



# DUNKERQUE LNG TERMINAL : TANKS DESIGN

Aix en Provence, 30 May 2012

Louis MARRACCI

- ▶ General description
- ▶ Design data
- ▶ Structural problematics and models

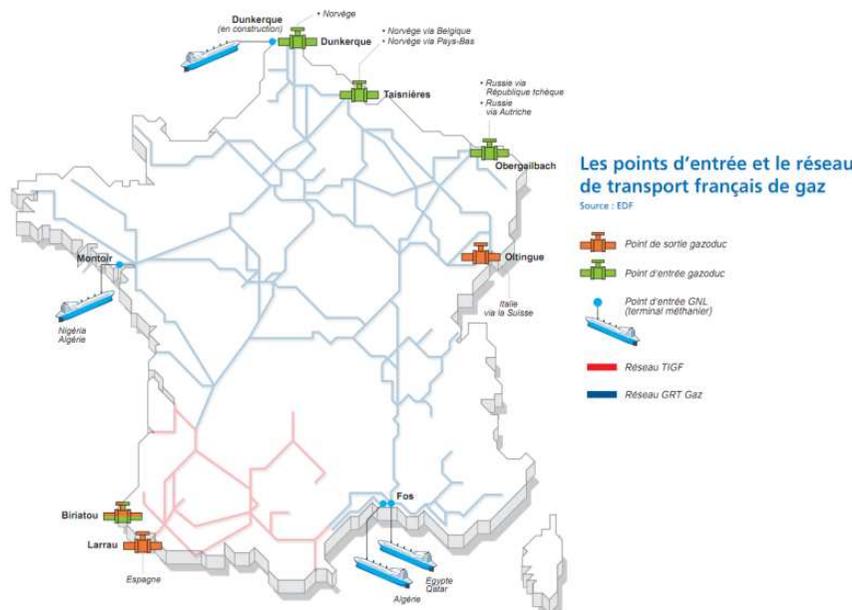
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## Project participants

- ▶ Owner : Dunkerque LNG (65% EDF, 25% Fluxys and 10% Total)
- ▶ Engineer : Sofregaz

## Main figures

- ▶ investment : 1 billion € (~25% for the tanks)
- ▶ Site commencement date : 2012
- ▶ Annual capacity : 13 Gm3 (30% of importation French capacity)



**4<sup>th</sup> LNG import terminal in France**

**Highest regaseification capacity in France**

## Project split into 3 parts

- ▶ a LNG regasification plant, with a nominal capacity around 13 bcm (billion cubic meter) natural gas per year.
- ▶ a Seawater Tunnel (about 5 km long) which brings the warm seawater discharged from Gravelines power station to the LNG vaporizers of the terminal,
- ▶ three LNG storage tanks of each 190,000 m<sup>3</sup> net capacity,

These components ensure the following functionalities:



## Consortium participants

- ▶ Consortium BYTP / Entrepouse (prime contractor) on 40% / 60% basis.
- ▶ BYTP : concrete structures and carry out the soil improvement
- ▶ Entrepouse : internal tank, process, pre-commissioning.

## main figures

- ▶ working capacity : 190.000 m<sup>3</sup> (=75 olympic swimming pools)
- ▶ Diameter x height : 93m x 50m
- ▶ Construction delay : 3,5 ans

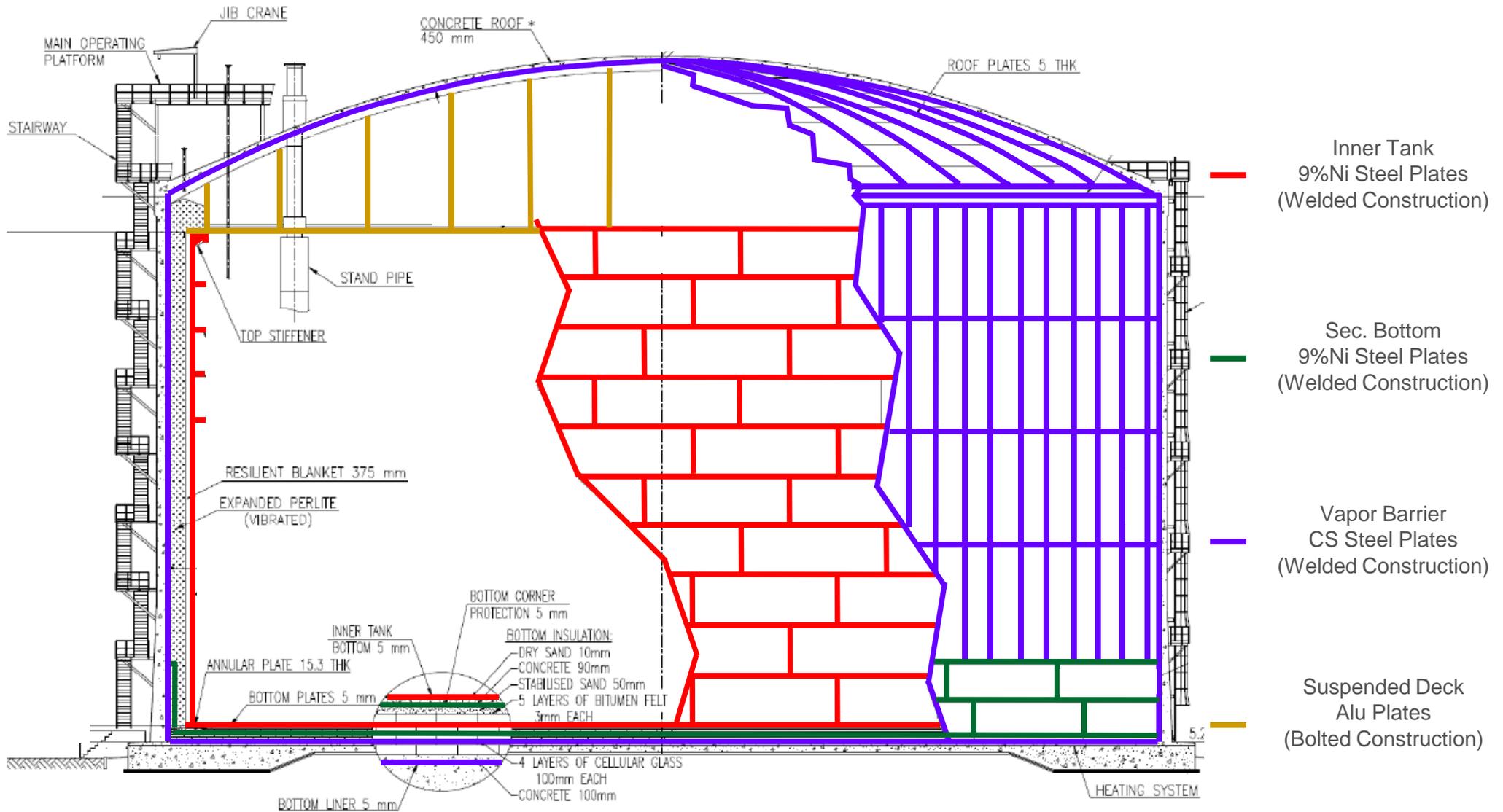


**Biggest tank in Europe**

LNG Storage Tank consists of one self standing concrete outer tank:

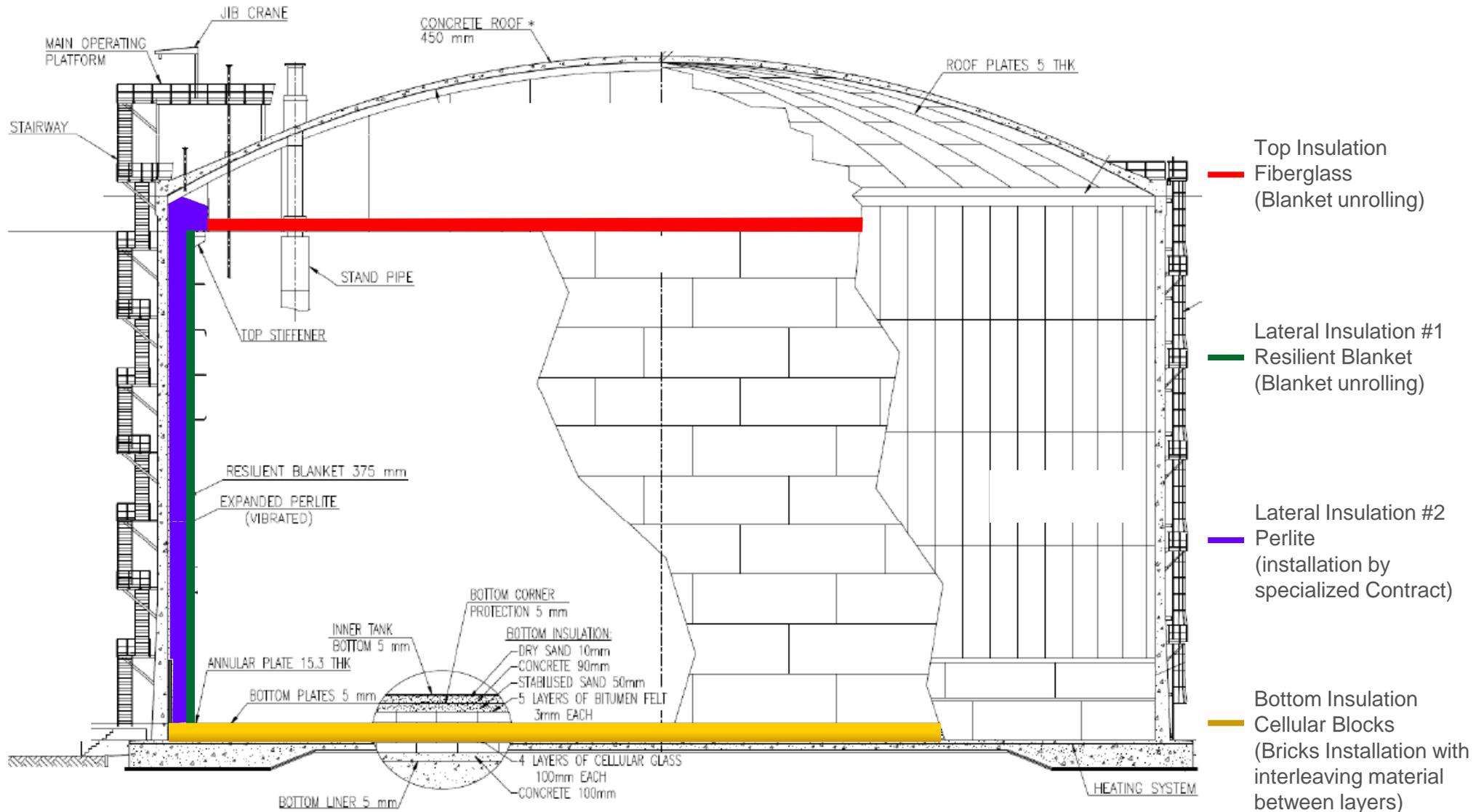
- ▶ Within which will be installed:
  - ▶ Mechanical components to store the both liquid and vapor.
  - ▶ Thermal insulation to limit thermal ingress.
- ▶ Around which will be installed piping and access structures.

# Internal – Mechanical Components

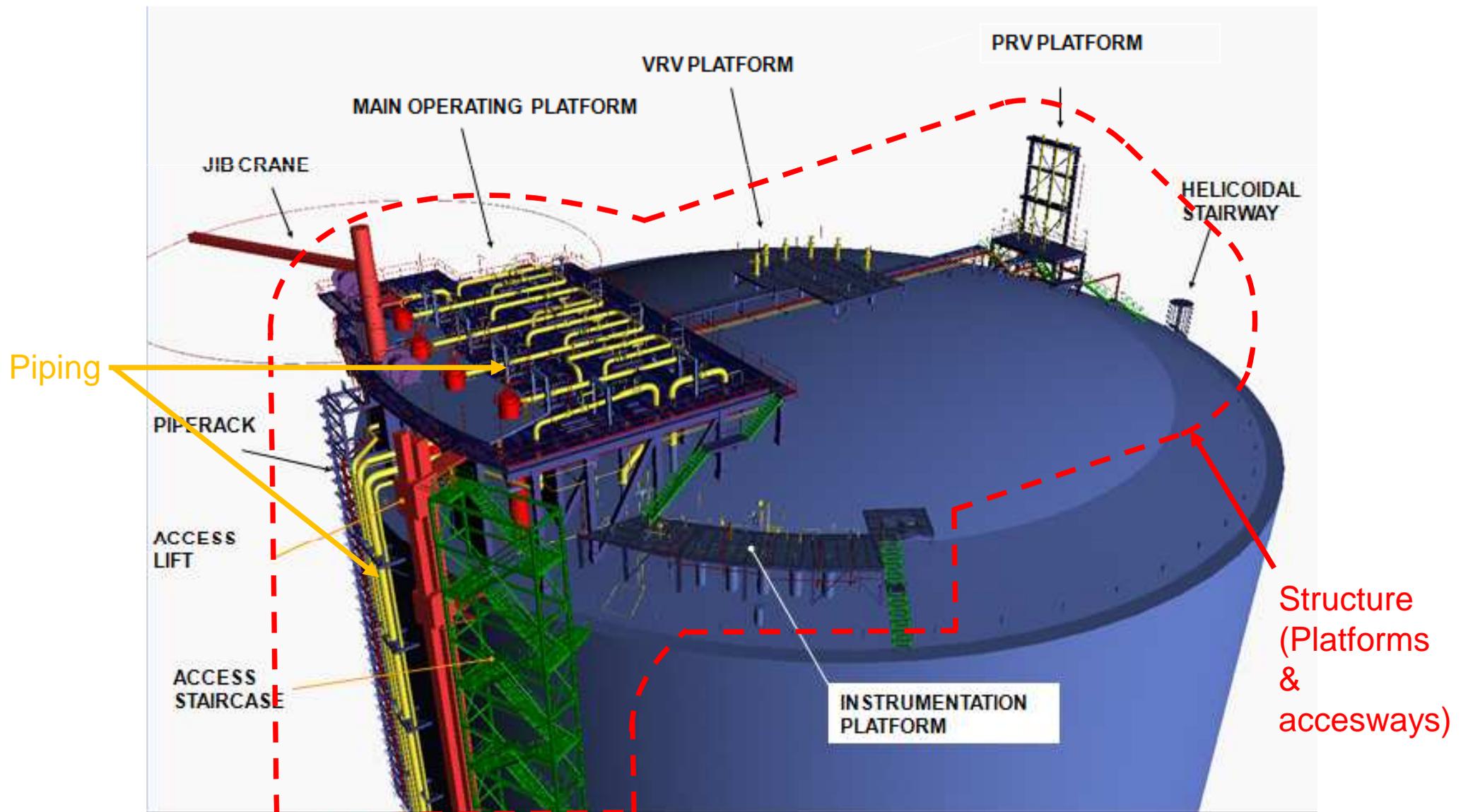


# Internal – Insulation Components

## Insulation Components

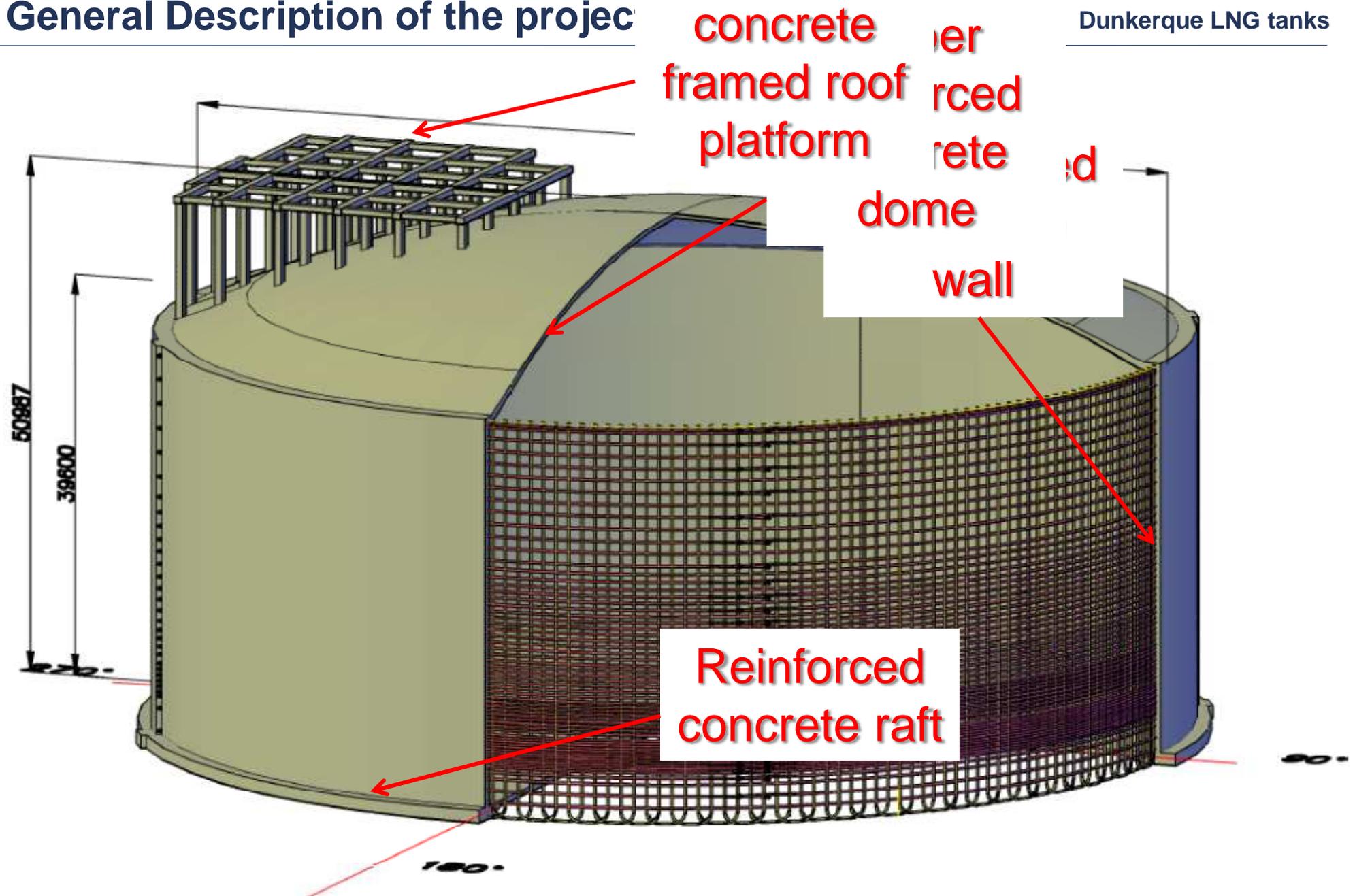


## GENERAL ARRANGEMENT



# General Description of the project

Dunkerque LNG tanks





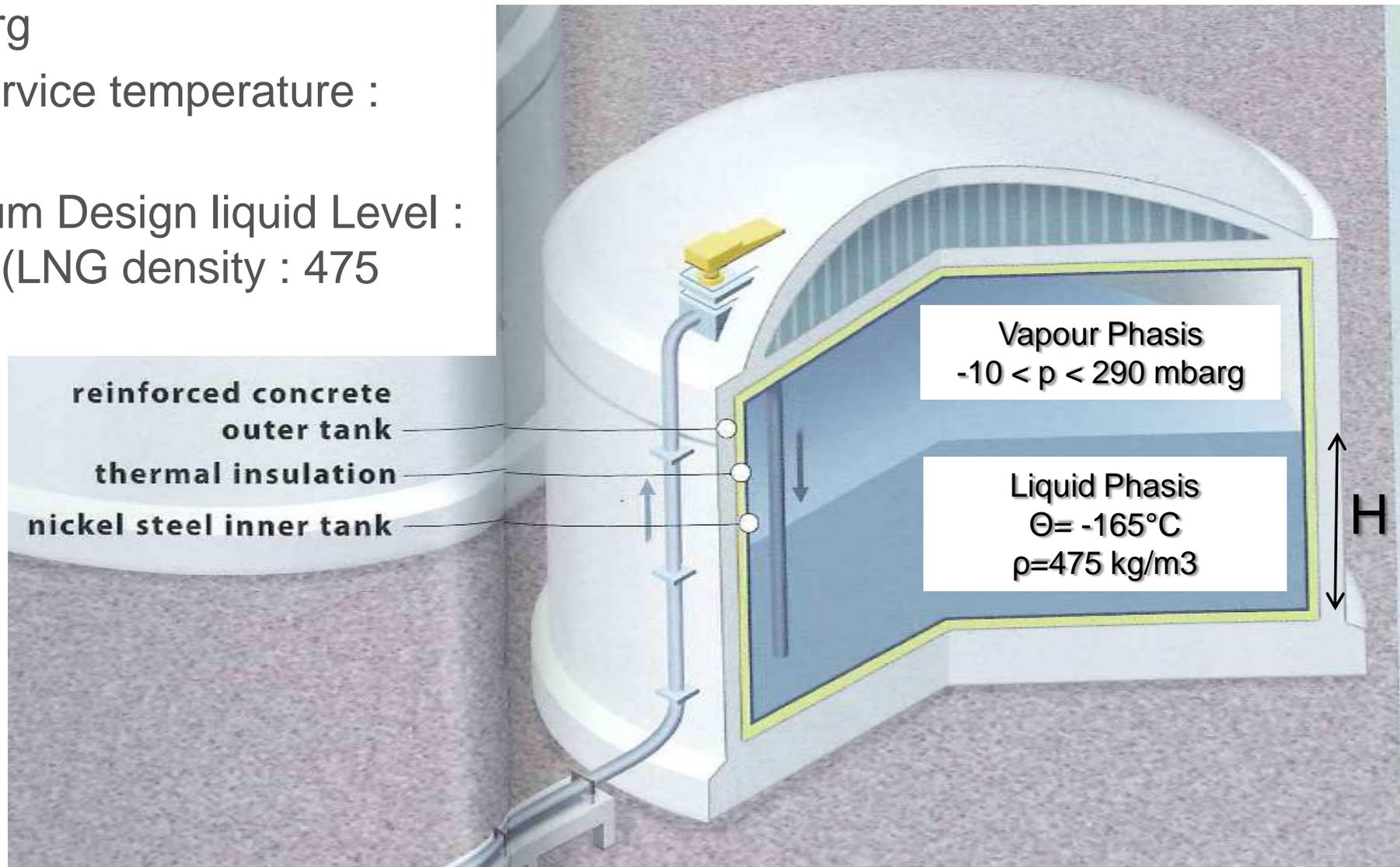
- ▶ Tanks designed for **all possible loading conditions** which may occur during
  - erection,
  - testing,
  - commissioning,
  - operation,
  - de-commissioning,
  - maintenance
  - accidental loading conditions.
  
