

# **Timber Structures**

**Inspection and Maintenance planning of  
timber structures concerning climate  
change implementing Reinforcement  
Learning**

First Mentor: Prof. Dr. Mauro Overend, Structural Design

Second Mentor: Dr. Charalampos Andriotis, Computational Intelligence

Special Advisor: Dr. Ming Shan Ng (Charmaine), Timber Structure

Student: Sasipa Vichitkraivin | 5765668





# Timber

Timeless  
Architectural Aesthetic  
Long-term Durability  
Strength



# Timber

“Hygroscopic Material”

Sensitive to the environmental factors:  
Temperature, Moisture, Light

Susceptible to biological factors:  
Fungi, insects

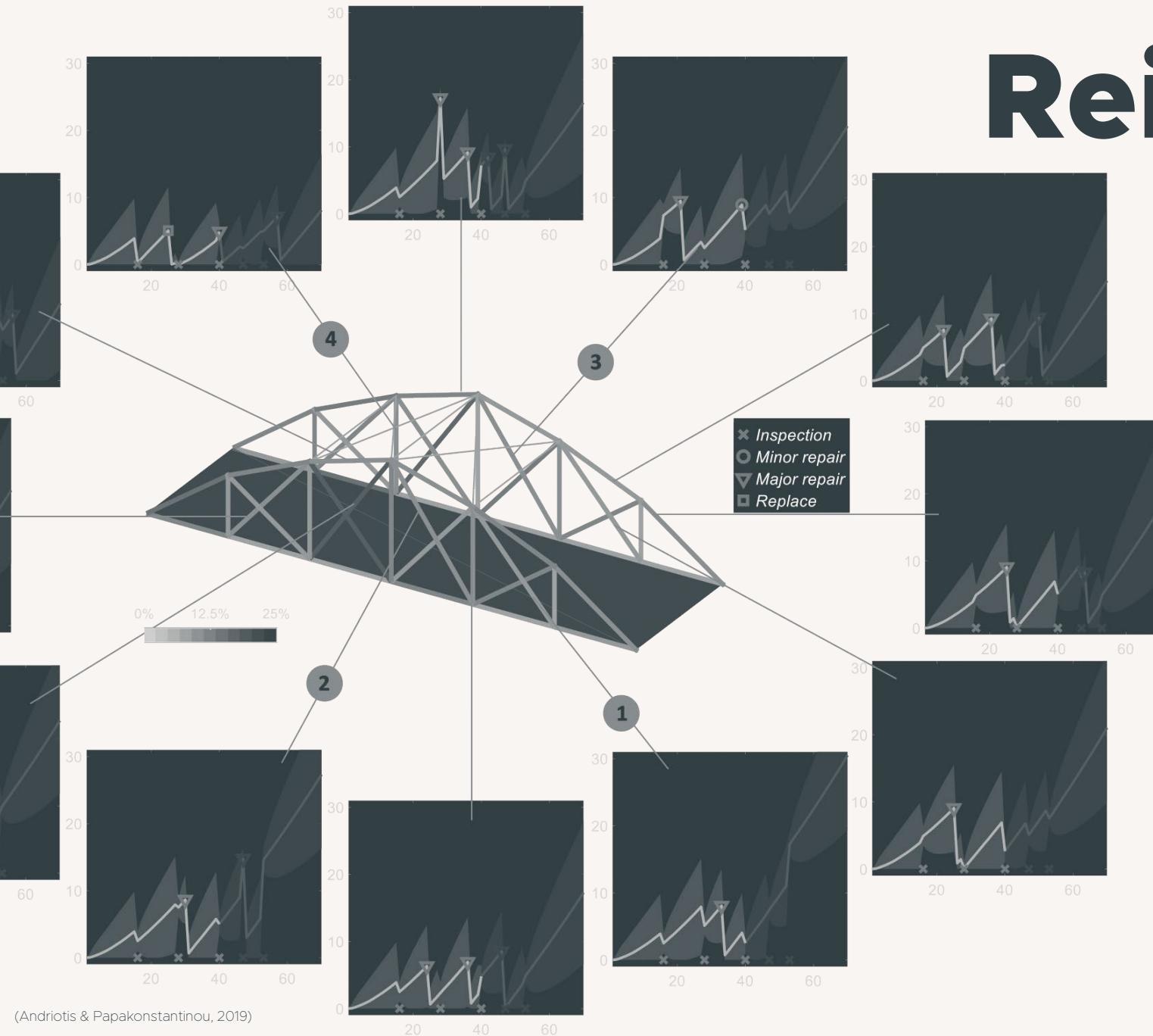
Decay over time

# climate Change

Dynamic change in:  
Temperature  
Moisture  
Precipitation



# Reinforcement Learning

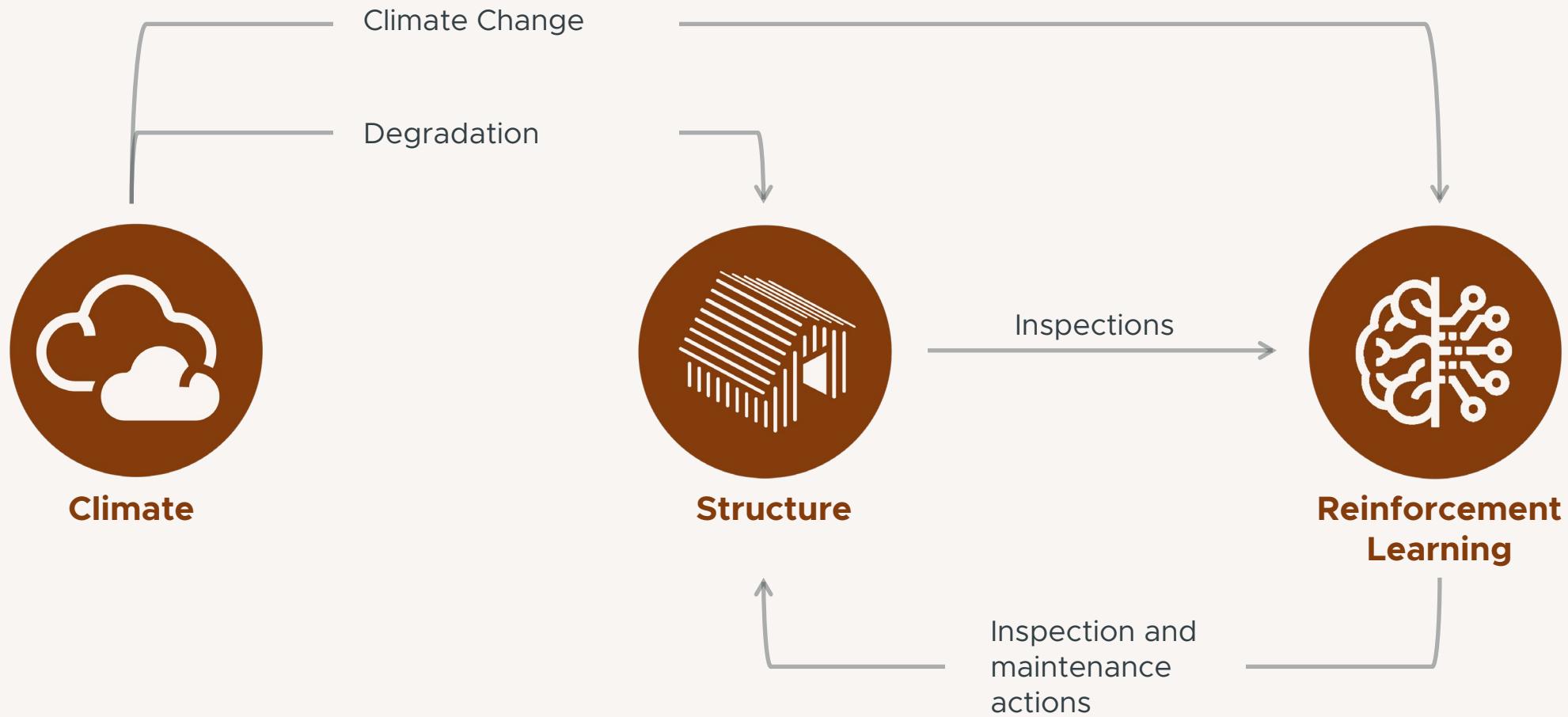


Shows the positive results in the large engineering infrastructure inspection and maintenance

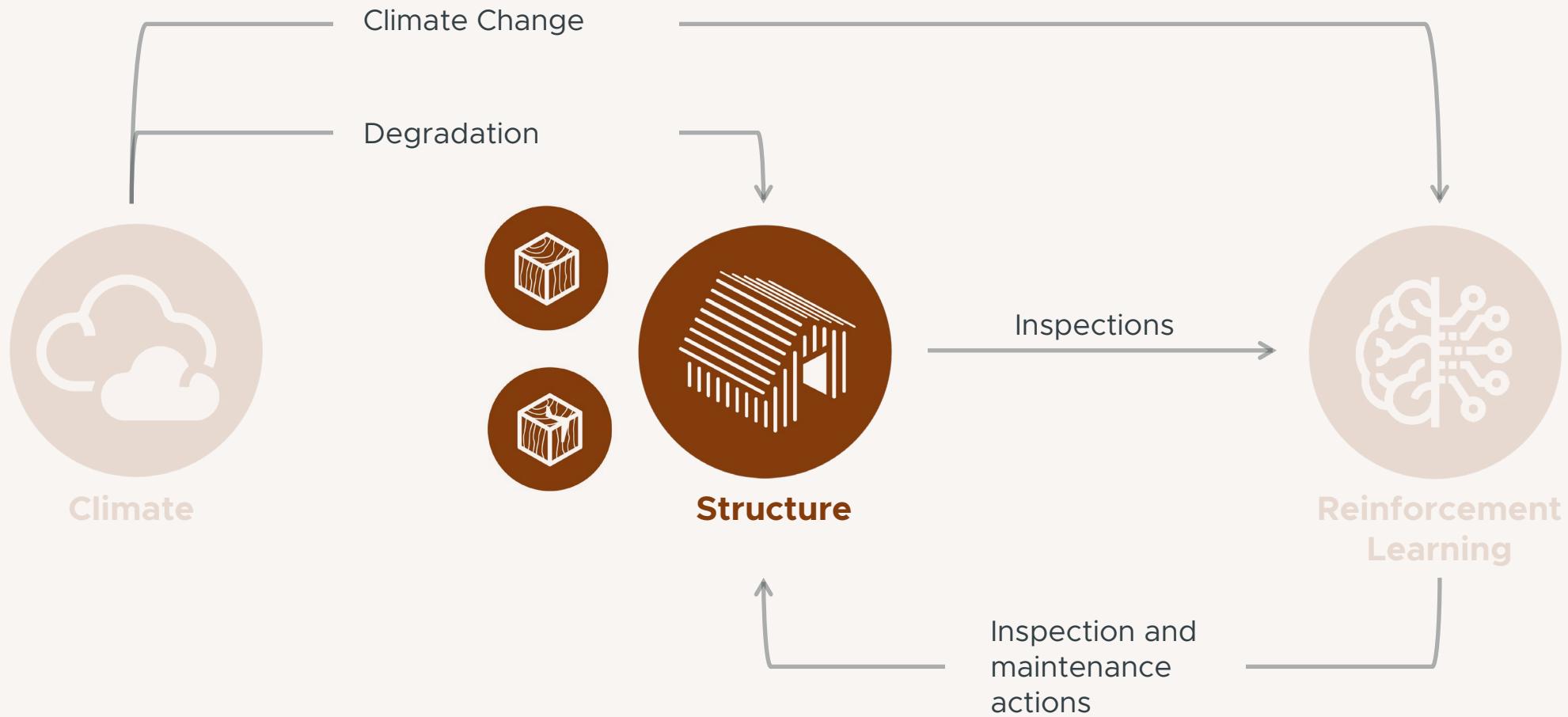
# Research Questions

*“How can reinforcement learning consider climate change effects to inform inspection and maintenance for timber structures?”*

# Framework dynamic policy under climate change

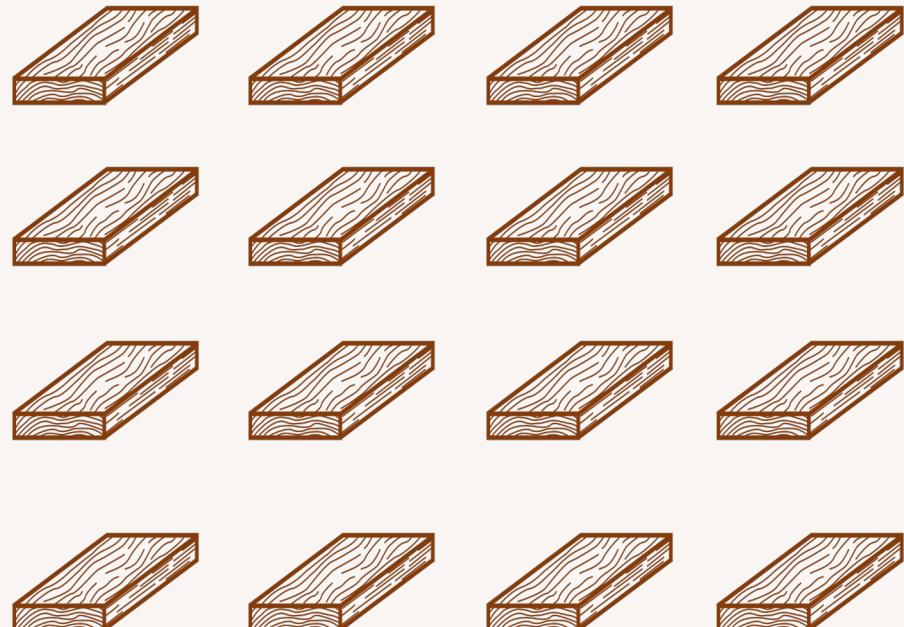


# Framework dynamic policy under climate change

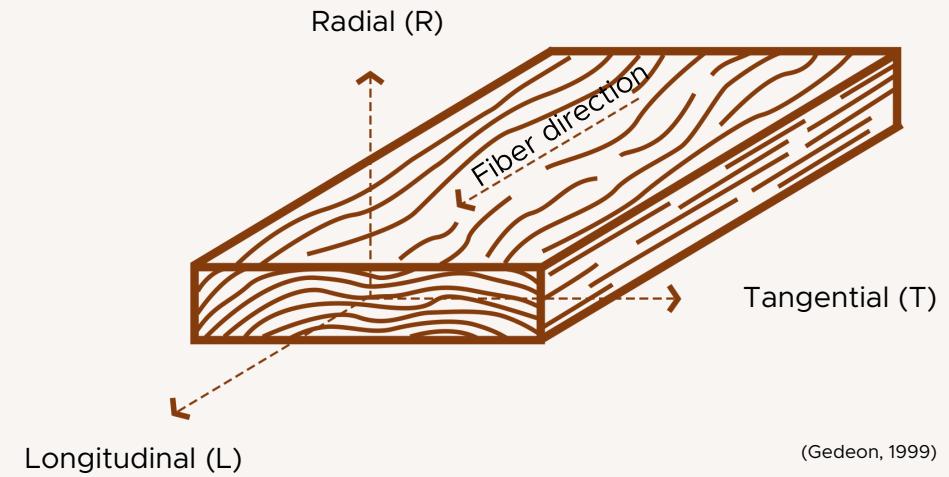


# Timber Properties

Strength



Wood Species



Fiber Directions

# Timber Properties

Factors that impact timber deterioration



## Chemical and physical agents

Weathering:

- UV radiation
- Temperature
- Moisture & Humidity
- Rainwater

Fire



## Biologic Degradation

Fungi

Insects



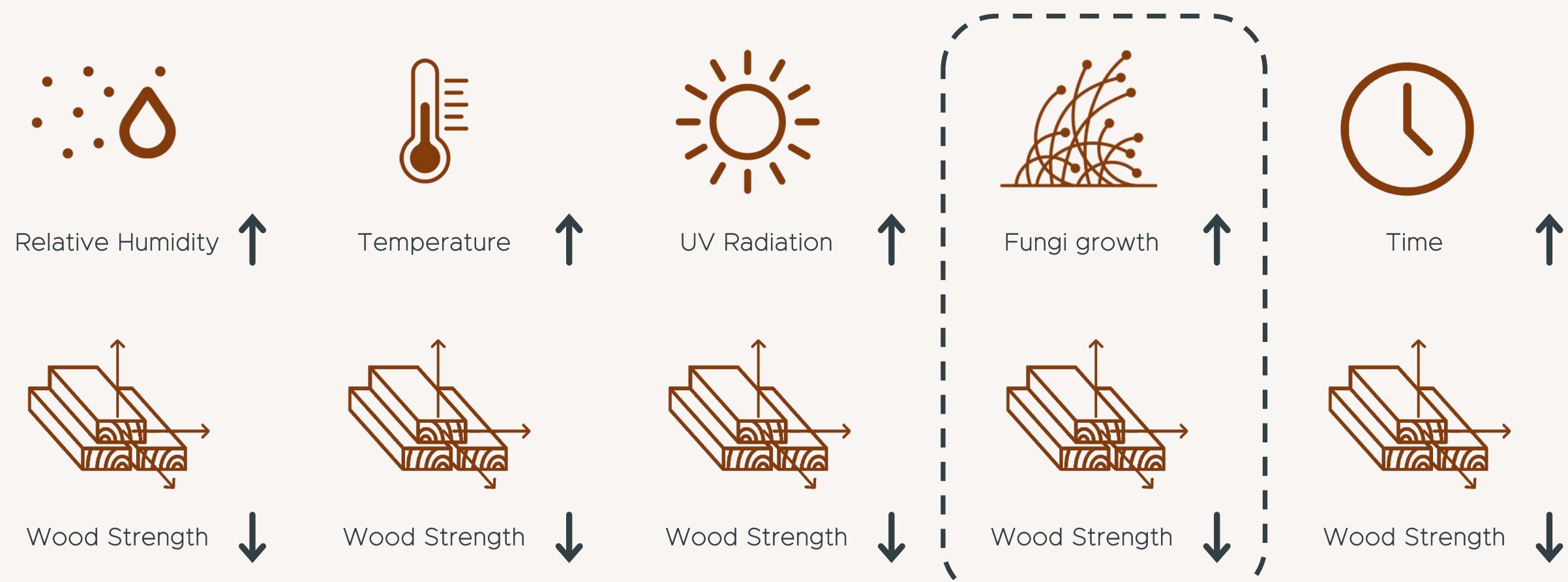
## Degradation through time

Damage accumulation effect  
(Duration of Load effect: DOL)

