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Seismic Performance Evaluation of Precast Girders with Field-Cast Ultra High Performance Concrete (UHPC) Connections

by George C. Lee, Chao Huang, Jianwei Song and Jerome S. O'Connor



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PREFACE

MCEER is a national center of excellence dedicated to the discovery and development of new knowledge, tools and technologies that equip communities to become more disaster resilient in the face of earthquakes and other extreme events. MCEER accomplishes this through a system of multidisciplinary, multi-hazard research, education and outreach initiatives.

Headquartered at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York, MCEER was originally established by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 1986, as the first National Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (NCEER). In 1998, it became known as the Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER), from which the current name, MCEER, evolved.

Comprising a consortium of researchers and industry partners from numerous disciplines and institutions throughout the United States, MCEER's mission has expanded from its original focus on earthquake engineering to one which addresses the technical and socioeconomic impacts of a variety of hazards, both natural and man-made, on critical infrastructure, facilities, and society.

MCEER investigators derive support from the State of New York, National Science Foundation, Federal Highway Administration, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Homeland Security/Federal Emergency Management Agency, other state governments, academic institutions, foreign governments and private industry.

The major objective of this study is to evaluate the seismic performance of two precast deck-bulb-tee girders with field-cast UHPC connections. A series of shake table tests were performed to analyze the seismic behavior of the girders and UHPC connections. No severe damage was found in the tests. The analyses on the maximum strain and relative displacement of the UHPC connection show that the UHPC connection remained in the elastic range and exhibited sufficient seismic performance under all tests. Based on these experimental results, it can be concluded that UHPC connections with short, straight rebar provide sufficient seismic resistance even under high-level seismic ground motions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ultra-high performance concrete (UHPC) is an advanced cementitious composite material which provides new opportunities to significantly enhance the performance of field-cast connections. The use of UHPC in precast concrete bridge superstructure components can offer many advantages compared to conventional cast-in-place decks, especially higher quality and durability as well as ease of construction. However, the appropriate installation of connecting elements is a key challenge in completing the overall bridge system. It is recognized that the state of the practice with regard to deck-level connecting elements has been lacking in terms of resiliency and durability.

The Federal Highway Administration's ongoing research program into the use of Ultra-High Performance Concrete (UHPC) in highway bridges has recently focused on deck-level connections between modular precast components. Field-cast UHPC connections can facilitate the construction of an emulative bridge deck system whose behaviors should meet or exceed those of a conventional cast-in-place bridge deck.

However, many bridge owners may be hesitant to embrace UHPC bridge deck component technology due to a lack of knowledge of the seismic performance of field-cast UHPC connections. The seismic responses of connections under severe earthquakes need to be investigated to facilitate the wider use of these modular bridge deck systems, especially in high seismic zones. The major objective of this study is to evaluate the seismic performance of two precast deck-bulb-tee girders with field-cast UHPC connections. A series of shake table tests are performed to analyze the seismic behavior of the girders and UHPC connections.

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SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 UHPC Material

Precast concrete bridge components have many advantages compared to conventional cast-in-place construction. Prefabrication typically requires less time at the site due to the ease of installation. Their production in a controlled environment results in higher quality and assumed better durability. However, the appropriate installation of connecting elements is one of the most important challenges in completing the overall bridge system.

Ultra-high performance concrete (UHPC), as an advanced cementitious composite material, provides new opportunities to significantly enhance the performance of field-cast connections. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)'s ongoing research program into the use of Ultra-High Performance Concrete (UHPC) in highway bridges has conducted a series of experimental and analytical research on the mechanical behavior of UHPC.

Graybeal (2006; 2010; 2012) conducted a large suite of material characterization tests in order to quantify the behavior of one type of commercially available UHPC. The characteristics of the UHPC under four different curing regimes were captured. The study presented the results focused on strength-based behaviors (e.g., compressive and tensile strength), long-term stability behaviors (e.g., creep and shrinkage), and durability behaviors (e.g., chloride ion penetration and freeze-thaw). The test results showed that UHPC exhibits very high compressive strengths, great tensile strengths, and stability with durability properties significantly beyond normal concrete.

For precast bridge systems, it is recognized that the state of the practice with regard to deck-level connecting elements has been lacking in terms of resiliency and durability. Since UHPC material provides excellent mechanical behavior, FHWA has recently focused on deck-level connections between modular precast components. Graybeal (2010) investigated the structural performance of field-cast UHPC connections for modular bridge deck components using both cyclic and static loading tests. The results demonstrated that field-cast UHPC connections facilitate the construction of an emulative bridge deck system whose behaviors should meet or exceed those of a conventional cast-in-place bridge deck. Russell and Graybeal (2013) investigated over 600 references relevant to UHPC material to summarize the state of the art of research and practical applications. The results showed that over 50 bridges have been built using UHPC as the connection material in North America during the past 10 years and the trend is still growing.

However, many bridge owners may still be hesitant to embrace UHPC bridge deck component technology due to a lack of knowledge of the seismic performance of field-cast UHPC connections. The seismic responses of connections under severe earthquakes need to be investigated to facilitate the wider use of these modular bridge deck systems, especially in high seismic zones.

1.2 Shake Table Testing

Earthquakes are one of the most devastating catastrophes for human society. Lessons learned from severe earthquakes that occurred in the past two decades remind civil engineers of the importance of the seismic performance of bridge structures and direct their efforts toward the development and improvement of bridge performance.

Recently, the structural monitoring research community has endeavored to track the pre-event, during-event and post-event status of structural conditions. The collected information can be further used for the analysis, evaluation, maintenance, and retrofit of infrastructures and their components. However, because of the rare recurring rate of strong earthquakes and the small population of well-instrumented bridges, laboratory tests have to be utilized to fill this knowledge gap (Saiidi et al 2013A).

In the past, due to the limited capacity of testing equipment, shake table experiments could only be performed on single bridge components or on very small scale models of entire bridges. For example, Qu et al (2005) investigated the dynamic properties of a 1/100 scale model of the Wanzhou Yangtze River Bridge in 2005. Zaghi et al (2012) studied the nonlinear dynamic behavior of a 1/5 scale two-column bridge pier through shake table testing. Although the experimental results were analyzed and then compared with the analytical results from 3-D finite element models, the test results are questionable due to the tiny scale and use of alternative materials.

Shake tables with the capacity to generate horizontal and vertical acceleration on large scale specimens have been built in various universities and research institutes since 2000, including: the single 20 m \times 15 m E-Defense shake table at the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED) of Japan (Kajiwara and Nakashima 2006), the single 7.6 m \times 12.2 m shake table at the University of California at San Diego (Ozcelik et al 2008); the two 7 m \times 7 m shake tables at the State University of New York at Buffalo; the three 4.3 m \times 4.5 m shake tables at the University of Nevada at Reno (Reitherman 2003); and the newly-built four 4 m \times 6 m shake tables at Tongji University in China (Li 2013). With the rapid development of these testing facilities, large-scale full-bridge models (at least two piers) seated on single table or multi-tables, and 2) one pier of bridge models seated on the shake table with the other 'abutment' parts fixed on the ground.

Park et al (2003) performed shake table tests on three scale models of a reinforced-concrete bridge column, including one based on the ductility design method (U.S.) and the others on the working stress design method (Japan). The tested column was connected to the shake table and the other supports were placed on the ground. All three specimens showed good performance; however, the ductility design specimen experienced less damage than those of working stress design.

Nakashima et al (2008) presented the US-Japan cooperative project of study on the seismic performance of bridge columns using the world's largest shake table: E-Defense. Two models were introduced: a column component model and a bridge system model. In addition, Kawashima et al (2012) presented the results of a single column test incorporating polypropylene fiber-reinforced cement composite.

Sakai and Unjoh (2006) performed a similar test to evaluate the effect of multidirectional loading on the dynamic response and seismic performance of reinforced concrete columns. A ¹/₄ scaled RC column was tested under two horizontal and one vertical component of strong motion. Results show that the lateral force response reduced due to the bi-lateral loading effects.

Arias-Acosta and Sanders (2010) studied bridge column behavior under the combined effect of dynamic actions, including axial, shear, bending and torsion. Eight scaled cantilever-type specimens were tested on the bidirectional shake table facility at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). A special inertial loading system named the Bidirectional Mass Rig was developed to allow shake table testing of a single cantilever-type column under biaxial ground motions.

Saiidi et al (2013a) conducted a shake table test on a 33.6-m-long (110-ft-long), four-span, RC bridge model with a continuous posttensioned superstructure supported on three two-column bents at the University of Nevada, Reno. The variable was the pier height to introduce slight asymmetric earthquake effect. The bridge model survived and continued carrying vertical loads.

Noguez and Saiidi (2012) conducted research on the same large-scale model of the four-span bridge, incorporating several innovative plastic hinges. The research focused on the columns, which utilized different unconventional details at the bottom plastic hinges, including shape memory alloys (SMAs), engineered cementitious composites (ECCs), embedded elastomeric pads, and posttensioning tendons. Test results showed the damage was minimal for the columns with SMA/ECC and for those with built-in elastomeric pads.

Johnson et al (2008) performed shake table tests on a quarter-scale, two-span reinforced concrete bridge model at the University of Nevada, Reno. It was a part of a multi-university, multidisciplinary project utilizing the Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES), with the objective of investigating the effects of soil-foundation-structure interaction on bridges. Results showed that detailing of the column transverse reinforcement according to NCHRP 12-49 guidelines provided sufficient column ductility to prevent collapse during a subsequent 1.4 g PGA earthquake excitation.

Saiidi et al (2013b) conducted further research on Johnson et al's model. The identical model was tested with incoherent motions that simulated fault rupture. The results were compared to Johnson et al's and it was found that fault rupture substantially affected the damage type and location in the bridge bents. The most severely damaged bent in this bridge was a relatively flexible bent near the "fault."

Chen et al (2008) conceptually justified methods that identify structural component stiffness degradation using a linear time-invariant (LTI) system based on pre- and post-event low amplitude vibration measurements. Two large-scale shake table experiments, one on a two-column reinforced concrete (RC) bridge bent specimen, and the other on a two-span, three-bent RC bridge specimen were performed. The results show that the stiffness degradation identified is consistent with the experimental hysteresis, and could be quantitatively related to the capacity residual of the components.

Ozer and Soyoz (2013) incorporated the system identification results obtained from vibration measurements with a reliability-based methodology to evaluate the safety of bridges. Tests were conducted on a three-bent reinforced concrete bridge on three-shake tables simultaneously. Test results and finite element model results were compared and damage detection and reliability estimations were carried out for these two cases using fragility curves.

Sideris (2012) introduced a hybrid sliding-rocking (HSR) precast concrete bridge pier with posttensioned segmental members and evaluated it through the shake table testing of a large-scale (1/2.39), single-span bridge specimen incorporating a HSR-RD superstructure and two HSR-SD single-column piers at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York. Results show that the seismic performance of HSR components can fulfill the requirement for application in high-seismic regions.

As seen above, research on bridge shake table tests is emerging as a research hotspot. However, there is still very little research concerning bridge superstructures. Therefore, this report will focus on the seismic performance of a precast bridge superstructure with a UHPC connection.

1.3 Objective of the Research Project

The objective of this research report is to validate and demonstrate the seismic performance of the UHPC connection. Shake table tests for the two UHPC connected Deck-Bulb-Tee (DBT) girders were conducted to observe and analyze the seismic performances (strength) of the UHPC connection between two girders, as shown in Figure 1-1. Typical earthquake ground motion records were directly applied to two shake tables and low-amplitude white noise excitations were used to investigate the global dynamic behavior of the girder and the UHPC connection.



