Near-Real-Time Loss Estimation for Instrumented Buildings

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SUMMARY

A technique is developed to model instrumented buildings with a second-generation performance-based earthquake engineering approach, producing a damage and loss estimate shortly after the cessation of strong motion. It estimates the likely locations of damage (including concealed structural damage), potentially saving the owner time and money by focusing post-earthquake safety and repair inspections. It provides a rapid estimate of repair costs, allowing the owner quickly to apply for recovery funds or an insurance claim. The method uses basement accelerograms, a stochastic structural model, and nonlinear time-history structural analysis to estimate probabilistic engineering demands (structural response). Structural response is input to fragility functions for each damageable assembly to estimate probabilistic physical damage on a component-by-component basis. Probabilistic repair costs for each assembly are calculated and summed, and contractor overhead and profit are added to produce a probability distribution of total repair cost. A simple Bayesian-updating technique employs upper-story accelerograms to refine the stochastic structural model. It is found in application that using the upper-story
accelerograms produces only a modest change in the distributions of damage and repair cost, because most of the uncertainty in repair cost results from the uncertainty in the fragility functions and cost distributions, not from uncertainty in the structural model.
BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES

Keith A. Porter is the George W Housner Senior Researcher in the Caltech Department of Civil Engineering. He holds a PhD in Structural Engineering from Stanford University, MEng from the University of California, Berkeley in Structural Engineering, and BS in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Davis, and a California Professional Engineer’s license. His research focuses on the development of performance-based engineering methods, multi-hazard risk, and risk-management decision-making. Recent research involves real-time seismic performance evaluation; cost-effectiveness of flood, wind, and seismic mitigation; and propagation of uncertainty from ground motion to performance in terms of repair costs, human safety, and post-disaster operability (dollars, deaths, and downtime).

James L. Beck is Professor of Applied Mechanics and Civil Engineering at Caltech. He has been on the faculty at Caltech since 1981 where he was the Executive Officer for Applied Mechanics and Civil Engineering from 1993 to 1998. He has a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Caltech in 1978 and BS and MS degrees in Mathematics from the University of Auckland in New Zealand. His research career in earthquake engineering and structural dynamics spans more than 30 years. He has over 200 technical publications in these areas covering topics in system identification, structural health monitoring,
structural control, seismic risk and loss estimation, reliability and stochastic analysis, and other applications of probability in structural dynamics and structural engineering. He has supervised 22 doctoral students at Caltech.

Judith Mitrani-Reiser is a Ph.D. candidate in the Applied Mechanics program at Caltech. She is in the research group of James Beck that studies earthquake engineering. She received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Florida and an M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Her research involves creating probabilistic models to estimate economic losses, human losses and building downtime due to seismic events, which will further the development of performance-based earthquake engineering standards.
The research presented here addresses the question of how sensor data from an instrumented building can inform an analytical model of the building to produce a rapid, post-earthquake estimate of the probabilistic seismic performance of the building. Two general lines of research are relevant here: structural health monitoring (SHM) and loss estimation (LE), which is now merging somewhat with performance-based earthquake engineering (PBEE). Structural health monitoring seeks to establish some knowledge of the current condition of a structure based on data from sensors located on the structure. Loss estimation (and now PBEE) generally seeks to characterize seismic performance of building, bridges, and other facilities in terms of repair costs, human safety, and post-earthquake operability (“dollars, deaths, and downtime”), typically in the context of an individual facility or a general class of facilities subjected to seismic excitation at some unknown future date.

Sensor information until recently has played little role in LE and PBEE. Celebi et al. (2004) recently combined sensor information with PBEE, illustrating their methodology with a 24-story steel-frame building that has been instrumented to compute interstory drift ratios at a few story levels where sensors operate at two adjacent floors. These interstory drift ratios are then compared with (deterministic) drift limits associated with each of several FEMA 273-style performance levels: operational, immediately occupiable, life-safety, and collapse-prevention (FEMA, 1997). When a drift limit is exceeded, the associated performance level is assumed to be exceeded.

In the present paper, which summarizes Porter et al. (2004), a new approach using more-recent PBEE developments is taken, whereby structural response is calculated based on
measured basement motion and a stochastic structural model. Bayesian updating is then applied using the upper-story motions to improve the structural model, and fragility functions are employed to predict damage based on the updated model of structural response. This has an advantage that structural responses other than accelerations and interstory drift can be used in the analysis, and both structural and non-structural damage can be addressed using prior information about the fragility of these components. This new approach is detailed later.

Several authors have formulated analytical methods to relate shaking and seismic performance on a building-specific basis. Czarnecki (1973) was perhaps the first to suggest a method that relied on linear structural analysis to estimate structural response, and on simple relationships between structural response and loss to calculate repair cost. Kustu et al. (1982) advanced this approach using laboratory and other empirical data to calculate probabilistic damage, and construction-cost information to estimate loss based on damage. In the HAZUS-MH software, Kircher et al. (1997) use a similar approach, but using the capacity spectrum method to calculate structural response. Kadakal et al. (2000) present a similar approach, using three-dimensional pushover structural analysis. In Beck et al. (1999), Porter (2000), Porter and Kiremidjian (2001), and subsequent work, we use stochastic modeling at each analytical stage, nonlinear time-history structural analysis, a more-detailed taxonomy of components, new fragility functions, and to demonstrate how one can calculate repair costs, repair duration and post-earthquake usability.

