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# Coupled Multiphysics Simulations of Seismic Response of Degraded Concrete Structures

# Acknowledgement

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# Outline

- Concrete degradation induced by Alkali-Silica Reaction (ASR)
- Coupled framework for dynamic analysis of degraded concrete structures
- Demonstration problems
  - Case 1: Validation of ASR analysis benchmarking concrete dam structure
  - Case 2: Soil-structure interaction
  - Case 3: Source-to-site wave propagation generated from an earthquake fault rupture scenarios
- Concluding remarks



NEWS

## New radiation monitor installed near Seabrook nuke plant

Max Sullivan

Published 1:11 p.m. ET Oct. 1, 2020

<https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/news/2020/10/01/new-radiation-monitor-installed-near-seabrook-nuke-plant/42712569/>

EDITOR'S PICK

## Radiation monitor installed at Seabrook Beach

By Jack Shea Staff writer Oct 12, 2020

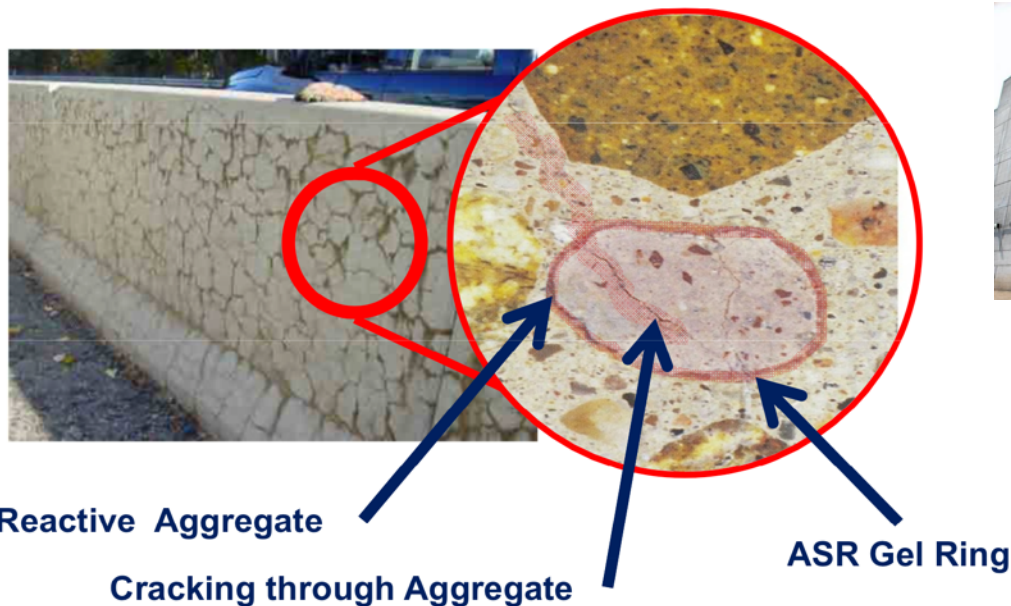
[https://www.eagletribune.com/news/new\\_hampshire/radiation-monitor-installed-at-seabrook-beach/article\\_eb045dd0-e9f6-5b42-8782-03e7e11a80d0.html](https://www.eagletribune.com/news/new_hampshire/radiation-monitor-installed-at-seabrook-beach/article_eb045dd0-e9f6-5b42-8782-03e7e11a80d0.html)



# Alkali-Silica Reaction (ASR)

- ASR is a slow chemical reaction in concrete, which occurs in the presence of water, between the alkaline cement and reactive silica found in some aggregates
- ASR forms a gel that absorbs water and expands causing micro-cracks that affects concrete properties (stiffness, bond strength of concrete, and overall service life in power plants, dams, bridges, pavements, etc.)
- Current RC design procedure and practice do not account for effects of ASR

Reference: "Seabrook station safety in light of the alkali-silica reaction occurring in plant structures", 2011 reactor oversight process Nuclear Regulatory Commission – Region I

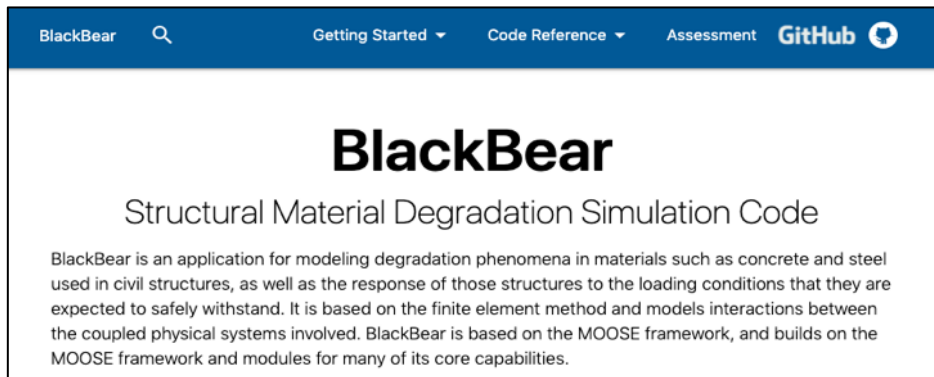


Photos from <https://www.sgh.com/projects/seabrook-station-nuclear-power-plant#solution>

# BlackBear

## INL Developing Structural Material Degradation Simulation Code

- Modeling of concrete degradation process using a fully coupled thermo-hydro-mechanical-chemical (THMC) concrete model
- Implementation of **ASR swelling model**, coupled with heat and moisture transport
- Ultimately, simulating and predicting the long-term performance of concrete structures, subjected to various aging mechanisms by interacting physical, chemical, and mechanical processes

