

Lecture 2

Info-Gap Robustness of a Beam

with

Uncertain Load

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Contents

- 1 Info-Gap Robustness of a Beam With an Uncertain Load (tufts2025lec02-001.tex) 3

- 2 Four Info-Gap Models of Uncertainty (tufts2025lec02-001.tex) 37
 - 2.1 Load-Uncertainty Envelop 38
 - 2.2 Fourier Uncertainty 47
 - 2.3 Energy-Bound Uncertainty 53

- 3 Conclusion (tufts2025lec02-001.tex) 59

1 *Info-Gap Robustness of a Beam With an Uncertain Load*

(**Source:** Yakov Ben-Haim, 1996, *Robust Reliability in the Mechanical Sciences*, Springer, sections 3.1, 3.2.)

§ 3 components of reliability analysis:

- **System** model.



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- **Failure** criterion.
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- **Info-gap models** of
uncertain distributed load density function, $\phi(x)$ [**N/m**].
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- **System** model.
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- **Uncertainty in functional shape**, not just parameters.
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- **Uniform simply-supported beam.**
- **Info-gap models** of uncertain distributed load density function, $\phi(x)$ [N/m].
- **Uncertainty in functional shape**, not just parameters.
- **Info-gap robustness.**

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§ 3 components of reliability analysis:

- **System** model.
- **Failure** criterion.
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§ We will consider:

- **Uniform simply-supported beam.**
- **Info-gap models** of uncertain distributed load density function, $\phi(x)$ [N/m].
- **Uncertainty in functional shape**, not just parameters.
- **Info-gap robustness.**

§ We wish to

- **Analyze and enhance reliability.**
- **Evaluate different levels and types of information.**

§ What we **do know** about the load:

- $\tilde{\phi}(x)$ = nominal load density function, [N/m].



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- $\tilde{\phi}(x)$ = nominal load density function, [N/m].
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§ What we **do not know** about the load:

- The precise realization of the load density, $\phi(x)$.
- The bound on the deviation of $\phi(x)$ from $\tilde{\phi}(x)$.

§ The disparity between what we

do know and what we **need to know**

for a fully competent design or analysis

is an **information gap**.

§ Info-gap model of load uncertainty:

$$\mathcal{U}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

§

§ Info-gap model of load uncertainty:

$$\mathcal{U}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (2)$$

§ Two levels of uncertainty in an info-gap model:

- At fixed h : true load profile $\phi(x)$ is unknown.
-

§ Info-gap model of load uncertainty:

$$\mathcal{U}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (3)$$

§ Two levels of uncertainty in an info-gap model:

- At fixed h : true load profile $\phi(x)$ is unknown.
- Horizon of uncertainty — h — is unknown.

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§ Info-gap model of load uncertainty:

$$\mathcal{U}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (4)$$

§ Two levels of uncertainty in an info-gap model:

- At fixed h : true load profile $\phi(x)$ is unknown.
- Horizon of uncertainty — h — is unknown.

§ 2 properties of all info-gap models:

- **Contraction:**

$$\mathcal{U}(0) = \{\tilde{\phi}(x)\} \quad (5)$$

-

§ Info-gap model of load uncertainty:

$$\mathcal{U}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (6)$$

§ Two levels of uncertainty in an info-gap model:

- At fixed h : true load profile $\phi(x)$ is unknown.
- Horizon of uncertainty — h — is unknown.

§ 2 properties of all info-gap models:

- **Contraction:**

$$\mathcal{U}(0) = \{\tilde{\phi}(x)\} \quad (7)$$

- **Nesting:**

$$h < h' \quad \implies \quad \mathcal{U}(h) \subseteq \mathcal{U}(h') \quad (8)$$

§ System model:

- **Static bending moment** of load profile: $M(x)$.



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- For simple-simple beam one finds:

$$M(x) = -\frac{L-x}{L} \int_0^x \phi(u)u \, du - \frac{x}{L} \int_x^L \phi(u)(L-u) \, du \quad (9)$$

where L is the length of the beam.