Chemical changes in wood cells (Wood aging)

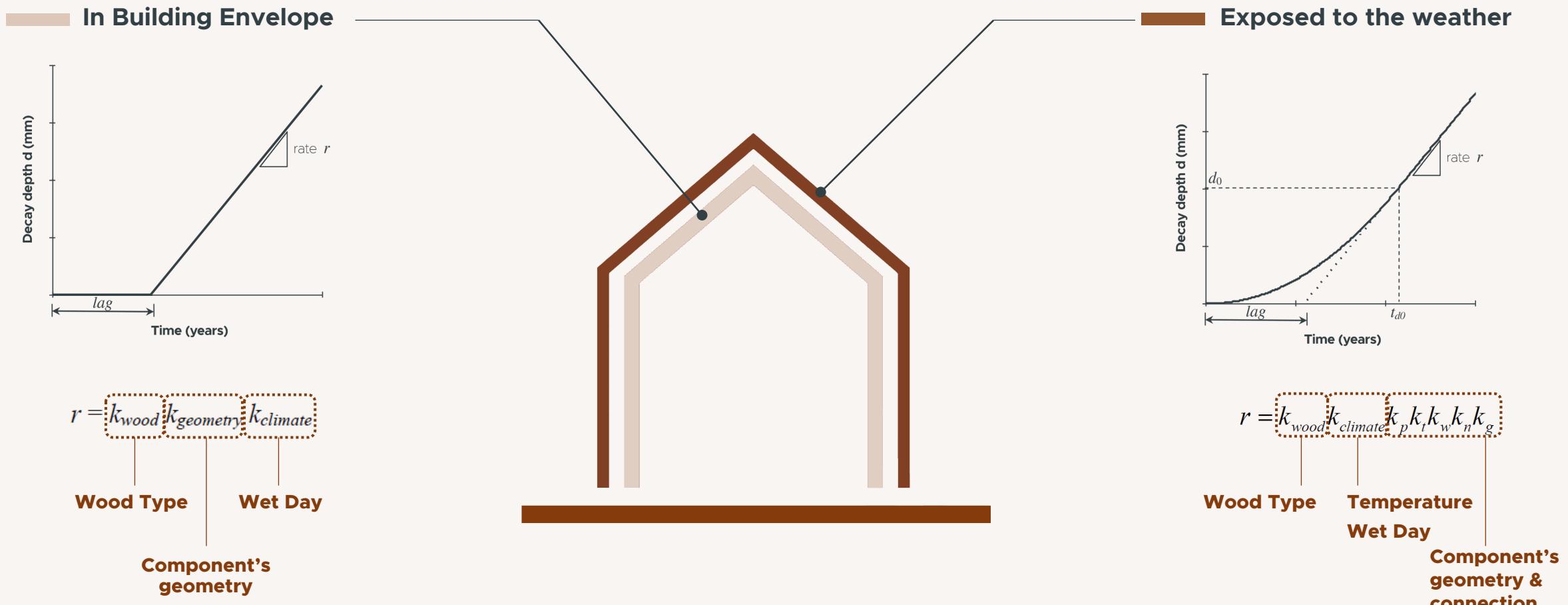
# Timber Properties

Factors that impact timber deterioration

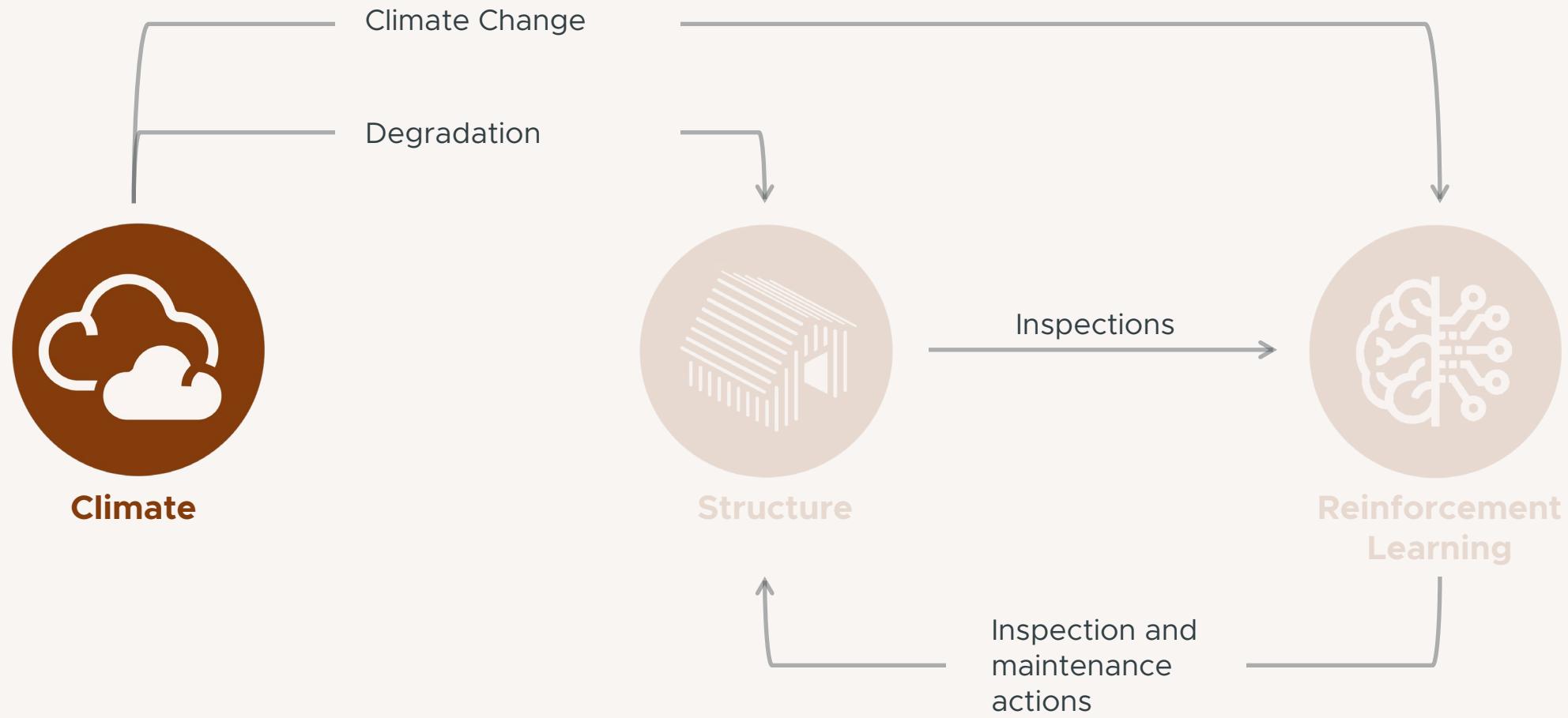


# Timber Deterioration

Decay Fungi

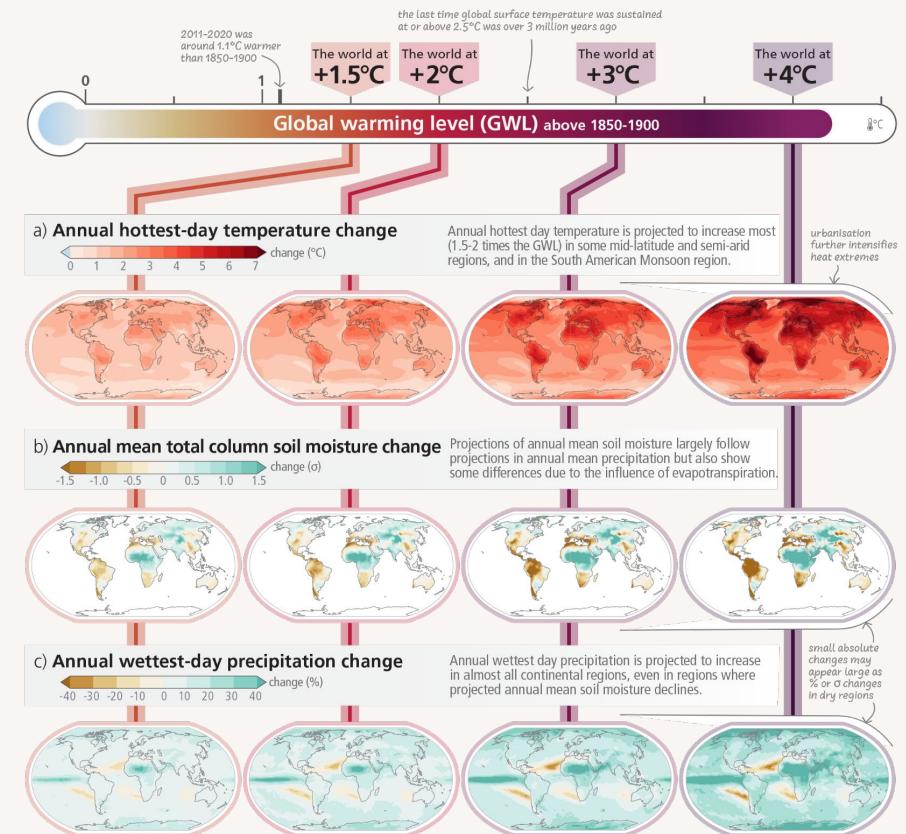
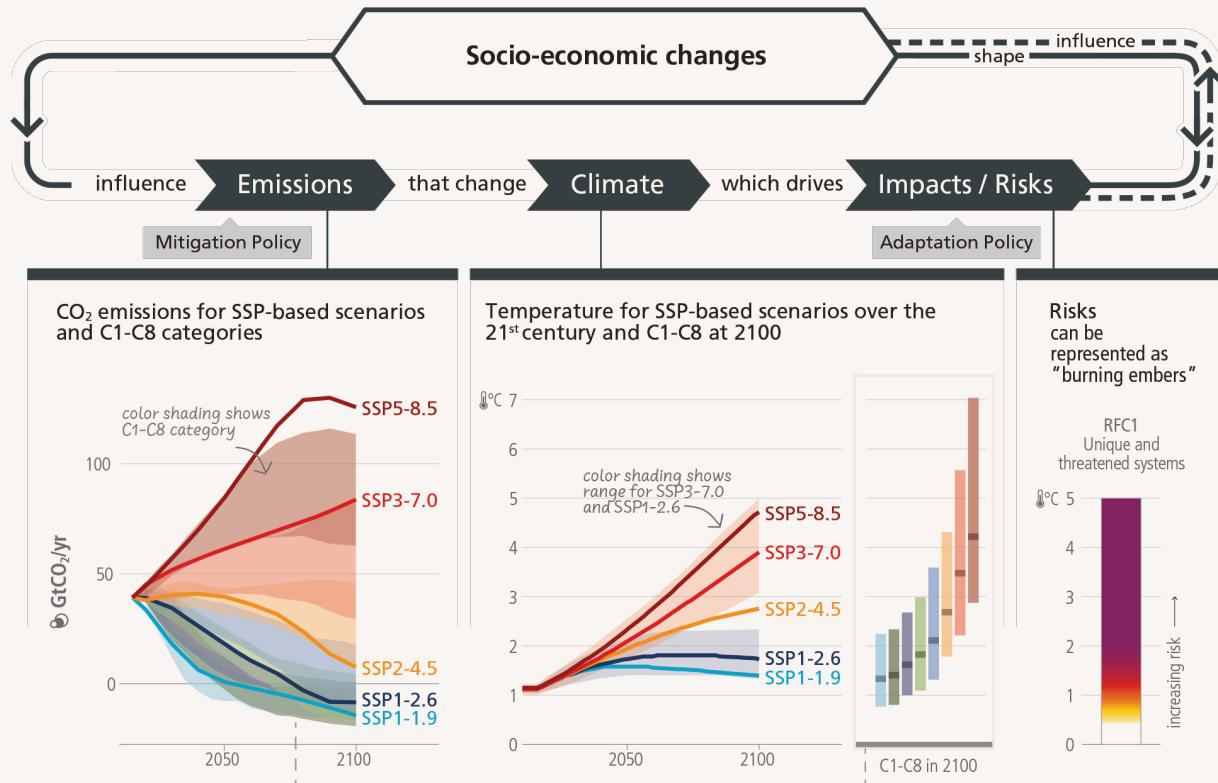


# Framework dynamic policy under climate change



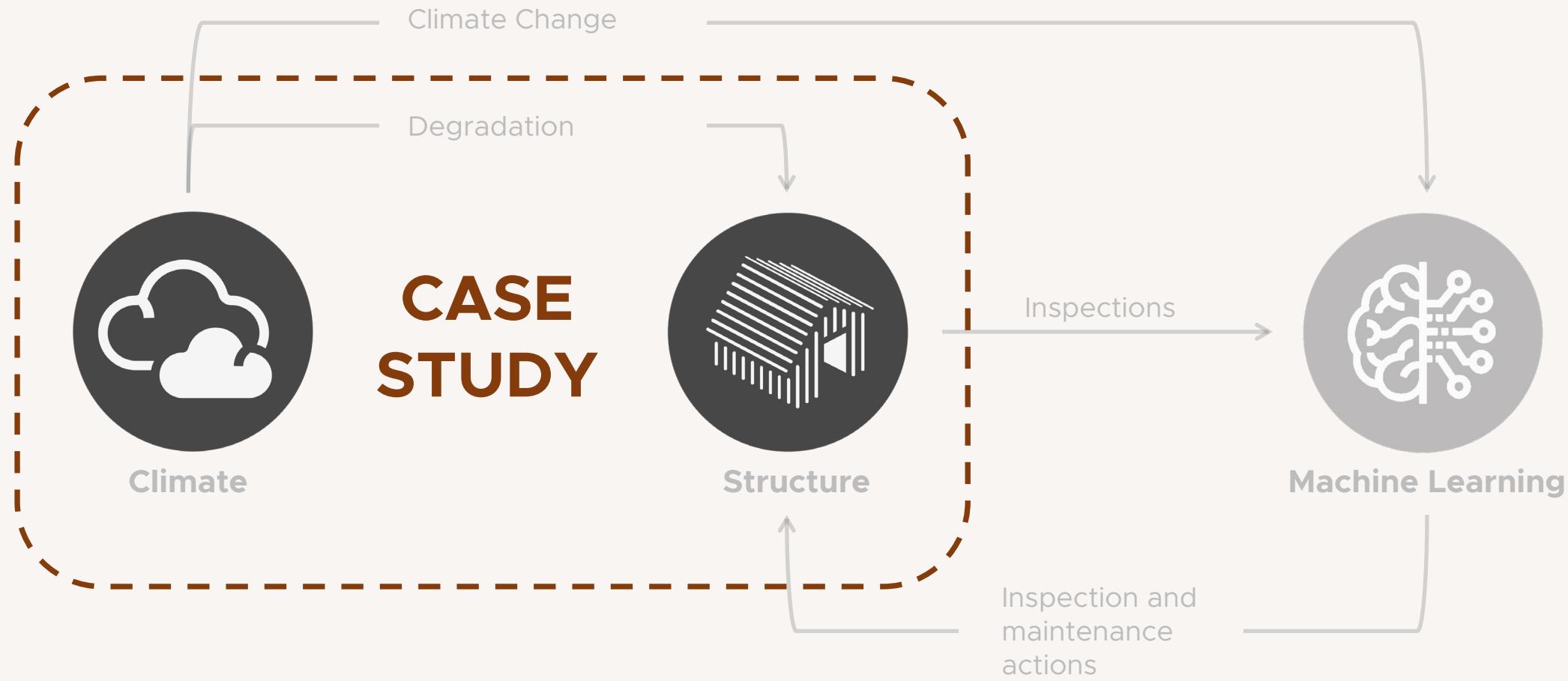
# Climate Change

## Climate scenarios



(IPCC, 2023a)

# Framework dynamic policy under climate change





# Case Study

Toshodai-ji Temple Kondo (Golden Hall): 8<sup>th</sup> century (1244 years)



