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# Progressive Collapse Analysis of Reticulated Shell structure under

# Severe Earthquake considering the Damage Accumulation Effect

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#### 4 **Abstract**:

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- 5 A reticulated shell is one of the conventional long span space structures, prone to progressive
- 6 collapse under a severe earthquake due to its unique single layer feature.
- 7 This is. However, the collapse mechanism of this type of structure is not well studied. In this paper,
- 8 a numerical modelling technique using the fiber beam elements is developed. The correspondent
- 9 material model based on the inclusion of damage accumulation was also developed in order to
- determine the failure criteria of structural members. An effective way to simulate the buckling
- behavior of the structural members is also used in the numerical simulation. The relevant numerical
- method is developed and validated against experimental tests: good agreement is achieved. Based
- on this numerical method, a parametric study of the reticulated shell under severe earthquake
- loading is performed and the responses of the structure is investigated and a three-stages collapse
- mechanism of this type of structure was observed.
- 16 **Key words:** single-layer reticulated shell; progressive collapse; severe earthquake, cumulative
- damage; hysteresis curve; stiffness degradation

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### Introduction

The event of the 9/11 in 2001 embarked the research on the causes of progressive collapse in structures and possible mitigating methods. Increasing attention has been paid on the studies of collapse mechanism and collapse prevention methods of buildings in recent years. However, few studies have been performed toward the collapse mechanism and relevant collapse prevention measures for space structures. For a single layer space structures, such as the reticulated shell, stability is pressing important, as this type of structure is prone to local buckling which may initiate the dynamic global buckling and collapse of the entire structure under the severe earthquake. Therefore, the research is this area is imperative.

There are some design procedures in Europe and U.S. available on mitigating the progressive collapse of buildings, such as design guidance of the Department of Defense (DoD) (2005) and the General Services Administration (GSA) (2003) ASCE 7 (2010) in U.S; the design code of British Building Regulations (2004), BS5950 (2001) in U.K. Some references such as FEMA 2002 (2002) and NIST 2005 (2005) also provide general design recommendations, which require steel-framed structural systems to have enough redundancy and resilience. However, most of these design codes are focused on buildings; no detailed design procedure in preventing progressive collapse of reticulated shell is available.

So far, some numerical investigation (McGuiew,1974),(Powell,2004) and experimental tests Shimada et al. (2008),, Tsitos (2008) have been done on the building structures. Starossek, 2009, gave detailed introduction on the collapse mechanisms for different type of structures. Starossek,

2006, suggested a pragmatic approach for designing against progressive collapse. Brunesi et al.

(2015) developed the fiber-based models for progressive collapse assessment. They integrate the

incremental dynamic analysis with the Monte Carlo simulation and developed the fragility

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However, majority of existing research is based on the building structures, little has been noticed on the space structures. See, et al. (1986), discussed the large displacement elastic buckling of the space structures, however, they did not further investigate the collapse mechanism of the whole space structure. Deshpande (2001), discussed the collapse of the truss core sandwich beams. Orbison, et al., 1982 developed an efficient procedure for modelling the inelastic behavior of threedimensional beam-column. Long, H.V et al. (2008), developed an efficient algorithm for both limit and shakedown analysis of 3-D steel frames by the kinematic method using linear programming technique. Ferrari et al. 2016, developed an innovative formulation of a FEM computational model for the analysis of elastoplastic 3D truss-frame structures. SHEKASTEHBAND et al., 2014 discussed the dynamic propogation of the snap-through buckling in Tensegrity structures. Blandford(1996) performed progressive analysis of inelastic space truss structures. Kato et al. (1998) discussed the collapse of semi-rigidly reticulated domes with initial geometric imperfections. Malla(2011) proposed the methodology suitable for the dynamic analysis of the progressive failure of truss structures. Fang et al. (2001) performed the simulation of the progressive collapse together with a study of suitable methods for resisting progressive collapse of single layer grid structures based on ANSYS and LS-DYNA.

