



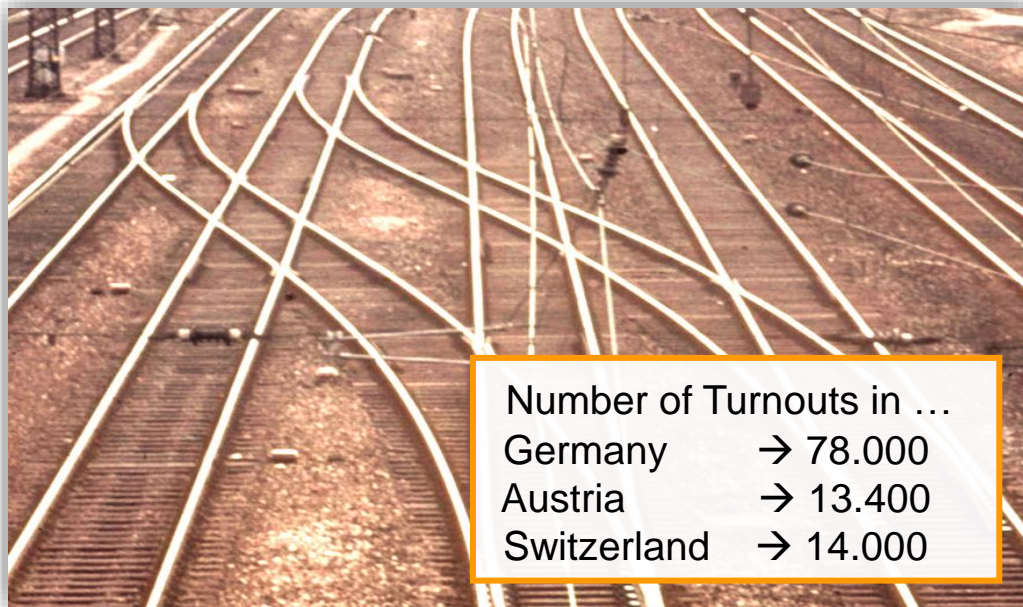
## **Under Sleeper Pads for Turnouts**

Getzner Werkstoffe GmbH, Austria

2024-11-26

# Introduction

- Turnouts ,make‘ the network
- They define the operating efficiency and service capability of the whole system (e.g. availability / speed)
- The investment cost of a turnout is on average 4 times higher compared to the regular track
- Turnouts cause much higher maintenance expenses (11-13 times higher per meter of track, TUG)



→ For investment 1% of the total costs arise for turnouts, but ...

For maintenance >25% of total costs arise for turnouts

# Introduction

Why Elasticity? → To reduce dynamic forces and therefore prevent damages



Rail Corrugation



Broken Clips



Deterioration of Sleeper and Ballast



Deterioration/Settling Crossing Nose



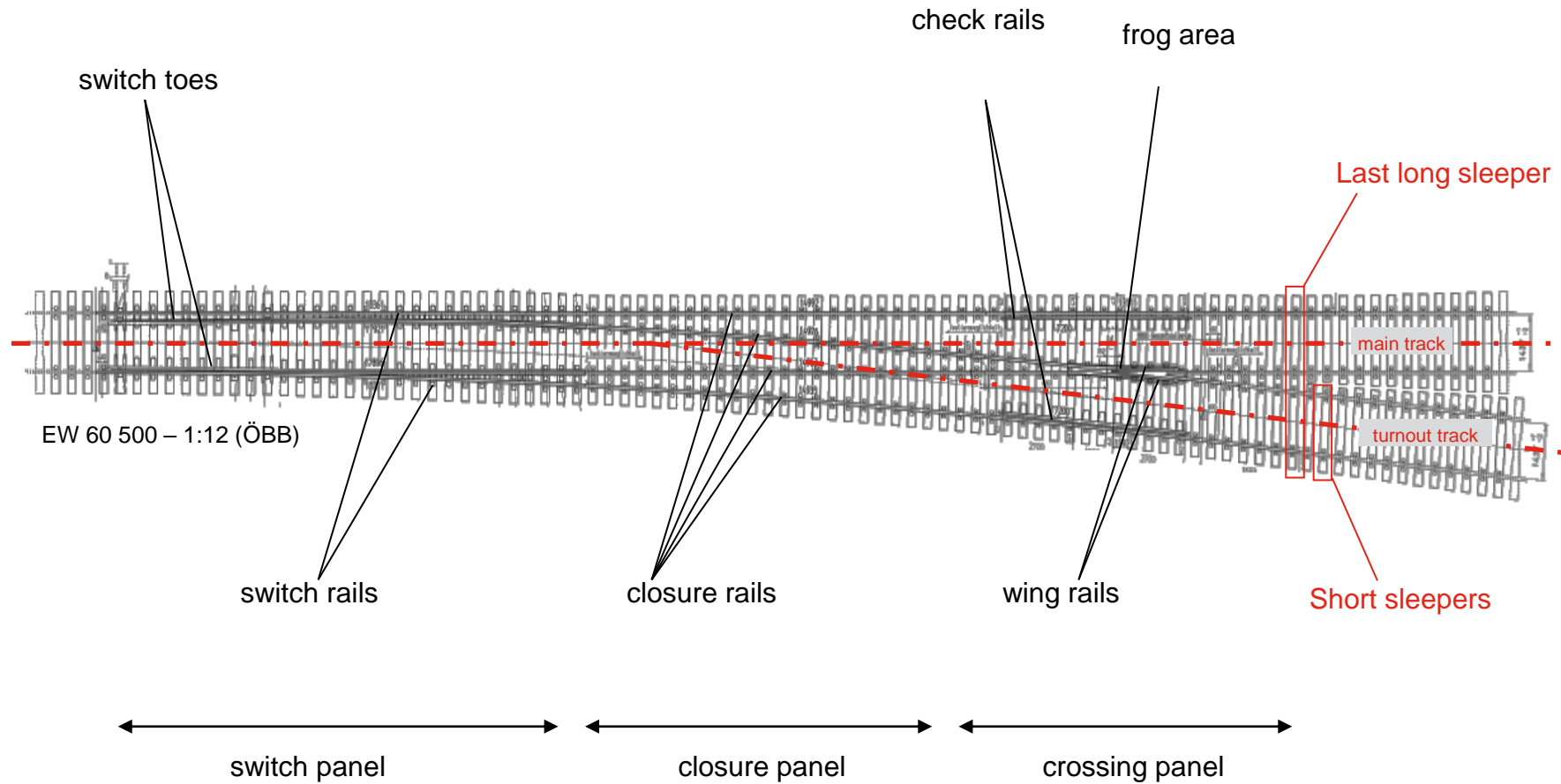
Hanging Sleepers



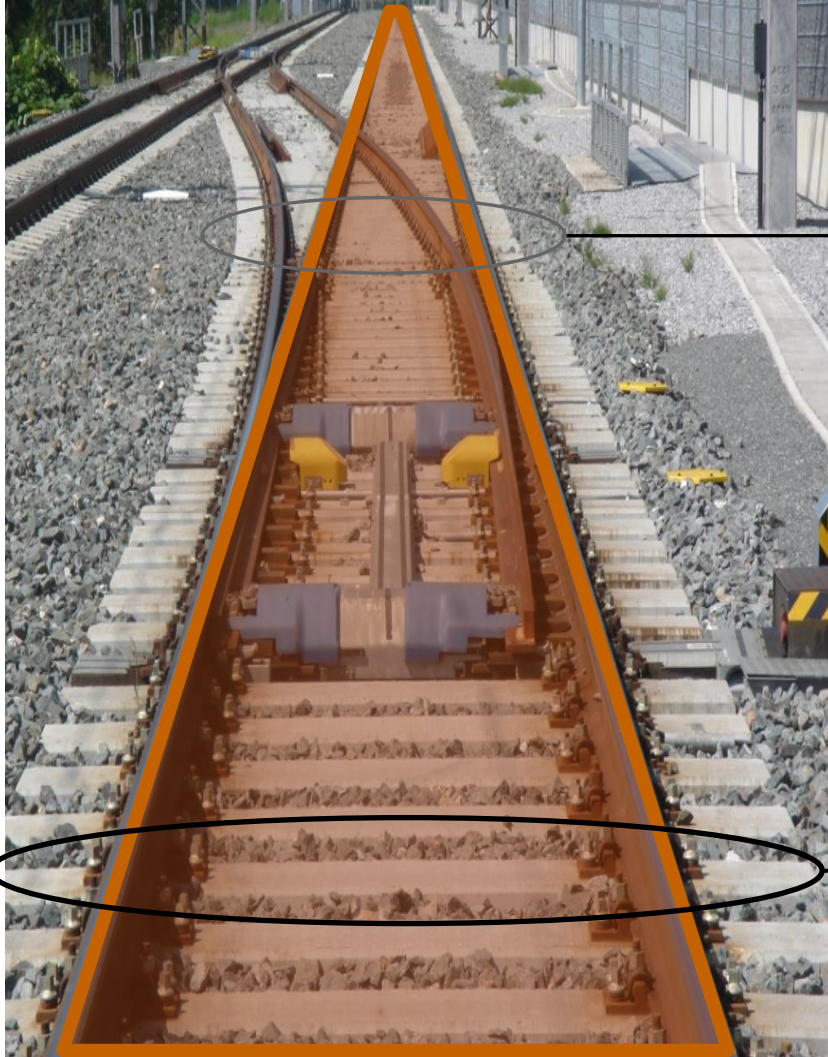
Cracks in Concrete Bearers

High potential for elastic elements (rail pads, base plate pads, ballast mats, etc.)  
→ Getzner has a special competence in Under Sleeper Pads ...

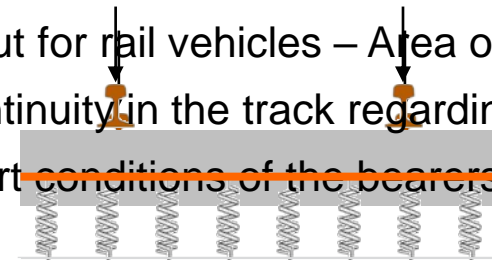
# Configuration turnout



# Introduction

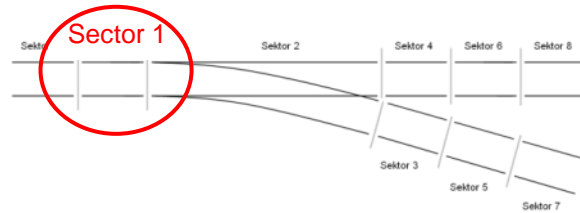
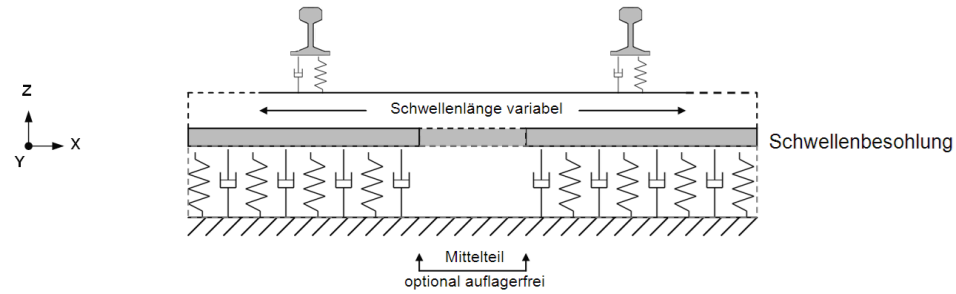


Turnout for rail vehicles – Area of discontinuity in the track regarding support conditions of the bearers