Figure 1-1 3-D Scheme of test setup

SECTION 2 DESIGN OF THE SPECIMEN

2.1 Design Considerations

To investigate the seismic behavior of the UHPC connection, two deck-bulb tee (DBT) girders with the same size and specification were designed for this project. The UHPC connection was cast between these two DBT girders in-field at the lab where shake table tests were conducted. Considering the capacity of the shake table facility and to reduce possible scaling effects, two full size DBT girders were designed based on the design of a completed project in Lyons, NY. The dimensions were in the same range but not exactly the same due to the limitation of shake table capacity. For example, the prototype girder sizes were 61 in for the deck width and 41 in for the girder depth with 6-inch wide UHPC connections, while the specimen girder sizes were 54 in for the deck width and 41 in for the girder depth.

2.2 Design of the Deck-Bulb Tee Girder

The rebar arrangement of the deck, dimensions and reinforcement of the girder are shown in Figure 2-1. Other design details and construction shop drawings can be seen in Appendix A.

Detailed notes used for manufacturing the girders were:

- All pre-tension strands shall be ¹/₂" \$\phi AASHTO grade 270 low relaxation strands, jacked to 202.5 ksi.
- 2) All concrete shall be Pennsylvania (PA)'s 8,000 psi mix.
- 3) All strands will be cut flush with the girder ends and painted with an approved epoxy resin after the girder is cast.
- 4) Forms for bearing pad recess shall be constructed and fastened in such a manner as to not cause damage to the girder during the strand release operation.
- 5) Structural steel shapes and assemblies shall be ASTM A36. They will be painted with a primer coat in accordance with STD. SPEC 6-07.3(9).

It is noted that several extra longitudinal rebars (see details in section B-B in Figure 2-1(d)) were designed to be placed at both ends of the girder based on California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Bridge Design Specifications. The purpose for installing these rebars was to ensure that the girders provided appropriate seismic performance so that they would not be damaged during the seismic excitations input. The other details were designed based on current AASHTO LRFD bridge design specifications.

Properties of the girder are listed in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1	Girder	properties
-----------	--------	------------

Item	Annotation	Value	Unit
Mass	m	39	kips
Height	Н	41	in
Width of deck	W _D	54	in
Span length	L	43' 10-1/2''	ft
Area	А	887	in ²
Distance from c.g. of girder to bottom	e	22	in
Moment of inertia to X-axis	I _x	196416	in ⁴
Moment of inertia to Y-axis	I _Y	109437	in ⁴

Note: c.g. = center of gravity

Calculated information about the prestressed strands is listed in Table 2-2.

Item	Value	Unit
Number of strands	26	
Distance from c.g. of strands to the bottom	4.44	in
Final prestressed force on each strand	31	kips
Total prestress force	806	kips
Compressive stress due to the presstressed strands	0.91	ksi
Negative bending moment due to total prestress force	1179	k-ft
Tension stress on the top flange	0.46	ksi
Compressive stress on the bottom flange	2.5	ksi

Table 2-2 Girder stresses due to prestressing

Note: c.g. = center of gravity





GIRDER PLAN



(a) Girder plan and elevation



(c) Cross section at the end



(d) Size of aseismic rebar



(e) Girder dimensions

Figure 2-1 Design of deck-bulb tee girder

Concrete stresses under different load cases are listed in Table 2-3.

Case 1: Under dead load alone:					
Maximum Bending Moment (in mid-span) due to dead load	213	kip-ft			
Tension Stress on the top flange	0.21	ksi			
Compressive Stress on the bottom flange	-2.21	ksi			
Case 2: Under dead load + live load (8 kips in the mid-spa	an):				
Maximum Bending Moment (in mid-span) due to live load	167.5	kip-ft			
Tension Stress on the top flange	0.02	ksi			
Compressive Stress on the bottom flange	-1.98	ksi			
Case 3: Lifting (lifting point at 8 feet apart from mid-span):					
Maximum Negative Bending Moment (at lifting point) due to live load	-95.3	kip-ft			
Tension Stress on the top flange	0.57	ksi			
Compressive Stress on the bottom flange	2.63	ksi			

Table 2-3 Concrete stresses due to different load cases

Note that the tension stress for concrete cracking is approximately 0.67 ksi. Therefore, the tension stress during lifting will not cause severe cracks on the top flange concrete.

To further verify the calculated result, a preliminary simplified model was established using SAP 2000 v 14.0. The girder flange and web were modeled using shell elements. The UHPC was defined as rigidly connected to the flange deck. The resulting stress in the girder under dead load and live load are shown in Figure 2-2 and Figure 2-3.



Figure 2-2 Stress under dead load from SAP2000



Figure 2-3 Stress under dead load + live load from SAP2000

2.3 Design of the UHPC Connection

Graybeal (2010) compared the static and cyclic behavior of six types of UHPC connection details as shown in Table 2-4. Test results showed no evidence of rebar debonding in any of the six types of connection specimens. The most heavily stressed specimen (6B) was subjected to a large static overload and a subsequent 11.5 million cycles of structural loading. From the standpoint of cost-saving and ease of construction, the connection with a 6-inch connection width and straight rebar details (6B in Table 2-4) was selected as the design base of the UHPC connection. Since other types of construction detail apparently provide better bond effect between rebar and UHPC, their seismic performances are considered to be better than the selected connection. The construction details of the UHPC connection used are shown in Figure 2-4.

Name	Orientation	Depth	Reinforcement	
8H	Transverse	200 mm	Alternating 16M (#5) headed black reinforcement with 90 mm lap length and 450 mm (top) and 180 mm	
			(bottom) spacing	
8E	Transverse	200 mm	Alternating 13M (#4) hairpin epoxy-coated bars with	
02	110115 (0150		100 mm lap length and 55 mm spacing	
			Alternating 16M (#5) galvanized straight bars with	
8G Transverse		200 mm	150 mm lap length and 450 mm (top) and 180 mm	
			(bottom) spacing	
			Alternating 16M (#5) black straight bars with 150	
8B Transverse 2		200 mm	mm lap length and 450 mm (top) and 180 mm	
			(bottom) spacing	
			Alternating 16M (#5) headed black reinforcement	
6H	Longitudinal	nal 150 mm	with 90 mm lap length and 450 mm (top) and 180 mm	
			(bottom) spacing	
			Alternating 16M (#5) black straight bars with 150	
6B	Longitudinal	150 mm	mm lap length and 450 mm (top) and 180 mm	
			(bottom) spacing	

Table 2-4 UHPC deck connections from previous research (Graybeal 2010)



Figure 2-4 Construction details of the UHPC connection

2.4 Estimation of Loading Capacity of Shake Tables

To protect the shake table facility, the estimation of the force in the test was necessary. The weight estimate for the entire specimen and accessories are shown in Table 2-5.

Items	Weight (kips)	Amount	Total Weight (kips)	On Each Table (kips)
Deck-Bulb-Tee Girders	40	2	80	40
Diaphragm	0.4	2	0.8	0.4
Sensors, etc.	1	1	1	0.5
Foundation Plate	2.1	2	4.2	2.1
Live Load	17	1	17	8.5
Total Weight above Extension Frames			103	51.5
Extension Frames	20	2	40	20
Total Weight			143	71.5

Table 2-5 Weight on the shake table

Assuming a ground motion of 0.8 g was applied on the specimen, the shear force on each table was approximately 58.4 kips, while the bending moment was 280 kips-ft. The bending moment was less than the capacity of the table (407 kip-ft, provided by the Structural Engineering and Earthquake Simulation Laboratory at University at Buffalo); thus, the safety of the shake table facility was ensured.



Figure 2-5 Specimen and shake table extension frame

2.5 Design of Steel Foundation Plates

To avoid collision between the girder and the shake table, one steel foundation plate needed to be installed on each extension frame. Detailed drawings are shown in Figure 2-6 and Figure 2-7.

The maximum shear stress of the steel plate during testing was approximately 3.6 ksi, as shown in Figure 2-8.



Figure 2-6 Specimen installation plan



NOTE: 1. STEEL SHALL BE ASTM A36. (2 PIECES)

Figure 2-7 Steel foundation plate



Figure 2-8 Shear stress of steel plate in the test

SECTION 3 PREPARATION OF THE SHAKE TABLE TESTS

3.1 Preparation Plan for Shake Table Tests

Two $43' - 10\frac{1}{2}''$ concrete DBT girders were prefabricated and delivered to the Structural Engineering and Earthquake Simulation Laboratory (SEESL) at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York. A concrete joint along the girder in the longitudinal direction was formed and poured using UHPC.

3.1.1 Preparation of Shake Tables

Before the delivery of these two DBT girders, the shake tables were moved to the appropriate position and tuned up with low-amplitude white noise. The two steel base plates and neoprene pads were installed in designed positions. Detailed drawings of the neoprene pads are shown in Figure 3-1. Several wood pads were used to facilitate the installation and alignment of girders.







(b) 3-D Scheme



(c) Pictures

Figure 3-1 Preparation of the shake tables
3.1.2 Lifting Plan

Since the required minimum depth of the Dayton P53 lifting anchor exceeded the girder depth of 41", a set of sophisticated loop lifters was used for lifting. The locations of these loop lifters are shown in Figure 3-2. D-rings and ropes with capacity of 20 tons were used for rigging.



Figure 3-2 Locations of loop lifters

3.1.3 Manufacture and Installation of Girders

Two $43' - 10\frac{1}{2}''$ concrete DBT girders were prefabricated in a precast concrete shop using PA 8000 psi concrete. Figure 3-3 shows a picture of the fabrication procedure of the DBT girders.



Figure 3-3 Fabrication of the DBT girders

Twenty-nine days after the fabrication, these two girders were delivered to the Structural Engineering and Earthquake Simulation Laboratory (SEESL) at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York. Each girder was delivered, lifted and installed separately (see Figure 3-4). After being aligned in the appropriate position, two sets of steel diaphragms were connected at both ends of each girder. Detailed drawings of the steel diaphragms are shown in Figure 3-5.



(a) Delivery of the DBT girder 1



(b) Lifting of the DBT girder 2



(c) 3D- scheme

Figure 3-4 Installation of the girders





(a) Shop drawings of the diaphragms and gusset plates



(b) 3D- scheme



Gusset plates

(c) Picture

Figure 3-5 Steel diaphragms and gusset plates

3.1.4 Casting of the UHPC Connection

A continuous wood form along the longitudinal direction of the girder was placed and sealed to the end of the connection. Wood forms of 4" x 1' were connected to the lower full-length wood form using bolts at a spacing of 8', as the detailed drawing in Figure 2-4 shows. The casting procedure is shown in Figure 3-6. Due to the time limit, the joint was heated with electric blankets and covered in insulation to facilitate the curing procedure. Prior to commencing the experiment, grout cylinders were tested to ensure that the UHPC had reached a compressive strength of at least 8,000 psi, equal to that of the concrete used in the precast girder. The results will be introduced in Section 3.2.



(a) Preparation of wood form



(b) Casting UHPC







(d) Under fill at the end of girder

Figure 3-6 UHPC connection casting procedure

3.2 Compressive Strength of UHPC Material

3.2.1 Early-age compressive strength (strength before and during the shake table tests)

Due to the occupation time limit for the shake table, the tests started on the fifth day after the UHPC connection was cast. To increase the accuracy of the compressive strength test results, the 3" x 6" UHPC cylinders were prepared by cutting off a half inch at each end (see Figure 3-7). Compressive tests of several UHPC cylinders were conducted using the compressive testing machine in the SEESL at UB, as shown in Figure 3-8. Table 3-1 lists the results of compressive strength tests. It can be seen that at the fifth day (the first day of the shake table testing), the compressive strength reached 16,094 psi, which is close to two times that of the concrete used in the precast girder.



