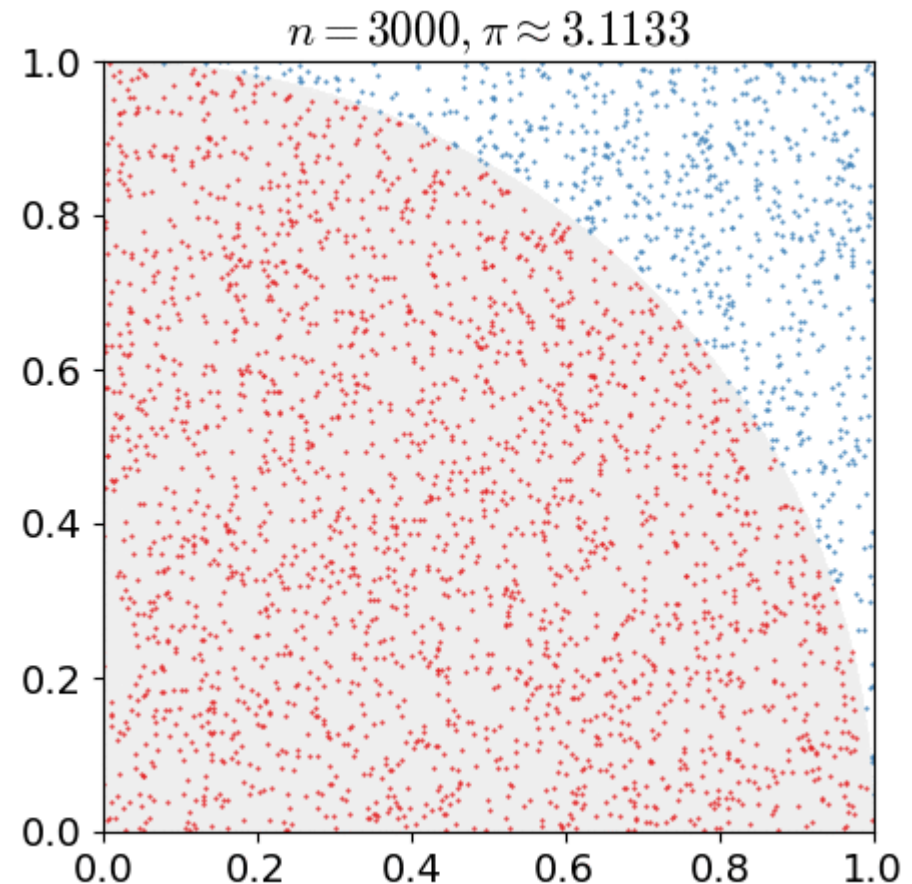


## Example: Approximating the value of pi

$$\frac{A_{pie}}{A_{square}} = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

### Two important points:

- Must be random (uniformly distributed).
- Enough number of samples (n).



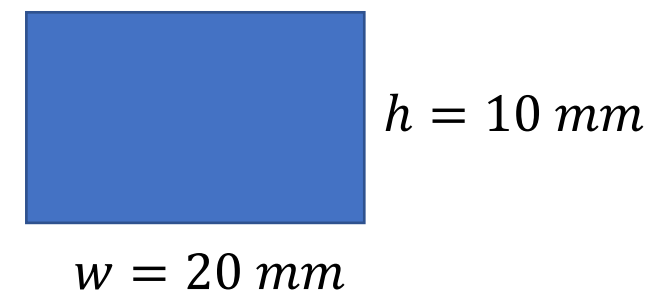
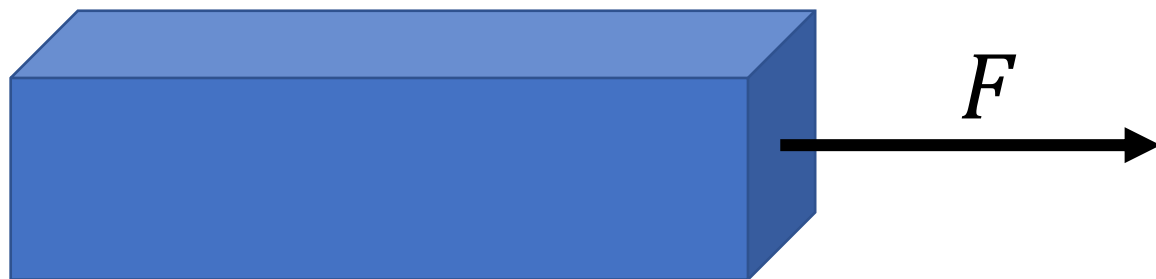


## Procedures

- (1) Collect independent random samples from the input random variables
- (2) Evaluate the function of interest
- (3) Assess the statistical properties of the output function

