



# Outline



Environment &  
Climate  
Change

CSIR-  
SERC's  
Relevance

CSIR-SERC  
Technologies

Shared  
Regional  
Priority

Integrating  
AI with  
Engineering

Way  
Forward: A  
Collaborative  
Framework



சி எஸ் ஐ ஆர் - கட்டமைப்பு பொறியியல் ஆராய்ச்சி மையம்  
सीएसआईआर - संरचनात्मक अभियांत्रिकी अनुसंधान केन्द्र  
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AI for Climate Action and Resilience: CSIR-SERC's Role

# Environment and Climate Change – a perspective



நிலம் தீ நீர் வளி விசும்போடு ஐந்தும் கலந்த மயக்கம் உலகம்  
(Tholkappiyam, the oldest extant work of Tamil literature and  
the earliest Tamil grammar text)

The world is nothing but a delicate balance of the five elements  
**Earth, Fire, Water, Air and Sky (Space)**

This balance has sustained life for millennia

Under increasing strain today and hence this message is more relevant today  
than ever before.



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# Environment and perception of life - inseparable

## Earth:

- ❖ Our soils and land resources under pressure from urbanisation, mining, and deforestation
- ❖ Shrinking fertile lands
- ❖ Waste occupies more space than ever

## Water:

Both extremes—no water and devastating floods.

வான்நின்று உலகம் வழங்கி வருதலால்  
தான் அமிழ்தம் என்றுணரற் பாற்று

Rain is not just water but a life-sustaining nectar that allows for all forms of existence and sustenance

**Fire:** Fossil fuels – dependence to be reduced  
Renewable energy - challenges of storage, recycling & sustainable adoption  
True wisdom is foresight—protecting in advance, not repairing in ruin

**Air:** helps to sustain life on earth  
declining air quality

**Space:** connects all others

In today's context - reminds us of the global atmosphere  
the climate system that regulates our monsoon, rainfall, and temperature  
Climate change has disrupted this equilibrium -cyclones, sea-level rise, heatwaves

**environmental problems – interconnected  
A disturbance in one element cascades into others.**

# Climate Resilience: Shared Regional Priority

Cyclones & Floods

Heat & Cold waves

Sea-level rise

Infrastructure degradation

Risks – transboundary

Solution- Regional cooperation  
Data driven decision making  
Rapid technology transfers



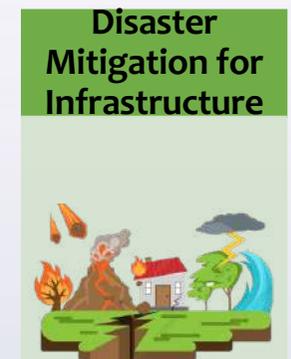
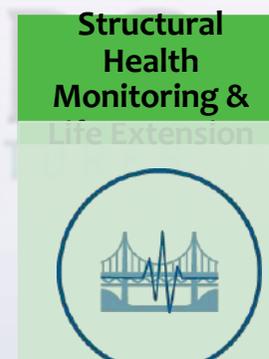
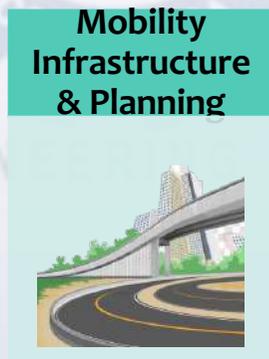
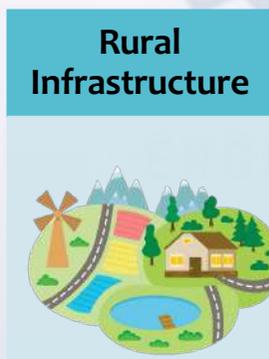
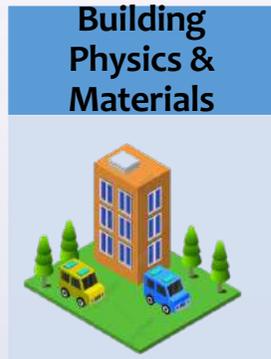
Basic necessities of humans  
Food, Clothing & Shelter

## INFRASTRUCTURE

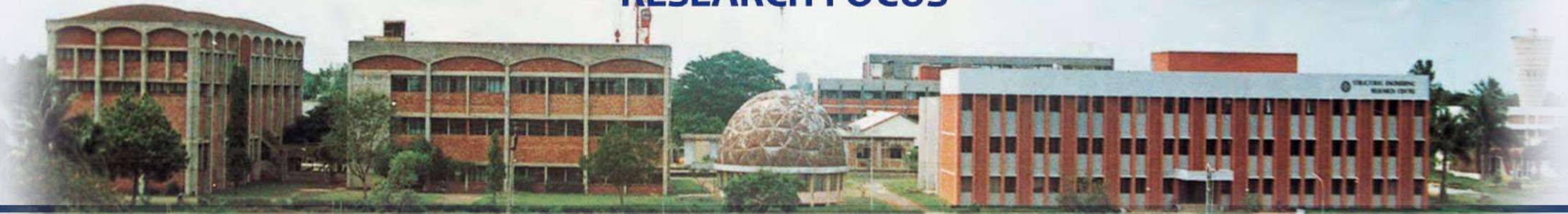
Energy to Environment  
Materials to Infrastructure  
Sensors to Robotics