- ▶ Miscellaneous numerical models elaborated in order to cope with the different loading conditions

- ▶ General description
- ▶ Design data
- ▶ Structural problematics and models

- ▶ General description
- ▶ **Design data**
- ▶ Structural problematics and models

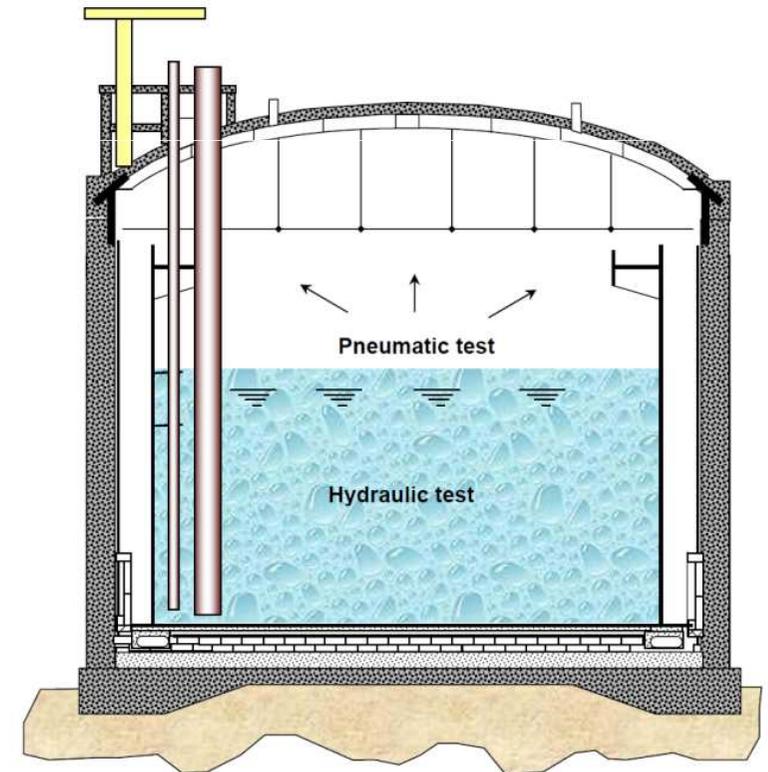
## ► Design data:

- Design pressure: 290 mbarg / -10 mbarg
- LNG service temperature : -165°C
- Maximum Design liquid Level : 33.72 m (LNG density : 475 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)



## ► Design data:

- Pneumatic test pressure: 362.5 mbarg
- Hydrostatic Test Level for inner tank: 19.32 m = 1.25 \* maximum load generated by LNG weight at the basis



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- ▶ **Structural problematics and models**
  - ▶ Geotechnical models
  - ▶ Static models
  - ▶ Dynamic models
  - ▶ Thermo mechanical models
  - ▶ Overfilling scenario

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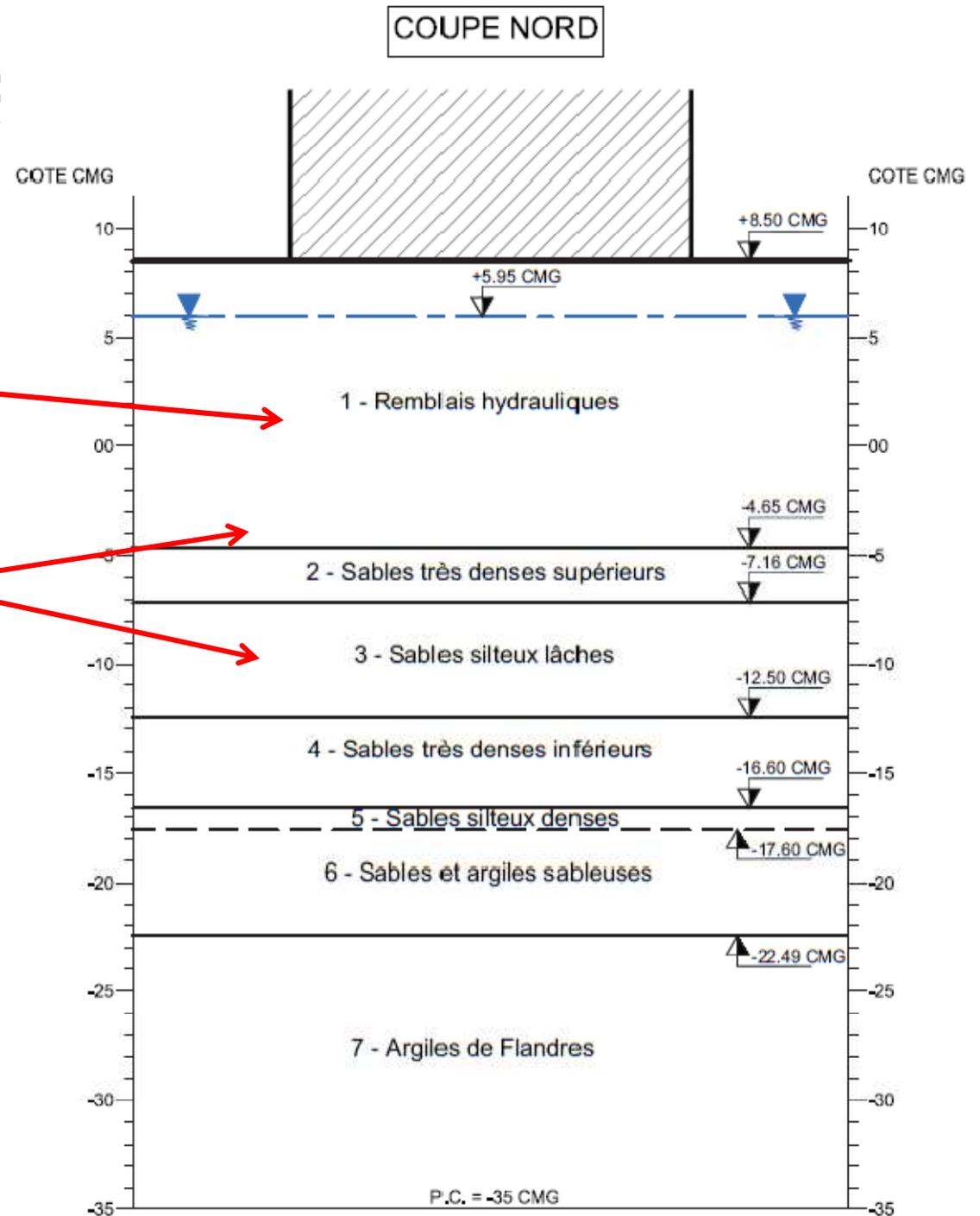
# Structural problematics and mc

## ► Geotechnical models

### ► Stratigraphy

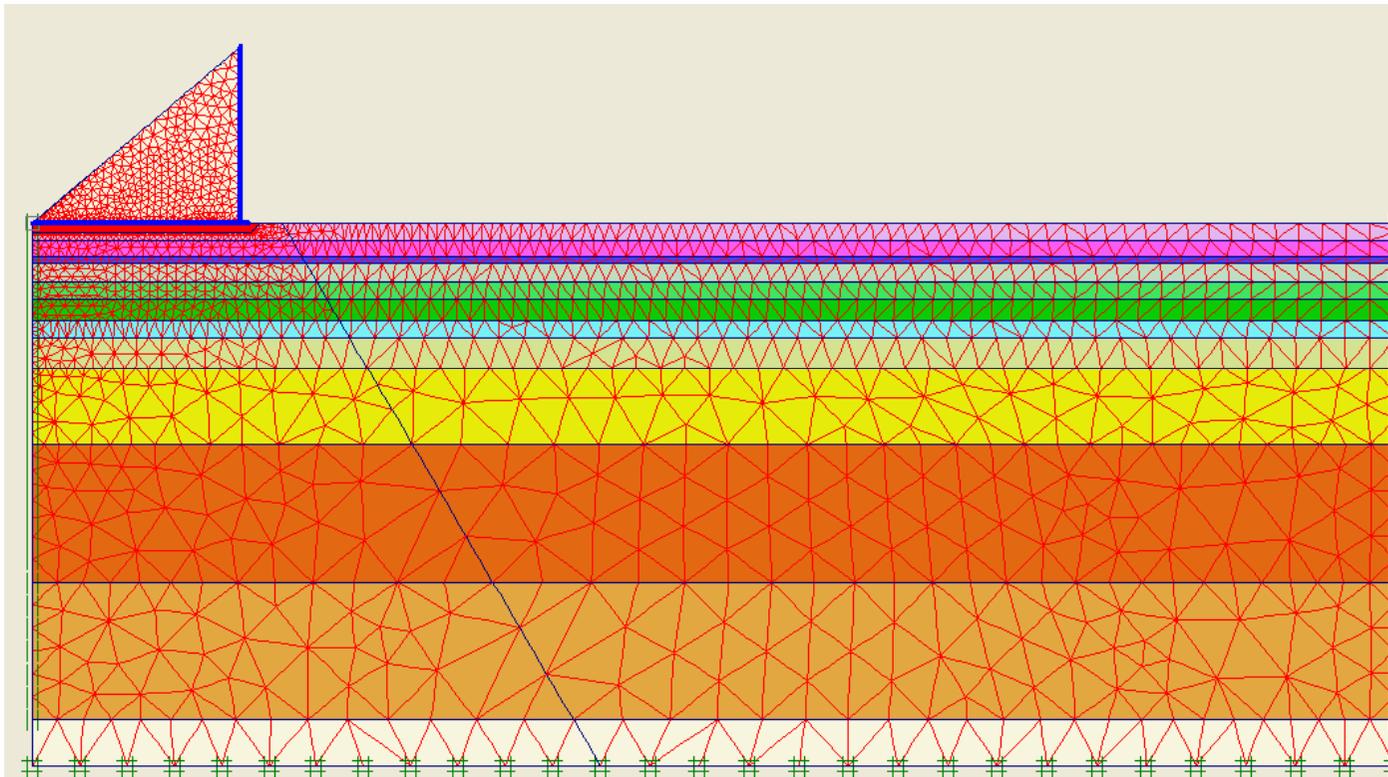
heterogeneous

liquefiable



## ► Geotechnical models (Terrasol)

- Superficial foundation
- Sufficient bearing capacity
- Settlement calculation
  - axi symmetrical PLAXIS V9 **non linear** model

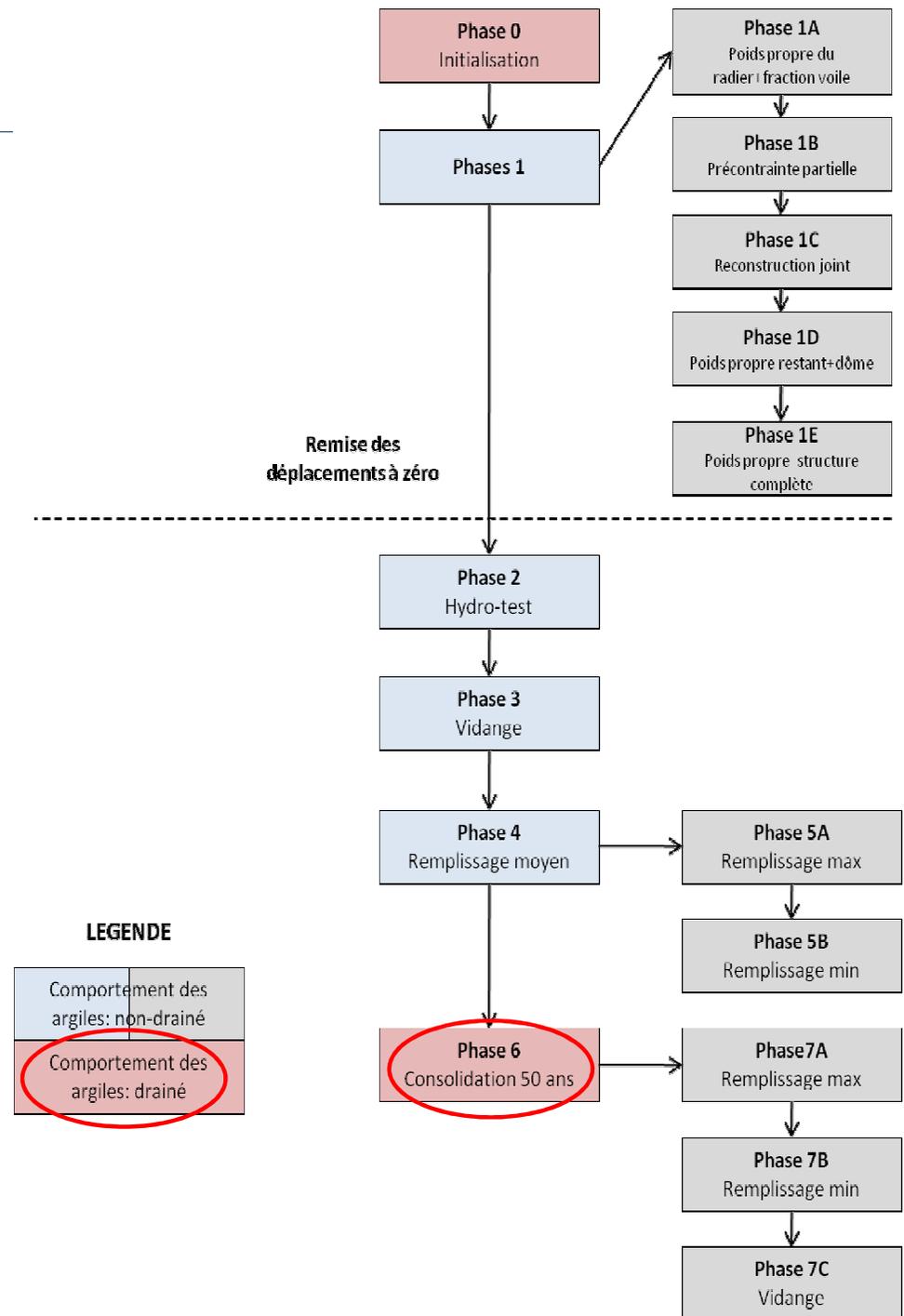


# Structural problematics and models

## ► Geotechnical models

► Settlement calculation takes into account :

- Sequence representative of the loading history
- differed behavior of Flanders clays
- distinction between the instantaneous part of settlement and the part occurring 50 years after construction.



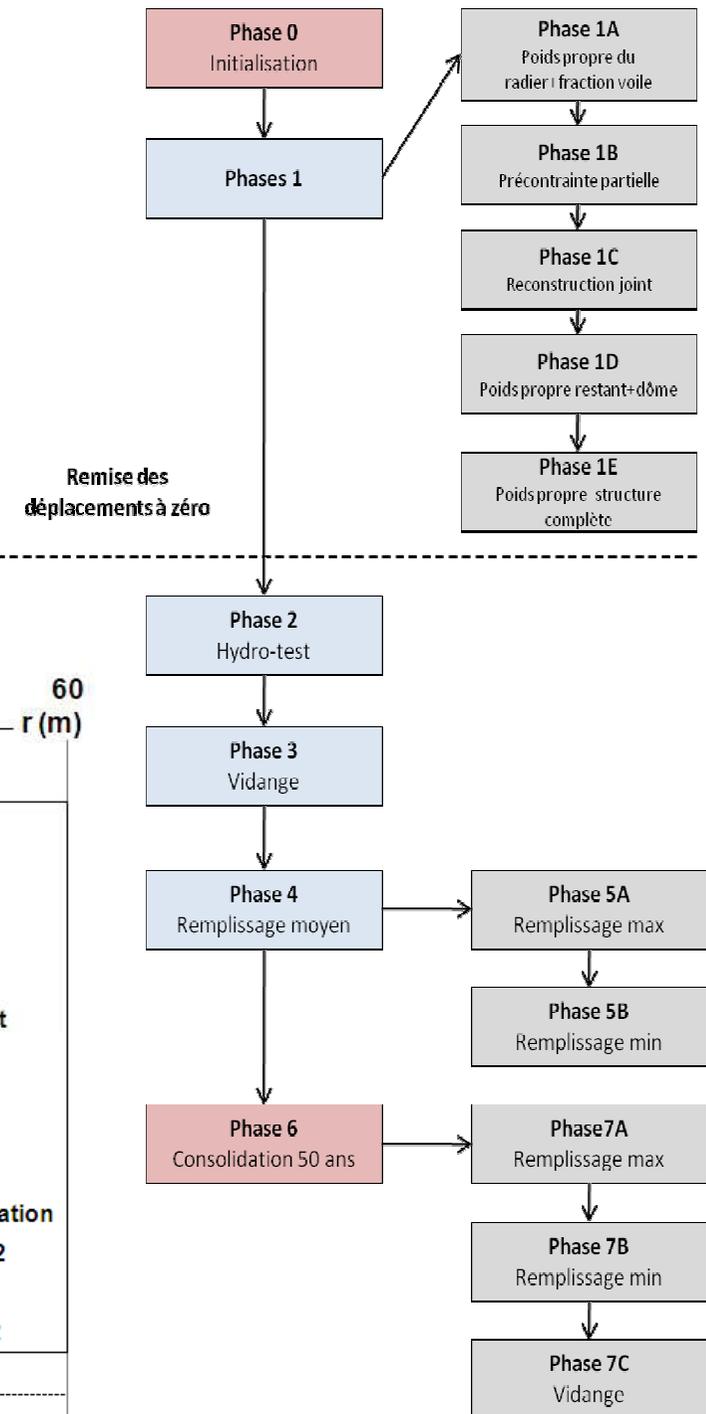
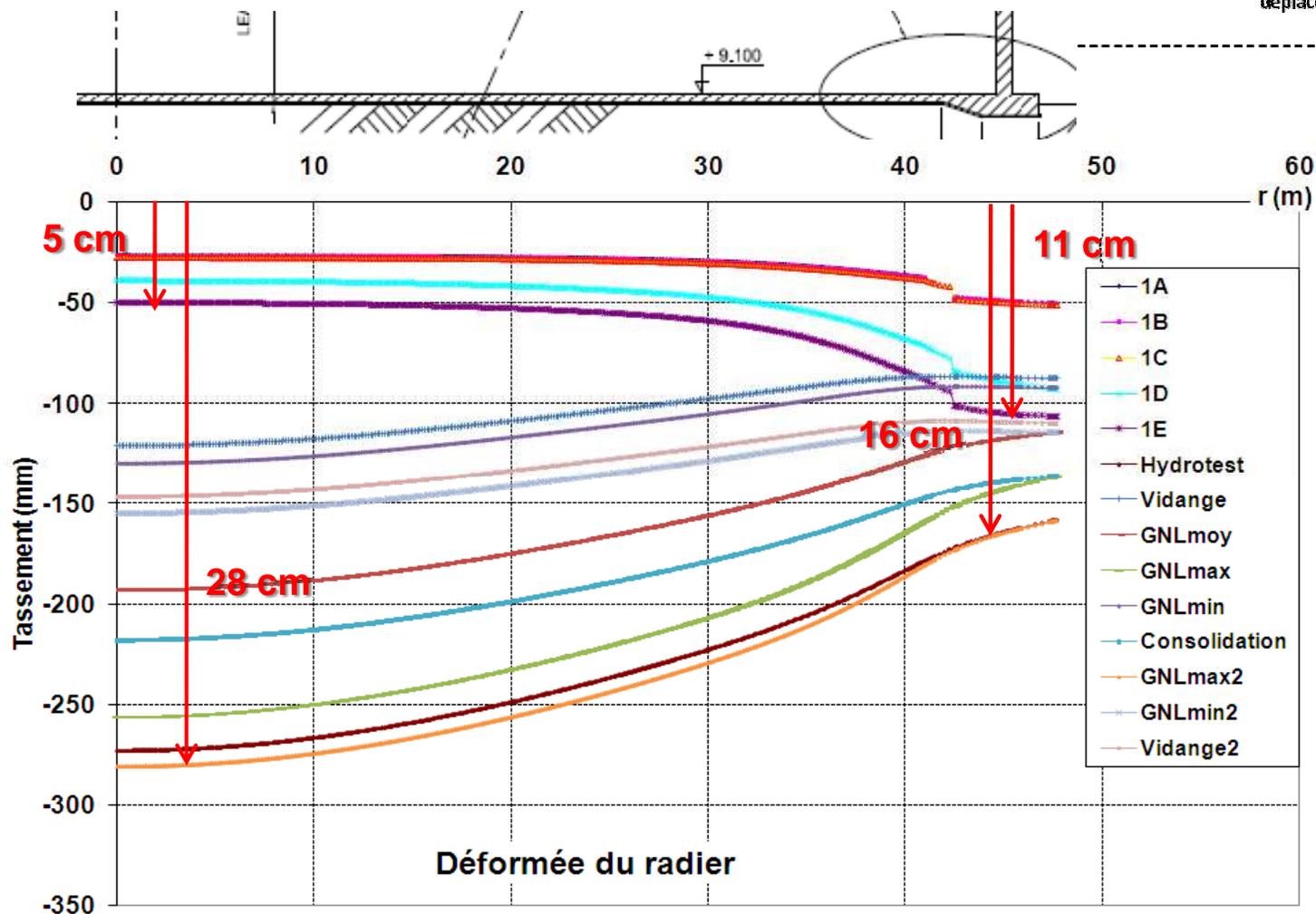
# Structural problematics and models