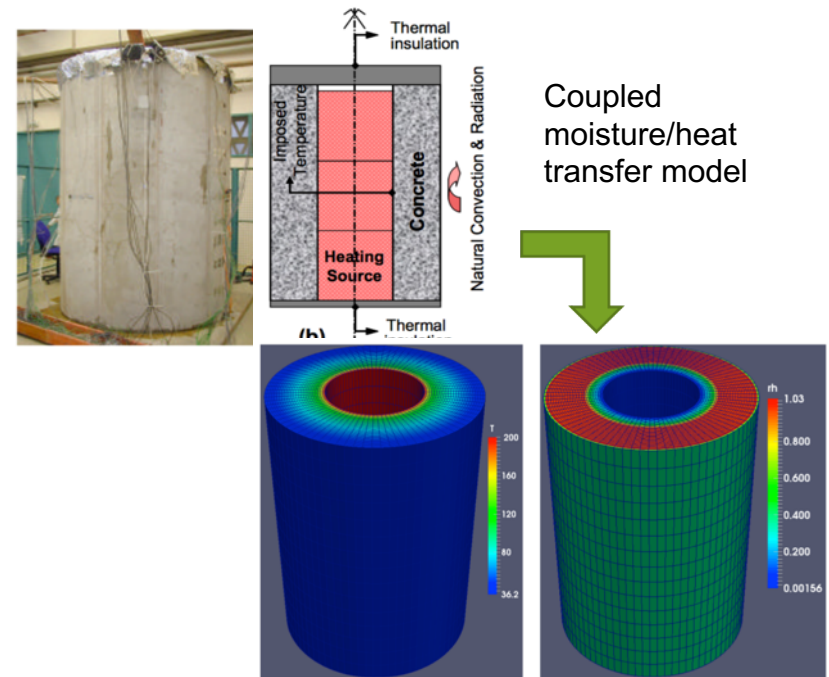


BlackBear

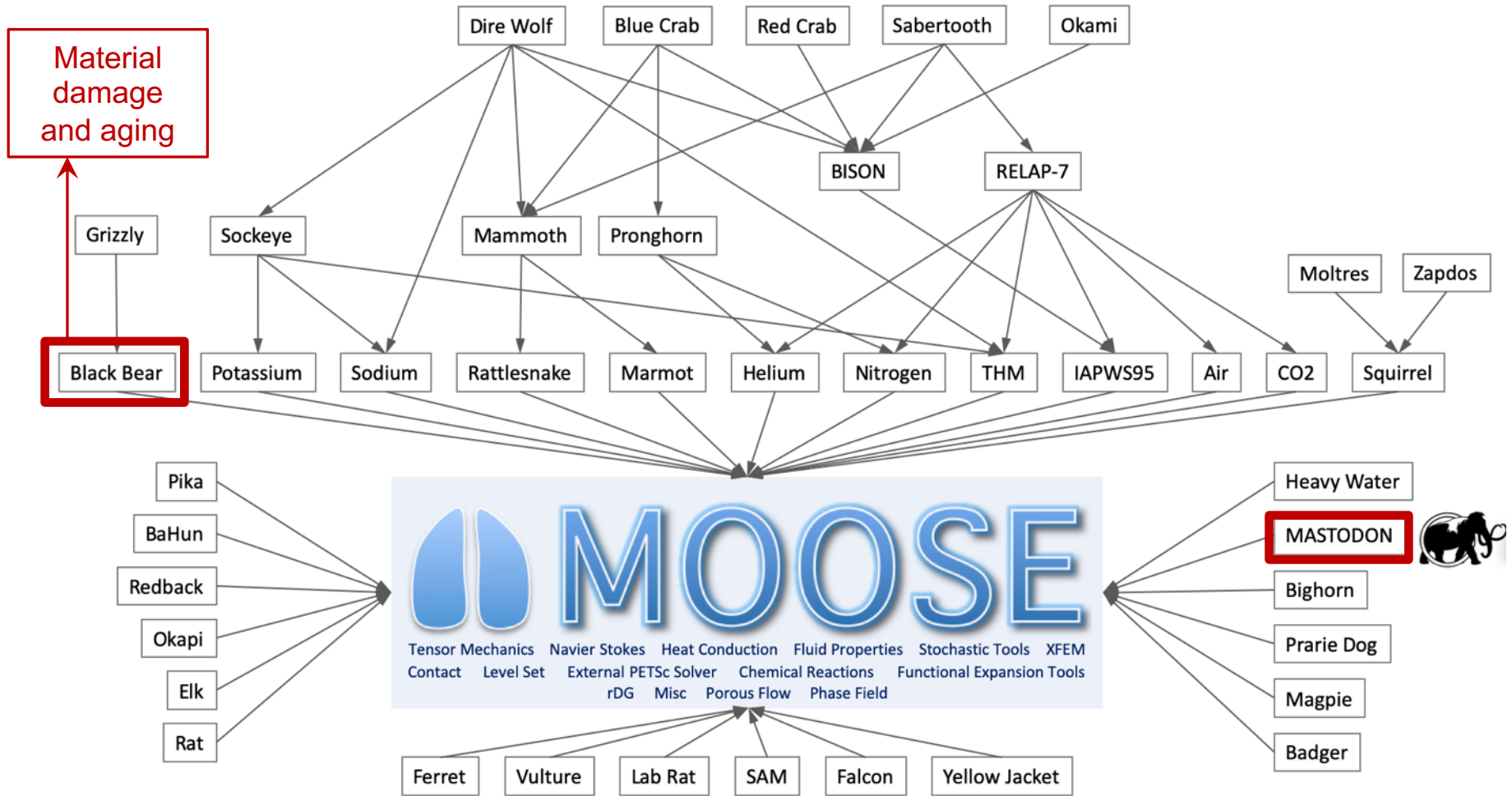
Structural Material Degradation Simulation Code

BlackBear is an application for modeling degradation phenomena in materials such as concrete and steel used in civil structures, as well as the response of those structures to the loading conditions that they are expected to safely withstand. It is based on the finite element method and models interactions between the coupled physical systems involved. BlackBear is based on the MOOSE framework, and builds on the MOOSE framework and modules for many of its core capabilities.