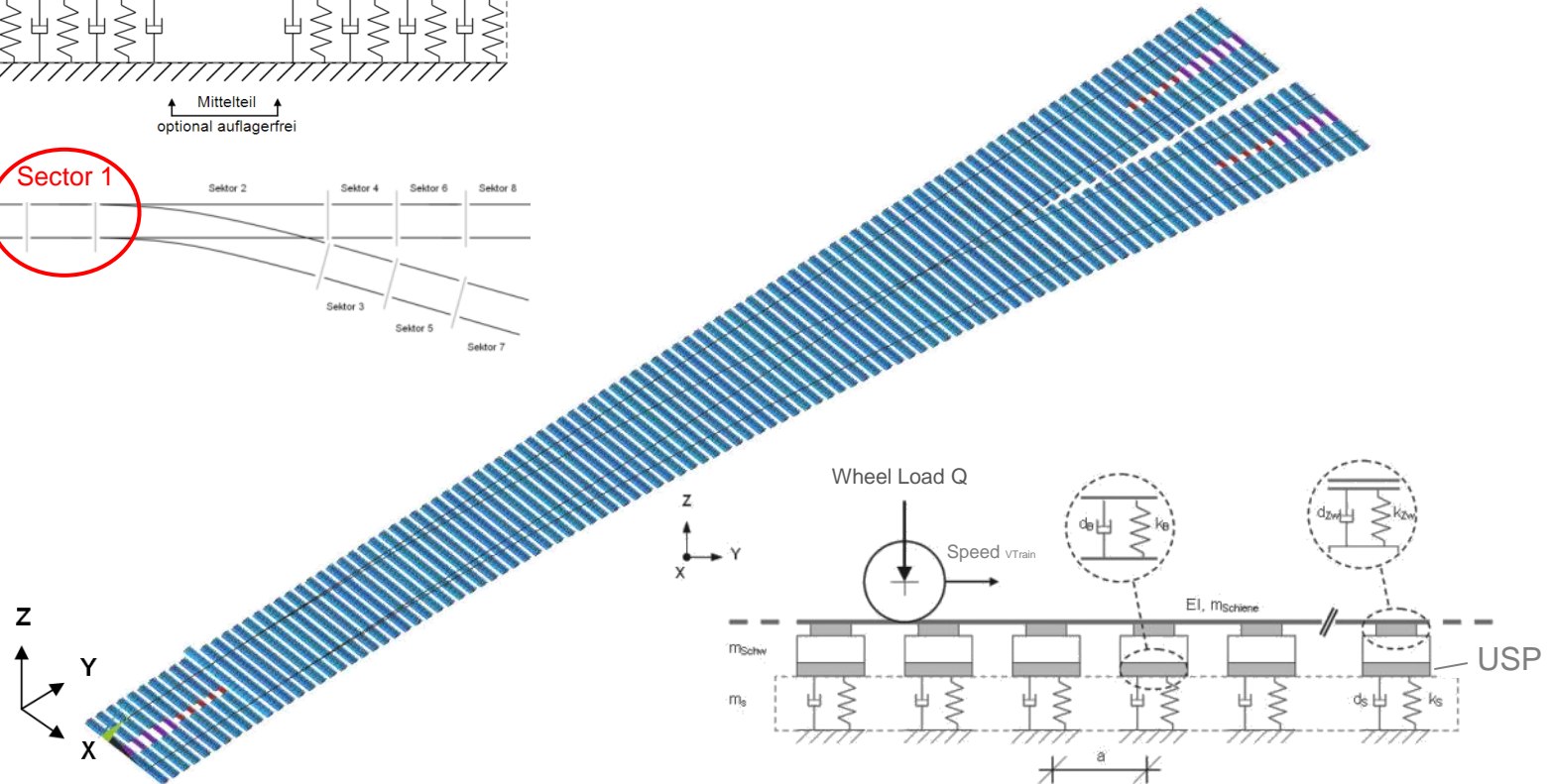


# Modelling

## Idealization of the system

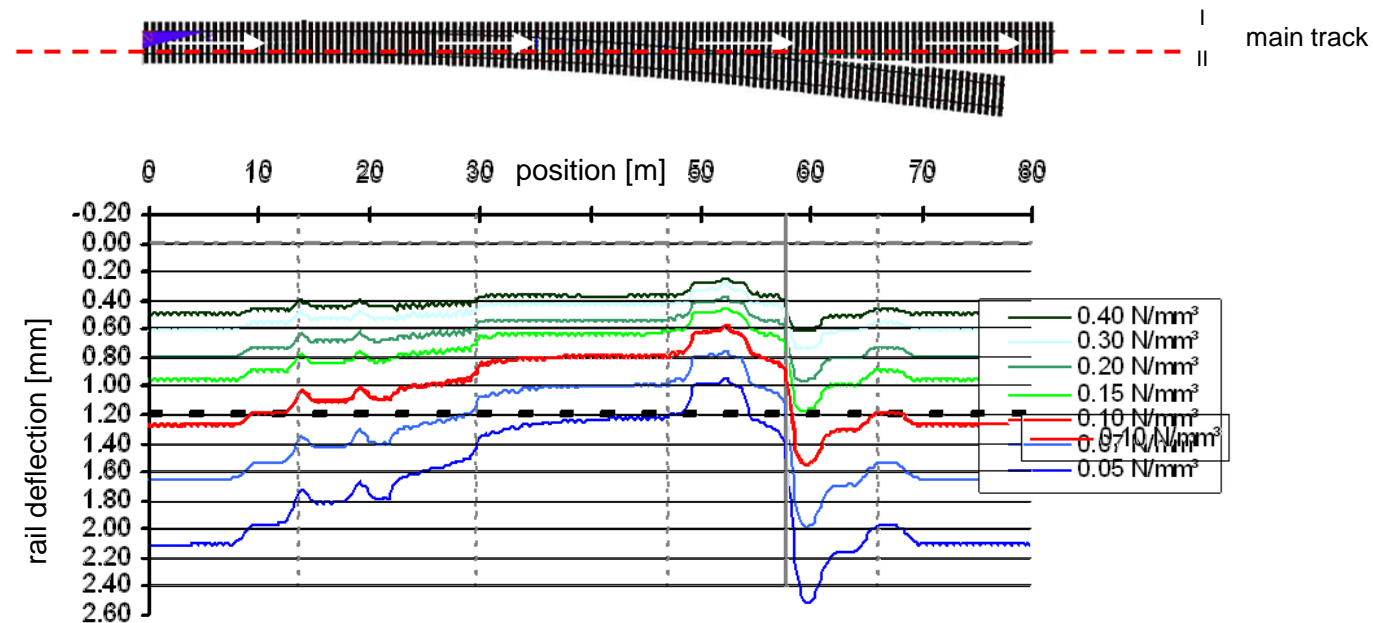


## Finite Element Model (3D)



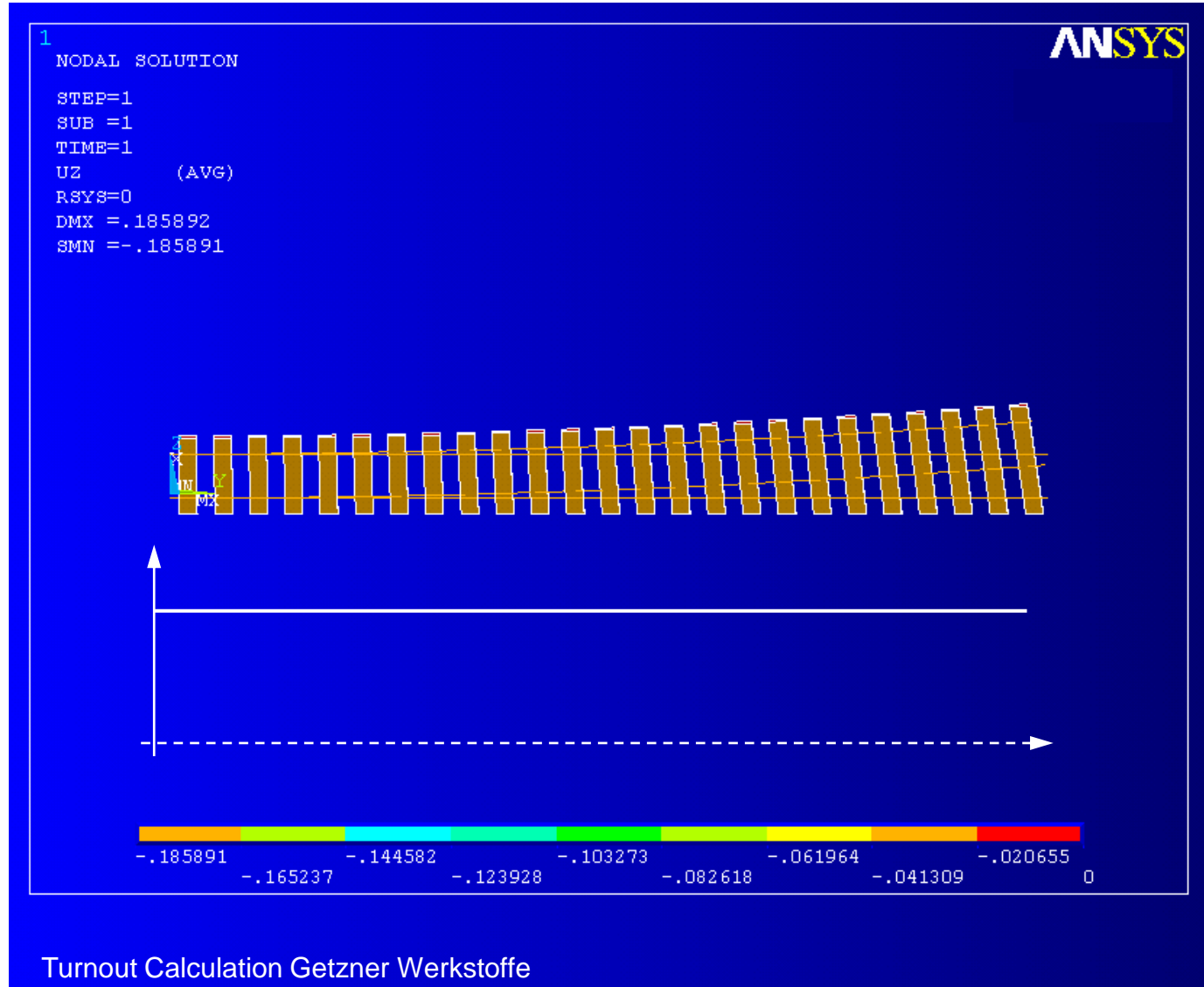
# Changing the bedding

Turnout area: Influence of the bedding modulus



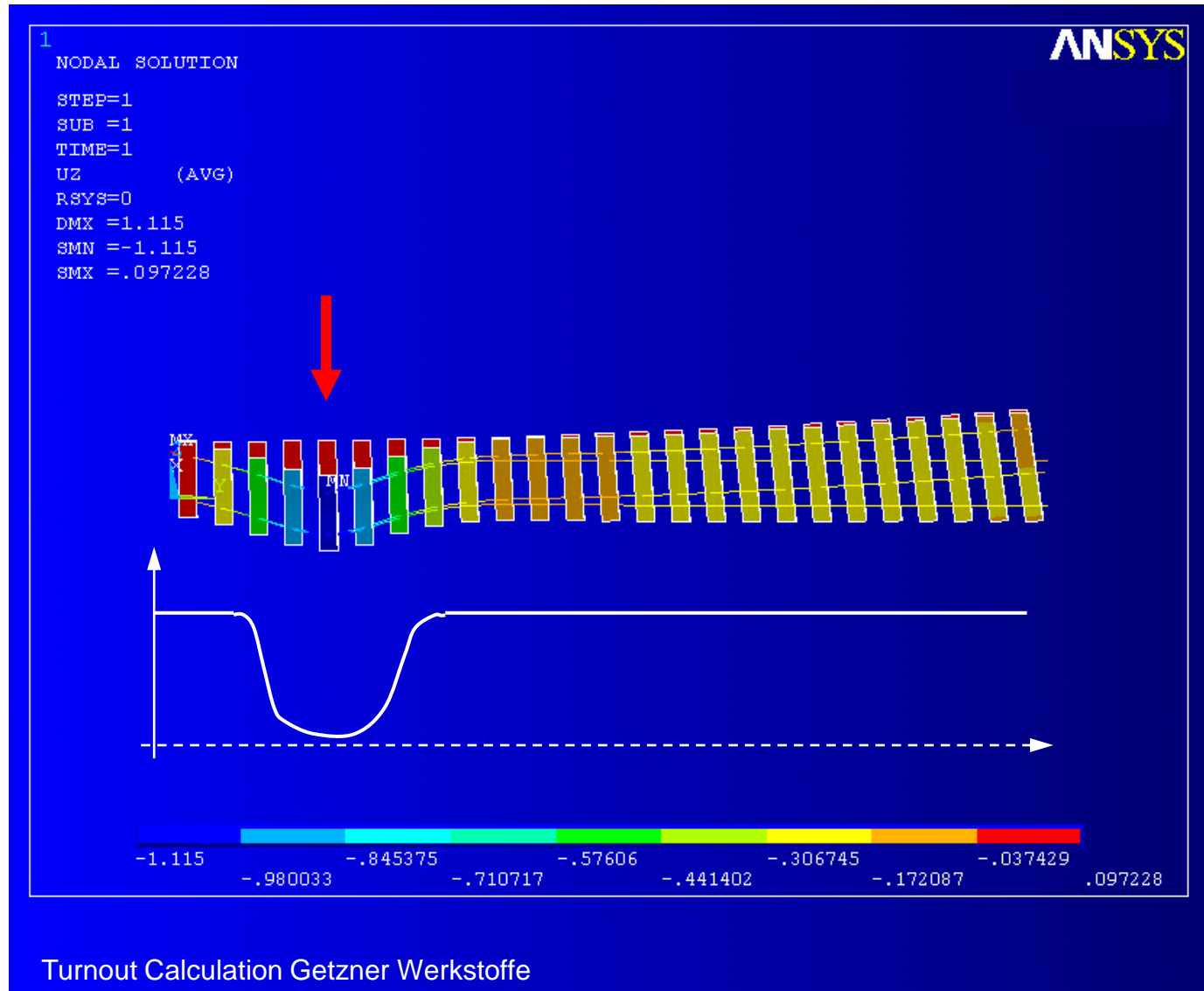
- homogeneous bedding modulus  $\neq$  homogeneous vertical deflection
- Reducing the bedding modulus does not automatically lead to a smoother transition → the differences in vertical deflection would increase!