Figure 3-7 Preparation of UHPC cylinders



Figure 3-8 Compressive tests of UHPC cylinders

Batch No.	Batch No. Age (days)		Compressive strength (psi)	Avg. compressive strength (psi)
		103674	15100	
		68902	10035	
UB#1	3	68957	10043	11089
		66998	9758	
		72153	10509	
		127121	18515	
		87195	12700	
UD#2	5	100763	14676	16094
UD#2		112573	16396	
		122378	17824	
		112958	16452	
	6	96075	13993	
UB#3		89556	13044	13600
		98154	14296	
		89722	13068	
		70761	10306	
UD#4	10	91113	13270	13160
UD#4	10	93457	13612	
		84110	12250	
		75403	10982	1

Table 3-1 Compressive strength of UHPC at early-age (SEESL)

Several UHPC cylinders were also sent to the manufacturer's lab for testing their compressive strength. Table 3-2 gives the results of these tests. It can be seen that the five-day compressive strength provided by the manufacturer is 21% higher than the results at UB. The difference can be attributed to the different methods of preparing the UHPC cylinders. The specimen was pre-treated by a right-angle saw; thus, the eccentricity-induced bending moment may have been much smaller than the specimen prepared at UB.

Batch No.	Age (days)	Break force(lb)	Compressive strength (psi)	Avg. compressive strength (psi)
		132935	19362	
Manufacturer #1	5	137055	19962	19566
		133035	19376	

Table 3-2 Compressive strength of UHPC at 5th day (manufacturer)

3.2.2 28-day compressive strength

Three batches of UHPC were tested for compressive strength at three individual labs. Table 3-3 gives a summary of the compressive strength results. Apparently, the tests conducted at SEESL provided a lower compressive strength. The nonparallel contact surfaces may be the main reason for the difference. The lower and upper surfaces of the cylinder were not prepared simultaneously; thus, the nonparallel surfaces may have been subject to an additional bending moment, which caused the cylinder to fail at a lower compressive force. A horizontal crack that occurred on one of the specimens indicates that the specimen was subject to tension stress due to the additional moment, as shown in Figure 3-9.

Batch No.	Age (days)	Breaking force (lb)	Compressive strength (psi)	Avg. compressive strength (psi)	
		76355	11121		
		96762	14093		
	20	93027	13549	12200	
0B #2	28	79385	11562	13200	
		102914	14989		
		95352	13888		
Larforga #2	32	189555	27608	27004	
Larrarge #2		193615	28199	27904	
Turner Fairbank #1		167187	24350		
	54	154416	22490	23787	
		158354	24520		

Table 3-3 Compressive strength of UHPC at 28-day



Figure 3-9 A horizontal crack in the compressive test

3.2.3 Compressive strength of plain concrete used in precast girders

Concrete compression tests were conducted on three 6'' x 12'' plain concrete (PC) specimens. The results are shown in Table 3-4. Typical failure modes of PC specimens are shown in Figure 3-10. It can be seen that, unlike the PC specimens, the UHPC specimen remained in one piece due to the existence of the steel fiber.





Specimen	Compressive strength (psi)	Average compressive strength (psi)
1	7550	
2	7983	7819
3	7925	

Table 3-4 Material properties of PC specimens

SECTION 4 FINITE ELEMENT MODELING OF THE SPECIMEN

4.1 FEM Modeling

The FEM software ABAQUS was used for this numerical analysis. A brief description of the model is presented below.

Elements: The concrete, diaphragms, UHPC connection, steel support plates and bearings were modeled with solid elements. Eight node linear and reduced brick elements (C3D8R) were selected for these parts. All the reinforcements were modeled by linear truss elements (T3D2).

Materials: The bridge deck was modeled with concrete material. The Concrete Damage Plasticity Option was selected to model the post yield behavior of concrete. The Mander-Park Confined Concrete Model was used to calculate the plasticity properties of concrete. The structural steel shapes such as the bracings, gussets, and bolts were given simple plastic properties using the ABAQUS plasticity model. Also, the reinforcements were modeled using the same material used for the other steel parts. The prestress was applied using the initial conditions option. The bearing placed between the deck and the steel foundation was comprised of 60 durometer neoprene pads. This bearing was modeled by hyperelastic material with Neo Hooke strain energy potential.

Contact: General interaction property was used for modeling the contacts between different steel parts and the concrete deck. An appropriate frictional coefficient was applied in the contact property. The contact between the UHPC connector and the deck was tied. The prestress at the tendons was applied by editing the Initial Condition in keyword script. All the reinforcements were inserted in the concrete deck using embedded constraint.

For the frequency calculation, the implicit analysis method was used, while the seismic analyses were performed in explicit method. Figure 4-1 shows an isotropic view of the FEM bridge model.



Figure 4-1 The FEM model of the bridge

4.2 Natural Frequency Calculation Results

The major frequencies obtained from the experiment closely resembled the results of numerical analysis. Two phases of the tests were simulated: the specimen without additional weight (phase 1) or with the weight (phase 2). A detailed description can be found in Section 5.3. Table 4-1 presents both values and Figure 4-2 ~ Figure 4-6 show the modes of the respective frequencies.

Modal Orders	Mode Shapes	FEM Model Frequencies (Hz)
1	Transverse translation	6.97
2	Longitudinal translation	7.62
3	Rotation around vertical axis	11.91
4	Vertical bending	12.73
5	Combined vertical and transverse bending	16.95

 Table 4-1 Natural frequencies of the specimen in phase 1



Figure 4-2 Transverse mode (frequency 6.97 Hz)



Figure 4-3 Longitudinal mode (frequency 7.62 Hz)



Figure 4-4 Rotational mode (frequency 11.91 Hz)



Figure 4-5 Vertical mode (frequency 12.73 Hz)



Figure 4-6 Combined vertical and transverse bending mode (frequency 16.95 Hz)

Table 4-2 presents both the experimental and numerical analysis values and Figure 4-7 through Figure 4-11 show the modes of the respective frequencies for the specimen in phase 2. The obtained parameters provide references for the design of the girder specimen.

Modal Orders	Mode Shapes	FEM Model Frequencies (Hz)
1	Transverse translation	6.42
2	Longitudinal translation	7.02
3	Vertical bending	10.85
4	Rotation around vertical axis	11.91
5	Combined vertical and transverse bending	14.06

 Table 4-2 Natural frequencies of the specimen in phase 2



Figure 4-7 Transverse mode (frequency 6.42 Hz)



Figure 4-8 Longitudinal mode (frequency 7.02 Hz)



Figure 4-9 Vertical mode (frequency 10.85 Hz)



Figure 4-10 Rotational mode (frequency 11.82 Hz)



Figure 4-11 Combined vertical and transverse bending mode (frequency 14.06 Hz)

SECTION 5 SHAKE TABLE TESTING AND OBERSEVATIONS

5.1 Instrumentation

Before the shake table tests were conducted, 39 accelerometers, 19 linear variable differential transformers (LVDT) and 11 strain gages were installed on different locations of the specimen. The objective of the arrangements was focused on the seismic performance of the UHPC connection. A detailed list of all the instrumentation is given in Table 5-1. The arranged setup of accelerometers, LVDTs and strain gauges are shown in Figure 5-1,

Figure 5-2 and Figure 5-3, respectively.

No.	Channel Tag	Sensor Type	Position & Function	No. in Fig.
1	aext1x	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Shake Table 1, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	1
2	aext1y	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Shake Table 1, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	2
3	aext1z	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Shake Table 1, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	3
4	aext2x	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Shake Table 2, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	4
5	aext2y	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Shake Table 2, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	5
6	aext2z	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Shake Table 2, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	6
7	ABPWEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Base Plate on the West Side, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	7
8	ABPWNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Base Plate on the West Side, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	8
9	ABPWUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Base Plate on the West Side, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	9
10	ASPCNWEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	North-West Corner of the Specimen, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	10
11	ASPCNWNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	North-West Corner of the Specimen, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	11

Table 5-1 List of channel and sensors

No.	Channel Tag	Sensor Type	Position & Function	No. in Fig.
12	ASPCNWUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	North-West Corner of the Specimen, Vertical (U- D) Acceleration	12
13	ASPCSWEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	South-West Corner of the Specimen, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	13
14	ASPCSWNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	South-West Corner of the Specimen, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	14
15	ASPCSWUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	South-West Corner of the Specimen, Vertical (U- D) Acceleration	15
16	AOQSCEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	One-Quarter Span of the Specimen on the Center, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	16
17	AOQSCNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	One-Quarter Span of the Specimen on the Center, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	17
18	AOQSCUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	One-Quarter Span of the Specimen on the Center, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	18
19	ASPCMCEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the Center, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	19
20	ASPCMCNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the Center, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	20
21	ASPCMCUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the Center, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	21
22	ASPCMNEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the North Side, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	22
23	ASPCMNNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the North Side, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	23
24	ASPCMNUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the North Side, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	24
25	ASPCMSEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the South Side, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	25
26	ASPCMSNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the South Side, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	26
27	ASPCMSUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Specimen on the South Side, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	27

No.	Channel Tag	Sensor Type	Position & Function	No. in Fig.
28	ATQSCEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Three-Quarter Span of the Specimen on the Center, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	28
29	ATQSCNS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Three-Quarter Span of the Specimen on the Center, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	29
30	ATQSCUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Three-Quarter Span of the Specimen on the Center, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	30
31	ASPCNEEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	North-East Corner of the Specimen, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	31
32	ASPCNENS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	North-East Corner of the Specimen, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	32
33	ASPCNEUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	North-East Corner of the Specimen, Vertical (U- D) Acceleration	33
34	ASPCSEEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	South-East Corner of the Specimen, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	34
35	ASPCSENS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	South-East Corner of the Specimen, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	35
36	ASPCSEUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	South-East Corner of the Specimen, Vertical (U- D) Acceleration	36
37	ABPEEW	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Base Plate on the East Side, Longitudinal (E-W) Acceleration	37
38	ABPENS	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Base Plate on the East Side, Transverse (N-S) Acceleration	38
39	ABPEUD	Accelerometer (Capacity up to: 5g)	Midpoint of the Base Plate on the East Side, Vertical (U-D) Acceleration	39
40	DEXTNWEW	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-West Corner of the Extension Frame, Longitudinal (E-W) Displacement	1
41	DEXTNWNS	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-West Corner of the Extension Frame, Transverse (N-S) Displacement	2
42	DEXTNWUD	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-West Corner of the Extension Frame, Vertical (U-D) Displacement	3

No.	Channel Tag	Sensor Type	Position & Function	No. in Fig.
43	DSPCNWEW	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-West Corner of the Specimen, Longitudinal (E-W) Displacement	4
44	DSPCNWNS	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-West Corner of the Specimen, Transverse (N-S) Displacement	5
45	DSPCNWUD	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-West Corner of the Specimen, Vertical (U- D) Displacement	6
46	DSPCMSEW	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	Midpoint of the Specimen on the South Side, Longitudinal (E-W) Displacement	7
47	DSPCMSNS	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	Midpoint of the Specimen on the South Side, Transverse (N-S) Displacement	8
48	DSPCMSUD	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	Midpoint of the Specimen on the South Side, Vertical (U-D) Displacement	9
49	DSPCNEEW	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-East Corner of the Specimen, Longitudinal (E-W) Displacement	10
50	DSPCNENS	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-East Corner of the Specimen, Transverse (N-S) Displacement	11
51	DSPCNEUD	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-East Corner of the Specimen, Vertical (U- D) Displacement	12
52	DEXTNEEW	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-East Corner of the Extension Frame, Longitudinal (E-W) Displacement	13
53	DEXTNENS	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-East Corner of the Extension Frame, Transverse (N-S) Displacement	14
54	DEXTNEUD	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	North-East Corner of the Extension Frame, Vertical (U-D) Displacement	15

No.	Channel Tag	Sensor Type	Position & Function	No. in Fig.
55	DSPCRWEW	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	West Side of the Specimen, Relative Longitudinal (E-W) Displacement between Two Girder Decks	16
56	DSPCRWNS	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	West Side of the Specimen, Relative Transverse (N-S) Displacement between Two Girder Decks	17
57	DSPCRMEW	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	Mid-point of the Specimen, Relative Longitudinal (E-W) Displacement between Two Girder Decks	18
58	DSPCRMNS	Displacement sensor (Capacity up to: +/- 10"	Mid-point of the Specimen, Relative Transverse (N-S) Displacement between Two Girder Decks	19
59	SGDW	Strain gage 120 ohm	West Side of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in Girder 2	1
60	SUHW	Strain gage 120 ohm	West Side of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in UHPC Connection	2
61	SGDOQ	Strain gage 120 ohm	One-Quarter Span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in Girder 2	3
62	SUHOQ	Strain gage 120 ohm	One-Quarter Span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in UHPC Connection	4
63	SUHM1	Strain gage 120 ohm	Mid-span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in UHPC Connection, Point1	5
64	SGDM1	Strain gage 120 ohm	Mid-span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in Girder 2, Point1	6
65	SUHM2	Strain gage 120 ohm	Mid-span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in UHPC Connection, Point2	7
66	SGDM2	Strain gage 120 ohm	Mid-span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in Girder 1, Point2	8
67	SGDM3	Strain gage 120 ohm	Mid-span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in Girder 2, Point3	9
68	SGDTQ	Strain gage 120 ohm	Three-Quarter Span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in Girder 2	10
69	SUHTQ	Strain gage 120 ohm	Three-Quarter Span of the Specimen, Strain of the Rebar in UHPC Connection	11







Shaking Table Extension Frame

Figure 5-2 Setup of LVDTs

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Shaking Table Extension Frame



Figure 5-3 Setup of strain gauges

It is noteworthy that the relative displacements in both the longitudinal and transverse directions of the connection were measured in the mid span and the west side of the girder, as shown in Figure 5-4.