<https://mooseframework.inl.gov/blackbear/>



# MOOSE Apps

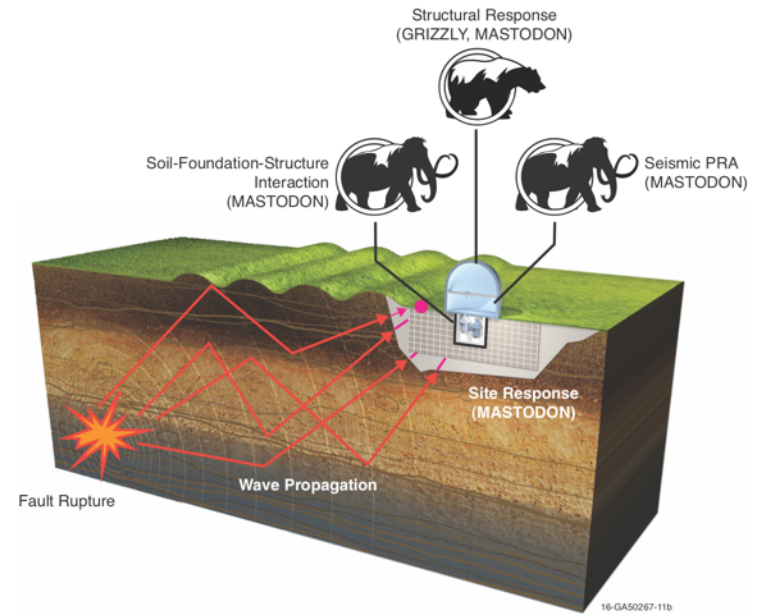


**MOOSE: Multiphysics Object-Oriented Simulation Environment**

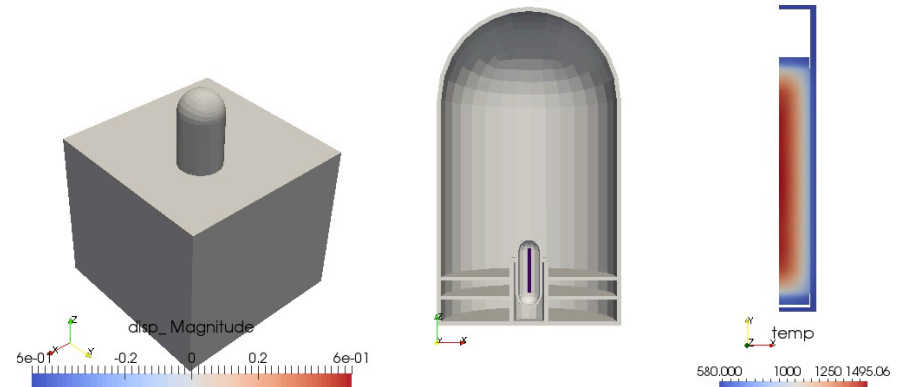
# MASTODON

## *Multi-hazard Analysis for STOchastic time-DOMainN phenomena*

- Nonlinear site response and soil-structure interaction
- Source-to-site simulation
- Seismic probabilistic risk assessment
- Implicit and explicit integration
- Easy coupling with other physics
- Highly parallelizable – MOOSE tools routinely used on 1000s of processors
- Automated testing and documentation maintenance



Time: 0.000000





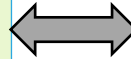
# Modeling Approach

## *Dynamic/Seismic Response of Degraded Concrete Structures*

### Concrete Material Degradation Analysis

- Heat transfer and moisture diffusion
- Alkali-silica reaction (ASR) swelling model
  - ASR reaction kinetics
  - Anisotropic ASR strain distribution
  - Isotropic thermal expansion
- Damage material constitutive model

Required analysis time step = days



### Static/Dynamic Structural Analysis

- System identification (modal analysis)
- Seismic/Dynamic loading
- Soil-Structure Interaction
- Source-to-site wave propagation from earthquake fault rupture

