

FACULTY OF MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY  
OF WEST BOHEMIA

DEPARTMENT  
OF POWER SYSTEM ENGINEERING

# Frictionally excited thermoelastic instability

Josef Voldřich  
Ukraine, November 2018

Проект „Развитие международного  
сотрудничества с украинскими ВУЗами  
в областях качества, энергетики и транспорта“  
г. Харьков, 11/2018

# Степан Прокопович Тимошенко

1878 - 1972



*S. Timoshenko*

Appeal for us:

Not to be afraid to use **MATHEMATICS** for  
solution of our mechanical problems.

**Introduction**

**Experiments**

**Burton's (mathematical) stability analysis**

**Parameters influencing thermoelastic instability**

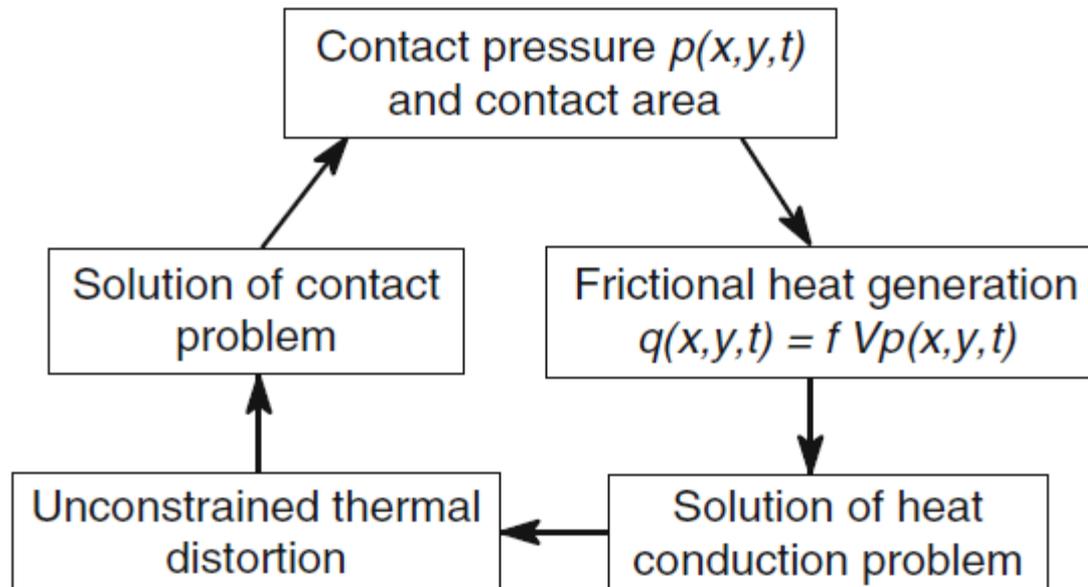
**Numerical approach**

**Conclusion**

- The heat generated in frictional organs like brakes and clutches induces **thermal distortions** which may lead to localized contact areas and **hot spots developments**.
- Hot-spots are high thermal gradients on the rubbing surface.
- They count among the most dangerous phenomena in frictional organs leading to damage and early failure.
- The thermomechanical solicitation due to these hot spots may induce a cycling of tensile and compressive stresses with plastic strain variations (i.e. TGV disks).
- Consequently, **thermal low cycle fatigue** may occur ... with the **developments of cracks** on the disk surface.
- These high local temperatures may also lead to unacceptable braking performance such as **brake fade** or undesirable low frequency vibrations called **hot judder**.

- Parker and Marshall (1948) were the first to report evidence of hot spots in railway brakes.
- This phenomenon was first identified and explained by prof. Barber (1967, 1969) and was called “frictionally excited thermoelastic instability” or TEI.

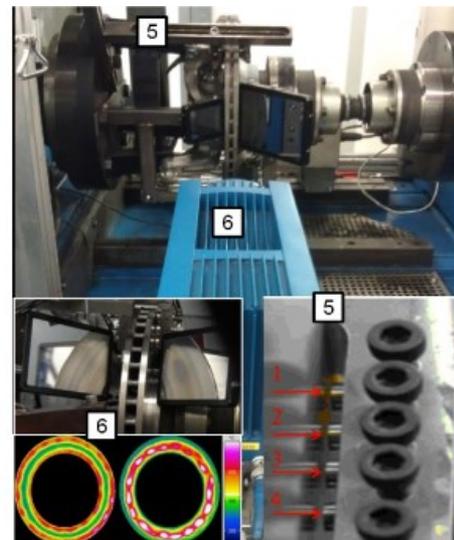
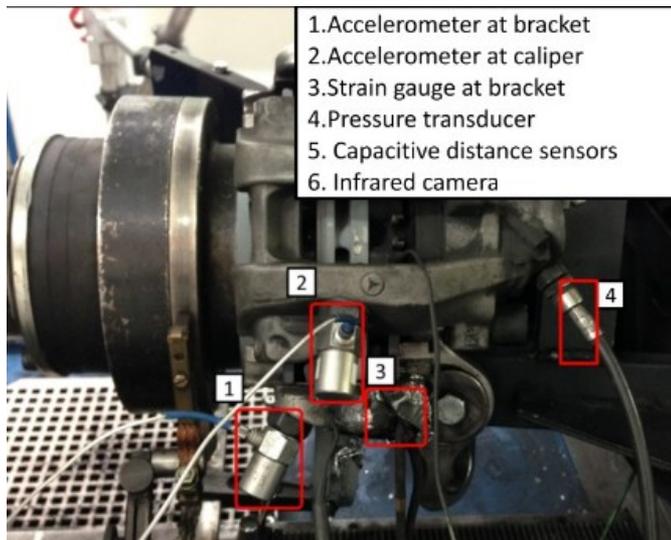
## The feedback process for TEI



