

The effects of SHM system parameters on the value of damage detection information

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Introduction

- Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) strategies and measurement techniques have been well developed.
- However, there are often too many sensors and several may be incorrect.
- There is an urgent need for understanding the effectiveness of different sensor configurations.

Methods

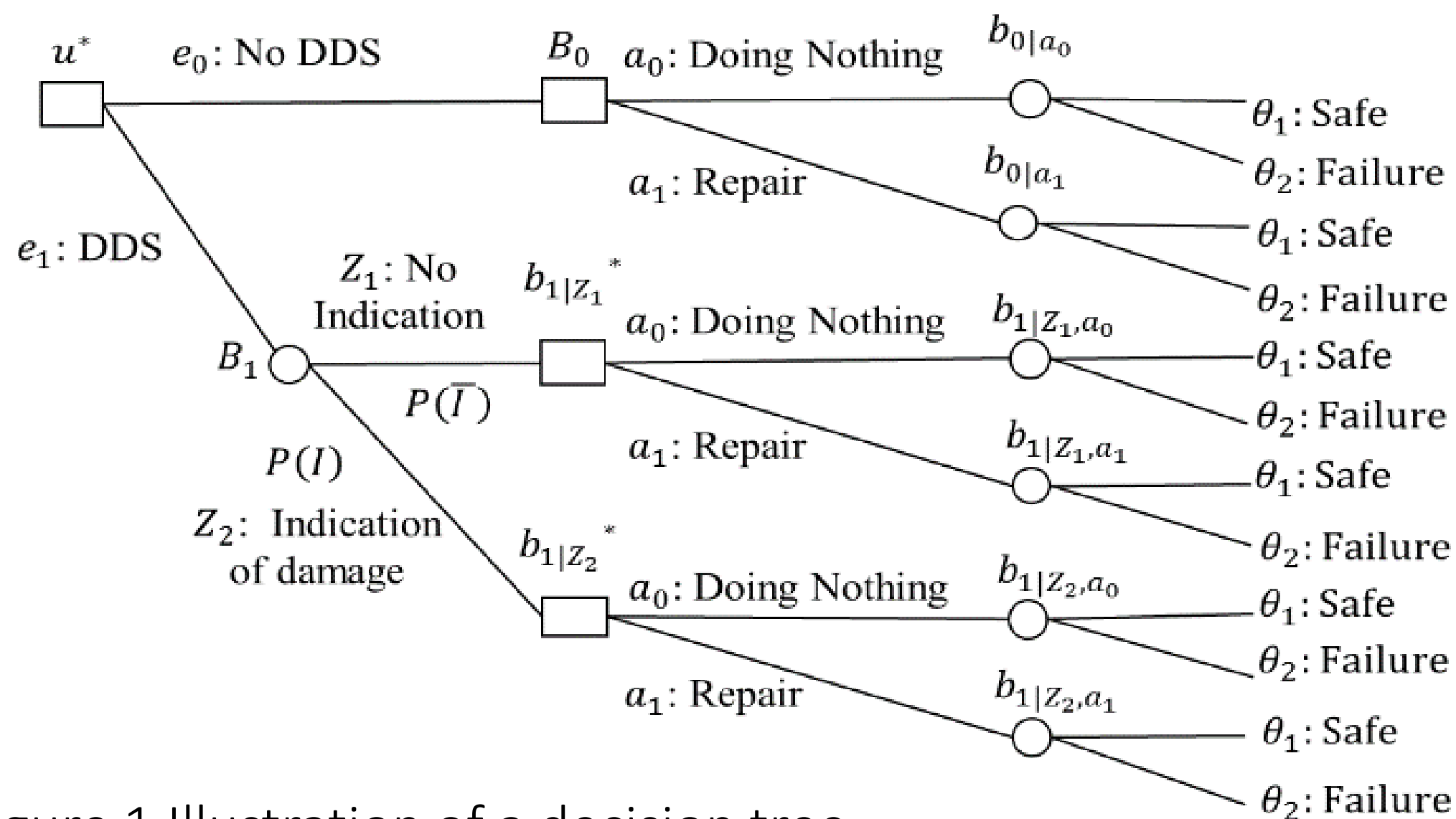


Figure 1 Illustration of a decision tree

- A value of information (VoI) analysis comprising a decision tree analysis, structural probabilistic models, consequences analysis as well as benefit and costs analysis associated with monitoring results through its service life.