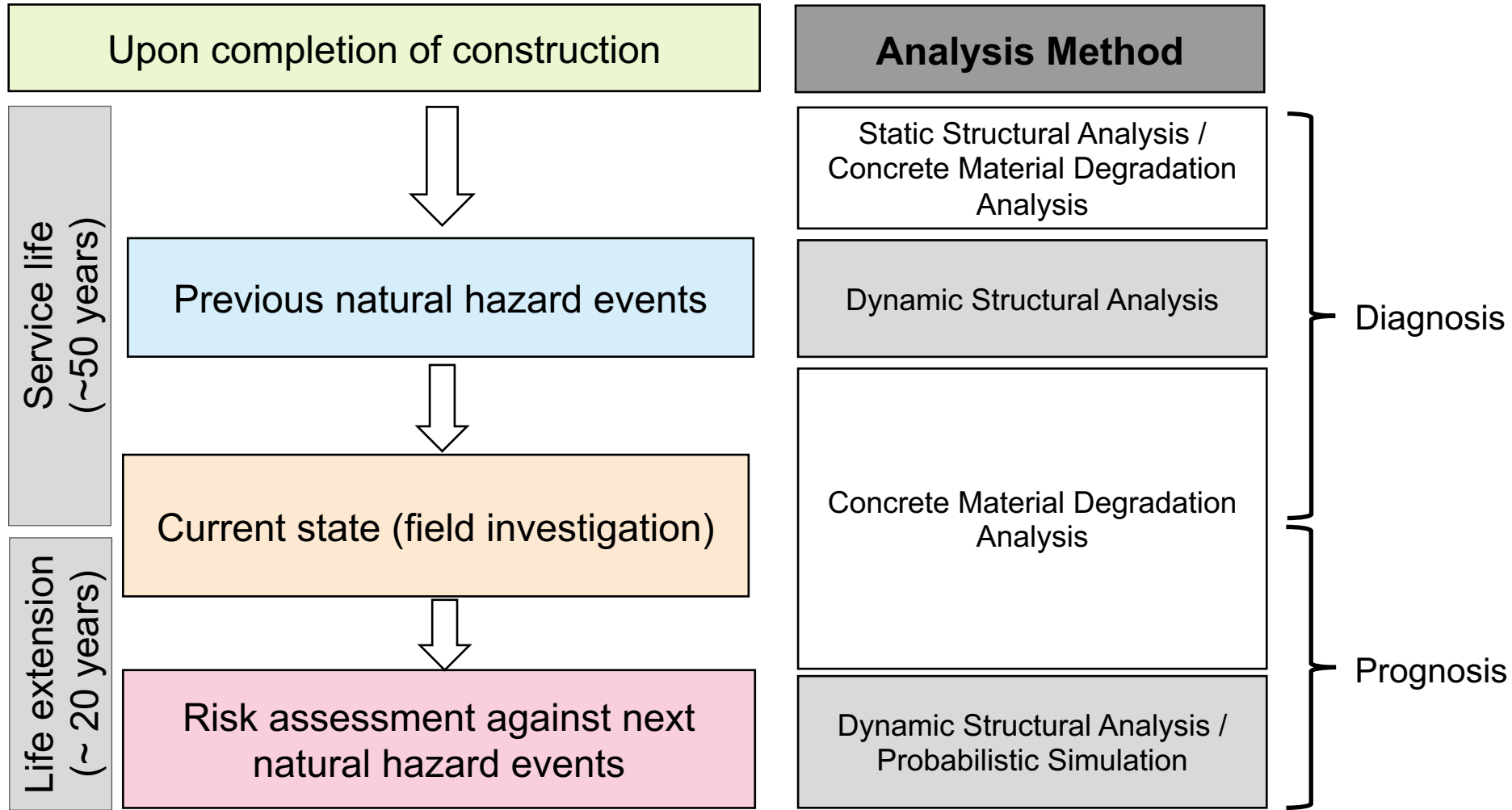
Required analysis time step = seconds

**BlackBear** +



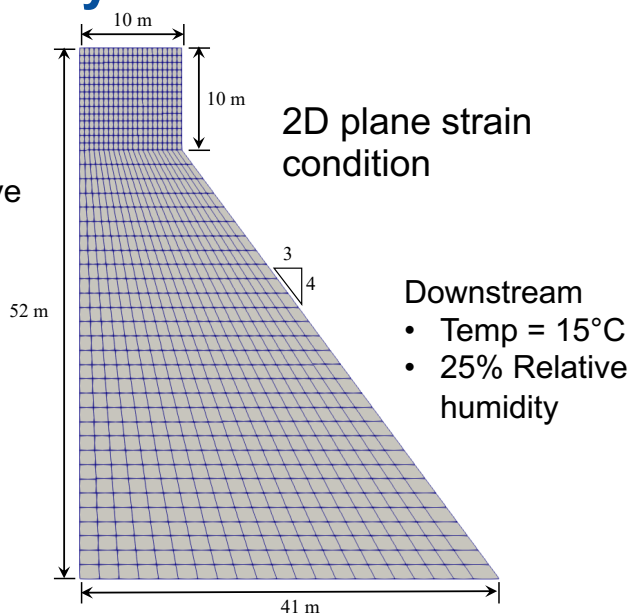
**MASTODON**

# Simulation Approach



# Case Study: Validation for ASR-induced Material Degradation

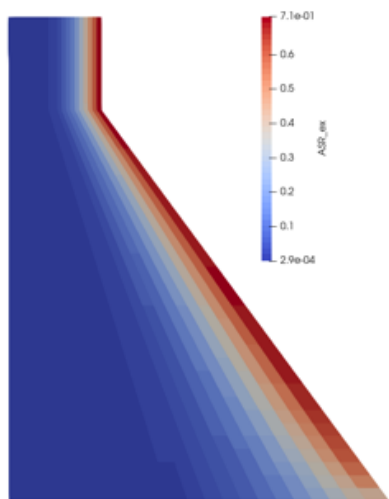
Upstream  
 • Temp. = 8°C  
 • 100% Relative humidity



- Input parameters are adopted from Ulm et al. (2000) and Huang and Spencer (2016)

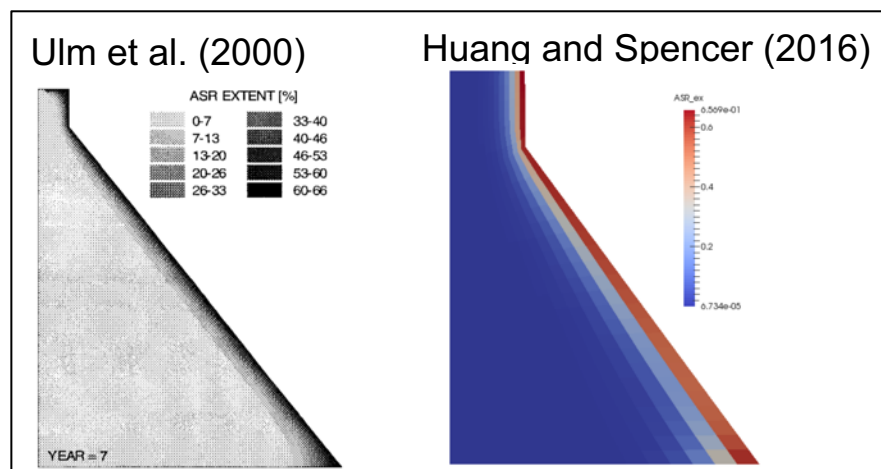
Material Parameter	Value
Young's modulus ( $E$ )	22.0 GPa
Poisson's ratio ( $\nu$ )	0.2
Compression strength ( $f_c$ )	25 MPa
Tensile strength ( $f_t$ )	2 MPa
Mass density ( $\rho$ )	2643 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Thermal expansion coefficient	$1 \times 10^{-5}/^\circ\text{C}$
Characteristic time, ( $\tau_c, T_o = 311 \text{ K}$ )	50 days
Latency time, ( $\tau_l, T_o = 311 \text{ K}$ )	200 days
Chemical expansion coefficient ( $\beta = \varepsilon(\infty)$ )	0.3%
Thermal activation constant ( $U_C$ )	5,400 K
Thermal activation constant ( $U_L$ )	9,700 K