# Experiments



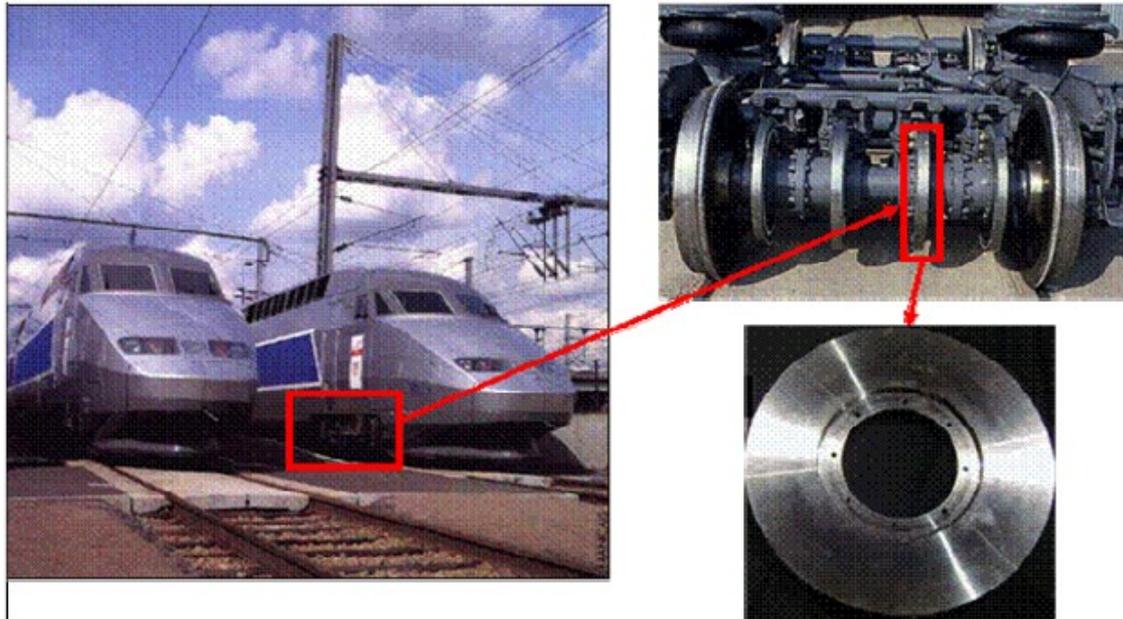
Hot spots as it appears on a clutch desk



Automobile disk brake

Technical university  
Darmstadt, Germany

## TGV braking disk



The trailer bogies of the Thalys TGV include two axles equipped with four disk

outer diameter 640 mm

thickness 45 mm

made of 28CrMoV5-08 steel  
manufactured by a forging  
process

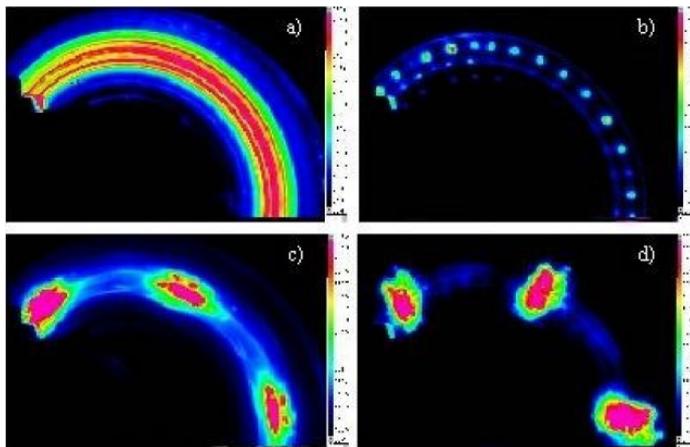
An emergency braking at 300 km/h

- the maximum stopping distance 3500m
- a braking time 80 s
- a dissipated energy of 14 MJ per braking disk