Example

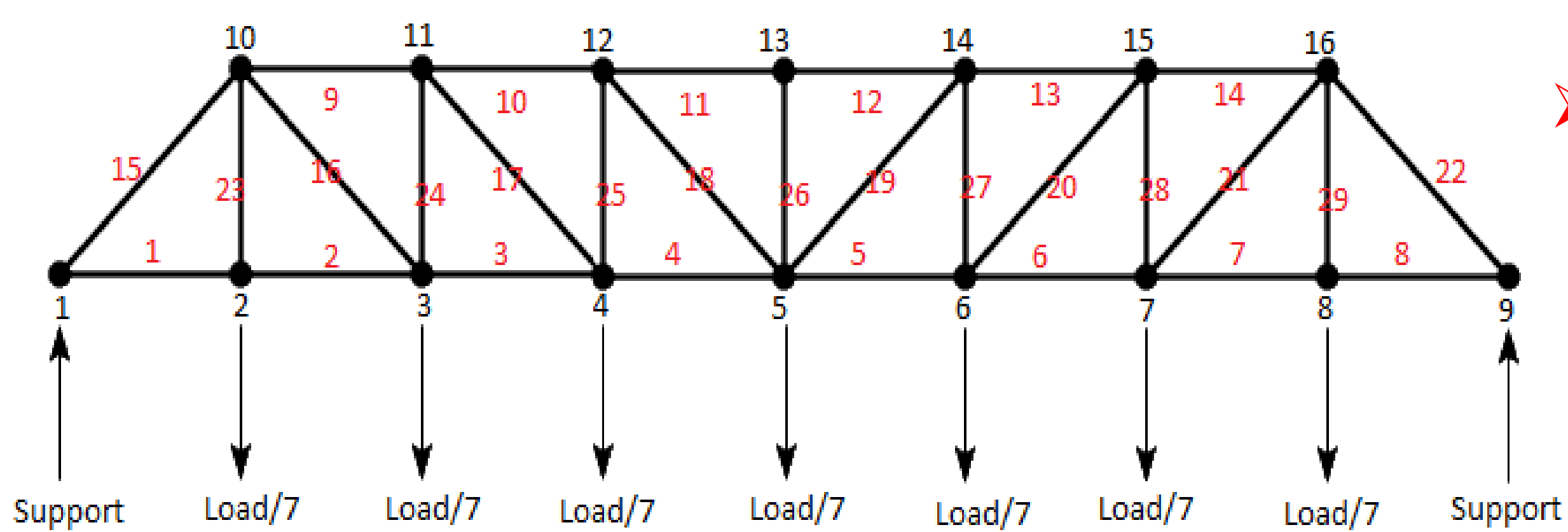


Figure 2 Pratt truss bridge girder

- The Damage Detection System (DDS) is implemented on the truss bridge in a particular year and the monitoring lasts for one year.
- Two scenarios of sensor configurations are modeled, shown in Table 1

Table 1 Sensor Configuration

| | Number of sensors | Sensor Node location |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Base scenario | 3 | 12,13,14 |
| Scenario (a) | 1 | 13 |
| | 3 | 11,12,13 |
| | 5 | 11,12,13,14,15 |
| | 8 | 11,12,13,14,15,4,5,6 |
| Scenario (b) | 3 | 4,5,6 |
| | | 2,5,8 |
| | | 2,3,4 |
| | | 11,13,15 |