§

§ System model:

- **Static bending moment** of load profile: $M(x)$.
- For simple-simple beam one finds:

$$M(x) = -\frac{L-x}{L} \int_0^x \phi(u)u \, du - \frac{x}{L} \int_x^L \phi(u)(L-u) \, du \quad (10)$$

where L is the length of the beam.

§ Failure criterion:

If bending moment $M(x)$ exceeds the critical value M_c :

$$\max_{0 \leq x \leq L} |M(x)| > M_c \quad (11)$$

§ **Robustness**, \hat{h} , combines

- **System** model, **uncertainty** model, **failure** criterion.
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- **System** model, **uncertainty** model, **failure** criterion.
- The **robustness** is maximum tolerable uncertainty:
Greatest info-gap, h , such that the **system model** does not violate the **failure criterion** for any load profile up to **uncertainty** h .
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§ Robustness, \hat{h} , combines

- **System** model, **uncertainty** model, **failure** criterion.
- The **robustness** is maximum tolerable uncertainty:
Greatest info-gap, h , such that the **system model** does not violate the **failure criterion** for any load profile up to **uncertainty** h .
- We can express **robustness**, \hat{h} , as:

$$\hat{h} = \text{maximum tolerable uncertainty} \quad (12)$$

$$= \max \{h : \text{failure cannot occur}\} \quad (13)$$

$$= \max \left\{ h : \left(\max_{0 \leq x \leq L} |M(x)| \right) \leq M_c \text{ for all } \phi(x) \text{ in } \mathcal{U}(h) \right\} \quad (14)$$

$$= \max \left\{ h : \left(\max_{\phi \in \mathcal{U}(h, \tilde{\phi})} \max_{0 \leq x \leq L} |M(x)| \right) \leq M_c \right\} \quad (15)$$

We can invert the order of the maxima inside the set.

§ The **robustness** is the greatest h
 at which the maximum bending moment $M(x)$
 does not exceed the critical value M_c :

$$\underbrace{\frac{(h + \tilde{\phi})L^2}{8}}_{\text{max bending m'nt}} = \underbrace{M_c}_{\text{critical m'nt}} \implies \boxed{\hat{h}(M_c) = \frac{8M_c}{L^2} - \tilde{\phi}}$$

(16)

§

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§ **Design implications:** the robustness, \hat{h} , increases as:

- The beam length L decreases.
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§ **Design implications:** the robustness, \hat{h} , increases as:

- The beam length L decreases.
- The nominal load $\tilde{\phi}$ decreases.
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§ The **robustness** is the greatest h at which the maximum bending moment $M(x)$ does not exceed the critical value M_c :

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§ **Design implications:** the robustness, \hat{h} , increases as:

- The beam length L decreases.
- The nominal load $\tilde{\phi}$ decreases.
- The critical bending moment M_c increases.

