A fuzzy computational framework for dynamic multibody system considering 1 2 structure damage based on information entropy Yingying Zeng<sup>1,2</sup>, Han Zhao<sup>1</sup>, Huifang Hu<sup>1</sup>, Peng Zhang<sup>1</sup>, A. S. Ademiloye<sup>3,\*</sup>, Ping Xiang<sup>1,2,\*</sup> 3 4 <sup>1</sup>School of Civil Engineering, Central South University, Changsha, China 5 <sup>2</sup> National Engineering Research Center of High-speed Railway Construction Technology, Changsha, China <sup>3</sup> Zienkiewicz Institute for Modelling, Data and AI, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Swansea 6 7 University, Swansea, United Kingdom 8 \* Corresponding author email addresses: a.s.ademiloye@Swansea.ac.uk; pxiang2-c@my.cityu.edu.hk 9 10 Abstract 11 The present study proposes a new fuzzy finite element method for dynamic multibody 12 interaction with consideration for structural damage. Here, fuzzy parameters are equivalently 13 transformed into stochastic parameters using information entropy, and the fuzzy response of the 14 structure is obtained by fuzzy calculation combined with the new point estimation method. Numerical examples are used to illustrate the accuracy and efficiency of the presented methods 15 16 and scanning method simulations are implemented to validate the computational results. Considering that the damage degree of the pier is uncertain, namely fuzzy uncertainty, stiffness 17 18 reduction is used to simulate the damage of the pier. The fuzzy dynamic response of the train-19 bridge system is investigated when the pier structure and the mass of the train are fuzzy 20 parameters. The response of the train-bridge interaction considering damage far exceeds that 21 obtained from conventional deterministic parameter calculations. To ensure running safety,

studying the response of the vehicle-system coupled vibration with fuzzy parameters is of greatsignificance.

24 Keywords: Fuzzy; Information entropy; Multibody system; Damage

25

## 26 **1. Introduction**

In recent decades, the coupled vibration caused by high-speed trains passing through 27 28 bridges has been extensively studied [1]. Over the years, both the train and bridge models have 29 been well-refined [2]. The research on numerical algorithms and other aspects of train-bridge 30 system research are also constantly evolving [3], however, the uncertainty of train and bridge 31 parameters is not considered much, the values of train and bridge are usually regarded as exact 32 values [4]. In reality, the uncertainty of structural parameters will inevitably occur during the 33 construction and service of bridges, and the mass of train also presents uncertainty during running [5]. Obviously, the traditional dynamic analysis of the train-bridge coupled system, 34 35 which considers structural parameters as exact values, is not applicable to the real complex 36 situation [6].

37 Various stochastic finite element methods have been proposed and applied to train-bridge 38 coupled systems [7], such as Monte Carlo method [8], stochastic perturbation method [9], orthogonal expansion theory [10], point estimation method [11] and probability density 39 evolution theory [12]. These methods are used for dynamic analysis of train-bridge coupled 40 41 systems with uncertain parameters. In reality, certain structural parameters, like the extent of 42 damage to piers, exhibit uncertainty that cannot be adequately explained by randomness. 43 Analyzing these parameters through probability is inconvenient and inaccurate due to their 44 varying magnitudes. The uncertainty of damage belongs to another kind of uncertainty different 45 from randomness-fuzziness. Fuzziness refers to the objective attribute of things in the 46 intermediate transition process, which is the result of the actual intermediate transition process 47 between things [13]. Fuzziness is very suitable for explaining the uncertainty of parameters 48 such as damage.

49 Despite Professor Zadeh [14] introducing the concept of fuzzy sets in the 1960s, many 50 fuzzy finite element methods have been proposed [15]. However, It still cannot effectively 51 address the challenges posed by fuzzy parameters in solving fuzzy dynamics problems [16]. 52 The scanning method is generally used to calculate fuzzy response [17], due to its large 53 computational complexity, scholars have begun to study for fuzzy methods to reduce 54 computational complexity. Rao et al. [18] proposed a fuzzy finite element method that considers 55 the geometric shape, material properties, external loads, and boundary conditions of the 56 structure as fuzzy parameters for static analysis. Massa et al. [19] proposed a new and effective 57 method to improve the predictive ability of numerical models in static analysis situations. Yang et al. [20] proposed the fuzzy variational principle, which is also used for static analysis of 58 59 structural systems with fuzzy parameters. Wasfy et al. [21] proposed a computational method 60 for predicting the dynamic response of flexible multibody systems and evaluating their sensitivity coefficients containing fuzzy parameters. Möller B et al. [22] developed and 61 62 formulated an α-generalized method for fuzzy structural analysis using an improved 63 evolutionary strategy. It should be noted that when the fuzzy output is non monotonic and the 64 evaluation cost is high, the cost of solving these optimization problems may be high [23]. Pham 65 et al. [24] proposed an improved optimization method based on Jaya, which can save a lot of computation while ensuring sufficient accuracy. Some scholars try to reduce the calculation 66 67 cost of fuzzy analysis by response surface method [25], the reliability of fuzzy analysis depends 68 entirely on the accuracy of approximate model [26].