These methods generally share four analytical stages, illustrated in Figure 1. The first is a hazard analysis, in which ground-motion time-histories are scaled to one or more levels of shaking intensity of interest, parameterized through some intensity measure (IM) such as spectral acceleration. In the second stage, a structural analysis is performed to calculate
structural response, parameterized via various engineering demand parameters (EDP), at a component-by-component level. In the third stage, called the damage analysis, EDPs are applied to component fragility functions to estimate physical damage measures (DM) for each component. Finally, a loss analysis is performed using the component DMs. In the loss analysis, various decision variables (DV) are calculated, such as repair cost, casualties, and loss-of-use duration (dollars, deaths, and downtime).

PBEE researchers have propagated uncertainties in various ways, such as Monte-Carlo simulation, Latin Hypercube simulation, and quadrature. Incremental dynamic analysis (IDA) represents MCS applied during the hazard and structural analysis. A first-order, second-moment (FOSM) approximation can be used to reduce the computational effort of the damage and loss analysis, although it appears generally to be the structural analysis that is the computationally costly part of PBEE when nonlinear time-history structural analysis is employed.

2 REAL-TIME PBEE METHODOLOGY

In the present context, the hazard analysis portion of Figure 1 is unnecessary, as the actual base ground-motion time-history is known. Some but not all of the EDPs are also known through sensors at upper stories. The methodology employed here, illustrated in Figure 2, is closely related to Figure 1, with modifications to account for the sensor information. It is now described.
2.1 FACILITY DEFINITION

The facility is defined by its structural and architectural design, and if possible by the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) components, as well as the approximate number of occupants. Structural drawings are used to create a nominal structural model (a stochastic structural model will be created from this later). The structural, architectural, and MEP designs are used to create an inventory of damageable components. This inventory is a table that lists damageable components by EDP and provides the quantity of each. For example, one record in the table records the square footage of gypsum wallboard partition of a particular category that is subject to peak transient drift at story X along column line Y.

**Component categories.** The taxonomy by which components are categorized is fairly fine, since small details make big differences in component fragility. For example, in tests of various stud wall systems, Pardoen et al. (2000) show that different combinations of sheathing, framing, and connectors can make an order-of-magnitude difference in the drift at which damage occurs. Consequently, to lump all drift-sensitive components together, or simply to lump all stud-wall systems together, introduces unnecessary uncertainty to loss analysis and precludes making design or mitigation decisions based on the differences in performance of competing systems.

**EDPs.** For structural components, various measures of member force or deformation are of interest, such as peak curvature in reinforced concrete beams and columns; the related Park-Ang damage index; or peak bending moment in brittle steel moment connections. EDPs relevant to nonstructural components typically include peak transient interstory drift at each story and column line and peak horizontal accelerations at each floor. For some purposes,
such as modeling jammed doors, it may be useful to capture peak residual drift by story and column line.

2.2 STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

Nonlinear time-history structural analysis is used here. Input base motion is taken from basement accelerations recorded during the earthquake. To account for uncertainties in the structural analysis, a stochastic structural model is created from the nominal one. A number \( S \) simulations or realizations of the stochastic structural model are created, and the input base motion is applied to each, to produce \( S \) realizations of estimated EDP.

In creating the stochastic structural model, various model parameters can be taken as uncertain. In the present study, five parameters were treated as uncertain: damping (denoted here by \( \zeta \)), structural-component initial stiffnesses (denoted generically by \( K_0 \)), post-yield stiffnesses (denoted by \( K_1 \)), soil spring stiffnesses (denoted by \( K_S \)), and structural strengths (denoted generically by \( F \)). In Beck et al. (2002), we also included uncertainty in mass, but subsequently found in Porter et al. (2002) that uncertainty in mass has minimal impact on uncertainty in repair-cost performance. To create a stochastic structural model, each parameter in the nominal structural model is multiplied by an uncertainty term \( \varepsilon \). A vector of such uncertainty terms is given by

\[
\varepsilon_X = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_\zeta, \varepsilon_{K_0}, \varepsilon_{K_1}, \varepsilon_{K_S}, \varepsilon_F \end{bmatrix}^T
\] (1)

We create \( S \) realizations of the stochastic structural model. For each realization, the nominal structural parameters are multiplied by the appropriate component in the realization of \( \varepsilon_X \). Each term in \( \varepsilon_X \) is taken as independent and lognormally distributed with a mean value of 1.0 and a coefficient of variation denoted by \( \delta \). We have taken the COV of pre- and post-yield
stiffness, $\delta_{K0} = \delta_{K1} = 0.05$. As in Beck (2002), we estimate uncertainty in viscous damping as $\delta_\zeta = 0.4$, and uncertainty in strength as $\delta_F = 0.11$. Jones et al. (2002) review experimental data by others, and report that the COV of soil shear modulus reduction ratio, $G/G_{max}$, varies with shearing strain, $\gamma$, with values as low as 0.15 at $\gamma = 0.0001\%$, to nearly 1.0 at $\gamma = 1\%$. We use the value at $\gamma = 0.03\%$, $G/G_{max} = 0.35$, as a conservative estimate of $\delta_{KS}$.

