

PROBABILITY OF FAILURE MODE IN RC COLUMNS USING BAYESIAN METHOD

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ABSTRACT

In order to help engineers better understand the behavior of concrete columns and to select an appropriate model for estimating the column capacity, a column classification method is required in engineering practice. Moreover, the information of the expected column failure mode (or column response) is helpful for engineers involved in the seismic assessment and retrofit of reinforced concrete buildings. This paper provides an approach to construct a probabilistic failure mode for concrete columns. The onset of column failure is defined as 20% loss in the lateral strength and three column failure modes (flexure failure, shear failure and flexure-shear failure) are considered. The database that consists of tests of reinforced concrete columns are divided into three categories in terms of span to depth ratio. The methodology developed by Gardoni et al. (2002) is adopted to construct the probabilistic capacity models for reinforced concrete columns.

INTRODUCTION

In current structural engineering practice, most drift capacity models are deterministic and do not explicitly account for all the prevailing uncertainties. For example, Elwood and Moehle (2005) proposed a deterministic drift capacity model at shear failure based on a database of 50 laboratory tests on reinforced concrete columns. This model only provides a point prediction of the drift at shear failure and ignores the variability in the test results. Approximately fifty percent of the columns included in the database experienced shear failure at drifts less than those estimated by the model. The deterministic model coefficients cannot reflect the epistemic uncertainties in the model (e.g., finite number of observations). In addition, the model error due to the model imperfection is not represented. Hence, it is needed to develop a probabilistic drift capacity model that defines not only a point prediction but also the variance of the model prediction. The main objective for this study is to help engineers better understand the behavior of reinforced concrete columns through an appropriate column classification approach.

CAPACITY MODEL FORMULATION

In this study, the methodology developed by Gardoni et al. (2002) is adopted to construct the probabilistic capacity models for reinforced concrete columns. This methodology is capable of incorporating a wide range of information, including existing deterministic models, laboratory test data, field observations, and engineering judgment. According to this methodology, a probabilistic capacity model can be written in the following form (Gardoni et al., 2002):

$$C(x, \theta, \sigma) = \hat{C}(x) + \gamma(x, \theta) + \sigma \cdot \varepsilon \quad (1)$$

where $\hat{C}(x)$ denotes the selected deterministic capacity model; x denotes a set of basic capacity and demand variables (e.g., material properties, member dimensions, applied loads); $\theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$ represents a set of k unknown model coefficients; $\gamma(x, \theta)$ denotes the model correction term; ε is a normal random variable with zero mean and unit variance; and σ represents the standard deviation of the model error. The function $\gamma(x, \theta)$ can take various forms, for example, $\sum_{m=1}^k \theta_m h_m(x)$, where $h_m(x)$ is a set of suitable explanatory functions that may influence the capacity of the structural component (e.g., axial load ratio, shear span to depth ratio, spacing of hoops).

The probabilistic capacity model accounts for both aleatory and epistemic uncertainties. Referring to Equation (1), aleatory uncertainties are present in the variables x , while epistemic uncertainties are present in the model coefficients θ . The error term $\sigma \cdot \varepsilon$ contains both aleatory and epistemic uncertainties.

BAYESIAN UPDATING APPROACH

The model coefficients (θ, σ) in Equation (1) are estimated by using the Bayesian updating rule (Box et al., 1992):

$$f(\theta, \sigma) = \kappa L(\theta, \sigma) P(\theta, \sigma) \quad (2)$$

where $f(\theta, \sigma)$ denotes the posterior distribution representing our updated knowledge about (θ, σ) ; $L(\theta, \sigma)$ denotes the likelihood function representing the objective information on (θ, σ) gained from a set of observations; $P(\theta, \sigma)$ denotes the prior distribution reflecting our knowledge about (θ, σ) prior to obtaining the observations; and $\kappa = [\int L(\theta, \sigma) P(\theta, \sigma) d\theta d\sigma]^{-1}$ is a normalizing factor.