- Results from thermal conduction and moisture diffusion at 7 years



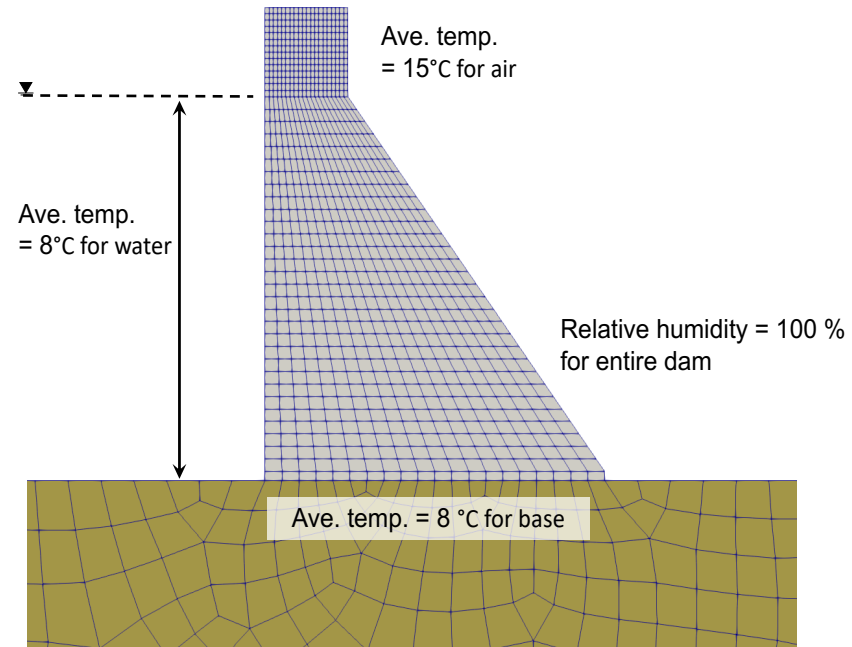
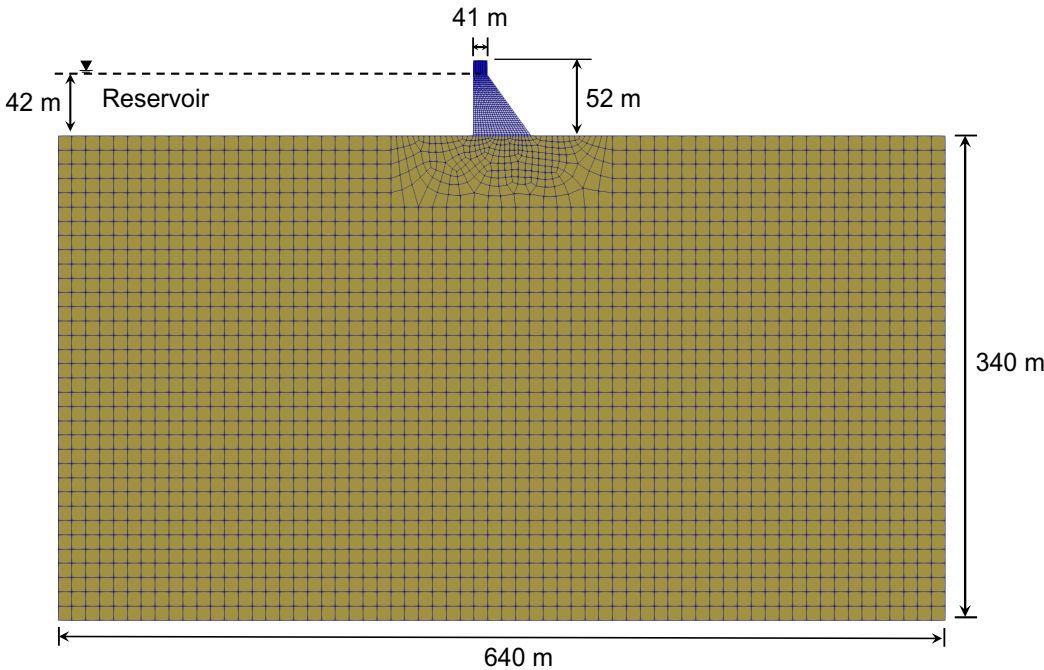
(c) ASR extent

Shows almost identical results, compared to the earlier studies



# Case Study: Soil-Structure Interaction Model

- Initial conditions of temperature and relative humidity / hydrostatic pressure from reservoir

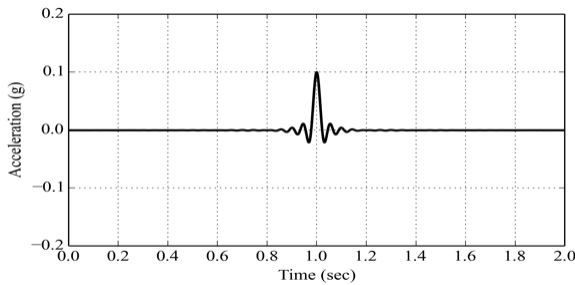
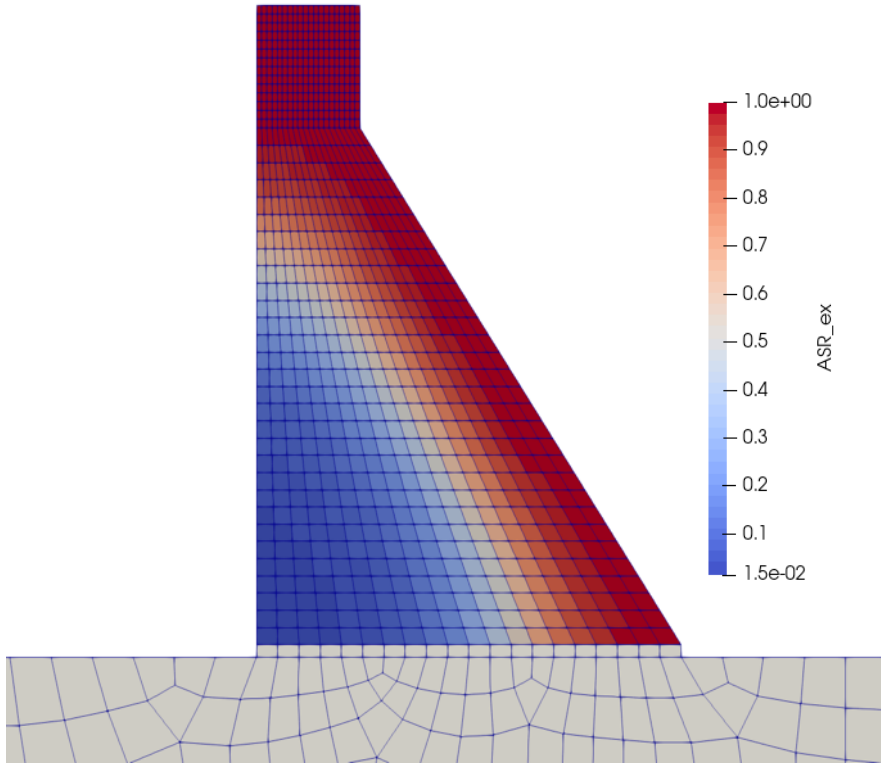