# Finite Element Modelling (FEM)

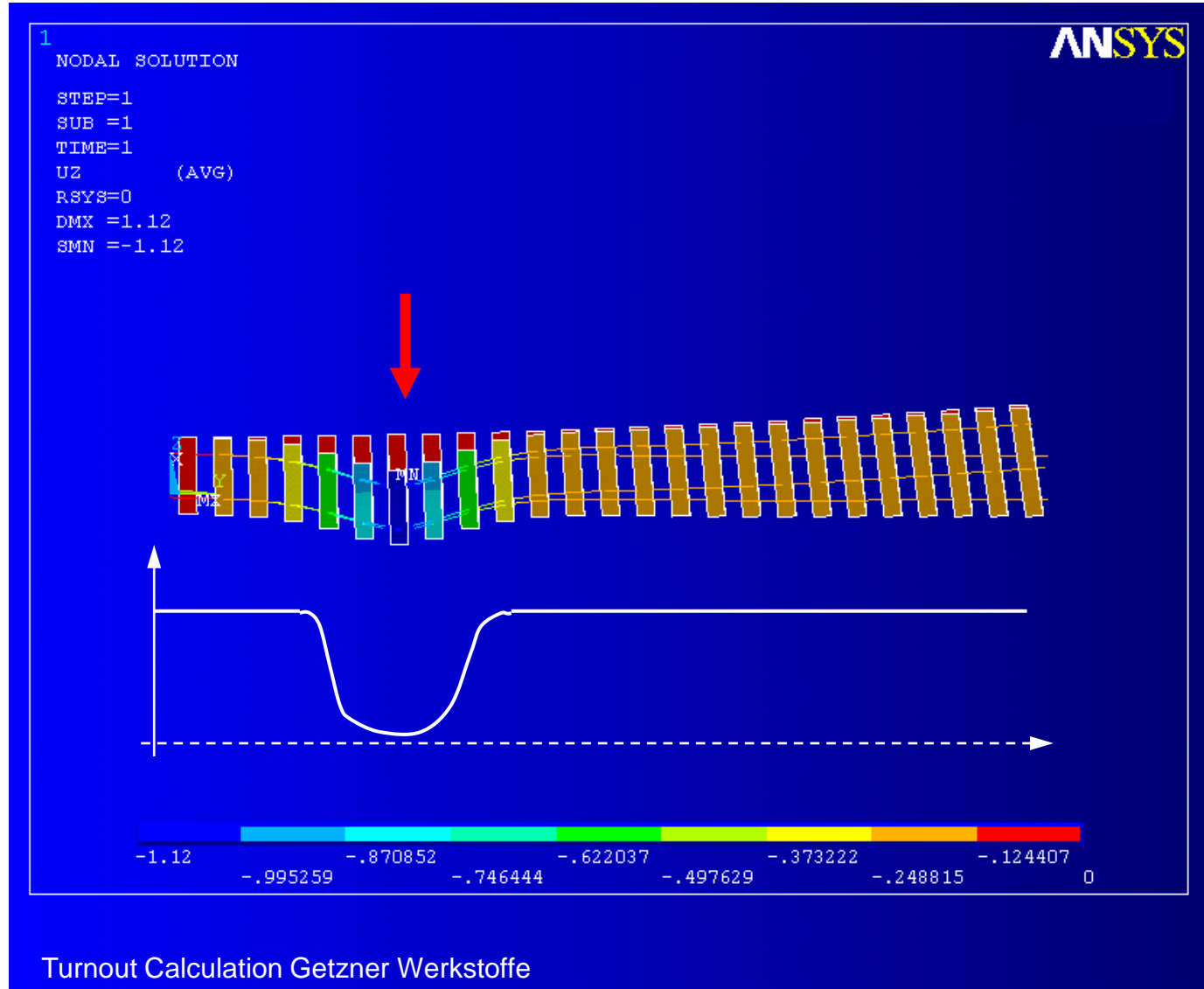




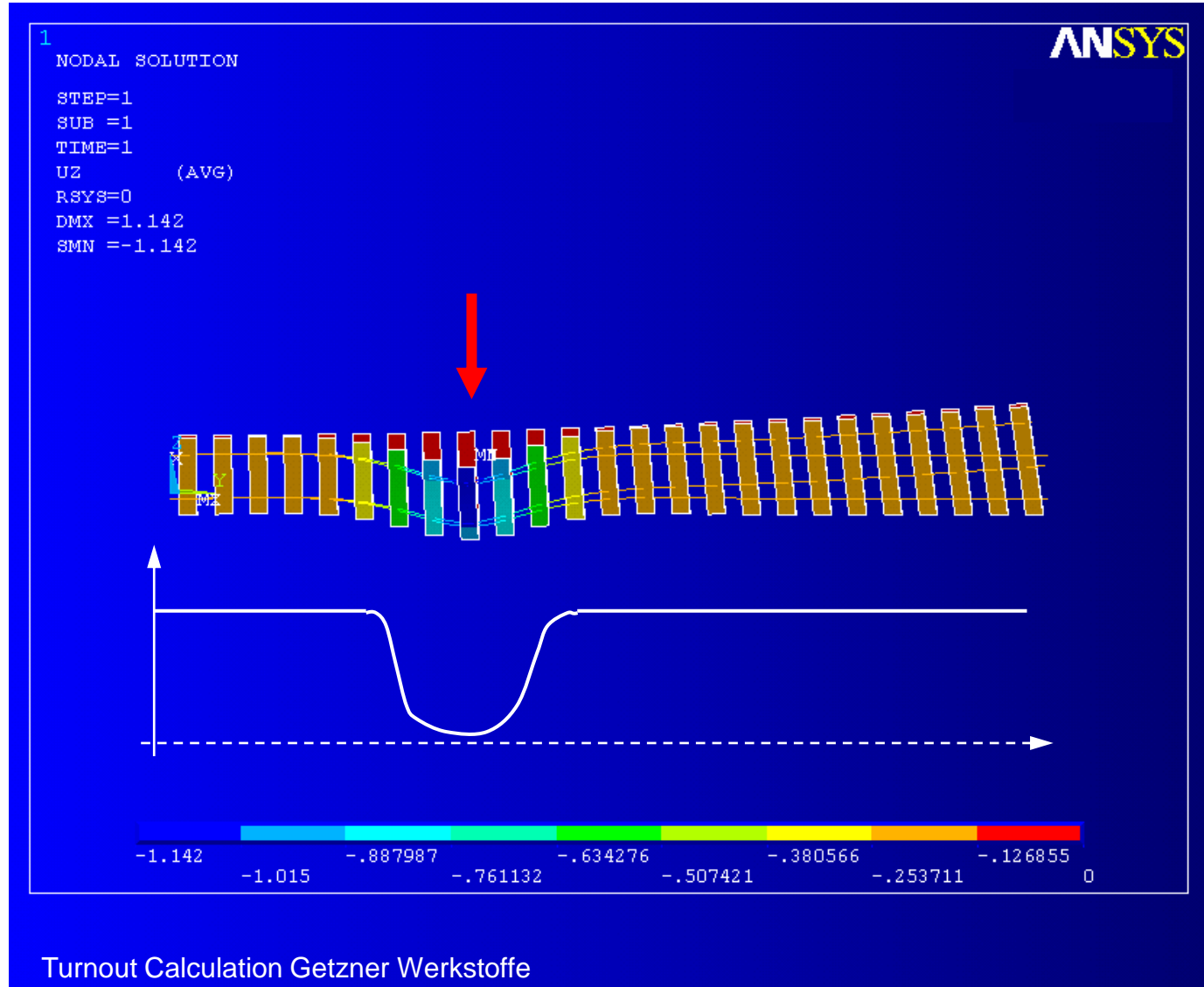
# Finite Element Modelling (FEM)



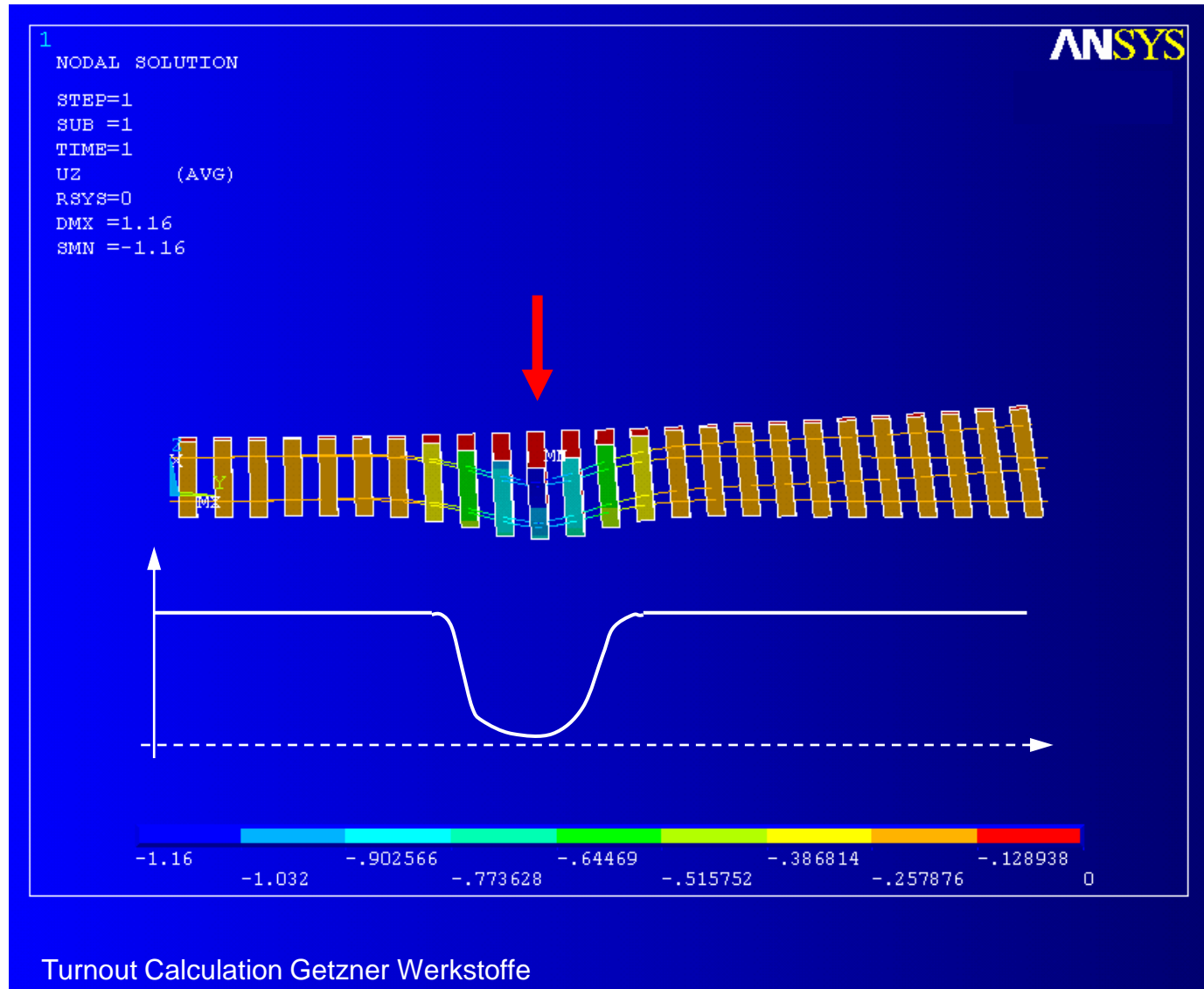
# Finite Element Modelling (FEM)



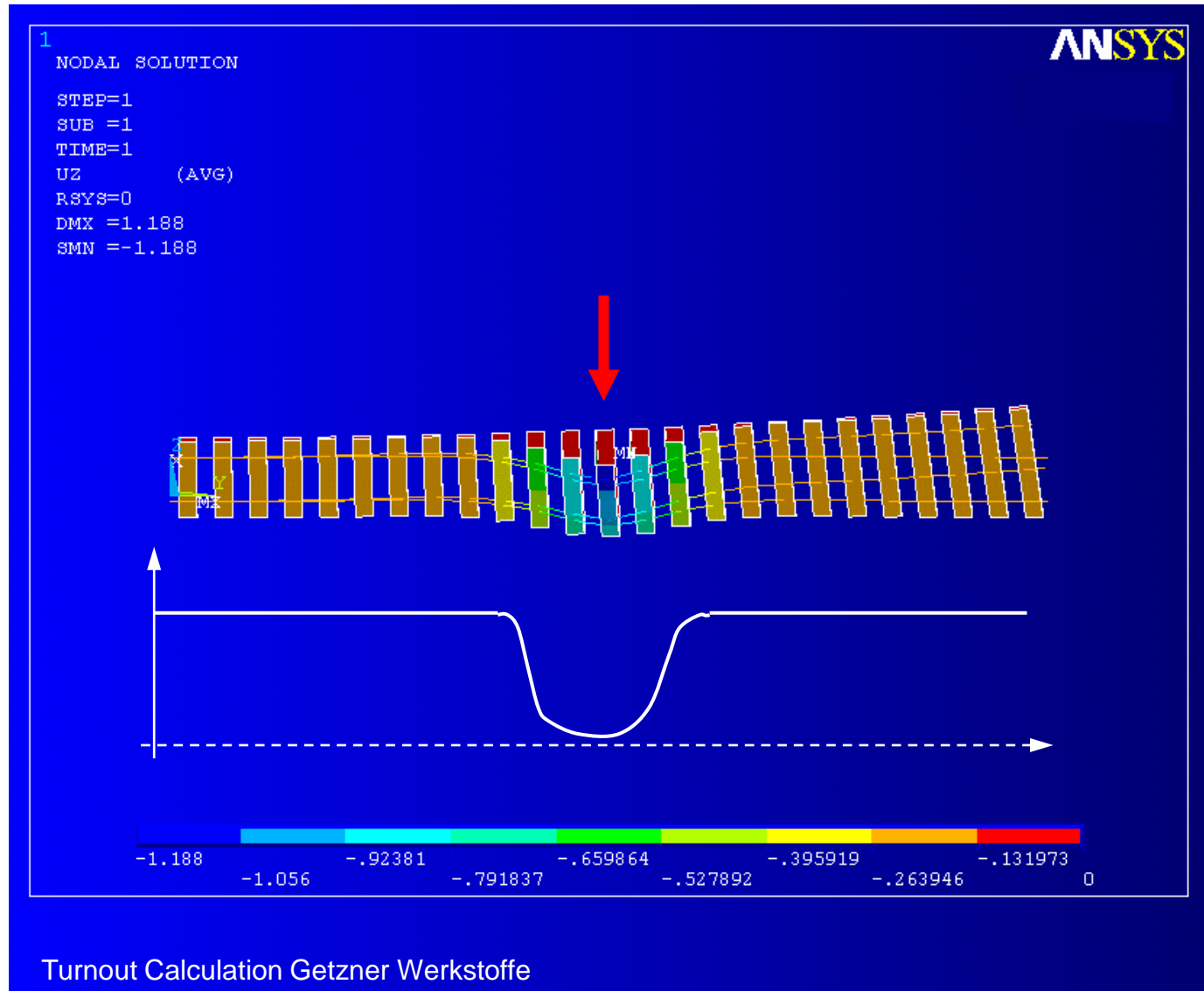
# Finite Element Modelling (FEM)



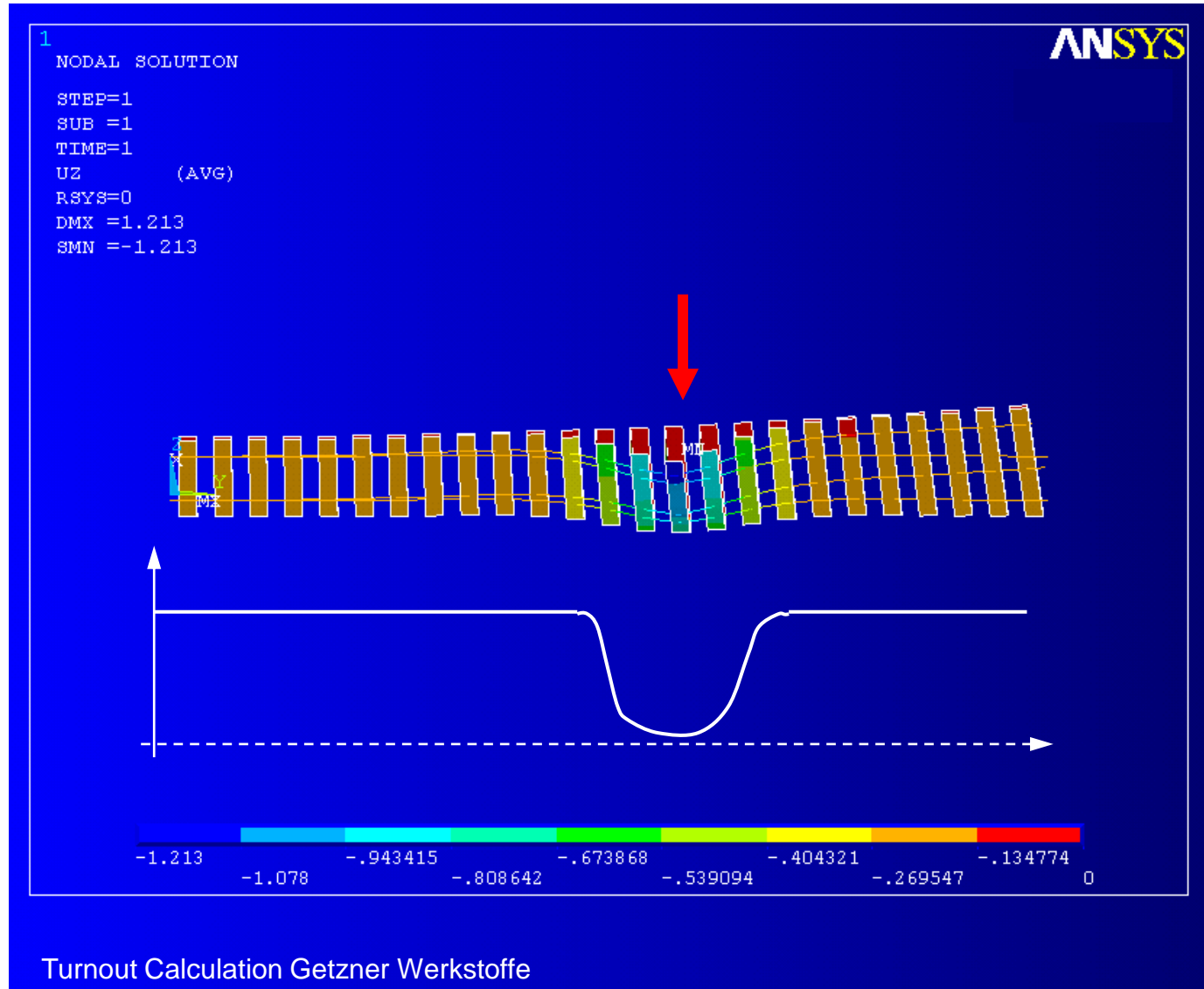
# Finite Element Modelling (FEM)