The prior distribution may incorporate any information about (θ, σ) that is based on the previous experience or engineering judgment. $L(\theta, \sigma)$ represents the likelihood of observing the experimental outcome for given values of the coefficients θ and σ . The formulation of the likelihood function depends on the type and form of the available data. Theoretically, the posterior distribution $f(\theta, \sigma)$ can be determined based on Equation (2) when the prior distribution and likelihood function have been formulated (Box et al., 1992).

The close form solution is valid for the case that the probabilistic model formulation is a linear function respect to θ , and all observations are classified as failure data. Assuming $\gamma(x, \theta) = \sum_{m=1}^k \theta_m h_m(x)$ and n set experimental observations available, Equation (2) can be rewritten as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_i \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & \dots & h_{k1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ h_{1i} & \dots & h_{ki} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ h_{1n} & \dots & h_{kn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_k \end{bmatrix} + \sigma \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_i \\ \vdots \\ \varepsilon_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

where $y_i = C_i - \hat{C}_i$ represents the difference between the i th observed capacity and the estimated capacity of deterministic model at x_i ; h_{ki} is the value of the k th explanatory function at the i th observation. Equation (3) can also be expressed in the vector form (Gardoni, 2002):

$$y = H\theta + \sigma\varepsilon \quad (4)$$

Under the normality assumption on ε and a non-informative prior with θ , Box and Tiao show that the marginal posterior distribution of θ is a multivariate t distribution. The mean vector of θ , M_θ , and the covariance matrix of θ , $\theta_{\theta\theta}$ are (Gardoni, 2002):

$$\begin{aligned} M_\theta &= (H'H)^{-1}H'y \\ \theta_{\theta\theta} &= \frac{1}{-2} s^2 (H'H)^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$



Where:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\theta} &= (H'H)^{-1}H'y \\ \hat{y} &= H\hat{\theta} \\ &= n - k \\ s^2 &= \frac{1}{n-k} (y - \hat{y})'(y - \hat{y})\end{aligned}\quad (6)$$

Once the initial probabilistic model has been formed, a stepwise deletion procedure is used to reduce the number of terms in $\gamma(x, \theta)$ to achieve a compromise between the model simplicity (few correction terms) and the model accuracy (small σ). It is preferred to start the model assessment process with a comprehensive form of (x, θ) , and then simplify the model by removing less important terms or combining terms that are closely correlated.

COLUMN CLASSIFICATION AND DEFINITION OF FAILURE MODE

This study provides a probabilistic failure mode index model which distinguishes failure modes for a given column. The onset of column failure is defined as 20% loss in the lateral strength, and three column failure modes (i.e., flexure failure, shear failure and flexure-shear failure) are considered. The definitions of these three failure modes are schematically illustrated in Figure 1.

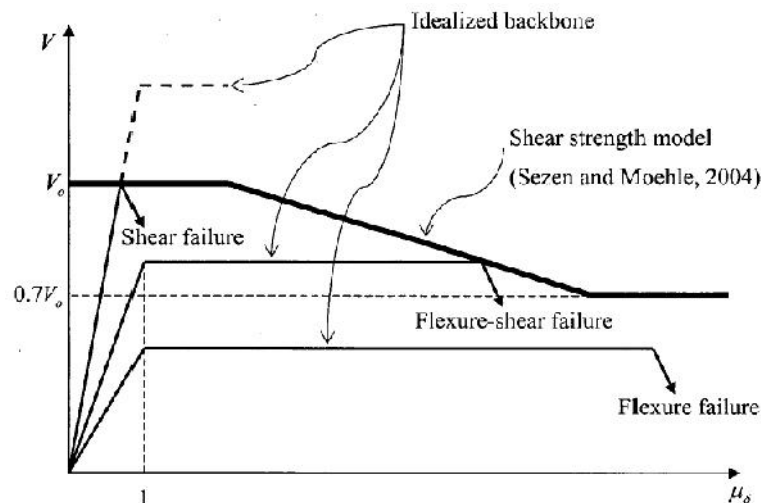


Figure 1. Conceptual definition of column failure modes (Sezen et al., 2004)

Experimental Database

A database containing results of cyclic lateral-load tests of reinforced concrete columns was compiled by researchers at the University of Washington under the support of the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center. The database consists of tests of 125 reinforced concrete columns. The data are divided into three categories in terms of span to depth ratio. The key parameters of column failure are listed in table 1 (Zhu, 1993).