# Case Study

Toshodai-ji Temple Kondo (Golden Hall): location



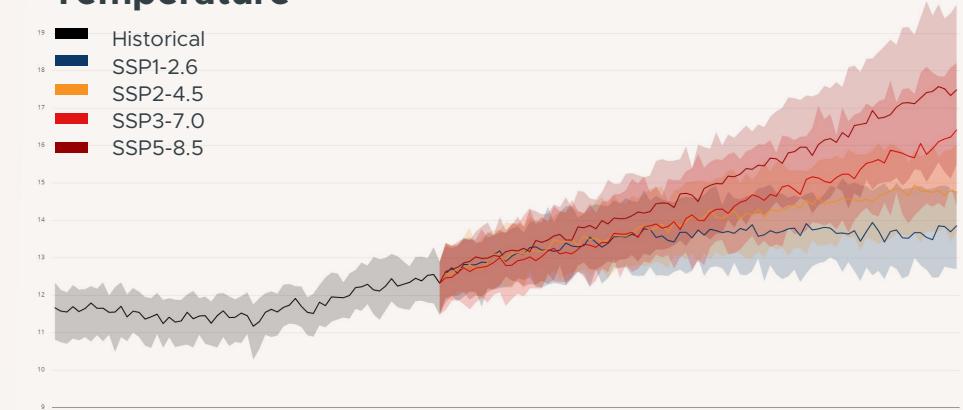
# Case Study

Toshodai-ji Temple Kondo (Golden Hall): climate data

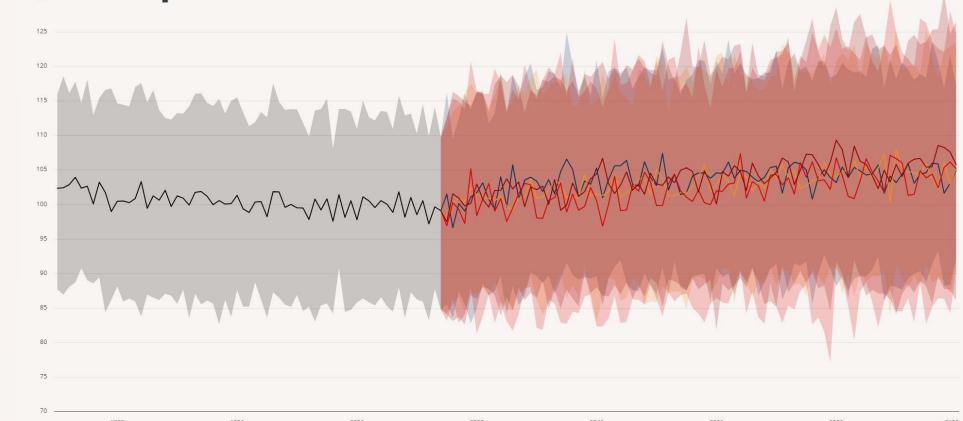


## Temperature

- Historical
- SSP1-2.6
- SSP2-4.5
- SSP3-7.0
- SSP5-8.5



## Precipitation



# Case Study

Toshodai-ji Temple Kondo (Golden Hall): wood type

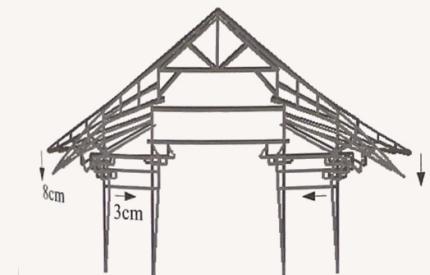
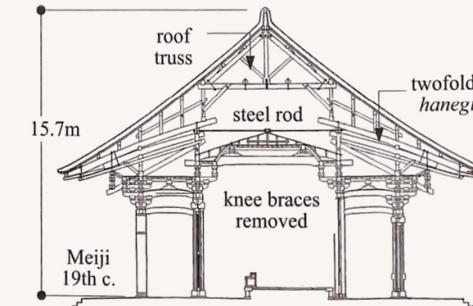
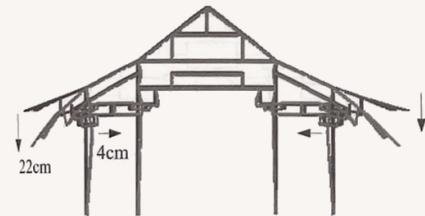
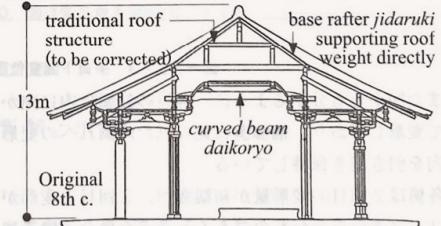
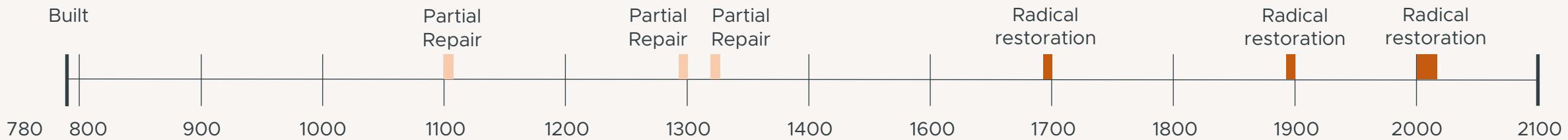
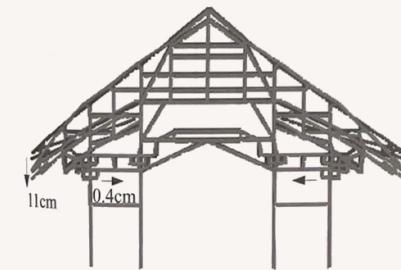
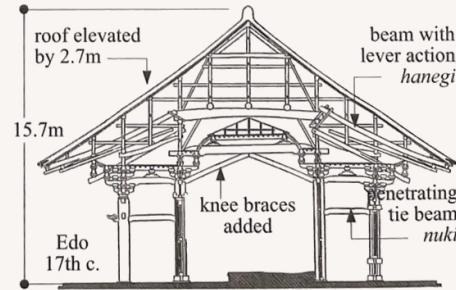


**Japanese Cypress: Hinoki**  
“*Chamaecyparis obtuse*”



# Case Study

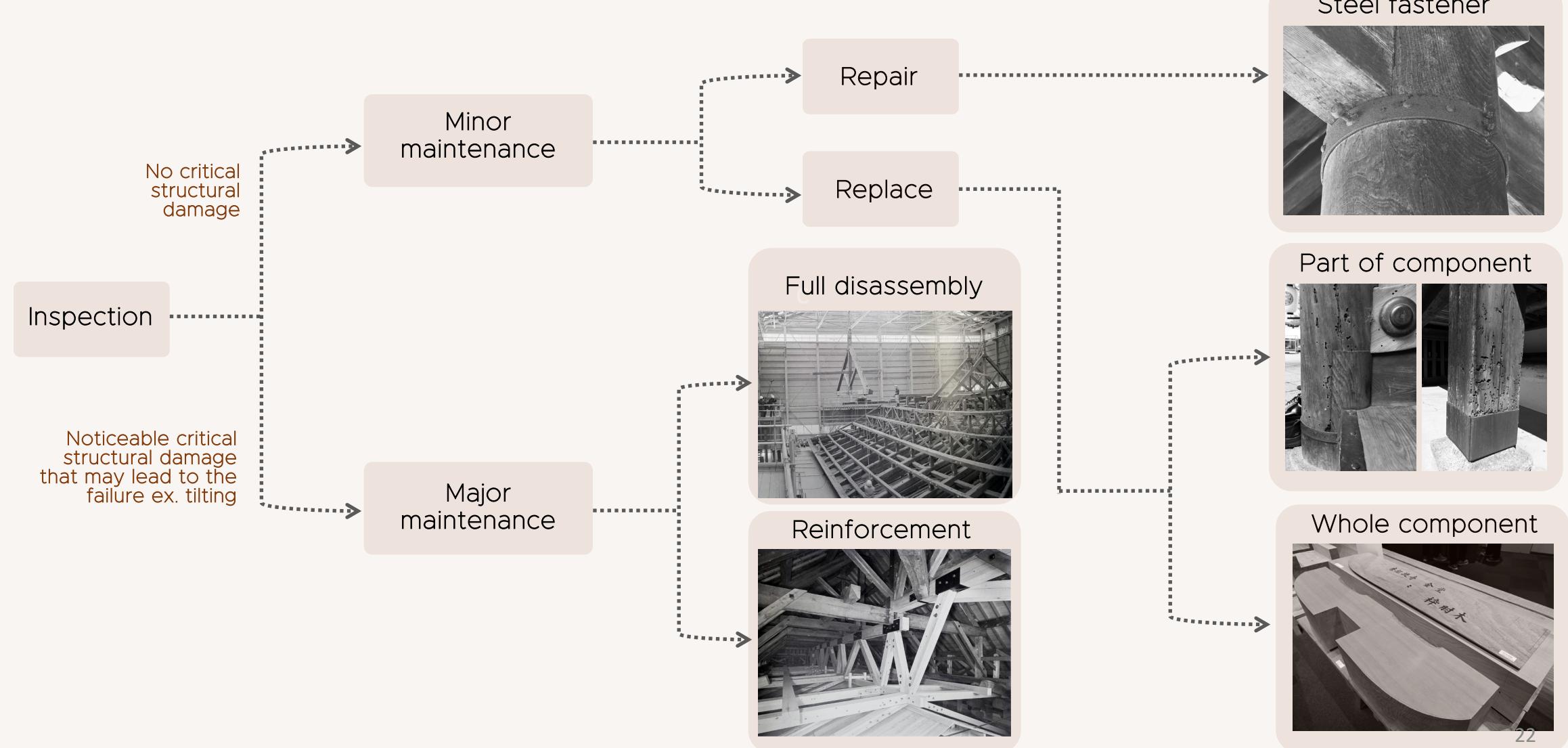
Toshodai-ji Temple Kondo (Golden Hall): maintenance record



# Case Study

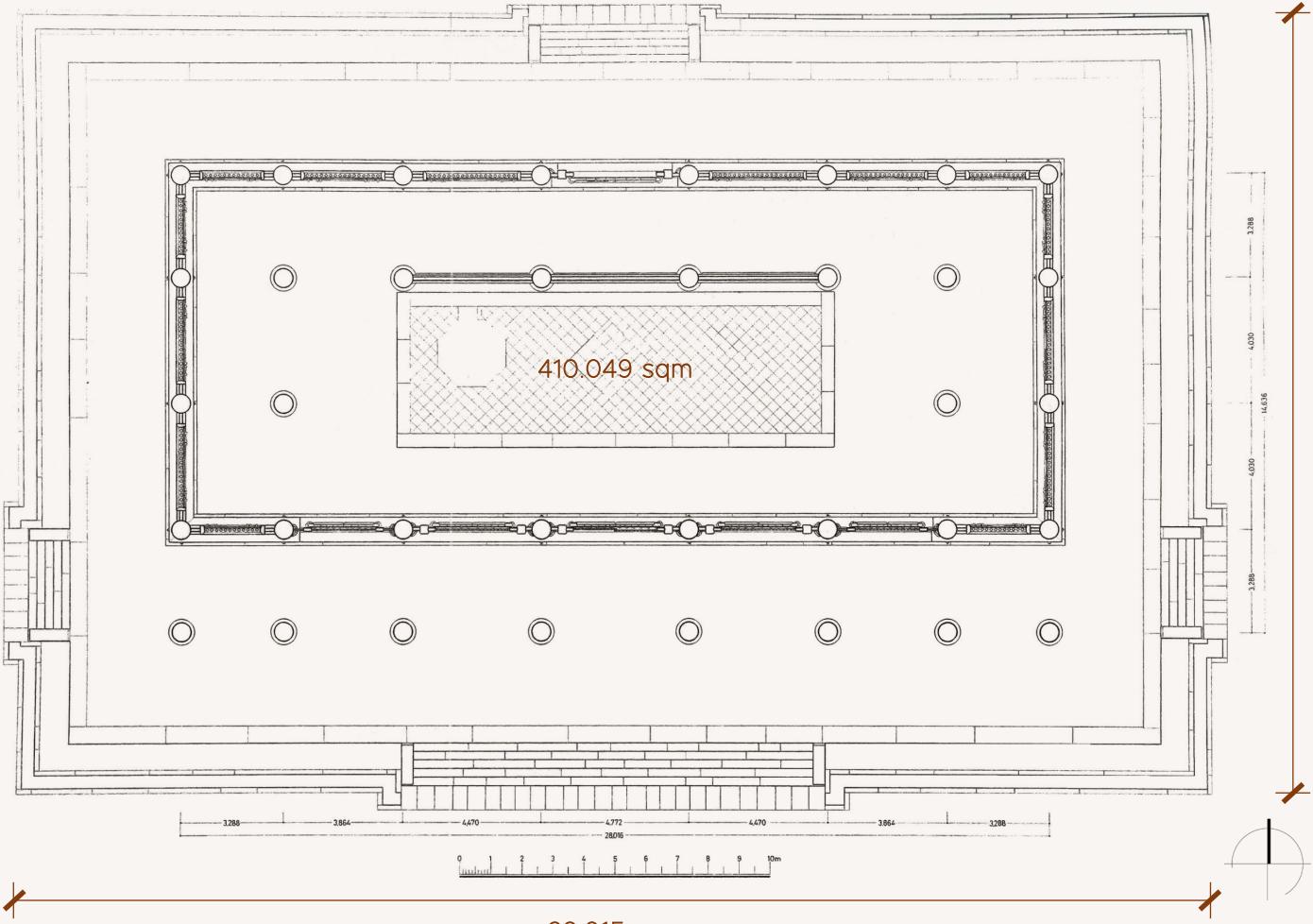
## Inspection and Maintenance Processes

(Interviewing Mr. Akira Nishimura, Takenaka Carpentry)

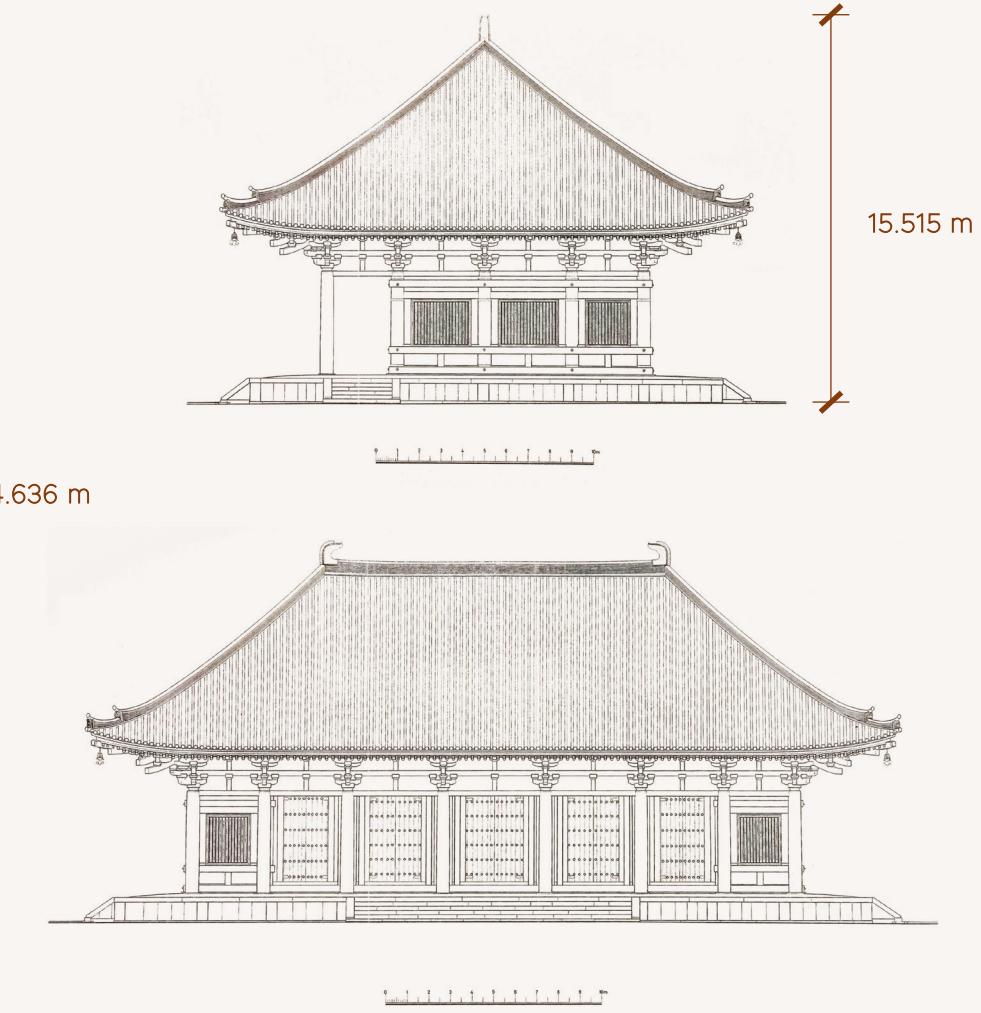


# Case Study

## Toshodai-ji Temple Kondo (Golden Hall)



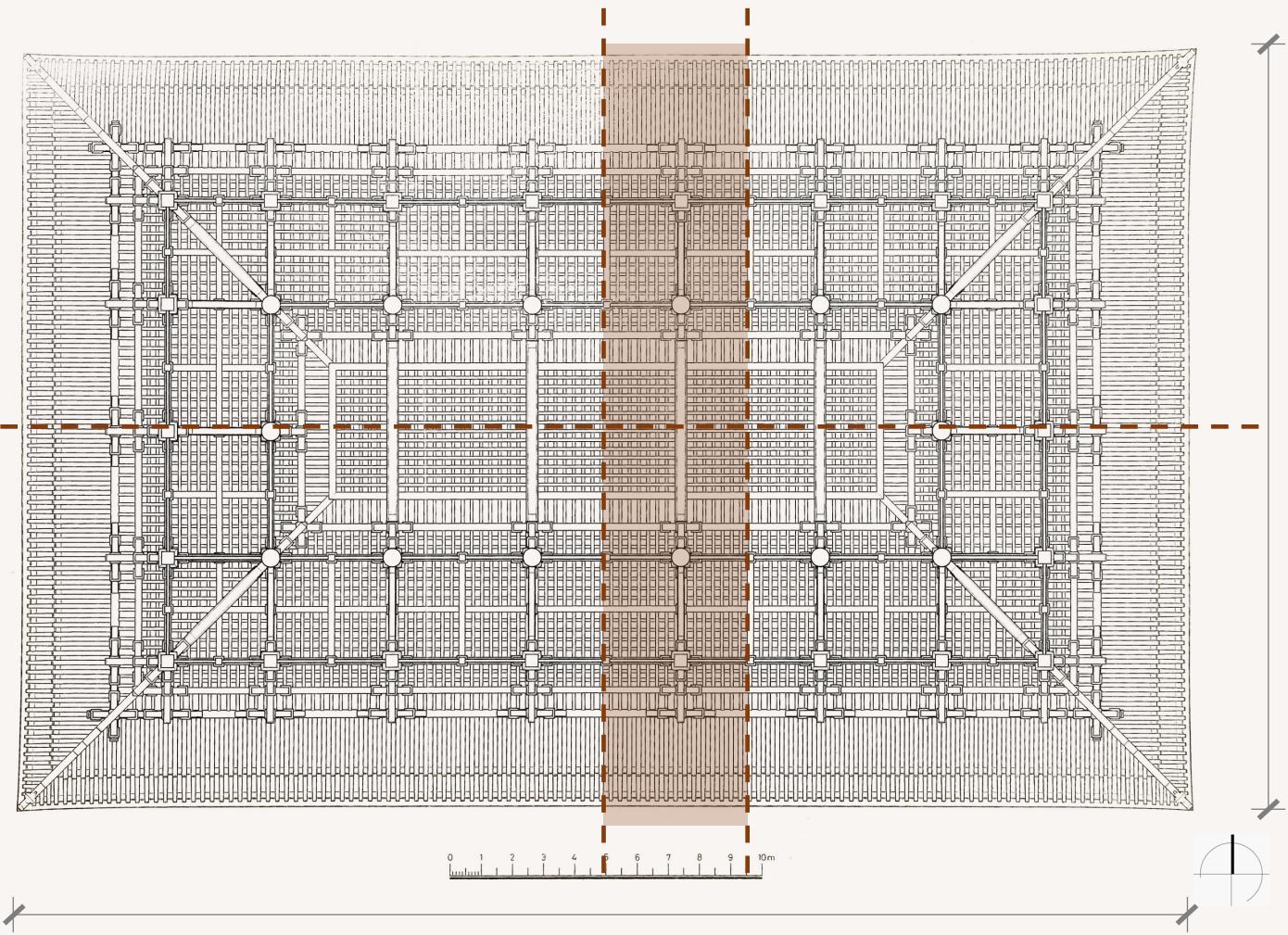
(Office of Cultural Assets Preservation, 2009)



