# Railway traffic actions and combinations with other variable actions

Autor(en): Gandil, Jacques / Tschumi, Marcel A. / Delorme, Frédéric

Objekttyp: Article

Zeitschrift: IABSE reports = Rapports AIPC = IVBH Berichte

Band (Jahr): 74 (1996)

PDF erstellt am: **12.07.2024** 

Persistenter Link: https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-56074

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### Railway traffic actions and combinations with other variable actions Einwirkungen aus Eisenbahnverkehr und ihre Kombinationen mit Einwirkungen, die nicht bahnspezifisch sind

Actions de circulation ferroviaire et combinaisons avec les actions autres que de circulation ferroviaire

Jacques GANDIL Former Head of Structures Division French National Railways Paris, France, from 1984 to 1992.



Frédéric DELORME Engineer in roads and bridges Head of the Structures'Division SNCF Paris, France



#### SOMMAIRE

Frédéric Delorme, born in 1960, is a graduate of Ecole Polytechnique and Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris. For three years, he has been in charge of French Railways' Structures Division.

Jacques Gandil, born in

1928, graduated in Civil

Engineering from Ecole

Nationale des Ponts et

Chaussées in Paris. He

Division at SNCF for

committee of the

in 1992.

was head of the Structures

9 years and represents the

latter at the Bridge Sub-

International Union of

Railways (UIC). He retired

Marcel A. TSCHUMI, Dr. h.c. Head of Bridge Section Swiss Federal Railways Berne, Switzerland Marcel A. Tschu



Marcel A. Tschumi, born 1938, obtained his civil engineering diploma at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Zurich, 1962). Since then, he has been involved in the design of structures and bridges. Since 1988, he has been chairman of the Bridge Sub-committee of UIC. He was awarded the title Dr. h.c. from TU of Bucharest.

**Philippe VOIGNIER** Head of the New Lines Structures Section SNCF Paris, France



Philippe Voignier, born in 1953, is graduated in Civil Engineering from Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris. He has been at SNCF, Structures Division, from 1976. He has been involved in the detailed design of French high speed lines structures and bridges.

Cet article présente la partie 6 "actions ferroviaires et autres actions spécifiques aux pontsrail" de l'ENV 1.3. Il décrit les charges élémentaires et groupes de charges, leurs combinaisons, ainsi que certains "backgrounds" liés aux états-limites de service ferroviaires.

#### ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

Der vorliegende Artikel stellt den Teil 6 "Einwirkungen aus Eisenbahnverkehr und andere spezifische Einwirkungen für Eisenbahnbrücken" der ENV 1.3 vor. Er beschreibt die elementaren Lasten und die Lastgruppen, ihre Kombinationen, sowie gewisse "Backgrounds" zu den Gebrauchsgrenzzuständen.

#### SUMMARY

This article presents part 6 "Railway actions and other actions specific to railway bridges" contained in ENV 1.3. It describes elementary loads, groups of loads and their combinations, together with the background to the serviceability limit states.



#### 1. Introduction

This article contains a presentation of the current thoughts of European railway companies about the contents of ENV 1991.3 standard "Traffic loads on bridges" - Part 6 which is called "rail traffic actions and other actions specifically for railway bridges" (EC 1.3, Part 6). This provisional draft for the Eurocode has been made by 6 railway experts from a number of European railway undertakings, who incidentally are members of the Bridge Sub-committee of the International Union of Railways (UIC).

ENV 1991-3 (EC1-3 part 6) needs to be completed and tested before it is put to the vote as an EN. Groups of loads and combinations of actions, among other things, are still being discussed by European railway administrations. Therefore, the following should be considered as initial thoughts which is slightly different from the ENV prescriptions and application rules, taking into account the early observations raised by BANVERKET (Sweden), DB-AG (Germany) and S.N.C.F. (France).

This part of the Eurocode is essential for the railway administrations which will be involved in the future European High-Speed Rail System.

As a matter of fact, in conjunction with the Eurocode development, Engineers have been given a two-year timescale to produce a common technical response to the E.U. directive on interoperability of the European High-Speed Rail System. The purpose of this directive is to enable the operation of any type of train, whether existing or yet to be developed, for speeds of 250 km/h and above, on the totality of the network.