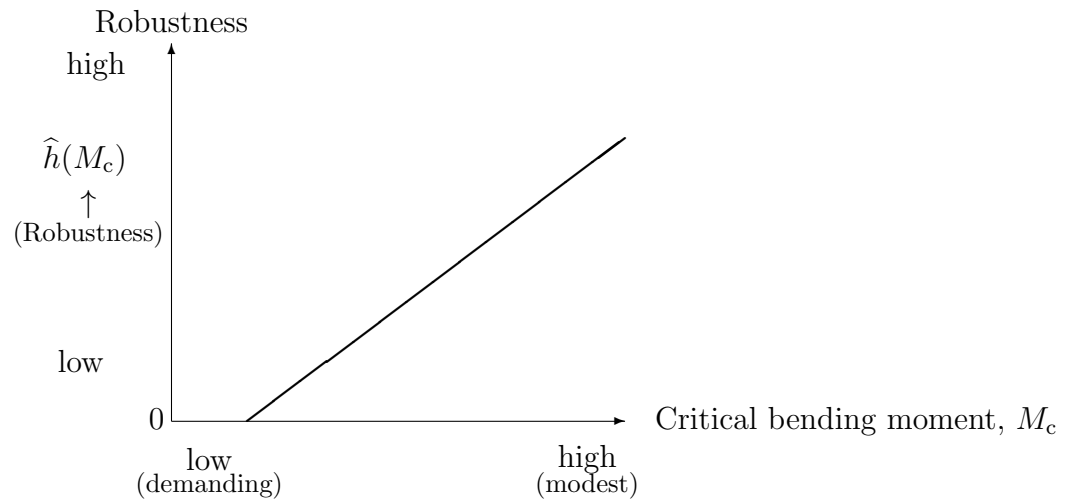


Figure 1: **ROBUSTNESS CURVE.**

§ **Two Properties: Trade-off and Zeroing (fig. 1).**

§

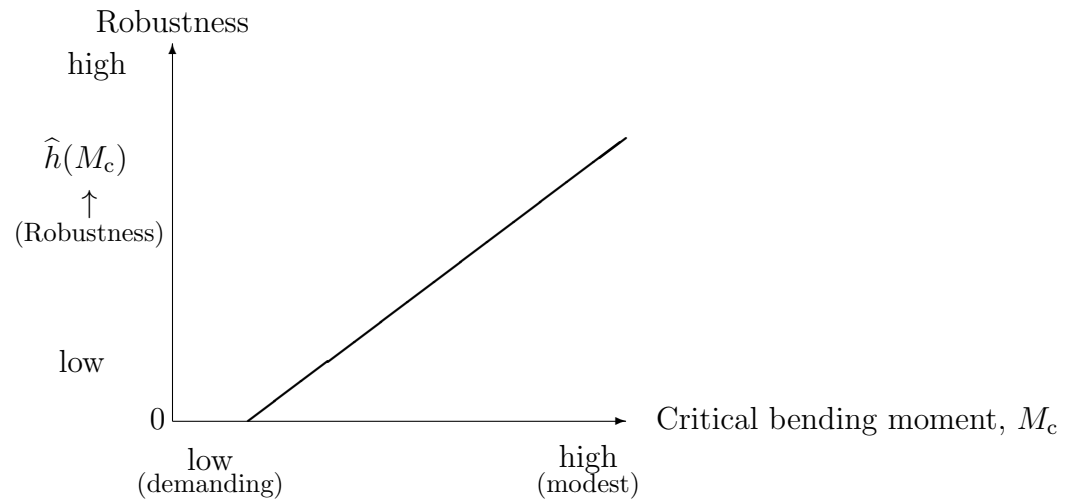


Figure 2: ROBUSTNESS CURVE.

§ Two Properties: **Trade-off** and **Zeroing** (fig. 2).

§ **Trade off: robustness vs performance.**

- $\hat{h}(M_c)$ gets worse (decreases) as M_c gets better (decreases).

●

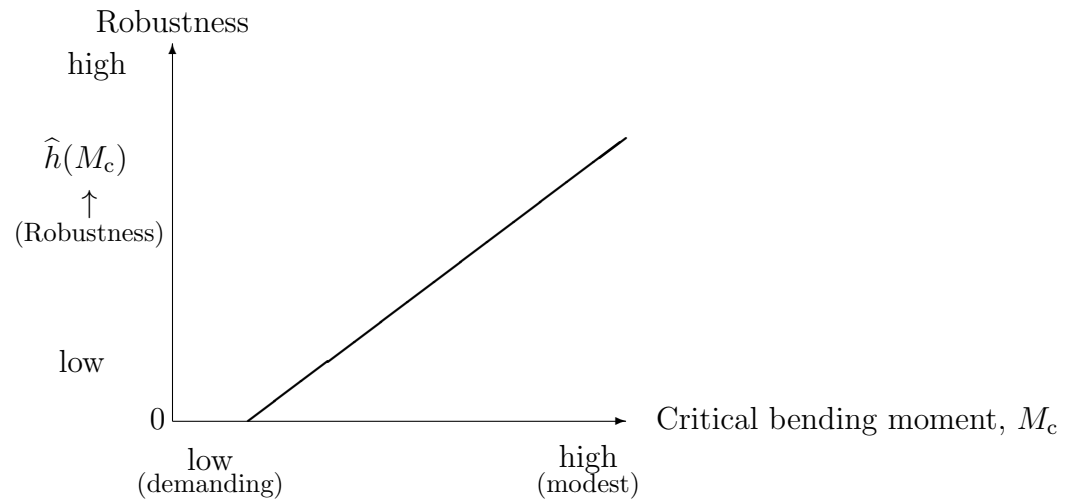


Figure 3: ROBUSTNESS CURVE.

