

# CONTENTS

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| List of Figures .....  | iv  |
| List of Tables .....   | x   |
| Notation .....   | xi  |
| Acknowledgment .....   | xvi |
| 1. Introduction .....  | 1   |
| 1.1. State-of-the-art.....   | 1   |
| 1.1.1. Performance-based fire engineering .....  | 1   |
| 1.1.2. Advancements in the solving of structural fire engineering problems .....             | 9   |
| 1.2. Research objectives and the concept of the thesis .....                                 | 11  |
| 2. Theoretical background .....  | 17  |
| 2.1. Fluid dynamics in fire engineering .....  | 17  |
| 2.1.1. Fundamental laws of fluid dynamics and heat transfer .....                            | 18  |
| 2.1.2. Turbulence modelling.....   | 25  |
| 2.1.3. Combustion.....   | 29  |
| 2.1.4. Soot production.....  | 31  |
| 2.1.5. Radiation .....   | 32  |
| 2.2. Nonlinear solid mechanics in performance-based structural fire design ..                | 37  |
| 2.2.1. Formulation of a linear elastic problem.....  | 37  |
| 2.2.2. Finite Element Method in linear elastic problems .....                                | 39  |
| 2.2.3. Large strain-displacement formulation.....  | 41  |
| 2.2.4. Material nonlinearity in structural fire engineering problems .....                   | 45  |
| 2.2.5. Stiffness of a structural element in fire .....                                       | 54  |
| 2.2.6. Solution of a nonlinear problem .....   | 56  |
| 2.3. Physical bases for heat exchange between the fire environment<br>and the structure..... | 65  |
| 2.3.1. Convective heat flux .....  | 66  |
| 2.3.2. Radiative heat flux.....  | 68  |
| 2.3.3. Adiabatic surface temperature .....   | 69  |
| 2.3.4. Heat conduction .....   | 79  |
| 3. Coupling between the fire and the mechanical models .....                                 | 81  |

|        |   |     |
|--------|---|-----|
| 3.1.   | Concept of CFD-FEM coupling .....   | 81  |
| 3.2.   | Incompatibility between CFD and FEM models<br>for steel framed structures ..... | 81  |
| 3.3.   | Development of a heat transfer model.....                                       | 84  |
| 3.3.1. | Virtual surfaces.....   | 84  |
| 3.3.2. | Shadow effect .....   | 86  |
| 3.3.3. | Heat transfer model formulation.....  | 87  |
| 3.4.   | Implementation.....   | 96  |
| 3.4.1. | Approximate calculation of view factors.....                                    | 98  |
| 3.4.2. | Verification of the view factors calculation method.....                        | 102 |
| 3.4.3. | Finite difference method approximation of a conduction problem .....            | 108 |
| 3.5.   | Verification and Validation .....   | 112 |
| 3.5.1. | Furnace tests with uniform thermal exposure of a cross-section.....             | 113 |
| 3.5.2. | Furnace tests with nonuniform thermal exposure of a cross-section.....          | 116 |
| 3.5.3. | Compartment fire tests.....   | 123 |
| 3.5.4. | Localised fire tests .....  | 127 |
| 3.5.5. | Summary .....   | 140 |
| 3.6.   | CFD-FEM coupling procedure .....  | 141 |
| 3.6.1. | Setting CFD output .....  | 142 |
| 3.6.2. | Heat transfer calculations .....  | 142 |
| 4.     | Mechanically based method for determining fire scenarios .....                  | 145 |
| 4.1.   | Complexity and robustness of frame structures.....                              | 145 |
| 4.2.   | The idea of the method .....  | 147 |
| 4.3.   | Theoretical bases .....   | 150 |
| 4.4.   | Complexity measures .....   | 151 |
| 4.5.   | Method implementation.....  | 153 |
| 4.6.   | Verification.....   | 155 |
| 5.     | Exemplary analysis of a structure subjected to fire .....                       | 171 |
| 5.1.   | General description of the structure.....                                       | 171 |
| 5.2.   | Actions.....  | 171 |
| 5.2.1. | Fire actions .....  | 172 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 5.2.2. Permanent loads.....   | 175 |
| 5.2.3. Imposed loads .....  | 176 |
| 5.2.4. Snow load .....  | 177 |
| 5.2.5. Wind load .....  | 177 |
| 5.2.6. Combinations of actions .....  | 178 |
| 5.3. Preliminary analyses.....  | 183 |
| 5.3.1. Design according to Eurocode simple calculation model.....                                     | 183 |
| 5.3.2. Response to uniform ISO 834 fire exposure.....   | 184 |
| 5.4. Numerical models.....  | 187 |
| 5.4.1. CFD fire model.....  | 187 |
| 5.4.2. FEM mechanical model.....  | 191 |
| 5.5. Fire scenario determination .....  | 193 |
| 5.6. CFD-FEM coupling .....   | 197 |
| 5.7. Results .....  | 199 |
| 5.7.1. Temperature distribution in a fire compartment.....  | 200 |
| 5.7.2. Fire-structure heat transfer results .....   | 203 |
| 5.7.3. Effect of combinations of actions on the mechanical response<br>of the structure in fire ..... | 215 |
| 5.7.4. Local response of the structure in fire .....  | 216 |
| 5.7.5. Global response of the structure in fire.....  | 242 |
| 5.7.6. Summary .....  | 256 |
| 6. Concluding remarks.....  | 259 |
| References.....   | 265 |
| Appendices.....   | 278 |
| Summary .....   | 279 |