69 Some scholars reduce the computational complexity of fuzzy analysis from the perspective 70 of entropy. Cherki A et al. [27] adopted  $\lambda$ -level cutting method to transform the fuzzy 71 equilibrium equation into interval equilibrium equation, which was used to analyze the fuzzy 72 structure. However, this method requires a large amount of computation and is complicated. 73 Lei et al. [28] proposed a new finite element analysis method of fuzzy structure by using the 74 concept of information entropy. The fuzzy variables are transformed into random variables, and 75 the mean and variance of structural response are obtained. However, the upper and lower limits 76 of the response are not obtained, and this method is not complete enough. The majority of the 77 aforementioned methods focus on straightforward static problems. When applied to dynamic 78 problems, they either involve complex and extensive calculations or are embedded, limiting 79 their applicability to broader dynamic analyses. In this paper, the mean and variance of the 80 obtained structural response are further calculated based on the previous work by Lei et al. [28] 81 and combined with the new point estimation method to obtain the upper and lower limits of the 82 response of the train and the bridge, that is, the fuzzy response of the train-and the bridge. The 83 proposed fuzzy finite element method is non embedded and can be applied to other dynamics 84 problems.

This paper is organized as follows: Section 2 introduces the model of train-bridge coupled system, Section 3 briefly introduces information entropy method and fuzzy calculation processing, Section 4 verifies the reliability of the proposed method, considers whether the degree of pier damage is fuzzy, and uses stiffness reduction to simulate pier damage. The fuzzy dynamic response of train and bridge is studied when the pier structure and train mass are fuzzy parameters, and the conclusion is presented in the last section.

#### 91 **2.** The motion equation of train-track-bridge systems

92 The train model is constructed with multiple rigid bodies, and each car is composed of a 93 car body, two bogies, four wheelsets and linear spring dampers connected between them [29]. 94 The car body contains six degrees of freedom (vertical, longitudinal, lateral, yaw, roll, pitch), 95 each wheelset contains five degrees of freedom (vertical, longitudinal, lateral, yaw, roll), and each bogie contains six degrees of freedom (vertical, longitudinal, lateral, yaw, roll, pitch), so 96 97 this paper establishes a fine train model with 38 degrees of freedom [30]. The track structure is 98 mainly composed of base, CA mortar layer, track plate, elastic fasteners, rails, and other 99 components [31]. The rail is modeled as a beam element, and the track plate and the base are 100 modeled as plate elements, which are connected by linear spring dampers [32]. Taking a three-101 span simply supported concrete bridge as an example, the bridge model is established based on 102 the finite element method, and the pier and beam are simulated as Euler-Bernoulli beam 103 elements. The train-track-bridge coupled system model is shown in Figure 1, the 104 corresponding parameters are detailed in Ref. [33].

According to the mass matrix, stiffness matrix and damping matrix obtained by the finite element method, multi rigid body dynamics and other processing methods, based on the energy 107 principle, the train track bridge coupled vibration equation can be derived, as shown below:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{cc} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{M}_{rr} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{M}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{\mathbf{X}}_{cc} \\ \ddot{\mathbf{X}}_{rr} \\ \ddot{\mathbf{X}}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{cc} & \mathbf{C}_{cr} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{C}_{rc} & \mathbf{C}_{rr} & \mathbf{C}_{rb} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{C}_{br} & \mathbf{C}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{X}}_{cc} \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}}_{rr} \\ \dot{\mathbf{X}}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{cc} & \mathbf{K}_{cr} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{K}_{rc} & \mathbf{K}_{rr} & \mathbf{K}_{rb} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{K}_{br} & \mathbf{K}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_{cc} \\ \mathbf{X}_{rr} \\ \mathbf{X}_{bb} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_{cc} \\ \mathbf{Q}_{rr} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} (1)$$

109 where,  $\mathbf{X}_{cc}$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_{rr}$  and  $\mathbf{X}_{bb}$  represent the displacement vectors of the train, rail and bridge, 110 respectively.  $\mathbf{Q}_{cc}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}_{rr}$  denote the load train vectors of the train and rail respectively.

111 In this paper, Eq (1) is solved based on the Wilson- $\theta$  method in the prepared MATLAB

- 112 program, when  $\theta > 1.37$ , this algorithm is unconditionally stable. The value for  $\theta$  is taken as 1.4
- 113 in our calculations [34].



#### 114

122

Figure 1 Train-track-bridge coupled system

# 115 **3. Information entropy**

# 116 **3.1. Equivalent transformation of entropy**

117 Shannon [35], the father of information theory, believed that information is random in 118 nature. He borrowed the term "entropy" from statistical mechanics, and proposed information 119 entropy to measure probabilistic information, called probabilistic entropy. The greater the 120 uncertainty, the greater the entropy.

121 For a continuous random variable *X*, its probability entropy is defined as follows:

 $H = -\int_{x} p(x) \ln p(x) dx \tag{2}$ 

123 where p(x) is the probability density function of the random variable X.