In above research, damage accumulation is ignored in most of the numerical models. However, in

the event of earthquake, damage accumulation can be resulted by the cyclic loading during earthquake. Therefore, when investigating the dynamic response of structure under earthquake loading, damage accumulation is essential to accurate prediction of dynamical response of structures in numerical simulation. However, little work has been done in this area.

Therefore, in this paper, based on thermodynamic theory, the damage evolution equations for fiber beam element is derived. The corresponding constitutive relationship for beam elements are also developed. The relevant numerical analysis method is also developed. In addition, due to the redundancy and indeterminacy of this type of structures, dynamic instability criterion based on implicit algorithm can capture neither the collapse mechanism of the reticulated shell, nor the failure mode of individual components. Therefore, the simulation of the whole collapse process requires application of explicit dynamic algorithm which is used in this paper.

Based on above studies, a subroutine program based on explicit dynamic algorithm is developed to

Based on above studies, a subroutine program based on explicit dynamic algorithm is developed to analyze the response of the single-layer reticulated shell under severe earthquake. The program was validated against experimental tests. It is validated that, the proposed numerical method can accurately simulate the members failure, the redistribution of internal forces and the collapse mechanism of the whole structure. Based on this numerical method, parametric studies on single

layer reticulated shell is performed and the collapse mechanism of this type of structure is studied.

In this paper, the authors deal with earthquake-induced failure of some members, in most cases, global failure rather than a localized portion of structure can be observed. Therefore, the subject of this research presented in this paper is primarily to investigate the mechanism of progressive

collapse rather than disproportionate collapse, which is usually considered as a special type of progressive collapse in which local failure develops causing a final disproportionate extent of damage.

## **Numerical algorithm development**

As it is shown in Figure 1, a 3D full scale model replicating a single layer reticulated shell is set up in ABAQUS, the related numerical method is introduced in this section. The structural members used in the model are Chinese Tubular sections, with yield stress of 235MPa. The Young's modulus is  $2.06 \times 105$ MPa. The Poisson ratio is 0.3.

#### Fiber beam element method

In this research, all the structural members of the reticulated shell are simulated using the beam elements. Each beam element is further discretized into a number of longitudinal fibers across their cross-section with appropriate constitutive model defined to each fiber as it shown in Figure 2 which is the cross-section of a beam element with tubular sections. It can be seen that the beam is subdivided into 8 fibers (numbered from 1 to 8) across its cross-section. Each fiber element comprises 2 nodes with three degrees of freedom at each node. The beam element is integrated by these fibers and every section of the fiber represents one Gauss-Lobatto integration (Maerschalck et al. 2006) point. This so called fiber beam element method has been used for simulating the concrete members, (Taucer,1991) It is based on assumptions of small deformation and plane sections remain plane when load is applied. However, its application in steel members is not widely used. The overall section behavior of the beam is therefore determined by integration of the response of these 8 fibers. In another word, the constitutive relation of the cross-section of the beam element is

derived by integration of the stress-strain relation of all the 8 fibers. Hence, the total response of each single beamelement under loading along the length can be further derived. The strain in each fiber is calculated based on the plane section remaining plane assumption. The stress of each fiber can be worked out from its strain value.

This fiber beam element method is used in this research to simulate all the structural members of the dome using the general-purpose program ABAQUS.

## Constitutive model of the fiber and failure criterion for beam elements

- In the proposed method, the cumulative damage is included. Based on strain equivalence hypothesis,
- the following constitutive models can be established:
- In the elastic loading or unloading stage:

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}^e = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}/\boldsymbol{E} \tag{1}$$

120 In the plastic loading stage, the strain equivalence hypothesis is still valid, it is:

121 
$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} / \boldsymbol{E}_{t} = \boldsymbol{\sigma} / \tilde{\boldsymbol{E}}_{t}$$
 (2)

123 Where,

 $\varepsilon$  Is elastic strain tensor

 $\varepsilon$  is strain tensor

 $\sigma$  is Cauchy stress tensor

 $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma/(1-D)$  is effective Cauchy stress tensor

 $\tilde{E} = E \cdot (1 - D)$  is effective elastic tensor;

D is cumulative damage;

130  $\tilde{E}_{t}$  is tangent modulus.

