UNIVERSIDAD DE GRANADA

MÁSTER DE ESTRUCTURAS

SEMINARIO DEL MÁSTER DE ESTRUCTURAS

Rethinking the seismic safety of RC buildings

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In the past, earthquake effects were mostly analysed in terms of their immediate impacts: casualties and damages. Nowadays, the shift to a more holistic view of earthquake effects on society was caused by a series of key events and led to the development of performance-based seismic design principles which require advanced methods of analysis. Simultaneously, several recent earthquakes have been a tough reality check for the international community of seismic engineering, highlighting the severe mismatch between societal expectations and the reality of seismic performance of modern buildings, highlighting the need for a paradigm shift: redefining the concept of earthquake safety is paramount given the social and economic requirements of modern societies. The presentation will address certain aspects that led to modern seismic design procedures in order to understand the need to rethink the seismic safety of buildings. Concepts behind the practical approach that could be developed to achieve this objective are discussed.

Dr. Xavier Romão

Xavier Romão is an Assistant Professor at the Structural Engineering Division of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto (FEUP). He is also a member of the Board of Administration of the Portuguese Society for Earthquake Engineering, a member of the Portuguese Subcommittee for the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and a member of the Structural Extreme Events Reconnaissance (StEER) Network. His main research interest is risk and safety analysis of existing constructions, which include performance–based deterministic and probabilistic methods for the seismic risk assessment and design of reinforced concrete buildings.

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