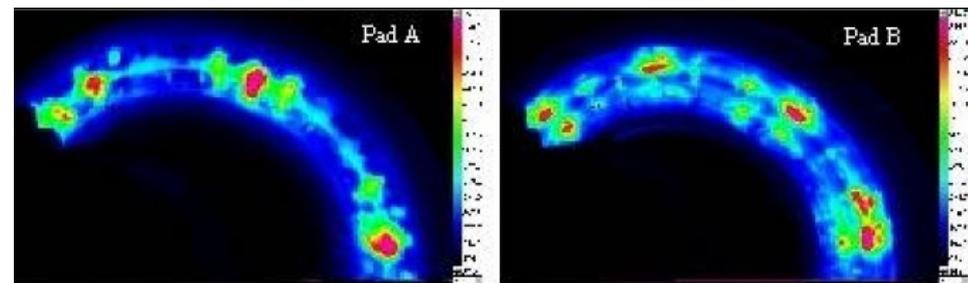
## Full scale test bench for the TGV braking disk



## Simultaneous thermographs of the 2 sides of the disk



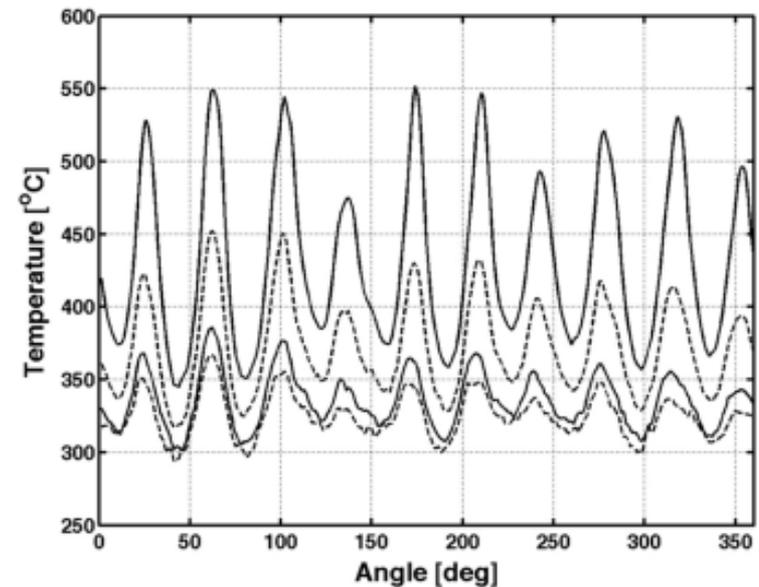
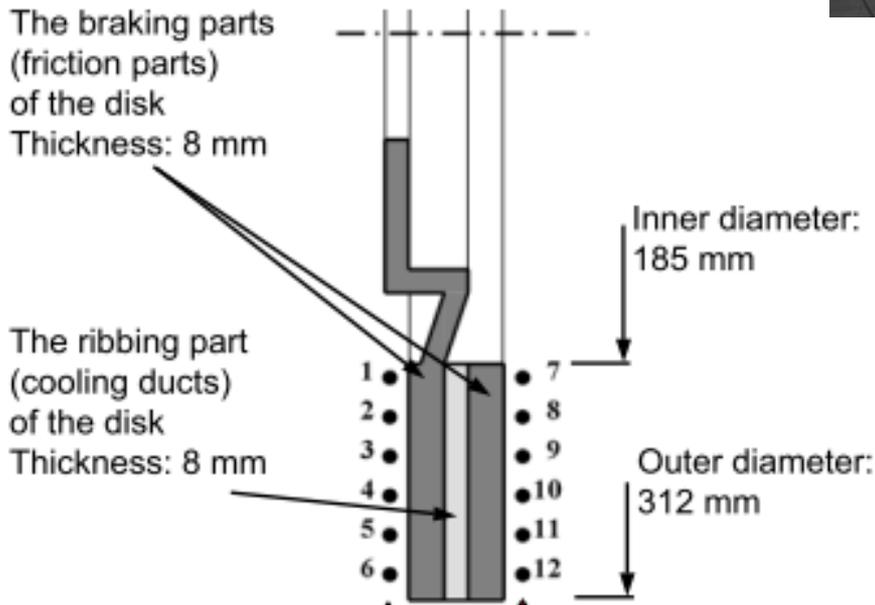
## Classical scenario of macroscopic hot spots development