To employ these data in a given simulation $s = 0, 1, \ldots S-1$, one simulates each element $j$ of $\varepsilon_X$ as

$$\varepsilon_{X,s,j} = \exp\left(\Phi^{-1}\left(u\right) \beta_j + \ln \hat{\varepsilon}_j\right)$$

(2)

where

$$u = \frac{u_1 + u_2}{S}$$

(3)

$$\beta_j = \sqrt{\ln\left(1 + \delta_j^2\right)}$$

(4)

$$\hat{\varepsilon}_j = \sqrt[2]{\ln\left(1 + \delta_j^2\right)}$$

(5)

in which $u_1$ is sampled from $\{0, 1, \ldots S-1\}$ with equal probability and without replacement, and $u_2 \sim U(0,1)$. In Equation 2, $\beta_j$ denotes the logarithmic standard deviation of the model parameter $j$ and $\hat{\varepsilon}_j$ denotes the median value of $\varepsilon_j$. Throughout, the values of $u_1$ and $u_2$ are sampled independently for each simulation of each uncertain variable. (This Latin Hypercube sampling approach assures that the tails of each distribution are explored as well as the body.)

One could treat the parameters of each particular structural member as independent of the corresponding parameters of other members, but this would tend to underestimate uncertainty by overlooking correlation. We chose to treat parameters of each structural member as perfectly correlated with the corresponding parameter of other structural members. This may
overestimate uncertainty in EDP, although earlier research (Porter et al., 2002) suggests that uncertainty in EDP has a minor effect on overall performance uncertainty. This was further supported in the present study.

We developed two methods of updating the probability distribution of structural response to account for observed upper-story motions. The first is a particle filter, capable of employing all of the data in the upper-story acceleration time histories, not just peak values. It was found that the particle filter was impractical to implement in the nonlinear time-history structural analysis, as it required the ability to update the structural model at each timestep within a structural analysis model that could handle the material and geometric nonlinearities. A method that used a linear structural analysis was created in Matlab to implement and exercise the filter; see Porter et al. (2004) appendix A for detail. Instead, the following simplified approach was used to perform Bayesian updating of the structural response using a structural model that allowed for geometric and material nonlinearities.

In the simpler approach, one sacrifices the ability to use all the accelerogram data and to update the structural model at each timestep. One creates a large number of equiprobable samples of the stochastic structural model, accounting for important uncertainties in the structural model, as noted above. For each realization of the structural model, one performs a complete nonlinear time-history structural analysis, using the observed base excitation as the ground-motion input. One extracts from the calculated structural response the complete EDP vector for each sample, as well as the estimated and observed peak displacements at the location of each sensor above the base. One then calculates the posterior probability (or weight) of each model based on observed absolute displacements. These weights will later be used to calculate the probability distribution of damage and loss. The algorithm is as follows.
1. Get observed base excitation, denoted by $u_k$, and observed response (relative displacement) at instrument channel locations, denoted by $o$. Let $o_{jk}$ denote observed relative displacement at channel $j$, time step $k$. Let $o_j$ denote the peak relative displacement at channel $j$ (max over $k$).

2. Generate $S$ structural realizations ("models") $m_s$: $s=0, 1, S-1$, i.e., where $s$ indexes the structural model simulation number, and where each realization has equal (prior) probability $P[m_s] = 1/S$.

3. Perform structural analyses using base excitation $u(t)$ and produce estimates of relative displacement at instrument locations $\hat{o}_{sjk}$, where $s$ indexes structural model realization, $j$ indexes instrument channel and $k$ indexes time step.

4. Extract time-max $\hat{o}_{sj} = \max_k [\hat{o}_{sjk}]$.

5. Assume modeling error of estimated observation $\hat{o}_j$ has a constant logarithmic standard deviation denoted by $\beta_j$. That is, given a deterministic model of the structure and ground motion, we define error $\varepsilon$ as $\varepsilon_j = (\ln \hat{o}_j - \ln o_j)$ and take $\varepsilon_j$ as normally distributed with mean $E[\varepsilon_j] = 0$ and standard deviation $\beta_j = (\text{Var}[\varepsilon_j])^{1/2} = 0.15$, for all $j$.

6. Update weights of each model $m_s$:

$$w_s = P[m_s | o] = \frac{P[o | m_s] P[m_s]}{\sum_{s=0}^{S-1} P[o | m_s] P[m_s]} \quad (6)$$
where

\[ P[m_s|o] = \text{posterior probability of model } s \text{ conditioned on } o \]
\[ P[m_s] = \text{prior probability of model } m_s \]
\[ = 1/S \]
\[ p[o|m_s] = \text{likelihood of observation } o \]
\[ = \Pi_i [\phi(z_{ij})] \]
\[ \phi = \text{Gaussian probability density function} \]
\[ z_{ij} = \ln(o_j/\hat{\sigma}_j) / \beta_j \]

2.3 DAMAGE ANALYSIS

In the damage analysis, one calculates damage to each damageable assembly for each sample EDP vector, via assembly fragility functions. Damage and loss are simulated \( T \) times for each of \( N \) EDP vectors. Each damage simulation proceeds as follows.

