A Novel Methodology for Structural Optimization of Bridge Decks Against Corrosion

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Bridge Deck Corrosion

Bridge deck corrosion is a common cause of bridge failure and frequent need for rehabilitation.





Typical damage caused by steel corrosion:(1) Steel Degradation, (2) Deck Delamination,(3) Deck Spalling.

Lake View Drive over I-70 Bridge, Pittsburgh 2005



Bridge Deck Corrosion (cont.)

Reinforcement corrosion in concrete is an **Electrochemical Process** with anode, cathode, and electrolyte, where **chloride ions** act as a catalyst by breaking the passivating film of steel caused by the alkalinity of concrete.



Progression of reinforcement corrosion in concrete of various qualities





Corrosion Modeling

Chloride penetration is a nonlinear mass transport problem with respect to environment, material, and cracking.



Preliminary transport simulation using lattice modelling framework



Effect of **Freeze-thaw cycles** on diffusion coefficient of concrete.

Concrete type	<i>D</i> _c (10 ⁻¹² m²/s)					
	365 days	720 days				
P1M1	1.88	1.76				
P1M2	1.76	1.84				
P1M3	2.23	2.35				
R2M3	1.74	1.88				
R3M3	1.43	1.45				
R4M2	3.15	3.09				
R4M3	2.44	2.56				
Note: D_c = apparent diffusion coefficient						

Effect of concrete type



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We plan to consider:

Corrosion Modeling (cont.)

Bridge deck corrosion is a coupled process of chloride ingress, steel rusting, and deck degradation.



We plan to consider:



Steel rust occupies 3 to 10 times greater volume than the steel.

Mechanical performance and Cracking simulation using Lattice Discrete Particle Model (LDPM)



Multiphysics LDPM coupling mechanical performance and chloride transport



Schedule

Task	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Literature Review: ~6 months								
Construction of Modeling								
Framework:								
~10 months								
Validation of the Model :								
~6 months								
Mitigation Strategy								
Optimization:								
~12 months								
Final Report Writing:								
~3 Months								



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THANK YOU