Figure 5-4 Setup of LVDTs measuring relative displacements

5.2 Selection of Ground Motion Records

Two ground motion (GM) ensembles were considered in this study; a Far-field GM set, including five GM records that were selected from the FEMA P695 Far-field GM ensemble (FEMA P695, 2009), and a Near-fault GM set, consisting of six GM records selected from the FEMA P695 Near-fault GM ensemble (FEMA P695, 2009). The FEMA P695 GM ensembles contain GMs that were recorded during strong earthquakes from all over the world and are representative of the seismicity in the Western United States. The GMs used in this test were selected based on the methodology developed by Sideris (2012). All the selected GMs are listed in Table 5-2.

No.	ID in FEMA 695	Magnitude	Year	Name	Pulse (defined by FEMA 695)
Far 1	4	7.1	1999	Hector Mine	No
Far 2	5	6.5	1979	Imperial Valley	No
Far 3	7	6.9	1995	Kobe, Japan	No
Far 4	12	7.3	1992	Landers	No
Far 5	19	7.6	1999	Chi-Chi, Taiwan	No
Near 1	1	6.5	1979	Imperial Valley	Yes
Near 2	7	7	1992	Cape Mendocino	Yes
Near 3	9	6.7	1994	Northridge	Yes
Near 4	15	6.8	1976	Gazli, USSR	No
Near 5	21	6.9	1989	Loma Prieta	No
Near 6	25	7.5	1999	Kocaeli, Turkey	No

Table 5-2 Experimental near-field ground motion set

Since this test is considered a full-size girder test, none of the GM ensembles were scaled in the time domain. The time-history of these GMs are shown in Appendix B. Also, the GM data were not processed in the frequency domain, except when slight processing of some components was needed to meet shake table limitations and avoid possible damage (to the shake table) due to the large displacement.

To investigate the seismic performance of the UHPC connected girders under different seismic levels, all the ground motions were linearly scaled to match several seismic hazard levels of interest, including an elastic limit (EL), a design earthquake (DE) having a probability of exceedance of 10% in 50 years (10%/50 years) given by the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specification (2010), the maximum

considered earthquake (MCE) defined as 3/2 of the DE hazard as recommended by ASCE/SEI 7-05 (2006), two times of DE (DE2) and the maximum possible acceleration (MAX).

Based on the previous research by Sideris (2012), the response spectrum of all components of the selected ground motions are shown in Figure 5-5.





Figure 5-5 Response spectrum of selected GMs

5.3 Test Phases

Multiple seismic tests were conducted on the test specimen with three test phases, as shown in Table 5-3. The first phase was the two DBT girders with two sets of diaphragms at both ends, the second phase was the two girders loaded with two steel plates for simulating the live load, and the third phase was the two girders loaded with two steel plates but without any diaphragms. Low amplitude white noise tests were conducted between seismic levels and test phases to determine the changes of dynamic characteristics (natural frequencies, damping ratio etc.) of the test specimen and to identify the occurrence

of damage during the increasing levels of ground motion excitations. Visual inspections were also conducted after each test phase.

Test Phase	Test specimen configuration			
1	Two girders connected by UHPC with diaphragms at both ends			
2	Test Phase 1 specimen with two stacked steel plates (to simulate live load)			
3	Test Phase 2 specimen without diaphragms			

Table 5-3 Summary of test phases

In phase two, to evaluate the worst scenario of UHPC connection in practical engineering, two steel plates were stacked on one of the girders to generate unbalanced live loads, as depicted in Figure 5-6.





GIRDER ELEVATION



GIRDER PLAN

Figure 5-6 Test setup for phase 2 shake table test (with live load)

5.4 Test Protocol

Using the GM sets of Table 5-2, several shake table tests were conducted in the three test phases. All these combinations resulted in nearly 132 shake table tests, while 40 tests for the purpose of system identification (low amplitude white noise tests) were conducted between the seismic tests to monitor the progress of possible damage in the experimental specimen. A detailed list of shake table testing protocols is shown in Table 5-4. Note that the excitations of all GMs were amplified by 20% in phase 2 to test the specimen in the worst scenario. In test phase 3, the GM sets were excited on the shake tables only in their maximum accelerations.

Test No.	Test Label	Excitation	PGA (highest DOF)	Target level (all DOFs)	Note
1	INIWN10	White Noise - H&V	0.1	N/A	System Identification (Initial)
2	Near5EL	Near5 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
3	Near3EL	Near3 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
4	Far5EL	Far5 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
5	Far4EL	Far4 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
6	Near4EL	Near4 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
7	Far1EL	Far1 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
8	Far3EL	Far3 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
9	Near6EL	Near6 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
10	Near1EL	Near1 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
11	Near2EL	Near2 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
12	Far2EL	Far2 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
13	WNEL10EW	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
14	WNEL10NSR	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
15	WNEL10UD	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
15r	Near5DE	Near5 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
16	Near3DE	Near3 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
17	Far5DE	Far5 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
18	Far4DE	Far4 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
19	Near4DE	Near4 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
20	Far1DE	Far1 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
21	Far3DE	Far3 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
22	Near6DE	Near6 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
23	Near1DE	Near1 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
24	Near2DE	Near2 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
25	Far2DE	Far2 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
26	WNDE10EW	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification

Table 5-4 Test protocol

Test No.	Test Label	Excitation	PGA (highest DOF)	Target level (all DOFs)	Note
27	WNDF10NS	White noise - lat	<u> </u>	70 N/A	System identification
27	WNDF10UD	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
20	Near5MCE	Near5 - H&V	0.270	42	Flastic Range
30	Near3MCE	Near3 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
31	Far5MCE	Far5 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
32	Far4MCE	Far4 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
33	Near4MCF	Near4 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
34	Far1MCE	Far1 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
35	Far3MCE	Far3 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
36	Near6MCE	Near6 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
37	Near1MCE	Nearl - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
38	Near2MCE	Near? - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
30	Far2MCE	$\frac{112 - 112}{Far2 - H&V}$	0.270	42	Elastic Range
40	WNMCE10FW	White poise - long	0.270	42 N/A	System identification
40	WNMCEIOEW	White poise let	0.1		System identification
41	WINICEIONS	White poise - lat	0.1		System identification
42	WINNEETOUD	Noor5 H&V	0.1	67	Electic Denge
43	Near2DEX2	Near2 HeV	0.432	67	Elastic Range
44	NearSDEX2	Forf US-V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
43	Fai3DEA2	Fais - næv	0.432	67	Elastic Range
40			0.432	67	Elastic Range
4/	Near4DEX2	Feel USV	0.432	67	Elastic Range
48	FariDEX2	Far1 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
49	Far5DEA2		0.432	67	Elastic Range
50	Near6DEX2	Near6 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
51	NearIDEX2	Near1 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
52	Near2DEX2	Near $2 - H \otimes V$	0.432	67	Elastic Range
53	Far2DEX2	Far2 - H&V	0.432	6/	Elastic Range
54	WN2DE10EW	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
55	WN2DEI0NS	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
56	WN2DE10UD	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
57	Near5MAX	Near5 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
58	Near3MAX	Near3 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
59	Far5MAX	Far5 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
60	Far4MAX	Far4 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
61	Near4MAX	Near4 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
62	Far1MAX	Far1 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
63	Far3MAX	Far3 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
64	Near6MAX	Near6 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
65	Near1MAX	Near1 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range

Test No.	Test Label	Excitation	PGA (highest DOF)	Target level (all DOFs)	Note
66	Near2MAX	Near2 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
67	Far2MAX	Far2 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
68	WNMAX10EW	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
69	WNMAX10NS	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
70	WNMAX10UD	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
71	WNINI10EWP2	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
72	WNINI10NSP2	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
73	WNINI10UDP2	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
74	Near5ELP2	Near5 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
75	Near3ELP2	Near3 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
76	Far5ELP2	Far5 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
77	Far4ELP2	Far4 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
78	Near4ELP2	Near4 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
79	Far1ELP2	Far1 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
80	Far3ELP2	Far3 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
81	Near6ELP2	Near6 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
82	Near1ELP2	Near1 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
83	Near2ELP2	Near2 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
84	Far2ELP2	Far2 - H&V	0.090	14	Elastic Range
85	WNEL10EWP2	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
86	WNEL10NSP2	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
87	WNEL10UDP2	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
88	Near5DEP2P2	Near5 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
89	Near3DEP2	Near3 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
90	Far5DEP2	Far5 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
91	Far4DEP2	Far4 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
92	Near4DEP2	Near4 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
93	Far1DEP2	Far1 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
94	Far3DEP2	Far3 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
95	Near6DEP2	Near6 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
96	Near1DEP2	Near1 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
97	Near2DEP2	Near2 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
98	Far2DEP2	Far2 - H&V	0.180	28	Elastic Range
99	WNDEP210EWP2	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
100	WNDEP210NSP2	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
101	WNDEP210UDP2	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
102	Near5MCEP2	Near5 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
103	Near3MCEP2	Near3 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range