Table 1. Key parameters of column failure

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ρ_l	$\frac{\rho_l f_{yl}}{f_c'}$	ρ''	$\frac{\rho'' f_{yt}}{f_c'}$	$\frac{s}{d}$	$\frac{a}{d}$	$\frac{\bar{v}}{\frac{f_c'}{s} + \rho'' \rho_{yt}}$	$\frac{\bar{p}}{A_g f_c'}$	$\frac{V_p}{V_0}$

where a is the shear span; d is the depth to the centerline of the outermost tension reinforcement; s is the hoop spacing; $\rho_l = A_{sl}/bhd$ denotes the longitudinal reinforcement ratio; A_{sl} denotes the total area of longitudinal reinforcement; b is the width of column section; h is the depth of column section; $\rho'' =$



A_{st}/bh denotes the transversereinforcement ratio; A_{st} denotes the area of transverse reinforcement; $v = V_{eff}/bd$ denotes the maximum nominal shear stress; p is the axial load; and $A_g = bh$ denotes the gross cross-sectional area of the column(Zhu, 1993).

The failure mode for each column in the selected database is based on the failure modes identified by Camarillo. the relation between plastic shear demand and shear strength provides useful information in the determination of column failure modes. Here, the column plastic shear demand is determined by its maximum moment capacity divided by the shear span. The maximum moment capacity is computed through a moment-curvature analysis for the column's cross section using Mander concrete constitutive model and Burns-Seiss steel constitutive model. The abbreviations of failure modes, 'F' , 'FS' and 'S' , denote flexure failure, flexure-shear failure and shear failure, respectively. Three integers, '1', '2' and '3', are assigned as failure mode indices (FM) to represent flexure failure, flexure-shear failure and shear failure, respectively(Zhu, 1993).

In order to investigate the dependence of the column failure modes on key parameters, nine parameters in Table 1 are interpreted as explanatory functions, $h_i(x)$, in the initial formulation of probabilistic failure mode index model. Note that some selected powers are applied to the column parameters to obtain better model prediction consistent with the experimental observation. The stepwise deletion procedure is used to reduce the number of terms to achieve a compromise between the model simplicity and the model accuracy. the final model takes the form:

$$FM = \theta_1 + \theta_4(\rho'')^{-1} + \theta_7\left(\frac{a}{d}\right)^{-2} + \theta_{10}\frac{V_p}{V_0} \tag{7}$$

Values of key parameters for the three groups of data are shown in Figures 2 to 4.