When random variable is obeyed Gaussian distribution, probability entropy can be expressed as[<u>36</u>]

126  $H = \ln(\sqrt{2\pi e}\sigma) \tag{3}$ 

127 As understanding deepens, researchers have come to recognize that information carries

128 non-probabilistic uncertainty, specifically in the form of fuzziness. Fuzzy information can also 129 be measured using information entropy, called fuzzy entropy. Aldo De Luca 130 and Settimo Termini [37] first defined fuzzy entropy as follows, where f(y) is the 131 membership function of fuzzy variable *Y*,

132 
$$G = -\int_{y} f(y) \ln f(y) + [1 - f(y)] \ln [1 - f(y)] dy.$$
(4)

Achintya Haldar and Rajasekhar K. Reddy [<u>38</u>] also proposed a simple computational form of
fuzzy entropy, as shown below,

$$G' = -\int_{y} f'(y) \ln f'(y) dy$$
<sup>(5)</sup>

135

 $f'(y) = f(y) / \int_{y} f(y) dy$  (6)

137 The definition equation of fuzzy entropy makes the membership function f(y)138 normalized as well as the probability density function p(x).

139  $\int_{y} f'(y) dy = 1$ (7)

Entropy is a measure of information uncertainty, and there is essentially no difference between probabilistic entropy and fuzzy entropy. Fuzzy variables can be transformed into random variables by retaining the invariability of the measure of uncertainty. The principle of this transformation is that the equivalent probabilistic entropy equals to the fuzzy entropy [28]. In this paper, the total entropy is converted into the equivalent stochastic entropy  $H_{eq}$ , and the structural parameters are converted into stochastic parameters for calculation, as shown in Eq.(8):

147

$$G = H_{eq} \tag{8}$$

148 To convert the uncertain variables into equivalent normal random variables, obtain the 149 mean  $\mu$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$  of random variables, we assume that the mean  $\mu$  of the 150 equivalent normal random variable is the value of the fuzzy variable at the membership degree 151 of 1.

152 The standard deviation  $\sigma$  of the equivalent normal random variable can be obtained from 153 Eq. (3) and (8), as follows:

154

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{G-0.5} \tag{9}$$

#### 155 **3.2.** New point estimation method (NPEM)

156 Zhao et al [39] proposed a new point estimation of probability moments, which greatly 157 improves the practicability and accuracy of point estimation. Jiang et al [7] used NPEM based 158 on adaptive dimensionality reduction to study the stochastic dynamic response of the axle system, and the results are verified to be accurate and efficient. The specific solution steps forthe vibration response of the stochastic axle system are as follows:

161 (1) Determine the distribution state of the random parameters, and transform the original
162 relevant random parameters into mutually independent standard normal random parameters.
163 The random parameters in this paper all obey normal distribution, therefore, they can be
164 standardized as:

 $X(i) = \mu + \sigma u(i)$ 

166 where X(i) denotes the value of the random parameter corresponding to the *i*<sup>th</sup> estimation 167 point,  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  denote the mean and standard deviation of the random parameter, respectively, 168 and u(i) denotes the *i*<sup>th</sup> estimation point.

169 (2) Choose a suitable reference point  $u_c$ , and determine the number of Gaussian 170 integration points r (r is usually an odd number, usually taken as 5 or 7). In this paper, we take 171  $u_c = 0$ , and use 7 Gaussian integration points, corresponding to the integration points  $x_{GH,i}$  and 172 weights  $w_{GH,i}$  of the Gauss-Hermite product formula as shown:

1	7	3
T	1	$\mathcal{I}$

165

Table 1 The integral points and weights for Gauss-Hermite quadrature with r = 7i1234567i250.81(20)0.81(20)1.(7255)2.(510)

	l	1	2	5	7	5	0	/
	$x_{GH,i}$	-2.65196	-1.67355	-0.81629	0	0.81629	1.67355	2.65196
	$W_{GH,i}$	$9.71781 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.45156 \times 10^{-2}$	0.425607	0.810265	0.425607	$5.45156 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.71781 \times 10^{-4}$
174								

175 (3) Based on the data in Table 1, substitute  $\sqrt{2}x_{GH,i}$  as u(i) in Eq. (10), and the weight 176 coefficients  $P_i$  are calculated, and the estimated points and corresponding weight coefficients 177 in the standard normal space are shown in Table 2:

178

$$P_i = \frac{W_{GH,i}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \tag{11}$$

(10)

179	Table 2 The estimating points and corresponding weights							
	i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	u(i)	-3.75044	-2.36676	-1.15441	0	1.15441	2.36676	3.75044
	$P_i$	$5.48269 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.07571 \times 10^{-2}$	0.24012	0.45714	0.24012	$3.07571 \times 10^{-2}$	5.48269×10 <sup>-4</sup>
180 181	C	Calculate the tin	ne-range dynai	mic respons	ses $\mathbf{h}(X_l)$	$(i), t)$ and $\mathbf{I}$	$\mathbf{n}(X_l(i), X_m(j),$	<i>t</i> ) of the axle
182	couple	ed system with	different rand	lom variab	les and di	fferent est	imation points	respectively,
183	where l and m denote the $l^{\text{th}}$ and $m^{\text{th}}$ random parameters, and i and j denote the $i^{\text{th}}$ and $j^{\text{th}}$							
184	estima	ation points, res	spectively.					