## ► Geotechnical models

### ► Settlement calculation:

Maximum raft deformation =  $5+28=33$  cm

Maximum differential settlement =  $33-16-11 = 6$  cm



# Structural problematics and mc

## ▶ Geotechnical models

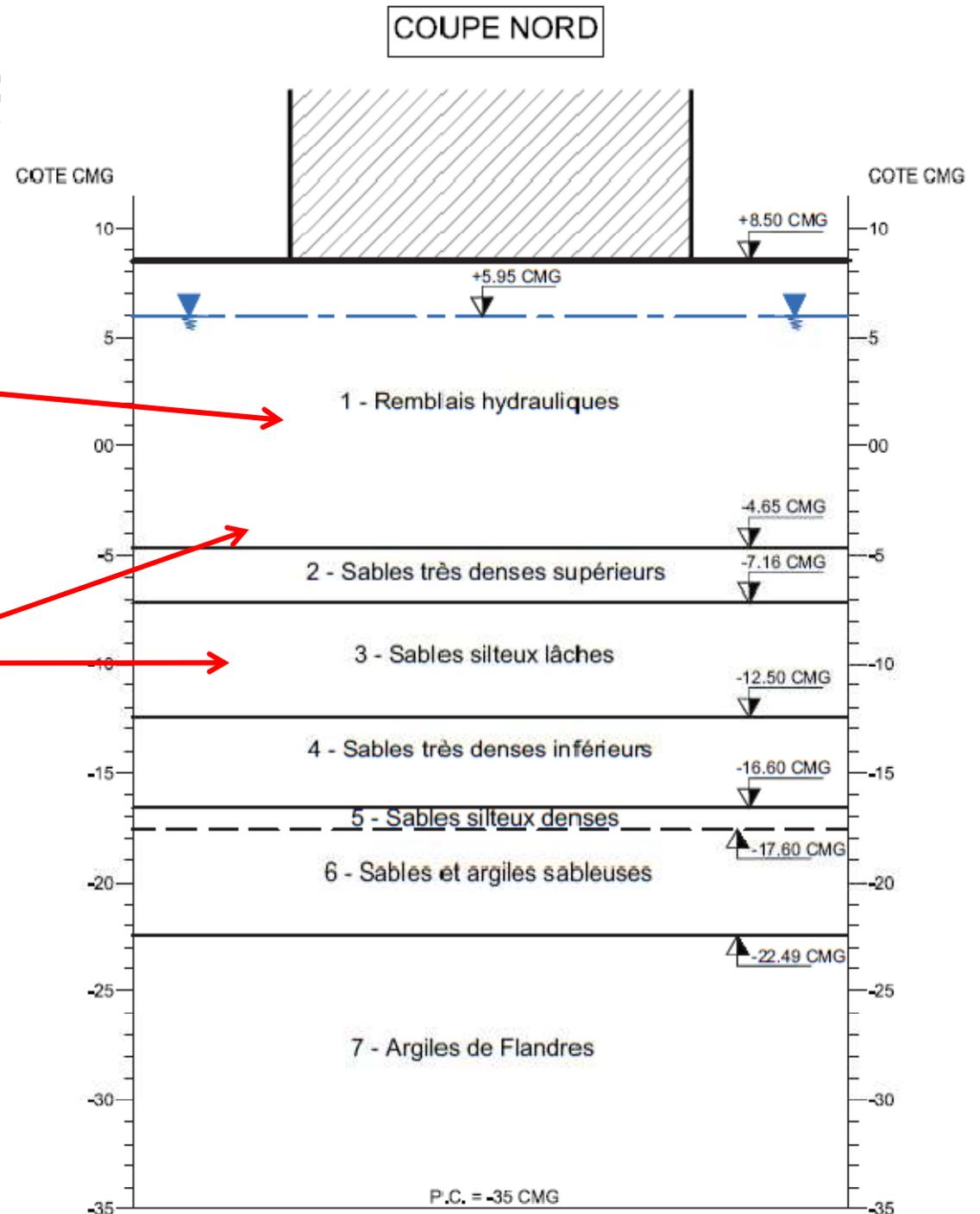
- ▶ Soil improvement

heterogeneous

→ Vibroflottation:

objective = minimum density

liquefiable



# Structural problematics and mc

## ▶ Geotechnical models

- ▶ Soil improvement

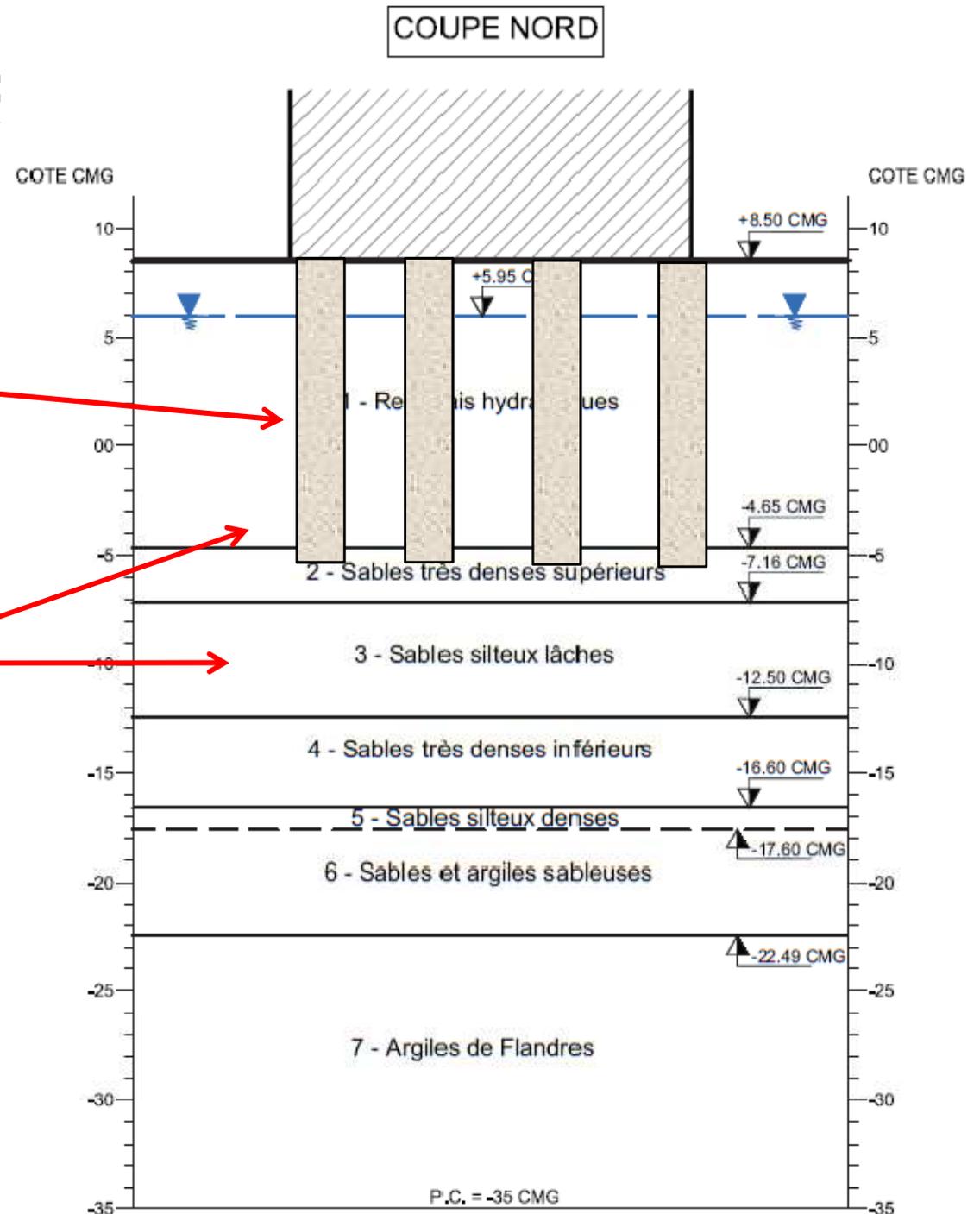
heterogeneous

→ Vibroflottation:

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liquefiable

→ stone columns



## Structural problematics and mc

### ► Geotechnical models

- Soil improvement

heterogeneous

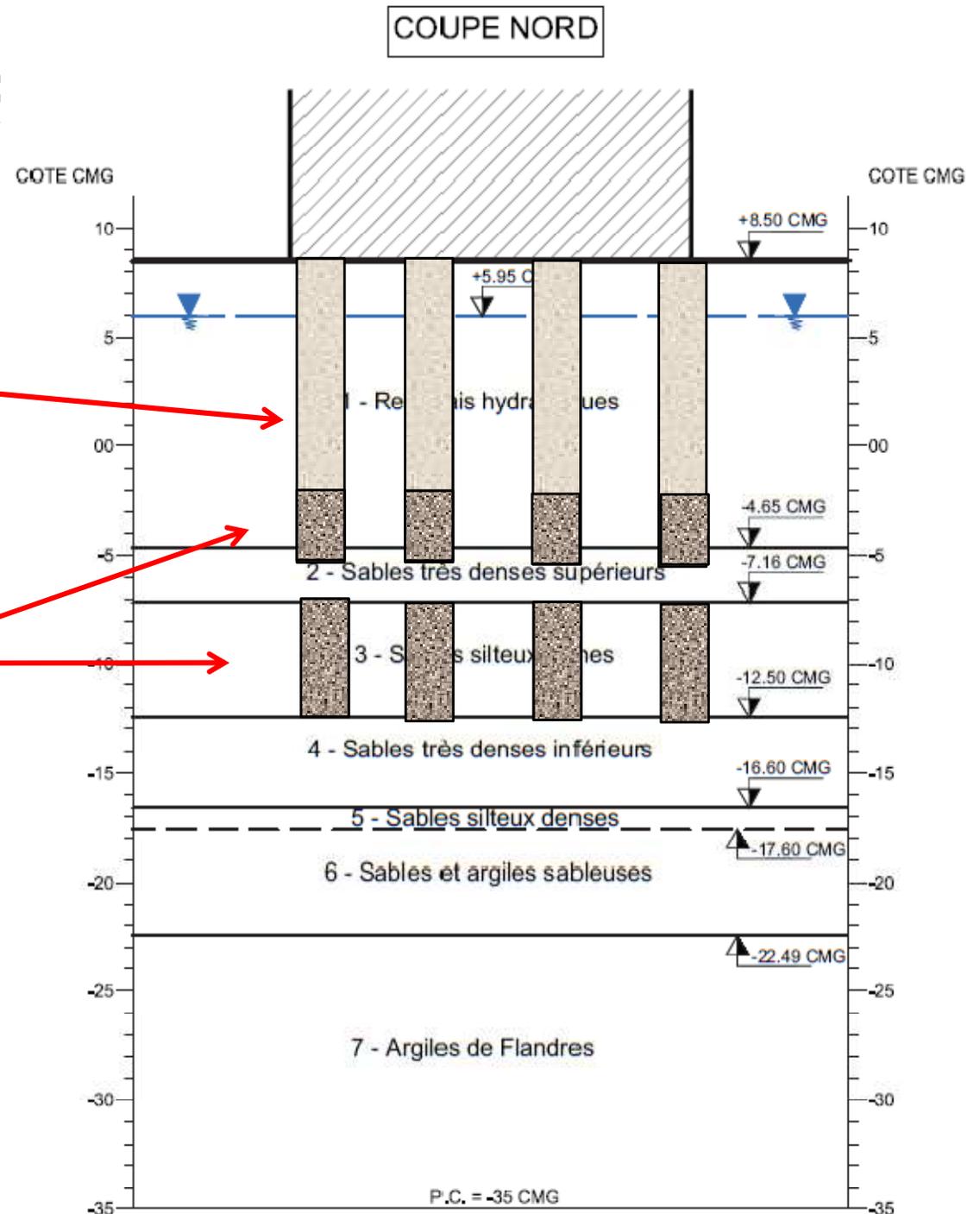
→ Vibroflottation:

objective = minimum density

liquefiable

→ stone columns

- Adequacy of soil improvement: pilot tests



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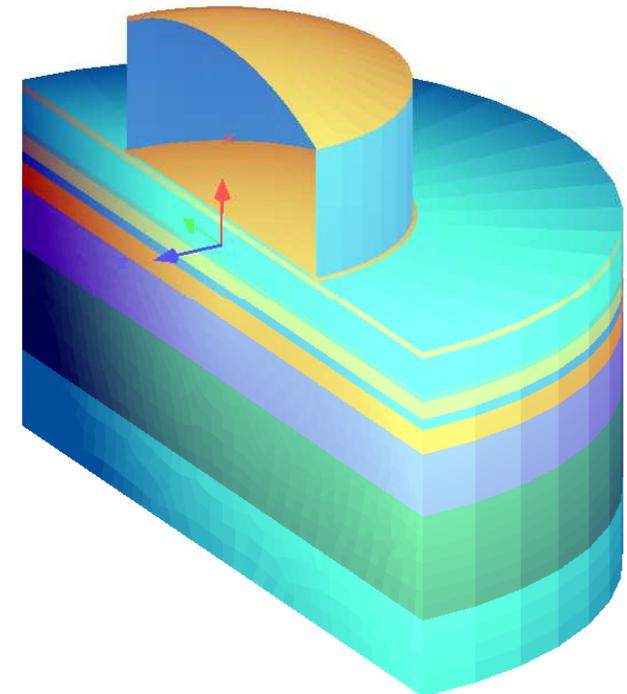
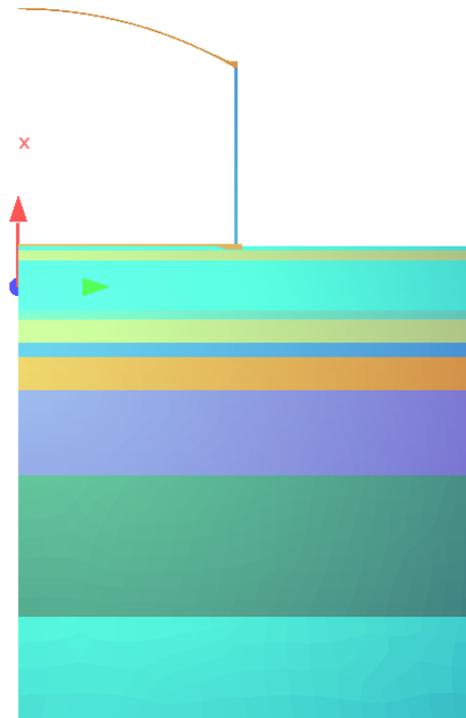
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## ► Static models

### ► 3D axi-symmetrical model

- Tank = axi-symmetrical structure
- axi-symmetrical loads : self weight, prestress, LNG weight, service or test gas pressure, temperature, axi-symmetrical construction and service live loads

→ axi-symmetrical 3D linear elastic model in plane deformations



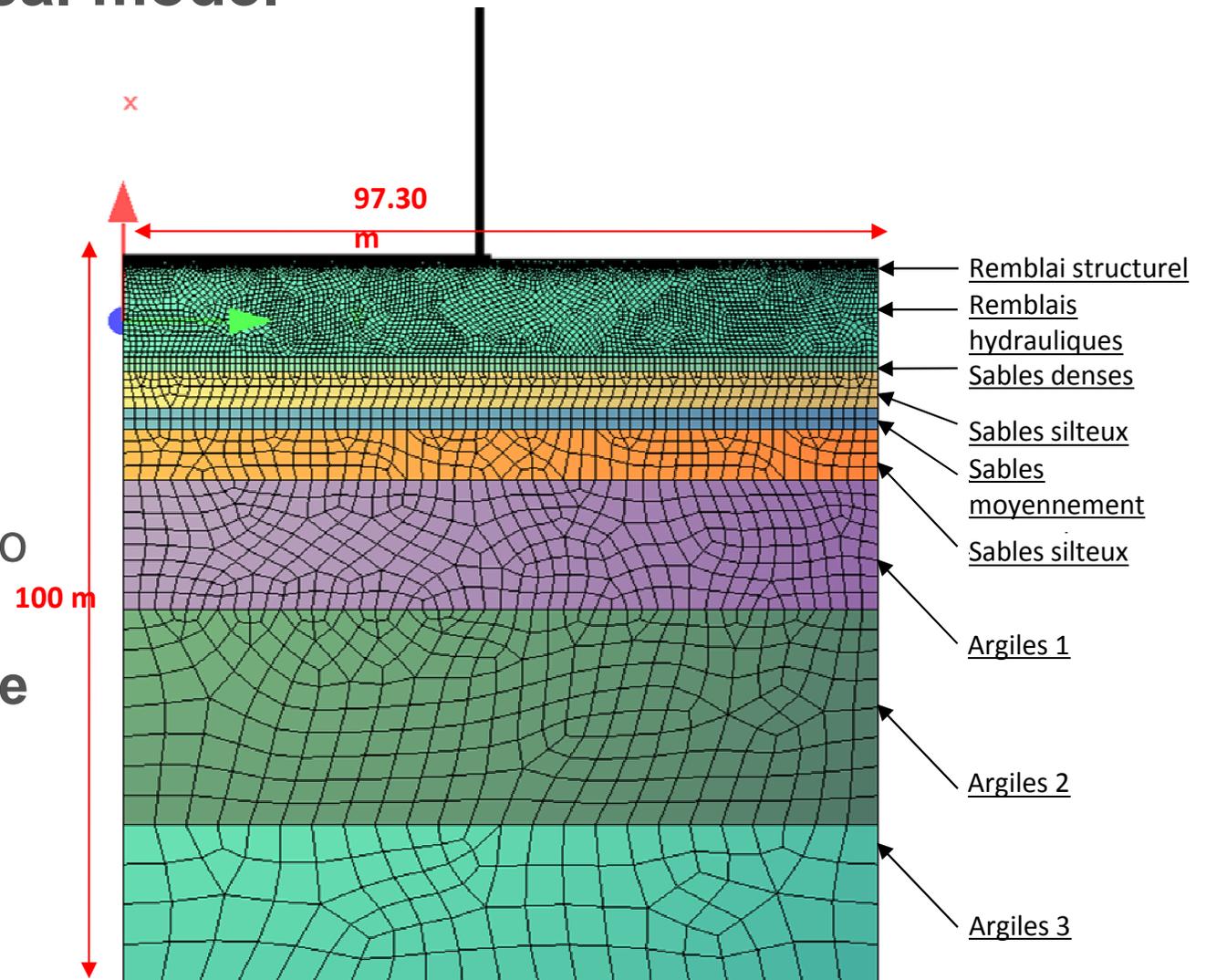
## ► Static models

### ► 3D axi-symmetrical model

#### Soil

- Elastic linear properties
- Particular situations : imposed displacements applied to raft (fictive temperature field applied to soil)

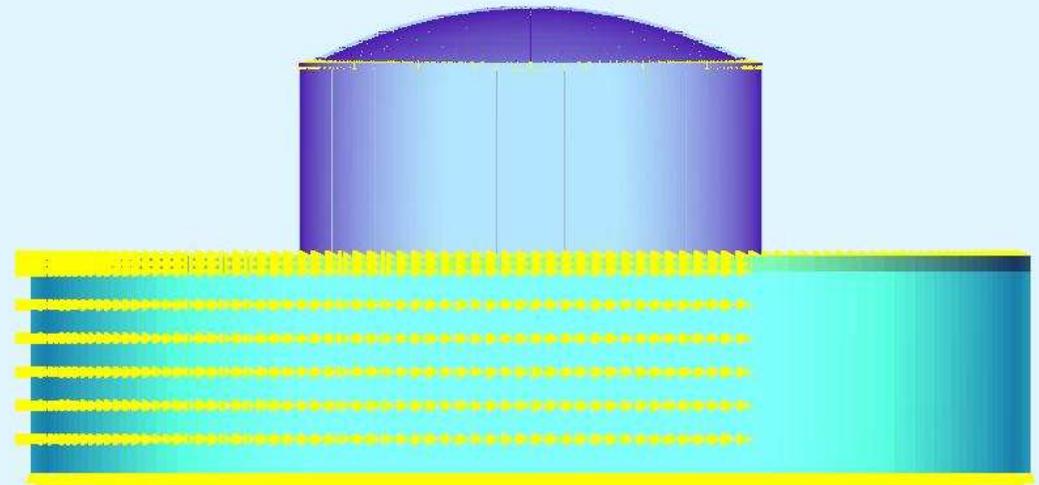
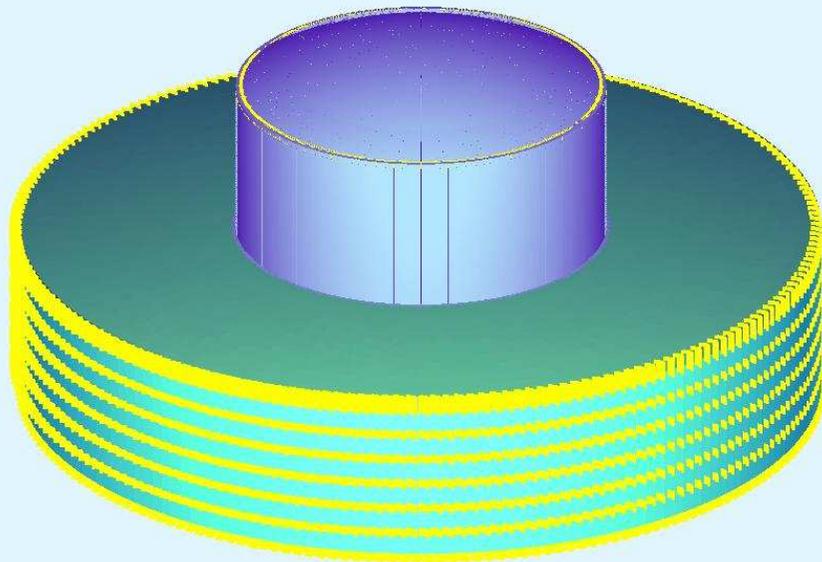
→ actual settlement profile



## ► Static models

### ► Full 3D model

- used for calculations of internal forces under non axi-symmetrical loads: wind, blast, snow, earthquake, missile and plane impacts



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## ► Dynamic models

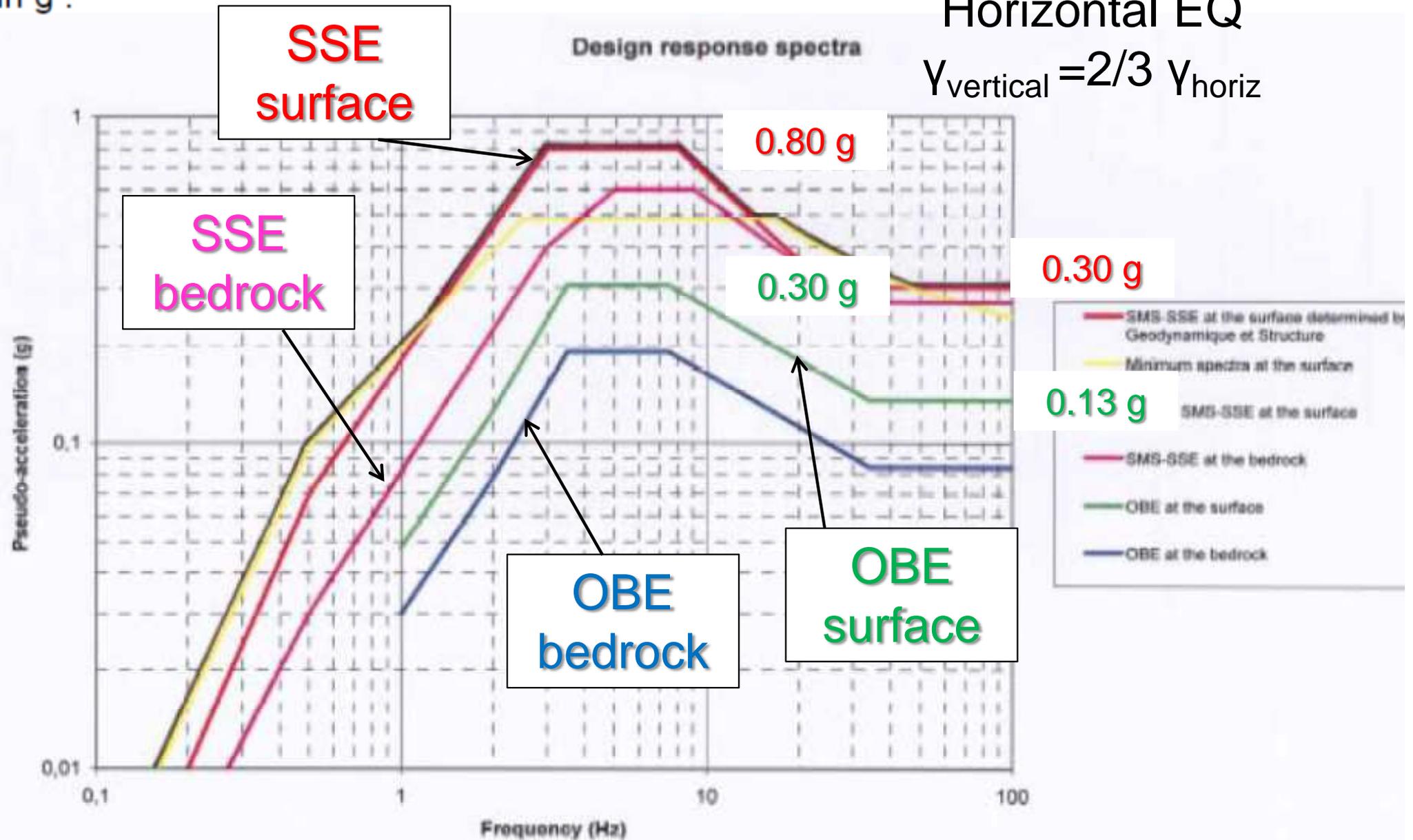
### ► Seismic loads:

- Operating Basis Earthquake (OBE):
  - › no damage
  - › restart and safe operation can continue.
  - › return period = 475 years.
  - › pga :  $a_{max} = 0.134 \text{ g}$
- Safe Shutdown Earthquake (SSE) :
  - › essential fail-safe functions and mechanisms preserved.
  - › return period = 5,000 years.
  - › pga:  $a_{max} = 0.30 \text{ g}$

In g :

Horizontal EQ

$$Y_{\text{vertical}} = \frac{2}{3} Y_{\text{horiz}}$$



### ▶ Dynamic models : 4 models

- ▶ 3D soil model
- ▶ 3D Global “skewer” model
- ▶ 3D Model “ground + raft (shells) + skewer”
- ▶ 3D “parasol” model

## ► Dynamic models : 4 models

### ► 3D soil model (GDS)

- Purpose: determination of soil dynamic impedances (stiffness and damping) of the tank foundation
- input data : for each layer :
  - › the soil density  $\rho$ ,
  - › Shear wave propagation velocity  $V_{s0}$  (or shear modulus  $G_{max}$ )  $V_{s0} = \sqrt{\frac{G_{max}}{\rho}}$
  - › compression wave propagation velocity  $V_p$  (or Poisson's ratio  $\nu$ )
- Two sets of soil characteristics:
  - › underestimated characteristics, without soil treatment
  - › increased characteristics, which takes into account soil treatment.