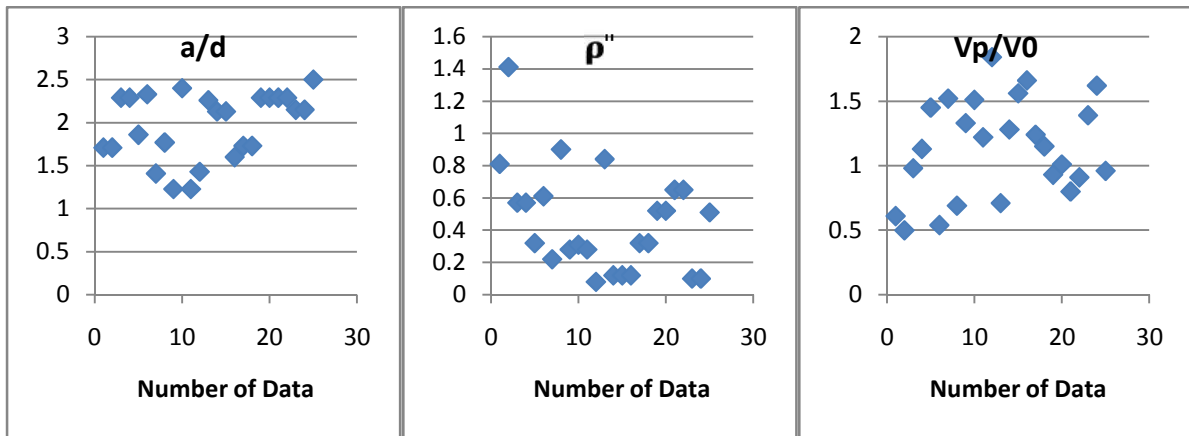


Figure 2. key Parameters of Column Failure ($1 < \frac{a}{d} \leq 2.5$)

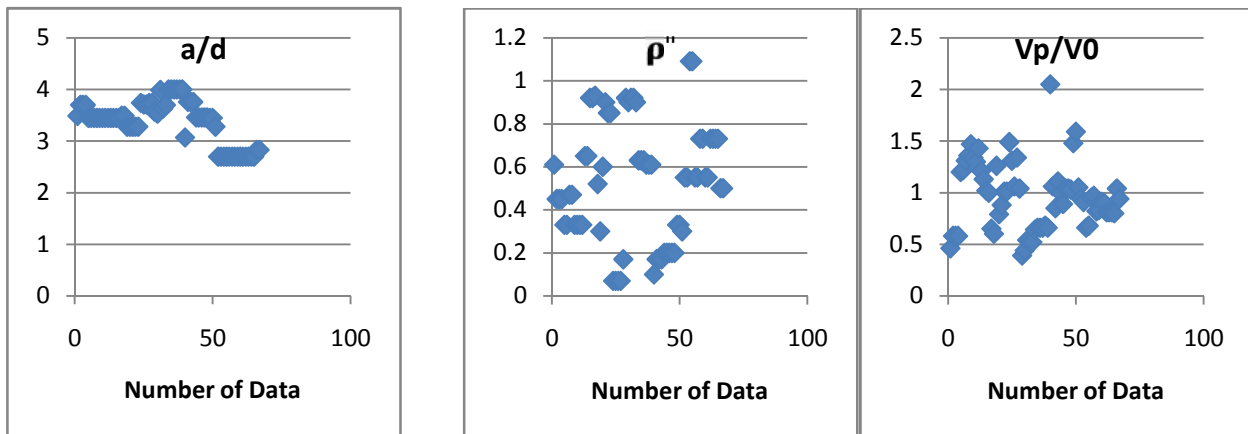


Figure 3. key Parameters of Column Failure ($2.5 < \frac{a}{d} \leq 4$)



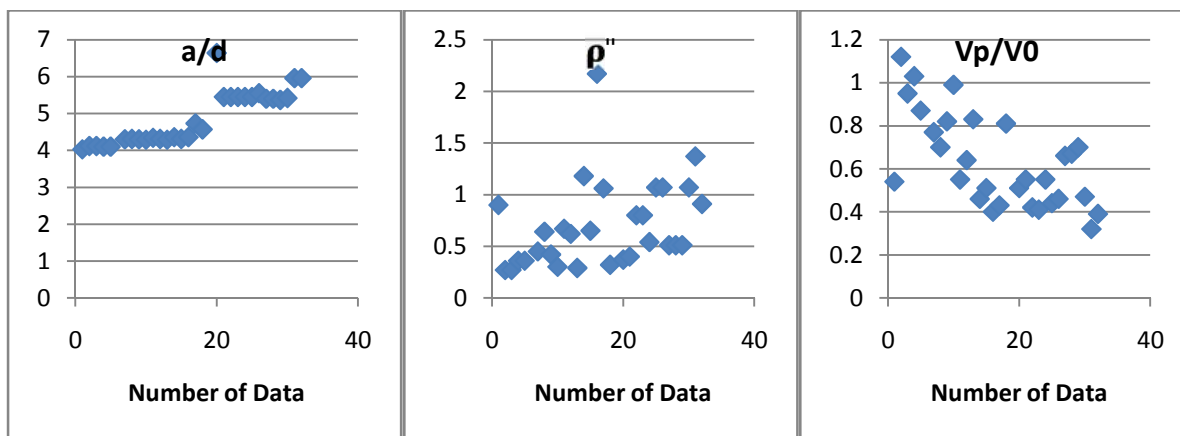


Figure 4. key Parameters of Column Failure ($4 < \frac{a}{d} < 7$)