131  $\tilde{E}_t = E_t \cdot (1 - D)$  is Effective tangent modulus;

D is the cumulative damage variable, which is an independent variable, its value increases

monotonically in the plastic state. In Zhou (2010), an incremental damage evolution equation of

beam element with steel material is derived according damage evolution model by Chow and Wang

135 (1987). It is shown in Equation (3)

$$dD = \frac{1 - D}{2\sigma_{11}} d\sigma_{11} \tag{3}$$

Where,

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138  $\sigma_{11}$  is axial stress existing in a fiber beam element,

Equation (3) is valid in plastic state.

Based on above theory, User Material model for the steel members was developed using the

subroutine program VUMAT available from general purpose software ABAQUS, whose algorithm

is as follows:

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In the elastic loading or unloading stage, the stress evolution equation is:

144 
$$\sigma_{new} = \sigma_{new}^{trial} = \sigma_{old} + \tilde{\lambda} trace(\Delta \varepsilon) I + 2\tilde{G} \Delta \varepsilon$$
 (4)

145 Where  $\sigma_{new}$  is current stress,

146  $\sigma_{new}^{trial}$  is trial stress,

147  $\sigma_{old}$  is stress in the last step,

148  $\Delta \varepsilon$  is incremental strain,

149  $trace(\Delta \varepsilon)$  is Volumetric strain increment,

150 I is unit matrix

151  $\tilde{\lambda}$  and  $\tilde{G}$  are two different effective lames constants:

152 
$$\tilde{\lambda} = \frac{Ev(1-D)}{(1+v)(1-2v)}$$
,

$$\tilde{G} = \frac{E(1-D)}{2(1+\nu)} \tag{5}$$

154 In plastic stage, the stress evolution equation is:

155 
$$\sigma_{new} = \sigma_{new}^{trial} - 2\tilde{G}\Delta\gamma Q \tag{6}$$

Where,  $\Delta \gamma$  is plastic strain increment, with

157 
$$\Delta \gamma = \frac{1}{2G(1 + \tilde{H}/3G)} \left( \left( \xi_{new} : \xi_{new} \right)^{1/2} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \sigma_0 \right)$$
 (7)

Q is Current yield surface normal tensor, with

$$Q = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{\xi}{\sigma_0} \tag{8}$$

- And  $\tilde{H}$  is effective plastic gradient,
- 161  $\sigma_0$  is yield radius,
- $\xi_{new} = \sigma_{new}^{trial} \alpha_{old}$ , is difference between current trial stress and back stress with

163 
$$\alpha_{new} = \alpha_{old} + \frac{2}{3}\tilde{H}\Delta\gamma Q \tag{9}$$

- 164 Where  $\alpha_{\text{old}}$  is the back stress
- Therefore, the damage variable D accumulatively changes as follows:

166 
$$D_{new} = D_{old} + \frac{1 - D_{old}}{2\sigma_{11}} d\sigma_{11}$$
 (10)

- 167 Where
- 168  $D_{old}$  is the damage value of material calculated in last sub-step and input at the beginning
- of current sub-step.
- 170  $D_{new}$  is updated damage value in current sub-step.