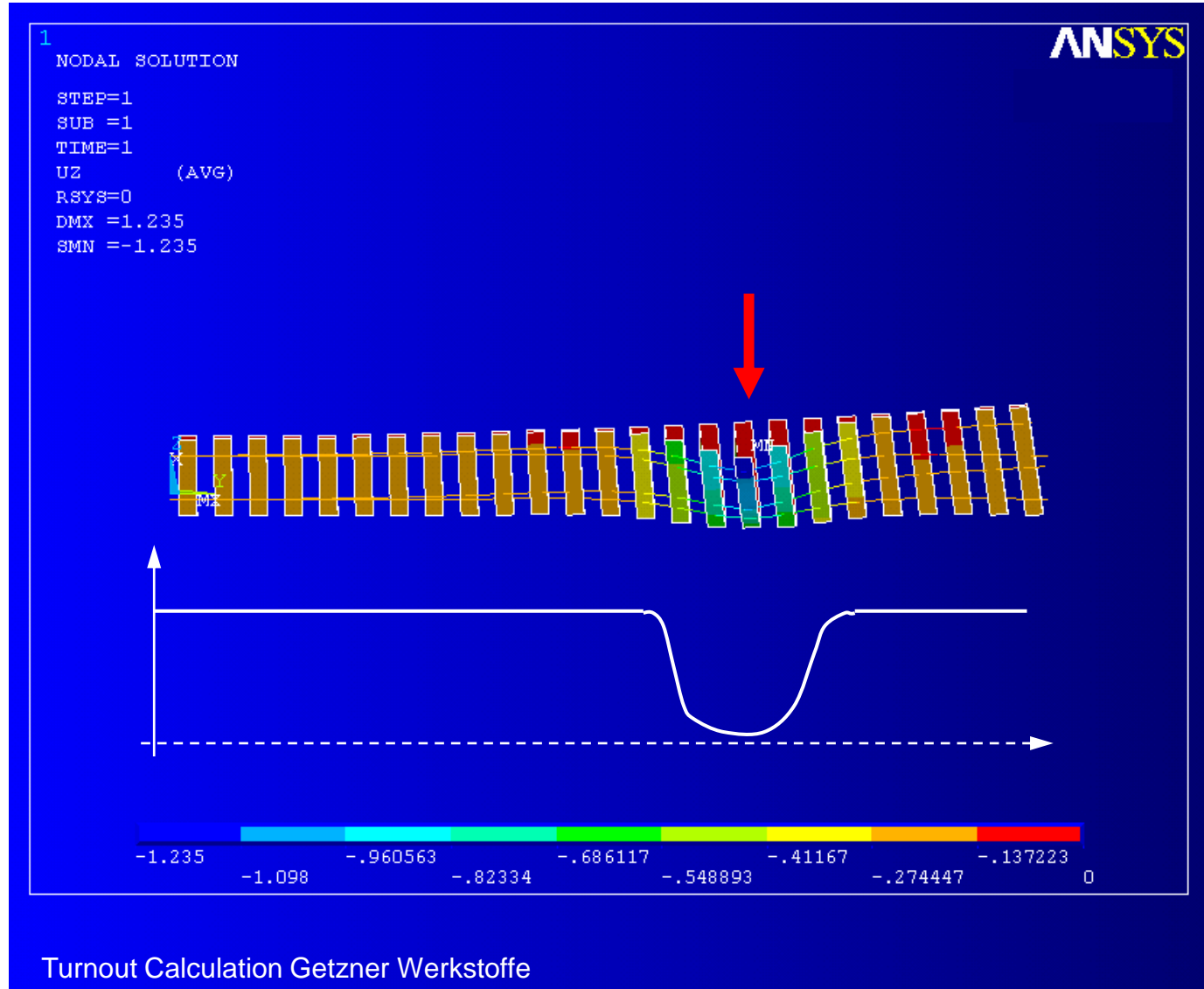
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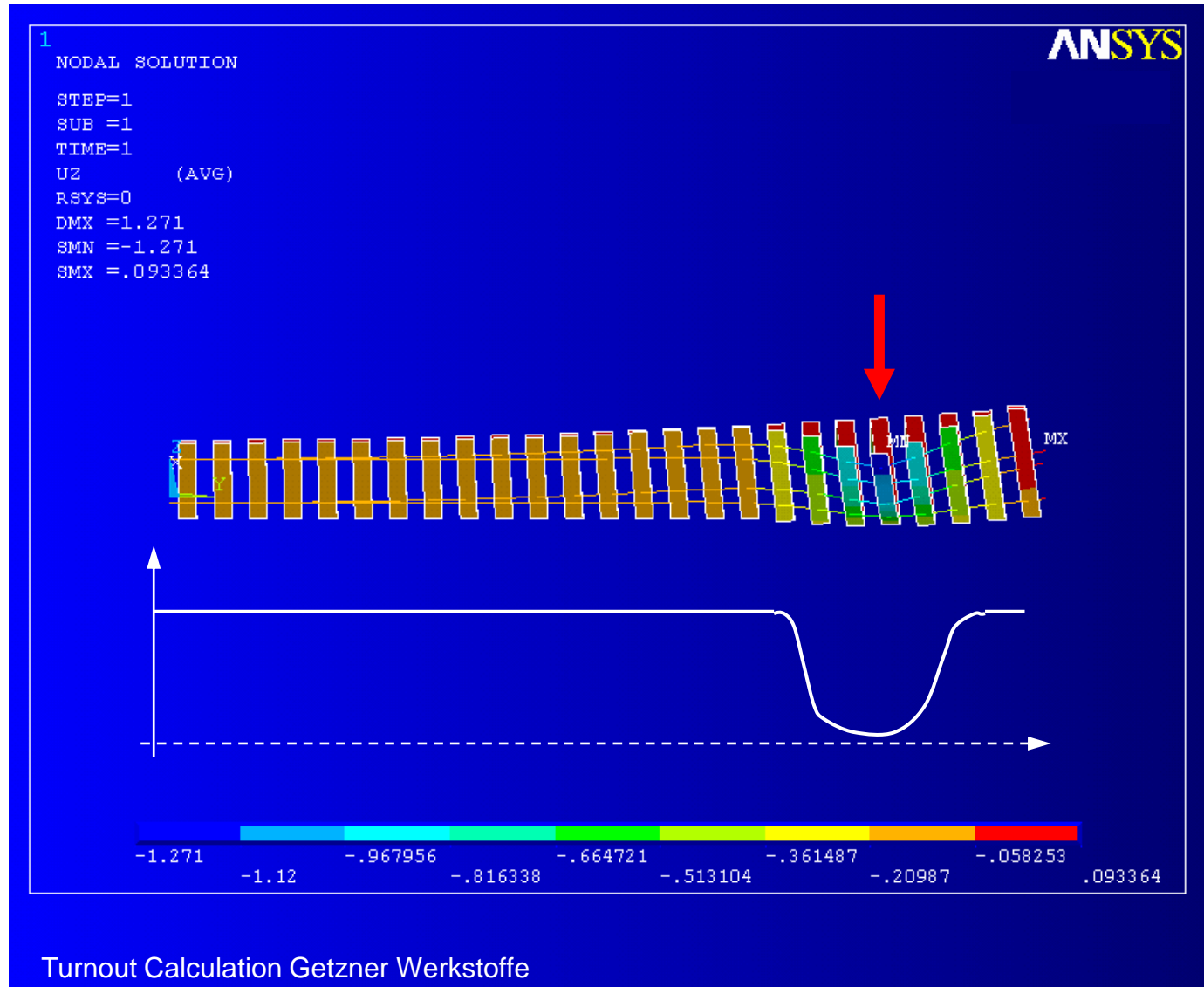
# Finite Element Modelling (FEM)



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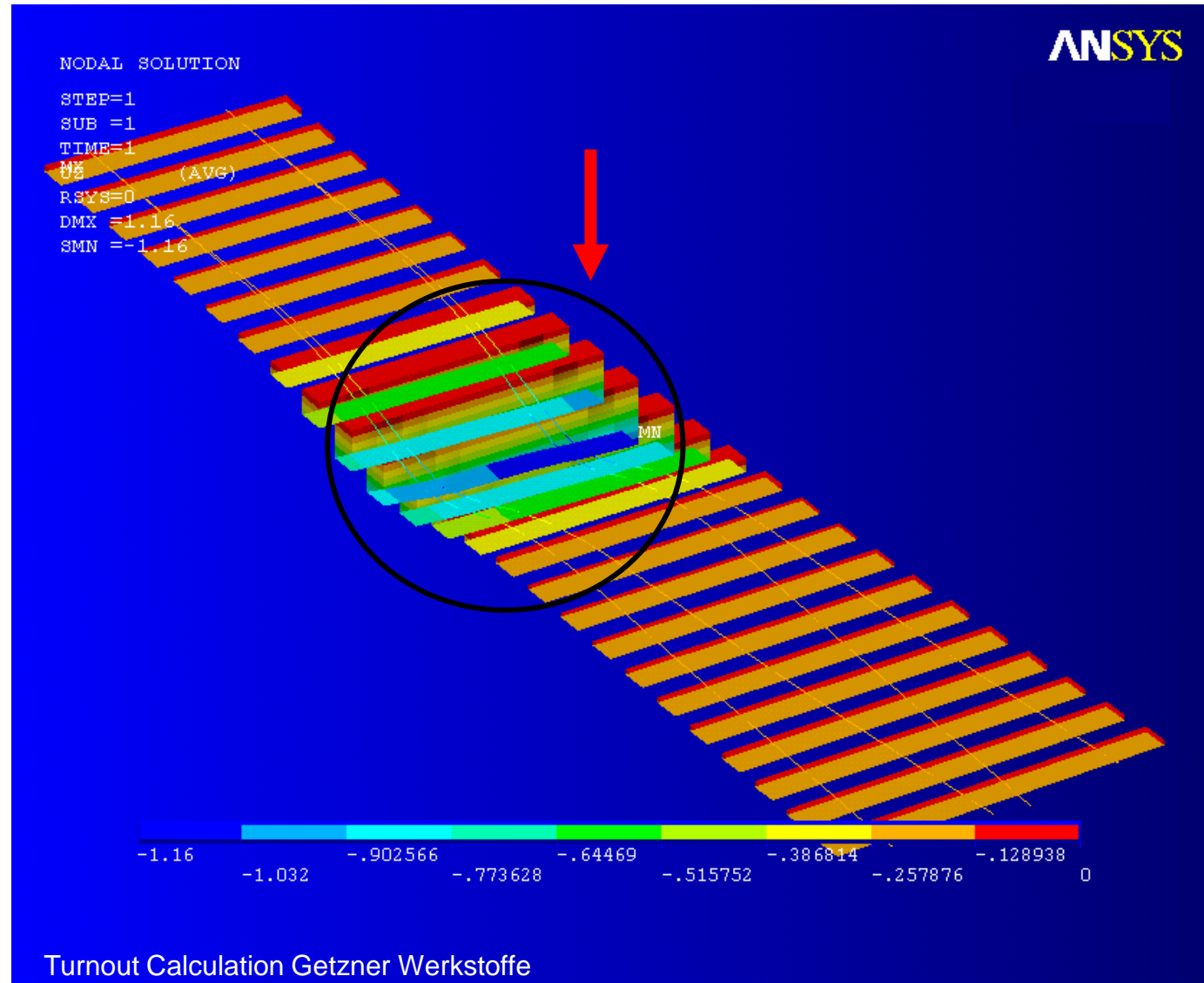