- Linear soil material properties
- No slip/separation at soil-structure interface
- Fixed base condition
- Shear beam lateral boundary condition

Soil Material Property	Value
Shear wave velocity	1000 m/s
Shear modulus	1.7 GPa
Poisson's ratio	0.3
Mass density	1700 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

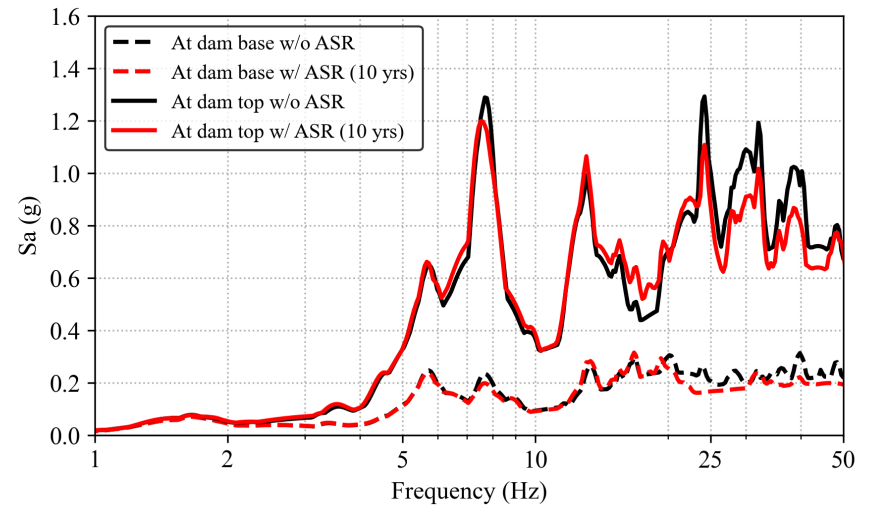
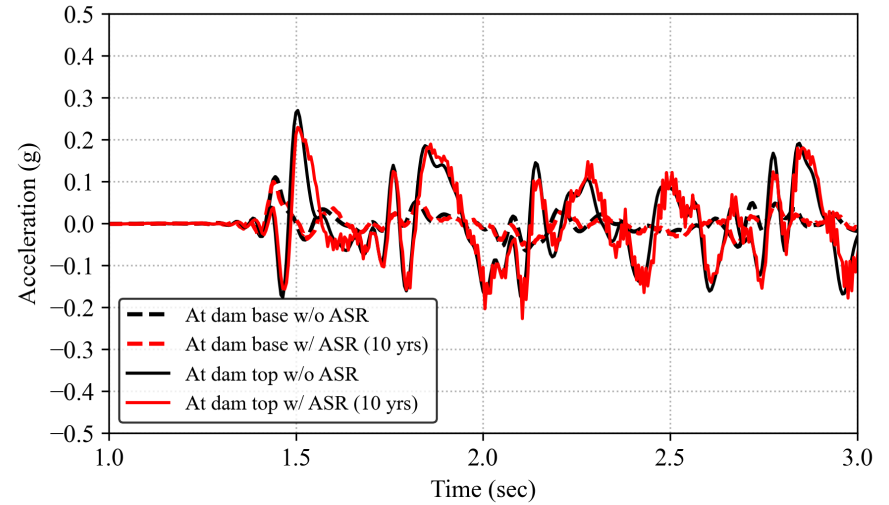
# Case Study: Soil-Structure Interaction Model

- ASR extent at 10 years



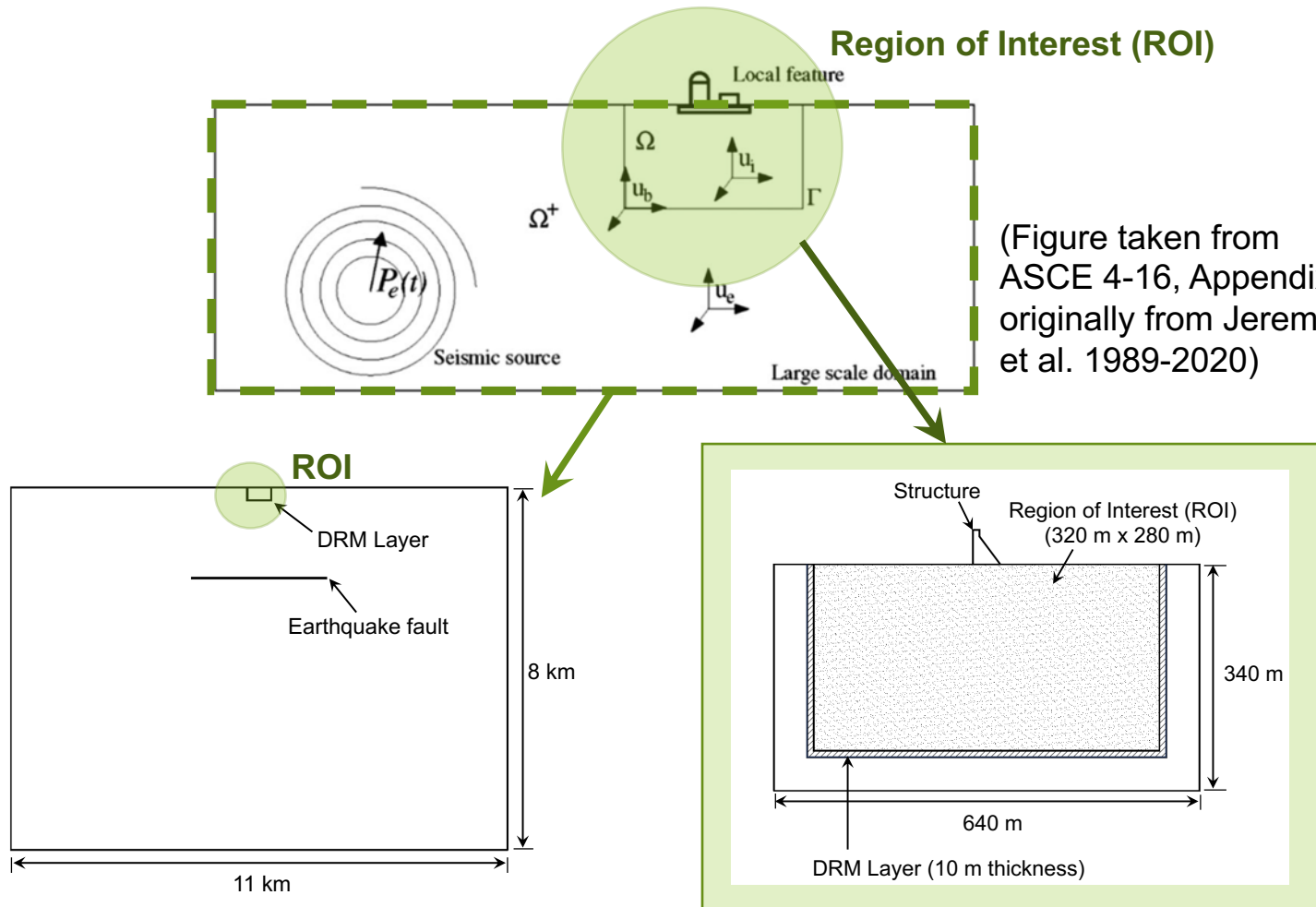
Ormsby wavelet input motion after 10-year ASR analysis