#### 172 Failure criterion of structural members

- 173 The failure criterion of each fiber is determined based on the studies by the authors in (2010).
- When  $D_{new}$  in a fiber develops into certain value  $D_{limt}$ , the fiber is determined as failure. Where:

$$D_{\text{limt}} = 1 - \left(\frac{f_u}{f_y}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

- 176 In the designed VUMAT subroutine program, when the failure of one fiber is trigged, the elastic
- modulus of this fiber will be set as zero
- automatically. When all the fibers in a beam element fail, that beam element is determined as failure,
- thus this beam element will be deleted by the program. After an element is deleted due to failure,
- the explicit dynamic equilibrium equation is used for the analysis, which is based on Central
- difference method of Bathe (1996) as follows:

182 
$$M\ddot{u}_t = P_t - (I_t + I_{td})$$
 (11)

- 183 Where
- 184  $\ddot{u}$  is Nodal acceleration matrix,
- 185 M is diagonal matrix of mass,
- 186  $P_t$  is matrix of external force at time t,
- 187  $I_t$  is matrix of internal force at time t,
- 188  $I_{td}$  is matrix of force loss due to structural elements failure
- 189 Therefore, the acceleration can be worked out as

190 
$$\ddot{u}_t = M^{-1} [P_t - (I_t + I_{td})]$$
 (12)

- Hence, the velocity can be calculated by interpretation of the acceleration using central difference
- 192 method:

193 
$$\dot{u}_{t+\frac{\Delta t}{2}} = \dot{u}_{t-\frac{\Delta t}{2}} + \frac{\Delta t_{t+\Delta t} + \Delta t_{t}}{2} \ddot{u}_{t} \tag{13}$$

194 Similarly, the displacement of all the nodes at certain time can be calculated through the 195 interpretation of the velocity.

When displacement of the fibre is determined, the strain increment of the fiber can be worked out using the displacement divided by the cross-section area of the fiber. The strain increment and initial strain will be substituted into formula (4) or (6), therefore, new stress and damage value in each fiber can be obtained by iterations.

The method of the authors (2010) is used here to simulate the buckling and post-buckling behavior.

In the model, each beam element is divided into 4 segments along its length, and all the segments

are arranged along a half-wave sine curve to simulate the initial imperfection.

This method is very effective in simulating the buckling and post-bulking behavior. The buckling

load from the modelling result is less than 5% difference to that of the Chinese code (2003), which

satisfies the requirement for earthquake analysis. Above theory is also incorporated into the

subroutine VUMAT program in ABAQUS.

# Validation of the numerical method

In order to validate the proposed numerical method, a full scale hysteretic test which is conducted by the first author of this paper in collaboration with Prof Li Haiwang from Taiyuan institute of technology is used here. As shown in Figure 3, an arch truss with span of  $5800 \, \text{mm}$ , height of  $1200 \, \text{m}$  and depth of  $300 \, \text{mm}$  was tested. Chinese Tubular Section  $0.5 \, \text{mm}$  was  $0.5 \, \text{mm}$  cords,  $0.5 \, \text{mm}$  were used for diagonal members. The grade of the steel is Chinese

Q235-B. The Arch truss was supported at the two ends with load applied at the center, as it shown in Figure 4. Tensile tests were also conducted from coupons taking from the arch truss, the material parameters are shown in Table 1. The time history of the applied load is shown in Figure 5. When applying the load, the load control method is used in the first 9 cycles, followed by displacement control in the remaining cycles.

The above tests were simulated using the numerical modelling techniques developed in this research. As it shown in Figure 6, a model replicates the full-scale test has been setup. In the

simulation, the same sections for the structural members and same steel grade were selected. In addition, the same loading regime of the experimental tests was applied. The load was applied at the

same position of the test, as it is shown in Figure 7, which also shows the numbering of each fiber.

The comparison of the result from the numerical modelling and full-scale test is shown in Figure 8,

which shows the comparison of hysteretic curve between the test and the numerical modelling result.

It can be seen that, good agreement is achieved. It can also be seen from Figure 8a that the stiffness

of the structure when the vertical displacement reached16mm is smaller than that the stage that the

displacement is 13mm., This is due to the stiffness degradation resulted by Damage Accumulation.