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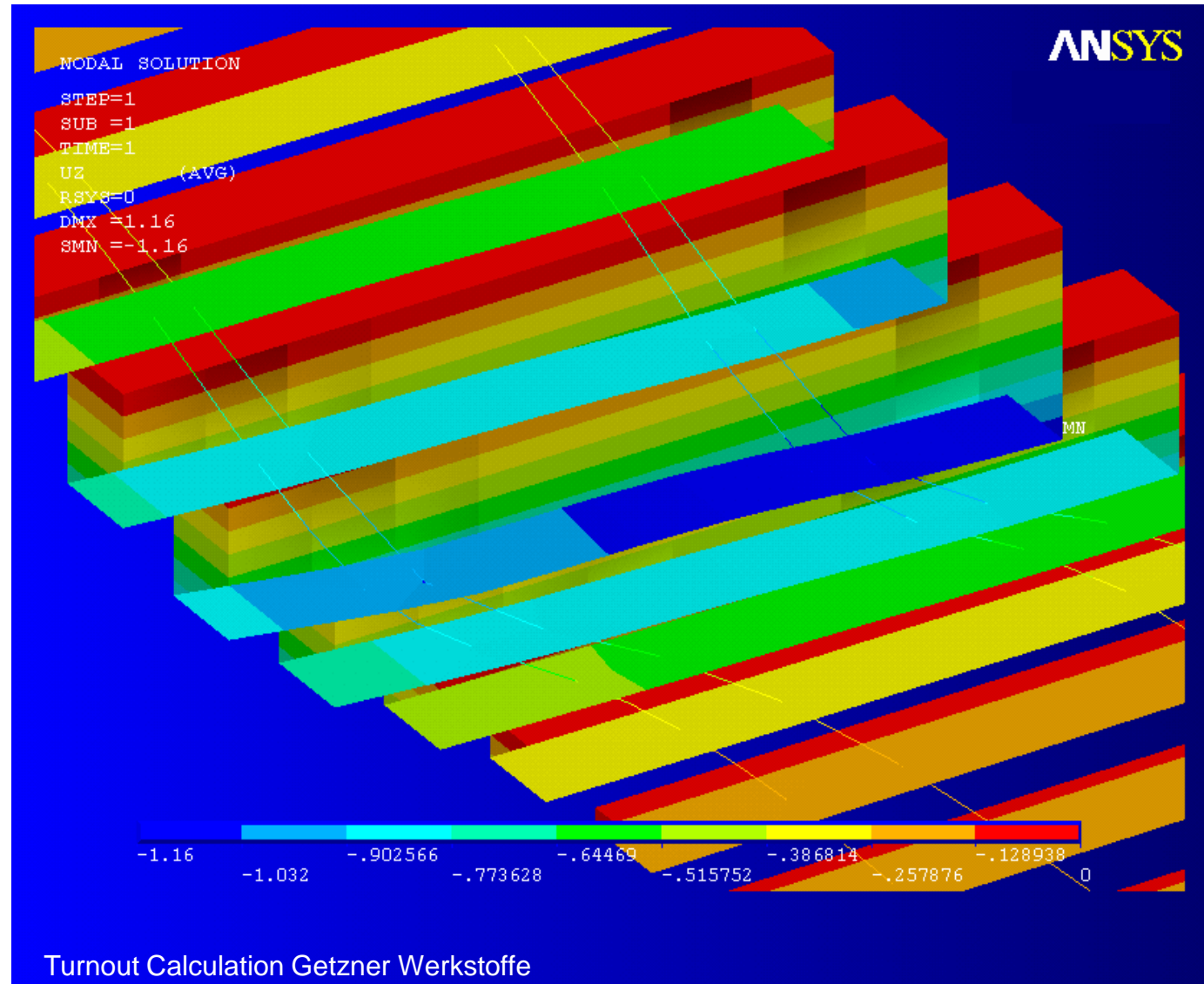




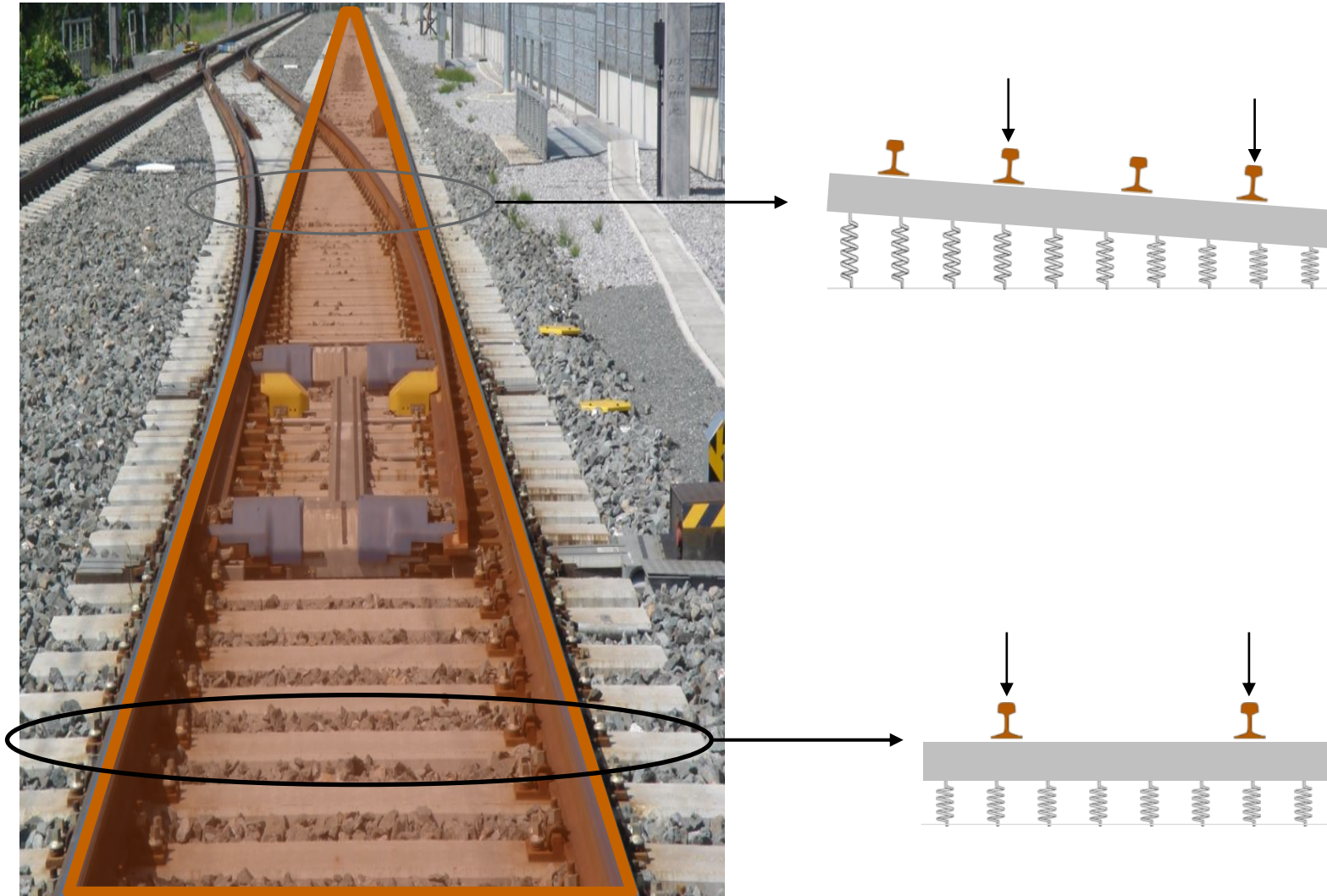
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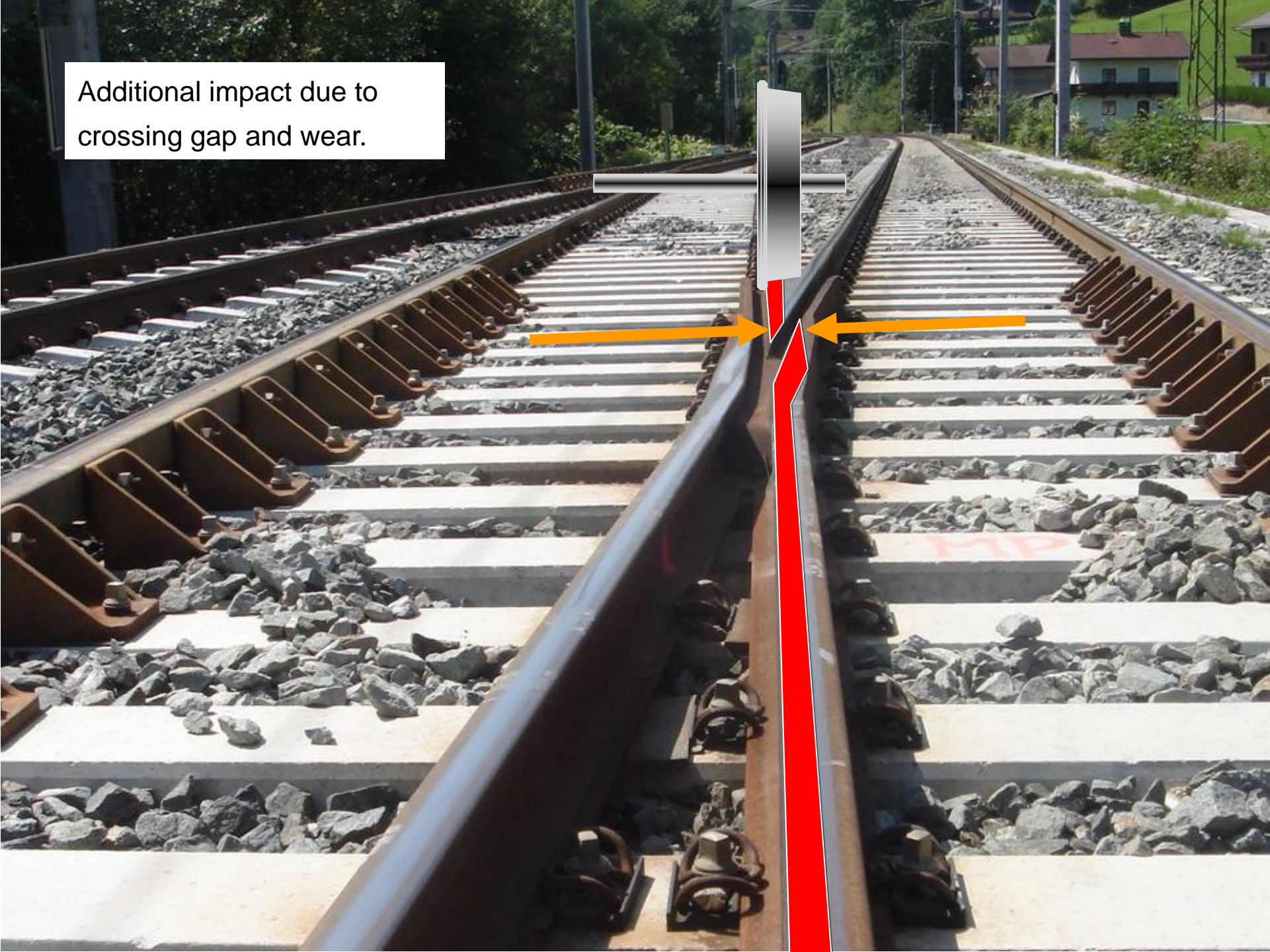


# Modelling



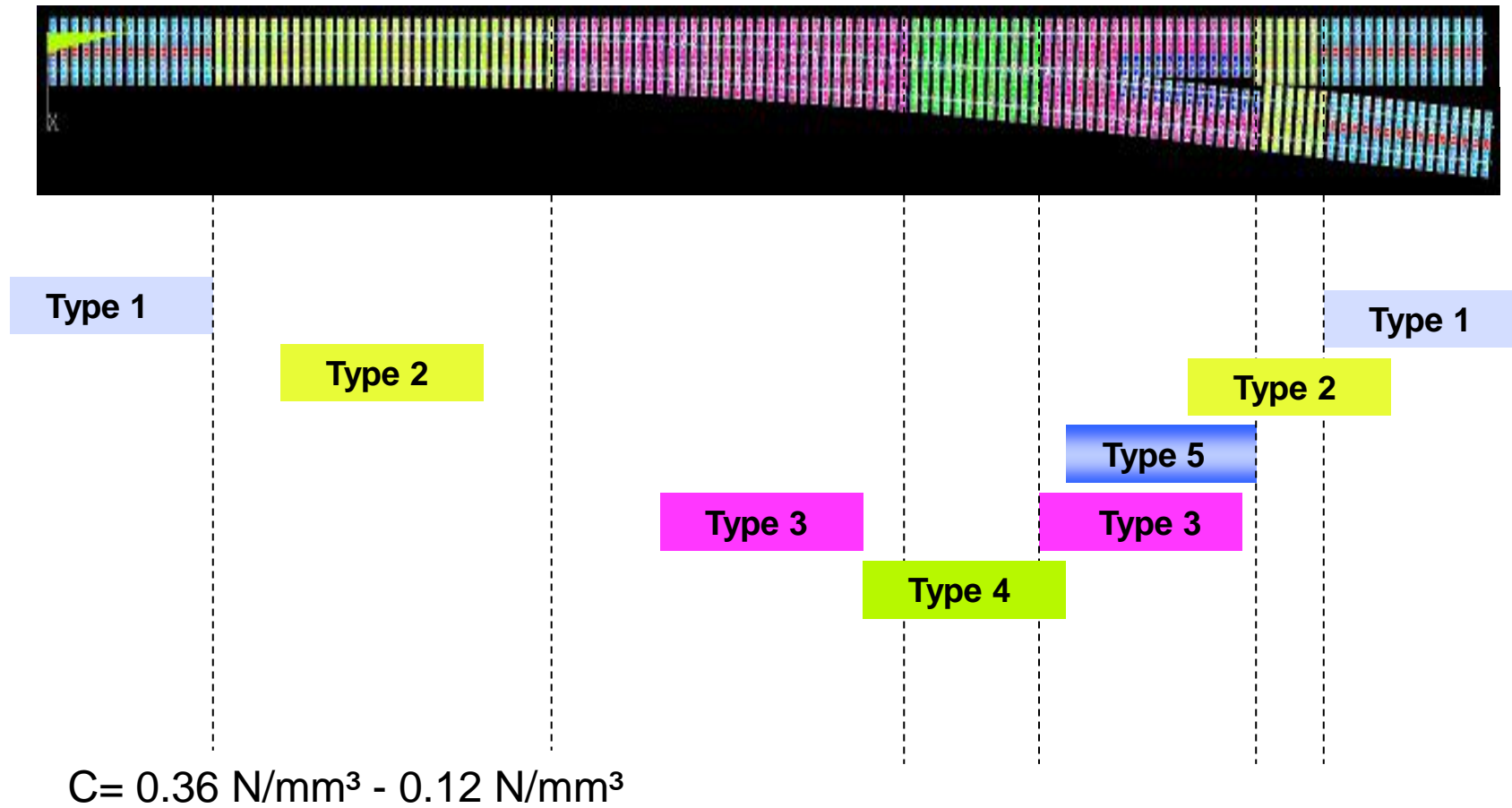


Additional impact due to crossing gap and wear.