$$g(F, A, S_y) = S_y - \frac{F}{A} = S_y - S$$

Limit state function



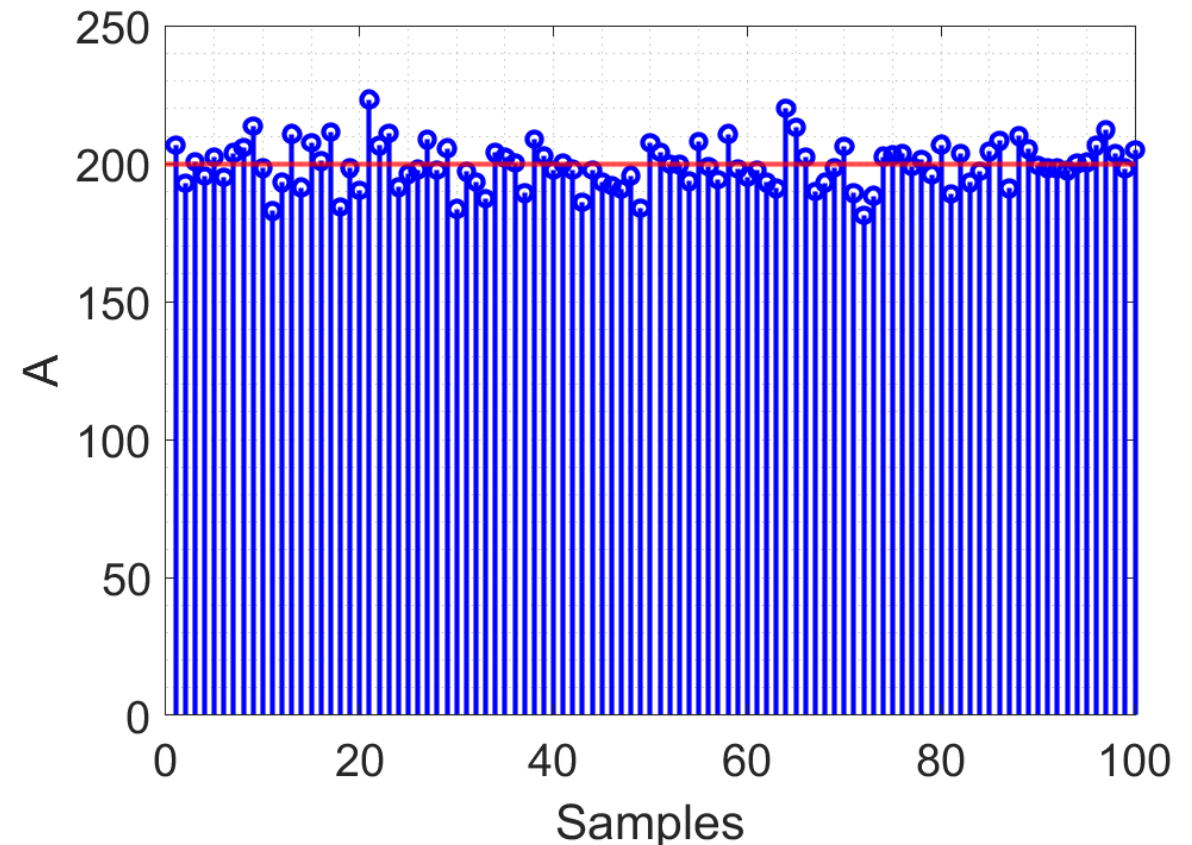
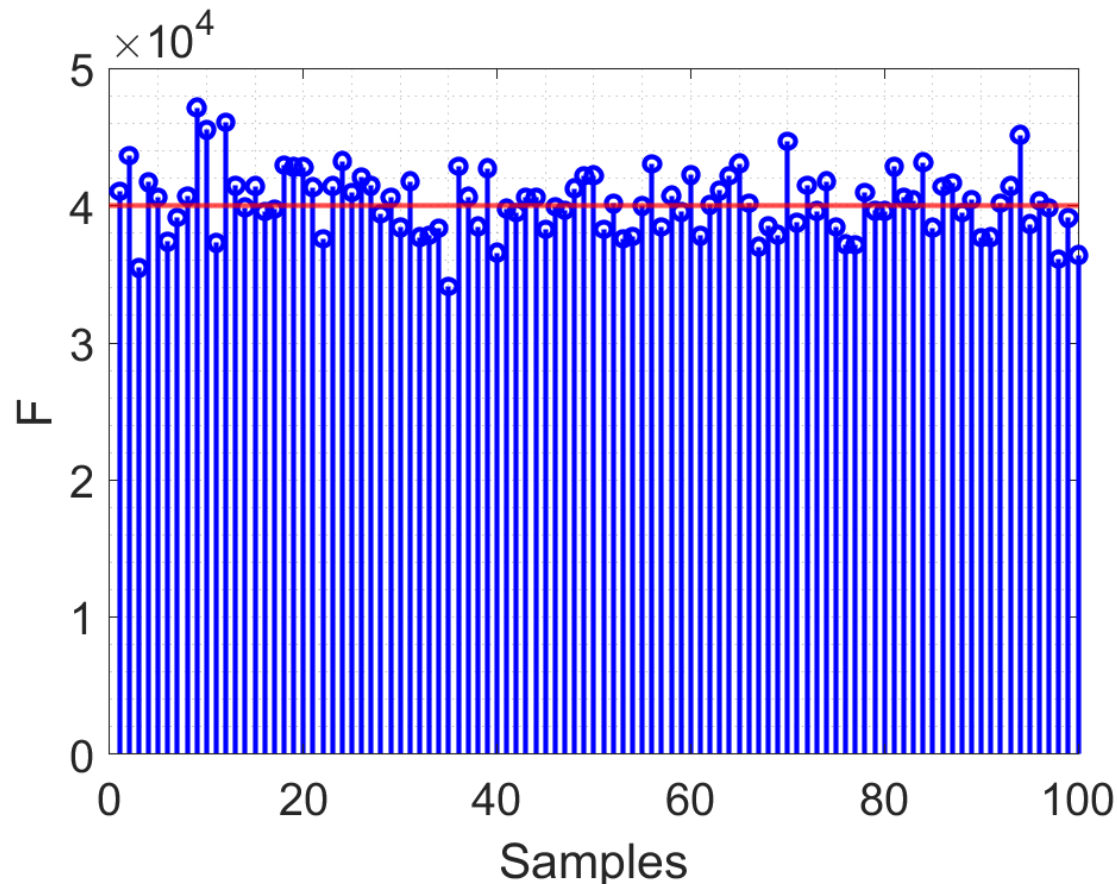
$$F \sim N[\mu_F = 40 \text{ kN}; CoV = 5\%]$$