### ▶ Dynamic models : 4 models

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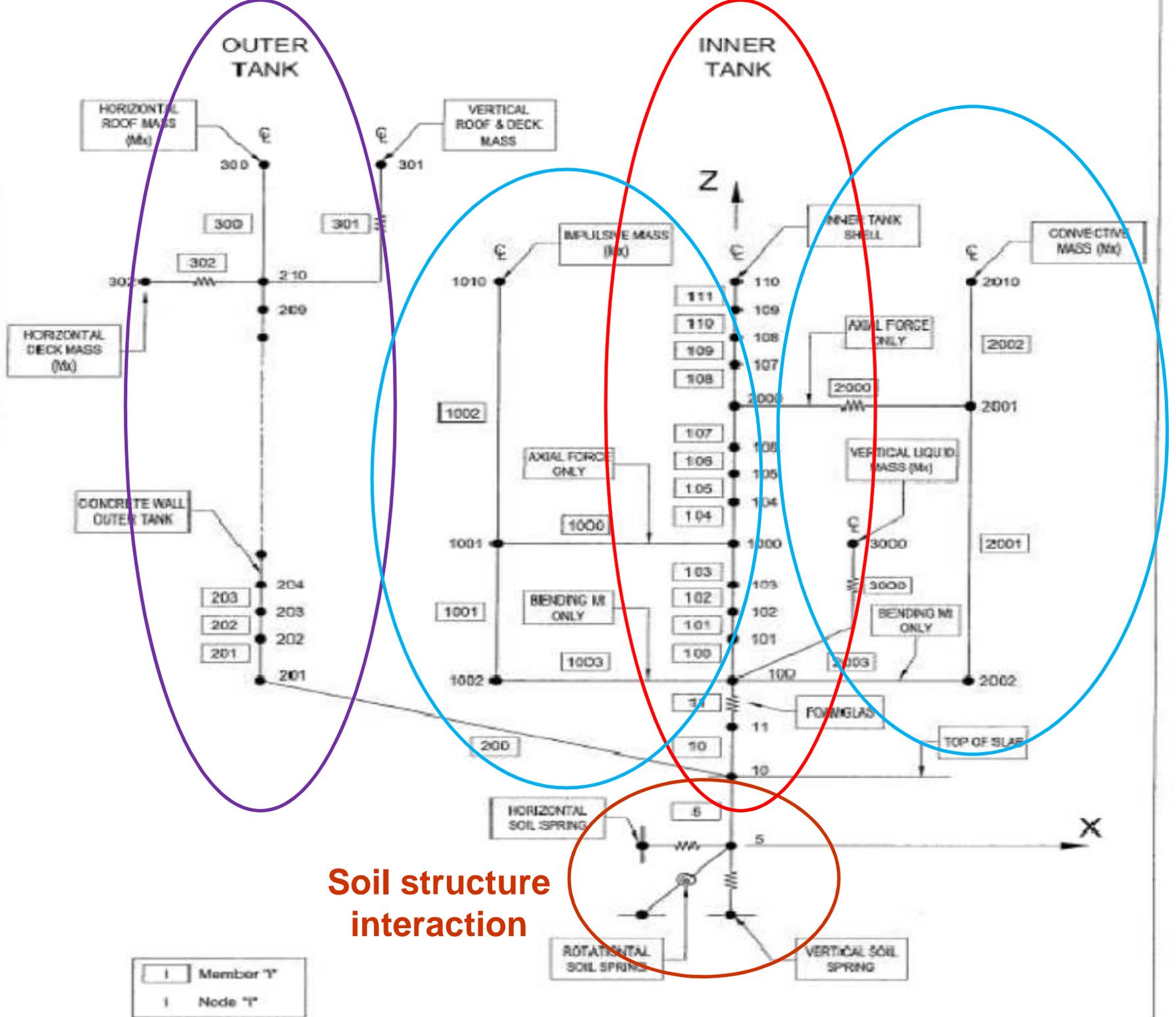
#### ► 3D Global “skewer” model

- Purpose: determination of the global seismic answer of the structure, coping with the interactions between inner tank, liquid, outer tank, suspended deck, foundation and soil, in a single composite model.
- “skewer” model:
  - multi degree of freedom lumped masses
  - computer code SOFISTIK Version 2010.
- modal spectral analysis, under horizontal and vertical spectra,  
➔ global forces, moments and accelerations for each modeled component (inner tank, foundation, outer tank).

# Structu

## ► Dyna

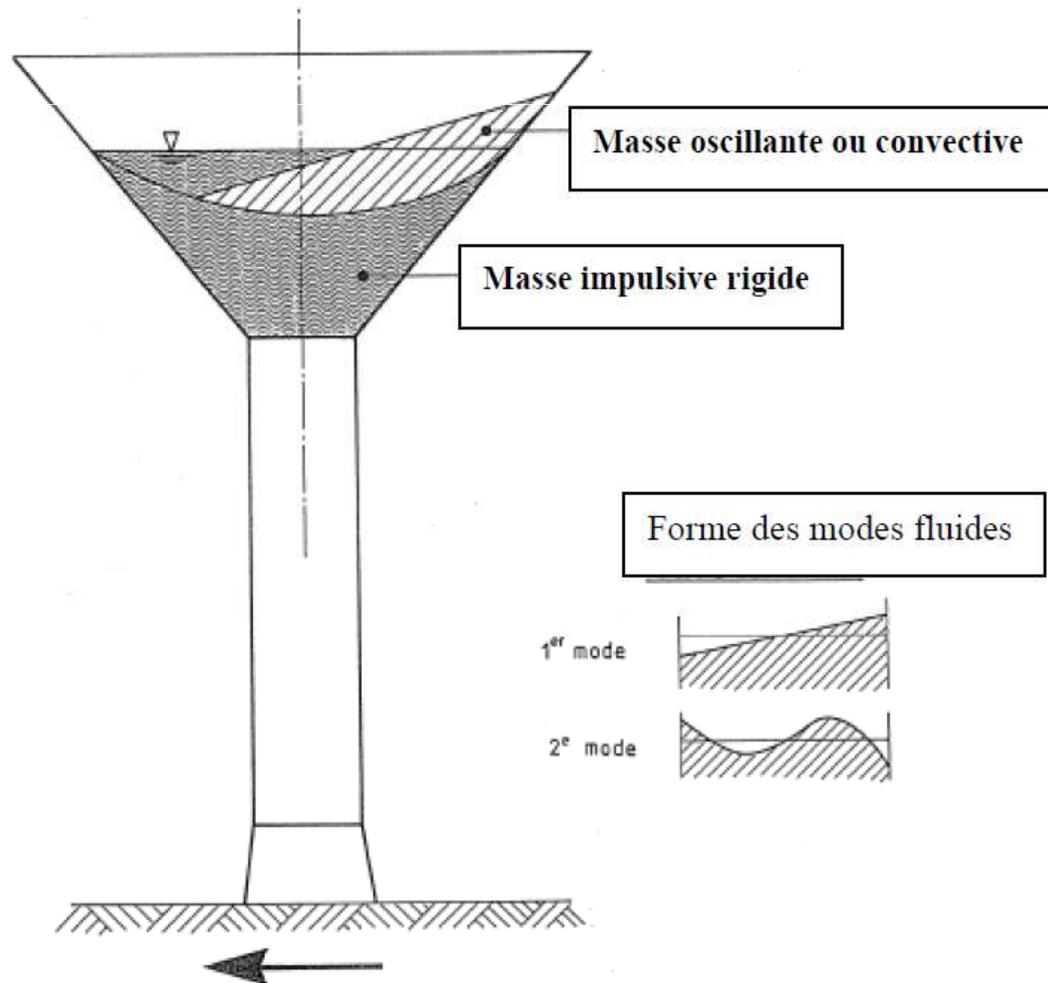
### ► 3D



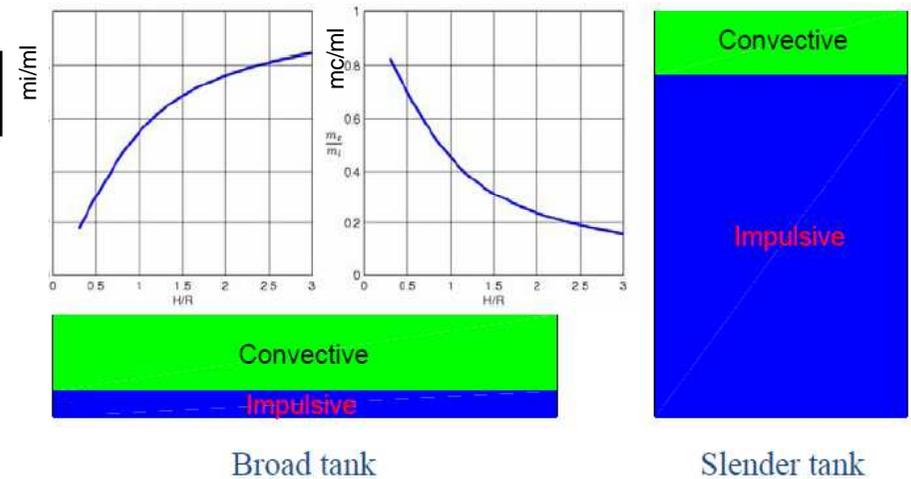
Soil structure interaction

## ► Dynamic models : 4 models

### ► 3D Global “skewer” model



Impulsive and Convective Masses



P. K. Malhotra, 2006

### ▶ Dynamic models : 4 models

#### ▶ 3D Global “skewer” model

- 8 load configurations studied, combining :
  - ▶ filled / empty tank,
  - ▶ OBE/ SSE,
  - ▶ weak / stiff soil.

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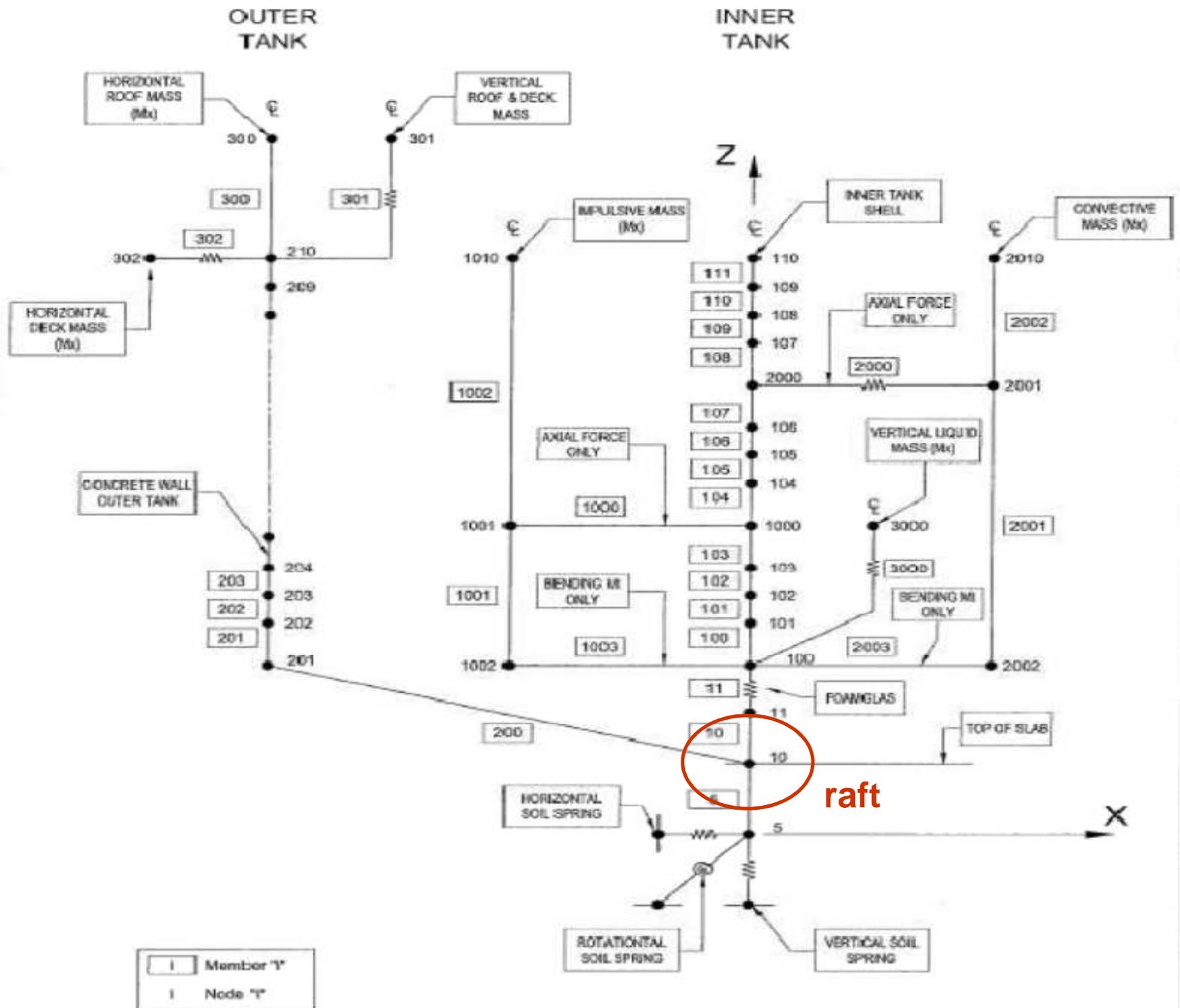
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# Structural

## ► Dynamic

### ► 3D I



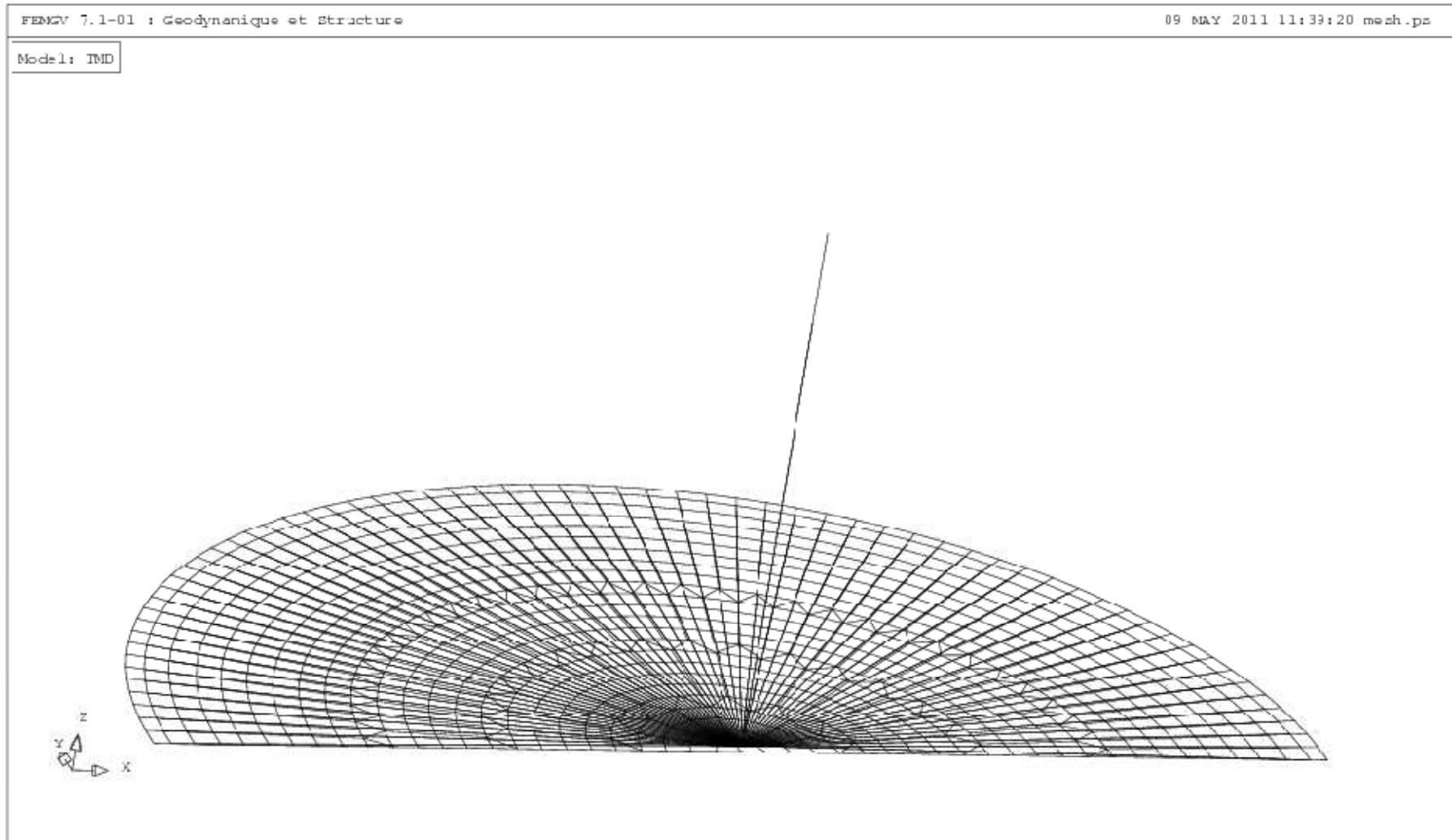
### ► Dynamic models : 4 models

#### ► 3D Model “ground + raft (shells) + skewer”

- Purpose: zoom of the lower part of skewer model → correct determination of seismic loads in the foundation raft, which cannot be done from the skewer model (raft not perfectly rigid)
- obtained by introducing into SASSI time history soil model the skewer model and a model of the raft, made up of shell elements, with their real thicknesses in the central part and rigid ones for the external circular ring located under the wall.
- Skewer connected by rigid connections to the external ring of the raft.