Test No.	Test Label	Excitation	PGA (highest DOF)	Target level (all DOFs)	Note
104	Far5MCEP2	Far5 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
105	Far4MCEP2	Far4 - H&V	0 270	42	Elastic Range
106	Near4MCEP2	Near4 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
107	Far1MCEP2	Far1 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
108	Far3MCEP2	Far3 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
109	Near6MCEP2	Near6 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
110	Near1MCEP2	Near1 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
111	Near2MCEP2	Near2 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
112	Far2MCEP2	Far2 - H&V	0.270	42	Elastic Range
113	WNMCE10EWP2	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
114	WNMCE10NSP2	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
115	WNMCE10UDP2	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
116	Near5DEX2P2	Near5 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
117	Near3DEX2P2	Near3 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
118	Far5DEX2P2	Far5 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
119	Far4DEX2P2	Far4 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
120	Near4DEX2P2	Near4 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
121	Far1DEX2P2	Far1 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
122	Far3DEX2P2	Far3 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
123	Near6DEX2P2	Near6 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
124	Near1DEX2P2	Near1 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
125	Near2DEX2P2	Near2 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
126	Far2DEX2P2	Far2 - H&V	0.432	67	Elastic Range
127	WN2DE10EWP2	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
128	WN2DE10NSP2	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
129	WN2DE10UDP2	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
130	Near5MAXP2	Near5 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
131	Near3MAXP2	Near3 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
132	Far5MAXP2	Far5 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
133	Far4MAXP2	Far4 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
134	Near4MAXP2	Near4 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
135	Far1MAXP2	Far1 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
136	Far3MAXP2	Far3 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
137	Near6MAXP2	Near6 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
138	Near1MAXP2	Nearl - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
139	Near2MAXP2	Near2 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
140	Far2MAXP2	Far2 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
141	WNMAX10EWP2	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
142	WNMAX10NSP2	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
Test No.	Test Label	Excitation	PGA (highest DOF)	Target level (all DOFs) %	Note
-------------	--------------	---------------------	-------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------
143	WNMAX10UDP2	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
144	Near5X120P2	Near5 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
145	Near3X120P2	Near3 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
146	Far5X120P2	Far5 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
147	Far4X120P2	Far4 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
148	Near4X120P2	Near4 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
149	Far1X120P2	Far1 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
150	Far3X120P2	Far3 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
151	Near6X120P2	Near6 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
152	Near1X120P2	Near1 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
153	Near2X120P2	Near2 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
154	Far2X120P2	Far2 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
155	WN10X120EWP3	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
156	WN10X120NSP3	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
157	WN10X120UDP3	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification
158	Near6X115P2	Near6 - H&V	0.778	100	Elastic Range
159	Near5MAXP3	Near5 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
153r	Near3MAXP3	Near3 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
160	Far5MAXP3	Far5 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
161	Far4MAXP3	Far4 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
162	Near4MAXP3	Near4 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
163	Far1MAXP3	Far1 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
164	Far3MAXP3	Far3 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
165	Near6MAXP3	Near6 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
166	Near1MAXP3	Near1 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
167	Near2MAXP3	Near2 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
168	Far2MAXP3	Far2 - H&V	0.648	100	Elastic Range
169	WNMAX10EWP3	White noise - long.	0.1	N/A	System identification
170	WNMAX10NSP3	White noise - lat	0.1	N/A	System identification
171	WNMAX10UDP3	White noise - vert	0.1	N/A	System identification

5.5 Response of the Girder

The acceleration histories recorded at the mid-span and at the foundation based on data obtained during this test are presented in Figure 5-7. According to this figure, significant amplification (3.92 times) of the imposed motion was recorded at the mid-span of the deck, which may be attributed to resonance as considerable portions of the energy of the imposed motion were distributed in a frequency range that contains the fundamental (vertical) frequency of the superstructure, as shown in Figure 5-8. The maximum acceleration recorded was 6.1 g.



Figure 5-7 Maximum acceleration response of shake table and girder, phase 1



Figure 5-8 Frequency component of shake table input, phase 1

5.6 Observed Minor Concrete Cracks in the Test Specimen

Throughout the entire test program, no obvious damage was found in the girder specimen. The only damage observed included some hairline cracking on the bottom side of the UHPC connection at midspan. These cracks were observed prior to the start of the seismic loading. The width of that crack was less than 0.007 in. (0.18 mm), as shown in Figure 5-9. These cracks were likely the result of the restrained shrinkage of the field-cast UHPC.



Figure 5-9 Minor cracks underneath the connection

SECTION 6 RESULTS AND ANALYSIS OF THE SHAKE TABLE TESTS

6.1 System Identification based on Test Results (Low Amplitude White Noise)

System identification is the process of establishing models for an unknown system based on a group of input–outputs. This method has been widely used in different fields of engineering (Puscasu and Codres 2011). In the area of structural system identification, this method can be implemented to identify structural dynamic parameters such as frequencies, mode shapes, and damping ratios, etc. (Sirca and Adeli 2012). System identification is an effective methodology to identify possible structural damage by monitoring the change of these dynamic parameters (Saiidi et al 2013A, Song et al 2008).

Several system identification tests were conducted to monitor the change in the global dynamic characteristics of the bridge specimen. Hence, the progress of possible damage imposed due to consecutive seismic testing can be identified. The specimen was excited with a low amplitude white-noise acceleration input having a uniform spectrum with $0.5 \sim 40$ Hz frequency band and root mean square (RMS) amplitude of approximately 0.10 g. Note that for all configurations, the lateral restrainers (girder keepers) were not in contact with the deck during these identification tests.

In this study, the input signal was the data from the accelerometers installed at the bottom of the steel extension frame. The steel frame was installed on each shake table to expand the supporting area, which can be considered a rigid body. In this case, the steel frame could transfer the signal from the bottom to the top without loss of the signal characteristics. Therefore, the signals from the accelerometers installed on two steel base plates were selected as the inputs. The output signals were from the accelerometers installed on the top of the girder deck levels, as shown in Figure 6-1.



Figure 6-1 Locations of input and output signals

The natural periods and mode shapes were determined through frequency response function estimations of the acceleration response of the structure and those of the base plate. All the response results are given in Appendix C. Twenty-seven accelerometers located at nine points (P1~P9 shown in Figure 3-10) at the top of the girders (at bridge deck level) and six accelerometers located on the twin shake tables were used to generate the results for each white-noise test.



Figure 6-2 Monitoring points on the deck level

6.1.1 System identification theory

Based on Bracci et al (1992), modal identifications can be conducted from frequency domain analysis procedures. Eq. (6.1) shows the general equation of motion for a multi-degree of freedom system which is excited by a horizontal ground motion, $\ddot{x}_{g}(t)$.

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{x}}(t) + \mathbf{C}\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{J}\ddot{x}_{g}(t)$$
(6.1)

where **M** is the mass matrix of the system,

C is the viscous damping matrix of the system,

K is the stiffness matrix of the system,

J is the influence matrix which contains the resultant displacement vectors of the mass to a static application of a unit ground displacement,

 $\mathbf{x}(t)$ is the displacement vector time history,

 $\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t)$ is the velocity vector time history,

 $\ddot{\mathbf{x}}(t)$ is the acceleration vector time history, and

 $\ddot{x}_{g}(t)$ is the ground acceleration time history.

The displacement vector, $\mathbf{x}(t)$, can be expressed as:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{z}(t) \tag{6.2}$$

where Φ is the modal shape matrix, and

 $\mathbf{z}(t)$ is the modal displacement vector.

Substituting Eq.(6.2) and the time derivatives into Eq. (6.1), Eq. (6.1) can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\Phi}\ddot{\mathbf{z}}(t) + \mathbf{C}\boldsymbol{\Phi}\dot{\mathbf{z}}(t) + \mathbf{K}\boldsymbol{\Phi}\mathbf{z}(t) = \mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\Phi}\mathbf{J}\ddot{x}_{g}(t)$$
(6.3)

Multiplying Eq. (6.3) by the transpose of the k^{th} mode shape factor, φ_k^{T} , and using the orthogonal properties of mode shape, the resulting uncoupled equation for the k^{th} mode is

$$M_{k}^{*}\ddot{z}_{k}(t) + C_{k}^{*}\dot{z}_{k}(t) + K_{k}^{*}z_{k}(t) = -\varphi_{k}^{T}M_{k}^{*}J\ddot{x}_{g}(t)$$
(6.4)

where $M_k^* = \varphi_k^T \mathbf{M} \varphi_k$, is the kth modal mass, $C_{k}^{*} = \varphi_{k}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{C} \varphi_{k}$, is the kth modal viscous damping, and $K_{k}^{*} = \varphi_{k}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{K} \varphi_{k}$. is the kth modal stiffness.

Assuming the mode shapes are normalized by setting the mass matrix $M_k^* = 1$, and by applying the Fourier Transform into both sides of Eq. (6.4), the resulting equation of motion for k^{th} mode in the frequency domain can be written as

$$-\omega^{2}Z_{k}(\omega)+2i\omega\xi_{k}\omega_{k}Z_{k}(\omega)+\omega_{k}^{2}Z_{k}(\omega)=-\Gamma_{k}\ddot{X}_{g}(\omega)$$
(6.5)

where ω is the angular frequency (rad/sec),

 $\xi_{\rm k}$ is the damping ratio for $k^{\rm th}$ mode,

 ω_k is the kth angular natural frequency (rad/sec), and

 $\Gamma_k = \Phi_k^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{J}$ is the k^{th} modal participation factor.

Solving $Z_{k}(\omega)$ from Eq. (6.5), in the frequency domain, that is,

$$Z_{k}(\omega) = \frac{\Gamma_{k} \cdot \ddot{X}_{g}(\omega)}{\omega_{k}^{2} - \omega^{2} + 2i\omega\xi_{k}\omega_{k}}$$
(6.6)

The absolute acceleration at the top of structure, $\ddot{\mathbf{a}}(t)$ is

$$\ddot{\mathbf{a}}(t) = \ddot{\mathbf{x}}(t) + \mathbf{J}\ddot{x}_{g}(t)$$
(6.7)

Converting Eq. (6.7) to frequency domain,

$$\ddot{\mathbf{A}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \mathbf{J}\ddot{X}_{g}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) - \boldsymbol{\omega}^{2} \Phi \mathbf{Z}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$$
(6.8)

Multiplying by $\Phi_k^T \mathbf{M}$,

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{A}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{k}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{J}\ddot{X}_{g}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) - \boldsymbol{\omega}^{2}\mathbf{Z}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$$
(6.9)

Based on Song et al (2008), the absolute k^{th} modal acceleration, $\zeta_k(\omega)$ can be expressed as

$$\zeta_{k}(\omega) = \Phi_{k}^{T} \mathbf{M} \ddot{\mathbf{A}}(\omega) = \Gamma_{k} \ddot{X}_{g}(\omega) - \omega^{2} Z_{k}(\omega)$$
(6.10)

Eq.(6.5) can be rewritten as

$$\zeta_{k}(\omega) + 2i\omega\xi_{k}\omega_{k}Z_{k}(\omega) + \omega_{k}^{2}Z_{k}(\omega) = 0$$
(6.11)

Solving $\zeta_k(\omega)$ from Eq.(6.11) and substituting Eq. (6.6), the k^{th} modal acceleration can be expressed as

$$\zeta_{k}(\omega) = \frac{\Gamma_{k}\left(2i\omega\xi_{k}\omega_{k} + \omega_{k}^{2}\right)}{\omega_{k}^{2}\omega^{2} + 2i\omega\xi_{k}\omega_{k}}\ddot{X}_{g}(\omega)$$
(6.12)

According to the superposition of the modes, the j^{th} absolute acceleration, $A_j(\omega)$, can be written as

$$A_{j}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left[\Phi_{jk} \zeta_{k}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \right]$$
(6.13)

Substituting Eq. (6.12) into Eq. (6.13),

$$A_{j}(\omega) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left[\phi_{j,k} \cdot A_{k}(\omega) \right] = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left[\frac{\Gamma_{k} \left(2i\omega\xi_{k}\omega_{k} + \omega_{k}^{2} \right)}{\omega_{k}^{2} \cdot \omega^{2} + 2i\omega\xi_{k}\omega_{k}} \phi_{j,k} \right] \cdot \ddot{X}_{g}(\omega)$$
(6.14)

where n is the mode number, and

 $\phi_{j,k}$ is the k^{th} mass normalized mode shape for the j^{th} degree of freedom.

