

# Module 1 Lecture 1

Stm issues - as applied to concrete  
structure

issues as applicable to concrete structures

- They are affected by a variety of issues
- Being heterogeneous material, issues are further complicated

Types degradation,

- (i) chemical
  - (ii) physical
  - (iii) Mechanical
- Degradation

## Examples

- chloride penetration
- sulphate attack
- carbonation
- freeze-thaw cycles
- shrinkage
- Mechanical loading

## Chemical degradation

- includes essentially
  - corrosion of steel
  - chloride penetration
  - carbonation
  - leaching of concrete
  - acid attack
  - sulphate attack
  - alkali-aggregate attack

## Physical degradation includes

- temperature variation and associated thermal expansion / contraction
- variation of relative humidity and associated with drying shrinkage / wetting expansion
- frost attack
- wear & tear
- abrasion

## Mechanical degradation

- extremely applied overload
- sea impact load
- cyclic fatigue loads
- differential settlement & foundation
- seismic activity

## Influence of wear degradation on concrete (construction material)

- It can alter porosity and permeability of concrete
- It can further initiate (or) aggravate different material flaws
  - scaling
  - spalling
  - swelling
  - delamination
  - cracking
  - disintegration
- It can in pair with lightness of concrete member
- It can reduce the load capacity of the member

Major challenge is that damage under different deterioration processes accumulates @ different rates

- time-scale variations b/w the degradation processes are different
- they get integrated/mixed to alter behavior b/w concrete

There will be a multi-physics degradation process

- special type of analysis, which can account for different time scale is different process of degradation

## Solution

- If a numerical analysis is required to be carried out, then ~~governing differential~~ equations should account for the Coupled physical & chemical process dependency
- It should characterize the following
  - mass - energy balance
  - Thermodynamic & chemical Eqn of the coupled heat conduction, ionic diffusion, molecular transport phenomena & the corresponding chemical reactions

What is the main factor that contributes to degradation of concrete

Ordinary concrete possesses high porosity and low permeability

inter-connected pores (micro-pores) & micro-cracks in concrete contribute to the permeability

— This makes concrete more vulnerable for deterioration

Phenomenon of crack structure of concrete — complex

## Non-Destructive Evaluation (NDE) - concrete structures

Clayton D. 2014. NDE testing for Nuclear power plants & concrete structures, Light water Reactor Sustainability Newsletter;

14, U.S. Dept. of Energy

- shear wave ultrasound
- Ground penetration radar
- Impact echo
- Ultrasonic surface wave
- ultrasonic tomography

In addition, for large-volume structures, we can also use full-field imaging technique

- Example
  - Gravity-based optical platforms
  - Nuclear reactors etc

Full-field imaging techniques - concrete structures

### (1) Infrared imaging

- It tracks the thermal load paths in a material, travelled longitudinally over a period of time

Onset changes is the path, (load path)  
changes the composition of material  
which is an indication of the mechanical  
damage caused to the material

- The method can be also combined with stand-off

Acoustic sound pressure technique  
to quantify the extension of damage

- Material is insensitized with acoustic source
  - full-field vibro-thermograph measurements are recorded to characterize the material

(2) to measure the thermal response under an applied uniform heat flux

The most gradient is the material are analyzed to identify the non-uniform material composition

- essentially arises from the material defect

### (3) Digital Image Correlation (DIC) technique

- useful to detect micro-cracking in the chopped fibre-glass compressive moulded parts
- DIC image shows principal strains in the damaged region, where cracks are formed.
- This method is useful to detect localized residual stresses, which are caused in the material on removal of load

- This can also be used to track the strain variations that occur under temperature variation

#### (4) Velocity

is useful to detect the subsurface nonlinearity caused due to material damage

For example,

when a composite structure is subjected to ambient vibration, change in  $\epsilon$  variations can be analyzed to detect the damage

Damage indices      Quantity

degree of non-linear stiffness

Non-linear damping

which are obtained locally @

each measured point on a grid of

the member

## Key issues in choosing stm system (Summary)

stm system - is not a commodity to purchase  
but

need to be designed and developed

— Problem - specific  
and cannot be a  
generic system

High Engineering cost  
lack of resource availability

makes no choice for the  
designer except to

choose one of the existing  
system

Most of the system rely on the point sensors  
- which obtain data @ only one point to  
approx

There are a few limitations

(1) Limitations are not about their accuracy & reliability  
but its insight

Event that occurs between the critical points where point  
sensors are installed

'major information about the faults  
will be lost

## (2) Data normalization

- process of adjusting the data occurred from different changes in the behavior of the structural system

sensor output contains a combined information

which is very complex to separate  
- include damage caused by environmental

complex is  
due to  
user combined  
representations

-

structural material degradation

Plan - continuous monitoring will not be helpful  
to normalize the data

### Solution

Fiber optic sensors

- Application example of FOS is established by the company SENSURION (Europe)
- FOS can be fully automated to detect the local damage through continuous monitoring
- system relies less on the infrastructure data
- since the data is continuous, it is also easy to

Attribute the changes that arise from various conditions

- environment factor //
- material degradation

- continuous monitoring can provide better quality

- FOS - long-term benefit
- easy to use

Summary - STM - concrete structures

- NDE - concrete structures - long-term
- FOS - their advantages