## ► Dynamic models : 4 models

### ► 3D Model “ground + raft (shells) + skewer”



### ▶ Dynamic models : 4 models

- ▶ 3D soil model
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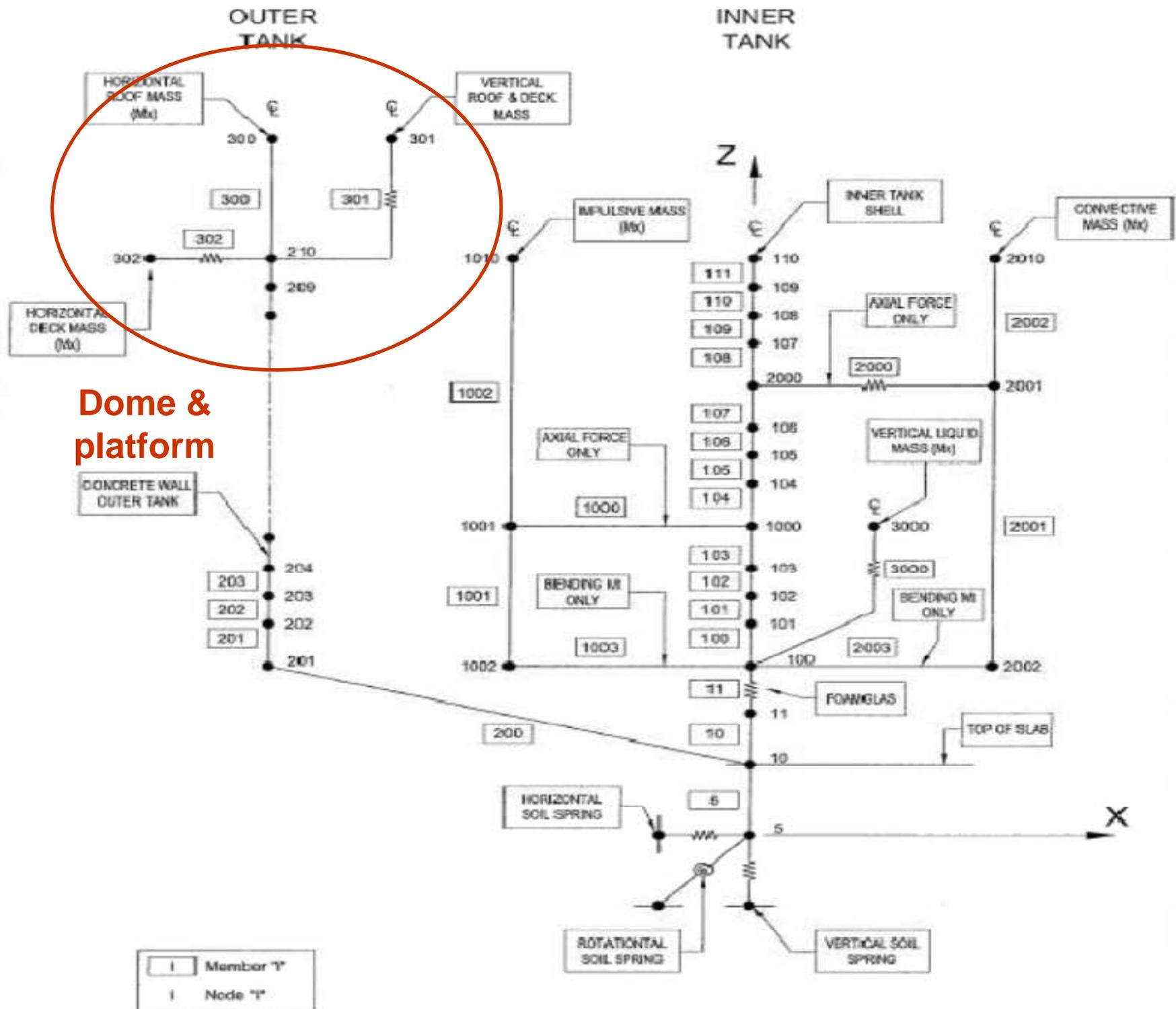
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# Structu

## ► Dyna

### ► 3D



Dome & platform

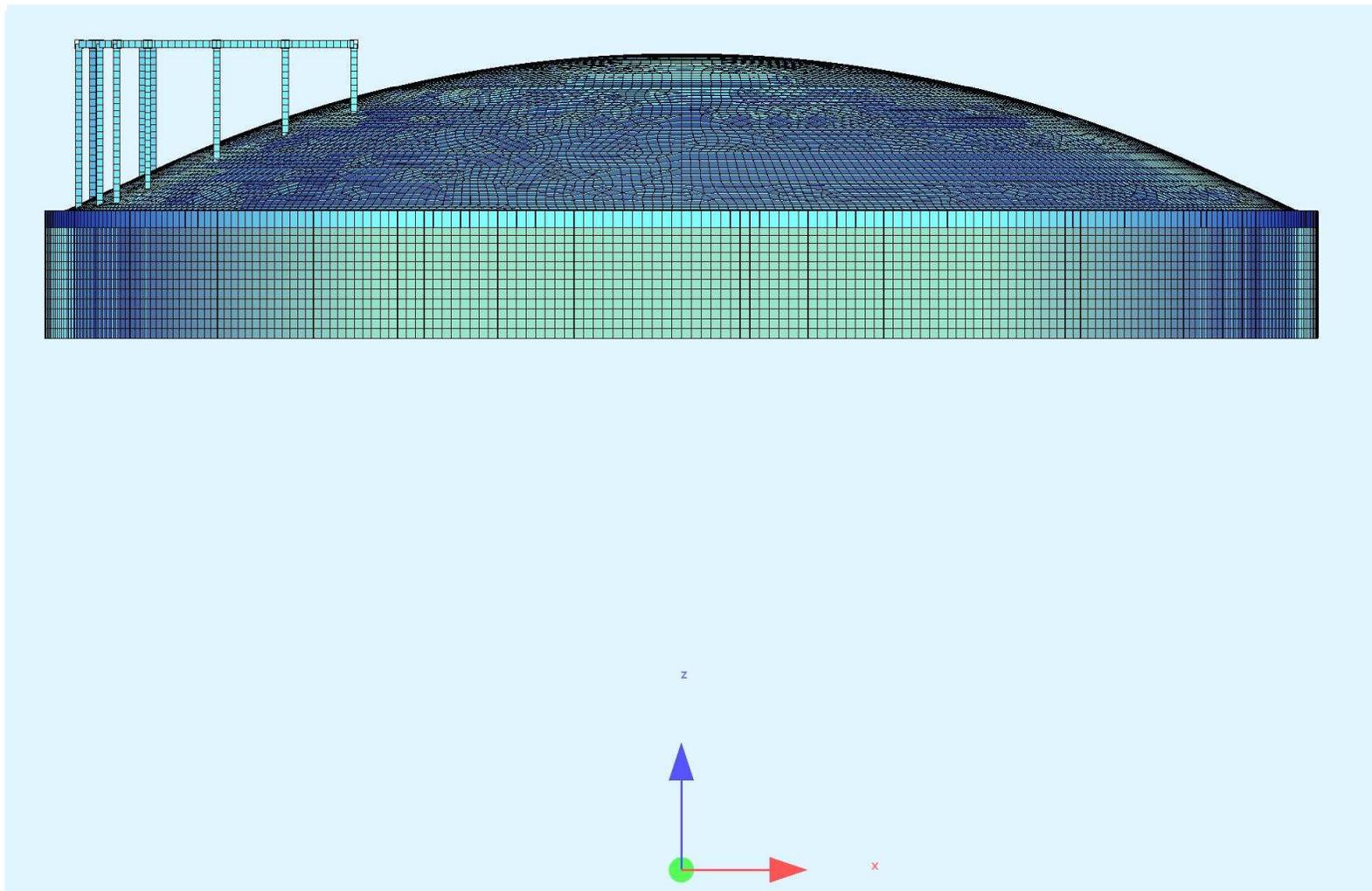
### ► Dynamic models : 4 models

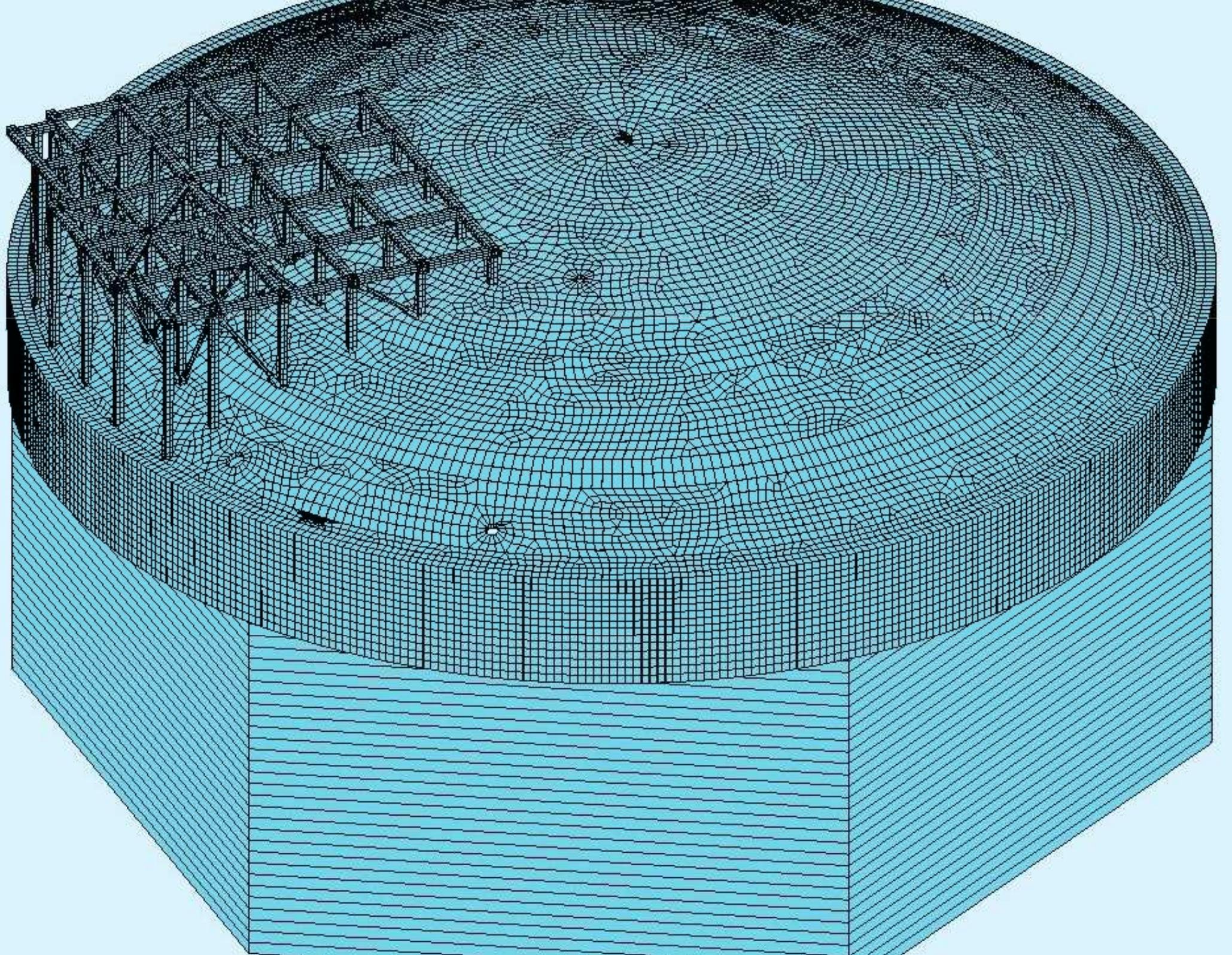
#### ► 3D “parasol” model

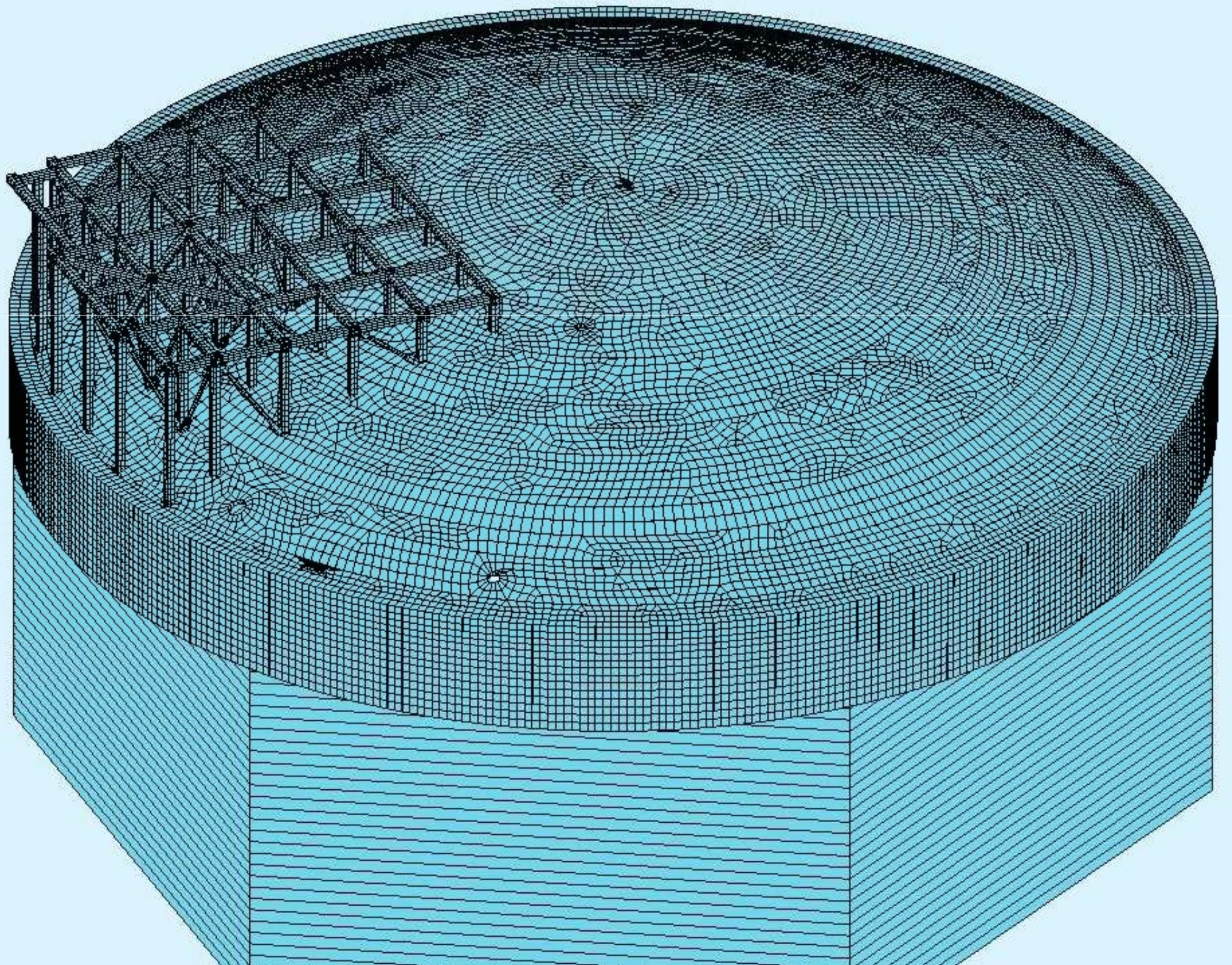
- Purpose: zoom of the upper part of skewer model → correct determination of seismic loads in the dome and the platform
- gathers elements from the skewer model and elements of the general 3D model.

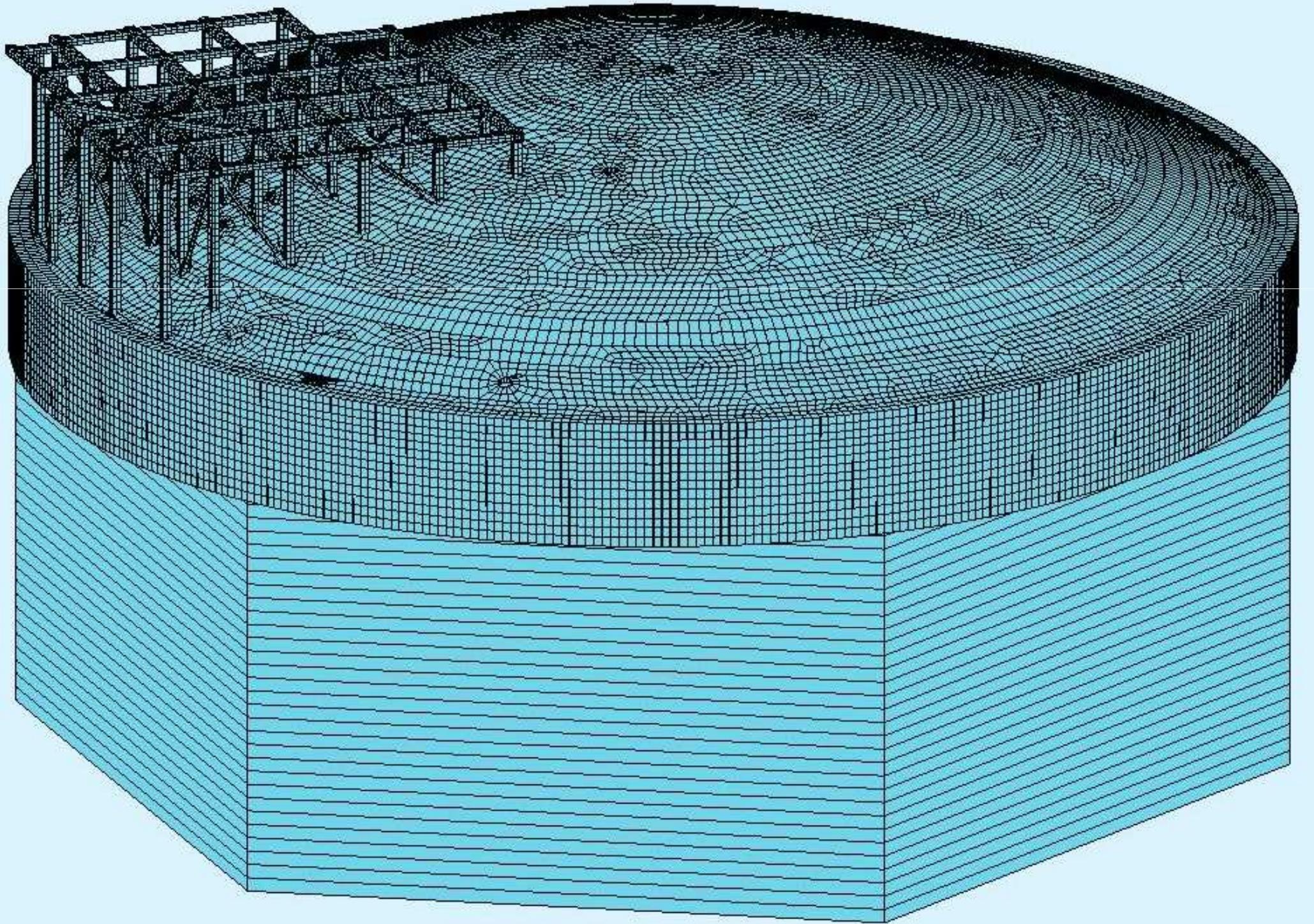
## ► Dynamic models : 4 models

### ► 3D “parasol” model







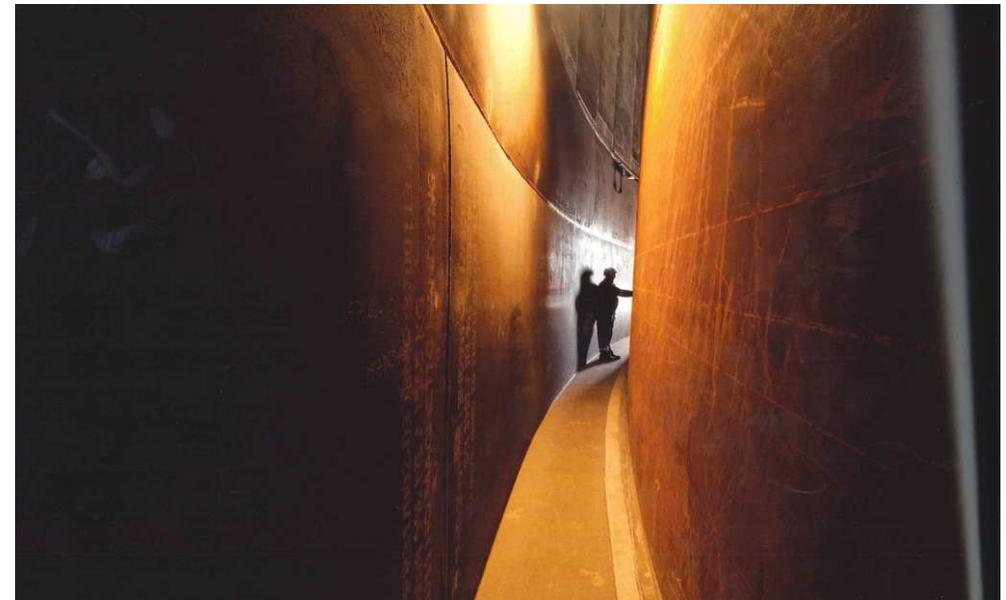
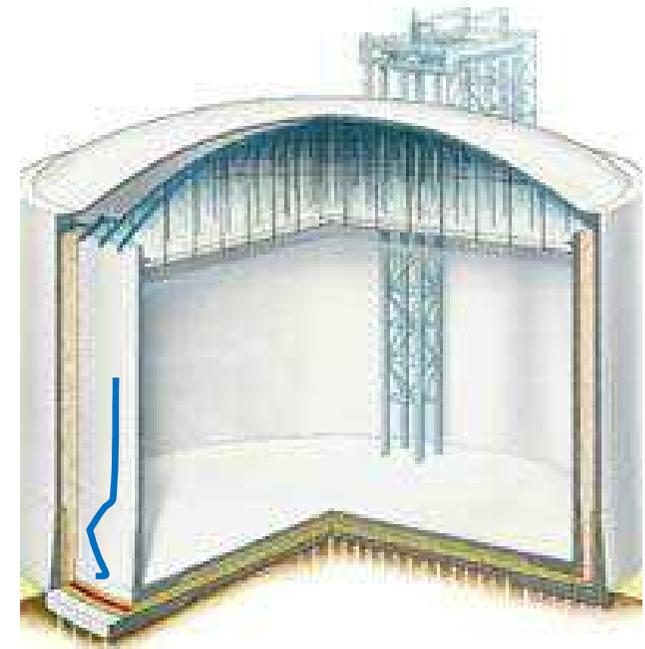


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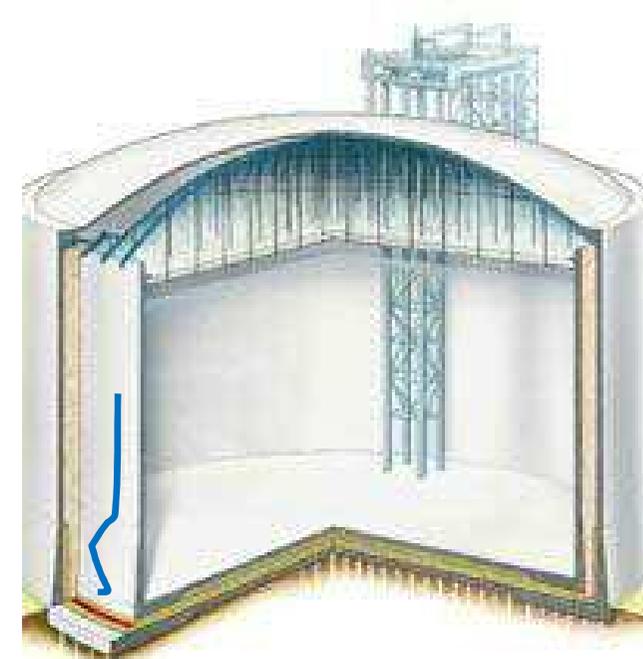
### ► Thermo mechanical models

- Purpose : consequences of an important leakage in the inner metallic tank.
- entirety of the LNG transferred in the concrete outer tank.
- prestressed concrete wall in direct contact with LNG at  $-165^{\circ}\text{C}$  and bears the hydrostatic pressure.