It is assumed that after an assembly is subjected to a certain \( EDP \), it will be in an uncertain damage state \( DM \), indexed by \( dm = 0, 1, 2, \ldots N_{DM} \), where \( dm = 0 \) indicates the undamaged state. We assume that the damage states can be sorted in increasing order, either because an assembly in damage state \( dm = i + 1 \) must have passed through damage state \( i \) already, or because the effort to restore an assembly from damage state \( dm = i + 1 \) necessarily restores it from damage state \( dm = i \).

The probability that an assembly will reach or exceed damage state \( DM \geq dm \), given that it experiences some excitation \( EDP = x \), can be thought of as the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of the uncertain capacity of the component. It is referred to as the component fragility function, commonly taken as lognormal:

\[ \ldots \]
\[ F_{dm}(x) = P[DM \geq dm | EDP = x] = \Phi\left(\frac{\ln(x / x_m)}{\beta}\right) \] (7)

where \( \Phi \) indicates the cumulative standard Gaussian distribution, \( x_m \) denotes the median value of the distribution, and \( \beta \) denotes the logarithmic standard deviation of the distribution.

For a component with some integer \( N_{DM} \) damage states, the cumulative probability distribution of the damage state \( DM \) is given by

\[ F_{DM|EDP=x}(dm) = P[DM \leq dm | EDP = x] = 1 - F_{dm+1}(x) \quad 0 \leq dm < N_{DM} \]
\[ = 1 \quad dm = N_{DM} \] (8)

where \( F_{DM|EDP=x}(dm) \) denotes the cumulative probability distribution of damage state \( DM \) evaluated at \( dm \), given that \( EDP = x \). One can simulate the damage to each assembly by inverting Equation 8 at a random probability level \( u \), given by

\[ dm = F_{DM|EDP=x}^{-1}(u) \] (9)

where \( u \sim U(0, 1) \). The simulated damage state of each assembly is then recorded in the vector \( DM \), whose elements are the value of damage measure of each assembly. Note that one could perhaps improve convergence by using Latin Hypercube simulation of damage.

### 2.4 LOSS ANALYSIS: REPAIR COST

In the damage analysis, for each of \( S \) simulations of EDP, \( T \) simulations of damage are created. In the loss analysis for cost, we simulate repair cost once for each simulation of damage. One simulation of repair cost proceeds as follows.
Each assembly type and damage state is associated with one or more possible repair measures, each with an uncertain repair cost. Let $C_{j,dm}$ denote the uncertain cost to restore an assembly of type $j$ from damage state $dm$; it can be calculated by standard cost-estimation principles. Let $F_{C,j,dm}(c)$ denote its cumulative distribution function evaluated at $c$. We take these as lognormally distributed with median values $x_m$ and logarithmic standard deviations $\beta$ specified for each assembly type and damage state. To simulate $C_{j,dm}$, evaluate

$$C_{j,dm} = \exp\left(\Phi^{-1}(u_1) \beta + \ln x_m\right)$$

where $u_1$ is a sample of a uniformly distributed random variable bounded by 0 and 1. Summing over all assembly types and damage states gives the total direct cost to the contractor. The contractor’s overhead and profit, denoted here by $C_{OP}$, is uncertain at the time of the analysis. Supposing that it is uniformly distributed between $a$ and $b$ (with $b$ potentially as high as 50% in catastrophes, but the range more commonly on the order of 15% and 20%), and letting $u_2$ denote a sample of a uniformly distributed random variable between 0 and 1,

$$C_{OP} = a + (b - a) \cdot u_2$$

Thus in a given simulation of loss, the total repair cost, denoted here by $RC$, is given by

$$RC = \left(1 + C_{OP}\right) \sum_{j=1}^{N_j} \sum_{dm=1}^{N_{j,dm}} N_{j,dm} C_{j,dm}$$

where $N_{j,dm}$ is the number of assemblies of type $j$ in damage state $dm$, determined in the damage analysis.

This completes one simulation of loss. We have drawn $S$ samples of $EDP$, each with updated probability $w_s$, calculated in Equation 6. For each of these, we drew $T$ equiprobable samples of damage and loss. The cumulative distribution function for the total repair cost $RC$ is calculated from the $S \times T$ simulations of loss by:
\[ F_{RC}(rc) = P[RC \leq rc] = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{s=0}^{S-1} \sum_{r=0}^{T-1} w_r H(rc - RC_{s,r}) \]  

where \( H = 1 \) if the value in parentheses is greater than or equal to 0; \( H = 0 \) otherwise.

### 2.5 ESTIMATE OF POST-EARTHQUAKE PERFORMANCE

To measure the qualitative performance of a building after an earthquake, we use an enhanced version of the building performance levels that are in Vision 2000 (SEAOC 1996), FEMA 273 (1997), and FEMA 356 (ASCE 2000). The structural performance levels of FEMA 356 are collapse prevention, life safety, and immediate occupancy, denoted by \( S-5 \), \( S-3 \), and \( S-1 \), respectively. The descriptions of structural damage associated with each performance level are fairly detailed, addressing damage to different structural components such as primary concrete frames, and describing the degree of damage to individual components and how widespread that level of damage may be, but the descriptions of extent are qualitative, using terms such as “few,” “distributed” and “many.” The interested reader is referred to ASCE (2000) Table C1-3 for a list of structural components and descriptions of their damage by performance level.