(4) Substitute the values of the dynamic responses, h, into Eq. (12) and Eq. (13), and
calculate the mean value of the time-range response and the central moments of each order

187  

$$\mu(t) \approx \sum_{l < m} E\left[\mathbf{h}\left(X_{l}, X_{m}, u_{c}, t\right)\right] - (n-2)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} E\left[\mathbf{h}\left(X_{k}, u_{c}, t\right)\right] + \frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2}\mathbf{h}\left(u_{c}, t\right)$$
(12)

188  
$$\mathbf{M}_{q}(t) \approx \sum_{l < m} E \left[ \left( \mathbf{h} \left( X_{l}, X_{m}, u_{c}, t \right) - \mu(t) \right)^{q} \right] - (n - 2) \\ \sum_{k=1}^{n} E \left[ \left( \mathbf{h} \left( X_{k}, u_{c}, t \right) - \mu(t) \right)^{q} \right] + \frac{(n - 1)(n - 2)}{2} \left( \mathbf{h} \left( u_{c}, t \right) - \mu(t) \right)^{q}$$
(13)

189 where  $\mu(t)$  denotes the time-response mean,  $\mathbf{M}_q(t)$  denotes the time-response  $q^{\text{th}}$ 190 (q=2,3,4) order center distance, *n* denotes the number of random parameters, and  $\mathbf{h}(u_c, t)$ 191 denotes the time-response at  $u(i) = u_c$ . The expressions for *E* in Eq. (11) and (12) above can be 192 rewritten as:

193 
$$E\left[\left(\mathbf{h}\left(X_{l}, u_{c}, t\right) - \mu(t)\right)^{q}\right] = \sum_{i=1}^{r} P_{i}\left(\mathbf{h}\left(X_{l,i}, u_{c}, t\right) - \mu(t)\right)^{q}$$
(14)

194 
$$E\left[\left(\mathbf{h}\left(X_{l}, X_{m}, u_{c}, t\right) - \mu(t)\right)^{q}\right] = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \sum_{j=1}^{r} P_{i} P_{j}\left(\mathbf{h}\left(X_{l,i}, X_{m,j}, u_{c}, t\right) - \mu(t)\right)^{q}$$
(15)

When there is only one random parameter, Eq.(12) and Eq.(13) here can be simply expressed as:

197 
$$\boldsymbol{\mu}(t) \approx E \Big[ \mathbf{h} \Big( X_{l}, u_{c}, t \Big) \Big]$$
(16)

198 
$$\mathbf{M}_{q}(t) \approx E\left[\left(\mathbf{h}\left(X_{1}, u_{c}, t\right) - \mu(t)\right)^{q}\right]$$
(17)

199 (5) Transform the first four central moments of the time-range response into the 200 corresponding mean  $\mu_z$ , standard deviation  $\alpha_2$ , skewness coefficient  $\alpha_3$ , and kurtosis 201 coefficient  $\alpha_4$  according to Eq. (18).

202
$$\begin{cases} \mu_{z} = \mu \\ \alpha_{2} = \sqrt{M_{2}} \\ \alpha_{3} = M_{3} / \mu_{z}^{3} \\ \alpha_{4} = M_{4} / \mu_{z}^{4} \end{cases}$$
(18)

#### 203 **3.3. Fuzzy response**

After obtaining the mean and standard deviation of the response volume *Y*, we use  $\mu_y \pm k(\lambda)\sigma_y$  to approximate the range of variation of the response volume *Y*.  $k(\lambda)$  is a function of  $\lambda$ -cut level that varies with  $\lambda$ -cut level. In this paper, we consider the membership function of fuzzy variable as normal membership function and transformed the fuzzy variables into equivalent normal random variable. The normal membership function [40] is as follows, such fuzzy variables can be denoted as  $\tilde{A} = (a, \alpha^2)$ 

210 
$$f(x) = e^{-\frac{(x-a)^2}{\alpha^2}}$$
(19)

Referring to a random normal distribution, the fuzzy coefficient of variation (COV) is defined in Eq. (19). Obviously, the larger the COV, the greater the ambiguity of the fuzzy parameters.

214  $COV = \frac{\alpha}{a}$  (20)

From Eq. (5) and Eq. (9), we can obtain the mean  $\mu$  and the standard deviation  $\sigma$  of the equivalent random variable, as follows:

217 
$$\mu = a, \, \sigma = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} \tag{21}$$

For each  $\lambda$  -cut level, the upper and lower bounds of the fuzzy variable *X* will be obtained, denoted by the interval [xl, xr], as shown in Figure 2(a). From Eq. (19) and Eq. (21), we can obtain the following equation.

221  
$$[xl, xr] = a + \alpha [-\sqrt{-\ln \lambda}, \sqrt{-\ln \lambda}]$$
$$= \mu + \sigma [-\sqrt{-2\ln \lambda}, \sqrt{-2\ln \lambda}]$$
(22)

After the interval [xl, xr] is obtained by  $\lambda$  -cut set, according to the interval analysis method [41], the interval midpoint  $X^{c}$  and the interval radius  $X^{R}$  are defined as

224 
$$X^{C} = (xl + xr)/2$$
$$X^{R} = (xr - xl)/2$$
(23)

225 The uncertainty level of the interval is defined as

226 
$$\gamma = \frac{X^R}{|X^C|} \times 100\%$$
(24)

In this paper, the normal fuzzy membership degree is adopted, so the interval midpoint here is *a*. The uncertainty level of the interval can be obtained as shown in Eq. (25).