### ► Thermo mechanical models (ADDL)

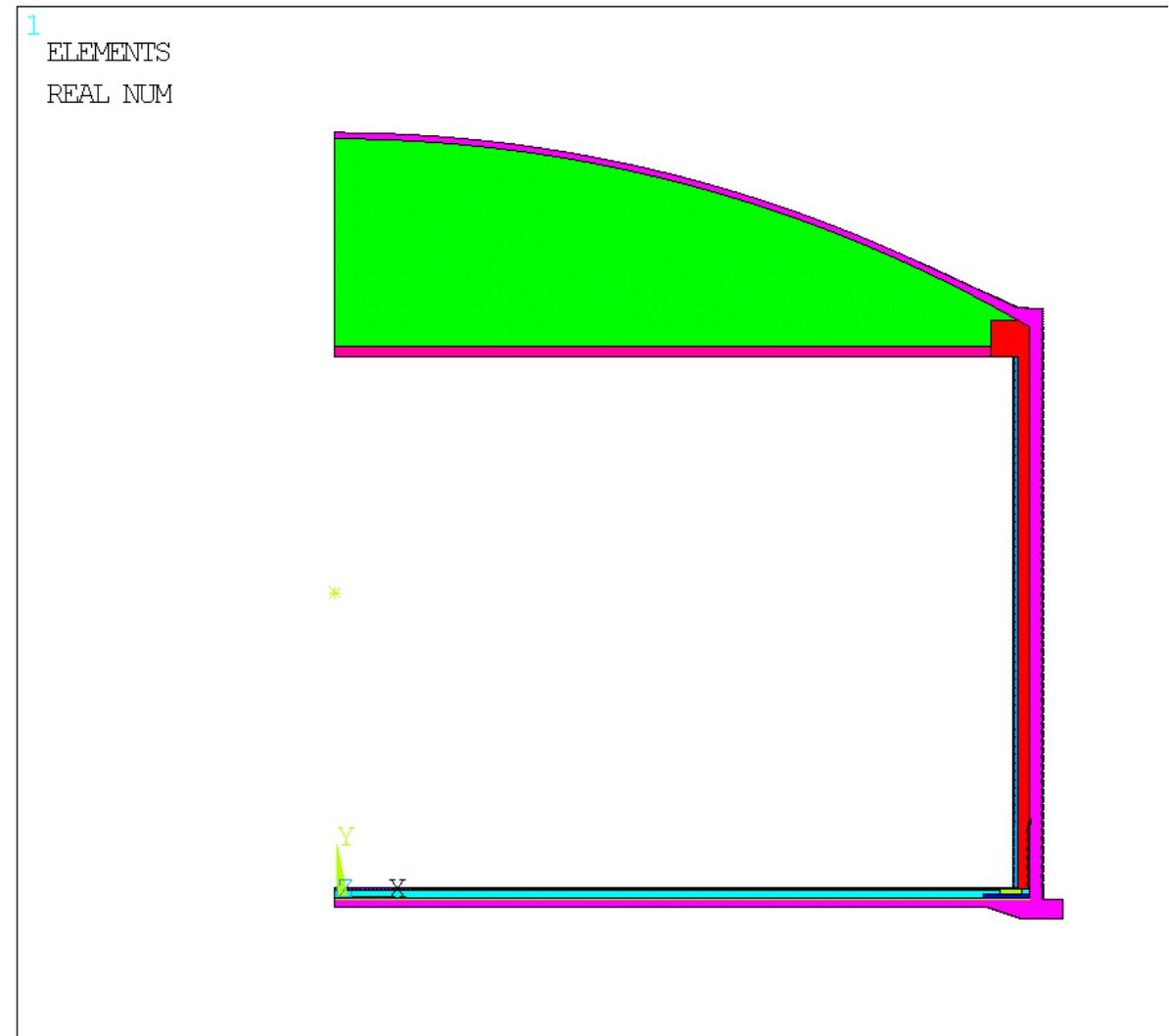
- ▶ ANSYS code
- ▶ 2 phases:
  - A thermal calculation, which determines temperature distribution.
  - a mechanical calculation, which integrates temperature distribution and mechanical loads.
- ▶ Purpose: check of the tightness of the outer wall : minimum compression zone of 100 mm in concrete section



## ► Thermo mechanical models

### ► Thermal model:

- 2D axi-symmetrical
- Non linear calculation: thermal properties depend on temperature



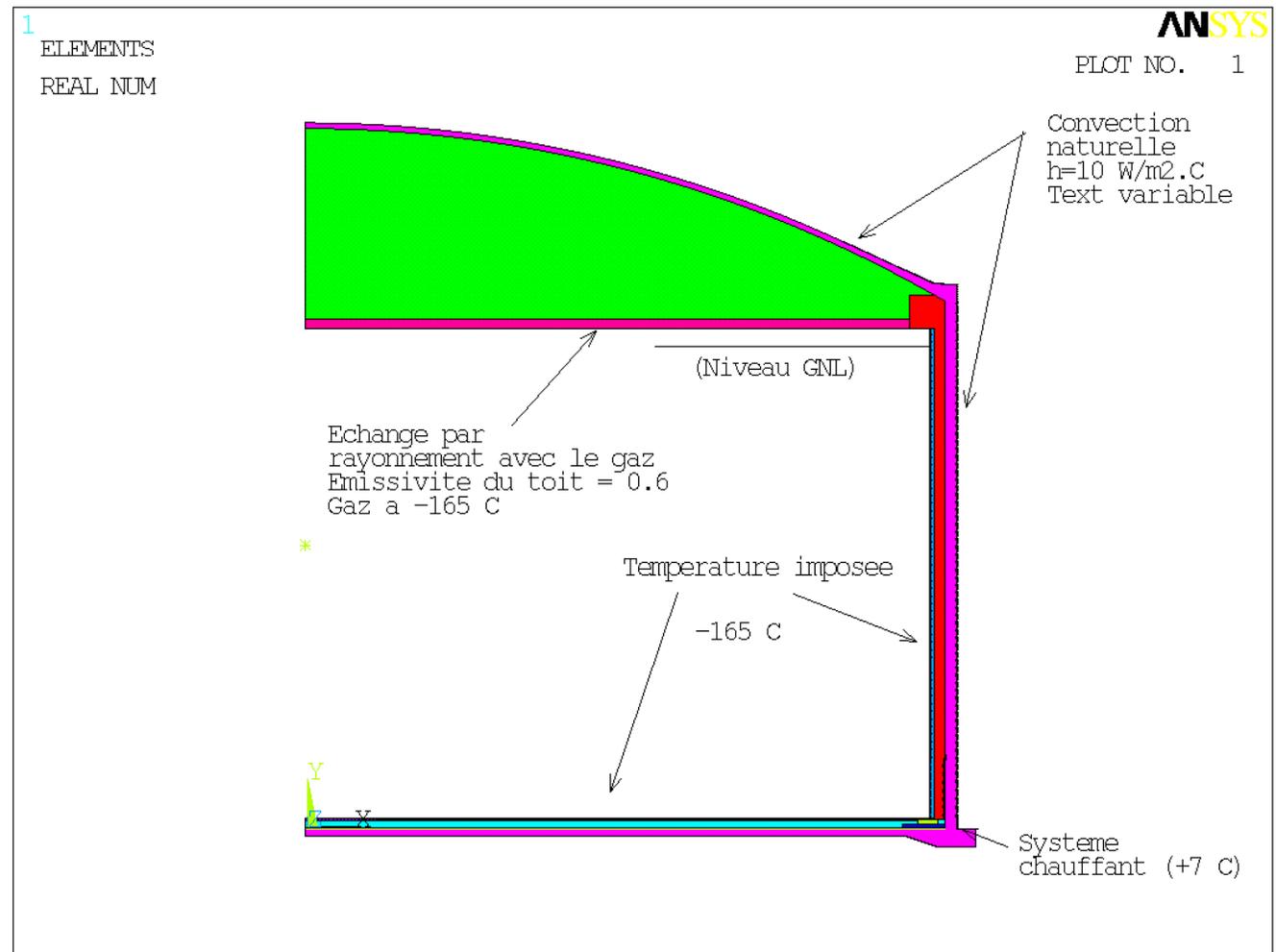
## ► Thermo mechanical models

### ► Thermal model:

– 2 analyses:

#### ► Service configuration:

- LNG contained by inner tank;
- efficient insulation



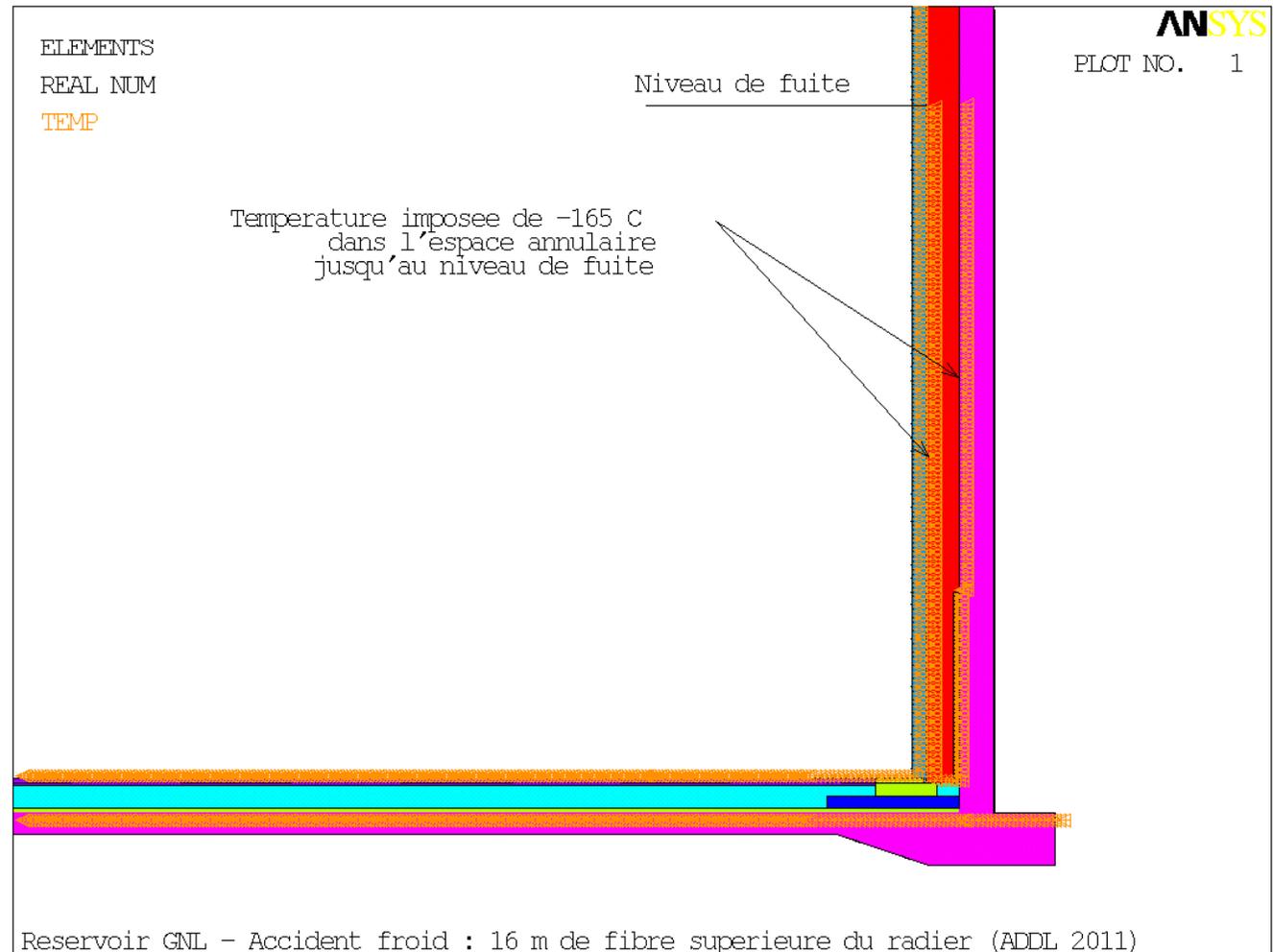
## ► Thermo mechanical models

### ► Thermal model:

– 2 analyses:

#### ► Accidental scenario;

- LNG in annular space;
- insulation unefficient except raft / corner protection
- 6 levels of outer tank filling

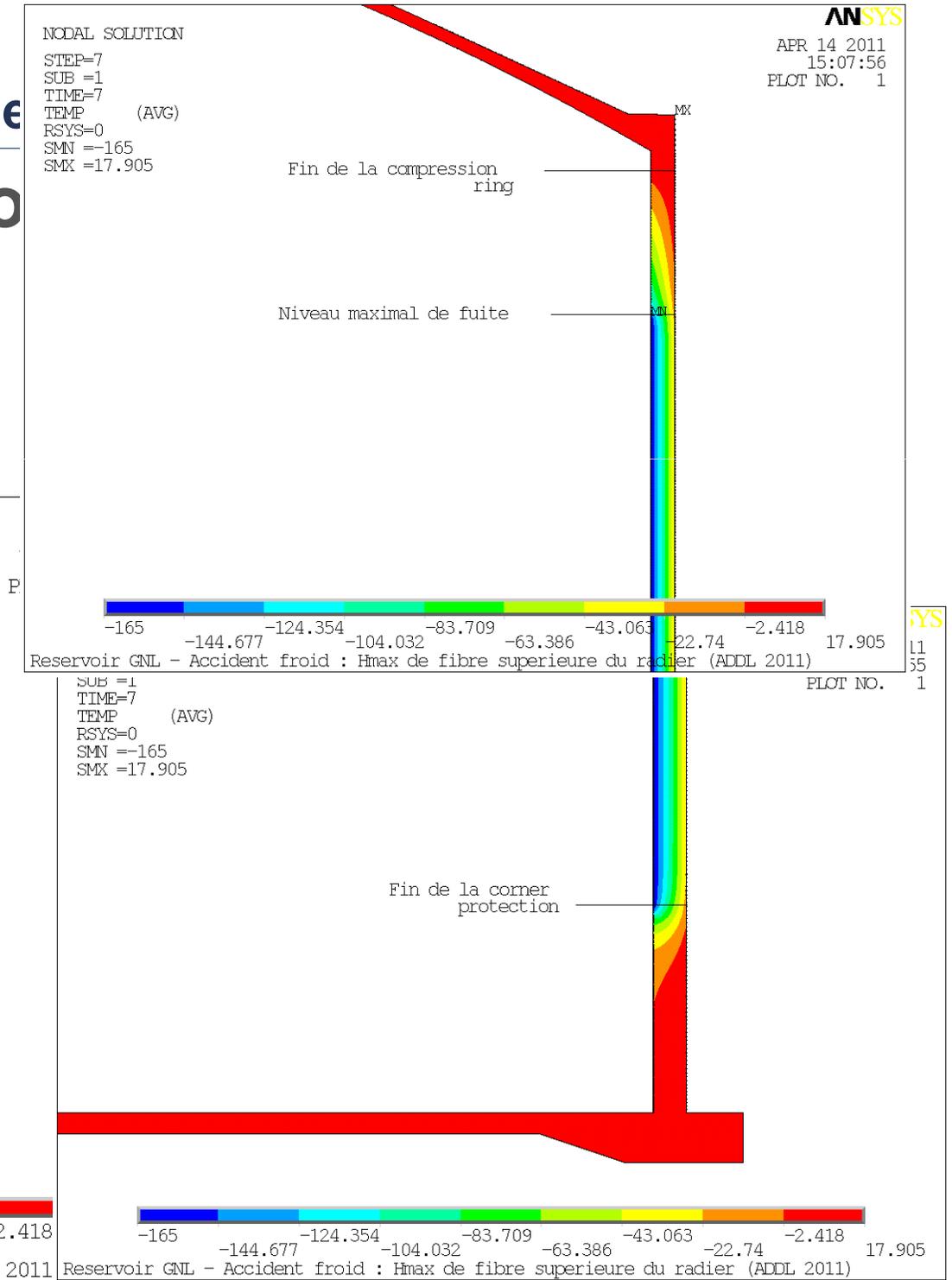
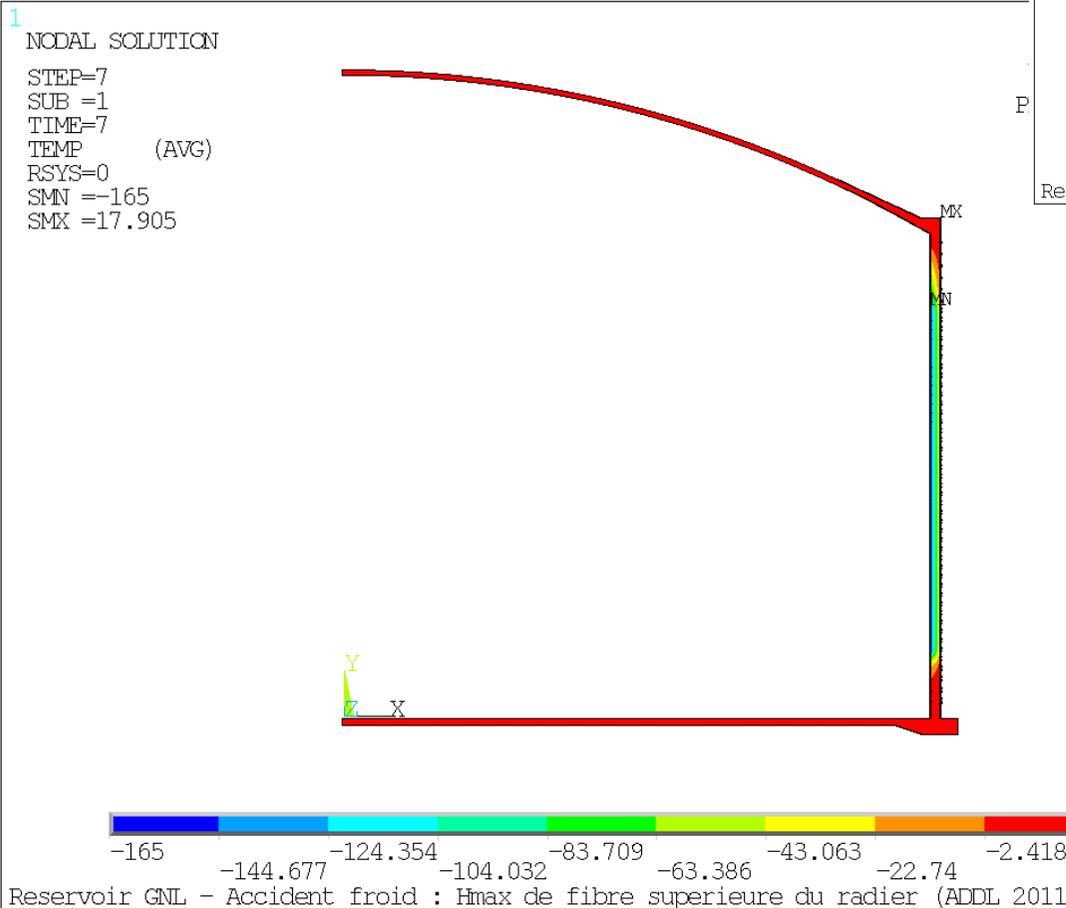


# Structural problematics and mode

## ► Thermo mechanical mo

### ► Thermal model: results:

- 31 m leakage

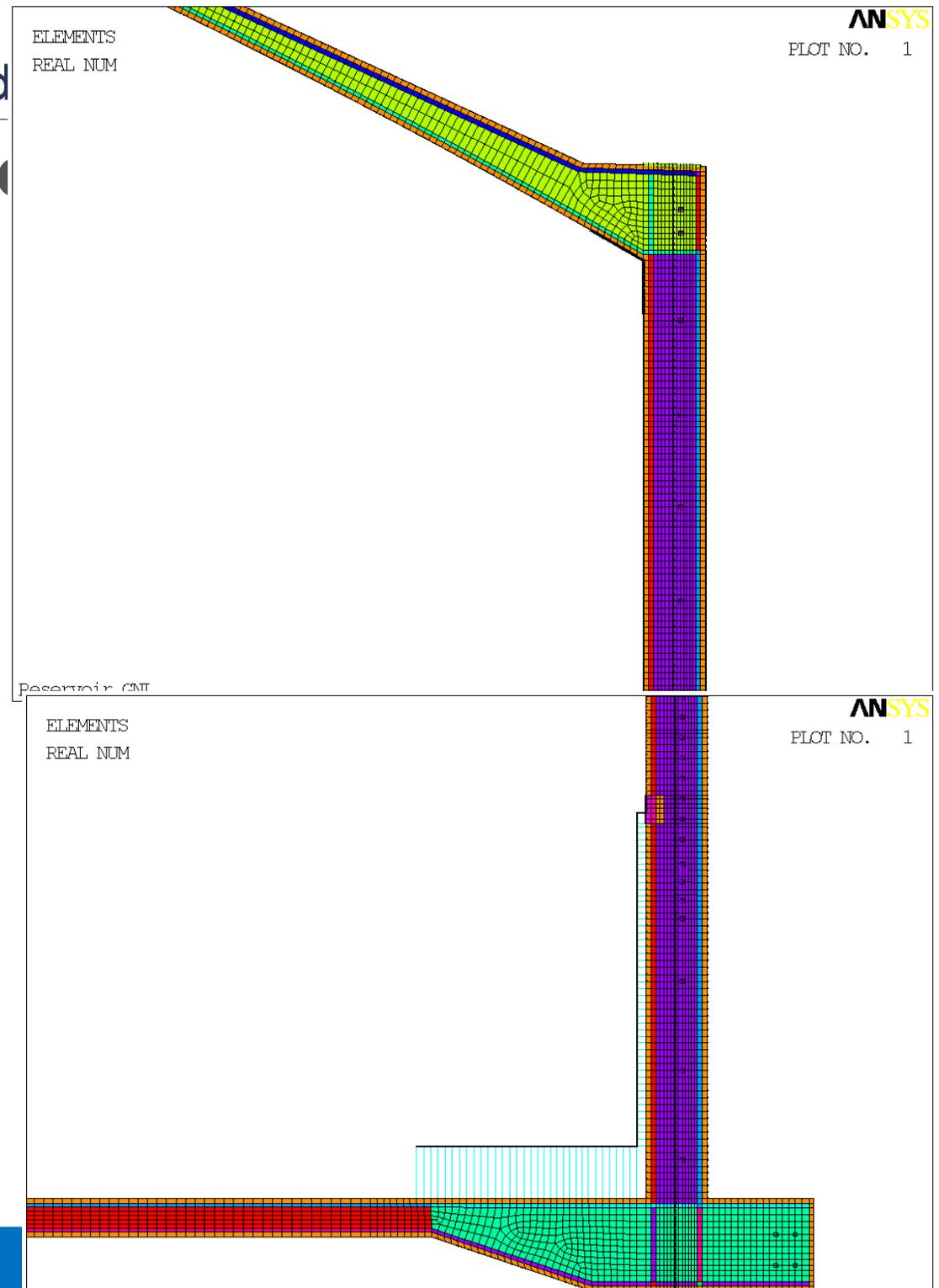


## Structural problematics and modeling

### ► Thermo mechanical modeling

#### ► Mechanical model:

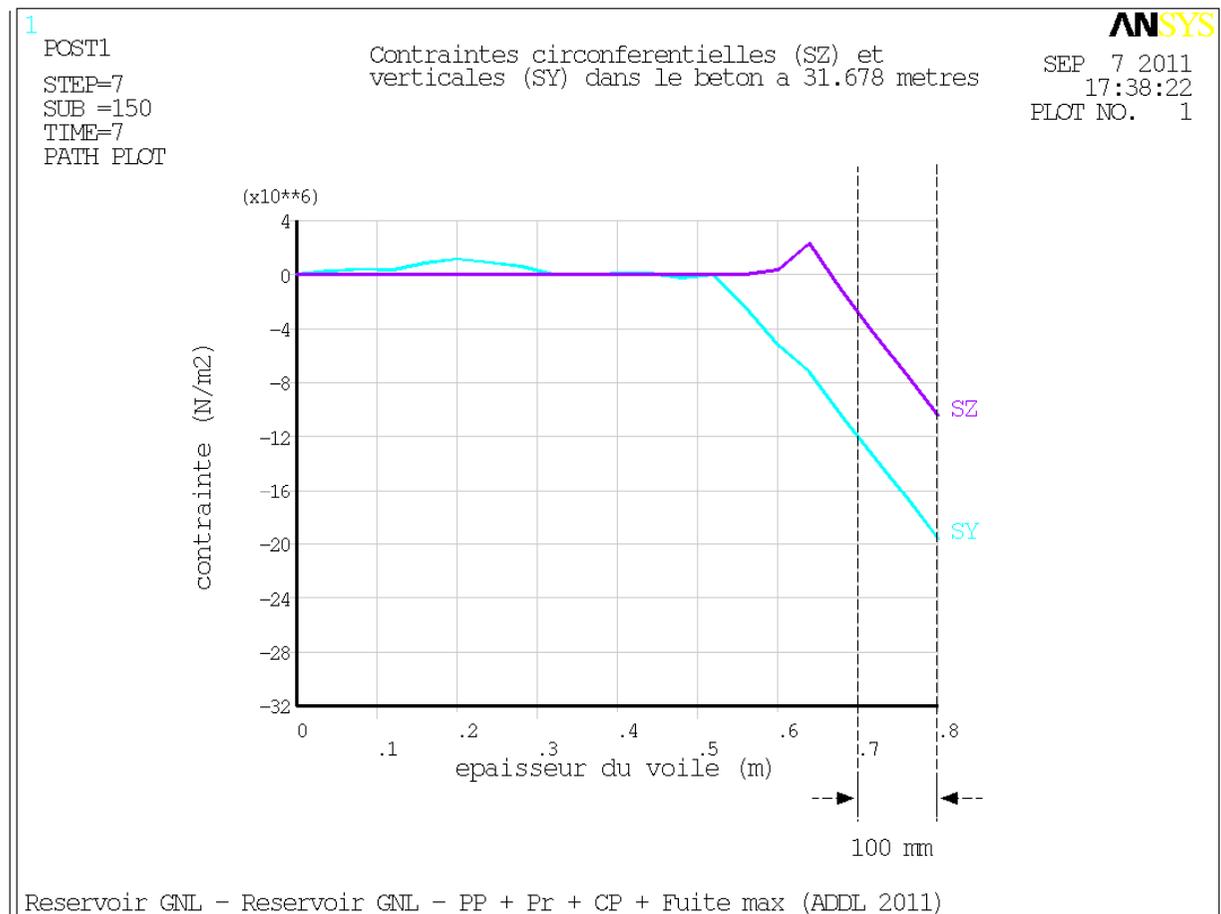
- 2D axi-symmetrical
- Non linear calculation:
  - ›  $f_{ck}(\theta)$ ,  $E(\theta)$
  - ›  $f_p(\theta)$ ,  $E_p(\theta)$
  - ›  $f_y(\theta)$ ,  $E_s(\theta)$
  - › Plasticity / cracking of concrete
  - › Reinforcement = equivalent steel densities
  - › Steel plasticity
- $P=290$  mbarg