The nonstructural performance levels of FEMA 356 are similarly detailed, describing degree and extent of damage to a wide variety of nonstructural components, such as cladding. There are four nonstructural performance levels, \( N-A \) (operational) to \( N-D \) (hazards reduced), from best to worst. FEMA 356 contains tables that define these performance levels, listing the degree and extent of damage by system and performance level; they are omitted here for brevity. There is also an overall facility performance level, (indexed here by \( L \)) defined in terms of both structural and nonstructural performance levels, as shown in Table 1. See
ASCE (2000) Table C1-5 for nonstructural components and descriptions of their damage by performance level.

While the authors of FEMA 356 caution that the list of structural and nonstructural component performance descriptions are incomplete and should not be used as criteria for determining overall facility performance, the lists nonetheless represent convenient quantitative benchmarks of performance, once the qualitative terms (“few,” “distributed,” etc.) are quantified. The present study employed fuzzy sets to quantify these terms. The translation is shown in Table 2 and Figure 3, using a damage fraction, denoted here by $DF$, defined here as the fraction of components in the noted damage state.

The FEMA 356 authors describe damage not in terms of repairs required (as we have done), but somewhat more qualitatively, e.g., “minor spalling.” In Table 2, we have done our best to map our damage descriptions to theirs, and feel that the mapping is reasonable. We therefore offer our procedure as at least illustrative of what can be done.

Let $D$ denote the damage description of a particular structural or nonstructural component. Under a reasonable reading of ASCE (2000), there are five distinct qualitative damage descriptions, as listed in Table 2. Let $d$ denote a particular value of $D$. Figure 3 illustrates how these translations lead to membership functions for each damage description.

For example, if 20% of partitions are damaged in a given simulation, one enters Figure 3 with $DF = 20\%$, and observes that the degree of membership that the partition damage can be considered to be “distributed” is 50%, and a 50% degree of membership that one would consider that “many” partitions are damaged, i.e., $\varphi[D = 3 \mid DF = 0.20] = \varphi[D = 4 \mid DF =$

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0.20] = 0.5. From fuzzy-set theory, the membership function \( \varphi[D = d \mid DF = df] \) is to be interpreted as a measure of the degree to which one feels that the damage description \( d \) is appropriate for a subsystem if its damage factor \( DF = df \). For notational convenience, let

\[
\varphi_d(df) = \varphi[D = d \mid DF = df] \tag{14}
\]

and

\[
\Phi_d(df) = \varphi[D \leq d \mid DF = df] \tag{15}
\]

which gives the degree to which one feels that the appropriate damage description for the component is at most \( d \) when the fraction of elements in the component that are in a prescribed damage state is \( df \). From fuzzy set theory,

\[
\Phi_d(df) = \max \{ \varphi_d(df), \varphi_{d-1}(df), \ldots, \varphi_1(df) \} \tag{16}
\]

Henceforth, we drop the damage fraction \( df \) from the notation for \( \Phi \), leaving it implicit. Now, in each of \( S \times T \) simulations of structural response and damage, and for each component, we have one value of \( \Phi_d \) giving the degree to which the component can be said to have damage description no greater than \( d \).

From ASCE (2000), for each component and performance level, we have a particular value of the damage description. For example, for primary concrete frames at structural performance level \( S-1 \) (part of the operational facility performance level, \( L = 1 \), as shown in Table 1), one expects minor hairline cracking and limited yielding at a few locations, i.e., damage description 2. In the present approach, these values are treated as maximum criteria,
and denoted by $\Delta^1$. That is, if for every component and performance level $l$, if $d \leq \Delta_l$, then the facility is in that performance level or better.

Recall that we are dealing with fuzzy-set descriptions of damage, so we speak in terms of the degree to which each component can be said to have damage description $d$. Since the fuzzy set corresponding to the performance level is the intersection of the fuzzy sets corresponding to each criterion that must be satisfied, we take the minimum of the membership values for each criterion. Let $\varphi(l)$ denote the membership of the facility in performance level $L = l$, i.e., the degree to which the facility can be described as being in performance level $l$. Then

$$\varphi(l) = \min(\Phi_{\Delta})$$

(17)

where the minimum is taken over all structural and nonstructural components.

The membership function in Equation 17 can be thought of as how likely it is that the facility is in performance level $l$, given a particular simulation of the structural model and damage state of each component. Considering all $S \times T$ simulations, the probability that the facility satisfies performance level $l$ is estimated by the appropriate weighted average of $\varphi(l)$ based on the usual Monte Carlo method:

$$P[L = l] = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{s=0}^{S-1} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} w_s \varphi_{st}(l)$$

(18)

where $w_s$ is given by Equation 6, and the value of $\varphi(l)$ is calculated for each $s$ and $t$.