Therefore, the damage accumulation should be considered in the numerical simulation for obtaining

more accurate results. The modelling result of Figure 8b also shows the similar stiffness degradation,

232 this

proved the capacity of the proposed model to accurately capture the stiffness degradation due to the

damage accumulation.

During the test, when the vertical loading displacement increase to 35mm, cracks were observed at the top chords which locate near the support as it shown in Figure 9a. With the increasing of the loading, the crack was further developing (Figure 9b), in the meantime, crack was also observed at the joints of the diagonal members, as it is shown in Figure 9 c. When the loading displacement increased to 47mm, rupture of the top chord occurred as it shown in Figure 9d. The numerical simulation also captured the similar cracking pattern.

The results of top chord member 296 and diagonal member 288 are shown in Figure 10, which are extracted from the model. As it is shown in Figure 10a, at time 334 s, when the displacement is 30 mm, the maximum value of the damage D is observed in chord member 296 and  $D > D_{limt}$ , which indicates the fracture of member 296. Similarly, the fracture of member 288 is also observed at time 340s when  $D > D_{limt}$  is observed, as it is shown in Figure 10. the correspondent displacement was found to be 35mm in the modelling result as it is shown in Figure 11, and these two fractured members were deleted in the model by the program during the simulation.

From above comparison, it can be seen that, the proposed model can accurately simulate the response of the full-scale test.

## Progressive collapse analysis under earthquake loading

In order to investigate the collapse mechanism of the reticulated dome, as it is shown in Figure 13, a 40m span single layer Kiewitt shell with 6 rings, 8 meters high, is modelled. Kiewitt shell is one of the typical grid configurations for lattice shell. As discussed in Melaragno (1991), Kiewitt shell

contains the advantages of other type of shell such as Schwedler lattice shell and union type shell. Kiewitt shell has uniform grid, which contains relatively good mechanical properties such as higher bearing capacity for the seismic load. The live load of the roof is taken as  $2.5 \text{KN/m}^2$ . The dome is pin supported along the circumference. All the structural members are Chinese Steel Tubular Sections, the members in the radials are Chinese Ø  $165 \times 5$ , and the remaining sections are Chinese Ø $140 \times 4$ . The material properties are listed in Table 2.

In the simulation, all the structural members are modelled using beam elements. Each beam element is divided into 4 segments along its length to model the buckling behaviour. In addition, each beam element is sub-divided into 8 fibres across its cross-section.

The analysis is divided into two steps. The first step is static analysis, where the gravity load is applied to the structure. The second step is dynamic analysis, where the time history of Northridge earthquake (as it is shown in Figure 12) was applied at the support, in X, Y and Z direction, with the Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) of 1600gal in X direction, 0.85 times 1600gal in Y direction and 0.65 times 1600gal in Z direction, respectively. The time duration is 15s, which is greater than 10 times the natural period of the structure.

### Modelling results

Figure 13 shows the process of the collapse of the dome. It can be seen that, at 9.25s, all structural members are still in the elastic stage. At 9.75s, the GPA reaching the peak value, local structural members failure was observed at area, the local failure propagated further until 11s, when half of

the dome collapsed. Figure 14 shows the sequence of the structural member failure before 11s. It can be seen that, the member failure started at the outer rings of the domes and then propagated to the center of the dome.

Figure 15 is the time history of the vertical displacement of node 1 and node 591 (their location are shown in Figure 13), where node 1 locates at the centre of apex, it can be seen that, at 12 s, the vertical displacement of node 1 increased dramatically, which indicted the collapse of the whole dome. However, node 591 experienced a two-stage collapse as it shown in Figure 15.

Figure 16 shows the response of the axial force of structural member 219 and 787 (their locations can be found in Figure 14), the two time histories are coincide at the beginning, however, element 219 drop to zero at 10.05s, element 787 is kept intact.