**Civil, Infrastructure and Engineering for**  
**Connect with mobility infrastructure**  
**Collaborate for automation, monitoring & mitigation**  
**Converge to implementable technology**  
**Convert Waste to Wealth**

**Shelter – Safe, Sustainable and Environmental friendly**  
**Mobility – Planned and Durable – multi modal**  
**Monitor – Prevention of any unwanted events**  
**Mitigate – Natural and Man-made disaster**  
**Automate – for quick implementation**  
**Address – waste generation towards sustainability**



# CSIR-Structural Engineering Research Centre



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# OUR LEGACY

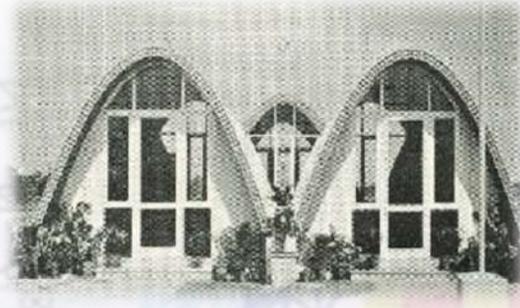
1965-1984: ADVANCED MATERIALS AND INNOVATIONS IN STRUCTURAL DESIGNS



India's First Fly-Ash Building



Prefabricated housing complex



Catenary Shell Roofs



Prestressed Concrete Sleepers



Analysis of Matri Mandir



Preservation of Stone Heritage



Beacon Tower

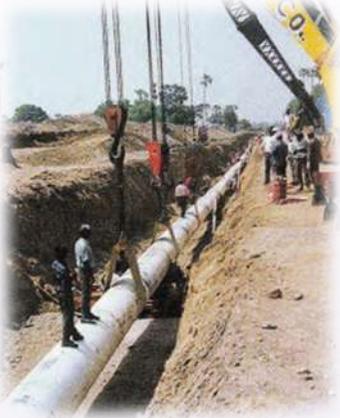


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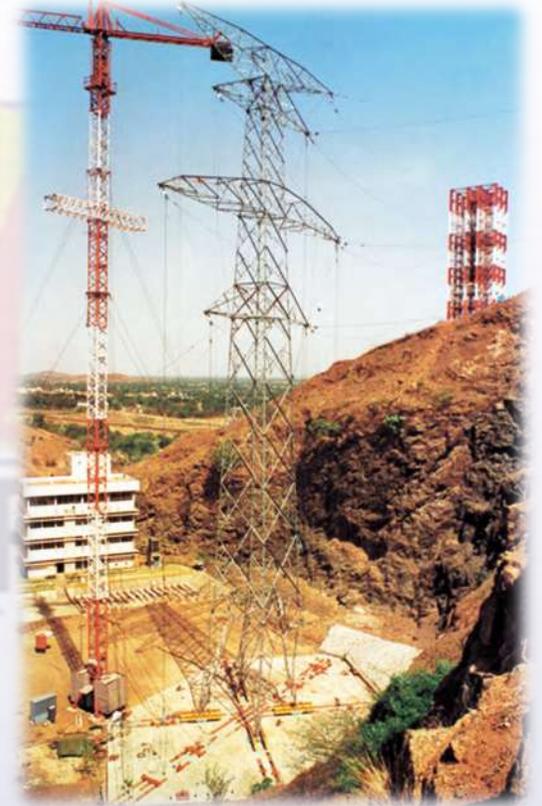
1985-2004: NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING AND SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT



Lowering of HBJ Pipeline



Bubble Dome Unit



Tower Testing Research Station



Space Grid Roof Structures



Vigyan Auditorium



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# OUR LEGACY

2004-2015: INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



Seismic testing G+7 scaled building



Spent-fuel Tank



Slurry Infiltrated Fibrous Concrete hardened Shelter



Remote Structural Health Monitoring



Butt Weld Rail Joints



Control and Safety Rod Drive Mechanism

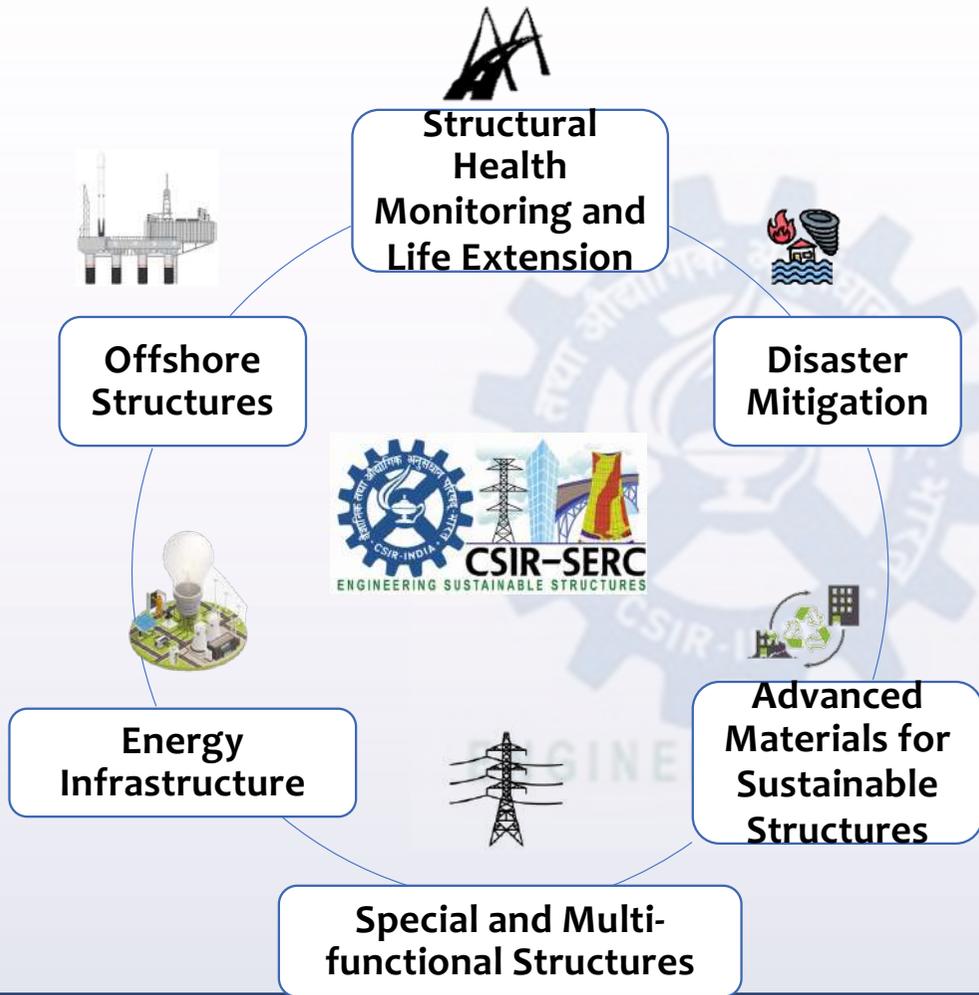
model.

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# OUR THRUST AREAS AND LABORATORIES



**Advanced Seismic Testing & Research Laboratory**



**Advanced Concrete Testing & Evaluation Laboratory**



**Steel Structures Laboratory**



**Advanced Materials Laboratory**



**Fatigue & Fracture Laboratory**



**Advanced Protective Structures & Mechanics Laboratory**



**Wind Engineering Laboratory**



**Tower Testing & Research Station**



**Special & Multi-functional Structures Laboratory**



**Structural Health Monitoring Laboratory**

# RECENT SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS



3D Printed Building



SHM of Dams



Emergency Retrieval System for Power Restoration



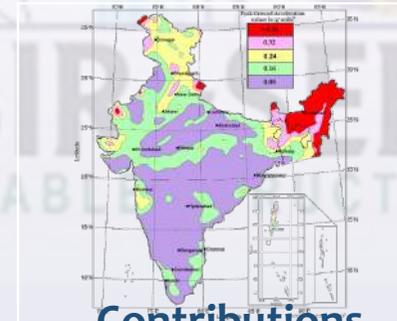
Floating Offshore Renewable Energy Structure



Multi-hit Security Booth



SHM of Railway Bridges



Contributions towards BIS



Condition Assessment of RCC Structures

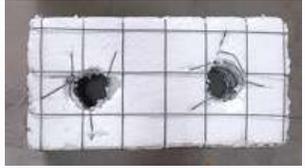


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# Technologies for Climate resilience

## SECREBUILT TECHNOLOGY FOR HOUSING



Lightweight Block



Rapid Assembly (1 storey per day)



Prefabricated Building Systems using EPS Panels



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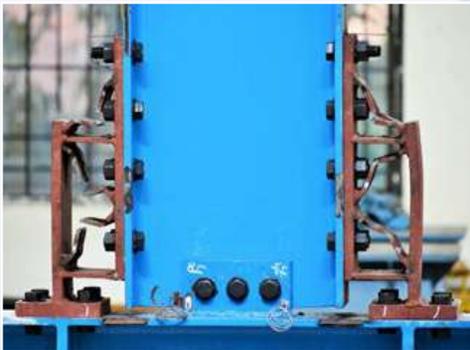
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# Technologies for Disaster resilience