- Acceleration at top and base of the dam



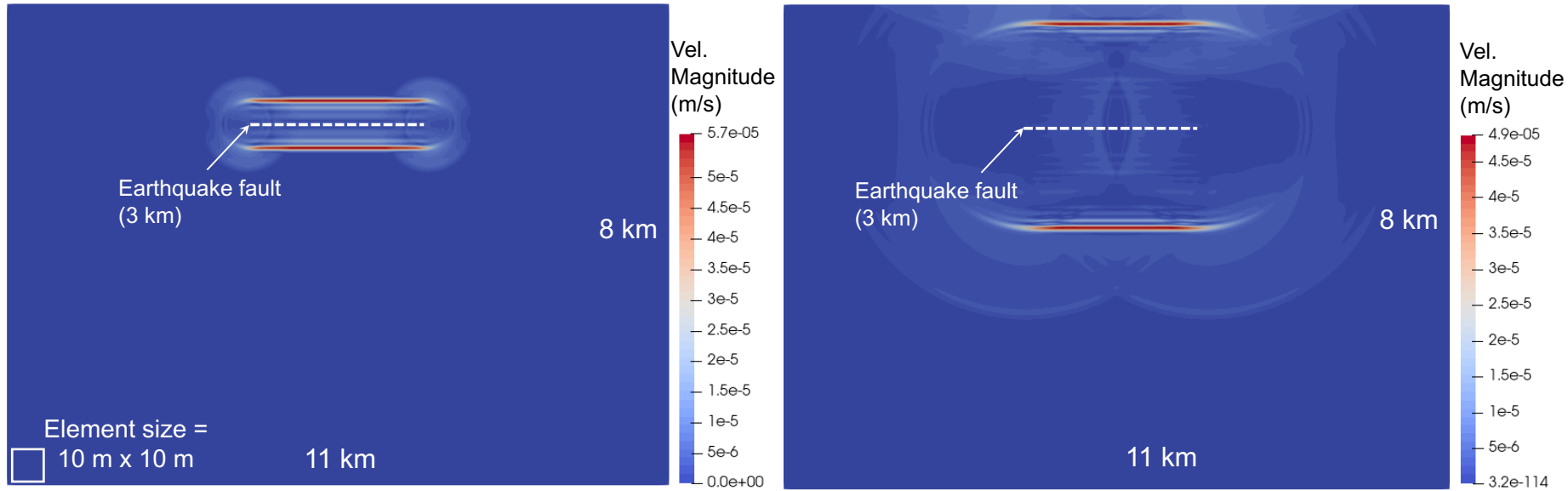
# Case Study: Source-to-Site Wave Propagation Model

- ASCE 4-16, Appendix B: Nonlinear Time-domain Soil-Structure Interaction (Nonmandatory)
- B.3 Ground motion Input using Domain Reduction Method, DRM (Bielak et al. 2003)



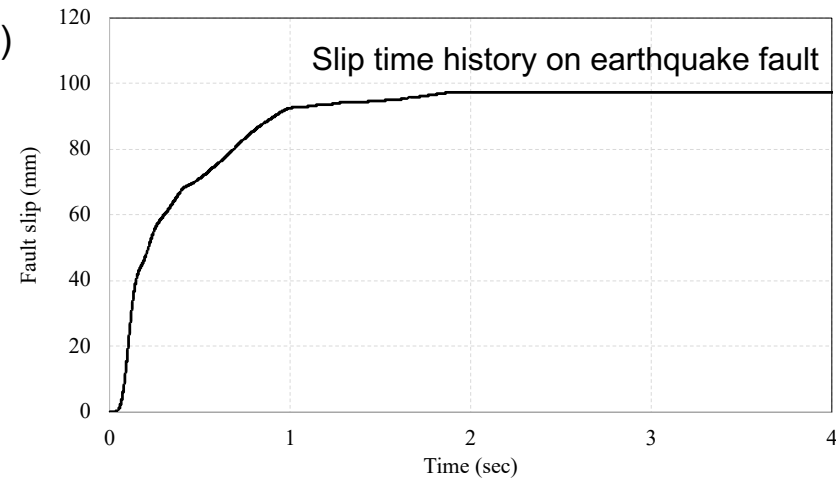
# Case Study: Source-to-Site Wave Propagation Model