To achieve this goal, an organization was set up consisting of representatives from UIC (railway companies) and UNIFE (railway manufacturers) and is supported by editorial groups in charge of technical specifications on interoperability (STI). This specification will be mandatory for designers and suppliers of high speed sub-systems (infrastructure, rolling stock, power supply systems, command/control systems). The organisation is further supported by a coordination group addressing interfaces between these various sub-systems. So far as bridges are concerned, STI will refer to the Eurocode.

The interoperability parameters applicable to bridges are the following :

- \* for railway actions : vertical loads, horizontal static loads (in particular, braking and traction forces, slip-stream effects, load combinations) (see § 6.3 to 6.7).
- \* for traffic safety criteria : permissible girder vertical accelerations, twists, rotations and horizontal deformations (see § 3.1.2 in appendix G).

It should be noted that the operating comfort and durability of structures are not assumed as essential interoperability requirements for bridges.

The parameters relating to rolling stock which have an impact on bridge interoperability are as follows : axle load, axle spacing, operating speed, vertical suspension characteristics (or transfer function) braking and traction forces, train aerodynamic drag coefficient. The range of characteristics required for future high-speed trains will have to be validated by the coordination and interface group.



#### 2. Vertical load models

To design railway bridges, various vertical load models must be taken into account, as follows :

Vertical load	UIC 71		Unloaded	Actual trains	Train types
models	+	SW/2	train	for dynamic	for fatigue
	SW/0			calculation	-
Approach	Deterministic	Deterministic	Deterministic	Actual trains,	Collection of trains
	(characteristic =	(characteristic =	(characteristic	especially present	representative of
	nominal values).	nominal values).	= nominal	high speed trains all	traffic.
	7/8		values).	over the world.	
Description	Normal traffic :	Heavy load traffic :	a 12.5kN/m	For instance,	* 12 train types,
	see load model	see load model	uniformly	AVE, ETR,	<ul> <li>standard traffic</li> </ul>
	below.	below.	distributed	EUROSTAR,	mix,
			force.	ICE,TGV	<ul> <li>heavy traffic mix.</li> </ul>
				SHINKANSEN.	
Static	Yes,	If specified.	Yes.	No.	No
assessment	multiplied				
	by a factor α				
	if specified.				
Dynamic	Dynamic effect is	Dynamic effect is	No.	To be used for	No.
assessment	taken into account	taken into account		dynamic calculation,	
	by a multiplying	by a multiplying		outside of the field of	
	factor $\Phi$ , within a	factor $\Phi$ , within a		application of the	
	field of application.	field of application.		dynamic factor Φ.	
Fatigue	Normal traffic mix	No.	No.	No.	If specified :
assessment	is taken into				standard traffic
	account by UIC 71				mix,
	(including the				or, heavy traffic
	dynamic factor $\Phi$ )				mix with 250kN
	multiplied by a				axles,
	factor $\lambda$ .				or, special traffic
					mix as a
					combination of
			l		train types.

Table 1

(1) European Rail Research Institute (ERRI), Union Internationale des Chemins de fer (UIC). Fig. 1: UIC71 LOAD MODEL : 4 x 250 kN 80 kN/m 80 kN/m 0m80 + 1m60+ 1m60 + 1m60 + 0m80Fig. 2: SW/0 AND SW/2 LOAD MODELS : q<sub>vk</sub> (kN/m) 133 Load model a (m) c (m) q<sub>vk</sub>  $\boldsymbol{q}_{\mathbf{vk}}$ **SW/0** 15,0 5,3 SW/2 25,0 7,0 150 а a с Fig. 3: TGV AXLE LOADS (as an example) : V = 350 km/h4 x 170 kN 3 x 170 kN 8 x (2 x 170 kN) 3 x 170 kN 4 x 170 kN L = 237,60 m q = 21,5 kN/m $\Sigma Q = 5100 \text{ kN}$ 15,7 15,7 11,0 3.3 15,7 3,3 Ţ 11,0 3,0 3,0 3,0 3,0 3,0 3,0 3,0 3,0 Fig. 4: TRAIN TYPE N°7 (as an example) :  $\Sigma Q = 10350 \text{ kN}$ 6 x 225 kN 4 x 225 kN 4 x 225 kN V = 120 km/h8 x (4 x 225 kN) L = 196,50q = 52,7 kN/m18,5 17,8 17,8 8 x 17,8