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1 Again, this was not the intent of the authors of ASCE (2000), but it does nonetheless provide a convenient means to quantify performance level in simple terms with some rigor.
3 SAMPLE APPLICATION

3.1 FACILITY DEFINITION

The sample facility is a real, 7-story, 66,000 sf hotel located in Van Nuys, CA, analyzed as it existed just prior to the 1994 Northridge Earthquake. It was built in 1966 according to the 1964 Los Angeles City Building Code. The building was lightly damaged by the M6.6 1971 San Fernando event, approximately 20 km to the northeast, and severely damaged by the M6.7 1994 Northridge Earthquake, whose epicenter was approximately 4.5 km to the southwest. The building has been studied extensively, e.g., Jennings (1971), Scholl et al. (1982), Islam (1996a, 1996b), Islam et al. (1998), and Li and Jirsa (1998). Also, Trifunac et al. (1999) and Browning et al. (2000) provide a detailed account of the physical damage to the structure in the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

In plan, the building is 63 ft by 150 ft, 3 bays by 8 bays, 7 stories tall. The long direction is oriented east-west. The building is approximately 65 ft tall, with a tall first story containing a lobby, meeting rooms, and various other support services, and upper stories containing hotel suites accessed via a central corridor running along the longitudinal axis of the building. We estimate the replacement cost of the facility to be approximately $7.0M, based on square footage and using RS Means Co., Inc. (2001).

The structural system is a cast-in-place reinforced-concrete moment-frame building with nonductile column detailing. Perimeter moment frames provide the primary lateral force resistance, although the interior columns and slabs also contribute to lateral stiffness. The gravity system comprises 2-way reinforced-concrete flat slabs supported by square columns at the interior and the rectangular columns of the perimeter frame. The column plan (with the
designer’s column numbers) is shown Figure 4. The building is founded on 24-in diameter drilled piers in groups of two, three, and four piers per pilecap. Pier lengths vary between 31.5 ft and 37 ft. Frames are regular in elevation; the south frame elevation is shown in Figure 5. These figures show the designer’s notation for beam and column numbering.

Column concrete has nominal strength of $f'_c = 5$ ksi for the first story, 4 ksi for the second story, and 3 ksi from the third to the seventh story. Beam and slab concrete is nominally $f'_c = 4$ ksi at the second floor and 3 ksi from the third floor to the roof. Column reinforcement steel is A432-62T (Grade 60) for billet bars. Beam and slab reinforcement is ASTM A15-62T and A305-56T (Grade 40) for intermediate grade, deformed billet bars.

The ground floor has full-height masonry infill walls in the north frame between column lines 5 and 9, and partial-height masonry walls between column lines 1 and 5. Above the 2nd floor there are no other stiff elements between the columns that might produce a short-column effect. The building is clad on the north and south facades with aluminum window walls, comprising 3/16-in heavy sheet glass in sliding frames, and ¼-in cement asbestos board panels with an ornamental sight-obscuring mesh of baked enamel or colored vinyl. The east and west endwalls are finished on the inside with gypsum wallboard and on the outside with stucco.

Interior partitions are constructed of 5/8-in gypsum wallboard on 3-5/8 in metal studs at 16-in centers. Ceilings in the hotel suites in the 2nd through 7th stories are a textured coating applied to the soffit of the concrete slab above. At the first floor, ceilings are suspended wallboard or acoustical ceiling tiles (2-ft grid). Upper-story hallway ceilings are suspended ceiling on 2-ft-
by-4-ft tee-bar grid, just deep enough to accommodate fluorescent fixtures (approximately 2 in).

Through-wall air-conditioning units are mounted in the waist panels below the windows and provide ventilation to the suites. Central HVAC is provided only for hallway and ground-floor spaces. Building-service equipment include, on the ground floor: switchgear and transformers (unanchored, unbraced); anchored hot water heater and washing machines; and unanchored dryers and water softener, and on mechanical pads in the parking lot: an unanchored transformer and an anchored diesel backup generator. On the roof, there are two anchored elevator motors, an anchored upright 1000-gal water tank, anchored cooling tower (for lobby air conditioning) on steel skids, a kitchen fan on possible unanchored 12-in pipe stilts, and two packaged air-condition units on two steel skids each supported by two welded 12-in pipe stilts that do not appear to be anchored to their base. (These details of MEP components were observed in a 2002 walkdown of the building, but are assumed to be the same as just before the 1994 Northridge Earthquake.)

3.2 INSTRUMENTATION, HISTORIC SHAKING, AND DAMAGE

In the M6.6 1971 San Fernando event, strong motion instruments recorded peak accelerations at the ground floor of 240 cm/sec² in the transverse direction, 130 cm/sec² longitudinally, and 170 cm/sec² in the vertical direction. Peak roof accelerations were 384 cm/sec² transverse and 315 cm/sec² longitudinally at the southwest corner of the building (Trifunac et al., 1999).

The damage in 1971 mostly required architectural repairs. Jennings (1971) describes “extensive damage to the interior plaster walls, to the plumbing fixtures, etc., on the second, third, and fourth floors. The upper three floors were not damaged severely…. The structural
frame received some cracks, indicating strains beyond the elastic limit; the cracks were repaired with epoxy cement.” John A. Blume & Associates (1973) provide more detail about the damage, and report the repair cost as “approximately $145,000,” of which $2,000 was for structural repair. Trifunac et al. (1999) report the cost of repair as $143,000, while Jennings (1971) estimated repair costs as approximately $250,000.