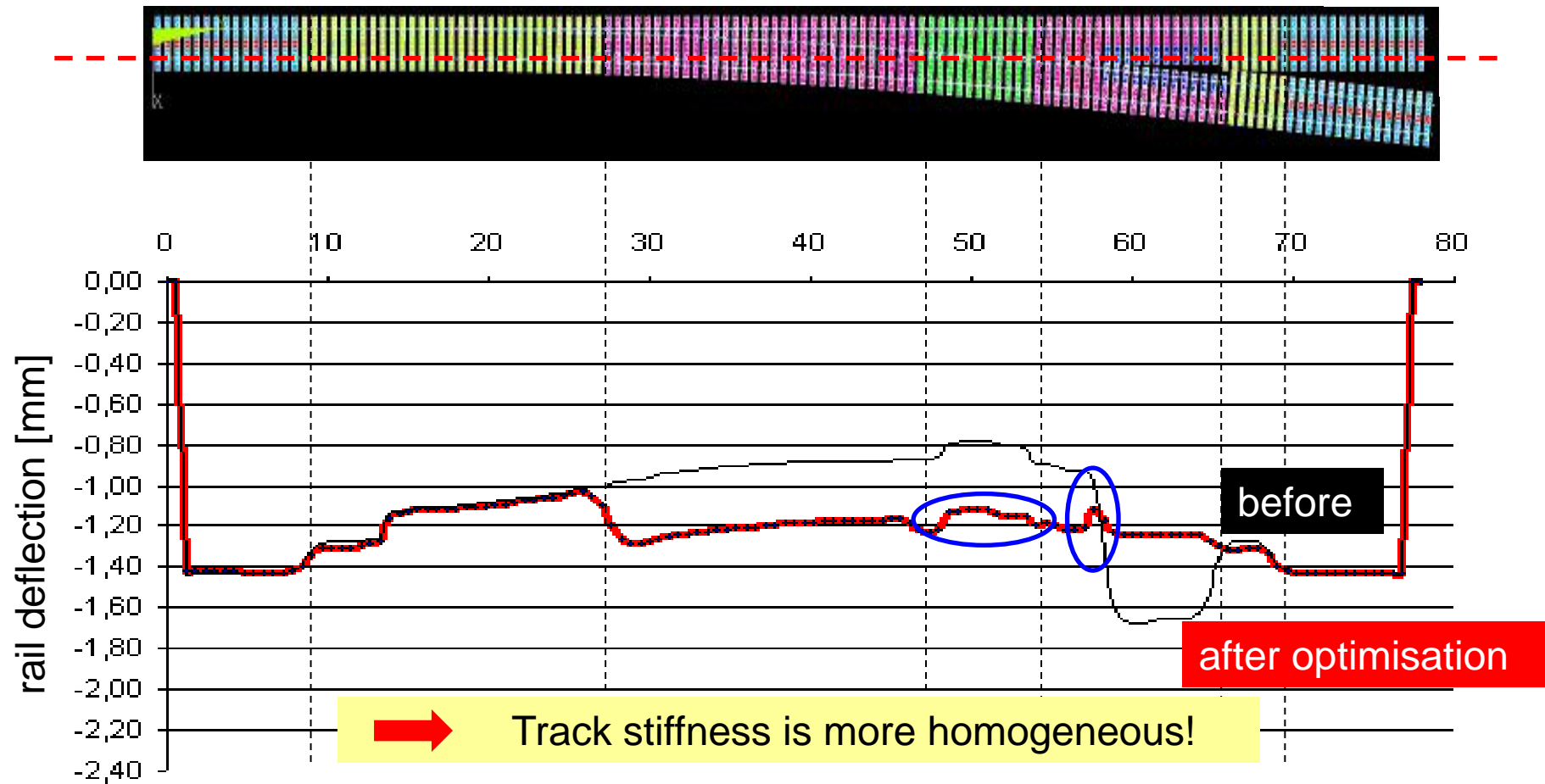
# FEM – Design – High performance solution (e.g. HSR)

Solution with → Under Sleeper Pads



# FEM – Optimisation of bedding

## Results of optimisation



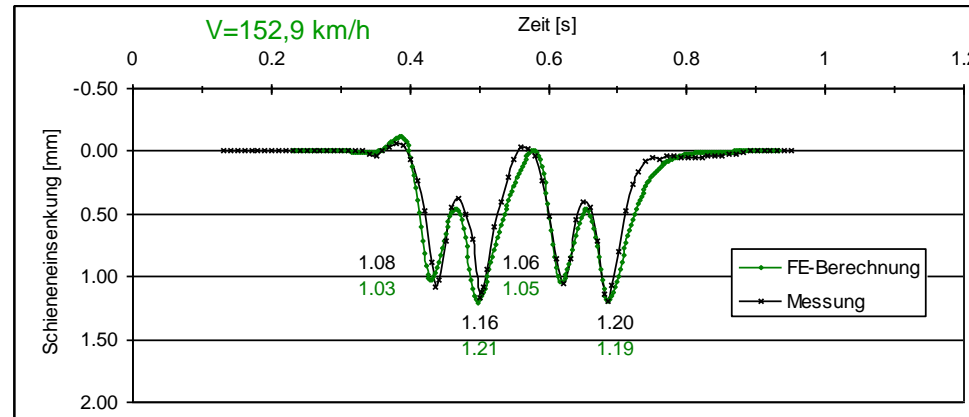
# Modelling

## Sector 1: Verification of the dynamic structural behavior on part model

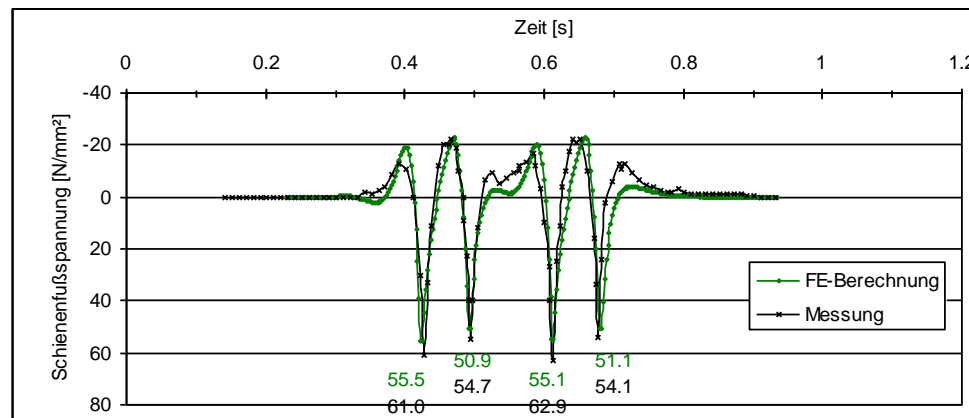
Turnout bearers with Under Sleeper Pads in slab of Sittenbergtunnel



Rail deflection

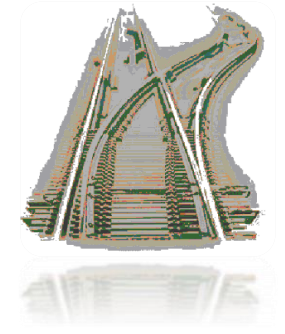


Railfoot stress





# Benefits



## Elasticity in Turnouts - Biggest Benefits:

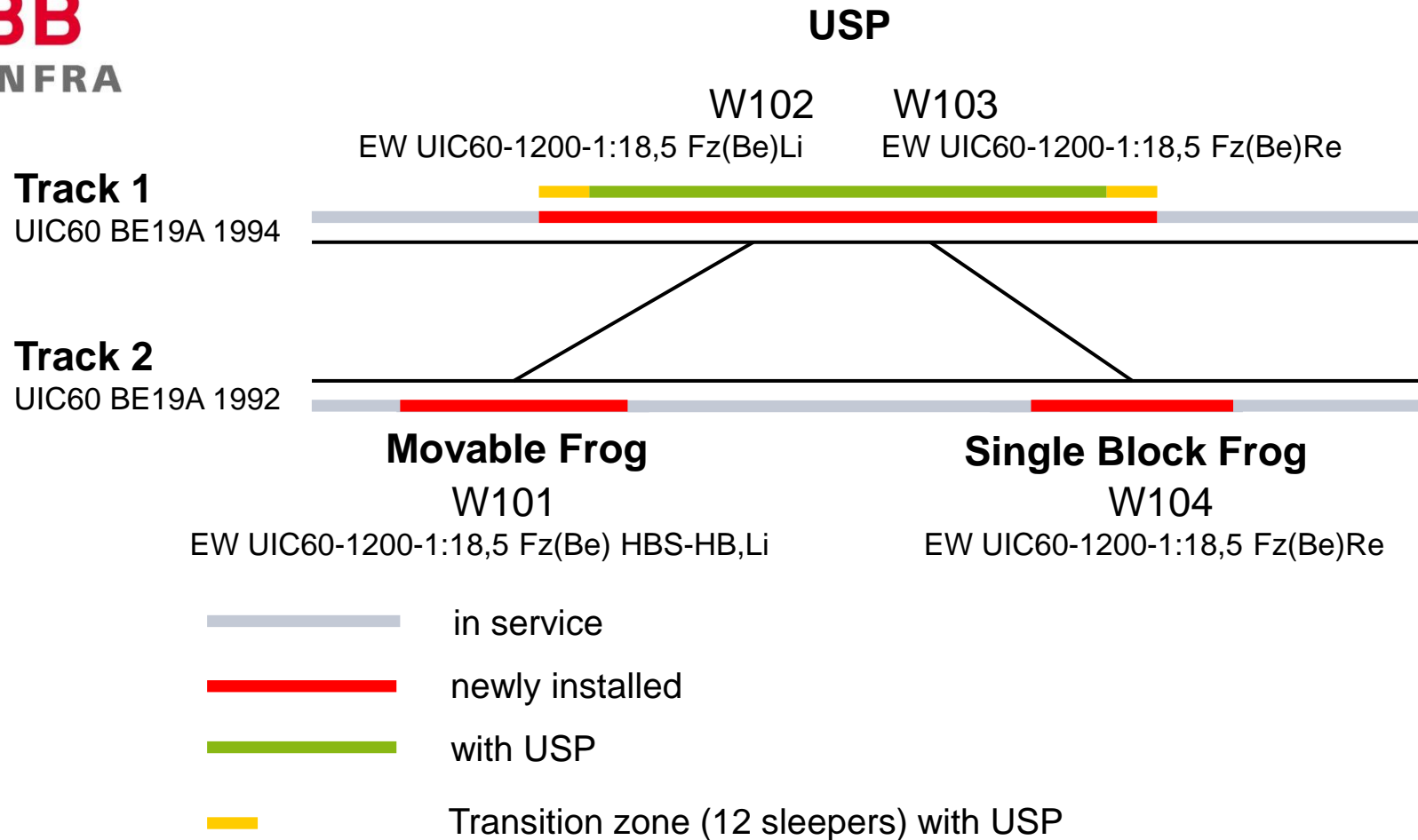
- Improvement of track quality
- Reduction of maintenance, longer tamping intervals in ballast
- Optimisation due to changing geometry
- Improvement of track stability
- Reduction of rail corrugation in tight curves
- Reduction of vibrations







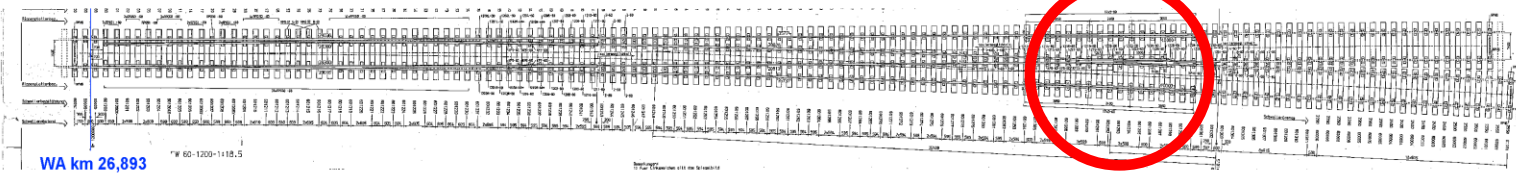
## References: Austria / Baden



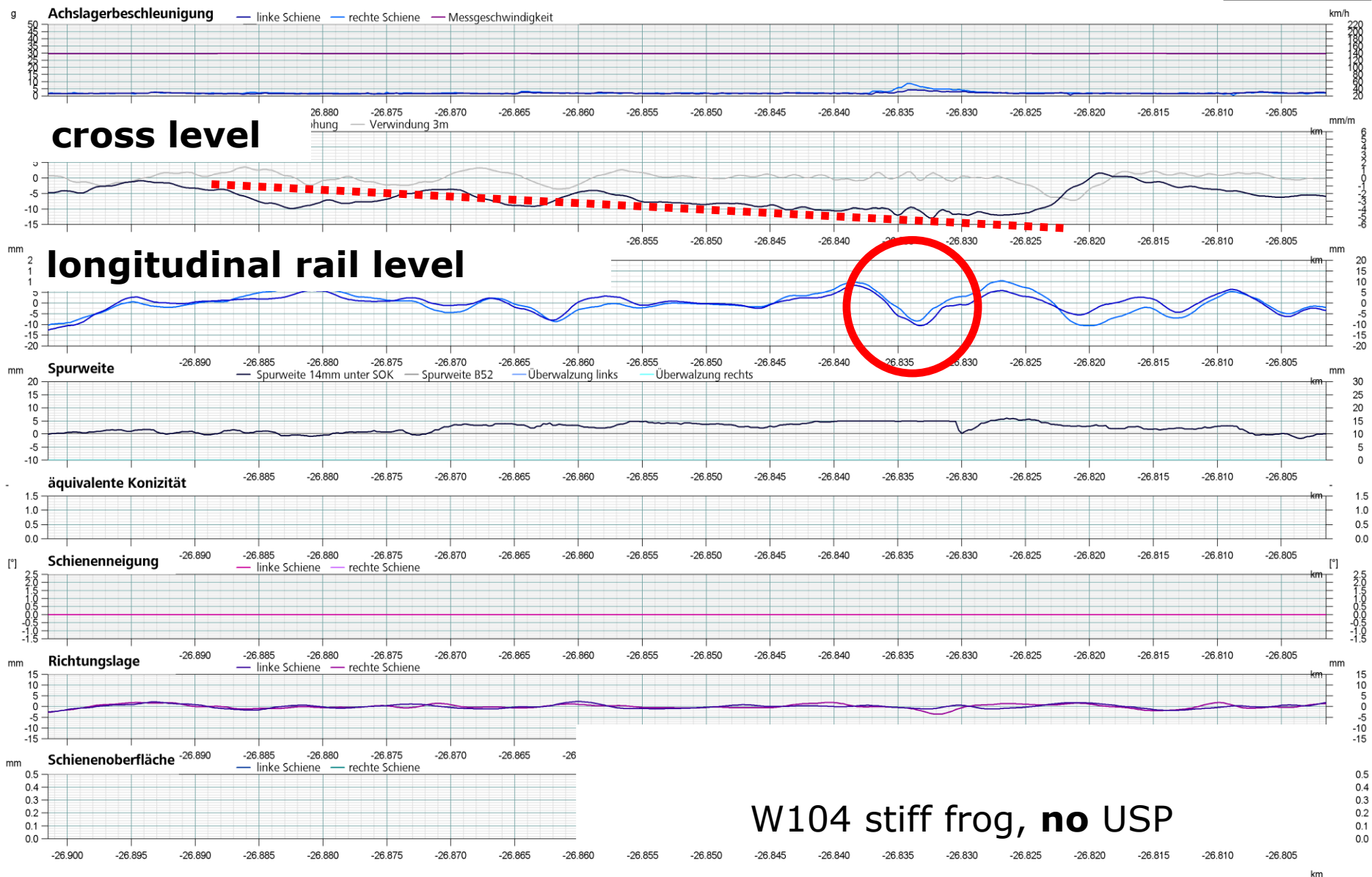
- Example of a turnout in Austria (Baden)
- Inside the turnout area: 4 turnouts
- Track 1: 2 rigid frogs with UTP
- Track 2: 1 movable frog, 1 single block frog