Therefore, the frequency response function (FRF) for the j^{th} degree of freedom, $\mathbf{H}_{j}(\omega)$, is defined as

$$\mathbf{H}_{j}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{A_{j}(\boldsymbol{\omega})}{\ddot{X}_{g}(\boldsymbol{\omega})} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\Gamma_{k} \cdot \left(2i\boldsymbol{\omega}\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}\boldsymbol{\omega}_{k} + \boldsymbol{\omega}_{k}^{2}\right)}{\boldsymbol{\omega}_{k}^{2} \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}^{2} + 2i\boldsymbol{\omega}\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}\boldsymbol{\omega}_{k}} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{jk} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} \mathbf{H}_{k}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\phi}_{jk}$$
(6.15)

The peak of j^{th} function at the k^{th} can be represented by

$$\left|\mathbf{H}_{j}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_{k})\right| = \frac{\Gamma_{k}\sqrt{1+4\xi_{k}^{2}}}{2\xi_{k}}\Phi_{jk}$$
(6.16)

The phase angle is defined as

$$\theta_{j}(\omega_{k}) = \tan^{-1}\left\{\frac{\text{Imaginary}\left[H_{j}(\omega_{k})\right]}{\text{real}\left[H_{j}(\omega_{k})\right]}\right\}$$
(6.17)

where $\theta_j(\omega_k)$ is the phase angle for the j^{th} degree of freedom at ω_k , ω_k is the k^{th} angular natural frequency, Imaginary $[H_j(\omega_k)]$ is the imaginary part of the FRF, and real $[H_j(\omega_k)]$ is the real part of the FRF.

The ratio of the absolute value of k^{th} mode shape at i^{th} degree of freedom, $|\phi_{i,k}|$, and j^{th} degree of freedom, $|\phi_{j,k}|$, can be approximately determined by the ratio of the corresponding transfer function amplitude as shown in Eq. (6.18)

$$\frac{\left|\phi_{j,k}\right|}{\left|\phi_{i,k}\right|} \approx \frac{\left|H_{j}\left(\omega_{k}\right)\right|}{\left|H_{i}\left(\omega_{k}\right)\right|}$$
(6.18)

The equivalent damping ratio can be determined by half-power (bandwidth) method and calculated by Eq. (6.19).

$$\xi_{\rm k} = \frac{f_2 - f_1}{f_2 + f_1} = \frac{f_2 - f_1}{f_{\rm k}} \tag{6.19}$$

in which f_1 and f_2 are the frequencies when ρ_{f_1} , $\rho_{f_2} = \frac{\rho_{fk}}{\sqrt{2}}$, and f_k is the k^{th} natural frequency.

6.1.2 System identification of test phase 1

To provide some insight into the dynamic characteristics of the bridge specimen, the initial modal properties (before execution of all shake table testing) in the three major directions are provided in Table 6-1 for the phase 1 specimen (no steel plate on the deck).

Mode	Natural Frequency (Hz)	Damping ratio	Mode shape
1	6.30	9.5%	Horizontal deck translation (North-South direction)
2	7.38	6.2%	Horizontal deck translation (East-West direction)
3	12.53	3.2%	Vertical deck bending (Vertical direction)

Table 6-1 Initial properties of test specimen in phase 1

The frequency response function (FRF) magnitudes and phases for three directions of the specimen are shown in Figure 6-3 and Figure 6-4. It can be seen that in the Y-direction (N-S direction), only one mode shape can be identified. All nine monitoring points were moving in the same direction with the same magnitude, which indicates the mode (translation in N-S direction) was affected by the rubber bearing. This phenomenon was caused by the large stiffness of the girder in the Y-direction. Note that the frequency range around 13 Hz may be affected by the third mode (vertical bending of Z-direction).

For the X-direction (E-W direction), the magnitudes exhibited similar characteristics with those of X-direction. The second mode shape was also nine points translating towards the same direction.

For the Z-direction (U-D direction), it is obvious the frequency for the third mode was around 13 Hz. The four monitoring locations close to the shake table (P1, P2, P8, P9) exhibited a very low magnitude because they were close to the support. The locations in the mid-span (P4, P5, P6) exhibited the largest magnitude.

Sketches of the first three mode shapes in three directions are shown in Figure 6-5, Figure 6-6, and Figure 6-7.



(a) E-W direction



Figure 6-3 Magnitude results of initial properties of test phase 1





(b) N-S direction



Figure 6-4 Phase results of initial properties of test phase 1



(a) 3-D view



(b) Plan view

Figure 6-5 First mode in N-S direction



(a) 3-D view



(b) Plan view

Figure 6-6 Second mode in E-W direction



(a) 3-D view



(b) E-W elevation view



(c) N-S elevation view

Figure 6-7 Third mode in U-D direction

Table 6-2, Table 6-3, and Figure 6-8 illustrate the changes in the dynamic properties of the test specimen in three directions through the various levels of seismic tests that have been conducted. The changes of frequencies in three directions before and after the tests were small, Changes in the E-W and N-S direction were within 15%, whereas those in the U-D direction were within 3%. The changes in E-W and N-S direction were relatively large because of the dynamic property changes of the bearing pads. It is noteworthy that under the maximum excitation, the girder may move apart from the bearing pads, and then be lifted and placed in the initial position. The lifting procedure may change the girder behavior since the boundary condition of the original structure changes. The changes in U-D direction reflect the changes of dynamic properties of the girder specimen. In addition, the damping ratios in all three directions hardly increased in the test procedure. Therefore, it can be concluded that the global dynamic properties of the girder specimen changed slightly and the specimen stayed in elastic range after the seismic tests.

Soismia loval	Direction				
Seisinic level	E-W	N-S	U-D		
Ini	7.38	6.30	12.53		
EL	7.58	6.97	12.77		
DE	7.65	6.25	12.83		
MCE	7.32	6.12	12.78		
2DE	7.11	5.95	12.81		
Max	6.70	5.54	12.69		

 Table 6-2
 Frequency of the first three modes in phase 1

 Table 6-3 Damping ratio of the first three modes in phase 1

Saismia laval	Direction					
Seisinie level	E-W	N-S	U-D			
Ini	9.3%	7.0%	2.1%			
EL	9.5%	6.2%	3.1%			
DE	9.8%	6.9%	1.6%			
MCE	9.9%	7.0%	2.0%			
2DE	10.0%	7.1%	2.5%			
Max	9.3%	7.1%	2.1%			



(b) Damping ratio

Figure 6-8 Change in the dynamic properties of the specimen in phase 1

6.1.3 System identification of test phase 2

After the two steel plates were installed on girder 2, the natural frequency, damping ratio and mode shape (before execution of all shake table testing) in the three major directions were measured and analyzed, as shown in Table 6-4. Similar mode shapes were observed as well as a considerable decrease in frequency compared to the unloaded specimen.

Mode	Natural Frequency (Hz)	Damping ratio	Mode shape
1	5.20	9.3%	Horizontal deck translation and bending (North-South direction)
2	6.21	7.7%	Horizontal deck translation (East-West direction)
3	10.46	2.4%	Vertical deck bending (Vertical direction)

Table 6-4 Initial properties of the test specimen in phase 2

The FRF magnitudes and phases for three directions of the specimen are shown in Figure 6-9 and Figure 6-10. For the Y-direction (N-S direction), a similar decrease in the frequency exhibited in the first mode, i.e., the first frequency decreased from 6.30 Hz in phase 1 to 5.20 Hz in phase 2. The magnitudes exhibited similar characteristics with phase 1. Several peaks in magnitude occurred in the higher frequency range (20~40 Hz). These peaks might have been caused by the vibration of the steel plates, so the focus of the study is placed on the first frequency again.

Compared to the results of phase 1, there is still only one mode that can be identified in the Xdirection (E-W direction). However, the frequency shifted to the lower value, i.e., from 7.38 Hz in phase 1 to 6.21 Hz in phase 2. The decrease is because the installation of the steel plates induced an additional mass. Based on fundamental structural dynamics, an increased mass leads to a decrease in frequency. All nine monitoring points were still moving towards the same direction with the same magnitude, which indicates the second mode was affected by the rubber bearing.

For the Z-direction (U-D direction), it is obvious that the frequency in the third mode decreased from 12.53 Hz to 10.46 Hz. It is interesting to observe that the second peak occurred around the frequency of 12 Hz. This phenomenon can be explained as the effect of second deck bending mode. Compared to the first deck bending mode, the peak magnitude of the monitoring point on the deck edge of girder 1 (P4, North side in the mid span, see Figure 6-2) was significantly larger than other points. It indicates that the deck was bending unevenly due to the existence of the steel plate. This behavior can be further verified in a later section that describes preliminary finite element analysis (FEA).

Sketches of the first four mode shapes in three directions are shown in Figures 6-11, 6-12, 6-13, and 6-14.





Figure 6-9 Magnitude results of initial properties of test phase 2



(b) N-S direction



Figure 6-10 Phase results of initial properties of test phase 2



(a) 3-D view



(b) Plan view

Figure 6-11 First mode in N-S direction for phase 2



(a) 3-D view



Figure 6-12 Second mode in E-W direction for phase 2



(a) 3-D view



(b) E-W elevation view





Figure 6-13 Third mode in U-D direction for phase 2



(a) 3-D view



(b) E-W elevation view



(c) N-S elevation view

Figure 6-14 Fourth mode in U-D direction for phase 2

Table 6-5, Table 6-6 and Figure 6-15 illustrate the change in dynamic properties of the test specimen in three directions through the various levels of seismic tests in phase 2. It can be seen that the observations found in phase 1 applied to the changes of frequencies and damping ratio in three directions. The changes in U-D direction, which reflect the changes in dynamic properties of the girder specimen, stayed within a very small range of 4% for both the first and second modes. It is concluded that the global dynamic properties of the girder specimen changed slightly and the specimen stayed in elastic range after all the seismic tests in phase 2.

Saismic lavals	Direction					
Seisinic ieveis	E-W	N-S	U-D #1	U-D #2		
INI	6.21	5.20	10.46	12.13		
EL	6.34	5.23	10.62	12.19		
DE	6.30	4.94	10.70	12.20		
МСЕ	6.07	4.25	11.14	12.20		
2DE	6.02	4.43	10.70	12.18		
Max	5.73	4.50	10.77	12.32		
Max*1.2	5.44	3.90	10.24	12.12		

 Table 6-5
 Frequency of the first four modes in phase 2

Table 6-6 Damping ratio of the first four modes in phase 2

Saismic lavals	Direction					
Seisinit ieveis	E-W	N-S	U-D #1	U-D #2		
INI	9.3%	7.7%	2.8%	6.0%		
EL	9.3%	7.6%	4.5%	3.9%		
DE	9.2%	8.4%	4.5%	3.7%		
MCE	9.6%	7.5%	5.1%	3.7%		
2DE	9.4%	8.0%	4.4%	3.8%		
Max	9.4%	7.8%	5.2%	4.3%		
Max*1.2	9.1%	8.5%	3.5%	5.3%		



(a) Frequency



(b) Damping ratio

Figure 6-15 Change in the dynamic properties of the specimen in phase 2

6.1.4 System identification of test phase 3

The results for system identification tests in phase 3 are briefly given in Table 6-7 and Figure 6-16. The test phenomena are generally the same as those in phase 2. Detailed descriptions are not repeated herein.

Mode	Direction	Natural Frequency (Hz)	Damping ratio	Mode shape
1	E-W	2.71	9.2%	Horizontal deck translation (North-South direction)
2	N-S	5.62	8.2%	Horizontal deck translation (East-West direction)
3	U-D #1	10.23	2.8%	Vertical deck bending (Vertical direction)
4	U-D #2	12.14	3.6%	Combined vertical and transverse deck bending (Vertical and transverse direction)

Table 6-7 Dynamic properties of test specimen in phase 3



(a) First mode



(b) Second mode

Figure 6-16 Mode shapes in U-D direction for phase 3

6.2 Seismic Test Results

6.2.1 Response of the strain of the UHPC connection

The maximum strains recorded during each seismic test, which were measured by 11 strain gauges installed on the rebar embedded in the UHPC connection and precast girders, are given in Appendix D.