# Experiments

## University of West Bohemia

**Tested brake disc:**  
cast iron (conductivity about 50 W/mK)

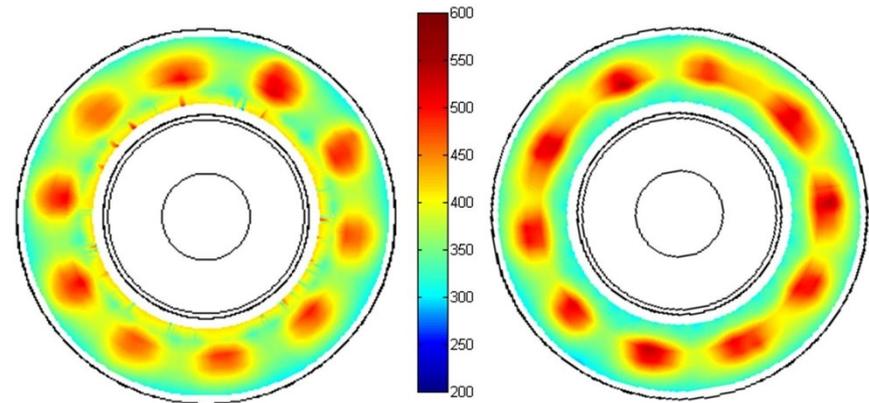


**Increasing temperature amplitudes of hot spots under the sensor no. 3 at times 55 s, 60 s, 65 s and 70 s.**

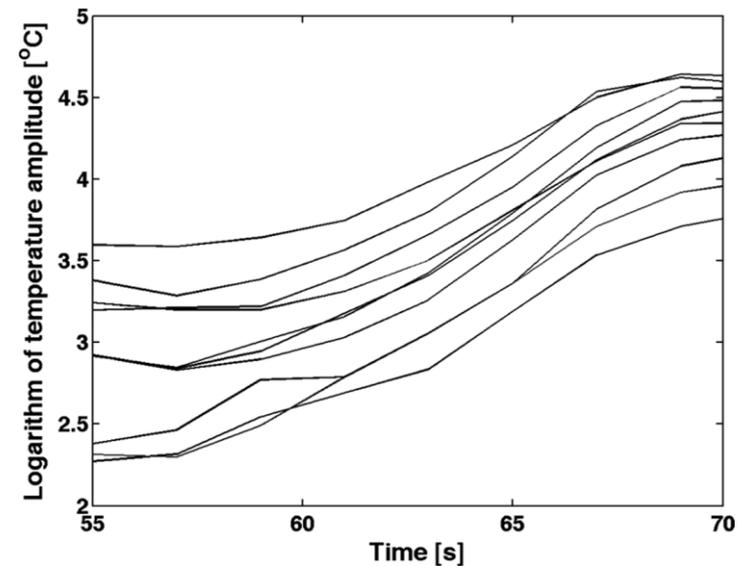
## University of West Bohemia



Results of the 2 sides of the disk



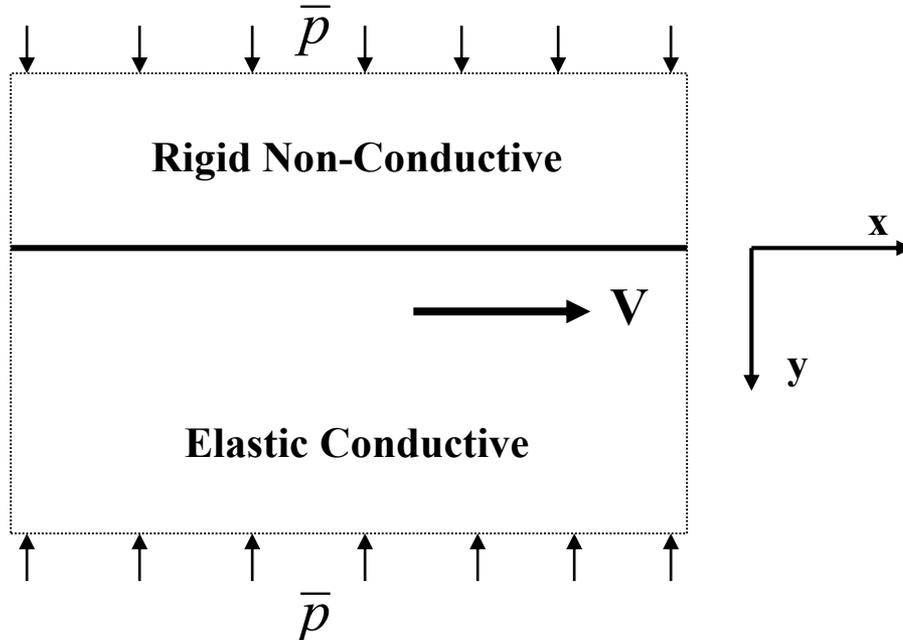
Time dependence of the  
logarithms of hot spot amplitudes