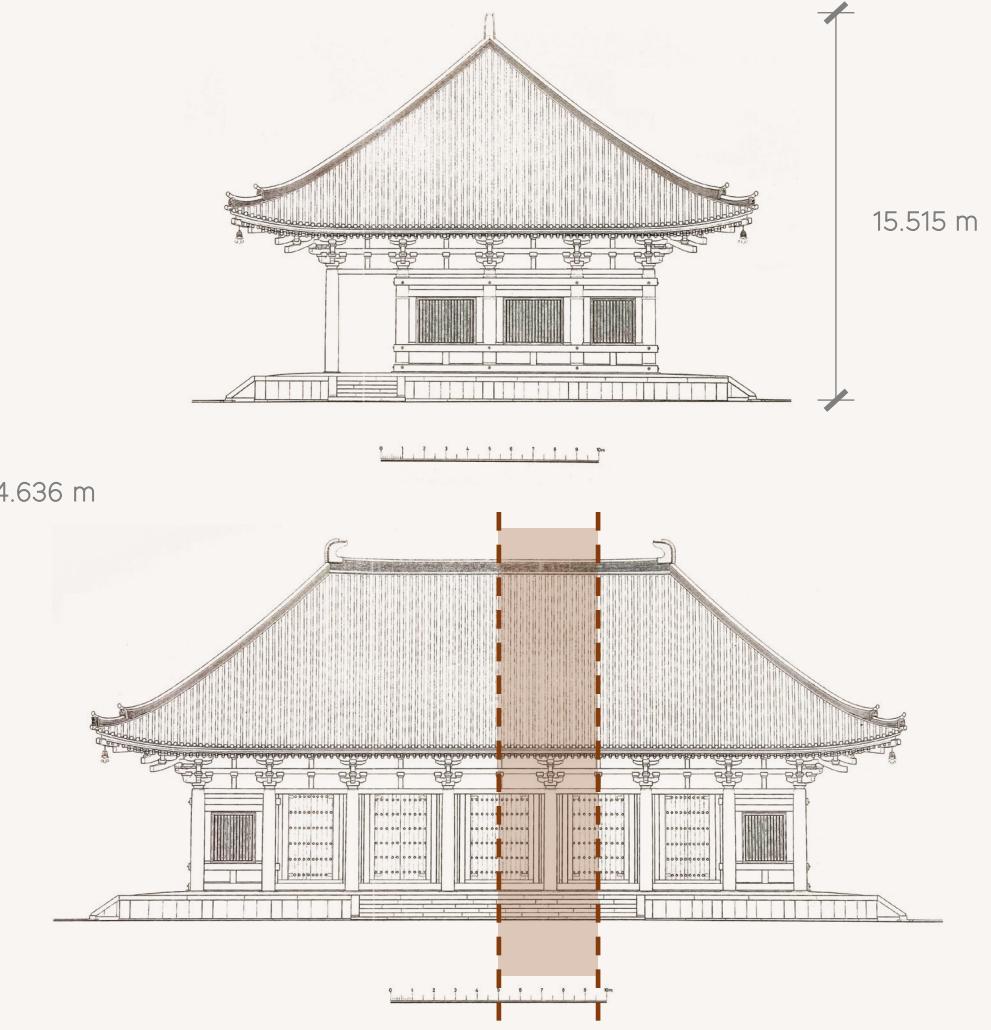
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# Case Study

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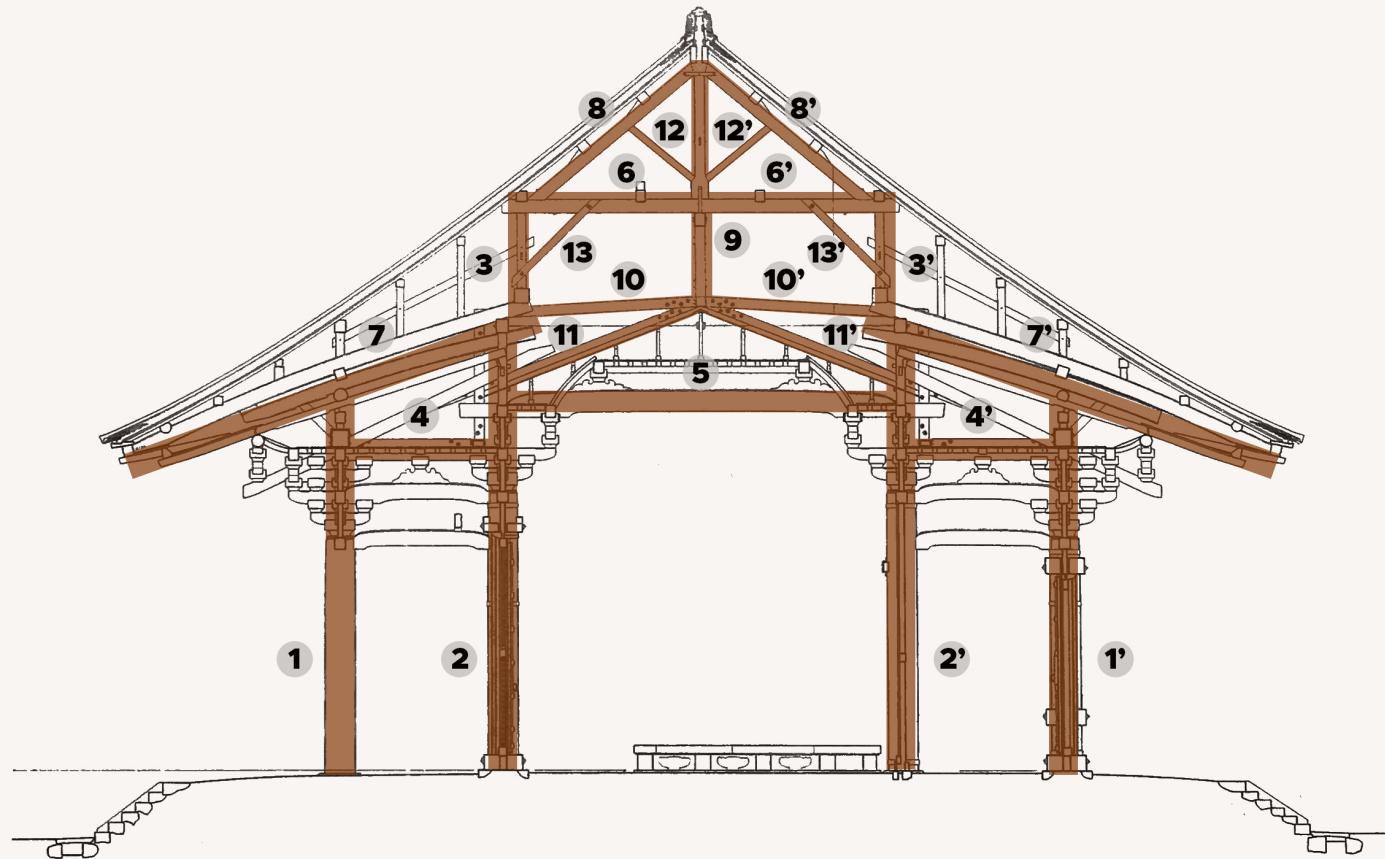
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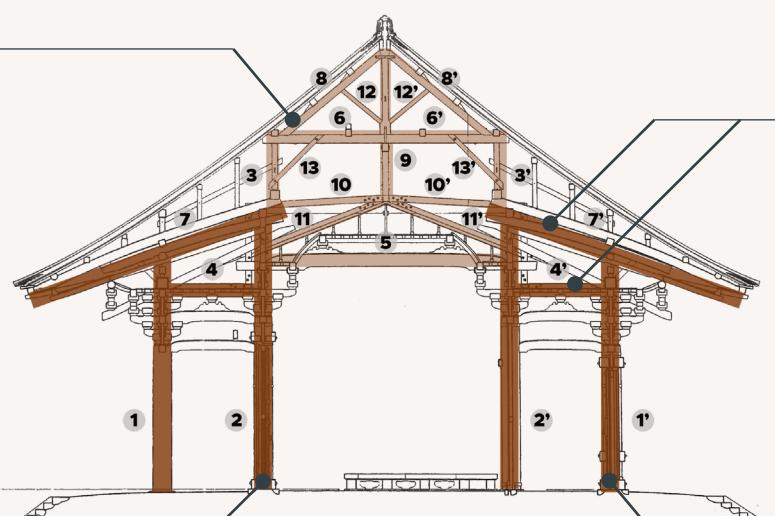
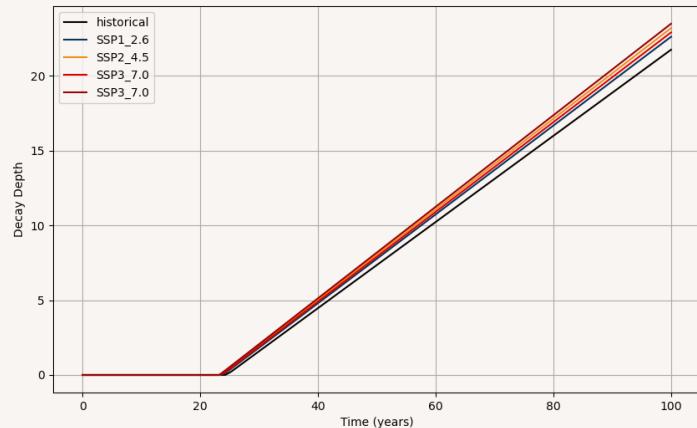
Toshodai-ji Temple Kondo (Golden Hall)



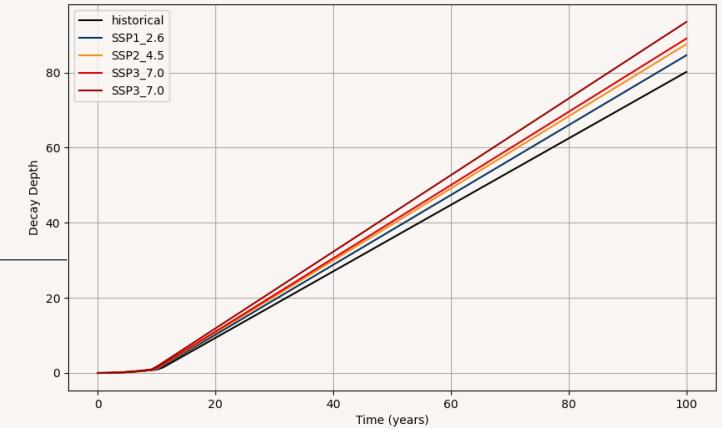
# Case Study

## Deterioration Model

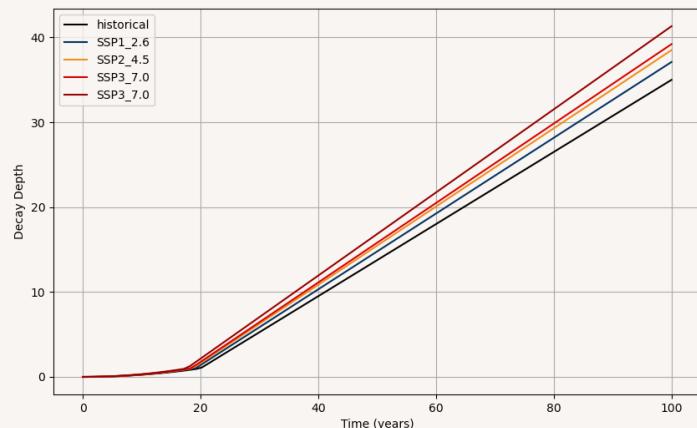
Components 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13



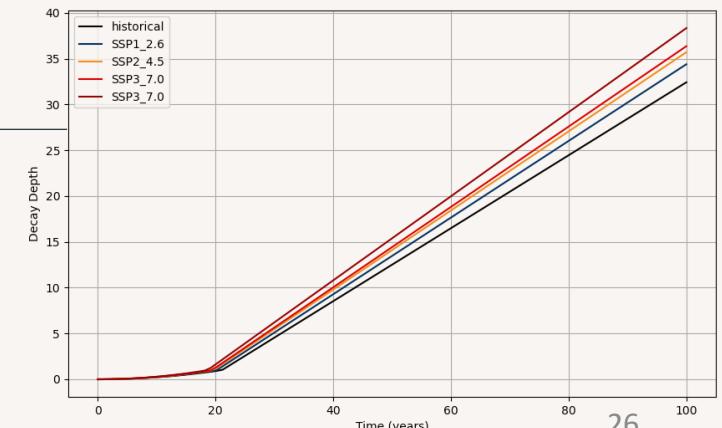
Components 4, 7



Component 2



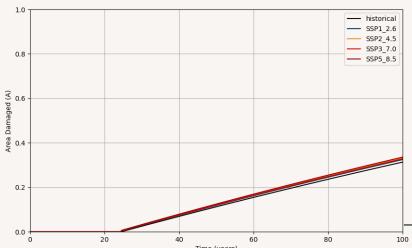
Component 1



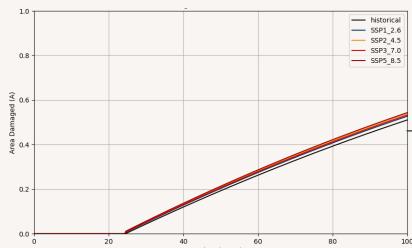
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## Deterioration Model