6.2.1.1 Phase 1

The maximum strains recorded among all 11 strain gauges for each test in phase 1 are summarized in Table 6-8 and Table 6-9. It can be seen that the maximum strain occurred when Near 3 GMs were applied. For several seismic excitations, the maximum strain in the precast girder exceeded 1400 microstrain. This indicates that some local regions of the precast girder deck may have been subjected to limited damage. The maximum strain in the UHPC connection was 43 microstrain. According to Russell and Graybeal (2013), the first tensile cracking strength of UHPC is approximately 1.3 ksi for steam-cured specimens and approximately 0.9 ksi without any heat treatment. According to Graybeal and Baby (2013), the elastic regime for tensile strain ranged from 34 to 129 microstrain. The tensile cracking strength of the UHPC deployed in this test was not tested, but could be estimated as approximately 1.03 ksi by the equation provided in Russell and Graybeal (2013), as shown in Eq. (6.20). The tensile strain was estimated as 145 microstrain by combining Eq. (6.21) and Eq. (6.22), which is provided in Russell and Graybeal (2013). Thus, in this phase, it can be concluded that the UHPC stayed well within the elastic range.

$$f_{ct} = 6.7\sqrt{f_c}'$$
 (6.20)

where f_{ct} and f_{c} ' are the tensile strength and compressive strength of UHPC, respectively.

$$\mathcal{E}_{ct} = \frac{f_{ct}}{E_c} \tag{6.21}$$

$$E_c = 46200\sqrt{f_c'}$$
 (6.22)

where ε_{ct} and E_c are the tensile strain and modulus of elasticity for UHPC, respectively.

CM set	Seismic Level						
GM Set	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max		
Far 1	3	5	9	16	24		
Far 2	4	7	11	17	28		
Far 3	4	6	9	17	25		
Far 4	4	4	10	18	23		
Far 5	3	5	9	19	22		
Near 1	6	6	11	19	958		
Near 2	3	5	9	15	26		
Near 3	6	9	14	307	1420		
Near 4	4	6	12	20	695		
Near 5	4	4	8	18	21		
Near 6	5	6	9	18	26		

Table 6-8 Maximum strains of the precast girder in phase 1

CM set	Seismic Level						
GM set	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max		
Far 1	2	3	5	8	15		
Far 2	4	4	7	11	19		
Far 3	3	4	5	8	15		
Far 4	2	3	6	9	15		
Far 5	2	3	5	8	13		
Near 1	4	5	9	16	28		
Near 2	3	3	4	8	15		
Near 3	5	9	13	19	43		
Near 4	3	6	10	16	25		
Near 5	3	2	4	8	14		
Near 6	3	4	6	11	18		

Table 6-9 Maximum strains of the UHPC connection in phase 1

Figure 6-17 illustrates the strain time-histories at the mid-span of the UHPC connection under Near 3 GMs with the maximum level of amplitude in test phase 1, i.e. peak ground acceleration (PGA) equal to 0.65 g. The results show that the maximum strain for the deck of a girder and the UHPC are 1420 and 43 microstrain, respectively. Figure 6-18 illustrates the strain distribution along the girder's longitudinal direction. There was only one strain gauge that exhibited extra-large strain value. The maximum value from other strain gauges, including those strain gauges located at the mid-span, was 61 microstrain. Thus, the extra-large strain indicates that damage may occur in the mid-span but definitely within a very limited range. Based on the estimated elastic modulus of UHPC, the maximum tensile stress in the mid-span is 280 psi.


Figure 6-17 Phase 1, Near 3 Max, Strain time-history comparison on the girder and UHPC



Figure 6-18 Maximum strain response along the girder under Near 3, PGA = 0.65 g in Phase 1

6.2.1.2 Phase 2

The maximum strains recorded among all 11 strain gauges for each test in phase 2 are summarized in Table 6-10 and Table 6-11. The maximum strain occurred when Near 1 GMs were applied. The maximum strain in the precast girder and the UHPC was 1700 microstrain and 121 microstrain. Since the UHPC strain was still lower than 145 microstrain, the UHPC stayed well within the elastic range. For phase 2, it is noteworthy that the strain at the west end of the girder was larger than in the quarterlocations. The difference can be attributed to the superimposed tension strain in the end of girder caused by the plate.

CM sot	Seismic Level						
Givi set	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max	Max*1.2	
Far 1	51	50	53	63	112	164	
Far 2	49	49	51	60	106	138	
Far 3	50	50	53	69	132	196	
Far 4	50	49	53	66	121	155	
Far 5	50	48	53	66	124	155	
Near 1	50	49	53	741	1356	1721	
Near 2	50	49	52	63	122	168	
Near 3	50	47	53	62	254	715	
Near 4	50	48	53	178	296	715	
Near 5	50	47	54	65	128	336	
Near 6	50	49	50	60	101	130	

 Table 6-10 Maximum strains of the precast girder in phase 2

CM sot	Seismic Level						
Givi set	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max	Max*1.2	
Far 1	30	35	34	32	32	27	
Far 2	30	35	34	33	31	27	
Far 3	30	36	34	32	31	27	
Far 4	30	36	35	33	33	25	
Far 5	30	35	34	31	32	25	
Near 1	31	37	39	56	112	121	
Near 2	30	35	33	32	30	26	
Near 3	31	37	37	43	48	57	
Near 4	31	38	38	42	51	57	
Near 5	30	36	35	34	36	35	
Near 6	30	35	34	33	31	29	

Table 6-11 Maximum strains of the UHPC connection in phase 2

Figure 6-19 illustrates the strain time-histories at the mid-span of the UHPC connection under Near 1 GMs with the 120% maximum level of amplitude in test phase 1, i.e. peak ground acceleration (PGA) equal to 0.77 g. and illustrates the strain distribution along the girder longitudinal direction. Similar conclusions can be drawn from the strain distribution.



Figure 6-19 Phase 2, Near 1 Max, Strain time-history comparison on the girder and UHPC



Figure 6-20 Maximum strain response along the girder under Near 3, PGA = 0.77 g in Phase 2

6.2.1.3 Phase 3

The maximum strains recorded among all 11 strain gauges for each test in phase 3 are summarized in Table 6-12. The maximum strain for each case did not exceed those of phase 2.

GM set	Max-Girder	Max-UHPC
Far 1	173	36
Far 2	165	29
Far 3	204	44
Far 4	177	67
Far 5	126	33
Near 1	1437	90
Near 2	167	28
Near 3	199	51
Near 4	420	52
Near 5	180	42
Near 6	143	28

Table 6-12 Maximum strains of the precast girder and UHPC connection in phase 3

6.2.2 Response of the relative displacement of the UHPC connection

6.2.2.1 Phase 1

The maximum relative displacements recorded among the LVDTs in the longitudinal and transverse directions for each test in phase 1 are summarized in Table 6-12 and 6-13. Similarly, it can be seen that the maximum relative displacement in the longitudinal direction was 0.00098 in, which also occurred when Near 3 GMs were applied. The maximum relative displacement in the transverse direction was 0.00074 in, which occurred when Far 5 GMs were applied. By converting the relative displacement into the average strain in the connection, the maximum value is 123 and 93 microstrain, respectively. The transverse maximum strain did not exceed 145 microstrain, which complies with the conclusion drawn in Section 6.2.1.

CM set	Seismic Level							
GIVI set	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max			
Far 1	0.24	0.27	0.25	0.29	0.43			
Far 2	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.28	0.29			
Far 3	0.23	0.24	0.26	0.33	0.40			
Far 4	0.22	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.28			
Far 5	0.27	0.27	0.26	0.26	0.53			
Near 1	0.25	0.25	0.29	0.25	0.47			
Near 2	0.24	0.26	0.26	0.23	0.36			
Near 3	0.27	0.26	0.48	0.98	0.87			
Near 4	0.21	0.25	0.27	0.23	0.37			
Near 5	0.28	0.26	0.25	0.60	0.35			
Near 6	0.19	0.26	0.27	0.29	0.29			

Table 6-13 Maximum relative longitudinal displacements of the precast girder in phase 1 (Unit: 10⁻³in)

CM set	Seismic Level							
GM set	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max			
Far 1	0.30	0.23	0.26	0.41	0.63			
Far 2	0.28	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.39			
Far 3	0.26	0.25	0.27	0.26	0.31			
Far 4	0.25	0.24	0.26	0.26	0.42			
Far 5	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.34	0.74			
Near 1	0.26	0.24	0.27	0.32	0.54			
Near 2	0.26	0.25	0.22	0.38	0.49			
Near 3	0.24	0.23	0.27	0.60	0.64			
Near 4	0.25	0.22	0.26	0.44	0.73			
Near 5	0.30	0.28	0.28	0.47	0.54			
Near 6	0.24	0.26	0.23	0.27	0.37			

Table 6-14 Maximum relative transverse displacements of the UHPC connection in phase 1(Unit: 10⁻³in)

Figure 6-21 illustrates the transverse relative displacement time-histories at the west end and midspan of the UHPC connection under Far 5 GMs with the maximum level of amplitude in test phase 1, i.e. peak ground acceleration (PGA) equal to 0.65 g. The figure does not clearly show the displacement response because the response was very small, and thus submerged by the environmental noises. Figure 6-22 illustrates the relative displacement increases with the increase of PGA, but the maximum value stayed within a very small range, i.e., below 0.001 in.



Figure 6-21 Phase 1, Far 5 Max, Relative displacement time-history on the girder end and midspan



(b) Near fault

Figure 6-22 Maximum relative displacement response in Phase 1

6.2.2.2 Phase 2

The maximum relative displacements recorded among the LVDTs in longitudinal and transverse directions for each test in phase 2 are summarized in Table 6-15 and Table 6-16. The maximum relative displacement in the longitudinal direction was 0.0024 in and occurred when Near 1 GMs were applied, whereas the maximum relative displacement in the transverse direction was 0.00396 in and also occurred when Near 1 GMs were applied. The maximum relative displacement in Phase 2 was 5.3 times that of Phase 1. These results can be explained in two ways: 1) the steel plate imposed an excessive unbalanced stress on the connection, and 2) the Near 1 GMs exhibited strong excitation in the vertical direction, especially after the steel plate was applied.

CM sot	Seismic Level					
GIVI SEL	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max	Max*1.2
Far 1	0.24	0.26	0.25	0.34	0.43	0.63
Far 2	0.23	0.28	0.25	0.29	0.35	0.41
Far 3	0.25	0.23	0.27	0.33	0.70	0.48
Far 4	0.22	0.22	0.27	0.35	0.62	0.47
Far 5	0.25	0.27	0.26	0.31	0.92	0.82
Near 1	0.24	0.24	0.27	0.74	1.80	2.40
Near 2	0.26	0.23	0.23	0.34	0.44	0.57
Near 3	0.24	0.41	0.28	0.53	0.64	0.79
Near 4	0.24	0.22	0.29	0.47	0.68	0.79
Near 5	0.25	0.27	0.29	0.36	0.64	0.59
Near 6	0.22	0.29	0.22	0.30	0.28	0.36

Table 6-15 Maximum relative longitudinal displacements of the precast girder in phase 2 (Unit: 10⁻³in)

Table 6-16 Maximum relative transverse displacements of the UHPC connection in phase 2 (Unit: 10⁻³in)

CM set	Seismic Level						
Givi set	Elastic	DE	MCE	DEx2	Max	Max*1.2	
Far 1	0.23	0.24	0.33	1.08	2.21	2.56	
Far 2	0.23	0.24	0.29	0.51	0.80	1.09	
Far 3	0.23	0.26	0.26	0.55	1.55	2.83	
Far 4	0.23	0.20	0.24	0.62	1.15	2.27	
Far 5	0.23	0.24	0.25	1.03	2.81	2.52	
Near 1	0.23	0.23	1.02	2.57	3.83	3.96	
Near 2	0.22	0.23	0.25	1.08	2.11	3.14	
Near 3	0.23	0.27	0.26	1.67	2.82	3.76	
Near 4	0.22	0.22	2.15	2.06	3.36	3.76	
Near 5	0.29	0.24	0.58	1.22	2.70	3.37	
Near 6	0.23	0.26	0.25	0.58	0.78	1.34	

Figure 6-23 illustrates the transverse relative displacement time-histories at the end and mid-span of the UHPC connection under Near 1 GMs with the maximum level of amplitude in test phase 2, i.e. peak ground acceleration (PGA) equal to 0.78 g. The residual of relative displacement was relatively small; thus, the UHPC connection exhibited a strong bond behavior between these two girders. Figure 6.24 illustrates the relative displacement increases with the increase of PGA. The maximum strain was below 0.004 in.