# 3. Groups of loads, combinations of actions and specific railway assessments

#### 3.1 Horizontal forces

Together with vertical loads, some horizontal forces due to rail traffic must be taken into account :

- traction and braking forces (see ENV 1991-3, §6.5.3 and §6.5.4) act at the top of the rails in the longitudinal direction of the track; when the track is continuous at one or both ends of the bridge, only a proportion of these forces is transferred through the deck to the bearings, the remainder of the forces are transmitted through the track where it is resisted behind the abutments. This is called « interaction between the track and the bridge due to traction and braking »;
- centrifugal forces (see ENV 1991-3, §6.5.1) are considered fully transmitted through the deck to the bearings;
- nosing forces having generally only local effects.

#### 3.2 Groups of loads and rail traffic action

The simultaneous effects of the various vertical and horizontal forces due to the railway traffic is taken into account by considering the groups of loads, as follows (boxed values):

G	roups of lo	ads	Ve	rtical force	s	Horizontal forces				
Nb of loaded tracks	Group n°	Loaded track n°	LM71= UIC71+ SW/0	SW/2	Unloaded train	Traction and braking	Centrifugal force	Nosing force		
One track	11 12 13 14 15	T1 T1 T1 T1 T1	[1,0] [1,0] [1,0] [0] [0]	[0] [0] [0] [1,0] [0]	[0] [0] [0] [1,0]	[1,0] [0,5] [1,0] [1,0] [0]	[0,5] [1,0] [0,5] [0,5] [1,0]	[0] [0] [1,0] [0] [0]		
Two tracks	21 22 23	T1 T2 T1 T2 T1	[1,0] [1,0] [1,0] [1,0] [1,0]	[0] [0] [0] [0]	[0] [0] [0] [0]	[1,0] [1,0] [0,5] [0,5] [1,0]	[0,5] [0,5] [1,0] [1,0] [0,5]	[0] [0] [0] [0]		
	24	T2 T1 T2	[1,0] [1,0] [0]	[0] [0] [1,0]	[0] [0] [0]	[1,0] [0,75] [0,75]	[0,5] [0,5] [0,5]	[1,0] [0] [0]		
Three tracks	31	T1 T2 T3 T1	[0,75] [0,75] [0,75] [0,75]	[0] [0] [0]	[0] [0] [0]	[0,5] [0,5] [0] [1,0]	[0,75] [0,75] [0,75] [0,375]	[0] [0] [0]		
or more	33	T2 T3 T1 T2 T3	[0,75] [0,75] [0,75] [0,75] [0,75]	[0] [0] [0] [0]	[0] [0] [0] [0] [0]	[1,0] [0] [1,0] [1,0] [0]	[0,375] [0,375] [0,375] [0,375] [0,375]	[0] [0] [1,0] [1,0] [1,0]		

table 2



to be considered in designing a structure supporting one track.

to be considered in designing a structure supporting two tracks ; that means all the groups from 11 to 24.

to be considered in designing a structure supporting three tracks or more ; that means all the groups from 11to33.

The multicomponent action due to railway traffic from the groups of loads above should be chosen in order to determine the most unfavourable effect for each assessment. Embankment loading can be added, when relevant.



#### **3.3** Other variable actions

Some other actions must be taken into account. For instance :

- aerodynamic effects (slipstream due to railway traffic, see ENV 1991 -3, §6.6), should be considered as a separate variable action,
- non public footpaths loads (see ENV 1991-3, §6.3.6.1)),
- wind forces (see ENV 1991 -2-4),
- temperature effects (see ENV 1991-2-5), including interaction between track and deck of bridges (see ENV 1991 -3, §6.5.4).

#### 3.4 Representative values of the rail traffic action

Each traffic action, as defined in ENV 1991-3, part 6, must be considered as a characteristic value, for combination with non-traffic actions.

The other representative values are defined by multiplying by factors  $\Psi_1$ ' (infrequent values),  $\Psi_1$  (frequent values) and  $\Psi_2$  (quasi-permanent) : see table 3 below (boxed values).

#### 3.5 Combinations of actions

In order to use « Basis of Design » format, see combination factors  $\Psi_0$  and partial safety factors  $\gamma_0$  in table 3 below (boxed values).