§ Two Properties: **Trade-off** and **Zeroing** (fig. 3).

§ **Trade off: robustness vs performance.**

- $\hat{h}(M_c)$ gets worse (decreases) as M_c gets better (decreases).
- This is the **pessimist's theorem**.
-

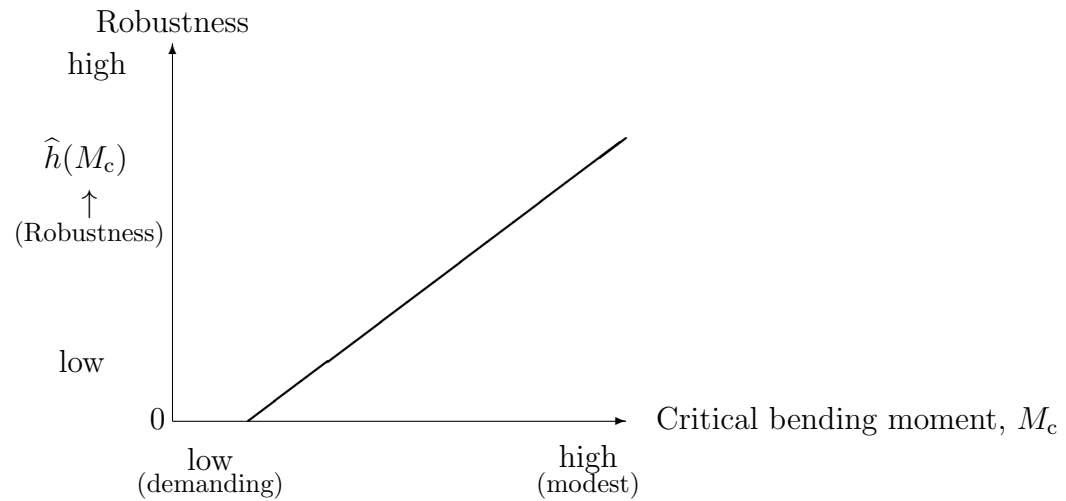


Figure 4: ROBUSTNESS CURVE.

§ Two Properties: **Trade-off** and **Zeroing** (fig. 4).

§ **Trade off: robustness vs performance.**

- $\hat{h}(M_c)$ gets worse (decreases) as M_c gets better (decreases).
- This is the **pessimist's theorem**.
- Slope of the robustness curve expresses the **cost of robustness**.