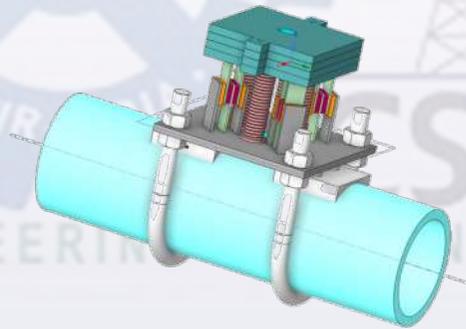
Jut cavity bricks for enhanced seismic resilience



A cyclone-resistant shelter



Dissipative fuse link



Adaptive dampers

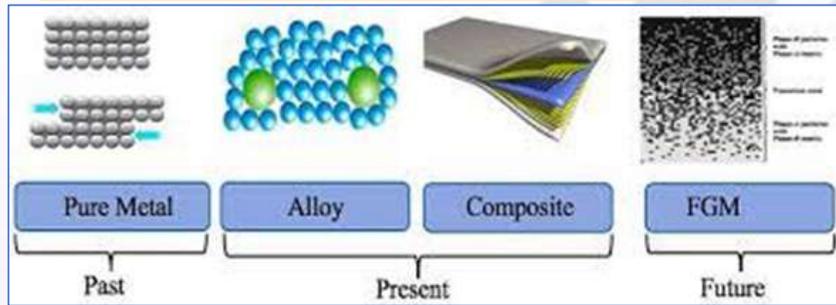


# Emerging Technologies

Bio-Inspired Functionally Graded Cementitious panels for Impact Resistance

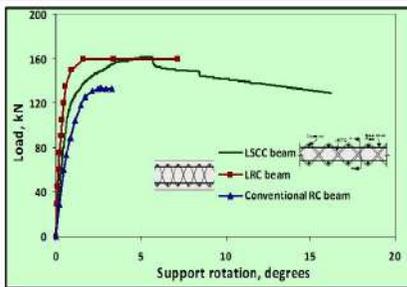
Fruit Peels/Nut Shells:

Survive fall from a height of 10-50 m

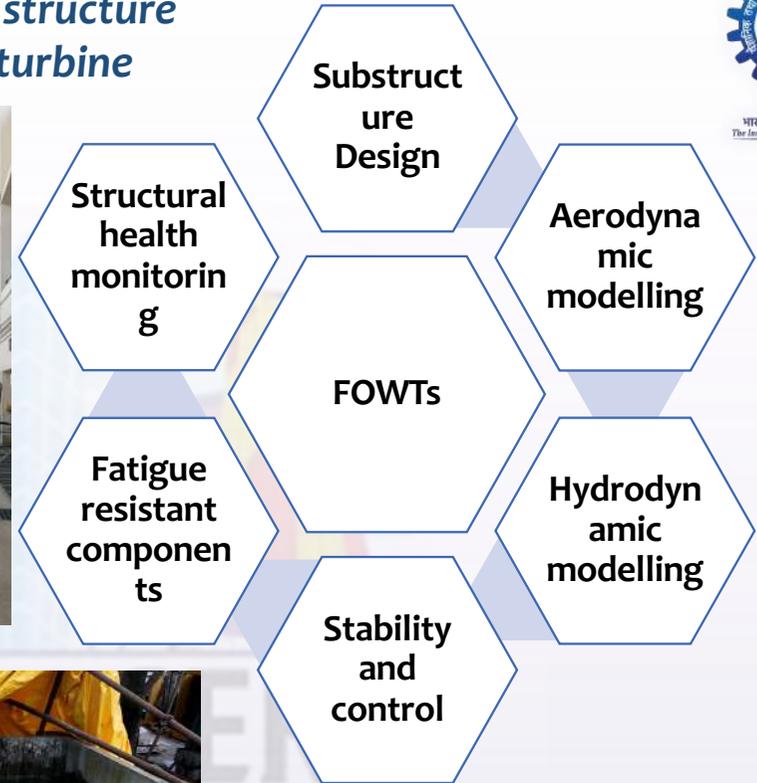


## Laced Steel-Concrete Composite System

modular construction system with enhanced blast resistance



## Supporting structure for wind turbine



Floatability and free decay test in water tank



# Role & Relevance of CSIR-SERC

- ❖ *Climate resilient infrastructure*
- ❖ *Disaster Risk Reduction*
- ❖ *Sustainable and low carbon construction materials*
- ❖ *Translation of research into deployable technologies*

**Science  
Engineering  
Policy**

CSIR-SERC  
ENGINEERING SUSTAINABLE STRUCTURES

# Engineering design inspired by nature

“Human ingenuity may make various inventions... but it will never devise any inventions more beautiful, nor more simple, nor more to the purpose than Nature does...”