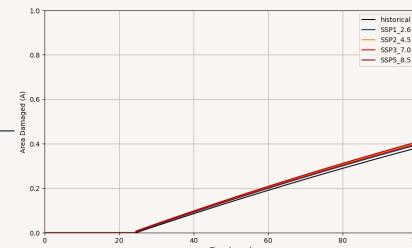
**Component 6**



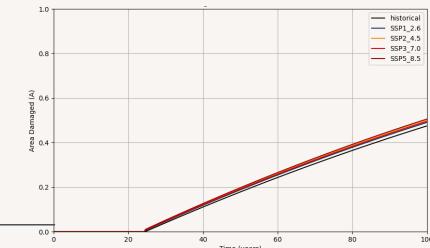
**Component 12**



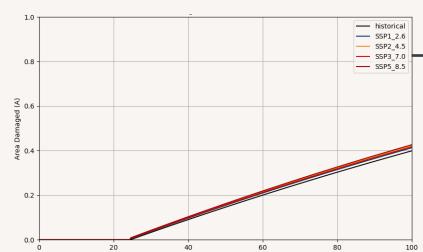
**Component 8**



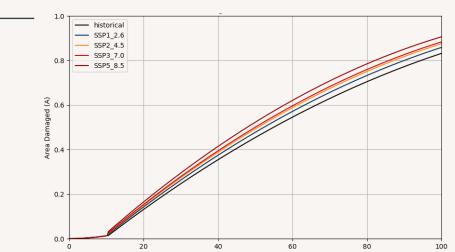
**Component 13**



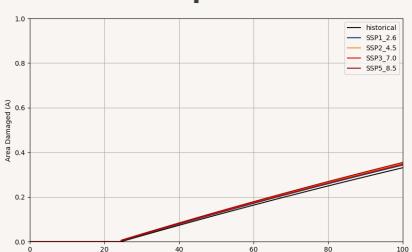
**Components 3, 9**



**Components 4, 7**



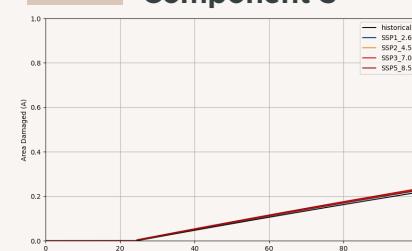
**Component 10**



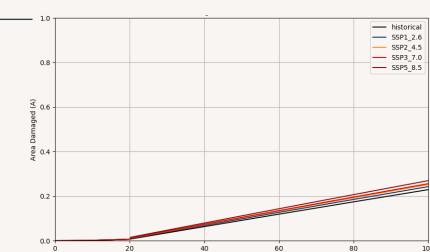
**Component 11**



**Component 5**

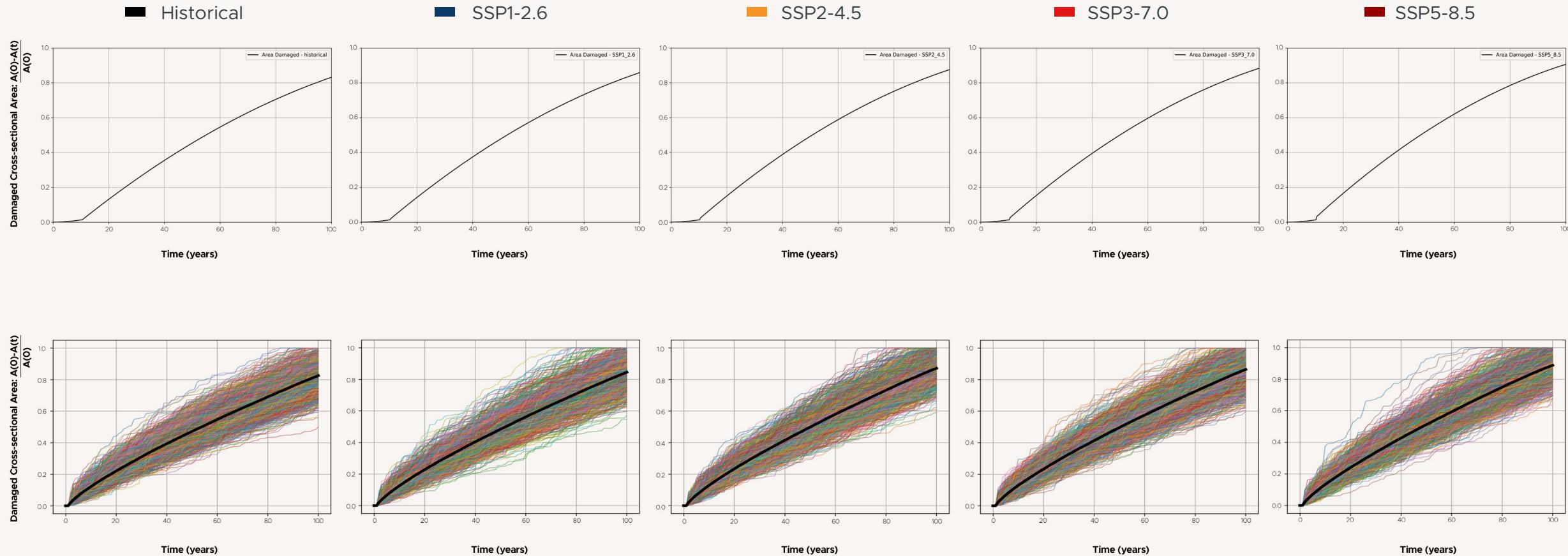


**Components 1, 2**



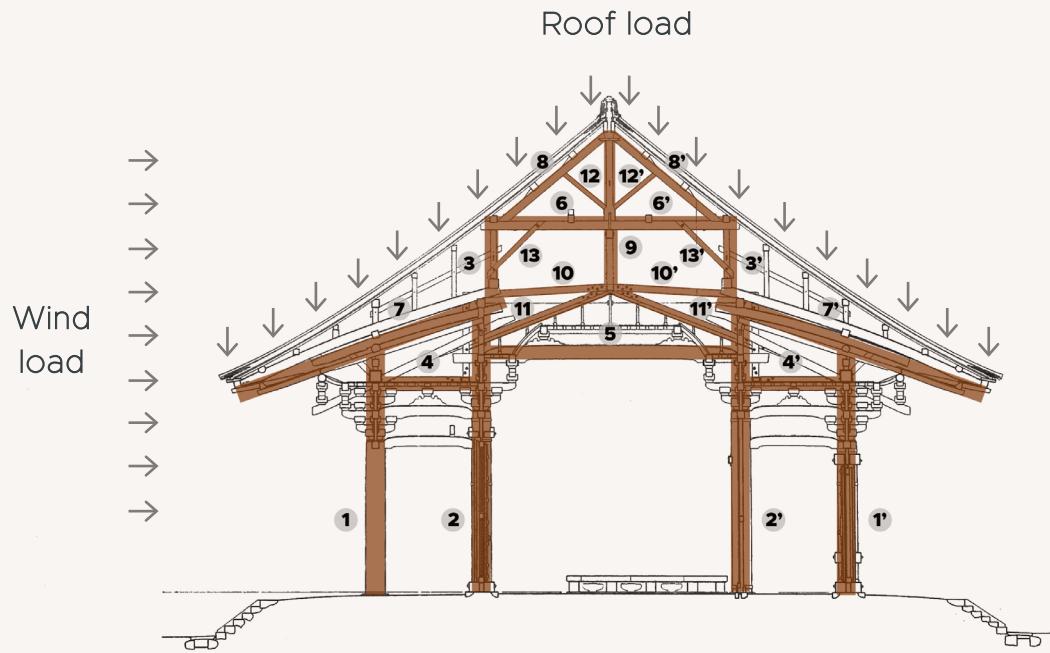
# Stochastic Deterioration Process

Gamma Process

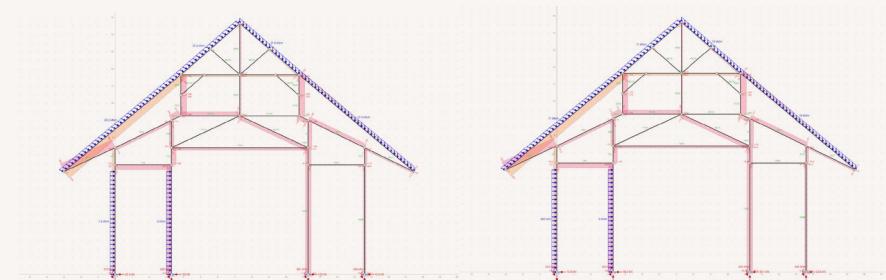


# Case Study

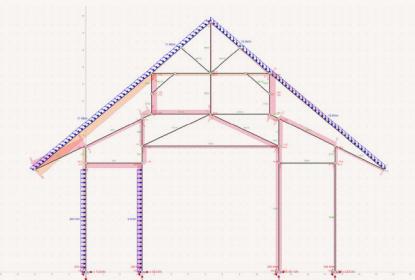
## Structural Analysis



SLS



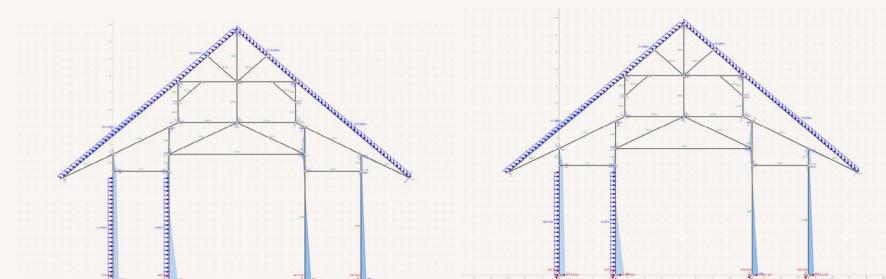
ULS



Stress

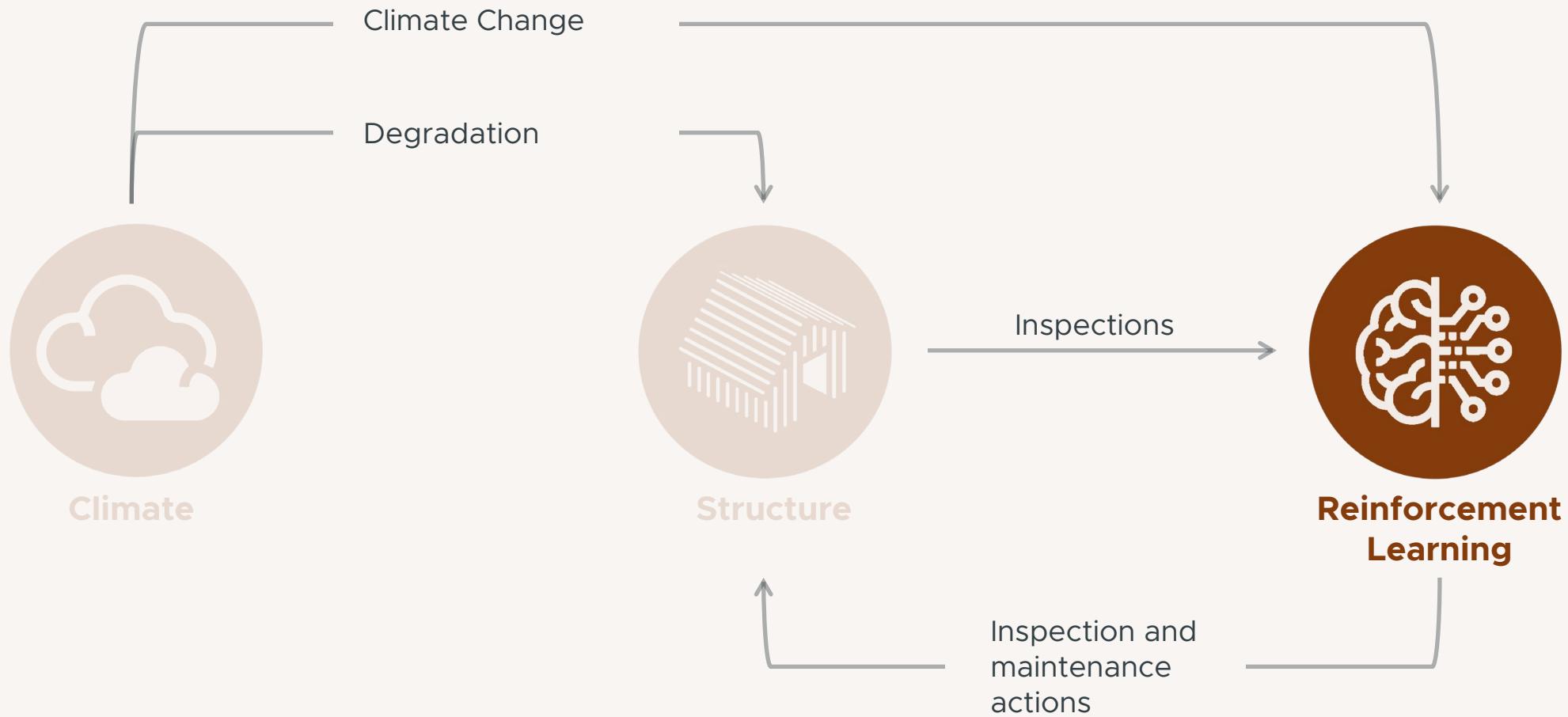
$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A}$$

Bending Moment



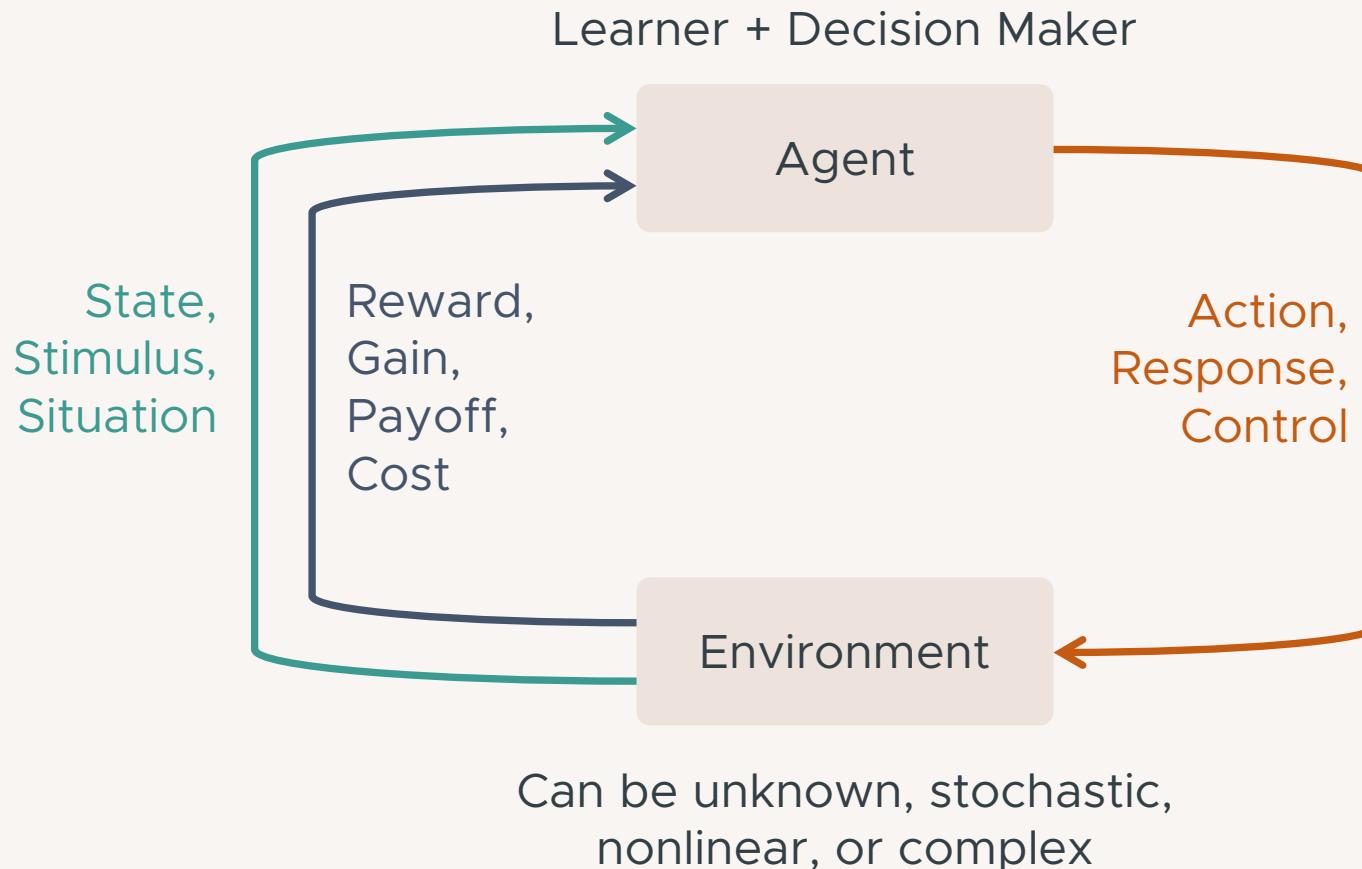
$$\sigma_m = \frac{My}{I}$$

# Framework dynamic policy under climate change



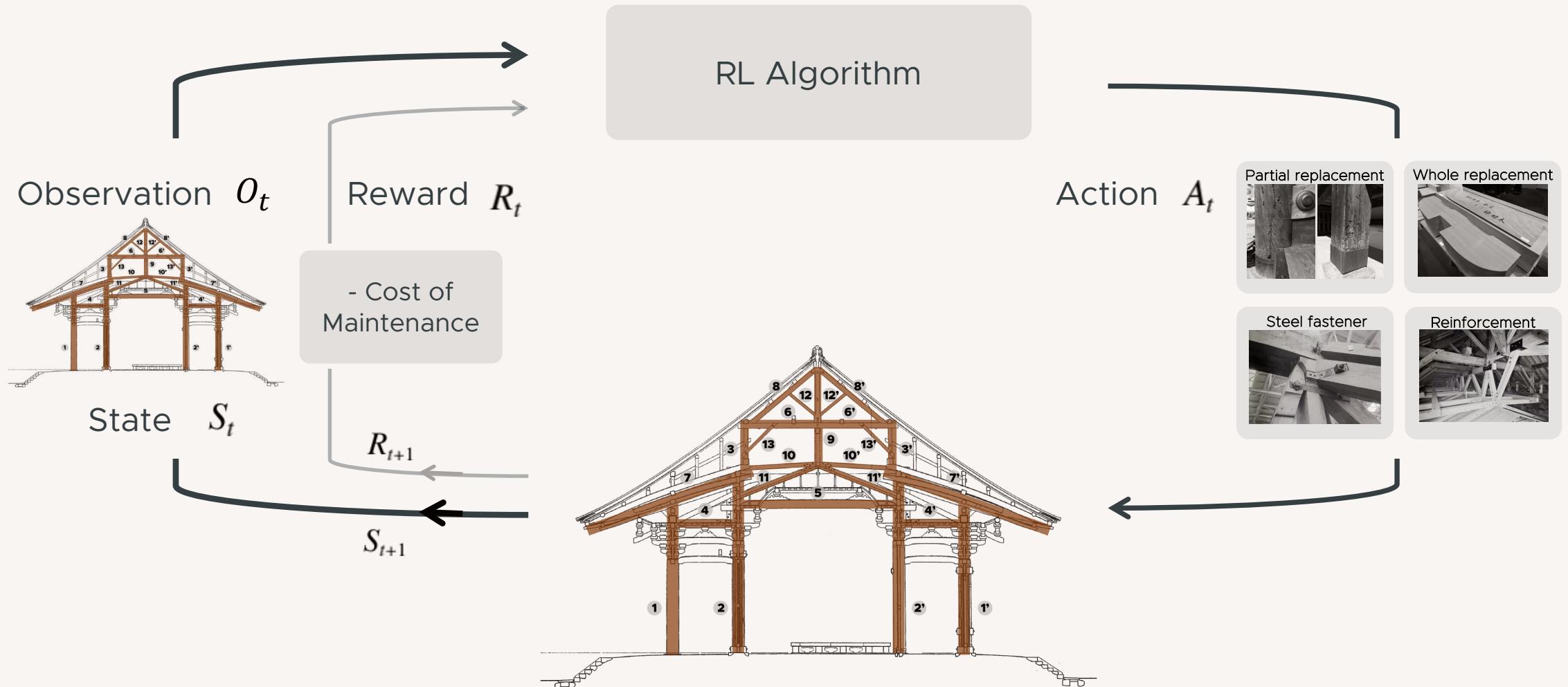
# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework



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POMDP Framework



# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework

Belief States

Transition Probabilities

Observation Probabilities

Action Space

Reward Functions

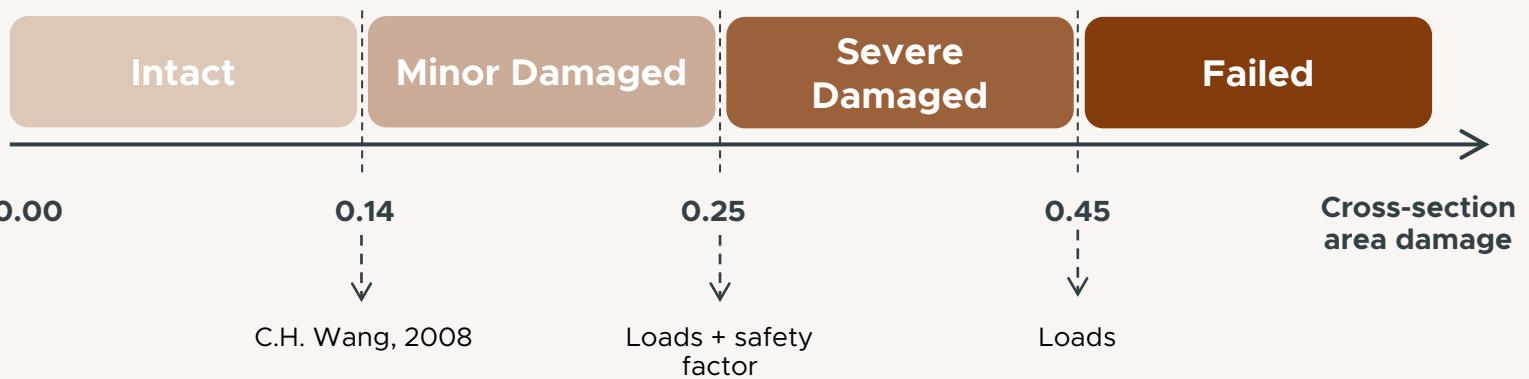
Discount Factor

# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework

## Belief States

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POMDP Framework

## Belief States

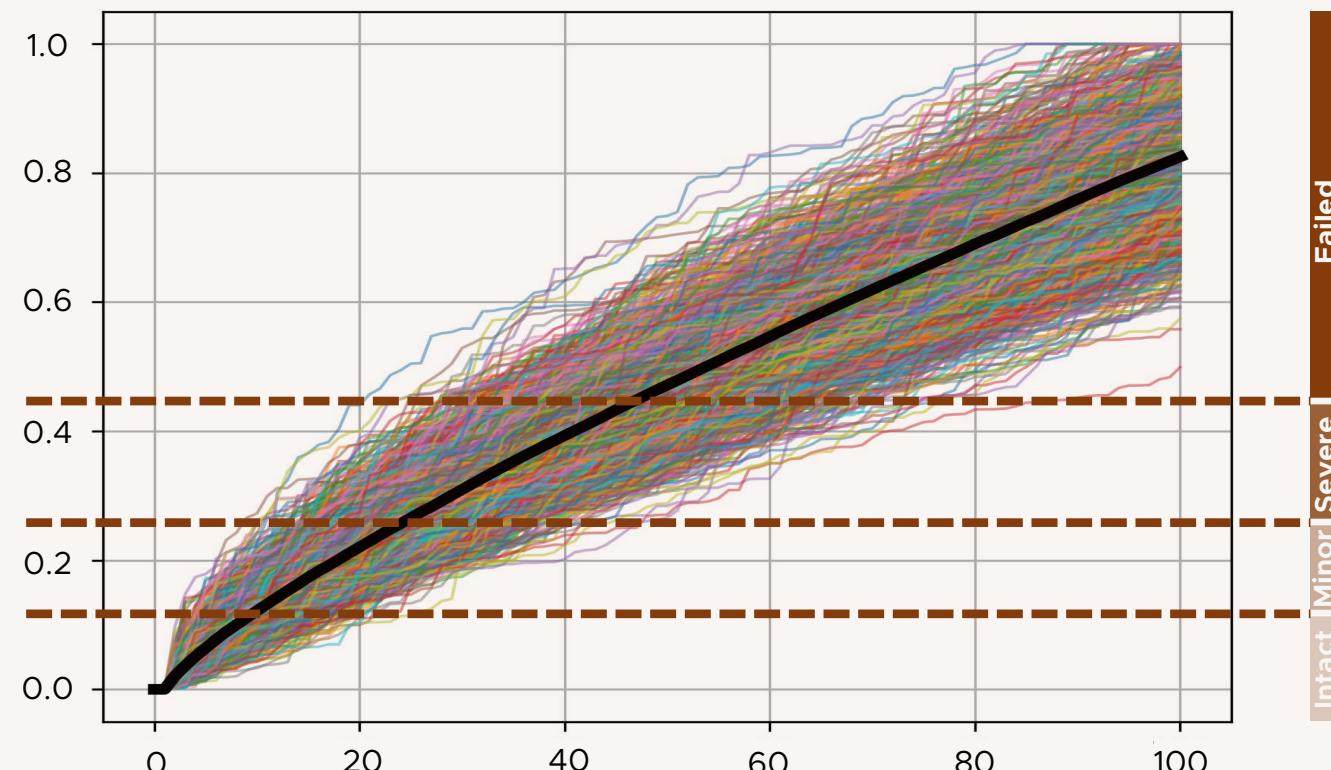
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# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework

Belief States

## Transition Probabilities

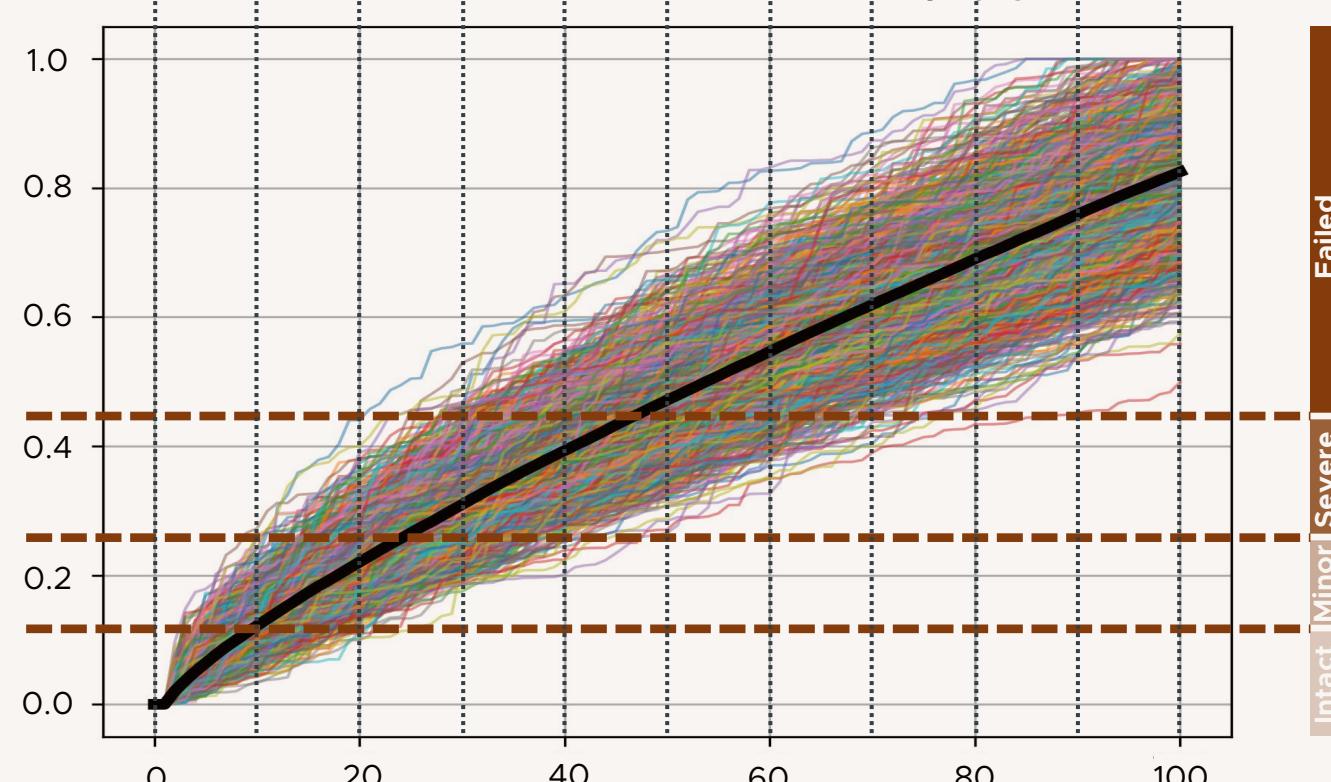
Observation Probabilities

Action Space

Reward Functions

Discount Factor

$$P(s_{t+1}|s_t, a_t) = \begin{bmatrix} p(s_0|s_0) & p(s_1|s_0) & p(s_2|s_0) & p(s_3|s_0) \\ 0 & p(s_1|s_1) & p(s_2|s_1) & p(s_3|s_1) \\ 0 & 0 & p(s_2|s_2) & p(s_3|s_2) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p(s_3|s_3) \end{bmatrix}$$



# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework

Belief States

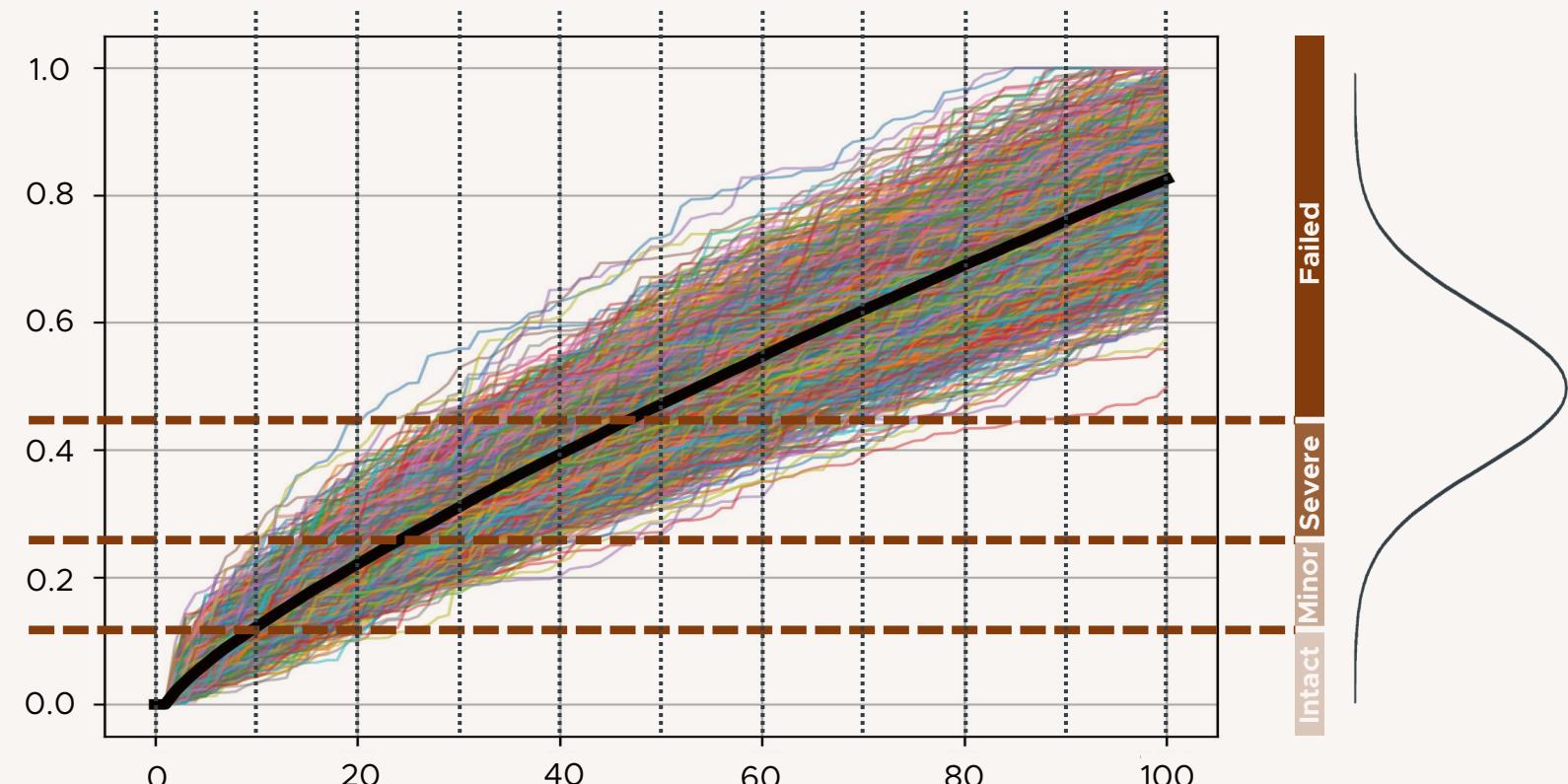
Transition Probabilities

**Observation Probabilities**

Action Space

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# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework

Belief States

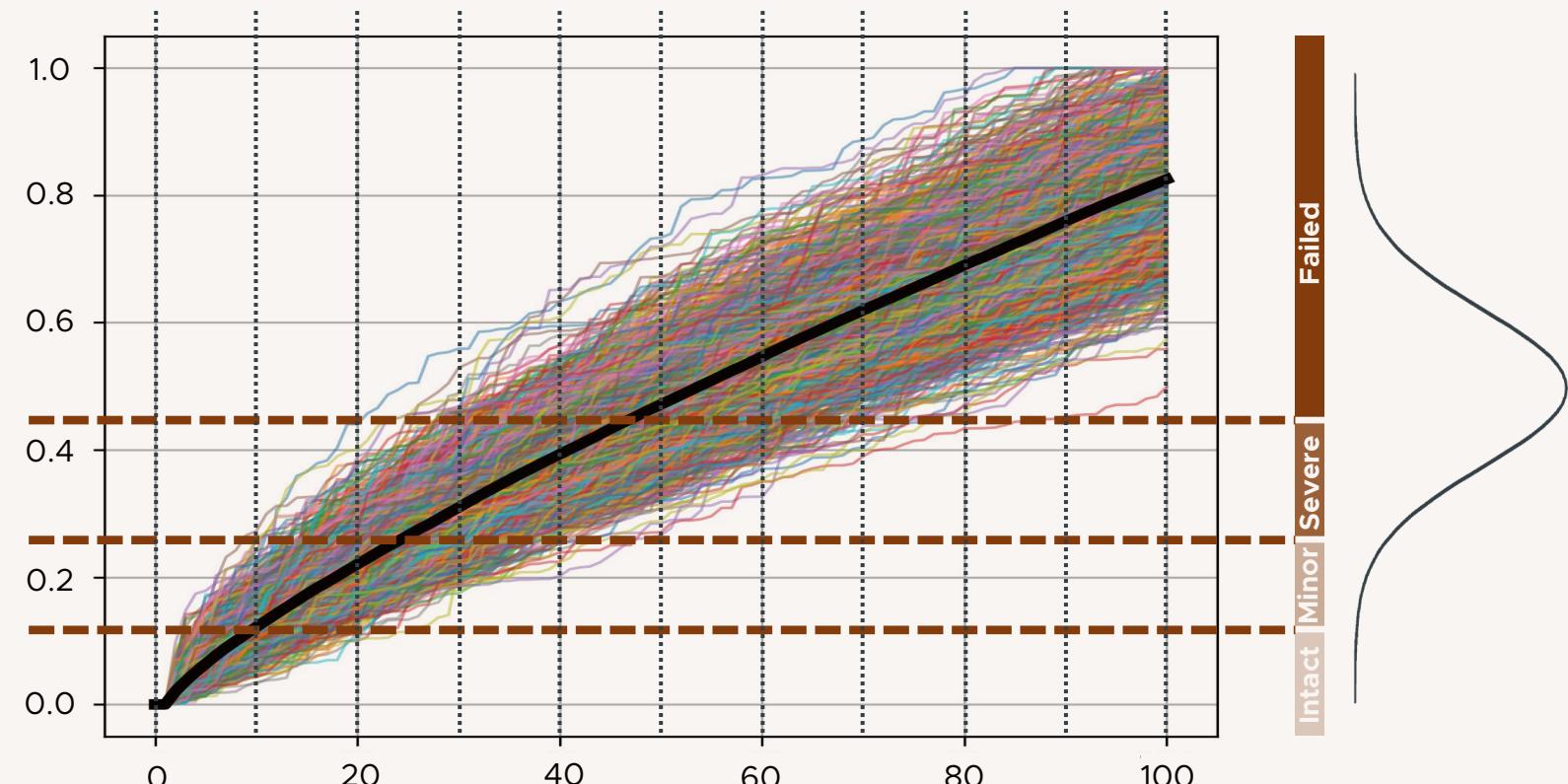
Transition Probabilities

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**Action Space**

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Discount Factor

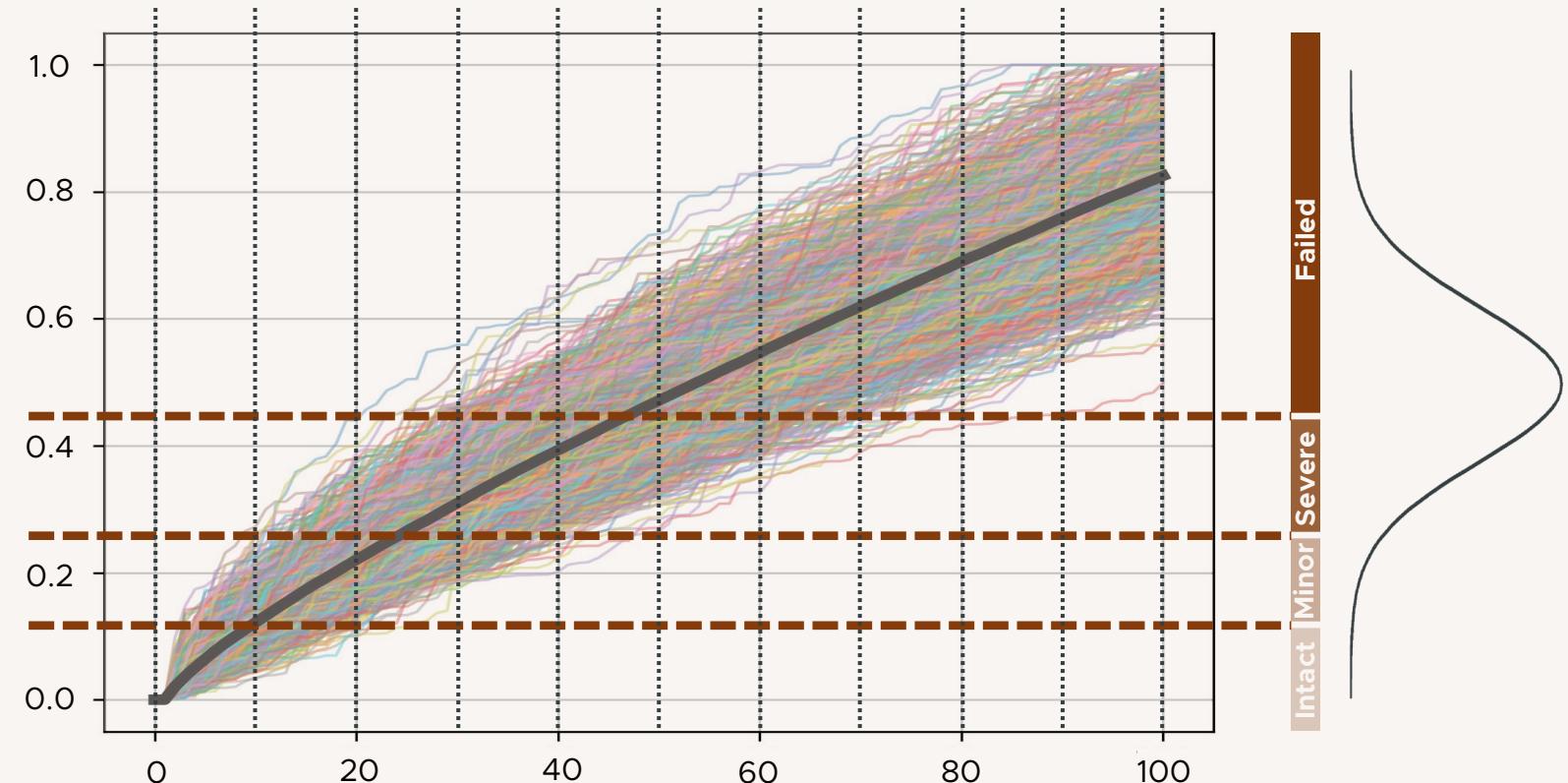


# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework



cost: 0.1 of replacement

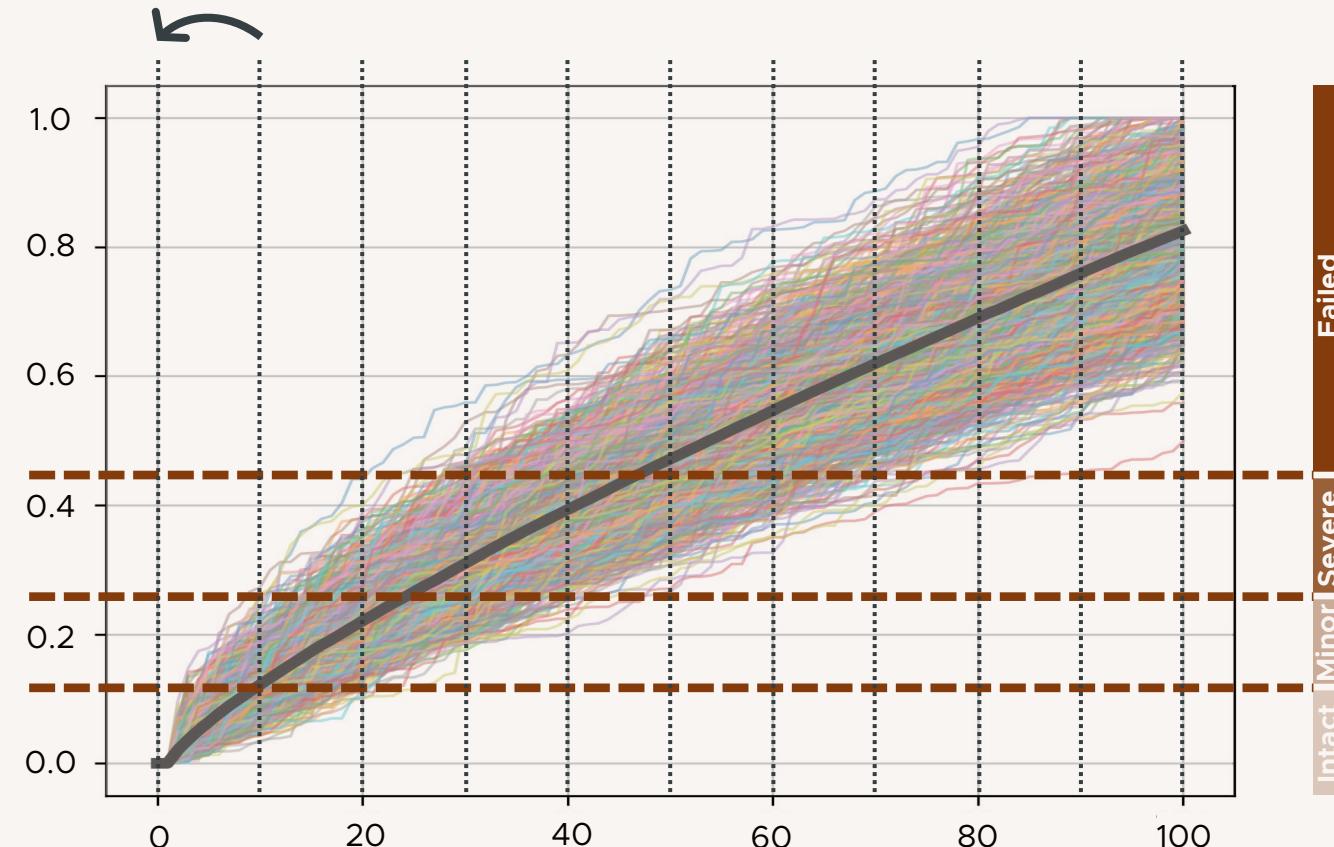


# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework



cost: 0.7 of replacement

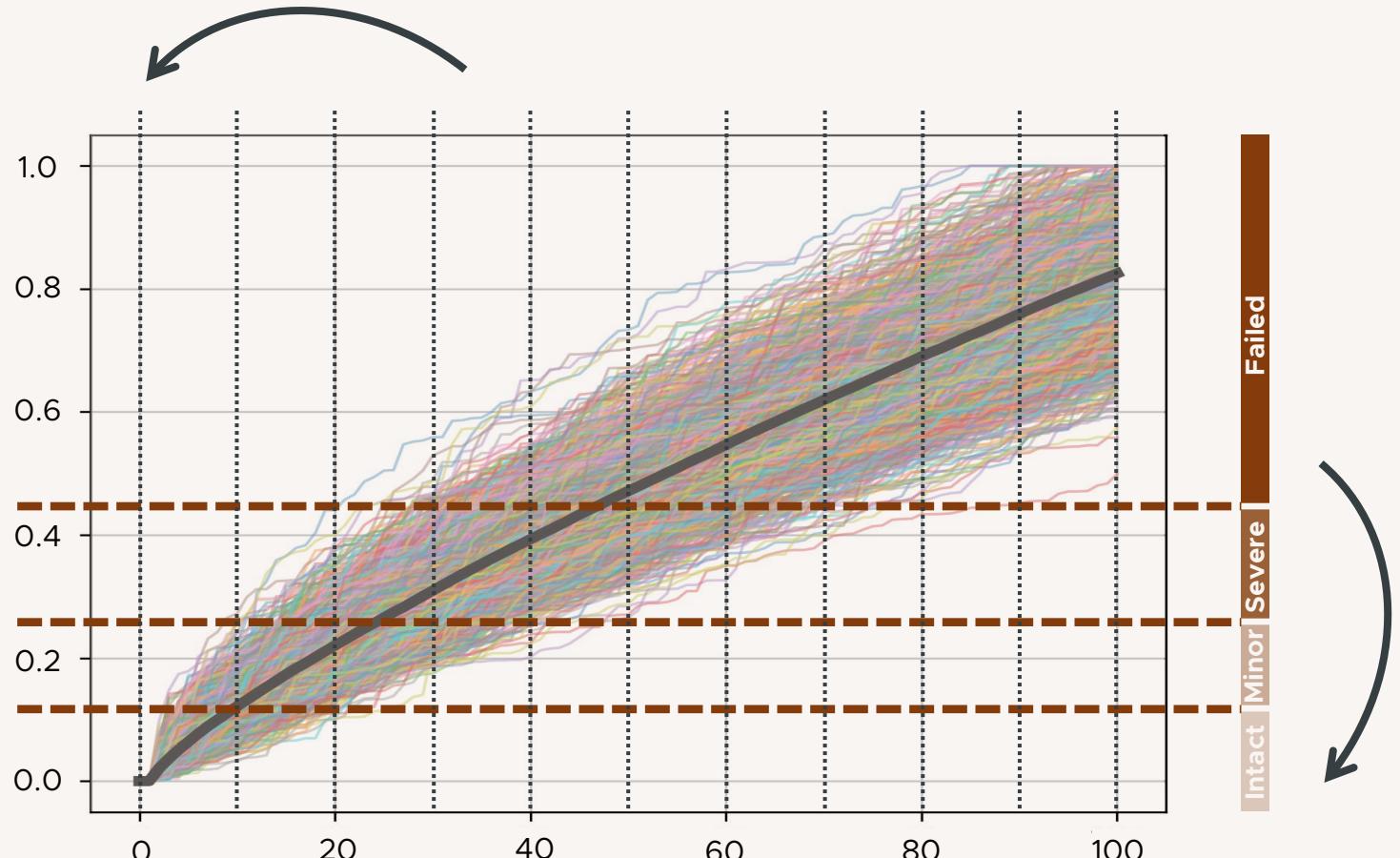


# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework

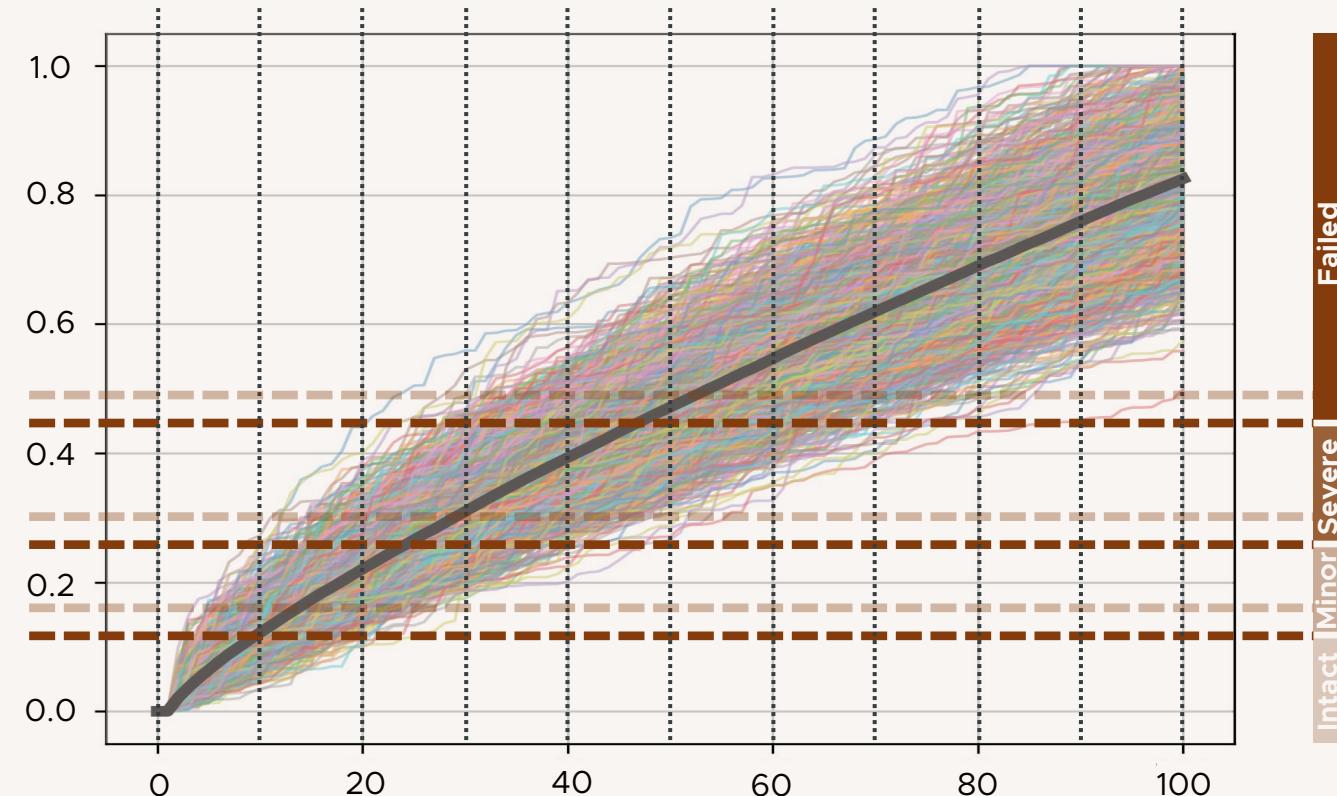


cost: 1.0 of replacement



# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework



# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

POMDP Framework

Belief States

Transition Probabilities

Observation Probabilities

Action Space

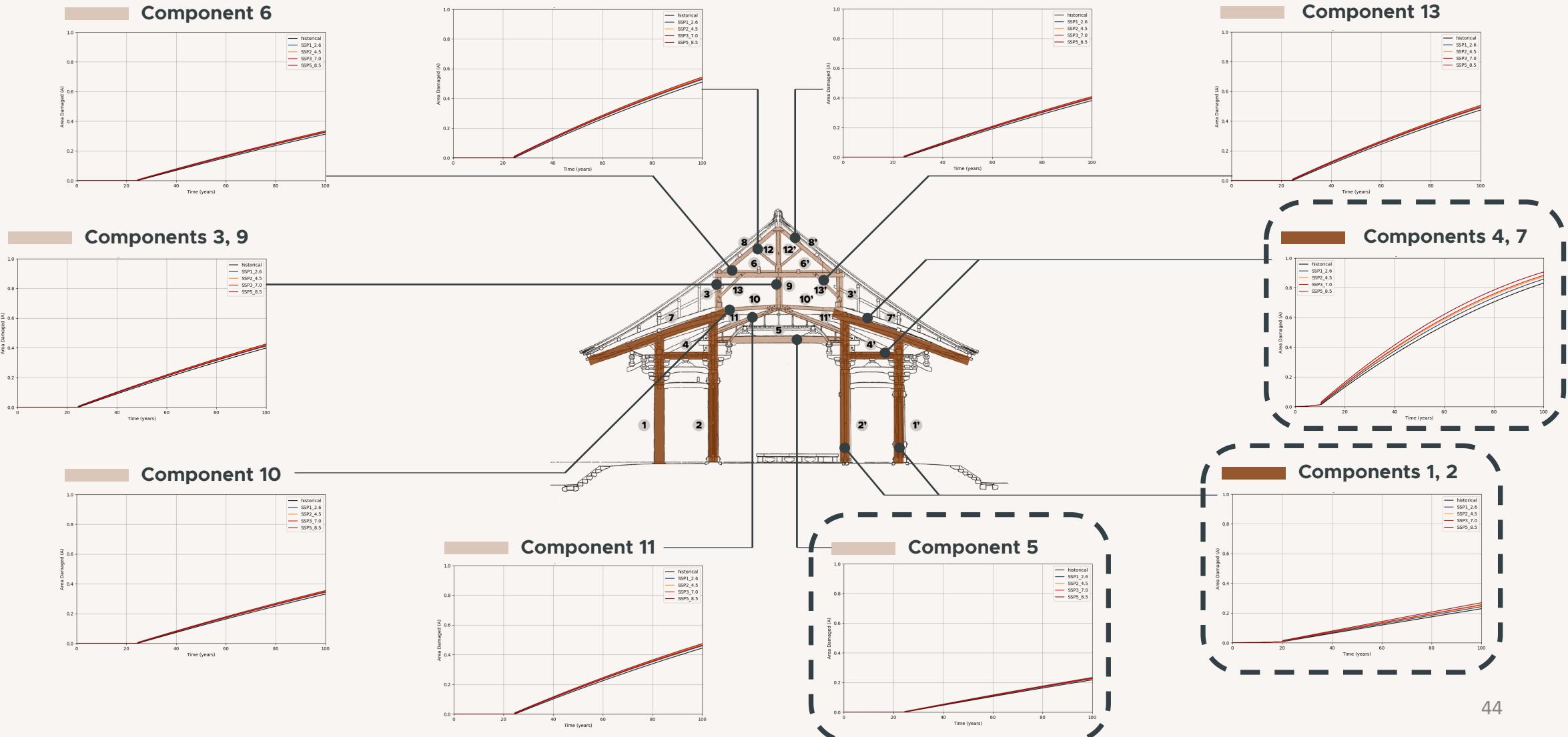
Reward Functions

**Discount Factor**



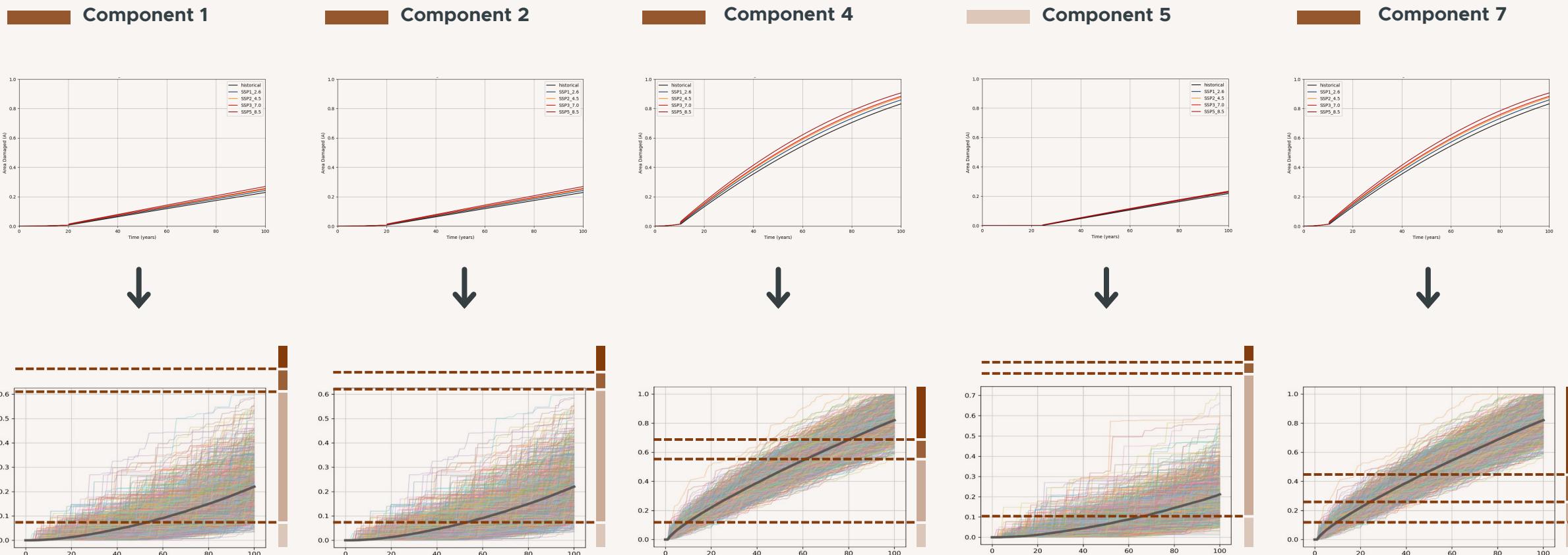
# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