§

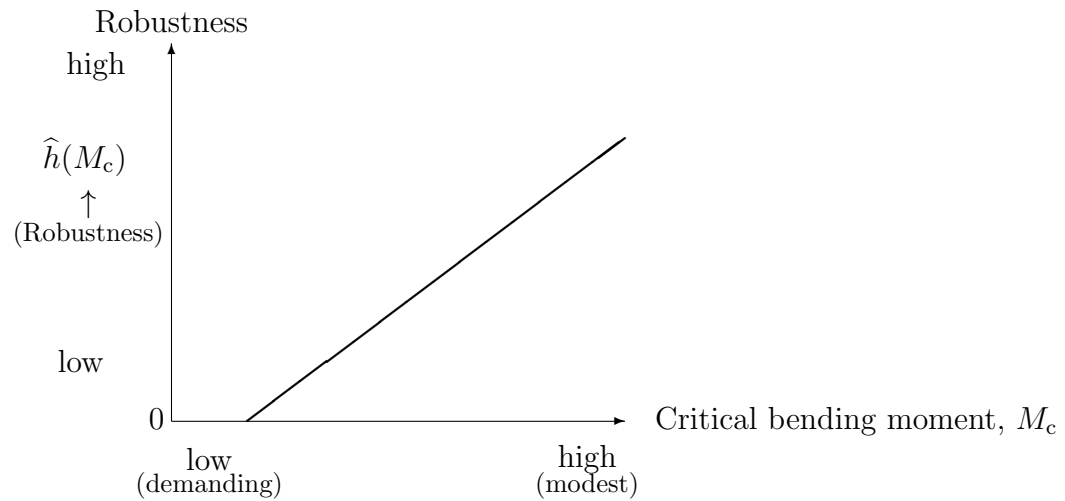


Figure 5: ROBUSTNESS CURVE.

§ Two Properties: **Trade-off** and **Zeroing** (fig. 5).

§ **Trade off: robustness vs performance.**

- $\hat{h}(M_c)$ gets worse (decreases) as M_c gets better (decreases).
- This is the **pessimist's theorem**.
- Slope of the robustness curve expresses the **cost of robustness**.

§ **Zeroing: Estimated performance has zero robustness:**

$$\hat{h}(M_c) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad M_c = \frac{\tilde{\phi}L^2}{8} = \text{estimated bending moment} \tag{20}$$

2 *Four Info-Gap Models of Uncertainty*

**Different prior information:
Different info-gap model of uncertainty.**

2.1 *Load-Uncertainty Envelop*

§ We considered **uniform-bound info-gap model**, eq.(1):

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (21)$$

§

§ We considered **uniform-bound info-gap model**, eq.(1):

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (22)$$

§ **Different prior knowledge, e.g.:**

- Hidden load on left half of beam, **or**,
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§ **Different prior knowledge, e.g.:**

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- Flow perpendicular to beam;
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§ We considered **uniform-bound info-gap model**, eq.(1):

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (24)$$

§ **Different prior knowledge, e.g.:**

- Hidden load on left half of beam, **or**,
- Flow perpendicular to beam;
increasing turbulence in middle, **or**,
- Severe local imperfections, **or**,
- etc.

§

§ We considered **uniform-bound info-gap model**, eq.(1):

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (25)$$

§ **Different prior knowledge, e.g.:**

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increasing turbulence in middle, **or**,
- Severe local imperfections, **or**,
- etc.

§ **Envelop uncertainty:**

Uncertain deviation of $\phi(x)$ from $\tilde{\phi}(x)$

varies in an **envelop**:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (26)$$

where ...

§ We considered **uniform-bound info-gap model**, eq.(1):

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$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (28)$$

where we **know**:

- $\tilde{\phi}(x)$ = nominal load profile.
- $\psi(x)$ = load-uncertainty envelop.

and ...

§ We considered **uniform-bound info-gap model**, eq.(1):

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (29)$$

§ **Different prior knowledge, e.g.:**

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- Severe local imperfections, **or**,
- etc.

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Uncertain deviation of $\phi(x)$ from $\tilde{\phi}(x)$
varies in an **envelop**:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (30)$$

where we **know**:

- $\tilde{\phi}(x)$ = nominal load profile.
- $\psi(x)$ = load-uncertainty envelop.

and we **do not know**:

- $\phi(x)$ = actual load profile.
- h = horizon of uncertainty.

§ Example: envelop-bound vs. uniform-bound

- The nominal load increases to the center of the beam:

$$\tilde{\phi}(x) = \tilde{\phi} \sin \frac{\pi x}{L} \quad (31)$$

where $\tilde{\phi}$ is a known positive constant.

- The uncertainty increases to the center of the beam:

$$\psi(x) = \sin \frac{\pi x}{L} \quad (32)$$

so the **envelop-bound info-gap model** is:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{ \phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x) \}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (33)$$

and the **robustness function** is:

$$\hat{h}_{\text{env}}(M_c) = \frac{\pi^2 M_c}{L^2} - \tilde{\phi} \quad (34)$$

- Compare to the **uniform bound info-gap model**:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{ \phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h \}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (35)$$

whose **robustness function** is:

$$\hat{h}_{\text{uni}}(M_c) = \frac{8M_c}{L^2} - \tilde{\phi} \quad (36)$$

- **Value of information**:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) \subseteq \mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) \implies \hat{h}_{\text{env}}(M_c) \geq \hat{h}_{\text{uni}}(M_c) \quad (37)$$

2.2 *Fourier Uncertainty*

§ The info-gap models we considered entail

unbounded rate of variation:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (38)$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (39)$$

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$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (40)$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (41)$$

§ We may have information

constraining the rate of variation

of the uncertain function.