$$A \sim N[\mu_A = 200 \text{ mm}^2; CoV = 4\%]$$

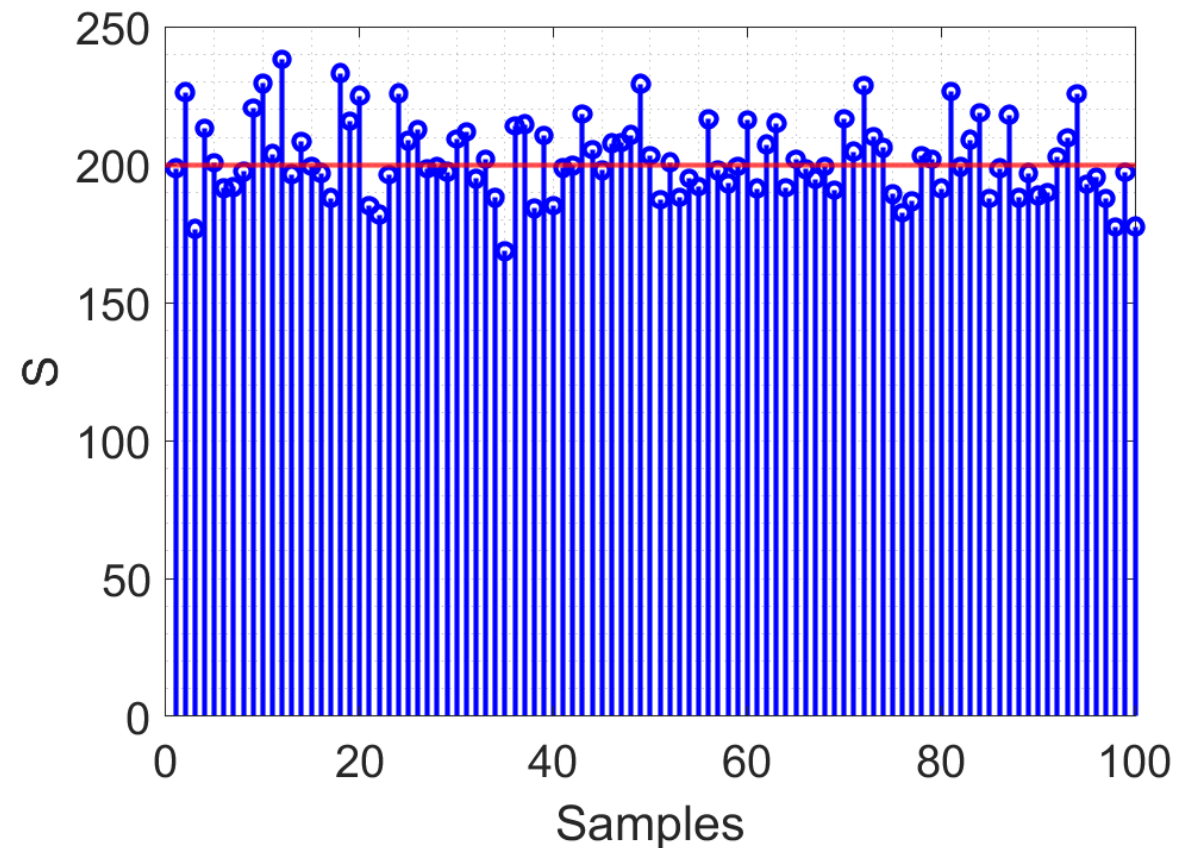
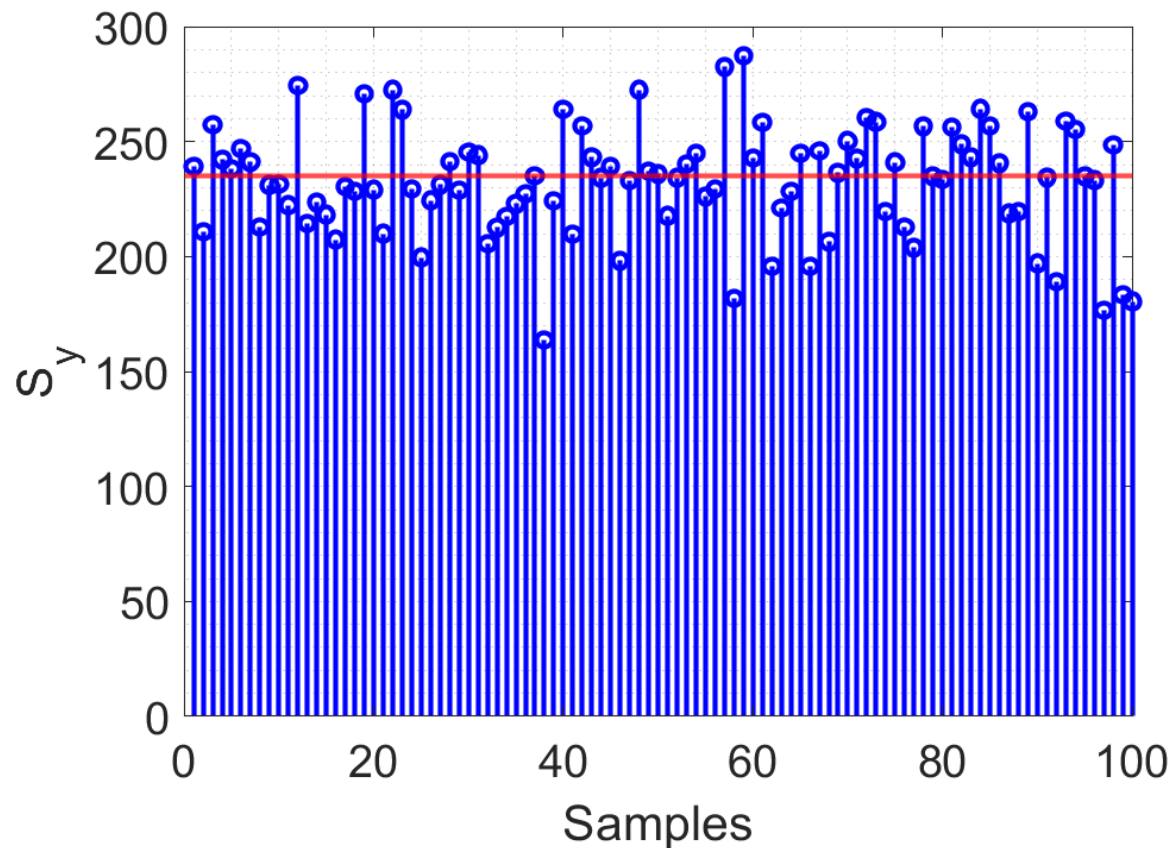
$$S_y \sim N[\mu_{S_y} = 235 \text{ N/mm}^2; CoV = 10\%]$$