### Parameters

- Axle Loads of 25 to
- Speed of up to 275 km/h → turnout crossing time ~1 s

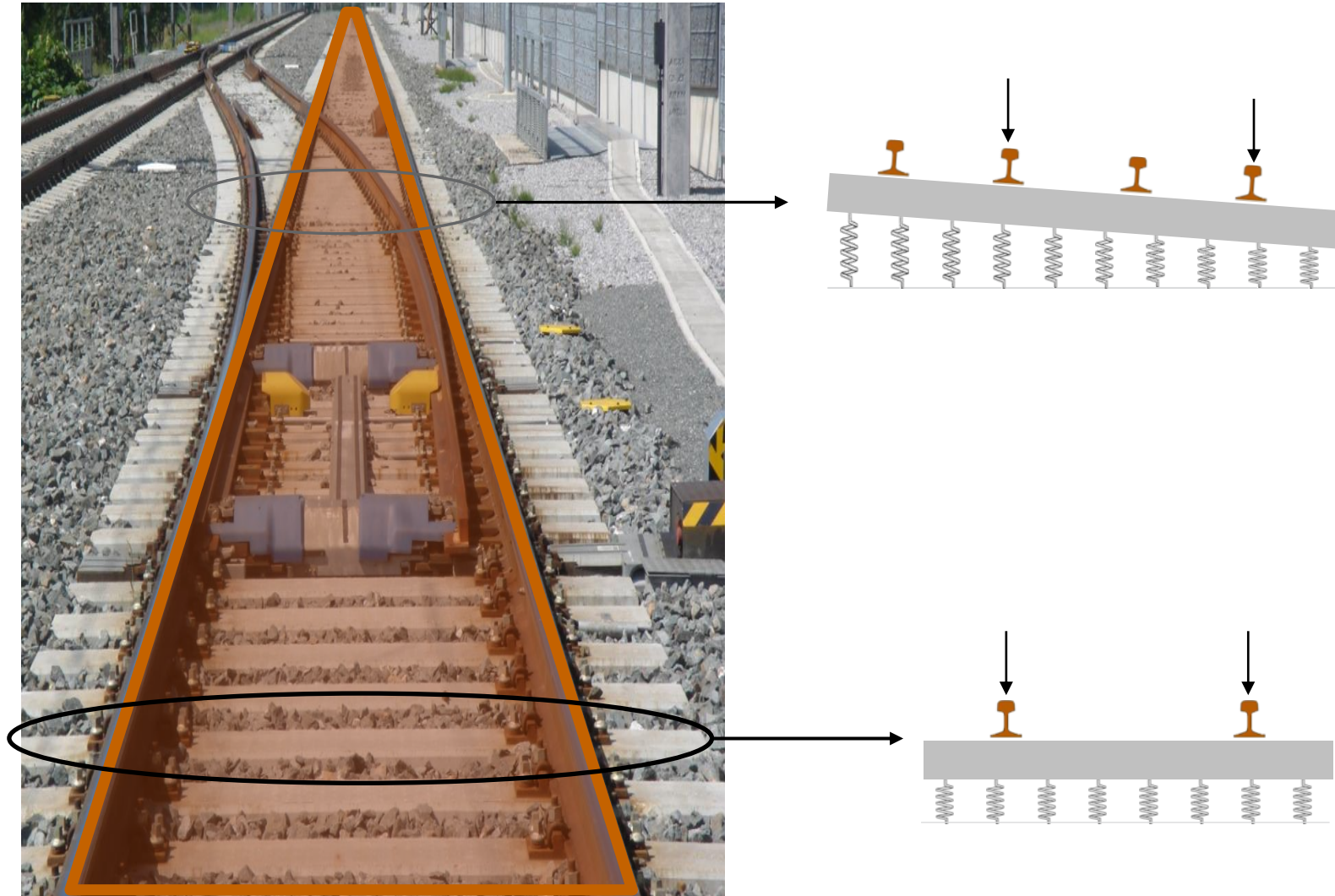


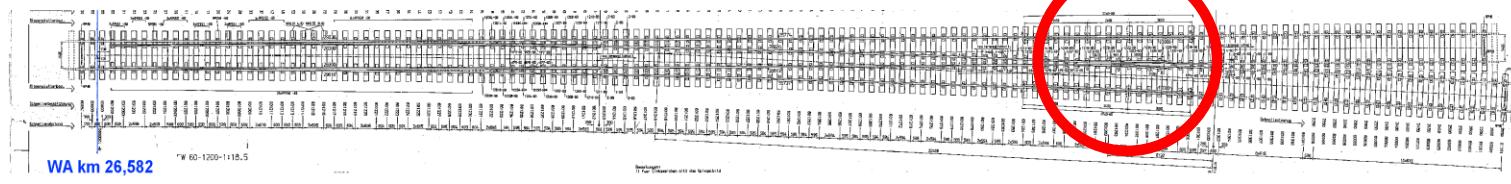
W104 - ÜSt Baden2	
2053	Gleis2
WA km	26,893
Messwagen	EM250
Messfahrt	09.11.2006
EW UIC60E1-1200-118,5 Fz(Be)Re	
OBB Infrastruktur	



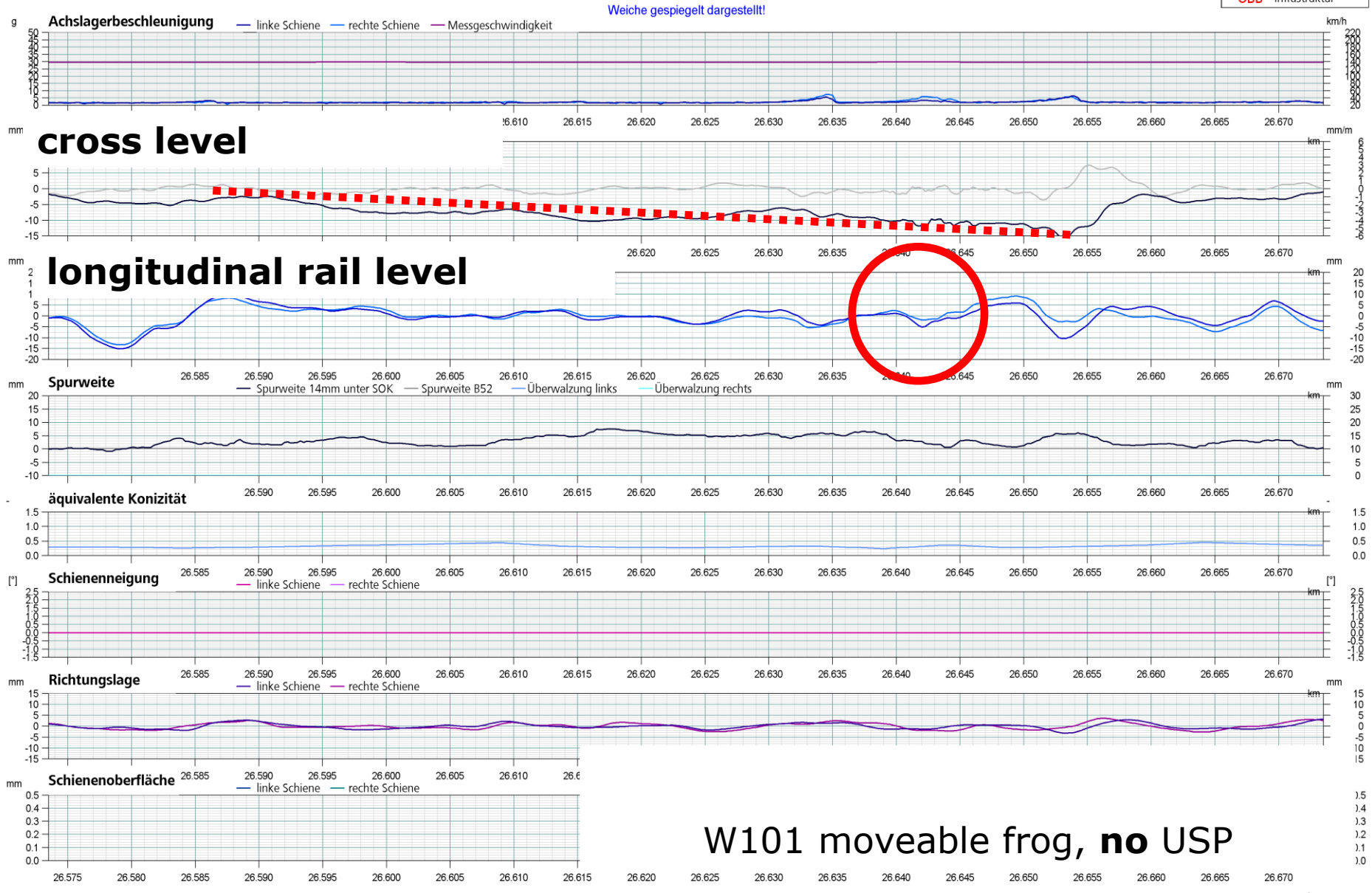
W104 stiff frog, **no USP**

## References: Austria / Baden



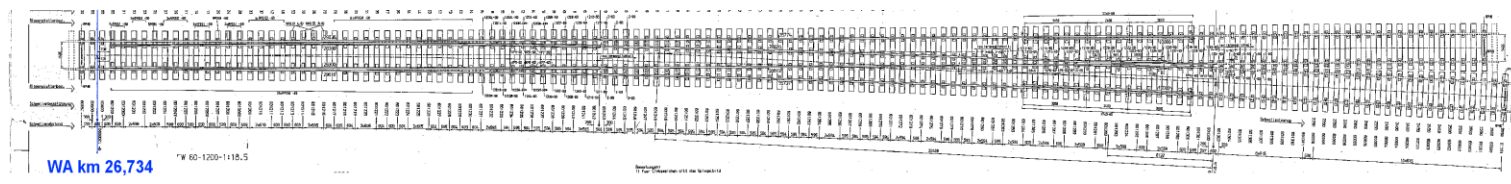


W101 - ÜSt Baden2	
2053	Gleis2
WA km	26,582
Messwagen	EM250
Messfahrt	09.11.2006
EW UIC60E1-1200-118,5 Fz(Be)Li	
CBB Infrastruktur	