## ► Thermo mechanical models

### ► Mechanical model: results

- check of the tightness of the outer wall : minimum compression zone of 100 mm in concrete section
- Governs horizontal and vertical prestress



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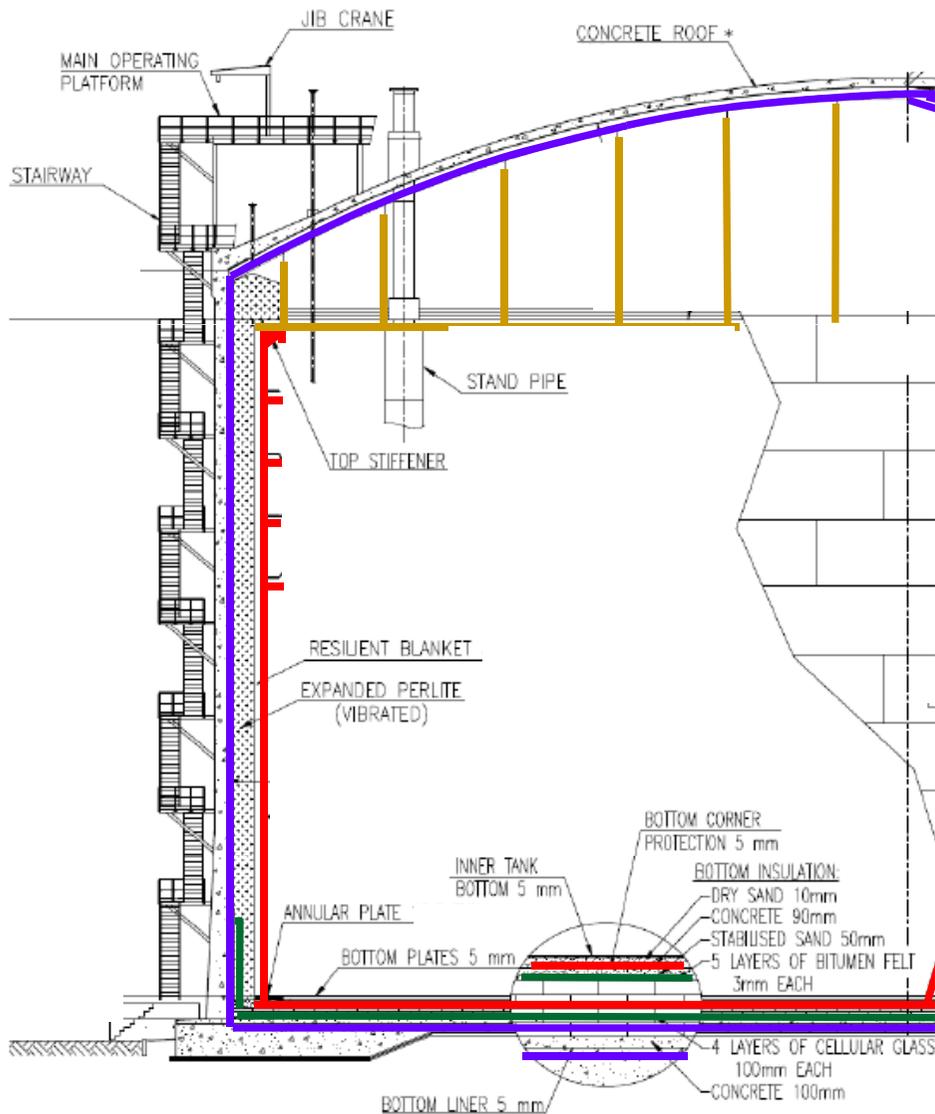
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  - ▶ **Overfilling scenario**

### ► Overfilling scenario

- ▶ accidental overfilling of the tank
- ▶ LNG flow = 14000 m<sup>3</sup>/h during 30 minutes
- ▶ LNG overflows the inner tank and progressively invades the annular gap between inner and outer tank, filled with perlite.
- ▶ internal gas pressure increases quickly following partial evaporation of the LNG in contact with the warmer elements of the annular gap.
- ▶ Frangibility : damage of the roof under the corresponding over pressure will occur in the first place enabling the over pressure to be dissipated and the containment of LNG still being ensured by the outer concrete wall and raft.

# Overfilling scenario

## Dunkerque LNG tanks



**Cuve Primaire**  
 Acier 9%Ni  
 Contient le liquide en opération normale

**Cuve Externe**  
 Contient le liquide en cas de fuite de l'enceinte primaire  
 Protège l'ouvrage des scénarii accidentels

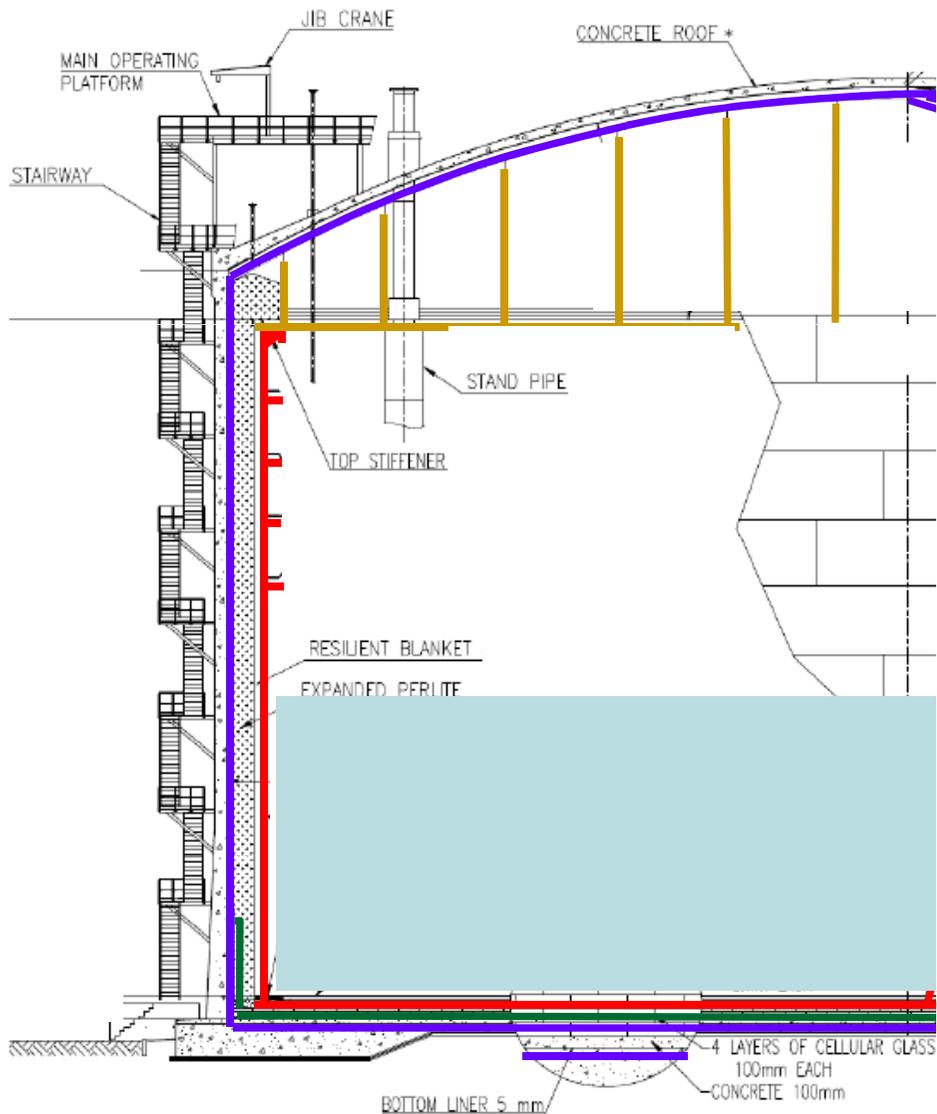
**Fond Secondaire**  
 Acier 9%Ni  
 Contient le liquide en cas de fuite mineure

**Barrière Vapeur**  
 Acier carbone  
 Contient la vapeur en opération normale

**Plafond Suspendu**  
 Aluminium  
 Supporte l'isolation supérieure

# Overfilling scenario

## Dunkerque LNG tanks



**Cuve Primaire**  
Acier 9%Ni  
Contient le liquide en opération normale

**Cuve Externe**  
Contient le liquide en cas de fuite de l'enceinte primaire  
Protège l'ouvrage des scénarii accidentels

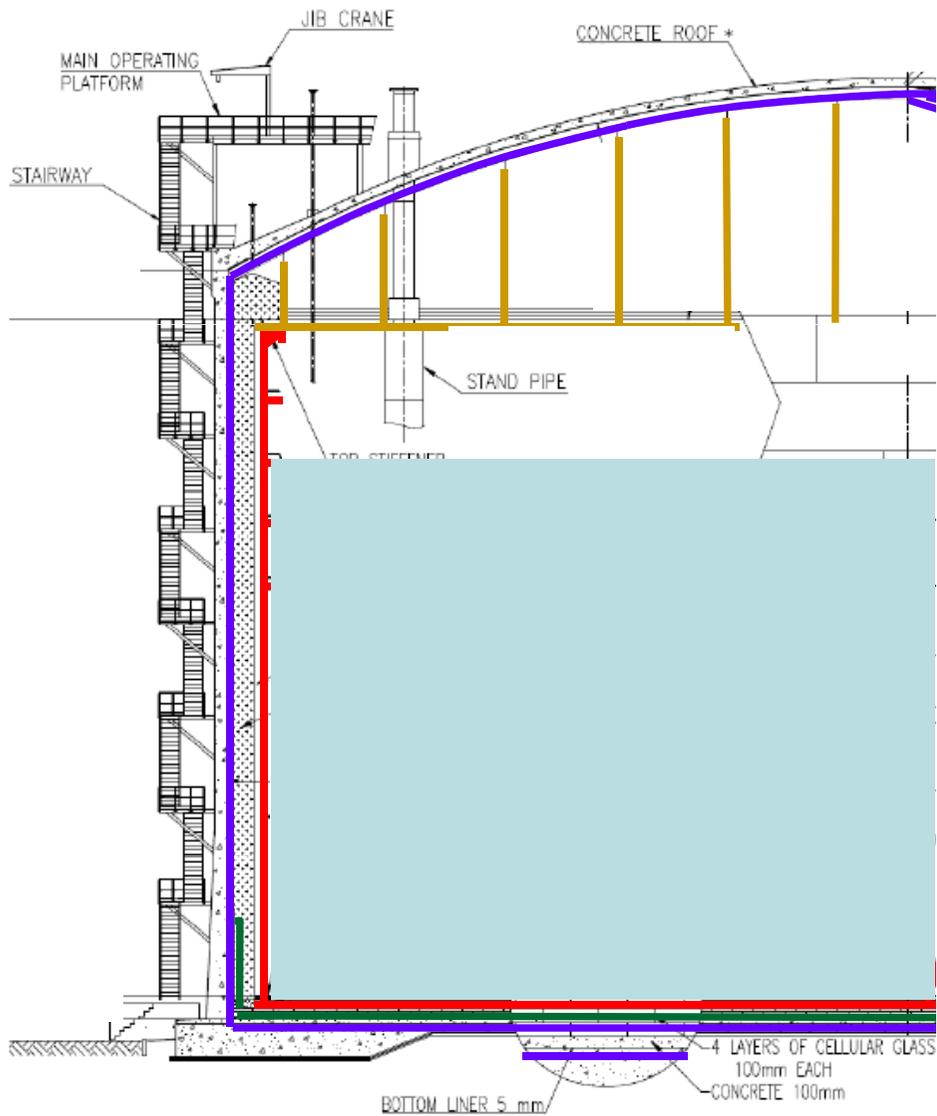
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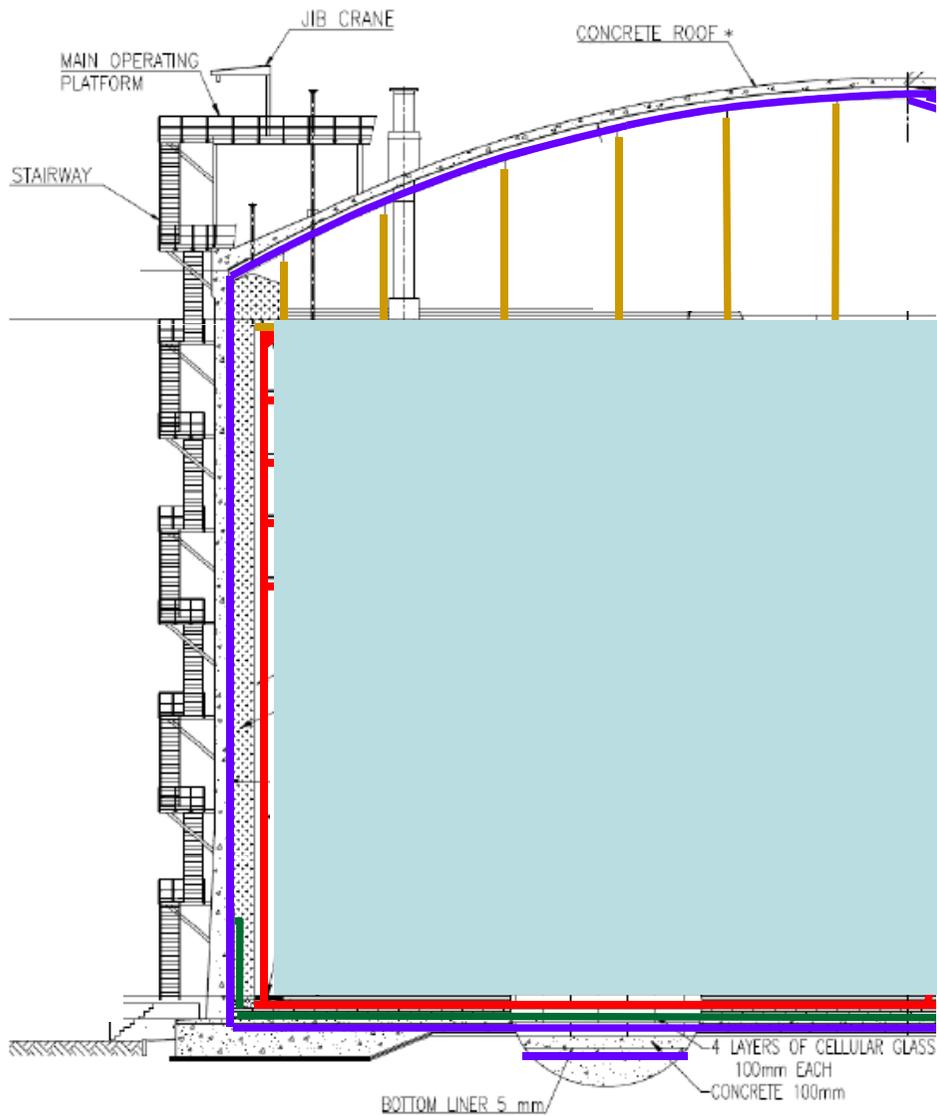
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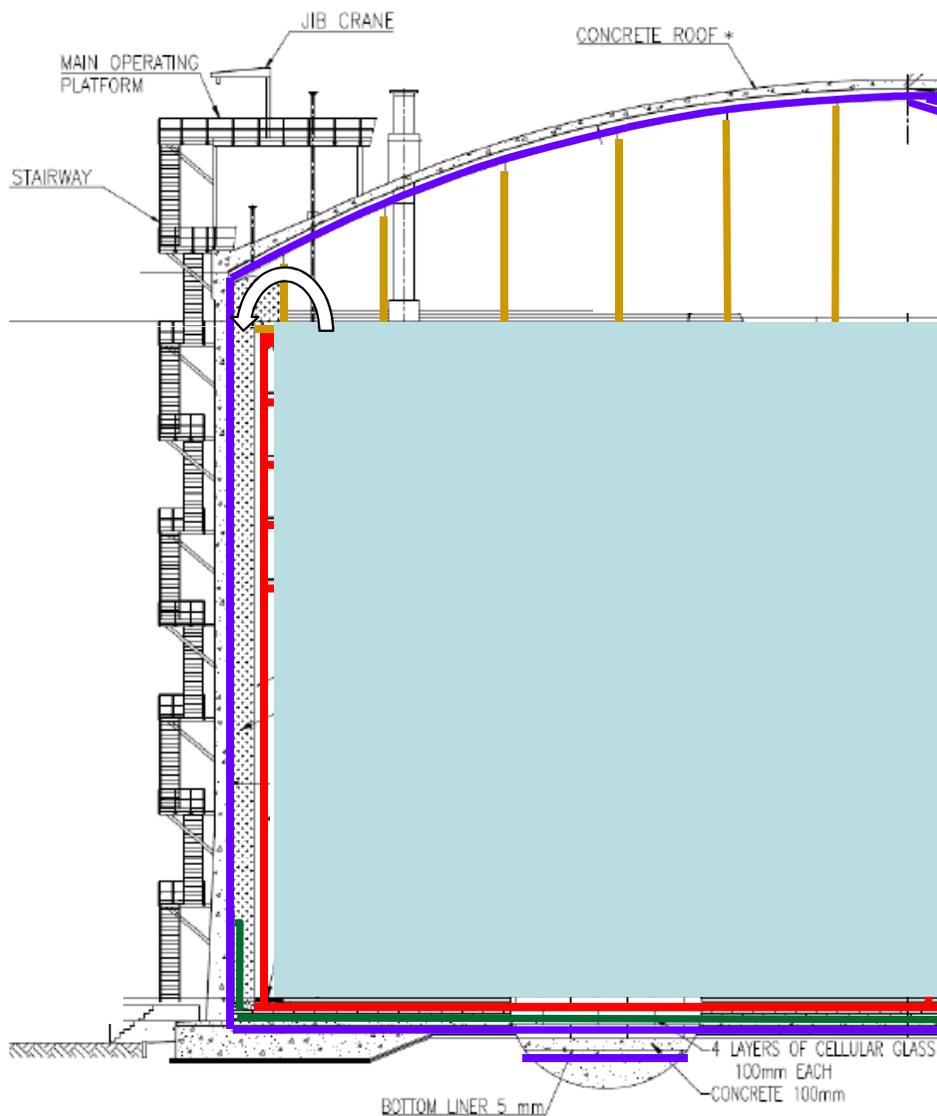
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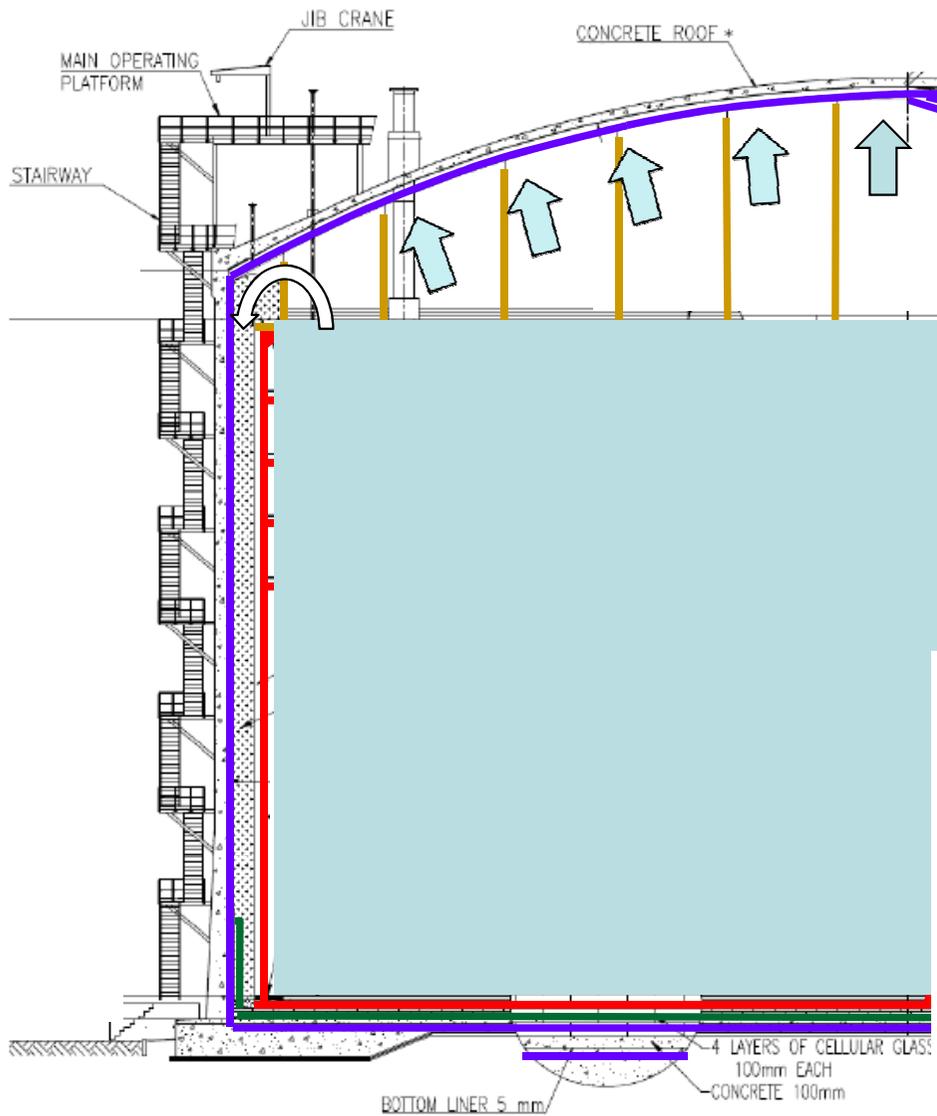
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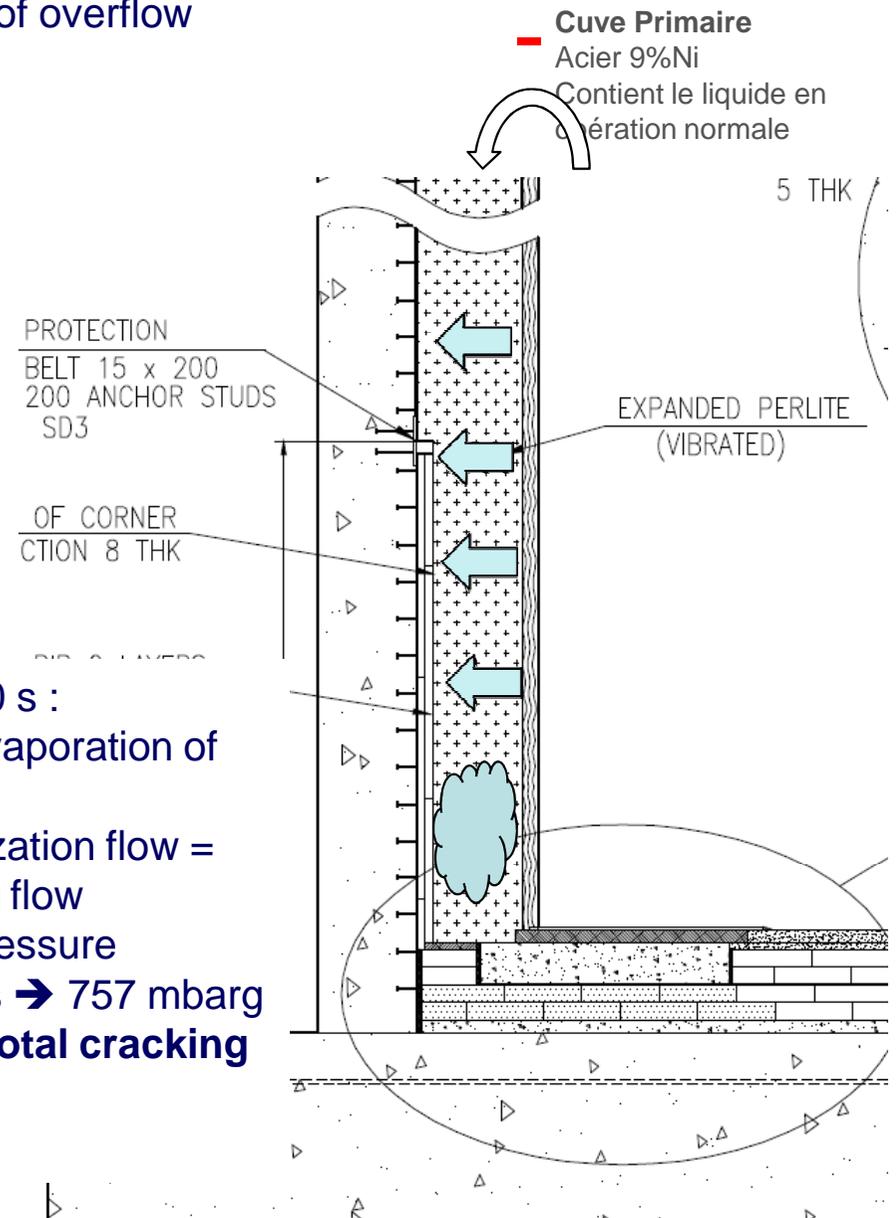
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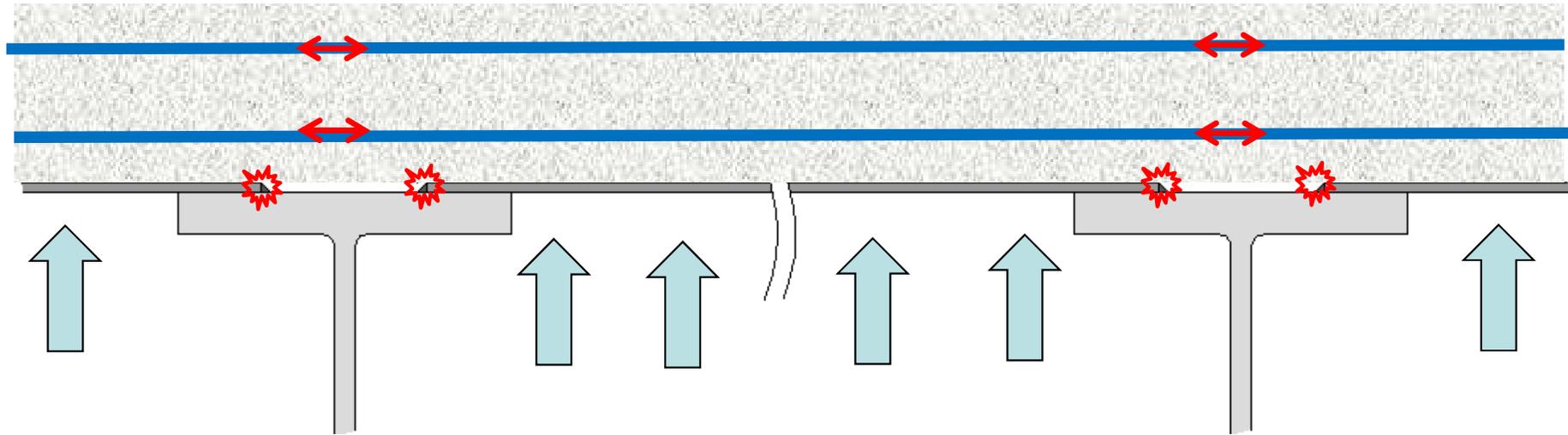