Tables 2 to 4 list the posterior statistics of the model coefficients in Equation 7. This probabilistic model identifies the most important parameters affecting the column failure mode, namely, transverse reinforcement ratio, aspect ratio, and shear demand-strength ratio. Note that the parameters, which have no clear relationship with column failure modes are all eliminated through the model assessment. Equation 7 is actually a probability density function of the failure mode index; hence it can be used to assess the probability of each failure mode for a given column through a reliability analysis.

Table 2. posterior statistics of the model coefficients ($1 < \frac{a}{d} \leq 2.5$)

Coefficients	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	θ_4
Mean	-0.027	0.223	2.667	-0.422
Standard Deviation	0.954	0.402	1.185	0.95
Correlation Coefficient	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	θ_4
θ_1	1	-0.813	-0.273	0.504
θ_2	-0.813	1	0.092	-0.877
θ_3	-0.273	0.092	1	-0.227
θ_4	0.504	-0.877	-0.227	1

Table 3. posterior statistics of the model coefficients ($2.5 < \frac{a}{d} \leq 4$)

Coefficients	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	θ_4
Mean	0.159	0.132	-10.62	1.051
Standard Deviation	0.519	0.117	2.852	0.27
Correlation Coefficient	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	θ_4
θ_1	1	-0.783	-0.738	0.185
θ_2	-0.783	1	0.393	-0.621
θ_3	-0.738	0.393	1	-0.246
θ_4	0.185	-0.621	-0.246	1

Table 4. posterior statistics of the model coefficients ($4 < \frac{a}{d} < 7$)

Coefficients	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	θ_4
Mean	1.6	-0.345	-7.027	0.635
Standard Deviation	0.89	0.313	8.23	0.85
Correlation Coefficient	θ_1	θ_2	θ_3	θ_4
θ_1	1	-0.957	-0.649	0.823
θ_2	-0.957	1	0.517	-0.887
θ_3	-0.649	0.517	1	-0.707
θ_4	0.823	-0.887	-0.707	1

For the probabilistic failure mode index model in Equation (7), the mean prediction of FM for 3 groups of data are:

$$FM_{(mean)} = -0.027 + 0.223(\rho'')^{\frac{-1}{4}} + 2.667\left(\frac{a}{d}\right)^{-2} - 0.422\frac{V_p}{V_o} \left(1 < \frac{a}{d} \leq 2.5\right) \quad (8)$$

$$FM_{(mean)} = 0.159 + 0.132(\rho'')^{\frac{-1}{4}} - 10.62\left(\frac{a}{d}\right)^{-2} + 1.051\frac{V_p}{V_o} \left(2.5 < \frac{a}{d} \leq 4\right) \quad (9)$$

$$FM_{(mean)} = 1.6 - 0.345(\rho'')^{\frac{-1}{4}} - 7.327\left(\frac{a}{d}\right)^{-2} + 0.635\frac{V_p}{V_o} \left(4 < \frac{a}{d} < 7\right) \quad (10)$$

CONCLUSIONS

In this study, the methodology developed by Gardoni et al. (2002) is adopted to construct the probabilistic capacity models for reinforced concrete columns. With a probabilistic capacity model, it is possible to determine the probability of column failure by determining the area under the probability density function. This methodology is capable of incorporating a wide range of information, including existing deterministic models, laboratory test data, field observations, and engineering judgment. The database that consists of tests of spiral and rectangular reinforced concrete columns are divided into three categories in terms of span to depth ratio. The Bayesian updating approach is used to assess the unknown model coefficients based on the collected experimental database.

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