$$S = \frac{F}{A}$$

## (1) Collect independent random samples from the input random variables



## (1) Collect independent random samples from the input random variables



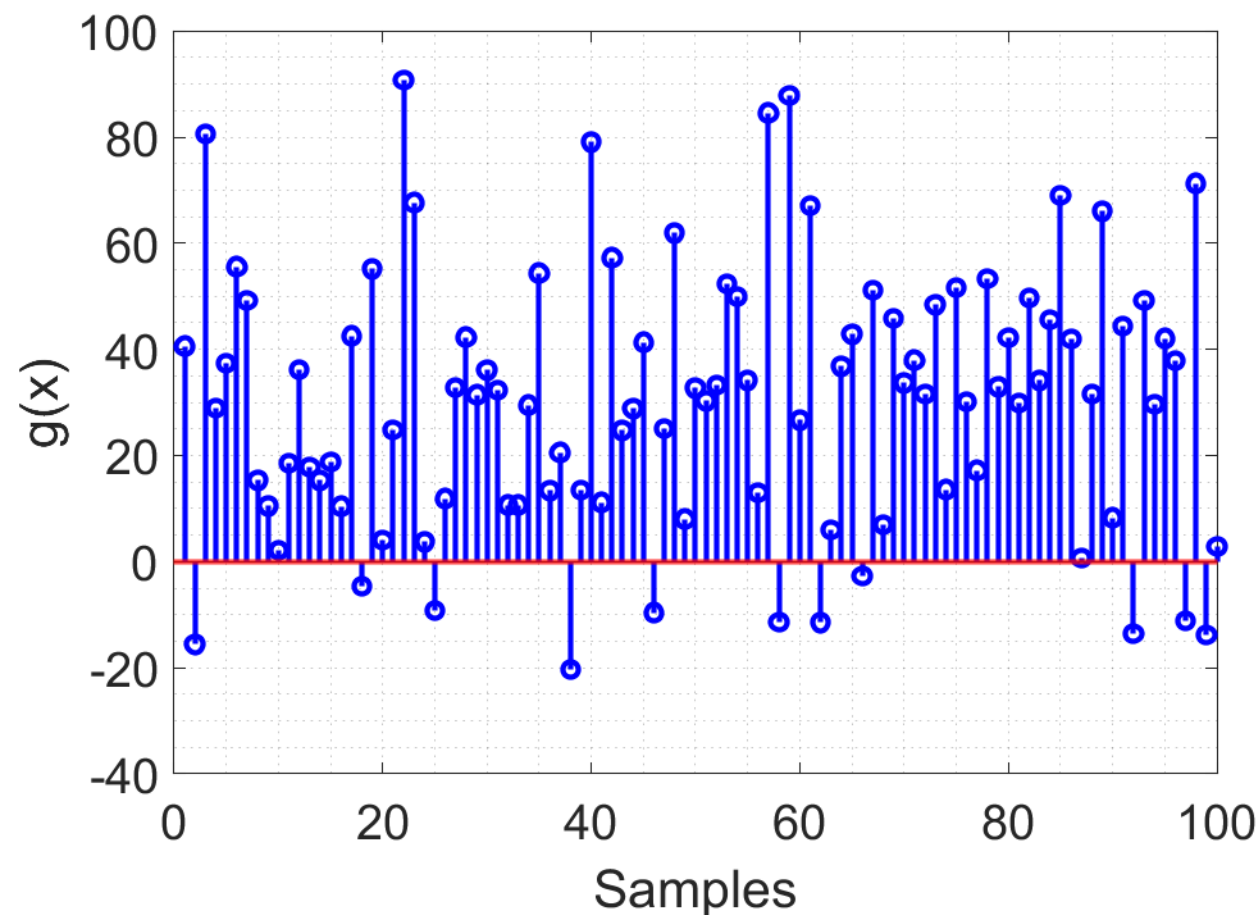


## (2) Evaluate the function of interest

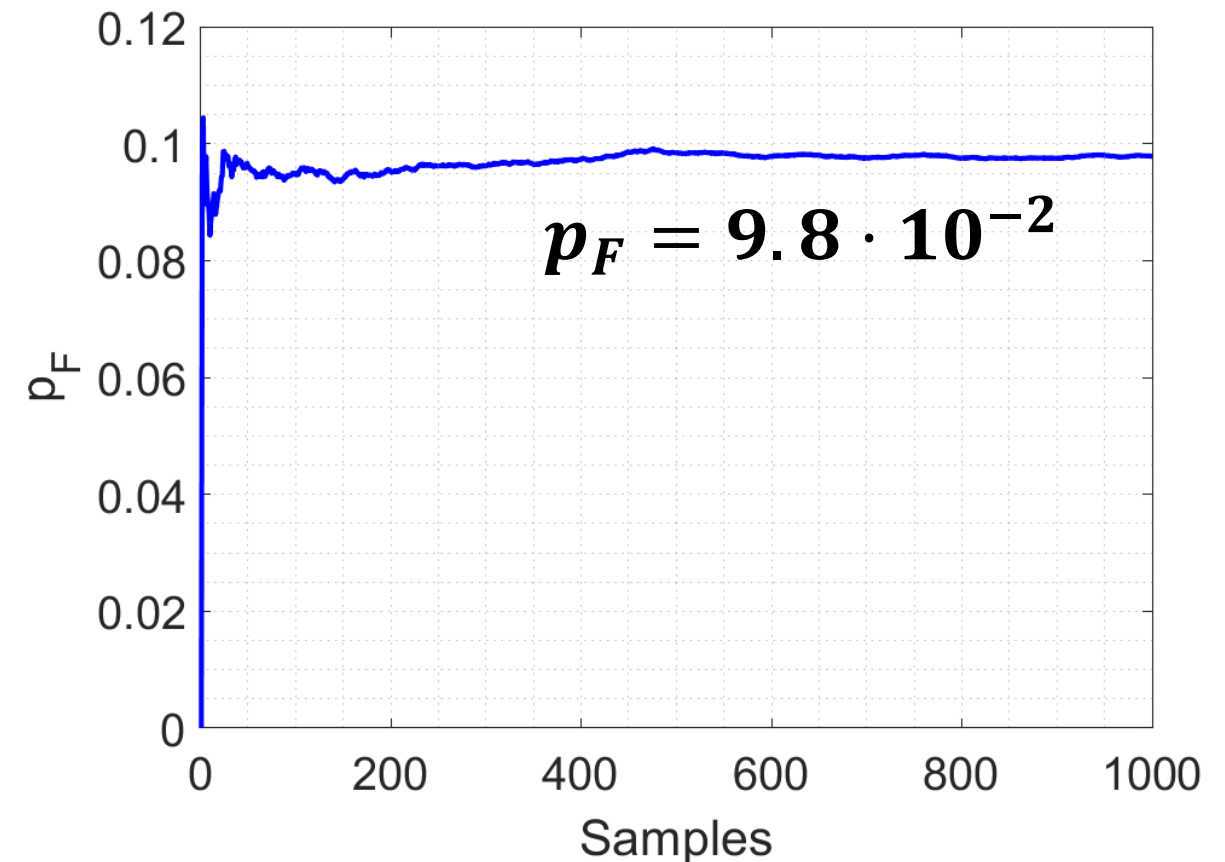