• t=0: start of overflow

- t=0 to t=40 s :
  - total evaporation of LNG
  - Vaporization flow = overfilling flow
  - Gas pressure increases → 757 mbarg = dome total cracking

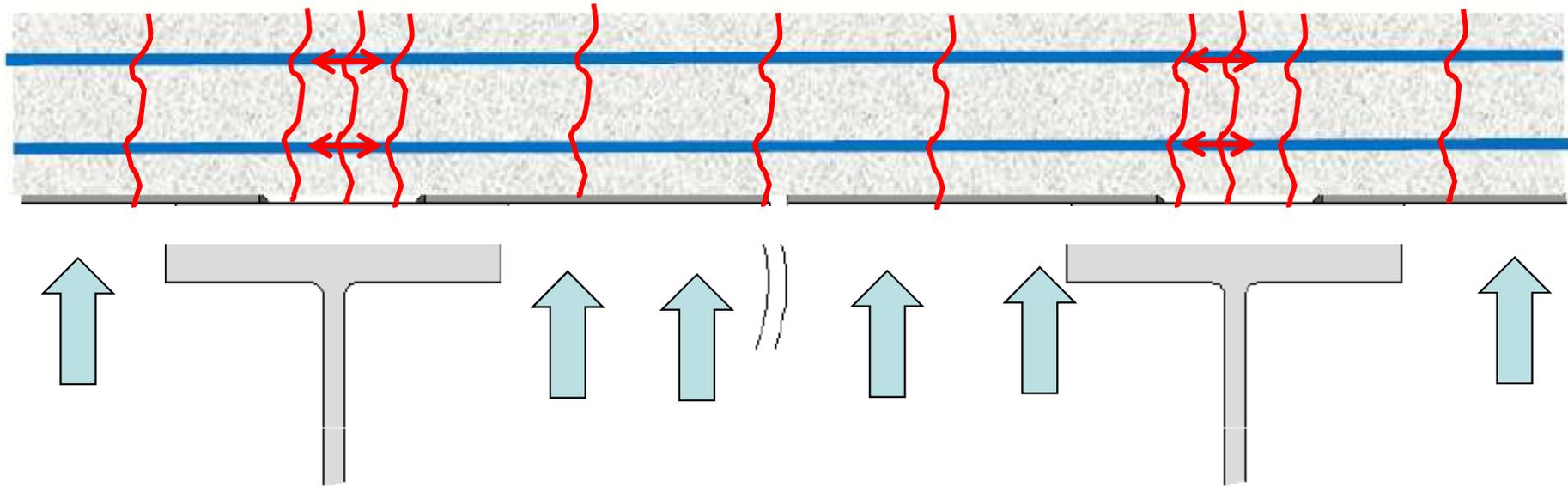


## ► Dome cracking pressure



- $P_2=757$  mbarg → weld failure
- Tension redistributed in rebars
- Rebar plastification; large rebar deformation
- Separation dome / rafter

## ► Dome cracking pressure



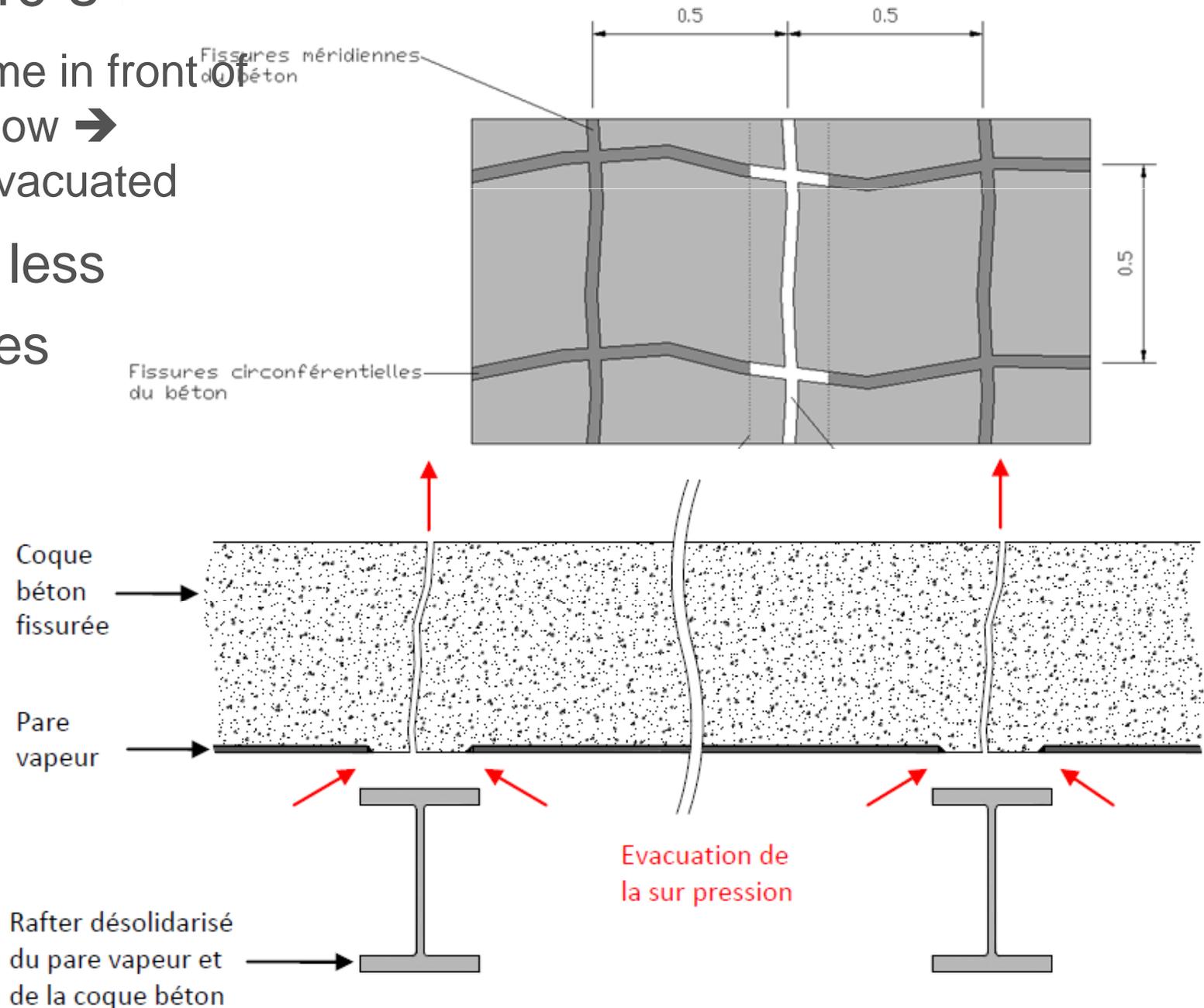
- $P_2=757$  mbarg → weld failure
- Tension redistributed in rebars
- Rebar plastification; large rebar deformation
- Separation dome / rafter
- Cracking of dome

# Overfilling scenario

▶  $t=0$  to  $t=40$  s ·

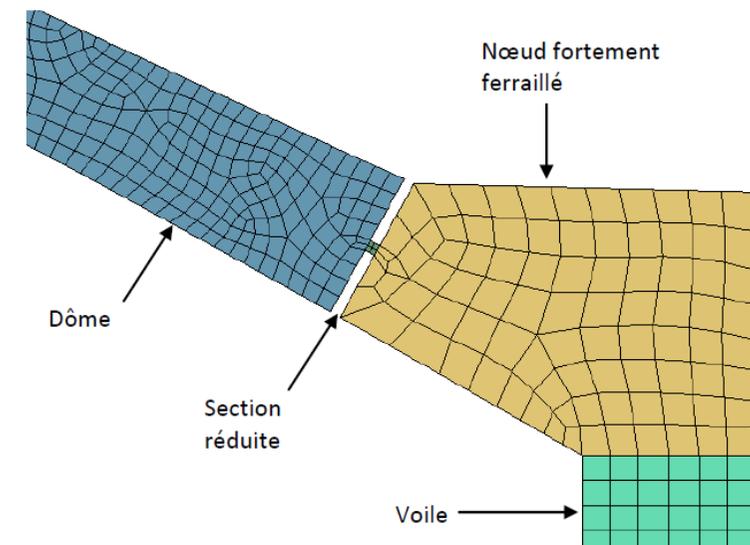
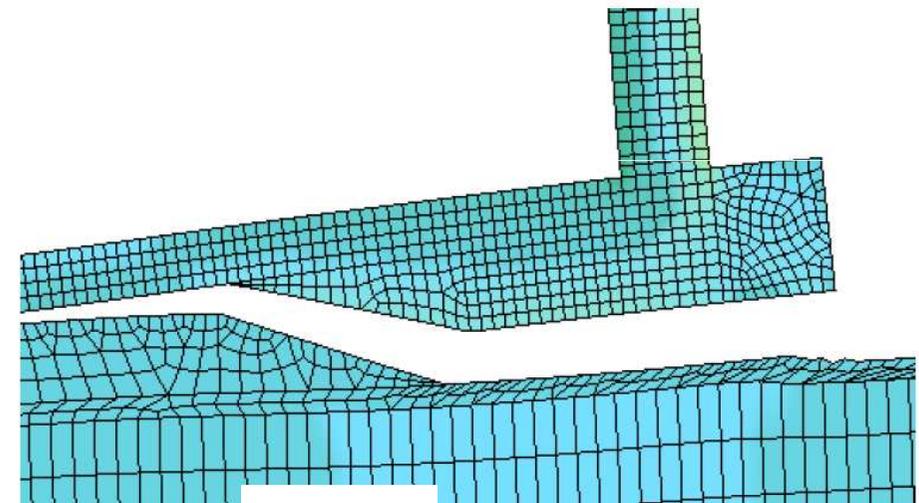
▶ Cracking of dome in front of rafters → gas flow → overpressure evacuated

▶  $t > 40$  s : less critical phases



## ► Dome frangibility

- integrity of outer concrete wall and raft ensured during the accident.
- 3D axisymmetrical used with modifications:
  - dome : totally cracked; section of the dome = section of passive reinforcement
  - sliding and uplift at the interface between raft and soil
  - Hinge between dome and gusset at 620 mbarg

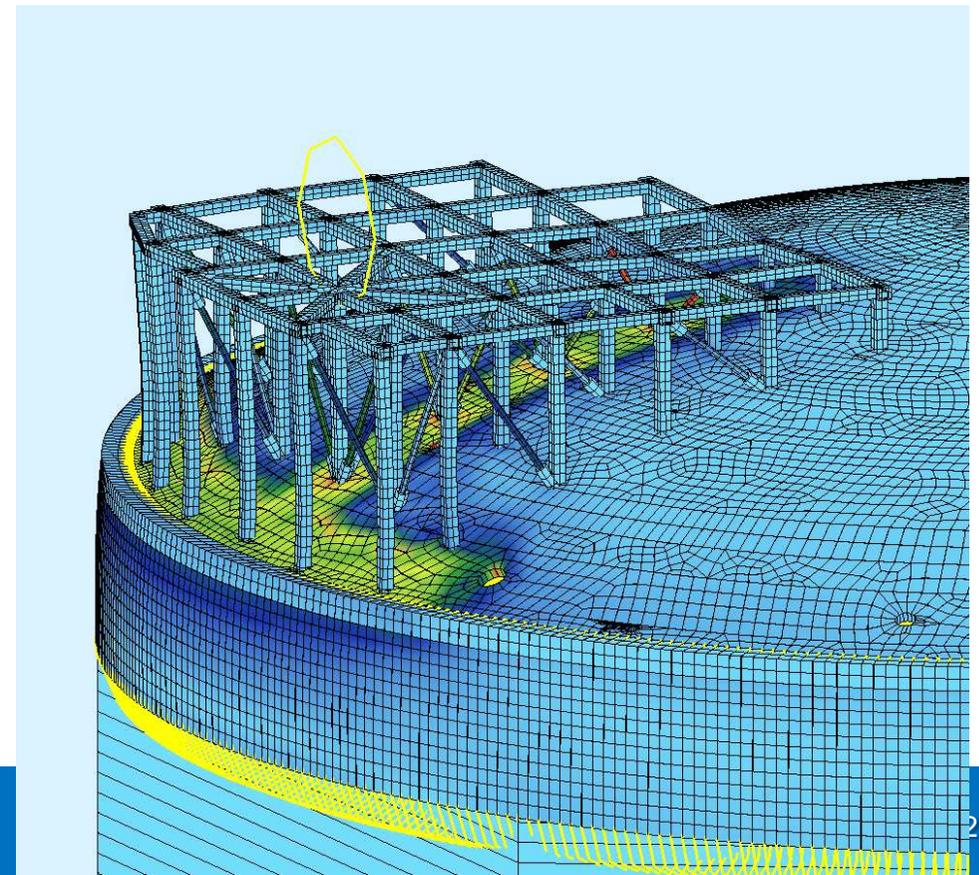
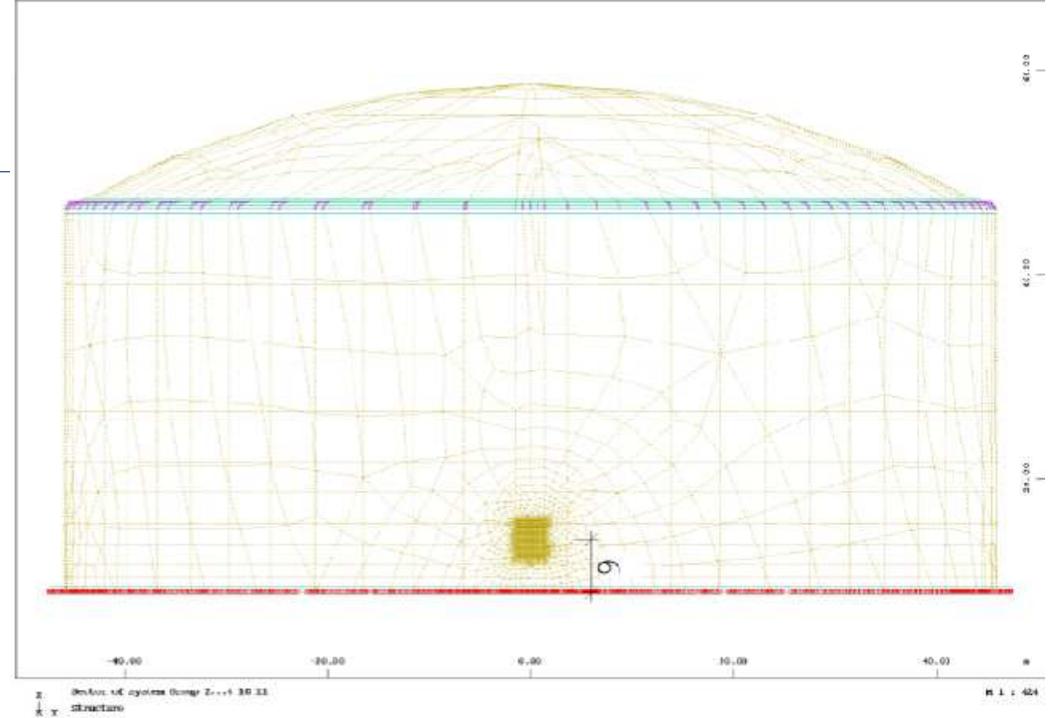


### ▶ Dome frangibility

- ▶ elasto plastic calculations
- ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> set: dome cracking pressure
  - initial stage :
    - ▶ LNG at maximum level in the inner tank
    - ▶ design gas pressure of 290 mbarg.
  - Accidental overpressure applied till 757 mbarg
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> set: end of the overfilling scenario:
  - ▶ maximum LNG level in the annular gap;
  - ▶ dome, completely cracked, suppressed in the model.
  - ▶ pressure = atmospheric pressure.
- ▶ integrity of wall and raft during overfilling scenario demonstrated.

## Other situations

- ▶ Construction phases
- ▶ Accidental situations
  - ▶ Cold spot
  - ▶ fire hazard,
  - ▶ LNG leakage on the dome
- ▶ Platform study



- ▶ Various situations → Different models; most specific :
  - ▶ geotechnical context (compressible and liquefiable soil, conception of soil improvement),
  - ▶ seismic behaviour (interactions between inner tank, liquid, outer tank, suspended deck, foundation and soil)
  - ▶ accidental scenarios (major leakage, overfilling).
- ▶ Partnership with Entrepouse