In 1980, additional accelerometers were installed; their locations are shown in Figure 6 (CSMIP, 2001). As of this writing, they have been triggered in 11 subsequent events. According to the available literature, and judging by construction permits on file in the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, none of these subsequent events other than Northridge series caused significant damage.

Shaking, structural response, and damage in the 1994 Northridge earthquake were more severe than in the San Fernando earthquake. Peak acceleration at the ground floor was 440 cm/sec² in the longitudinal direction, 390 cm/sec² transversely. Assuming a fundamental period of 1.5 to 2.0 sec and 5% viscous damping, the building experienced damped elastic spectral acceleration of approximately 0.3 to 0.5g.

Islam (1996a) reports structural response in the Northridge earthquake in terms of relative displacements and transient interstory drift ratios. Several authors have estimated peak responses at the other floors; Li and Jirsa (1998) and Browning et al. (2000) generally agree that transient drift ratios reached approximately 2% in the 1st through 4th stories, decreasing to 0.5% toward the 7th story.
Trifunac et al. (1999) and Trifunac and Hao (2001) present damage surveys performed in early 1994. They report extensive structural damage, in the form of shear failure of columns and beam-column joints in the perimeter moment frame. The failures include spalling of the cover concrete over longitudinal bars, buckling of the longitudinal bars and through-cracks up to several inches wide. Damage to the south frame occurred at six locations on the 5th floor and one at the 3rd-floor level. Damage to the north frame occurred in the full-height infill masonry walls at the 1st story, and at the base of the short columns at the 1st story in three column lines. Damage to the north frame also occurred at or within the beam-column joint at 12 other locations at the 2nd through 5th floors.

Structural repairs after the 1994 Northridge earthquake involved the addition of shearwalls at three columns of the south frame and four columns of the north frame, and at several interior column lines. Base fixity is provided to the new shearwalls by the addition of grade beams spanning between pier groups.

3.3 STRUCTURAL RESPONSE, DAMAGE, AND LOSS

The structural model employed here is an enhancement of the one used in Beck et al. (2002), with the addition of soil springs in place of the fixed-based columns assumed in our prior study. As justified in Porter et al. (2002), we take mass as deterministic and stiffnesses (initial, post-yield, and soil-spring), damping, and strengths as uncertain. Coefficients of variation for uncertain parameters are as described earlier. Hutchinson (2003) provides a model of soil-spring stiffness for this building. Base excitation $u_k$ is taken from channel 16 as shown in Figure 6. Observed relative displacements $o_{jk}$ are taken from channels 9, 10, 11, and 12 (roof, 6th, 3rd, and 2nd floors, respectively). The values $o_j$ are taken as the peak response over time: $o_j = \text{Max}_k(o_{jk})$. Parameters of fragility functions and unit-repair costs used here are
tabulated in Porter et al. (2004). Contractor overhead and profit is taken as 17.5% of total repair costs to the contractor.

The demonstration building was analyzed using the motion recorded at the base during the 1994 Northridge earthquake. We used $S = 100$ simulations of the structural model and $EDP$. The structural analyses took approximately 4 hr on an ordinary desktop computer. Because the subsequent damage, performance, and loss analyses could be performed much more quickly, we used each $EDP$ vector $T = 10$ times, thus performing a total of 1,000 simulations of structural response, damage, and loss.

Our model predicts extensive damage in 3rd-story columns and roof beams, whereas the actual damage was concentrated at the top of the 4th-story columns and in their joints with 5th-floor beams. None of the predicted most-likely damage locations actually experienced damage in the Northridge earthquake. The implication is that either (a) actual structural conditions in the building differed in some important way from those shown on the construction documents, (b) the fragility functions employed here are incorrect or inappropriate for the beam-columns in the case-study building, or (c) both are true. In any case, since actual damage was due to shear, and since the fragility functions used here are based on flexure, it seems that our fragility functions need reconsideration.

In every simulation, damage to beam and column elements exceeded that allowed under the life-safety performance level. This implies near-certainty that the building would not be in the life-safety performance level when exposed to the 1994 Northridge earthquake. Since that is in fact what did happen in Northridge, our model merely implies that, had such a real-time
loss estimation system been in place at the time of the 1994 Northridge earthquake, it would have accurately and with near certainty predicted the system performance level.

The prior and posterior probability distributions of repair cost are shown in Figure 7. The distributions were almost perfectly lognormally distributed, with median values of $2.5 and $2.6 million, respectively, and logarithmic standard deviations of 0.06 and 0.08, respectively. We have no information about the actual repair cost of the building after the 1994 Northridge earthquake; only that the repairs were costly enough to cause a several-year closure of the building.

Note that reduced uncertainty about damping and stiffness that comes from the earthquake response records does not produce reduced uncertainty regarding $RC$. This observation can perhaps be explained by noting that one expects to reduce uncertainty regarding an uncertain variable $X$ when one observes samples of $X$, but not necessarily when one observes samples of another variable $Y$ related in some nonlinear fashion to $X$. For example, a more accurate fundamental period can put the structural model closer to a spectral peak in the base motion.