As it is introduced in the earlier section, the judgement of failure of the structural element is based on the value of damage accumulation of all the fibres. Figure 17 shows the stress development of the fibre number 0 and number 90 in element 219 and 787. From Figure 17a it can be seen that, the effective stress of fibre number 0 in element 219 entered yielding level after 3.37s. At 9.725s it failed, the effective stress dropped to 0. Similarly, in Figure 17b, it can be seen that, fibre number 90 failed at 10.05s. It can be concluded that, the damage accumulation is correlated to the numbers of the cyclical loading and the magnitude of the loading. From Figure 17c, it can be seen that, no failure is overserved in Element 787.

Figure 18 shows the damage value D for each fiber in element 219 and 787. It can be seen that, the

value D of these fibers in element 219 all reached 0.209 before 10.05s, however, from Figure 17a and b, it can be seen that, the effective stress dropped to 0 at the final stage, which indicate the failure of the fiber. However, the maximum D value of the fibers in element 787 is only 0.104 therefore, failure is not developed.

#### Discussion on Collapse mechanism

- Figure 13 depicts deformation and damage distribution during collapse process, where the distribution of the D value can be checked. It can be seen that, under the earthquake, the collapse process of the dome can be divided into three stages:
  - 1. The first stage, most structural members in the dome remain as elastic, some members developed into plastic stage(0-9.5s)
    - 2. With the accumulation of the damage developed, fracture in some structural members were observed, the stiffness of the whole structure reduced, excessive displacement was developed in local area and therefore, the subsidence of some structural members is observed in the local area.
    - 3. The collapse is then propagated to a larger area during the time of 9.75-11s. The collapse of the whole structure started after 11s.
- It can be seen that, the damage development in the structural member during these three stages are different, their deformation also varies, however, there is no sharp division can be found between these three phases.

#### Parametric study to investigate the collapse mechanism

In order to further study the collapse mechanism of this type of structure under earthquake

loading, based on the proposed model, a parametric study is made with parameters of different span, span to depth ratio, live load, as it shown in Table 3. Two different types of shells K6 and K8 were investigated under different time history of earthquake loading and different loading input directions, as it shown in Table 3. Three time histories: Taft, El-central, Qianan (China) were chosen in the simulation. The earthquake motions were input in 0°,30°,45°,90° directions.

As it shown in Figure 19, only the modelling results of dome K8 (with span/ depth of 7/1) and K6 (with span/depth 7/1) are shown here. Both have the similar collapse mechanism as it is discussed in the earlier section

The results from above parametric studies show that, very similar collapse mechanism as it shown in Figure 13 were observed. This indicates that, the collapse mechanism is not sensitive to model parameters. All the models exhibit the similar three-stages collapse pattern as it is shown in Figure 13.

#### **Conclusion**

- Based on the results and analysis in this paper, the following conclusions can be drawn:
- A new modelling technique based on fibre beam element method is developed to model the behaviour of individual structural members of reticulated shell.
- 2. The failure criteria of structural members based on damage accumulation theory is developed and is validated based on the full-scale tests, it shows that the proposed model can accurately simulating the stiffness degradation due to damage accumulation and failure modes of each structural member.
  - 3. The numerical method is developed based on the VUMAT to model the global response

- of a truss under cyclic loading and validated against test result, good agreement is achieved.
- 4. The progressive collapse analysis of single layer reticulated dome under severe earthquake is performed and the response and the collapse mechanism of single-layer reticulated shells under the severe earthquake are discovered.
- 5. A three-stages collapse mechanism were discovered. It is also found that this three-stages collapse mechanism is consistence for different model parameters such as: different types of the domes, different span/depth ratios, different earthquake time histories.