# Burton's stability analysis

## The most elementary situation that we can consider

Sliding contact of an elastic half-plane against a rigid plane surface



$$-K \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}(x, 0, t) = f V p(x, t)$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2}$$

$$k = K/c\rho$$

**+ the problem of elastic stresses**  
(contact pressure  $p$  depends on  $T$ )

Following Burton et al., we consider

$$p(x, t) = \bar{p}(t) + p_0 e^{bt} \cos(mx), \quad T(x, y, t) = \bar{T}(y, t) + T_0 e^{bt} \cos(mx) \Theta(y)$$

# Burton's stability analysis

$b$  – exponential growth rate

$m$  – wave number

$V$  – sliding velocity

$f$  – friction coefficient

$b$  depends on  $V$

$b > 0$  means instability

$$-K \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}(x, 0, t) = f V p(x, t)$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2}$$

$$k = K/c\rho$$

**+ the problem of elastic stresses**

(contact pressure  $p$  depends on  $T$ )

$$p(x, t) = \bar{p}(t) + p_0 e^{bt} \cos(mx), \quad T(x, y, t) = \bar{T}(y, t) + T_0 e^{bt} \cos(mx) \Theta(y)$$

$$\frac{d^2 \Theta}{dy^2} - \lambda^2 \Theta = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \lambda = \sqrt{m^2 + \frac{b}{k}}, \quad \Theta(y) = \exp(-\lambda y)$$

5

2

1

3

4

# Burton's stability analysis

**The problem of elastic stresses**

$E$  – elastic modulus  
 $\alpha$  – coefficient of thermal expansion  
 $\nu$  – Poisson's ratio

↓ 6

$$p(x,t) = \bar{p}(t) + \frac{\alpha E m}{(1-\nu)(\lambda+m)} T_0 e^{bt} \cos(mx)$$

↓ 7

$$-K \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}(x,0,t) = f V p(x,t)$$

←  $-K \frac{\partial \bar{T}}{\partial y} = f V \bar{p}$

←  $T_0 e^{-\lambda y + bt} \cos(mx)$

↓ 8

$$K\lambda = \frac{\alpha E f V m}{(1-\nu)(\lambda+m)}$$

←  $\lambda = \sqrt{m^2 + \frac{b}{k}}$

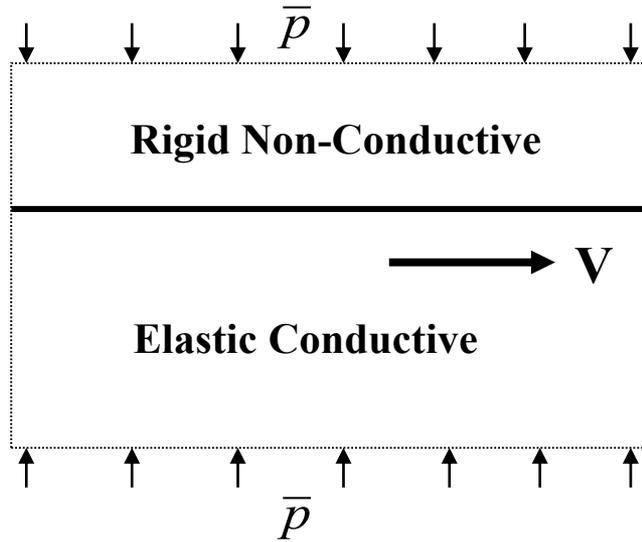
↓ 9

$$b = k \left( \frac{\alpha E f V m}{K(1-\nu)} - \frac{m^2}{2} - m \sqrt{\frac{m^2}{4} + \frac{\alpha E f V m}{K(1-\nu)}} \right)$$