Results

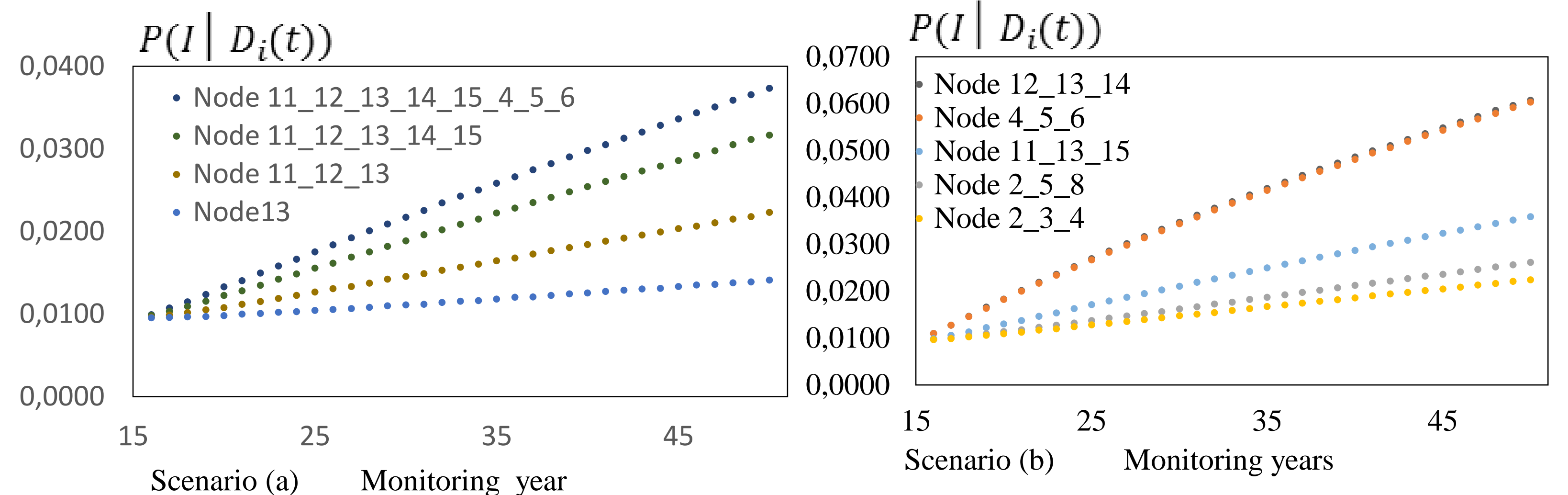


Figure 3 PoI with changes of number of sensors (a) with changes of sensor location (b)

- More sensors, higher probability of damage indication (PoI) will be.
- The closer the sensor location is to the weakest components 11 and 12, the larger the PoI will be.

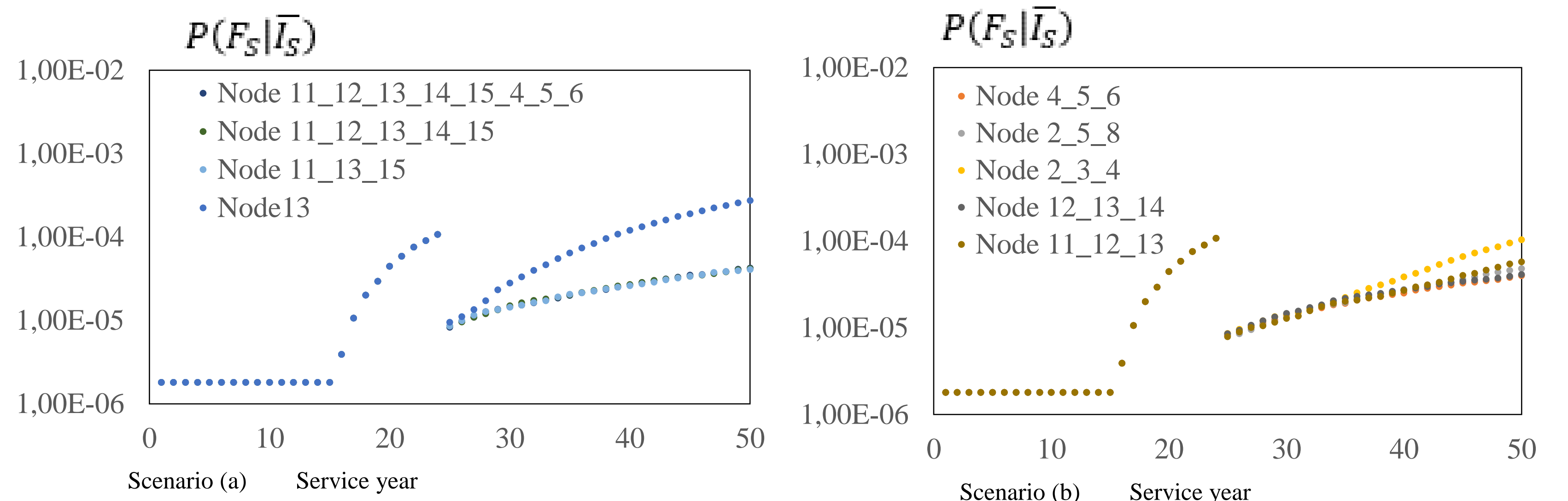


Figure 4 Updated probability of failure when implementing DDS at year 24 with different sensor location (a); with different number of sensors (b)

- More sensors, much lower the updated probability of failure will be than the case with only one sensor.
- The closer the sensor location is to the weakest components 11 and 12, the lower the updated probability of failure will be.