A second, and more important, observation from the similarity of the prior and posterior $RC$ distributions is that Bayesian updating of $RC$ is almost immaterial, at least in the present case study. That is, observing structural response and comparing it with the calculated value does not add much information at the level of the repair cost. In hindsight, this is a predictable result. We observed in Porter et al. (2002) that the greatest contributors to uncertainty in $RC$ were the intensity measure (denoted by $IM$, and measured, for example, by damped elastic spectral acceleration), detailed ground-motion time history, denoted by $a(t)$, and assembly capacity, with structural parameters contributing only modestly to uncertainty in $RC$. In the
case of real-time loss estimation, $IM$ and $a(t)$ are known, and the Bayesian updating using observed $EDPs$ provides no information about assembly capacity, and thus cannot affect the uncertainty associated with it. The minor change in the $RC$ distribution observed here is due primarily to reduced uncertainty about damping and stiffness.

We conclude from this observation that perhaps it is not much help to perform Bayesian updating of $EDP$ in real-time loss estimation, or even to consider uncertainty in the structural model, when the structural uncertainties seem to contribute so little to overall uncertainty in $RC$. To ignore structural uncertainty would be a valuable timesaver. There would be no need to simulate the structural model and no need to perform numerous nonlinear time-history structural analyses. One need only perform a single deterministic nonlinear time-history structural analysis using the input ground motion recorded at the building base, and then perform the (much faster) damage and loss-analyses of ABV as usual. In addition, ignoring structural uncertainties would save time and money in that there would be no need to install instruments on upper floors: structural analysis with a best-estimate structural model appears to provide a good-enough estimate of upper-story response so that the instruments are irrelevant for purposes of real-time loss estimation (but, of course, are of interest for the purpose of investigating the structural properties and response).

4 CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Macroscopic versus component-level accuracy. In this and a Japanese case study not discussed here, we found that hindcasting of the overall system performance was very good, but prediction of detailed damage was poor. We infer that either (a) as-built conditions tend to differ substantially from those shown on the structural drawings, (b) inappropriate fragility functions were employed, or (c) both. In both case the models suggesting likely damage
concentrated at one floor while actual damage occurred at another, which might in general lend weight to hypothesis (a).

Is a stochastic structural model needed? In the case study, we used a simplified particle filter to update $EDP$ and found that the above-base sensor data adds little information to the performance prediction, probably because structural uncertainties are relatively unimportant compared with the uncertainties regarding assembly damageability. The implication is that real-time loss estimation may be insensitive to structural uncertainties and so costly simulations of structural response may be avoided, and real-time loss estimation does not benefit significantly from instruments other than those at the base of the building.

Opportunities for implementation. Because much of the cost of applying this RTLE algorithm results from the cost of instrumentation and the effort of setting up a structural model, the readiest application would be to instrumented buildings whose structural models are already available. Furthermore, the methodology might produce the most value when applied to important facilities such as those required for emergency response, and buildings with high cost of testing for concealed damage, such as steel-frame structures.

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REFERENCES CITED


Figure 1. Framework of probabilistic PBEE methodologies
Figure 2. Overview of real-time loss estimation methodology employed here
Figure 3. Membership functions relating damage description to damage fraction
Figure 4. Foundation and column plan, showing designer’s notation for column numbers.
**Figure 5.** South frame elevation, omitting stair tower at west end
Figure 6. Instrument locations after 1980
Figure 7. Hindcast repair cost distributions for the 1994 Northridge earthquake. Posterior uses upper-story sensor data.
Table 1. System performance levels (after ASCE 2000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$L$</th>
<th>Performance level</th>
<th>Max. structural perf. level</th>
<th>Max. nonstructural perf. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>S-1</td>
<td>N-A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Immediate occupancy</td>
<td>S-1</td>
<td>N-B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Life safe</td>
<td>S-3</td>
<td>N-C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Collapse prevention</td>
<td>S-5</td>
<td>N-D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: S-1, S-3, N-A, N-B, etc., are labels denoting various structural and nonstructural performance levels.
Table 2. Translations of qualitative performance terminology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$D$</th>
<th>Damage description</th>
<th>Damage fraction</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Negligible, few, little</td>
<td>0 – 5%</td>
<td>“Generally negligible [ceiling] damage:” between 0 and 5% of ceiling area is damaged.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Some, minor, limited</td>
<td>1 – 10%</td>
<td>“Some cracked [glazing] panes; none broken:” Between 1% and 10% of lites visibly cracked; no glass fallout.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Distributed</td>
<td>5 – 30%</td>
<td>“Distributed [partition] damage:” between 5% and 30% of partitions need patching, painting or repair, measured by lineal feet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Many, extensive</td>
<td>10 – 60%</td>
<td>“Many fractures at [steel moment frame] connections:” between 10% and 60% of connections suffer rejectable damage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Most</td>
<td>50 – 100%</td>
<td>“Most [HVAC equipment] units do not operate:” at least 50% of HVAC components inoperative.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>