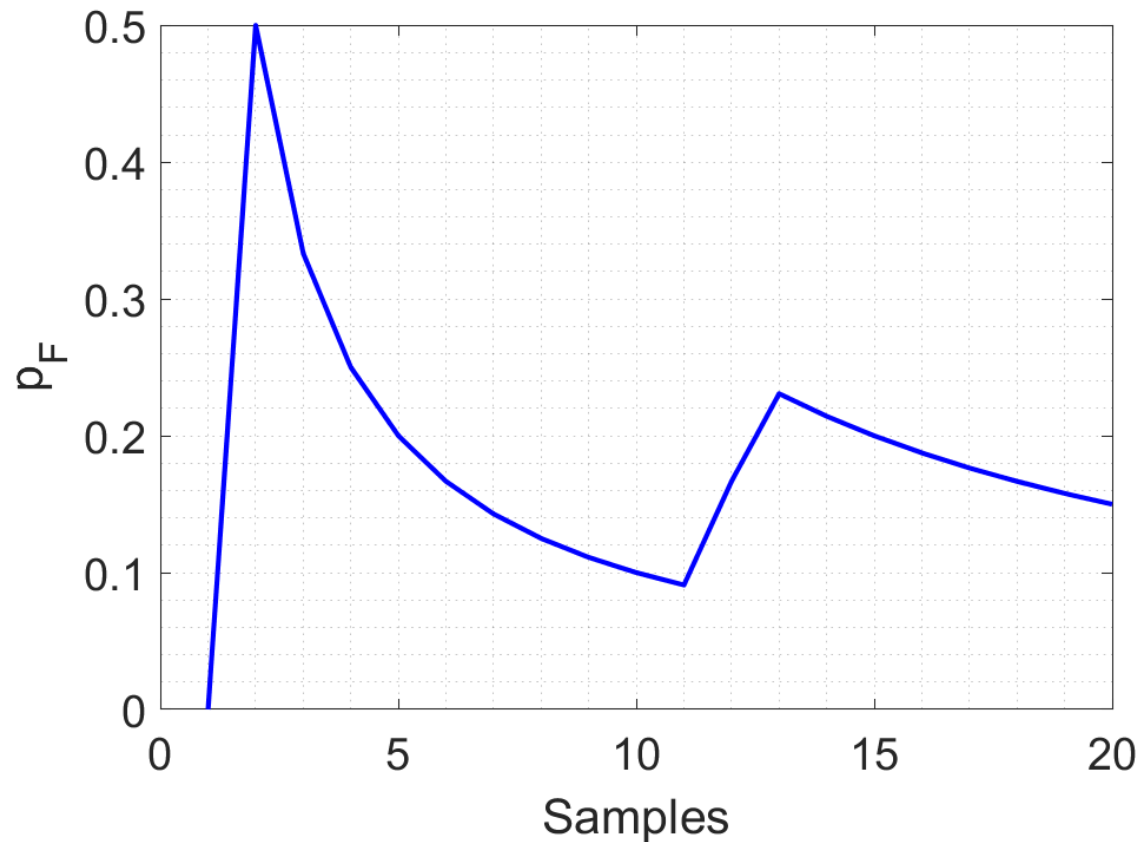
$$g(F, A, S_y) = S_y - \frac{F}{A} = S_y - S$$

$$p_F = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N I[g(\mathbf{x})] \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } g(\mathbf{x}) > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$p_F = \frac{1}{100} 11 = 0.11$$