- Free-field earthquake simulation in 1<sup>st</sup> step using DRM (2D plane strain condition)



Earthquake fault rupture scenario (Veeraraghavan et al. 2017)

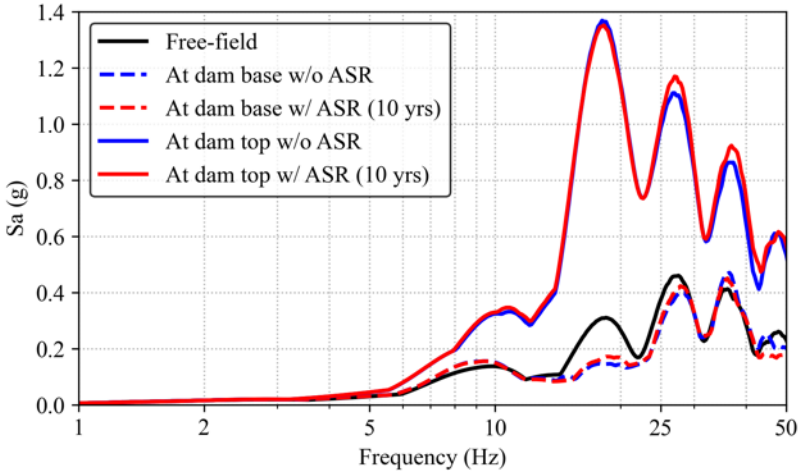
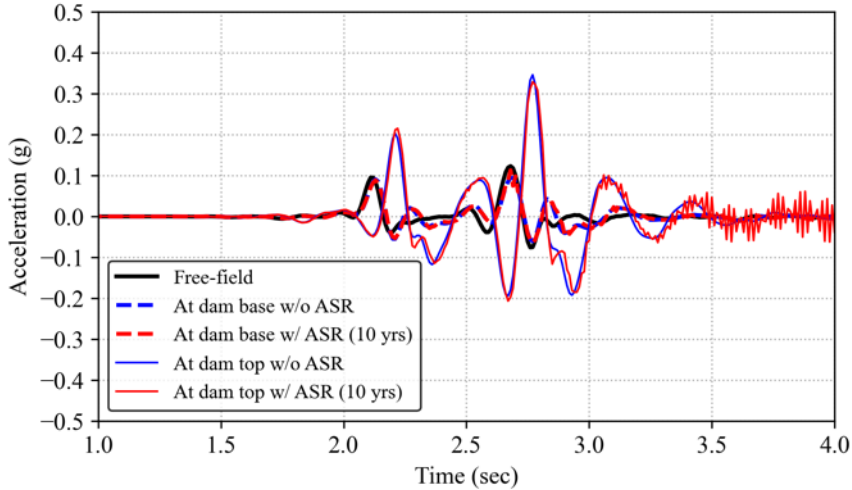
Parameter	Values
Shear wave velocity	1000 m/s
P-wave velocity	1870.8 m/s
Poisson's ratio	0.3
Density	1700 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Fault length	3 km
Dip angle	0 deg.
Strike angle	0 deg.
Rake angle	90 deg.



# Case Study: Source-to-Site Wave Propagation Model



640 m





# Further Validation for Long-Term ASR Response

- Seminoe Dam is a concrete thick-arch dam on the North Platte River in the U.S State of Wyoming, owned and operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.
- The 295-foot (90m) dam was constructed in 1939. This was at a time before the discovery that low alkali cement, air entraining admixtures, and other beneficial modifications to concrete could ameliorate deleterious chemical and physical deterioration.
- The dam is exposed to severe winter conditions, fairly rapid and extreme temperature changes, and frequent freeze-thaw cycles.
- A few years after construction some cracking, and deterioration of the concrete was observed.

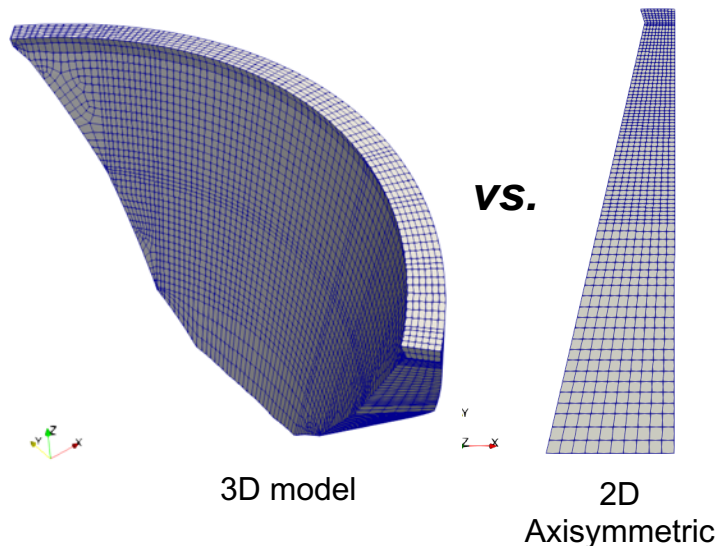


Photo from  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seminoe\\_Dam#/media/File:SeminoeDam.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seminoe_Dam#/media/File:SeminoeDam.jpg)



Photo from  
<https://www.wyohistory.org/encyclopedia/history-seminoe-and-kortes-dams>

# Concluding Remarks

- The performed demonstrations show that the combined code can be successfully used for a full coupling of ASR-degradation and seismic analysis including a fault-rupture-to-site simulation.
- Within the scope of this research, the short-term effect of the ASR-induced material degradation is not significant on the seismic behavior of the benchmarked structure.
- Further long-term validation effort is underway using the seminoe dam, which will be a more representative scenario for nuclear-related structures suffered from ASR-induced damages.
- These applications can be applied to seismic and other external hazard analyses of aging concrete structures designed for long life spans: nuclear power plants and other critical facilities owned by the Department of Energy (DOE), National Nuclear Safety Administration (NNSA), Department of Defense (DOD), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

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- <https://www.sgh.com/projects/seabrook-station-nuclear-power-plant#solution>

**Thank You**