229 
$$\gamma = \frac{xr - xl}{2a} = \frac{2\alpha\sqrt{-\ln\lambda}}{2a} = COV\sqrt{-\ln\lambda}$$
(25)  
(a) (b)





Figure 2 Normal fuzzy membership degree : (a) Upper and lower bounds of the fuzzy variable *X*; (b) Relationship between fuzzy membership degree and uncertainty level

As can be seen from Eq. (25) and Figure 2(b), the uncertainty level of the interval increases significantly with the increase of COV. When the COV is determined, the uncertainty level of the interval increases significantly with the increase of  $\lambda$ . This means that the smaller the membership degree, the fuzzier the interval obtained after the  $\lambda$  -cut and the higher the uncertainty level of the interval.

238 Whether triangular fuzzy membership, normal fuzzy membership or other fuzzy 239 membership functions are used to describe the fuzziness of fuzzy parameters,  $\lambda$  - cut are finally 240 carried out to get the corresponding interval, and the uncertainty level of the corresponding 241 interval is calculated. The smaller  $\lambda$  is, the greater the uncertainty level of the interval is. In 242 order to fully consider the large uncertainty of parameters, this paper takes  $\lambda$  as 0.01.

The upper and lower intervals of the fuzzy variable *X* can also be represented by the mean and standard deviation of the equivalent random variable and  $k(\lambda)$ . We make an approximate assumption that the  $k(\lambda)$  part of the response quantity *Y* is equivalent to the  $k(\lambda)$  of the upper and lower bound intervals of the fuzzy variable *X*. We demonstrate in section 4.1 that the assumption is reliable.

248  

$$f: x \to y$$

$$[yl, yr] = \mu_y + \sigma_y [-\sqrt{-2\ln\lambda}, \sqrt{-2\ln\lambda}]$$
(26)

249 where  $\mu_y$  and  $\sigma_y$  denote the mean and standard deviation of the response volume *Y*, 250 respectively. In the actual problem-solving process, there may be more than one fuzzy variable. 251 Therefore, for the applicable range of *n* fuzzy variables, Eq. (22) can be rewritten as:

$$f_{i}: x_{i} \to y_{i}$$

$$f: x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots x_{n} \to y$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{n} \sigma$$
(27)

$$[yl, yr] = \mu_y + \sigma_y \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{yi}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{yi}^2}} [-\sqrt{-2\ln\lambda}, \sqrt{-2\ln\lambda}]$$

where  $\sigma_{yi}$  denotes the standard deviation of the *i*<sup>th</sup> response volume  $Y_i$  obtained by the *i*<sup>th</sup> fuzzy variable  $X_i$  acting alone,  $\sigma_y$  denotes the standard deviation of the response volume Yobtained by the interaction of all fuzzy variables.

256 Certainly, fuzzy membership functions can also be other types of functions, such as 257 triangular membership function, with a similar processing process and unchanged core ideas. 258 Calculate the upper and lower limit intervals through the membership function, expressed in 259 the form of  $\mu_x \pm k(\lambda)\sigma_x$ . We use  $\mu_y \pm k(\lambda)\sigma_y$  to approximate the range of variation of the 260 response volume *Y*, and make an approximate assumption that the  $k(\lambda)$  part of the response 261 quantity *Y* is equivalent to the  $k(\lambda)$  of the upper and lower bound intervals of the fuzzy variable 262 *X*. The specific verification is shown in Figure 3 and Table 5.

263 Obviously, when  $\lambda = 1$ , the fuzzy variables are transformed into deterministic values, and 264 the response volume is exactly the result obtained by conventional calculations ignoring 265 parameter uncertainty (fuzziness).

## **4. Fuzzy response of train-bridge coupled vibration with pier damage**

Bridges that have been in operation for an extended period inevitably undergo damage due to various factors, and the extent of this damage is uncertain, varying from significant to minor. Simulating the uncertainty of bridge damage solely through randomness is not accurate enough. The uncertainty of damage is consistent with the definition of fuzziness, which refers to the objective attributes that things exhibit during the intermediate transition process. Fuzziness is very suitable for explaining the uncertainty of parameters such as damage.

273 Given that the pier constitutes a crucial component of a bridge structure, this article 274 addresses the uncertainty associated with pier damage to investigate the fuzzy response in the 275 coupled vibration of trains and bridges. Pier stiffness reduction is used to simulate bridge pier 276 damage. In the construction and manufacturing of concrete bridges, discrepancies between 277 structural parameters and calibration data are inevitable, introducing uncertainty. Similarly, 278 during train operation, encountering uncertainty in the mass of the train is also unavoidable. 279 The uncertainty arising from both situations can be effectively simulated using the concept of 280 fuzziness. Therefore, the fuzzy variables considered in this paper are the elastic modulus of pier, 281 the concrete density of pier and the mass of locomotive.

As shown in Table 3, the fuzzy distribution of each parameter obeys the normal fuzzy distribution. The speed of the train passing through the bridge is 250 km/h, and the train grouping is: locomotive+ trailer  $\times$  2+ locomotive. The detailed parameters of the train can be found in Ref. [42].