## (3) Assess the statistical properties of the output function

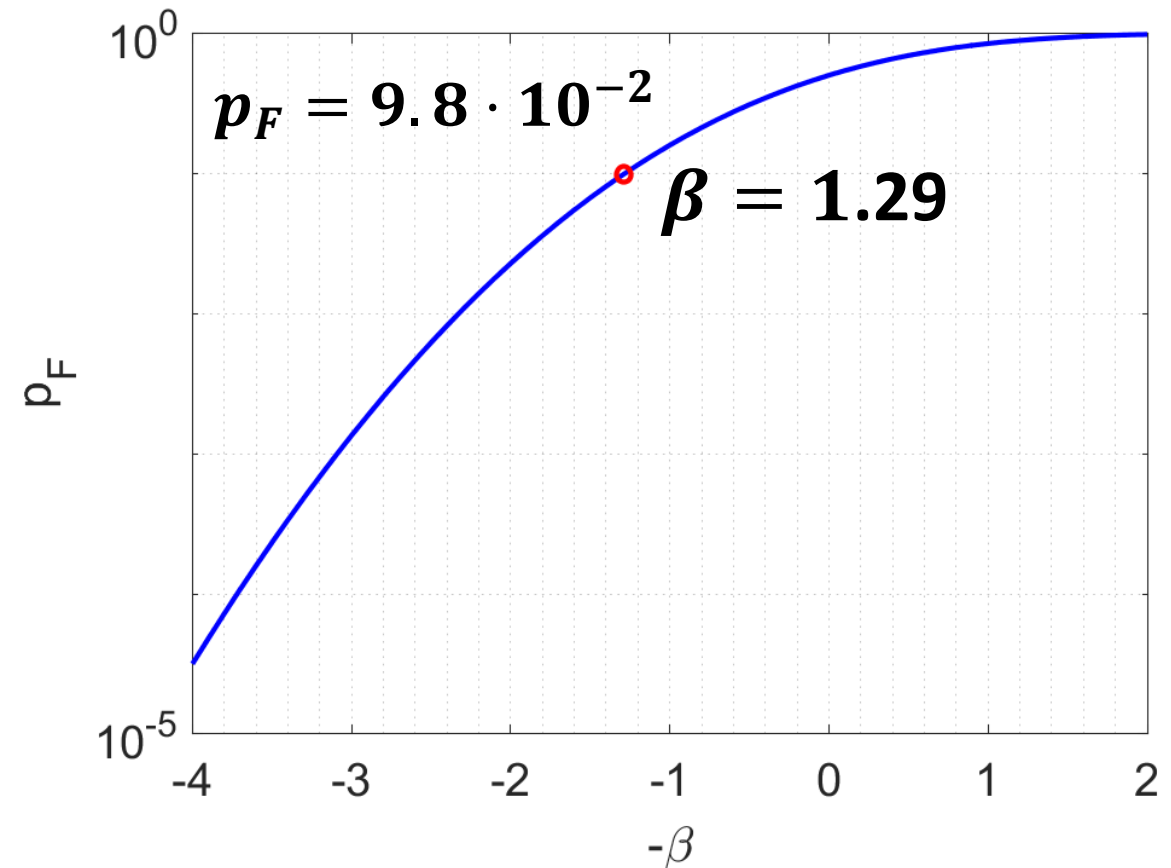


$S_y \sim N[\mu_{S_y} = 235 \text{ N/mm}^2; \text{CoV} = \mathbf{10\%}]$

$$\beta = -\Phi^{-1}[p_F]$$

$$p_F = \Phi[-\beta]$$

	Serviceability	
	$P_f$	$\beta$
Extreme	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	3.1
Severe	$5.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	2.5
Moderate	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-2}$	2.0

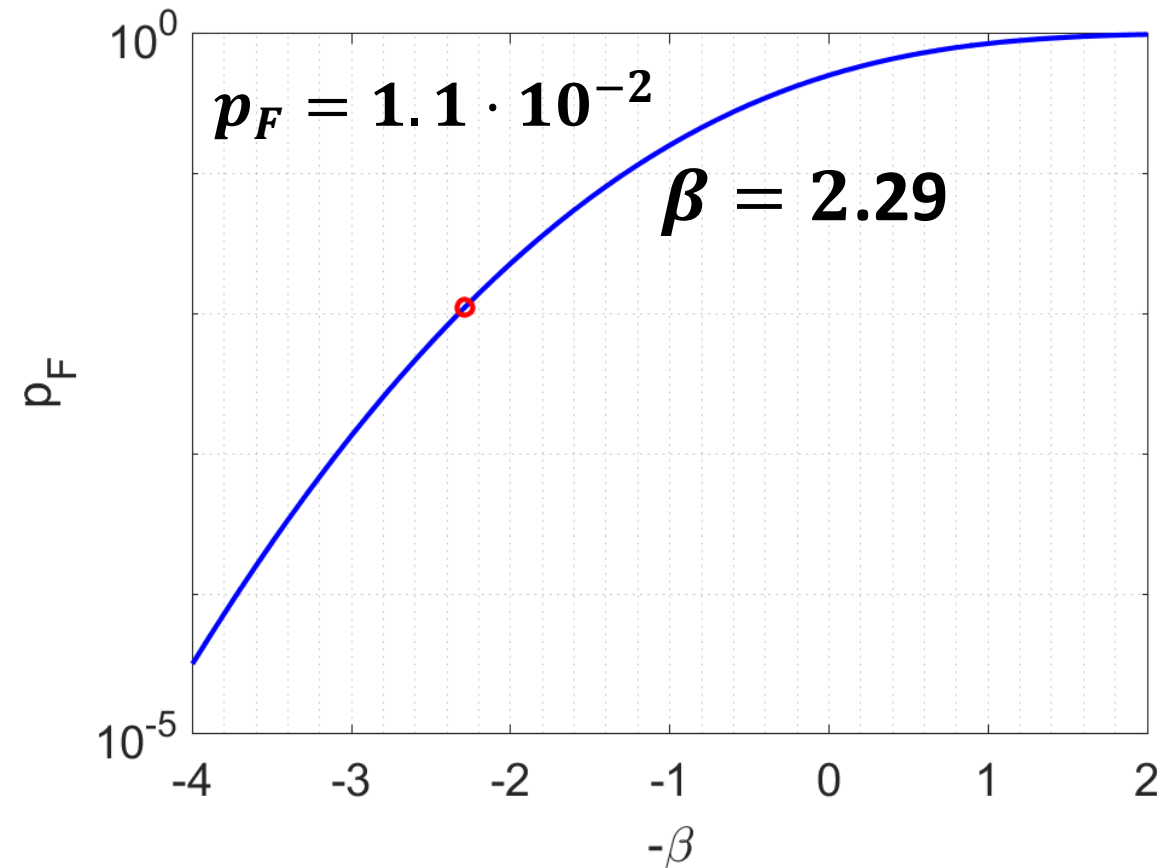


$S_y \sim N[\mu_{S_y} = 235 \text{ N/mm}^2; \text{CoV} = 3\%]$

	Serviceability	
	$P_f$	$\beta$
Extreme	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	3.1
Severe	$5.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	2.5
Moderate	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-2}$	2.0

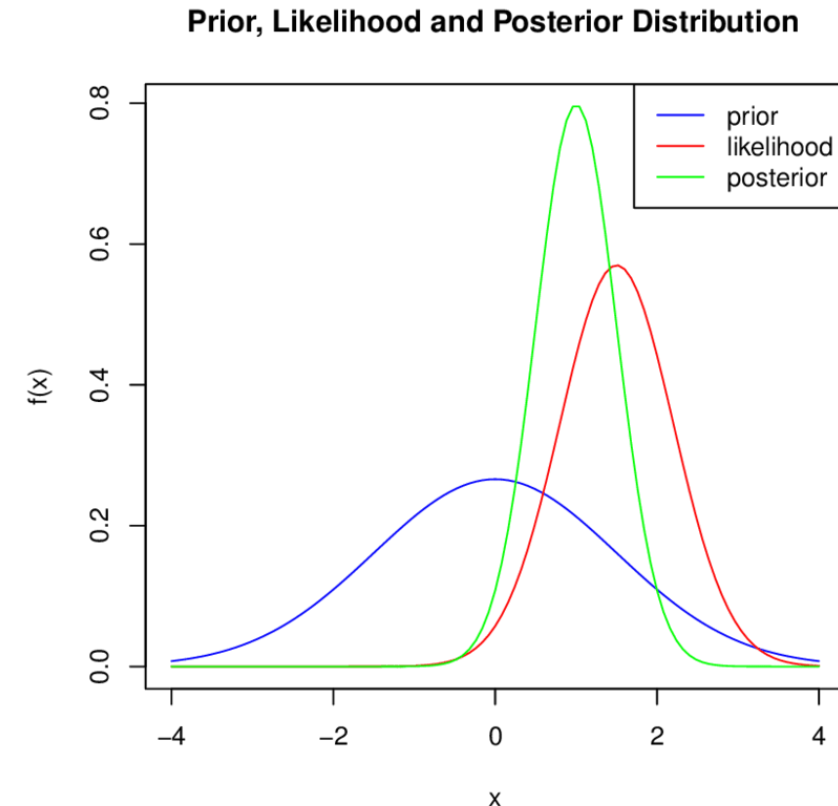
$$\beta = -\Phi^{-1}[p_F]$$

$$p_F = \Phi[-\beta]$$



- Bayes' theorem is used to update the probability of a hypothesis/event when more information is available.