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$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (42)$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (43)$$

§ We may have information

constraining the rate of variation

of the uncertain function.

§ For example, **frequency-limited function:**

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=n_1}^{n_2} c_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad (44)$$

$$= c^T \gamma(x) \quad (45)$$

§

§ The info-gap models we considered entail

unbounded rate of variation:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (46)$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (47)$$

§ We may have information

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§ For example, **frequency-limited function:**

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=n_1}^{n_2} c_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad (48)$$

$$= c^T \gamma(x) \quad (49)$$

§ Uncertainty in the Fourier coefficients c .

E.g. Fourier ellipsoid-bound info-gap model:

$$\mathcal{U}(h) = \{\phi(x) = c^T \gamma(x) : (c - \tilde{c})^T W (c - \tilde{c}) \leq h^2\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (50)$$

§ **Fourier robustness** in a special case ($W = I$):

$$\hat{h} \approx \frac{n_1^2 \pi^2 M_c}{L^2} \quad (51)$$

§ **Uniform-bound robustness** with $\tilde{\phi} = 0$:

$$\hat{h} = \frac{8M_c}{L^2} \quad (52)$$

Reliability is substantially enhanced
by constraining spatial modes of the load function.

2.3 *Energy-Bound Uncertainty*

§ We have considered **3 info-gap models of uncertainty**:

- **Uniform-bound:**

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (53)$$

-

§ We have considered **3 info-gap models of uncertainty**:

- **Uniform-bound:**

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (54)$$

- **Envelop-bound:**

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (55)$$

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§ We have considered **3 info-gap models of uncertainty**:

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- **Envelop-bound:**

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- **Fourier ellipsoid-bound:**

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=n_1}^{n_2} c_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad (58)$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{spec}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : (c - \tilde{c})^T W (c - \tilde{c}) \leq h^2\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (59)$$

§

§ We have considered **3 info-gap models of uncertainty**:

- **Uniform-bound:**

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{uni}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (60)$$

- **Envelop-bound:**

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{env}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : |\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x)| \leq h\psi(x)\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (61)$$

- **Fourier ellipsoid-bound:**

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=n_1}^{n_2} c_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad (62)$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{spec}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : (c - \tilde{c})^T W (c - \tilde{c}) \leq h^2\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (63)$$

§ We now consider the **energy-bound** info-gap model.

- $\phi(x)$ is the load-density function.
- $\phi(x)$ usually varies smoothly along the beam.
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§ We have considered **3 info-gap models of uncertainty**:

- **Uniform-bound:**

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§ We now consider the **energy-bound** info-gap model.

- $\phi(x)$ is the load-density function.
- $\phi(x)$ usually varies smoothly along the beam.
- $\phi(x)$ has **uncertain strong local deviations** from $\tilde{\phi}(x)$ but the **total load is bounded**:

$$\mathcal{U}_{\text{energy}}(h) = \{\phi(x) : \int_0^L (\phi(x) - \tilde{\phi}(x))^2 \leq h^2\}, \quad h \geq 0 \quad (68)$$

(Energy is a metaphor.)

3 *Conclusion*

§ 3 components of info-gap robustness analysis:

- **System** model.
- **Failure** criterion.
- **Uncertainty** model.

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- Combination of the 3 components.
- Basis for design selection.

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§ We considered **4 info-gap models of uncertainty**:

- **Uniform** bound.
- **Envelop** bound.
- **Fourier** ellipsoid-bound.
- **Energy** bound.

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§ 3 components of info-gap robustness analysis:

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Questions?