Figure 6-23 Phase 2, Near 1 Max*1.2, Relative displacement time-history on the girder end and midspan



(b) Near fault

Figure 6-24 Maximum relative displacement response in Phase 2

6.2.2.3 Phase 3

The maximum relative displacements recorded among the LVDTs in longitudinal and transverse directions for each test in phase 3 are summarized in Table 6-17. Without the constraint of diaphragms, the relative displacement increased dramatically. For the longitudinal direction, the relative displacement increased up to 2 times that of Phase 2.

Figure 6-25 shows the transverse relative displacement time-histories at the end and mid-span of the UHPC connection under Near 3 GMs with the maximum level of amplitude in test phase 3. Apparently, the residual displacement of the end was larger than that in phase 2 due to the removal of steel diaphragms. Although the specimen still provided sufficient performance under all seismic testing, it is recommended to install the diaphragms at a certain distance in the practical use of precast girders in high seismic regions to increase the integrity of the superstructure and prohibit excessively large deformation.

GM set	Max - Longitudinal	Max - Transverse
Far 1	0.61	8.80
Far 2	0.32	3.83
Far 3	1.19	5.09
Far 4	9.80	8.14
Far 5	0.65	3.72
Near 1	2.00	6.55
Near 2	0.64	5.63
Near 3	2.51	8.26
Near 4	1.51	6.04
Near 5	1.11	6.56
Near 6	16.32	5.14

Table 6-17 Maximum relative longitudinal displacements of the UHPC connection in phase 3(Unit: 10-3in)



Figure 6-25 Phase 3, Near 3 Max, relative displacement time-history on the girder end and midspan

6.3 Seismic Analysis using FEM Model

The comparisons on the frequency result of shake table test and FEM analysis are listed in Table 6-18 and Table 6-19.

Modal Shapes	Experimental Frequencies (Hz)	FEM Model Frequencies (Hz)	Differences of Test/FEA
Transverse translation	6.30	6.97	10.6%
Longitudinal translation	7.38	7.62	3.1%
Rotation around vertical axis	N/A	11.91	N/A
Vertical bending	12.53	12.73	1.6%
Combined vertical and transverse bending	N/A	16.95	N/A

Table 6-18 Natural frequencies of the specimen in phase 1

 Table 6-19 Natural frequencies of the specimen in phase 2

Modal Shapes	Experimental Frequencies (Hz)	FEM Model Frequencies (Hz)	Differences of Test/FEA
Transverse translation	5.20	6.42	19.0%
Longitudinal translation	6.21	7.02	11.5%
Vertical bending	10.46	10.85	3.6%
Rotation around vertical axis	N/A	11.91	N/A
Combined vertical and transverse bending	N/A	14.06	N/A

For the numerical analysis, one set of near field ground motions, the Near 3 ground motion, was selected. The analysis was run on the server of the University at Buffalo's Center for Computational Research (CCR). The CCR consists of 128 CPUs and thus provides extremely high calculation power. However, the maximum time-cap of 72 hours was necessary for analysis in CCR. Due to this time-cap limit, the server was unable to run the analyses for the full ground motion record. Approximately 8 seconds of analysis could be completed within this time for the selected ground motion. Therefore, a simplified model is needed to conduct in-depth seismic analysis.

Since it is unrealistic to use the refined 3-D model to predict the seismic behavior of the UHPC connected girder, a simplified model is established by SAP 2000. The model is shown in Figure 6-26.

A brief description of the simplified SAP2000 model is presented below:

Elements: The concrete girder and UHPC connection were modeled with shell elements. The diaphragms and prestressed tendons were modeled by frame elements. The elastomeric bearings were modeled by link elements.

Materials: The bridge deck was modeled with concrete material. The structural steel shapes were modeled by A60 steel material. All materials were considered in their elastic range.

Contact: It is assumed that the contacts between UHPC connection and girders, the girders and the bearings, the bearings and the shake tables are fixed. The shake tables are fixed to the ground in the model.

The comparison of the acceleration response of experimental and numerical results for Far 1 ground motion is shown in Figure 6-27. The acceleration responses of test and FEA results show good agreement with each other.



Figure 6-26 A simplified 3-D model built by SAP 2000



(a) Far 1 at maximum level, E-W direction





(b) Far 1 at maximum level, E-W direction, 5-15 sec



(c) Far 1 at maximum level, N-S direction



(e) Far 1 at maximum level, U-D direction

(d) Far 1 at maximum level, N-S direction, 5-15 sec



(f) Far 1 at maximum level, U-D direction, 5-15 sec

Figure 6-27 Comparison of acceleration response in test and numerical models

The comparisons of the maximum acceleration responses at the P1 and P5 (see Figure 5-1) of experimental and numerical results for all the ground motions are shown in Figure 6-28. It can be seen that the numerical model can accurately predict the responses in two horizontal directions (E-W and N-S). The responses in the vertical direction (U-D) in the test are significantly higher than those from the numerical model in some cases; this is mainly because the model does not take the detachment of bearings into account. The differences at P5 (at mid-span) are smaller than those at P1 (at girder end) because the detachment effect has a larger influence on the girder end.



(g) E-W direction, P1, Phase 2



(b) N-S direction, P1, Phase 1



(d) E-W direction, P5, Phase 1









Figure 6-28 Comparison of maximum acceleration response in test and numerical models

SECTION 7 CONCLUSIONS

Several conclusions are drawn from the research tests:

- 1. The system identification test results show that the dynamic properties of the bridge structure exhibited slight change. The frequency change in the horizontal direction may be attributed to the change of bearing pads as well as to the boundary conditions. The structural dynamic behavior in the Z direction hardly changed.
- 2. The global response of two UHPC-connected prestressed girders show that under severe earthquakes with PGA up to 0.77 g (with the mid-span of specimen subjected up to 6.1 g in acceleration), and during a resonant response, which imposed very high moment demand at the superstructure, the bridge deck resilience of seismic excitation is verified since no severe damage was found.
- 3. The analysis of the maximum strain of the UHPC connection shows that the UHPC connection remained in the elastic range during all the seismic tests. The girder may have been subjected to some damage, but it was limited to a small region near the mid-span. This further proves that the strength and seismic performance of UHPC is stronger than that of common concrete.
- 4. Based on the analysis of maximum relative displacement results, the UHPC connection exhibited sufficient seismic performance under all tests. The relative displacement in the girders without diaphragms increased dramatically compared to the previous phases. It is recommended to install diaphragms at a certain distance in the practical use of precast girders in high seismic regions to increase the integrity of the superstructure and prohibit excessively large deformation.
- 5. Based on these experimental results, it can be concluded that the UHPC connections with short, straight rebar provide sufficient seismic resistance even under high-level seismic ground motions.
- 6. Future research objectives: The test specimen in this study approximates a bridge with a short to mid-span length. For a long-span bridge, the connection will be subjected to more severe and complicated stress conditions and will exhibit more complex dynamic responses. In addition, the tests in this project were conducted based on the assumption that the girders directly seat on abutments. The excitations will be modified and the girders may exhibit different conditions if they are supported by columns. Therefore, future research, including experimental and numerical study, could focus on the connection applicable to the long-span bridge and in different supporting conditions.

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Figure A-1 Shop Drawings of Deck Bulb Tee Girders



Figure A-1 Shop Drawings of Deck Bulb Tee Girders





(a) Far 1



(b) Far 2



(c) Far 3



(d) Far 4



(e) Far 5







(g) Near 2







(i) Near 4



(j) Near 5





(k) Near 5


APPENDIX C DYNAMIC PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION



Figure C-1 Phase 1, EW, Initial





Figure C-2 Phase 1, NS, Initial





Figure C-3 Phase 1, UD, Initial



(f) Test result and Curve-fitting - Imaginary



Figure C-4 Phase 1, EW, After EL





Figure C-5 Phase 1, NS, After EL





Figure C-6 Phase 1, UD, After EL





Figure C-7 Phase 1, EW, After DE





Figure C-8 Phase 1, NS, After DE





Figure C-9 Phase 1, UD, After DE





Figure C-10 Phase 1, EW, After MCE





Figure C-11 Phase 1, NS, After MCE





Figure C-12 Phase 1, UD, After MCE











Figure C-14 Phase 1, NS, After DE2





Figure C-15 Phase 1, UD, After DE2





Figure C-16 Phase 1, EW, After Max





Figure C-17 Phase 1, NS, After Max





Figure C-18 Phase 1, UD, After Max





Figure C-19 Phase 2, EW, Initial





Figure C-20 Phase 2, NS, Initial





Figure C-21 Phase 2, UD, Initial





Figure C-22 Phase 2, EW, After EL





Figure C-23 Phase 2, NS, After EL





Figure C-24 Phase 2, UD, After EL





Figure C-25 Phase 2, EW, After DE





Figure C-26 Phase 2, NS, After DE




Figure C-27 Phase 2, UD, After DE





Figure C-28 Phase 2, EW, After MCE





Figure C-29 Phase 2, NS, After MCE





Figure C-30 Phase 2, UD, After MCE





Figure C-31 Phase 2, EW, After DE2





Figure C-32 Phase 2, NS, After DE2





Figure C-33 Phase 2, UD, After DE2





Figure C-34 Phase 2, EW, After MAX





Figure C-35 Phase 2, NS, After MAX





Figure C-36 Phase 2, UD, After MAX





Figure C-37 Phase 2, EW, After MAX*1.2





Figure C-38 Phase 2, NS, After MAX*1.2





Figure C-39 Phase 2, UD, After MAX*1.2





Figure C-40 Phase 3, EW, After Max





Figure C-41 Phase 3, NS, After Max





Figure C-42 Phase 3, UD, After Max



APPENDIX D MAXIMUM STRAIN IN THE SESIMIC TESTS

(e) Far 3 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(g) Far 4 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(i) Far 5 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(k) Near 1 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(h) Far 4 Strain in the UHPC Connection





(l) Near 1 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(m) Near 2 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(n) Near 2 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(o) Near 3 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder*(1400)



(q) Near 4 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder*(700)











Figure D-1 Phase 1, Strain along the longitudinal direction

(*Note: two results generated a very high value of strain in the Deck-bulb-tee girder deck flange, but the strain in the UHPC connection remained in a very low range of under 30).



(a) Far 1 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(c) Far 2 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(e) Far 3 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(b) Far 1 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(d) Far 2 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(f) Far 3 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(g) Far 4 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(h) Far 4 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(k) Near 1 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder*(1600)

(1) Near 1 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(m) Near 2 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(n) Near 2 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(o) Near 3 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder*(700)



(q) Near 4 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder*(700)

(p) Near 3 Strain in the UHPC Connection

40



(r) Near 4 Strain in the UHPC Connection



0 ^L 0

Location from the West End(ft)

(u) Near 6 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder

Figure D-2 Phase 2, Strain along the longitudinal direction

0 ^L 0

10 20 30 Location from the West End(ft)

(v) Near 6 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(a) Far 1-5 Strain in the Deck-bulb-Tee girder



(b) Far 1-5 Strain in the UHPC Connection



(c) Near 1-6 Strain in the UHPC Connection

Figure D-3 Phase 3 Strain comparison on the girder and UHPC

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