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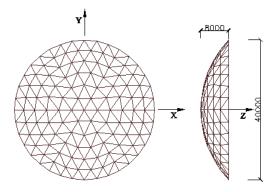


Figure 1 The prototype model

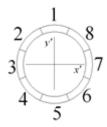


Figure 2 Subdivision of beam element into fibers

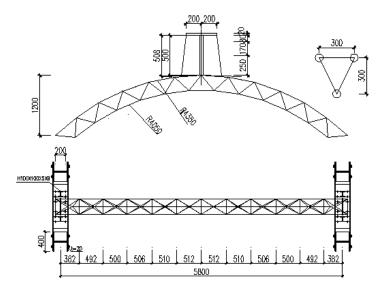


Figure 3 Design drawing of Arch-truss model



Figure 4 Hysteresis loading test on arch-truss

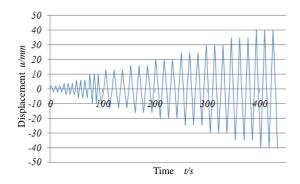


Figure 5 Time history of loading

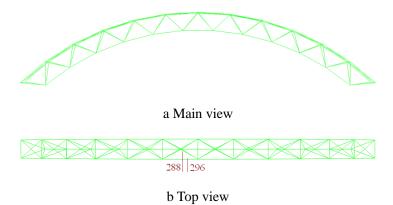


Figure 6 Validation Model

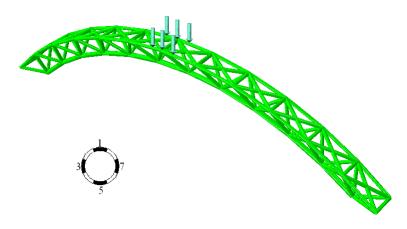
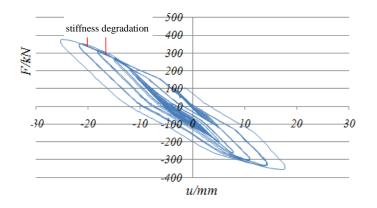
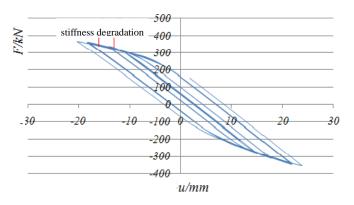


Figure 7 Numerical Model



# a Hysteric-curve from test



b Hysteric-curve from numerical model

Figure 8 Comparison between the test result and modelling result





a Initial Crack development at support location

b Further development of the crack at support location





c Crack on the joints of diagonal member

d Fracture at middle of top chord

Figure 9 Fracture process of arch-truss

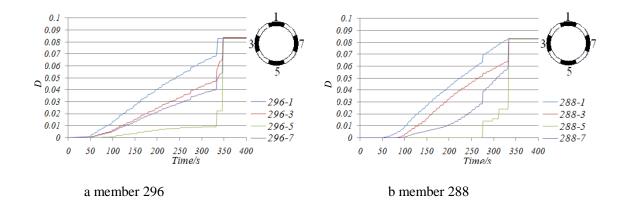


Figure 10 Fiber damage - time history curve (showing the result of fiber1, 3, 5, 7 for each element)

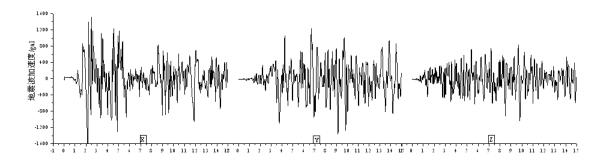


Figure 12 Ground Acceleration-Time history in  $\boldsymbol{X},\,\boldsymbol{Y}$  and  $\boldsymbol{Z}$  direction