→  $V_{CR} = \frac{2Km(1-\nu)}{\alpha E f}$

The critical sliding velocity  $V_{CR}$  for  $b = 0$

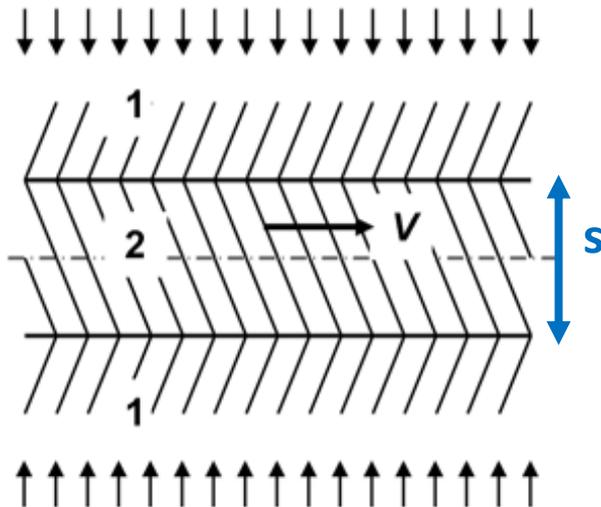
# Burton's stability analysis



Too simplified, incorrect prediction for disk brakes

$$\Rightarrow V_{CR} = \frac{2Km(1 - \nu)}{\alpha E f}$$

$$V_{CR} = \frac{2Km(1 - \nu)}{\alpha E f}$$



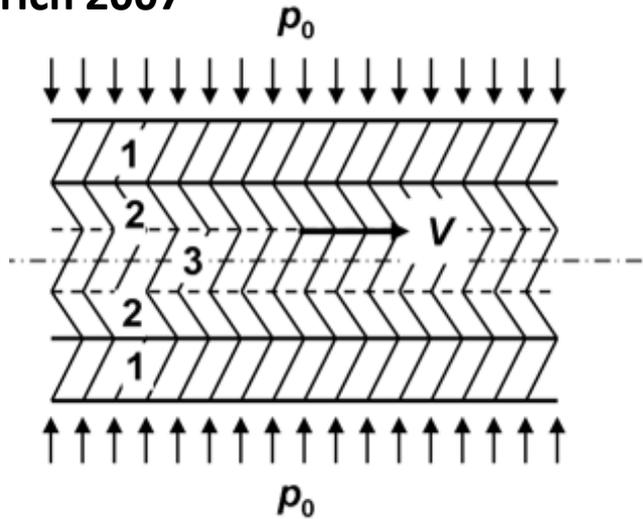
Lee and Barber 1993

$$\Rightarrow V_{CR} = C \frac{K}{\alpha E f s}$$

$C$  is a dimensionless constant that depends on other dimensionless features of the problem

# Burton's stability analysis

Voldřich 2007



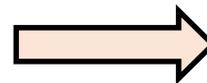
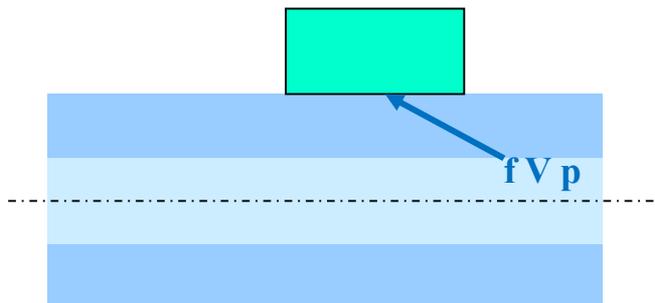
Intermittent contact – no analytical solution is possible to find.

Appropriate approximation:

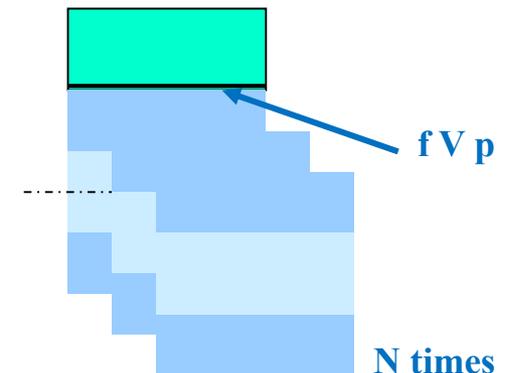
- to enhance the disk thermal capacity N-fold
- to modificate the characteristic equation

$$N = \frac{\text{circumference of disk}}{\text{arc length of pad}}$$

Intermittent contact



Approximation



# Parameters influencing TEI

Usual automobile disk brake – dependance of the growth parametr  $b$  on the number of hot spots  $H$