Variable actions		ŶQ	Ψo	Ψ'1	Ψ1	Ψ2
	Gr. nº 11	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,80]	[0]
	Gr. nº 12	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,80]	[0]
	Gr. n° 13	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,80]	[0]
	Gr. nº 14	[1,20]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,80]	[0]
Main traffic	Gr. nº 15	[1,00] (3)	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,80]	[0]
action	Gr. n° 21	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,60]	[0]
	Gr. n° 22	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,60]	[0]
(Groups of loads)	Gr. n° 23	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,60]	[0]
	Gr. n° 24	[1,20]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,60]	[0]
	Gr. nº 31	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,40]	[0]
	Gr. n° 32	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,40]	[0]
	Gr. nº 33	[1,45]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,40]	[0]
Other traffic actions	aerodynamic effects	[1,50]	[0,80]	[1,00]	[0,50]	[0]
	non public footpaths	[1,50]	[0,80]	[0,80]	[0,50]	[0]
Wind forces	$F_{wk}$ or $F_{wn}(1)$	[1,50]	[0,60]	[0,60]	[0,50]	[0]
	F (1)	[1,50]	[1,00]	[0]	[0]	[0]
Temperature effects	$T_k$ (2)	[1,50]	[0,60]	[0,80]	[0,60]	[0,50]

Table 3

(2) see ENV 1991-2.5.

(3) generally [1,00], to be combined with wind forces, for transversal static equilibrium or lateral internal forces.

<sup>(1)</sup> Whenever wind action is required to be considered with traffic, the wind action  $\psi_0 F_{wk}$  or  $\psi_0 F_{wn}$  should be taken as no greater  $F_w^{\bullet\bullet}$ : see ENV 1991-2.4.



#### 3.6 Design situations and combinations of actions

Design situations and combinations of actions are summarized in the following next two pages table 4 (boxed values).

	SITUATIONS		PERSISTENT AND TRANSIENT												
I	LIMIT STATES		Ultimate (3) static equilibrium resistance			infr	Service infrequent frequent		vice lent	quasi permanent		fatigue			
COMBINATIONS			fundamental		fund	fundamental		infrequent		lent	quasi permanent		fatigue		
PERN	PERMANENT ACTIONS		G1 G2		G. G.	G. Max. G. Min.		Max. Min.	G. Max. G. Min.		G. Max. G. Min,		G. Max. G. Min.		
direct	Self weight Fav. Unfav. Earth pressure and weight		0.9 1.1	9 (2) 1 (2)	1 1.35		1 1		1		1		1		
actions	Movable loads	Fav. Unfav.	0.9 1.	9 (2) 1x1.3 (2)	1 1.35x1.3		1 1.3		1 1.3		1 1.3		1 1.3		
indirect	Settlements	Fav. Unfav.	0 1.	1 (2)	0 1.35		0	0 1			0		0		
actions	shrinkage and Unfav.		1		1.35		1		1		1		1		
Variable actions		<u> </u>	d.	a.	d.	a.	d.	а.	d.	a.	d.	a.	d.	а.	
Traffic actions	Gr11 Gr12 Gr13 Gr14 Gr15 Gr21 Gr22 Gr23 Gr24 Gr31 Gr32 Gr33 Embankmer Other traffic act Fatigue traffic	nt loads actions ains, tions) c actions	1.45 1.45 1.45 1.2 1 1.45 1.45 1.45 1.45 1.45 1.45 1.45 1.	1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8	1.45 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.	1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x1 / 1x1 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8 1.45x0.8		0.8 0.8 1 / 1 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 .8 / 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 / 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 0.8 1 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8	0.8 0.8 0.8 0.8 / 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.4 0.4 (1) 0.8 / 0.5				/ / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /		
Other variable	Natural actions Wind		1.5	1.5x0.6	1.5	1.5x0.6	1	0.6	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	
40003	Therma Seismic actions	al	1.5	1.5x0.6	1.5	1.5x0.6	1	0.6	0.6	0.5	1	0.5	7	0.6	
	Accidental action	ons	/				+	1		1		/		1	

Table 4 (	1/2)
-----------	------

(1) 0.8 / 0.6 / 0.4 for 1, 2 or 3 tracks.

- (2) 0,85 and 1,15 instead of 0,9 and 1,1 when people safety is involved.
- (3) General equilibrium of earthworks is not included in this table.