T.L. 7 E---

286

Table 5 Fuzzy parameters distribution					
Parameters	Unit	а			
E (Elastic modulus of pier concrete)	N/m <sup>2</sup>	3.45×10 <sup>10</sup>			
Eb (Elastic modulus of bridge concrete)	N/m <sup>2</sup>	3.45×10 <sup>10</sup>			
D (Pier concrete density)	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	$2.5 \times 10^{3}$			
$M_c$ (Mass of locomotive)	kg	48000			

287

In order to verify the influence of different fuzzy parameters and different fuzzy distributions on the fuzzy response of train-bridge. The fuzzy coefficient of variation (COV) of the studied fuzzy parameters are 0.10, 0.15, 0.20, 0.25, and 0.30. Five working conditions are studied, as shown in Table 4. The symbol ' $\checkmark$ ' denotes the consideration of a fuzzy parameter, while a blank indicates the exclusion of a parameter from being treated as fuzzy.

293

294

 Table 4 Fuzzy parameters under different working conditions

	Fuzzy parameter						
Working Condition Type	E	Mass of					
	1st pier	2nd pier	3rd pier	4th pier	locomotive		
Total damage	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		
1st Pier damage	$\checkmark$				$\checkmark$		
2nd Pier damage		$\checkmark$			$\checkmark$		
3rd Pier damage			$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$		
4th Pier damage				$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		

<sup>295</sup> 

## **4.1. Comparison of the fuzzy method with the other researcher's work**

Most dynamic problems are extremely complex and lack analytical solutions. Currently, many researchers use scanning methods to solve fuzzy dynamics problems [17]. After  $\lambda$  is taken, the fuzzy parameter will become an interval number, and the scanning method uniformly takes a large number of values within the interval and substitutes them into the dynamic equation, taking their maximum and minimum values as the fuzzy result. However, the scanning method is evidently characterized by extremely low efficiency.

In order to verify the feasibility of applying the method proposed in this paper to trainbridge problems, the fuzzy vertical displacement of the bridge midspan with fuzzy parameter (Elastic modulus of bridge concrete *Eb*) and the fuzzy vertical acceleration of the 1st train with fuzzy parameters (Mass of locomotive *Mc*) were solved, and the results were compared with those calculated by the scanning method. The corresponding parameters are shown in Table 3 and the value of  $\lambda$  is taken as 0.01. From Figure 3, IE represents the fuzzy method based on 309 information entropy (proposed method), and SM represents the fuzzy method based on 310 scanning method. It can be seen that the results obtained by the fuzzy method in this paper are 311 very close to those obtained by the scanning method.



Figure 3 Fuzzy response with different COVs (0.15 0.20 0.25 0.30): (a-d) Vertical displacement of bridge midspan with fuzzy parameter *Eb*; (e-f) Vertical acceleration of the 1st train with fuzzy parameter *Mc* 

315 316

As shown in Table 5, the calculation efficiency of this method is much higher than that of 317 318 the scanning method. It should be noted that when  $\lambda$  is taken as 0.01, the corresponding 319 uncertainty level for the interval with COV of 0.10, 0.15, 0.20, 0.25 and 0.30 are 21.46%, 320 32.19%, 42.92%, 53.65% and 64.38%. Many articles believe that when the uncertain level is 321 greater than 20% [43], the problem studied is a large-range uncertainty problem [44]. Therefore, 322 the results in the table are acceptable. For a fuzzy parameter, it only needs to calculate the trainbridge model 7 times, which takes much less time and has good results. Therefore, it is reliable 323 324 to apply this method to the train-bridge problems.

325

Table 5 Comparison of the fuzzy method with scanning method							
Mathad	Calculation time (s)		Maximum relative error (COVs)				
Method		0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25	0.30	
	528	V	Vertical displacement of bridge midspan				
IE-7		1.93%	2.47%	4.81%	7.70%	13.68%	
		Vertical acceleration of the 1st train					
		3.74%	4.24%	3.89%	3.05%	2.30%	
SM-1000	75876			-			

326

## **4.2. Total damage**

328 Considering the elastic modulus and density of four piers and the mass of locomotive as

329 fuzzy parameters.

# 330 4.2.1. Fuzzy response and standard deviation at the top of pier

331 Taking the fuzzy coefficient of variation COV = 0.3, Figure 4 shows the vertical

displacement and standard deviation at the top of pier with different fuzzy parameters. From
our computed results, we observed that the maximum amplitude of the fuzzy vertical
displacement at the top of the four piers exceeds the conventional vertical response by 37.13%,
36.57%, 35.68%, and 35.96%, respectively.



Figure 4 Vertical displacement and standard deviation at the top of pierwith different
 fuzzy parameters

Figure 5 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical displacement at the top of pier. It can be observed that the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of the pier has the greatest influence on the response at the top of pier, and the pier density has a similar influence as the mass of the locomotive. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



Figure 5 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 vertical displacement at the top of pier with different COVs

## 347 **4.2.2.** Fuzzy response and standard deviation of bridge and locomotive

348 Figure 6 shows the vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and 349 locomotive with different fuzzy parameters. From our calculation results, we observed that the 350 maximum amplitudes of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the midspan of three spans bridge 351 and the fuzzy vertical acceleration of locomotive exceed the conventional vertical response by 352 1.77%, 1.74%, 1.43%, and 78.62%, respectively. This also reflects that the elastic modulus of 353 the pier, the density of the pier, and the mass of locomotive have less influence on the vertical 354 displacement of the bridge midspan, and the mass of locomotive has a significant influence on 355 the vertical acceleration of locomotive.