-Leonardo da Vinci

- ❖ Nature itself is an engineer; Nature has extensive talents
- ❖ Inquisitive to know how nature works; How this could be used to solve problems
- ❖ Bio-inspired engineering – biomimicry – biomimetics – abstraction of good design from the natural world to inspire engineering solutions

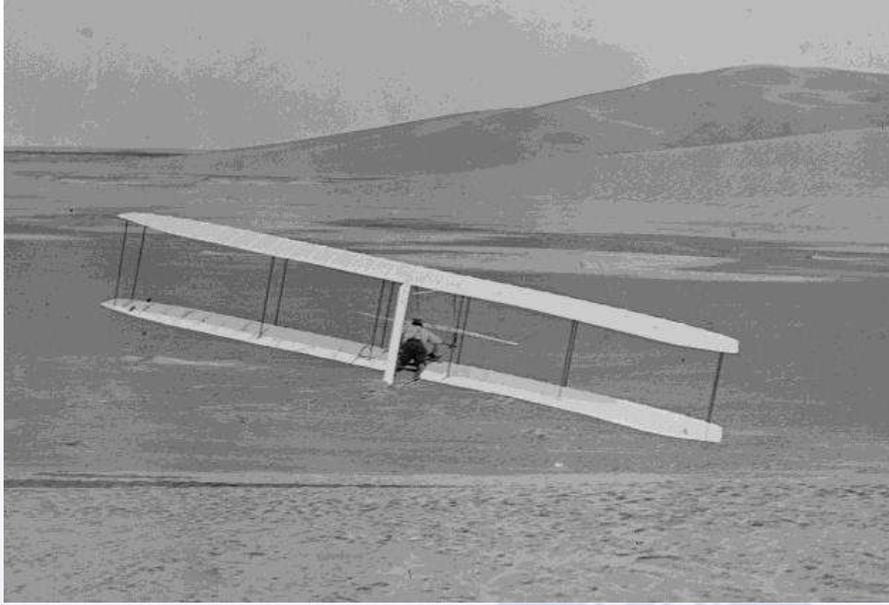
பறவையை கண்டான்  
விமானம் படைத்தான்

பாயும் மீன்களில்  
படகினை கண்டான்

எதிரொலி கேட்டான்  
வானொலி படைத்தான்

# Air craft

Best example – inspiration from birds - action



- ❖ around 1799, an Englishman named George Cayley began to document his observations of bird flight
- ❖ to develop a theoretical framework of flight that underlies modern human aviation today

Wilbur Wright flying in a glider he and his brother Orville designed, October 24, 1902.

Breakthrough - wing warping concept - Wright brothers success - the behavior in turkey vultures

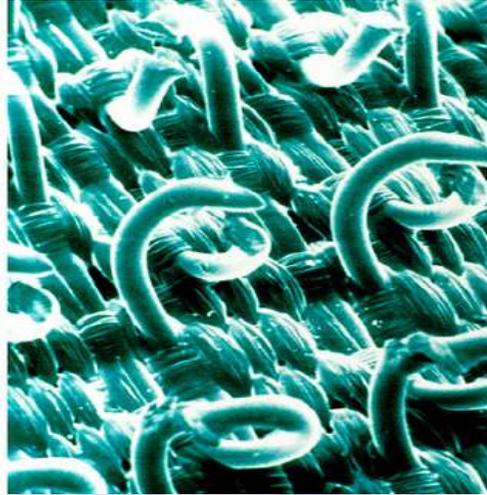


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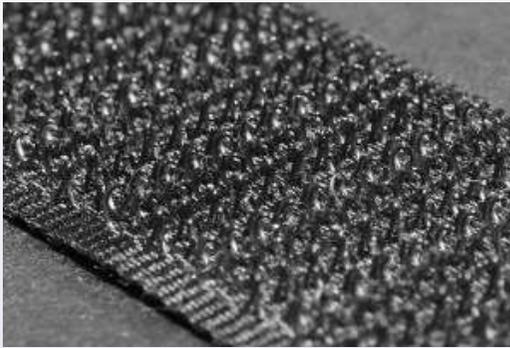
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# Velcro

inspiration from plants



- 1941 – George de Mestral – Swiss Engineer
- After a nature hike, noticed he and his dog covered with burrs – plant seed-sacs clung to surface
- Curious and analysed to find small hooks were found clinging to the surface
- He designed Velcro – two sided fastener – one side with stiff hooks and other side with soft loops - hook-and-loop principle
- Velcro - Velour + Crochet



Velcro Hooks.

Velcro Loops.