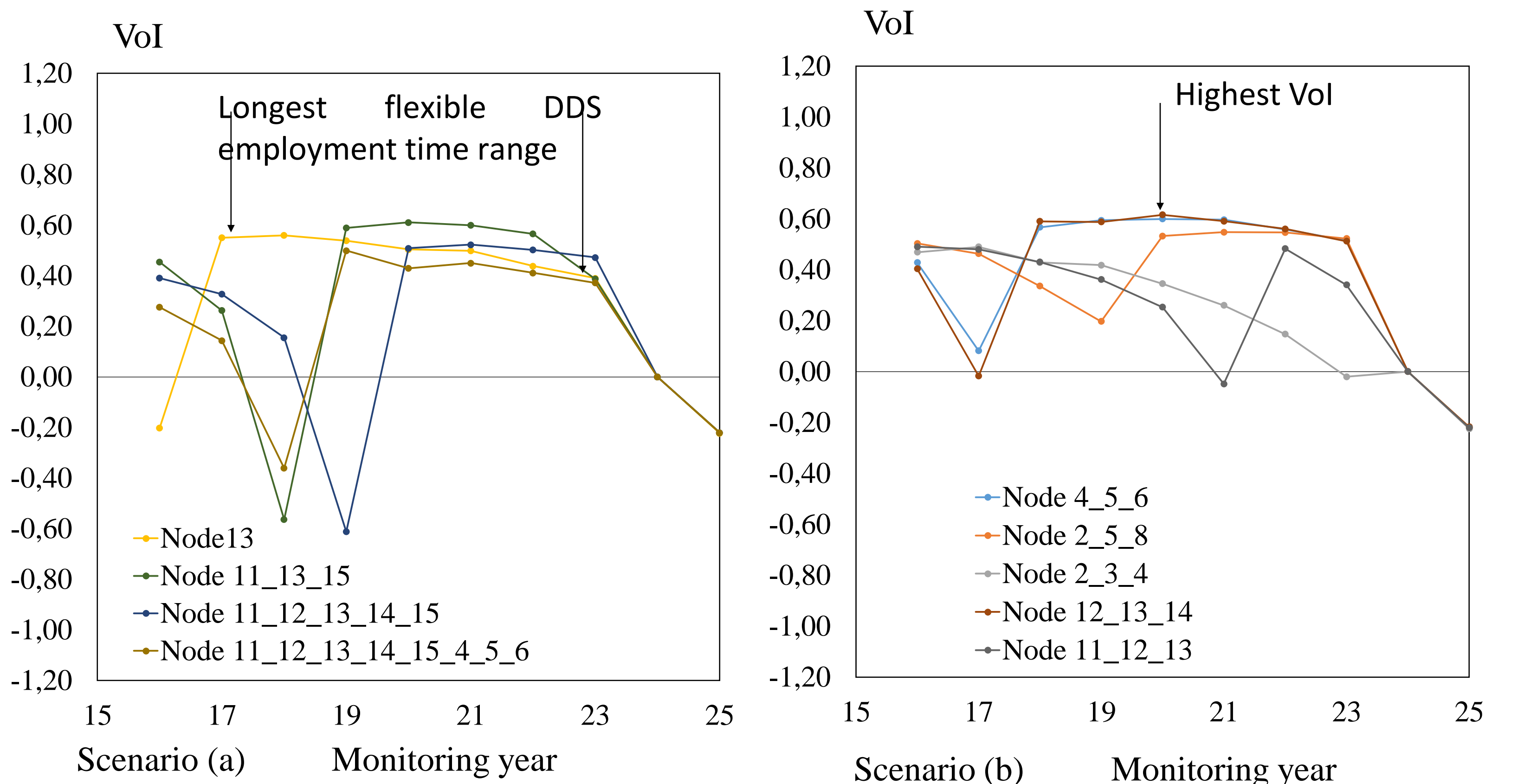


Figure 5 VoI with different sensor locations before year 25 (a); with different number of sensors (b)

Conclusion

- One sensor system provides a high value of information for the longest flexible DDS employment time range.
- Only specific sensor locations near the highest utilized components lead to a high value of information.
- This study only analyzed a finite set out of many possible sensor configurations.