« d. » = dominant

« a. » = accompanying



SITUATIONS		ACCIDENTAL				SEISMIC						
The second second is presented as a second second			Ultin	mate			Ülti	mate				
LIMIT STATES		static (	equilibrium	resistance		static equilibrium		resistance		Service		
COMBINATIONS			accidental		accidental		seismic		seismic		infrequent	
PERMANENT ACTIONS			G1 G2		G. Max. G. Min.		G. M G. M	G. Max. G. Min.		G. Max. G. Min.		1ax. Ain.
Direct	Self weight Fav. Unfav. Earth pressure and weight		(1) (1)	)	[1] [1]		[i] [1]		[1] [1]		[1] [1]	
actions	Movable loads	Fav. Unfav.	[1] [1]	] .3]	[1] [1.3]		[1] [1.3]	-	[1] [1.3	]	[1]	
Indirect	Settlements	Fav. Unfav.	[0 (1)	)	[0] [1]		[0] [1]		[0] [1]		[0] [1]	
actions	Prestressing, Fav. shrinkage and Unfav.			1	[1] [1]		/		[1] [1]		[1] [1]	
Variable actions			d.	a.	d.	a	d.	a.	d	a	d	a
Traffic actions	Gr11 Gr12 Gr13 Gr14 Gr15 Gr21 Gr22 Gr23 Gr24 Gr31 Gr32 Gr33 Embankmer Other traffic (actual tr specific ac Fatigue traffic	nt loads actions ains, tions) c actions	(0,8) [0,8] [0,8] [0,8] [0,6] [0,6] [0,6] [0,6] [0,4] [0,4] (1) [0,8] /	a. / / / / / / / / / / / / /	C. [0,8] [0,8] [0,8] [0,6] [0,6] [0,6] [0,6] [0,6] [0,4] [0,4] [0,4] [0,4] (1) [0,8] /	a. / / / / / / / / / / /	R E	S E	R	v.	E	D
	Other traffic act	ions	[0.5]	/	[0,5]	/						
Other variables	Natural act Wind	tions	[0,5]	/	[0,5]	1						
actions	Temperature		[0,6]	[0,5]	[0,6]	[0,5]						
	Seismic actions		1		1		[1]		[1]		[1]	
	Accidental actions		[1]		[1]		1		1		/	

#### Table 4 (2/2)

(1) 0.8 / 0.6 / 0.4 for 1, 2 or 3 tracks. « d. » = dominant

« a. » = accompanying

## 3.7 Specific railway assessments

Besides assessments related to structures and materials, there are some specific railway criteria to be checked (see ENV 1991-3, annex G3).

	Criteria	Safety of tr brid	affic due to dge	Durability	of bridge	Safety	Comfort		
Situations	Limit states of bridge	Static equilibrium	Resistance	Durability of bridge	Fatigue of bridge	Track geometry	Stress in rail	Ballast compacity	Deflection
Normal	ULS static equilibrium	x							
traffic	ULS resistance		х						
(persistent	SLS infrequent			x		х	x	x	x
and transient	other SLS			x					
situations)	Fatigue LS				x				
	ULS static equilibrium	x							
Earthquake	ULS resistance		x						
	SLS infrequent			x		х	x	x	
Accidental situations	ULS static equilibrium	x							
(derail- -ments and	ULS resistance		x						
collisions)	SLS infrequent			x		x	x	x	



#### 4 Current research topics

Up to now, research which was conducted with a view to setting up common directives specific to the development of a European High Speed Rail System, has highlighted two main problems raised concerning track safety, they are the dynamic behaviour of bridge girders under traffic action, and the problems related to the interaction between continuous track and structure.

#### 4.1 Dynamic behaviour under traffic actions (background)

Safety and comfort are two major requirements determining the deformability limits of rail bridges.

The safety of train operations is conditional upon the strict observance of certain criteria concerning the permanent way. It is first important to make sure that the wheel/rail contact is still maintained despite the oscillations of the structure and the train dynamic trajectory. As a result, the ascending vertical acceleration onto axles and the track twist due to the girder torsional movements have to be restricted. Secondly, it is also necessary to check that the girders' dynamic oscillations do not cause a reduction in track stability or loss of track geometry (in the case of the ballasted track, this can give a lateral stability defect).