## 338



Figure 6 Vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and locomotive with different fuzzy parameters

Figure 7 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive. It can be observed that the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of pier has the greatest influence on the vertical response of the bridge midspan, and the pier density has a similar influence as the mass of locomotive. The fuzziness of the mass of locomotive has the greatest influence on the vertical acceleration of locomotive, and the elastic modulus of pier has a similar influence as the pier density. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.

365



Figure 7 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive with different COVs

- 368
- 369 **4.3. 1st Pier damage**

370 Consider the elastic modulus and density of 1st pier and the mass of the locomotive as

371 fuzzy parameters.

# 372 **4.3.1. Fuzzy response and standard deviation at the top of pier**

Taking the fuzzy coefficient of variation COV = 0.3. Figure 8 demonstrates the vertical displacement and standard deviation at the top of pier with different fuzzy parameters. From our calculation results, we observed that the maximum amplitude of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the top of the four piers exceeds the conventional vertical response by 35.94%, 0.17%, 0.08%, and 0.05%, respectively.



Figure 9 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical displacement at the top of the pier. It can be observed that the fuzziness

379 380

of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response at the top of the 1st 384

385 and 2nd piers, and the fuzziness of the three parameters has a similar influence on the response

at the top of 3rd and 4th piers. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear

386

387 with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



388 Figure 9 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean 389 vertical displacement at the pier top with different COVs

390

#### 391 4.3.2. Fuzzy response and standard deviation of bridge and locomotive

392 Figure 10 demonstrates the vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and 393 locomotive with different fuzzy parameters. From the calculation results, it can be observed 394 that the maximum amplitudes of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the midspan of the three 395 spans bridge and the fuzzy vertical acceleration of locomotive exceed the conventional vertical 396 response by 0.7%, 0.1%, 0.07%, and 76.96%, respectively.





(a) Vertical displacement of 1st midspan with fuzzy parameter:  $\tilde{E}, \tilde{M}_{c}, \tilde{D}$ 







Figure 10 Vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and locomotive with different fuzzy parameters

Figure 11 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive. It can be observed that the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response of the 1st midspan, the pier density has a similar influence as the mass of locomotive. The influence of locomotive, the elastic modulus of pier and the density of pier on the response of the 2nd and 3rd midspan decreases in turn, but they belong to the same order of magnitude. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



408 Figure 11 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 409 vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive with different COVs
 410

- 411 **4.4. 2nd Pier damage**
- 412 Consider the elastic modulus and density of 2nd pier and the mass of the locomotive as
- 413 fuzzy parameters.

#### 414 **4.4.1.** Fuzzy response and standard deviation at the top of pier

Taking the fuzzy coefficient of variation COV = 0.3. Figure 12 demonstrates the vertical displacement and standard deviation at the top of pier with different fuzzy parameters. From the calculation results, it can be observed that the maximum amplitude of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the top of the four piers exceeds the conventional vertical response by 0.58%, 36.24%, 0.08%, and 0.07%, respectively.





(a) Vertical displacement of 1st pier with fuzzy parameter:  $\tilde{E}, \tilde{M}_{a}, \tilde{D}$  (b)

(b) Standard deviation of 1st pier



421

Figure 13 shows the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical displacement at the top of the pier. It can be observed that the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response at the top of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd piers, and the fuzziness of the three parameters has a similar influence on the response at the top of 4th pier. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



Figure 13 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 vertical displacement at the pier top with different COVs

#### 434 **4.4.2.** Fuzzy response and standard deviation of bridge and locomotive

Figure 14 demonstrates the vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and locomotive with different fuzzy parameters. From the calculation results, it can be observed that the maximum amplitudes of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the midspan of the three spans bridge and the fuzzy vertical acceleration of locomotive exceed the conventional vertical response by 0.77%, 0.88%, 0.08%, and 77.78%, respectively.

440





(a) Vertical displacement of 1st midspan with fuzzy parameter:  $\tilde{E}, \tilde{M}_{c}, \tilde{D}$ 

(b) Standard deviation of 1st midspan



443

Figure 14 Vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and locomotive with different fuzzy parameters

444 Figure 15 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the 445 maximum mean vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive. It can be observed that 446 the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response of the 447 1st and 2nd midspan, the pier density has a similar influence as the mass of locomotive. The 448 influence of locomotive, the elastic modulus of pier and the density of pier on the response of 449 the 3rd midspan decreases in turn, but they belong to the same order of magnitude. The standard 450 deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



452 Figure 15 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 453 vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive with different COVs
 454

- 455 **4.5. 3rd Pier damage**
- 456 Consider the elastic modulus and density of 3rd pier and the mass of the locomotive as
- 457 fuzzy parameters.