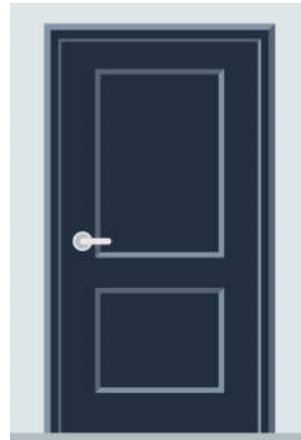
$$P(\theta | D) = \frac{P(D | \theta)P(\theta)}{P(D)}$$



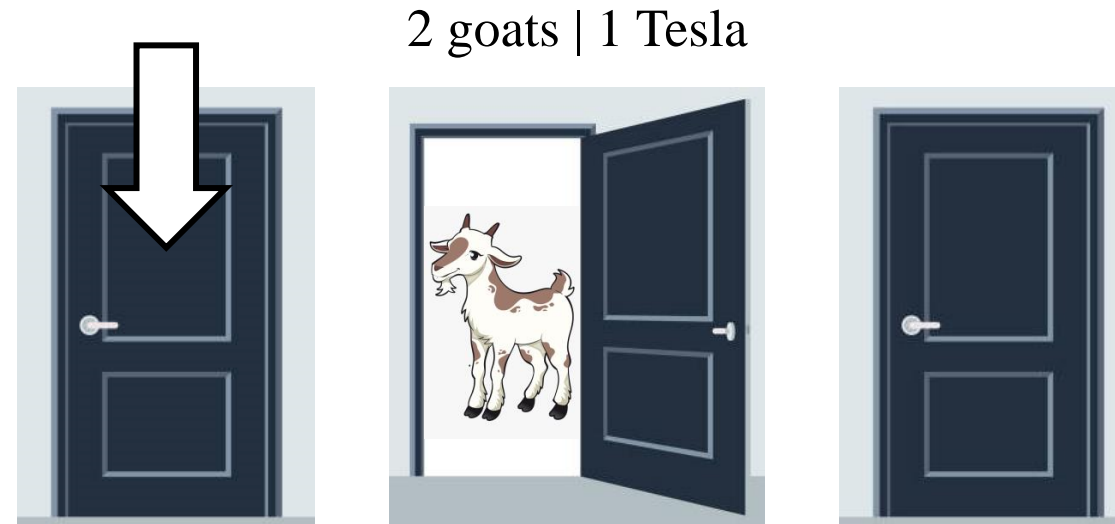


## Monty Hall Problem

2 goats | 1 Tesla



## Question



? Shall we change our first choice after one door has been opened?

- The host knows where the tesla is.
- The host only reveals a goat.

## Solution (mathematical)



$$p(T_1) = 1/3$$



$$p(T_2) = 1/3$$



$$p(T_3) = 1/3$$

- $T_x$ : Tesla is behind door 'x'
- $D_k$ : door 'k' is open

## Solution (mathematical)

2 goats | 1 Tesla



$$p(T_1) = 1/3$$

$$p(T_1|D_2)?$$

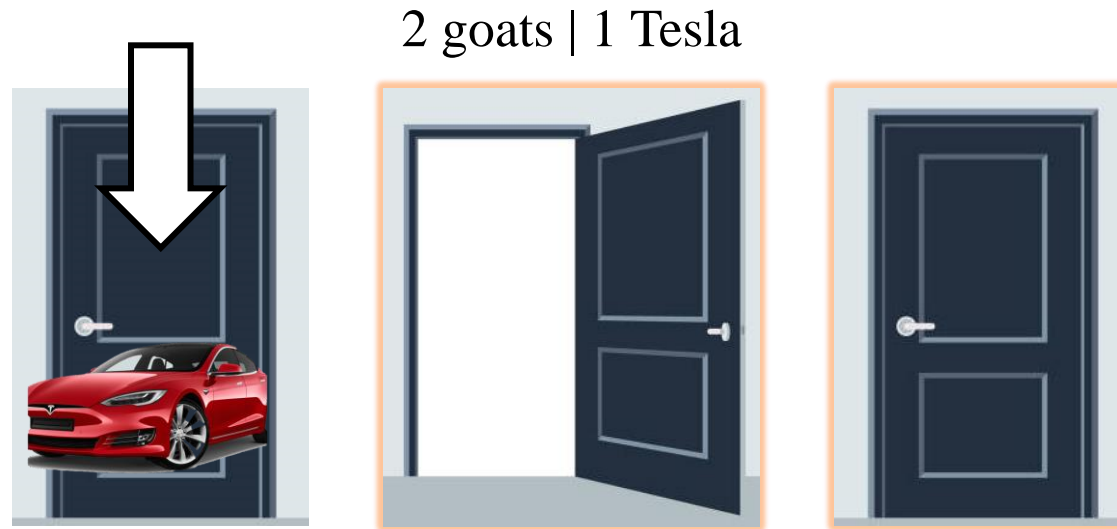
$$p(T_1|D_2) = \frac{p(D_2|T_1)p(T_1)}{p(D_2)}$$