Photographs by Scott Camazine; Custom Medical Stock Photo

<http://www.bloomberg.com/slideshow/2013-08-18/14-smart-inventions-inspired-by-nature-biomimicry.html#slide2>

<https://sites.psu.edu/eseminar/2014/03/09/inspiration-of-velcro-from-nature/>

# Bullet Train

inspiration from birds - shape

- Bullet Train - the fastest train in the world
- air pressure changes when the trains emerged from tunnels produced loud noise
- Designers needed to meet noise reduction standards for environmental and human experience considerations
- ❖ Inspiration from the beaks of Kingfisher birds to model the noses of the trains
- ❖ Beaks of these birds gradually increase in diameter from tip to head allowing them to dive at high speeds into water with hardly any Splash
- ❖ By modeling the beak geometry on the bullet train noses, the West Japan Railway Company was able to produce the 500 Series trains with *overwhelming functional* benefits.
- ❖ The new trains were quieter, ten percent faster, and used 15 percent less electricity than previous models (Venton, 2011).

Photographs by Hiromi Okano/Corbis; West Japan Railway Co. via Bloomberg <http://www.bloomberg.com/slideshows/nature-biomimicry.html#slide4>



# Canopy structure inspiration from plants - shape

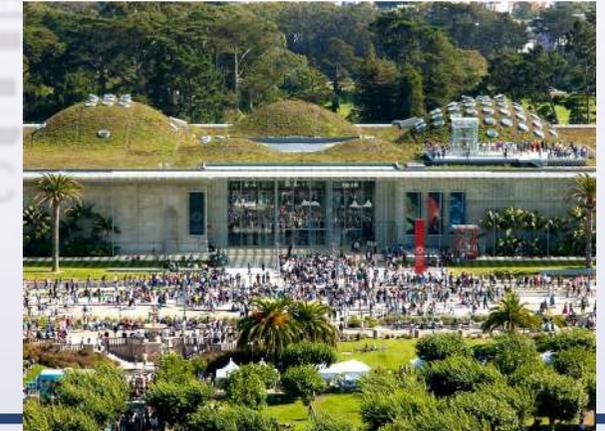
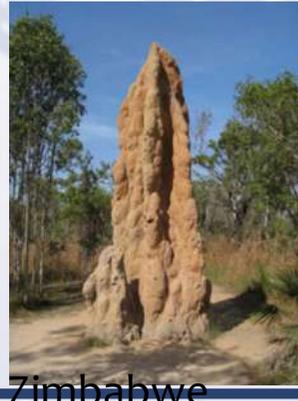
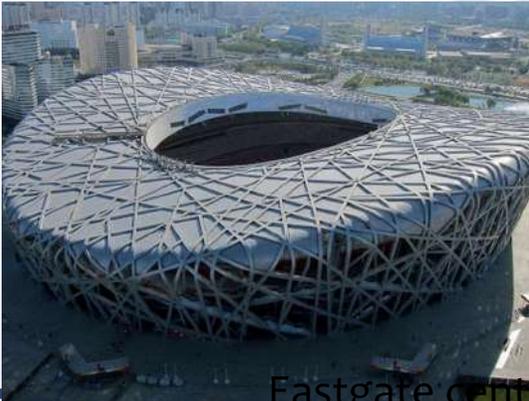
- use of fractal geometry - efficient shapes often seen in nature
- fractal geometry mixes art with mathematics to demonstrate that equations are more than just a collection of numbers
- best existing mathematical descriptions of many natural forms, such as coastlines, mountains or living organisms
- stand-alone structures obtain structural stability and strength from their shapes
- canopy structure of Terminal 3 at Germany's Stuttgart Airport



## Organism level

## Behaviour level

## Ecosystem level



Eastgate centre, Zimbabwe

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# What is special about Nature

- ❖ Evolution of complexity in nature – distinctive order
- ❖ Information processing in nature – distributed, self-organised, optimal manner
- ❖ Activities change due to changed circumstances
- ❖ Other than humans, other things adapt to nature and its changes

- *computing that study problem solving techniques inspired by nature*
- *attempts to understand the underlying principles and mechanisms of natural, physical, chemical and biological organisms that perform complex tasks in a befitting manner with limited resources and capability*

- ❖ One common aspect – nature maintains its equilibrium by any means
- ❖ Idea of optimum seeking – best solution – there is a goal to be achieved – with **constraints to be satisfied**

# Nature inspired algorithm

In general, natural computing approaches should be considered when:

- ❖ The problem is complex and nonlinear and involves a large number of variables or potential solutions or has multiple objectives.
- ❖ The problem to be solved cannot be suitably modelled using conventional approaches such as complex pattern recognition and classification tasks.
- ❖ Finding an optimal solution using traditional approaches is not possible, difficult to obtain or cannot be guaranteed, but a quality measure exists that allows comparison of various solutions.
- ❖ The problem lends itself to a diversity of solutions or a diversity of solutions is desirable.