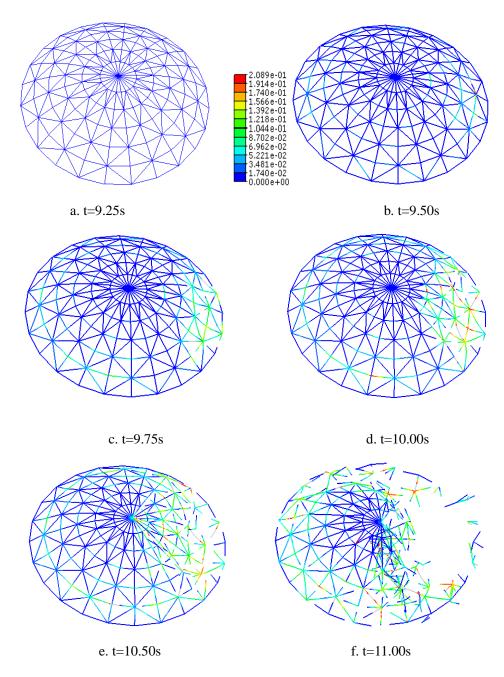


Figure 13 Deformation and damage distribution during collapse process

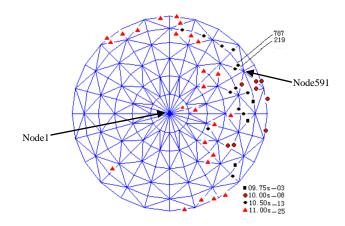


Figure 14 Element failure process

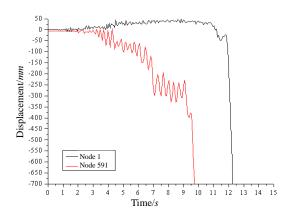


Figure 15 Node displacement-time history curve

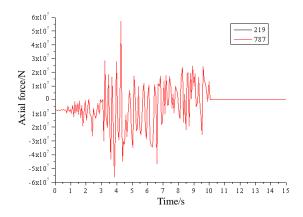
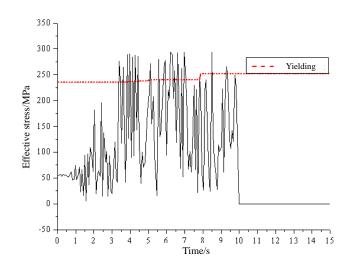
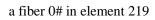
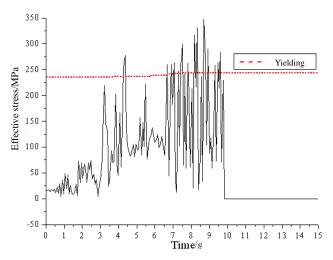


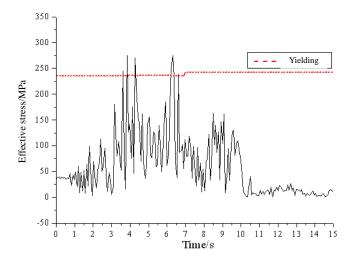
Figure 16 Time history of response of axial force in element 219 and 787







b fiber 90# in element 219



c fiber 0# in element 787

Figure 17 Time history curve of Effective stress in element fiber

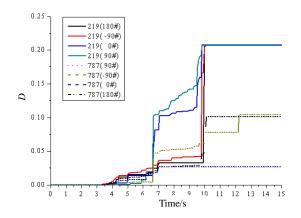
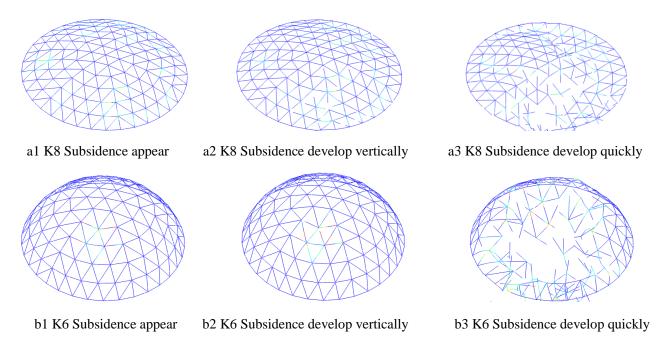


Figure 18 Time history of fiber damage



Figure~19~Deformation~and~damage~distribution~during~collapse~of~Kiewitt~shells (a~span/depth~ratio~7:1,b~span/depth~ratio~7:1), b~span/depth~ratio~7:1, b~span/depth~ratio~

depth ratio3:1)