$$p(T_3) = 1/3$$

$$p(T_3|D_2)?$$

$$p(T_3|D_2) = \frac{p(D_2|T_3)p(T_3)}{p(D_2)}$$

## Solution (mathematical)



$$p(T_1) = 1/3$$

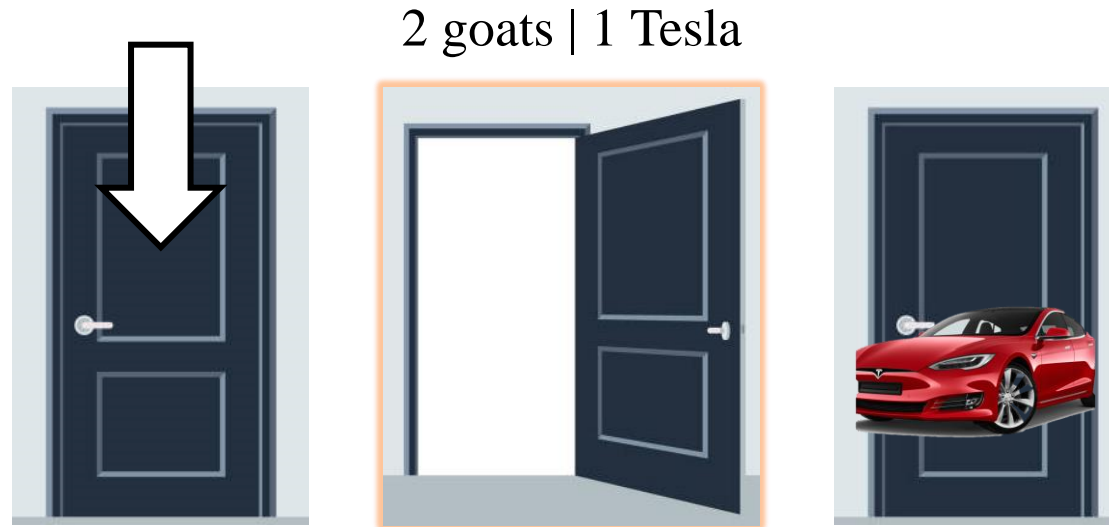
$$p(T_1|D_2)?$$

$$p(T_1|D_2) = \frac{p(D_2|T_1)p(T_1)}{p(D_2)}$$

$$p(D_2|T_1) = 0.5$$



## Solution (mathematical)



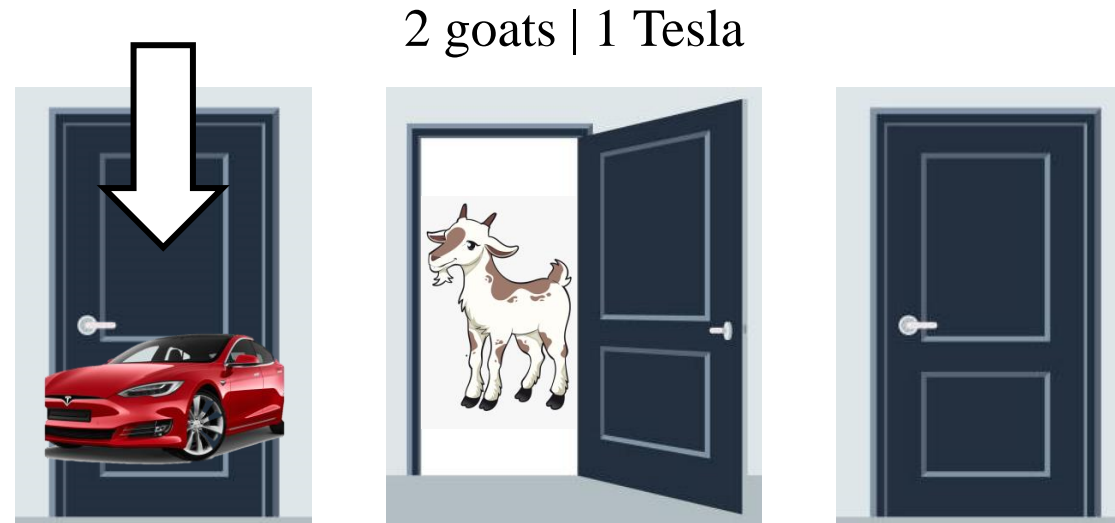
$$p(D_2|T_3) = 1$$

$$p(T_3) = 1/3$$

$$p(T_3|D_2)?$$

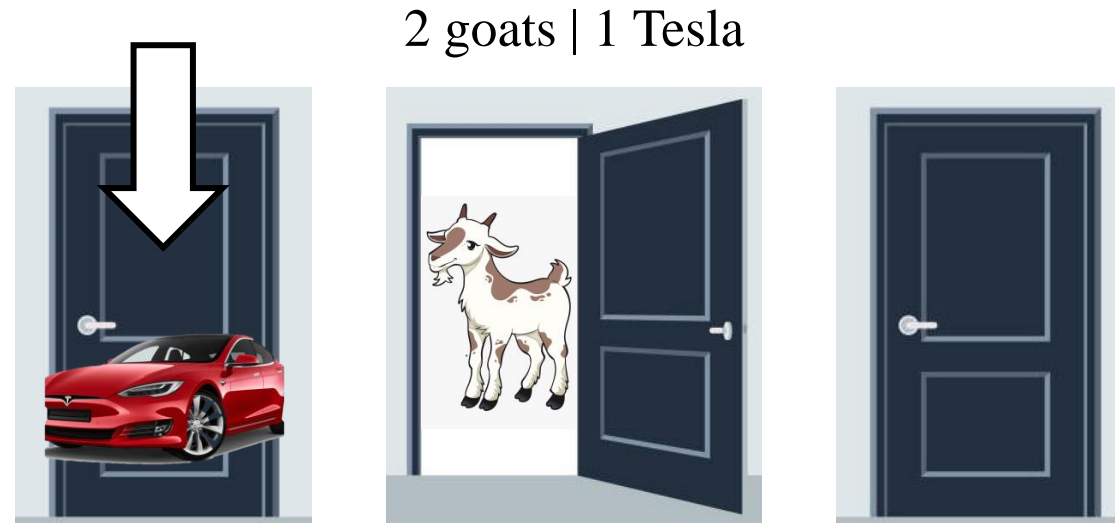
$$p(T_3|D_2) = \frac{p(D_2|T_3)p(T_3)}{p(D_2)}$$

## Solution (mathematical)



$$p(T_1|D_2) = \frac{p(D_2|T_1)p(T_1)}{p(D_2|T_1)p(T_1) + p(D_2|T_3)p(T_3)} = \frac{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 0.5}{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 0.5 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1} = 1/3$$

## Solution (mathematical)



$$p(T_1|D_2) = \frac{p(D_2|T_1)p(T_1)}{p(D_2|T_1)p(T_1) + p(D_2|T_3)p(T_3)} = \frac{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 0.5}{\frac{1}{3} \cdot 0.5 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1} = \mathbf{1/3}$$