# Types of Nature inspired algorithms

## Evolutionary Algorithm (EA)

(based on Darwin's theory of evolution)

- Evolutionary Programming (EP)
- Evolution Strategies (ES)
- Genetic Algorithms (Ga)
- Genetic programming
- Differential Evolution
- Cultural Algorithm

## Bio-inspired Algorithms (BIA)

(based on commonly observed phenomenon in animals)

- Particle Swarm Optimisation (PSO)
- Bird Flocking (BF)
- Fish School (FS)
- Artificial Immune Systems
- Lindermyer system
- Flower Polination

## Swarm Intelligencebased Algorithms (SIA)

(based on collective behaviour of insects living in colonies)

- Ant colony optimization
- Bee Algorithm
- Bat algorithm
- Firefly algorithm

# Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Structural Engineering



- Estimation of Effects of Natural Hazards
- Monitoring & Life Extension of Structures
- Design Optimisation
- Image processing for generation of numerical models

ENGINEERING SUSTAINABLE STRUCTURES



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# AI for Design of unit supporting structure

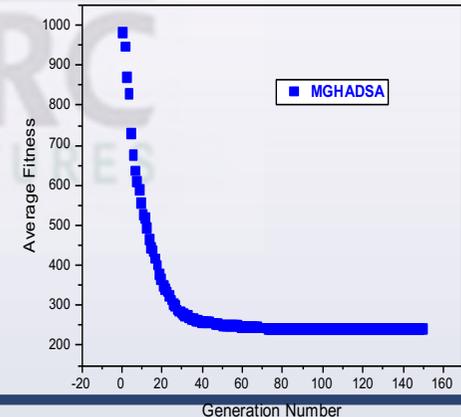
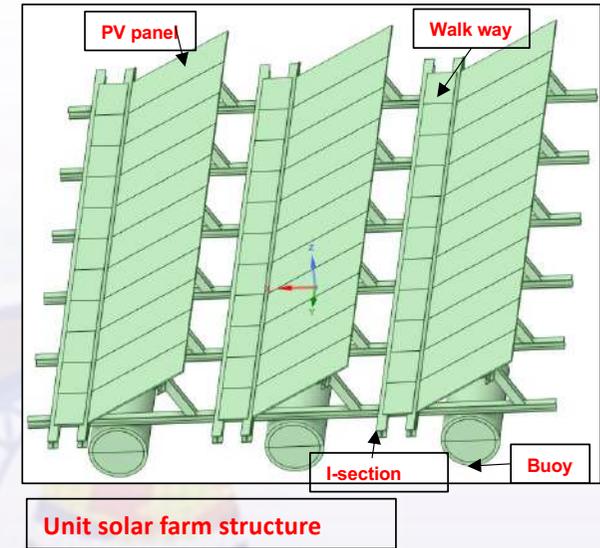
**Objective function** - minimisation of weight of the unit structure.

**Constraints** - criteria for strength & buckling.

Few successful AI algorithms for design:

1. Variational Autoencoder (VAE) models - Mirra and Pugnale (2021)
2. unsupervised machine learning models (Convolutional Autoencoders, CAE)- Maqdah et al. (2021), Palmeri et al 2021
3. Genetic Algorithms
4. Neural Networks
5. Metaheuristic optimisation

- **Optimal sections arrived : [1 1 1 1 1 1 3]**
- **1 denotes section 63x63x3.5 and 3 denotes section 52X102X6.4**
- **Optimal Weight of the unit structure : 238.456 Kg**



# Structural Health Monitoring

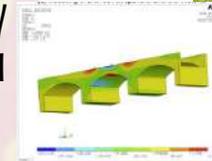
## Instrumentation Techniques and Sensor Development

- ❖ Distributed Fiber sensing
- ❖ Indigenous Packaged FBG sensors for pipelines
- ❖ Smart wireless sensing



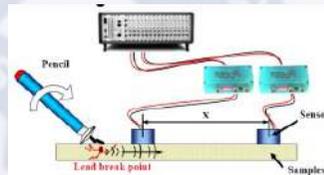
## Bridges and Infrastructures

- ❖ Capacity enhancement of existing Bridges Innovative technique for evaluating / mitigation of longitudinal force on bridges
- ❖ Safety assessment of old bridges



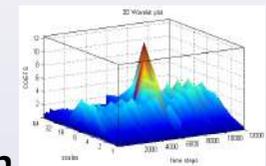
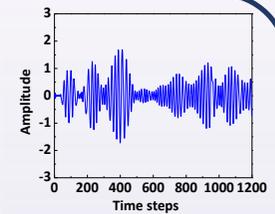
## Pipeline structures

- ❖ Leakage detection using vibration, acoustic and guided wave propagation techniques
- ❖ Development of a baseline-free for localization of the defect/damage