## 458 **4.5.1. Fuzzy response and standard deviation at the top of pier**

Taking the fuzzy coefficient of variation COV = 0.3. Figure 16 demonstrates the vertical displacement and standard deviation at the top of pier with different fuzzy parameters. From the calculation results, it can be observed that the maximum amplitude of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the top of the four piers exceeds the conventional vertical response by 0.23%, 0.23%, 35.66%, and 0.13%, respectively.





(a) Vertical displacement of 1st pier with fuzzy parameter:  $\tilde{E}, \tilde{M}_c, \tilde{D}$  (

(b) Standard deviation of 1st pier



Figure 17 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical displacement at the top of the pier. It can be observed that the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response at the top of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th piers, and the fuzziness of the three parameters has a similar influence on the response at the top of 1st pier. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



Figure 17 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 vertical displacement at the pier top with different COVs

478 **4.5.2.** Fuzzy response and standard deviation of bridge and locomotive

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Figure 18 demonstrates the vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and locomotive with different fuzzy parameters. From the calculation results, it can be observed that the maximum amplitudes of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the midspan of the three spans bridge and the fuzzy vertical acceleration of locomotive exceed the conventional vertical response by 0.19%, 0.92%, 0.88%, and 76.61%, respectively.





(b) Standard deviation of 1st midspan





485 with different fuzzy parameters 487

Figure 19 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the 488 489 maximum mean vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive. It can be observed that 490 the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response of the 491 2nd and 3rd midspan, the pier density has a similar influence as the mass of locomotive. The 492 influence of the elastic modulus of pier, the density of pier and locomotive on the response of 493 the 1st midspan decreases in turn, but they belong to the same order of magnitude. The standard 494 deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



Figure 19 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive with different COVs

- 499 **4.6. 4th Pier damage**
- 500 Consider the elastic modulus and density of 4th pier and the mass of the locomotive as
- 501 fuzzy parameters.

# 502 **4.6.1. Fuzzy response and standard deviation at the top of pier**

Taking the fuzzy coefficient of variation COV = 0.3. Figure 20 demonstrates the vertical displacement and standard deviation at the top of pier with different fuzzy parameters. From the calculation results, it can be observed that the maximum amplitude of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the top of the four piers exceeds the conventional vertical response by 0.22%, 0.21%, 0.06%, and 36.09%, respectively.

508





(a) Vertical displacement of 1st pier with fuzzy parameter:  $\tilde{E}, \tilde{M}_{c}, \tilde{D}$ 

(b) Standard deviation of 1st pier



511

Figure 21 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical displacement at the top of the pier. It can be observed that the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response at the top of the 3rd and 4th piers, and the fuzziness of the three parameters has a similar influence on the response at the top of 1st and 2nd piers. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



Figure 21 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 vertical displacement at the pier top with different COVs

#### 522 **4.6.2.** Fuzzy response and standard deviation of bridge and locomotive

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528

Figure 22 demonstrates the vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and locomotive with different fuzzy parameters. From the calculation results, it can be observed that the maximum amplitudes of the fuzzy vertical displacement at the midspan of the three spans bridge and the fuzzy vertical acceleration of locomotive exceed the conventional vertical response by 0.18%, 0.11%, 0.48%, and 76.57%, respectively.





(b) Standard deviation of 1st midspan





Figure 22 Vertical response and standard deviation of bridge midspan and locomotive with different fuzzy parameters

Figure 23 demonstrates the standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive. It can be observed that the fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the response of the 3rd midspan, the pier density has a similar influence as the mass of locomotive. The fuzziness of the three parameters has a similar influence on the response of the 1st and 2nd midspan. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy coefficient of variation.



Figure 23 The standard deviation of the response corresponding to the maximum mean
 vertical response at the bridge midspan and locomotive with different COVs

#### 542 Conclusion

541

In this paper, we present a fuzzy computational framework utilizing the information entropy method and the new point estimation method to analyze dynamic train-bridge interactions, accounting for pier damage. The framework is applied to study the train-bridge coupled vibration system with fuzzy structural parameters. The effectiveness and accuracy of the proposed framework are validated. The following concluding remarks are drawn from our numerical studies and results:

(1) The combination of information entropy method and new point estimation method
 effectively reduces computational complexity, improves computational efficiency, and
 increases efficiency by 2-3 orders of magnitude compared to scanning method.

552 (2) The fuzziness of the mass of locomotive has the greatest influence on the vertical 553 acceleration of locomotive, and the elastic modulus of pier has a similar influence as the pier 554 density. The standard deviation of the response is approximately linear with the fuzzy 555 coefficient of variation.

(3) The fuzziness of the elastic modulus of piers has the greatest influence on the vertical
response of the adjacent top of piers and the midspan of the bridge, and the three parameters
have a similar influence on the response of non-adjacent places.

559 (4) The response of the train-bridge, when considering damage, significantly surpasses 560 that obtained from conventional deterministic parameter calculations. Investigating the response of the train-bridge coupled vibration system with fuzzy parameters is crucial for ensuring running safety.

563

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- 574

# 575 Conflict of Interest Statement

576 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

577

## 578 Supplementary Materials

- 579 Underlying research materials related to this paper can be accessed by requesting from the 580 corresponding author.
- 581

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