To prevent any discomfort when a train is crossing a bridge, passengers should not be subject to excessive levels of vertical acceleration. These accelerations are generated, on the one hand, by bridge oscillations and, on the other, by the damping from vehicle body suspensions.

The deformability criteria that should be assumed for specific checks on the serviceability limit state of the railway bridges are shown in appendix G 3. The limitations on the natural frequency are shown in item 6.4.3. Such limitations should guarantee that the dynamic stresses due to actual trains at speeds smaller than or equal to 220 km/h, remain smaller than the stresses calculated with the UIC loading scheme, including the dynamic factor. In the 70's UIC developed a dynamic increment factor from a statistical survey on existing bridges' stiffnesses. Therefore, new design bridges should not be made more flexible than existing bridges. At very high speeds (in excess of 220 km/h), this check has to be supplemented by dynamic calculations under actual traffic as shown in appendix H, in order to cover any resonance or excessive vibration of the girder.

The calculations and measurements made by the various UIC members on the permanent way, girders and vehicles have led to the determination of the following limits for high speeds : the vertical acceleration of the girder is limited to 0,35 g (wheel/rail contact criteria and ballast loosening), twist to 0,4 mm/m (wheel/rail contact criterion), rotations at girder ends to a level usually comprised between 0,5 10<sup>-3</sup> and 10<sup>-3</sup> rd under an actual train (rail breakage criterion -due to excessive tensile strength or to track buckling resulting from excessive compressive load- and ballast looseness criterion), the vertical accelerations on vehicle bodies to a level between 0,1 and 0,2 g (depending on the level of comfort required).

Detailed investigations into the dynamic behaviour of structures should be made by calculations appropriate to the structures to solve the equation of the dynamic movement of bending beams using the finite element method. This equation is the following :

$$m(x)\frac{d^{2}y(t,x)}{dt^{2}} + c\frac{dy(t,x)}{dt} + \frac{d^{2}}{dx^{2}}EI(x)\frac{d^{2}y(t,x)}{dx^{2}} = p(t,x)$$

The finite element method consists of determining successive vibration modes on the structure and then in calculating the structural response by model superimposition, with the selection of train speeds likely to result in resonance situations (so called "critical" speeds).

The study on the train dynamic behaviour is carried out on the basis of calculations determining the Za(t) displacement at the level of a bogie and the vertical acceleration onto the body including bogie suspension characteristics which are obtained by the integration of the z(t) differential equation where :



Trajectory of bodies - modelling



Midspan of continuous bridge acceleration at resonance







Example of complete analysis of vibratory behaviour

#### 4.2 Track structure interaction (background)

When a track is continuous at least at one end of the bridge, the longitudinal forces generated by the track are distributed as a result of the interaction between track and structure. The longitudinal force components transmitted to each element (bridge and track) depend on track resistance to longitudinal displacement in relation to the adjacent structure or substructure, and on the girder resistance to longitudinal displacement, hence on the stiffness of bearings (bearing devices, piers, foundations). The additional forces exerted on the track will have to be withstood by the track ; the force components affecting the bridge will have to be taken into consideration for the design of the structure.



Model of structure for interaction



The loading cases likely to generate additional horizontal forces are essentially : thermal expansion, horizontal traction and braking loads, angular rotation of the structure at the bearings.

For each of these determinant factors, item 6.5.4 gives values for the design of structures under the interaction effects from a ballasted continuous track and takes into account the variations of permissible stress increment factors in long-welded rails. These interaction effects are essentially : the girder maximum expansion lengths, the permissible girder longitudinal displacement under braking and traction forces, permissible bending rotations at the level of bearings, the bearing reactions due to thermal loads, the bearing reactions due to braking and traction.

However, it should be noted that the design assumptions of the ENV relating to the interaction only reflect the case of ballasted structures with either isostatic girder and a fixed bearing at one end, or continuous girder and fixed end or intermediate bearing, and with track equipped with UIC 60 rails, providing for a standard track behaviour law on its bearing and that they are only valid for certain temperature ranges of the rail and of the structure.

The other cases (different track equipment, direct fastened track, sequence of isostatic or continuous girders, etc.) are subject to specific requirements in each railway. A UIC committee of experts has been set up to conduct modellings, tests and measurements, so as to achieve a joint specification by the end of 1997, this deadline being both applicable to EC1 and STI.