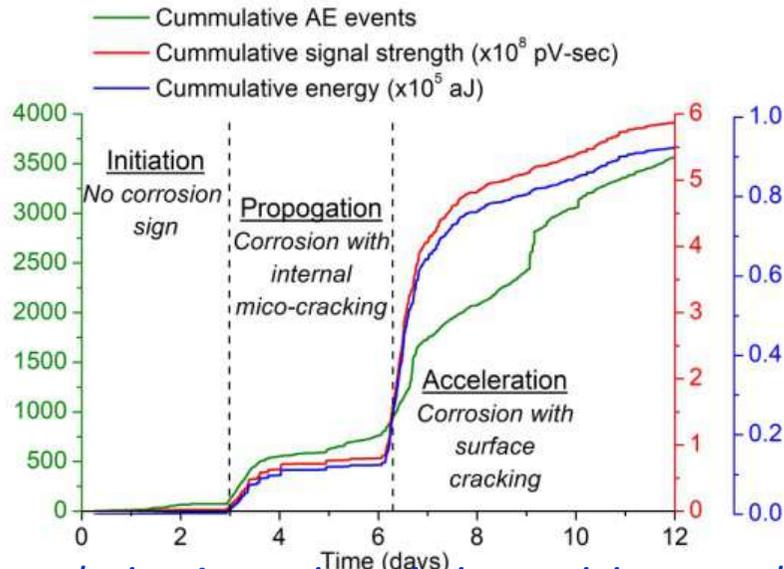
## Damage Detection and Localization

- ❖ Subdomain based damage detection strategies
- ❖ Multivariate analysis techniques for damage detection considering environmental and operational effects
- ❖ Signal Decomposition & Reconstruction



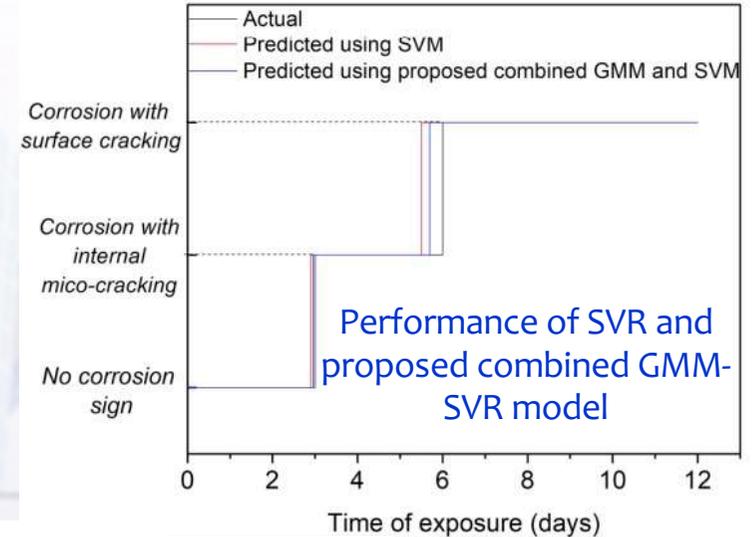
# AI technique for corrosion-induced damage prognosis

Multi-layer method combining unsupervised and supervised

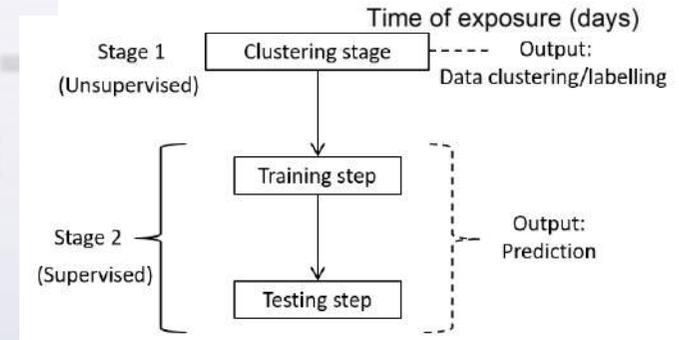


Cumulative Acoustic emission activity recorded

An automated corrosion monitoring diagnostic system – extremely important



Performance of SVR and proposed combined GMM-SVR model



Proposed multi-layer method

The developed AI model is found to be efficient in detecting the initiation of corrosion damage



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AI for Climate Action and Resilience: CSIR-SERC's Role

# Tomorrow's SHM- Digital Twin for predictive assessment

- *Validate system model with real-world data*
- *Provide decision support and alerts to users*
- *Predict changes in physical system over time*
- *Discover new application opportunities for critical infrastructure*

Poised to the game-changer technology for Monitoring, Assessment, Life Extension and Predictive performance of critical structures



Digital Twin of a long-span bridge – Continuous interaction and updation of physical & simulated structure

अनुमै उदैतुतैनुनु असवामै वैणुडुडु  
डैरुडै डुडरुसु तुरुडु.

Which means

Perseverance is needed even when excellence is achieved;  
greatness is attained through effort.

Thank You