Car velocity    Sliding velocity  
km/h            m/s

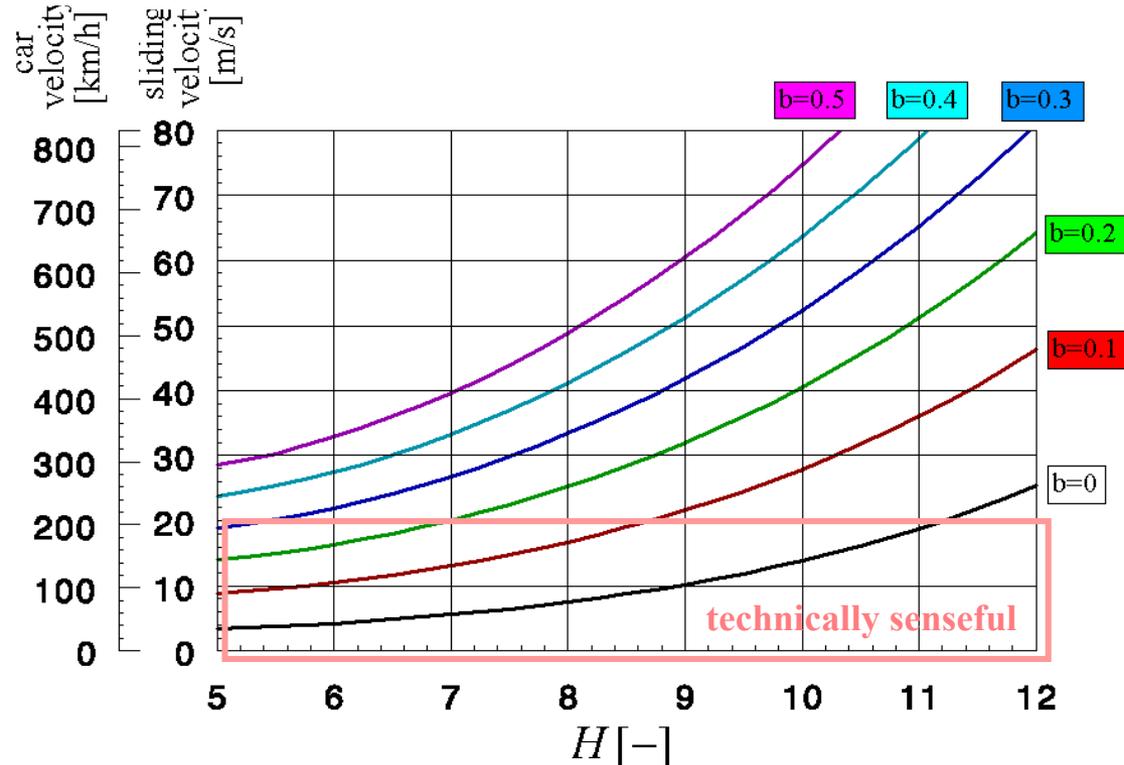
$$p(x,t) = \bar{p}(t) + p_0 e^{bt} \cos(mx)$$

$$T(x,y,t) = \bar{T}(y,t) + T_0 e^{bt} \cos(mx)\Theta(y)$$

$$H \approx N$$

$$\text{and } H \geq 5$$

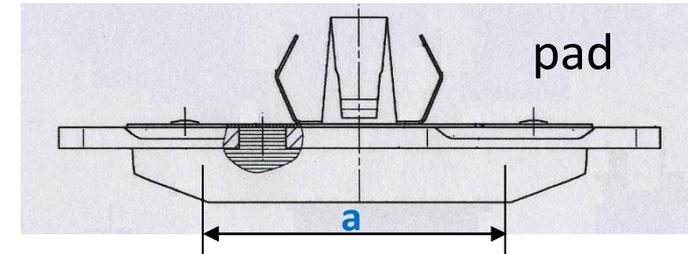
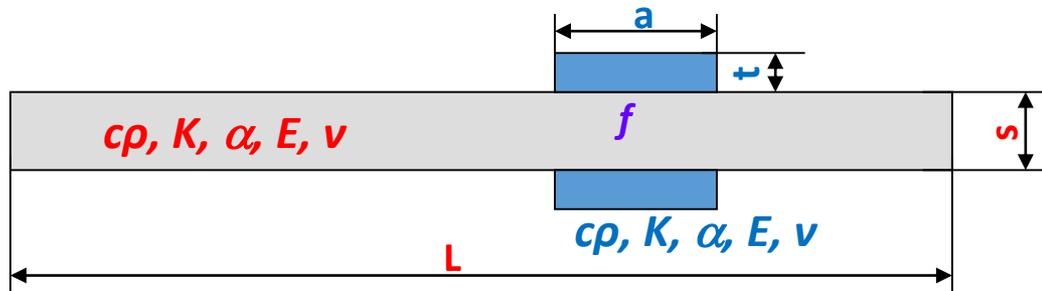
$$N = \frac{\text{circumference of disk}}{\text{arc length of pad}}$$