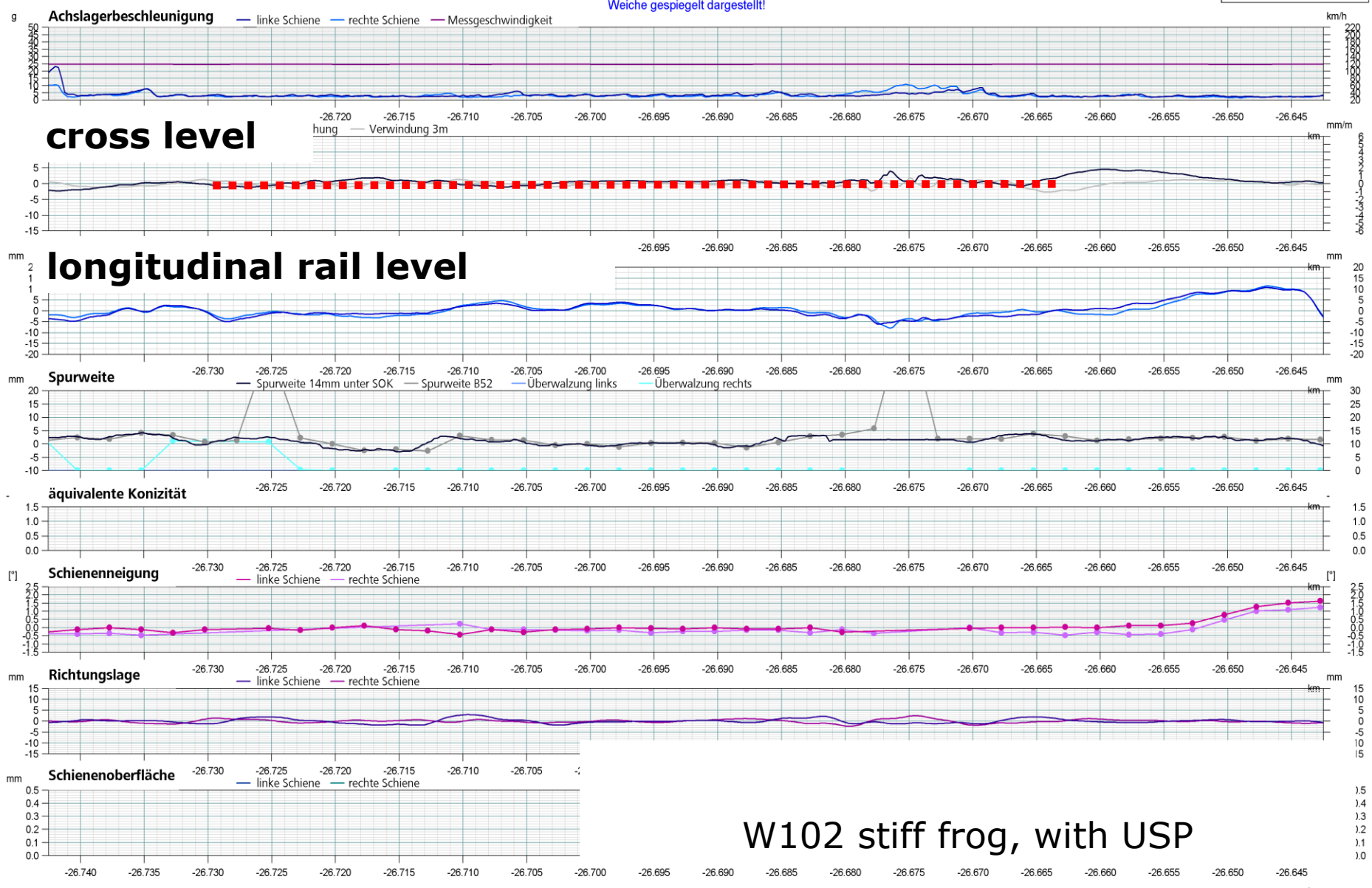


W101 moveable frog, **no USP**

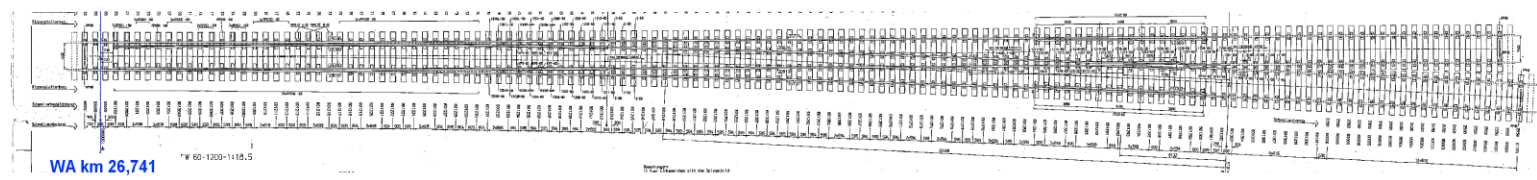




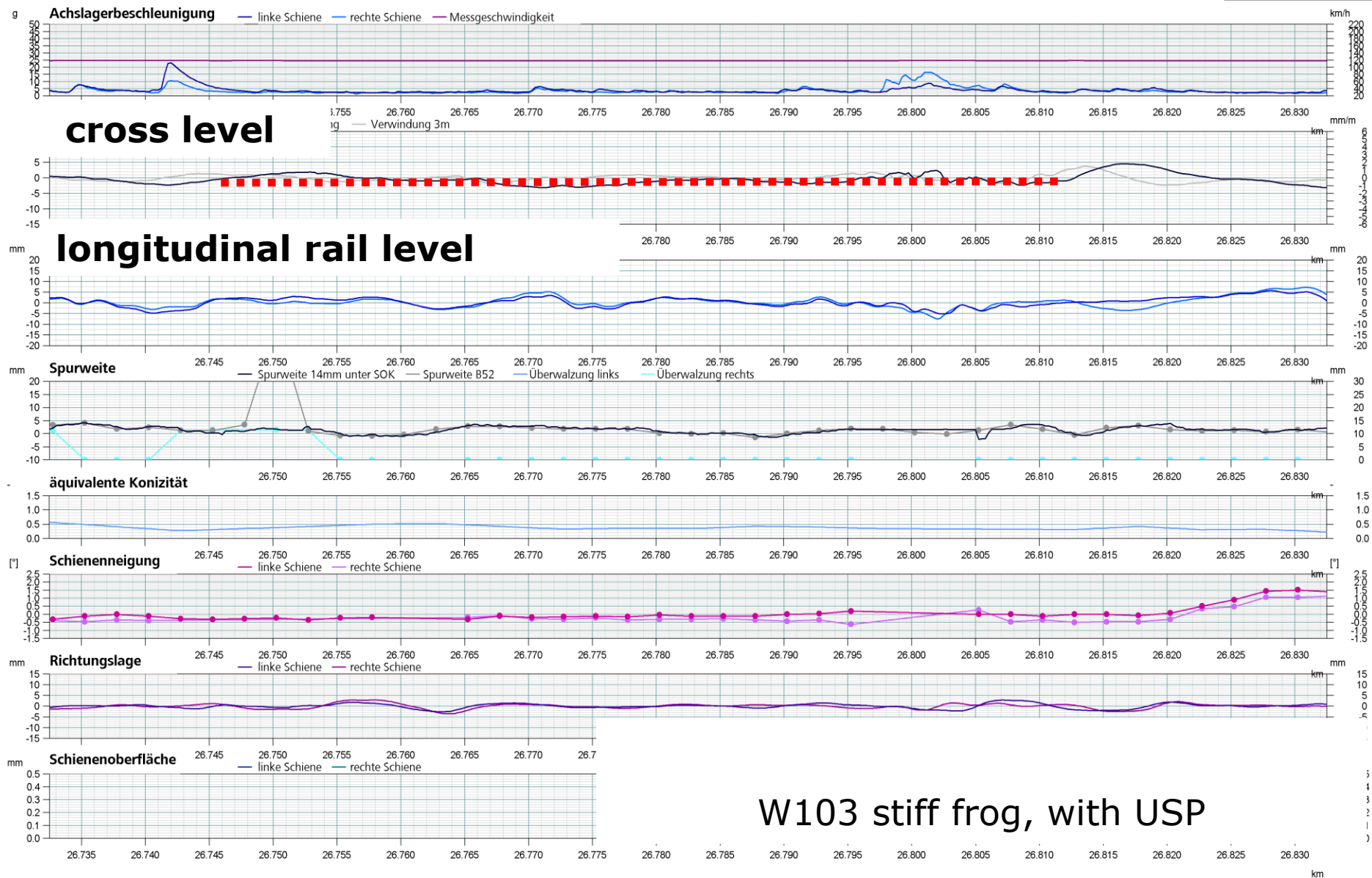
W102 - ÜSt Baden2	
2053	Gleis 1
WA km	26,734
Messwagen	EM250
Messfahrt	06.11.2006
EW UIC60E1-1200-118,5 Fz(Be)Li	
OBB Infrastruktur	



W102 stiff frog, with USP



W103 - Üst Baden2	
2053	Gleis1
WA km	26,741
Messwagen	EM250
Messfahrt	06.11.2006
EW UIC60E1-1200-1-18,5 Fz(Be)Re	
OBB Infrastruktur	



W103 stiff frog, with USP

## References: Austria / Baden



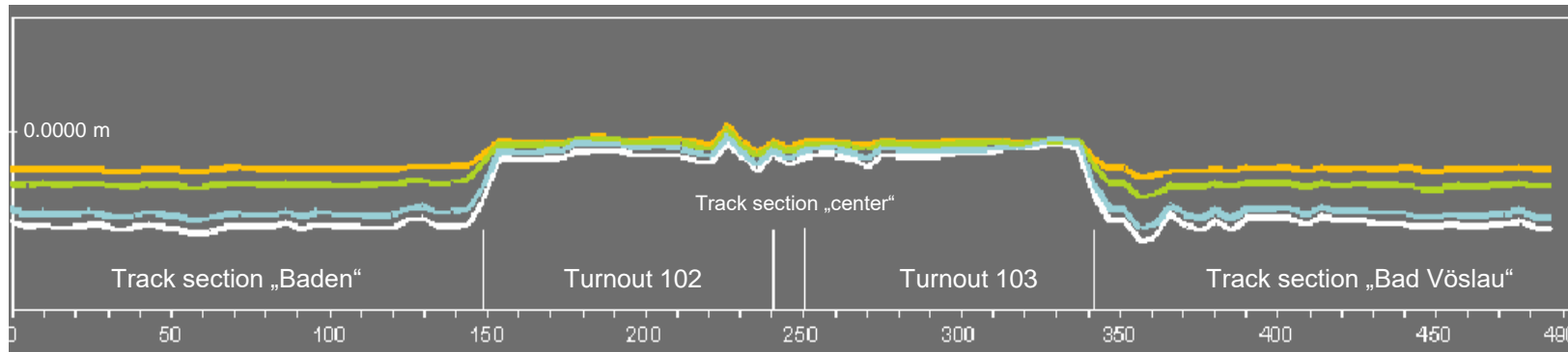
- Turnout 102 and 103 equipped with USP
- Turnout 101 and 103 without USP
- Track quality of track with USP ist better than track without USP.
- Less track settlement 274 days after installation



# References: Austria / Baden

Reference measurement: 21st of October 2002  
 First measurement: 4th, 5th and 6th of November 2002  
 Second measurement: 2nd, 3rd and 4th of Dezember 2002  
 Third measurement: 1st and 2nd of April 2003  
 Fourth measurement: 22nd and 23rd of Juli 2003

## Vertical deflection



EW UIC60-1200-1:18,5 Fz(Be)Li    EW UIC60-1200-1:18,5 Fz(Be)Re

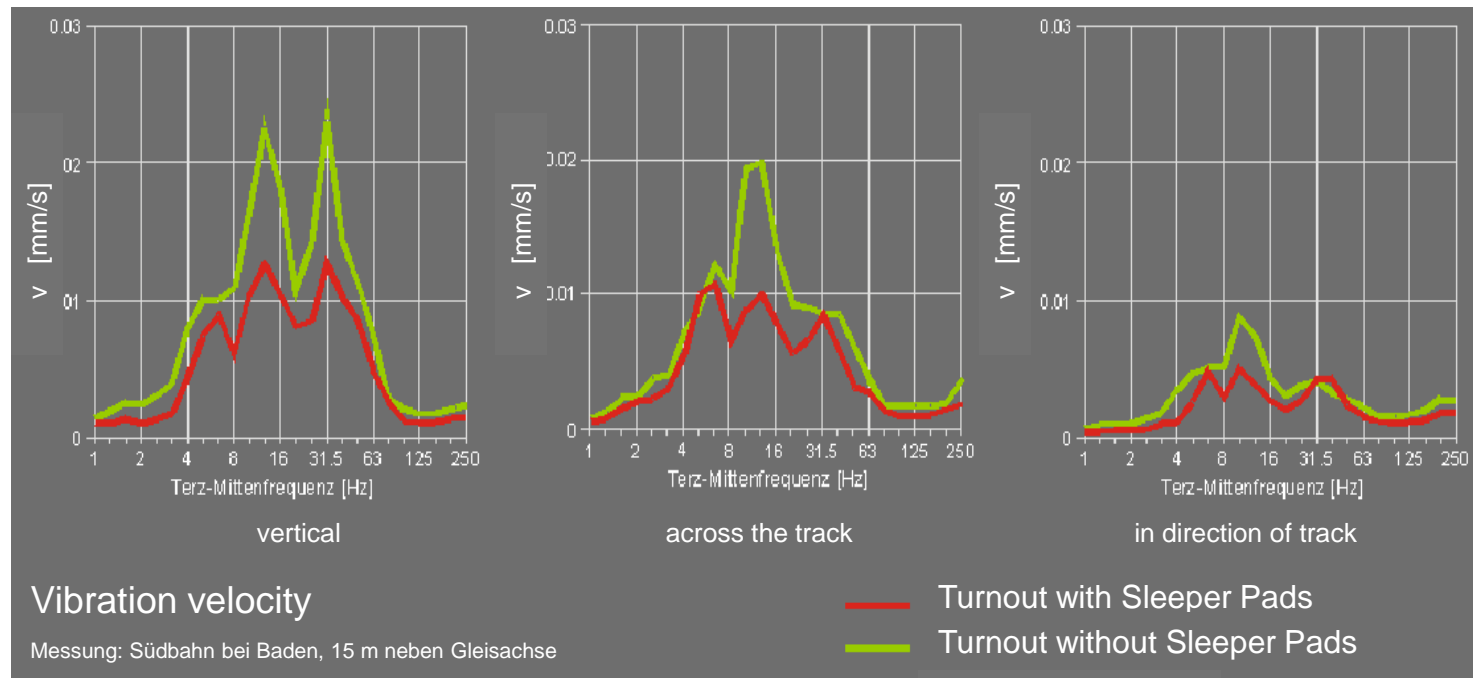


- Regular Track
- Turnouts with Sleeper Pads
- Transition Zones with adjusted stiffness

- More constant vertical deflection at padded turnouts
- More constant vertical deflection leads to increased passenger comfort

## References: Austria / Baden

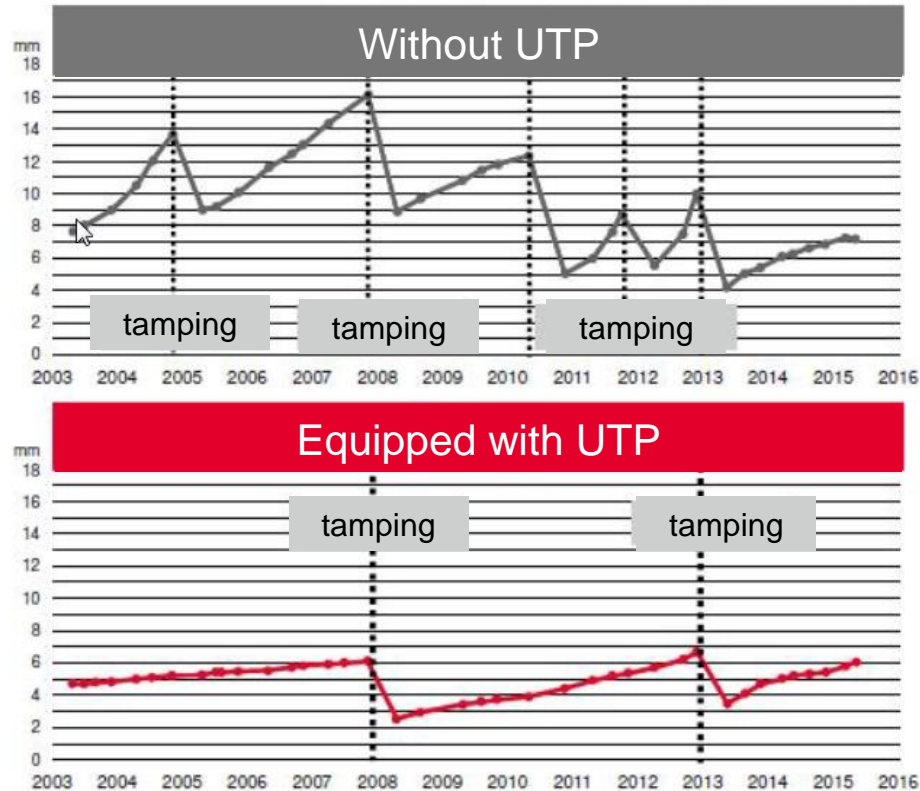
- Vibration velocity



- Lower vibration velocity at padded turnouts
- This leads to increased passenger comfort

## References: Austria / Baden

Optimierte Instandhaltungsstrategien  
im Bereich der Kostentreiber – **Weichen**



- Less maintenance effort due to ballast protection (enhanced tamping cycles)



*„The implementation of PUR elasticity by Getzner is the biggest innovation for turnouts in the past years“,*

ERICH WIPFLER, HEAD OF VAE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT ZELTWEG (AUSTRIA)