Initial run



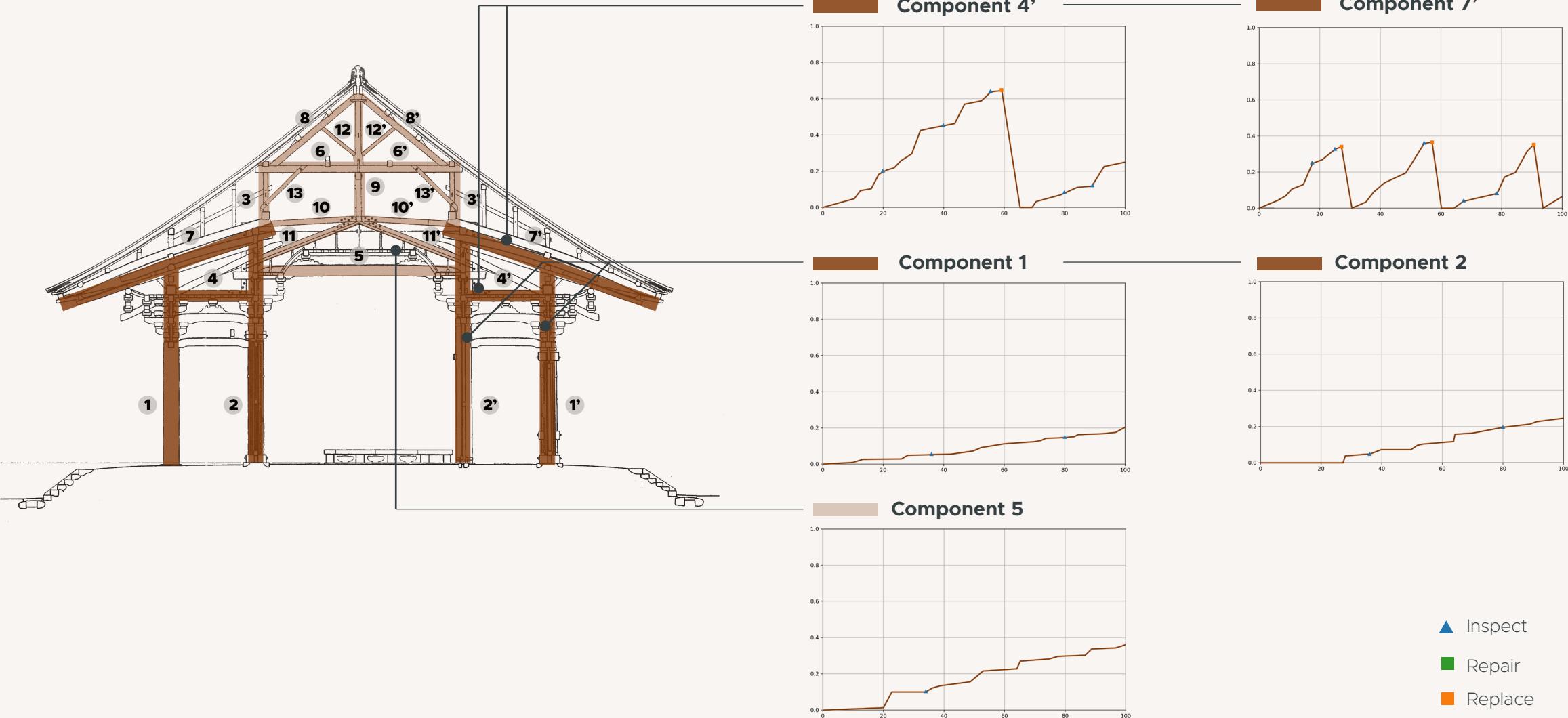
# Reinforcement Learning (RL)

Initial run

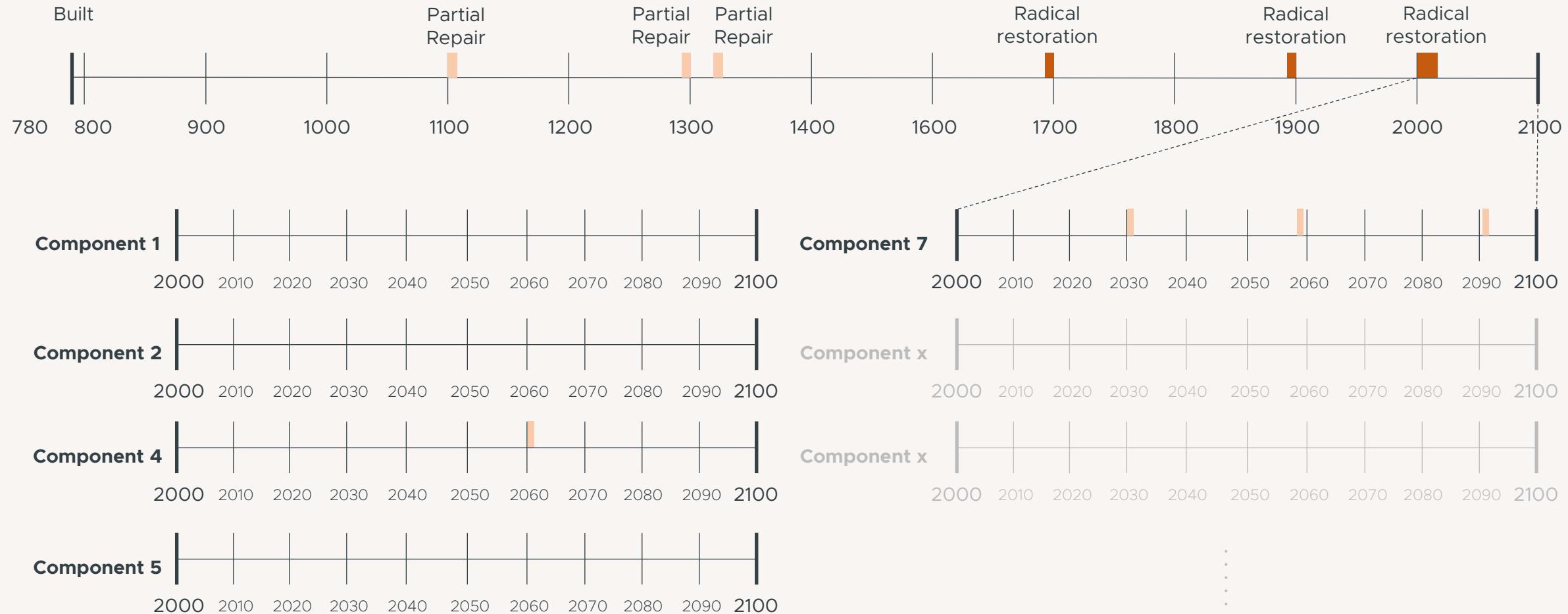


# Inspection & Maintenance Policies

Initial run



# Inspection & Maintenance Policies



# Research Question

*“How can reinforcement learning consider climate change effects to inform inspection and maintenance for timber structures?”*

# Framework

*“How can reinforcement learning consider climate change effects to inform inspection and maintenance for timber structures?”*



# Framework

Required Information



**Building**



**Decay Model**



**Environment**



**Policies**



**Climate Model**



**Analysis**



**Solver**



# Framework

Required Information



**Building**



**Decay Model**



**Environment**



**Policies**



**Climate Model**

average temperature



**Analysis**



**Solver**



precipitation amount  
precipitation occasion

# Framework

## Required Information



wood durability



dimensions



connection types

**Building**



**Decay Model**



**Environment**



**Policies**



**Climate Model**



average temperature



precipitation amount  
precipitation occasion

**Analysis**

**Solver**

# Framework

## Required Information



wood durability



dimensions



connection types

**Building**



**Decay Model**



**Environment**



**Policies**



**Climate Model**



average temperature



precipitation amount  
precipitation occasion



load cases



wood strength

# Framework

## Required Information



wood durability



dimensions



connection types



I&M methods

**Building**



**Climate Model**

**Decay Model**



**Analysis**

**Environment**



**Solver**

**Policies**



average temperature



load cases



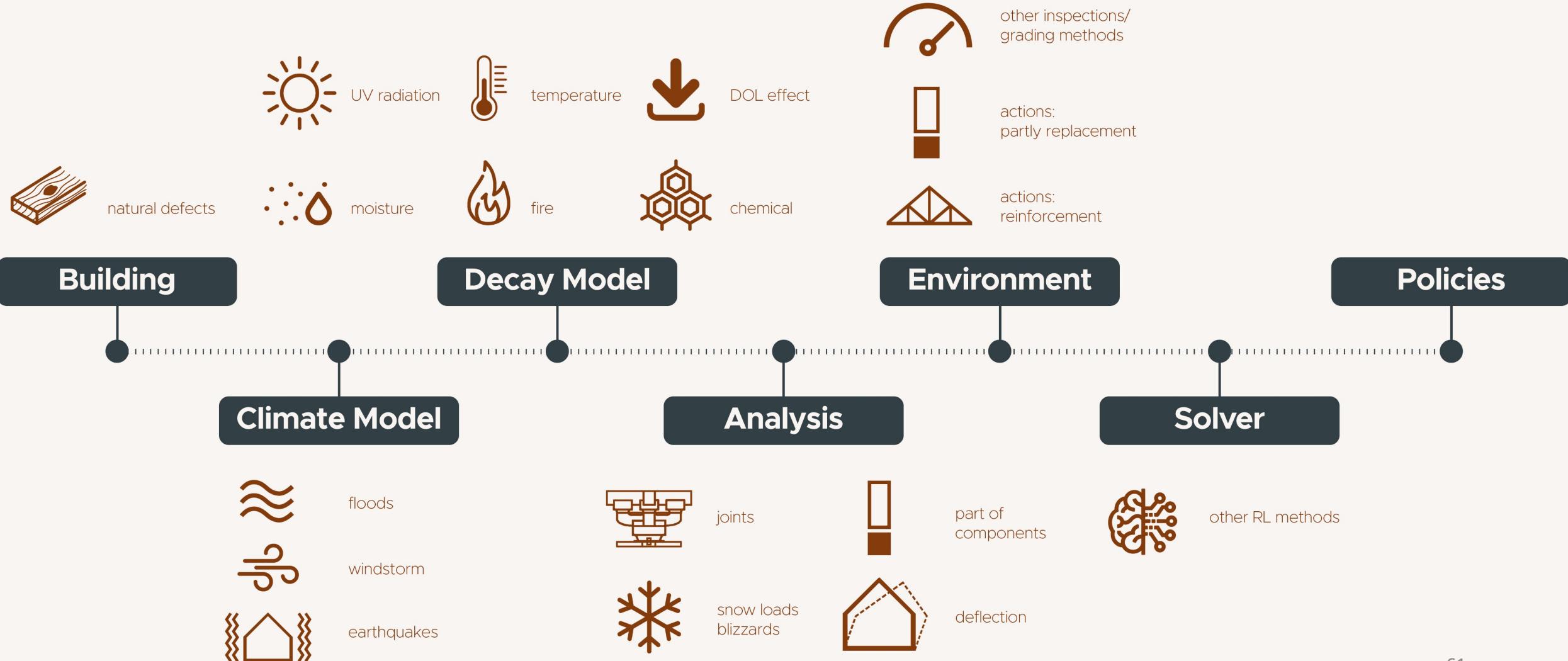
precipitation amount  
precipitation occasion



wood strength

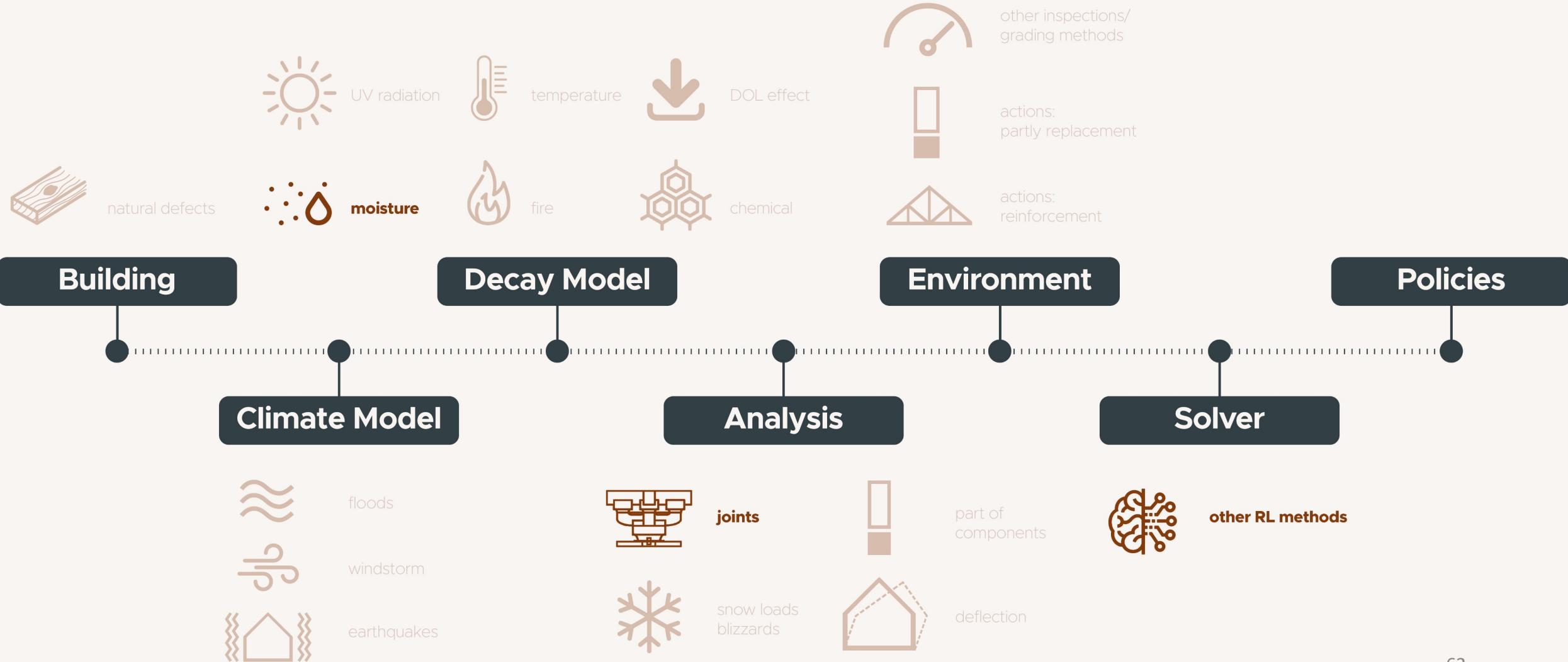
# Reflection

## Excluded Information



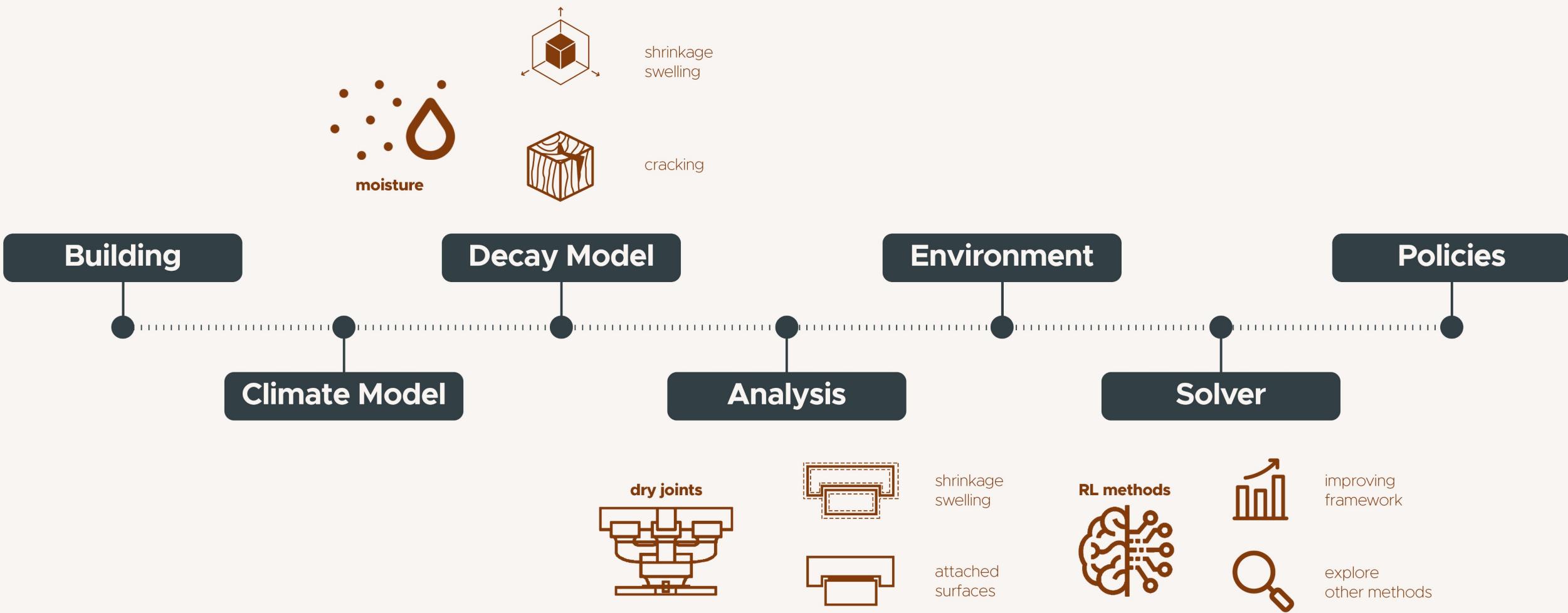
# Further Development

Suggestions



# Further Development

Suggestions



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