Number of hot spots

# Parameters influencing TEI

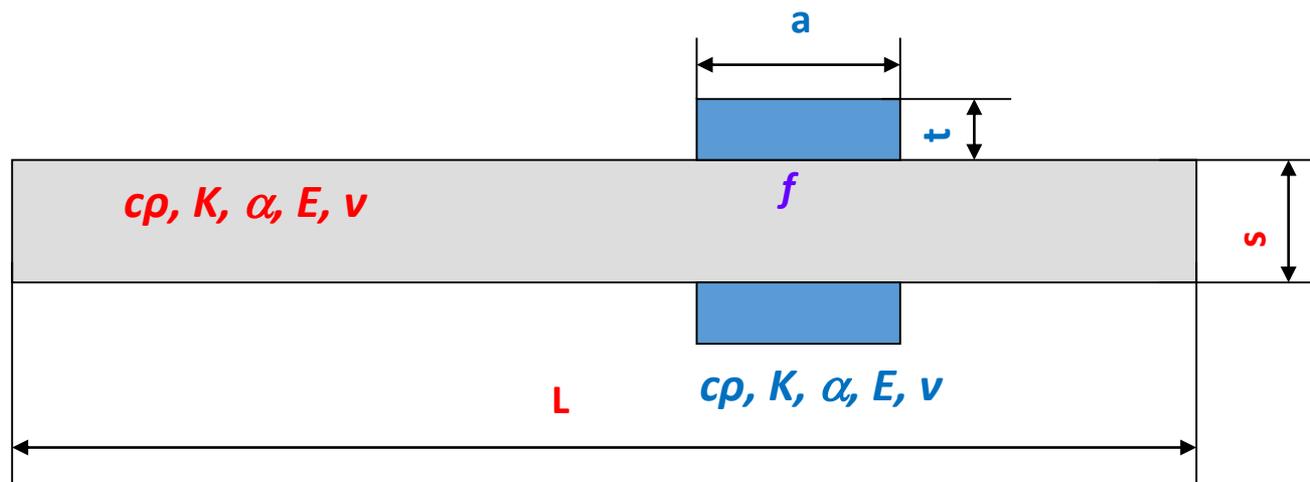
## Influence of disk brake parameters on inclination to TEI



higher value – lower influence	lesser value – lower influence	low influence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- thickness of pads <math>t</math></li> <li>- specific heat capacity of pads <math>c_p</math></li> <li>- thermal conductivity of pads <math>K</math></li> <li>- specific heat capacity of the disk <math>c_p</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- friction coefficient <math>f</math></li> <li>- elastic modulus of pads <math>E</math></li> <li>- coefficient of thermal expansion of the disk material <math>\alpha</math></li> <li>- elastic modulus of the disk <math>E</math></li> <li>- arc length of the pad <math>a, (a/L)</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- thickness of the disk <math>s</math></li> <li>- Poisson's ratios <math>\nu, \nu</math></li> <li>- coefficient of thermal expansion of pads <math>\alpha</math></li> <li>- thermal conductivity of the disk <math>K</math></li> </ul>

## Advantage of TEI mathematical modeling

- too many parameters have to be experimentally distinguished
- it is not possible to change only one parameter (material parameters depend on temperature)



## Suppression mechanisms of the exponential rise of instability

The exponential growth ( $\approx$  explosion growth) stops sooner or later.

Mechanisms of the exponential growth interruption:

- the **friction coefficient  $f$  declines** with increasing temperature, and so the friction heat source  $fVp$  declines as well
- the contact pressure amplitude  $p_{am} \exp(bt)$  exceeds the initial uniform pressure  $p_0$  anyway. In such a case, the **loss of contact** under a part of the pads occurs. TEI comes into a second, strong nonlinear, mode of behavior.
- for disc of large diameter, used on railroads, the material **yield strength** is exceeded before the mentioned separation happens
- the **wear** of pads accompanies every real braking instance, and it depend above all on the local contact pressure

## FEM – Petrov-Galerkin discretization

- The most direct numerical approach is to simulate the evolution of the instability in time.

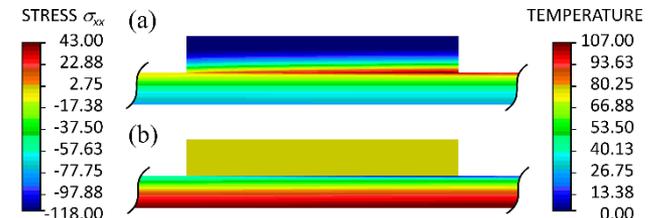
The transient heat conduction problem necessitates a relatively small time step (Peclet numbers are generally large). Direct numerical simulation is very computer intensive even for 2D model.

## FEM – eigenvalue problem

- An alternative approach is a finite element implementation of Burton's perturbation technique.

$$[(K + C + f(V\Phi)A + bH] \Theta = 0$$

It is an eigenvalue problem for the growth parameter  $b$  ( $\Theta$  is an eigenvector here, sliding velocity  $V$  is given;  $K, C, A, H$  are suitable matrices).



- **Processes of thermoelastic instability (TEI) occurring on brake systems become evident as non-uniform distribution of temperature with hot spots on contact surface.**
- **Their temperature amplitudes can increase exponentially in the first, initial, “linear” phase of TEI.**
- **Some experimental data show complex behavior of hot spots during braking.**
- **There are various mechanisms of the interruption of the exponential growth.**
- **Mathematical modeling is essential for understanding the phenomena TEI.**



**FACULTY OF MECHANICAL  
ENGINEERING**  
UNIVERSITY  
OF WEST BOHEMIA

**DEPARTMENT**  
**OF POWER SYSTEM ENGINEERING**

**Thank You very much**