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# Assessing Radioactive Waste Container Performance: Structural and Non-linear Dynamic Analysis

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## Abstract

Considering the measured compressive strength changes depending on test conditions, the effect of test conditions should be analyzed to avoid overestimation or underestimation of the compressive strength during disposal. We selected test conditions such as the height-to-diameter ratio, loading rate, and porosity as the main factors affecting the compressive strength of cement solidified radioactive waste. Owing to the large variance in measured compressive strength, the effects of the test conditions were analyzed via statistical analyses using parametric and nonparametric methods. The results showed that the test condition of the lower loading rate, with a height-to-diameter ratio of two, reflected the actual cement content well, while the porosity showed no correlation. The compressive strength assessment method that reflects the large variance of strengths was suggested.

Radioactive waste is a significant concern for the safe and responsible management of nuclear materials. Proper containment of radioactive waste is crucial to prevent the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Assessing the performance of containers used for radioactive waste is essential to ensure their structural integrity and reliability. This article explores the importance of structural and non-linear dynamic analysis in evaluating the performance of radioactive waste containers.

## Introduction

Radioactive waste containers are designed to withstand a wide range of environmental conditions, including extreme temperatures, seismic events, and potential accidents. Structural analysis plays a vital role in evaluating the container's ability to withstand these conditions [1]. It involves assessing the container's strength, stability, and resistance to external forces. Structural analysis techniques, such as finite element analysis, help engineers model and simulate the container's behavior under various loading conditions [2].

However, structural analysis alone may not capture the complete picture of container performance. Non-linear dynamic analysis is required to understand the response of containers to dynamic events, such as earthquakes or accidents. Non-linear effects, such as material deformation, large displacements, and nonlinear material properties, can significantly impact container behavior under extreme loading conditions. Analyzing the non-linear dynamic response provides valuable insights into potential failure modes, stress concentrations, and the container's overall performance during severe events. Structural analysis serves as a fundamental tool in evaluating the strength and stability of radioactive waste containers. By subjecting containers to virtual tests using finite element analysis and other techniques, engineers can simulate and analyze their behavior under different loading scenarios. Structural analysis enables the identification of potential weaknesses, stress concentrations, and failure modes, allowing for design improvements and enhanced container performance [3].

### The storage methodology and efficiency of the container

For requirement in Taiwan, the radiation dose must remain within 10 hr. at a 3 m distance from the surface of the container. In order to calculate the radiation dose outside the container, the Micro Shield software was employed to perform the shielding analysis [4].

According to the Decommissioning planning of Taiwan domestic boiling water reactor nuclear power plant the type of nuclides and the activities for the representative component with the highest activities is listed in . These activities are shown at the time when the reactor shut down for eight years. It should be noted that the Co-60 has the maximum activity in all of the nuclides, so in the calculation, we assume the Co-60 with a total activity of 47.57 kg to estimate the radiation dose outside the container [5].

### Stacking condition

Stacking disease is a feeling of panic that can be seen in every segment of the society and that the belongings of the person will go away. In psychiatry, there is a disease called hoarding (stacking disease) and it is a condition in which people accumulate even the things that are unlikely to work at home. Evaluation of the stacking condition is to verify the capability of the container when the containers stack with each other. According to the regulation [7], 5 times of design gross weight should be imposed on the container. The upper structural lid bears the weight of five layers of the container in the analysis [6].

### Radioactive waste

Radioactive waste is a significant concern for the safe and responsible management of nuclear materials. Proper containment of radioactive waste is crucial to prevent the release of hazardous materials into the environment. Assessing the performance of containers used for radioactive waste is essential to ensure their structural integrity and reliability. This article explores the importance of structural and non-linear dynamic analysis in evaluating the performance of radioactive waste containers. Radioactive waste containers are designed

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to withstand a wide range of environmental conditions, including extreme temperatures, seismic events, and potential accidents. Structural analysis plays a vital role in evaluating the container's ability to withstand these conditions. It involves assessing the container's strength, stability, and resistance to external forces. Structural analysis techniques, such as finite element analysis, help engineers model and simulate the container's behavior under various loading conditions [7].

However, structural analysis alone may not capture the complete picture of container performance. Non-linear dynamic analysis is required to understand the response of containers to dynamic events, such as earthquakes or accidents. Non-linear effects, such as material deformation, large displacements, and nonlinear material properties, can significantly impact container behavior under extreme loading conditions [8]. Analyzing the non-linear dynamic response provides valuable insights into potential failure modes, stress concentrations, and the container's overall performance during severe events. To conduct a comprehensive assessment of radioactive waste container performance, structural and non-linear dynamic analysis should be integrated. This combined approach enables engineers to evaluate the container's behavior under both static and dynamic loading scenarios. It allows for a more accurate representation of real-world conditions and potential failure mechanisms [9].

Structural and non-linear dynamic analysis techniques provide engineers with essential information for optimizing container design, enhancing safety, and mitigating potential risks. By identifying areas of weakness or stress concentration, engineers can make informed decisions regarding material selection, reinforcement, and structural modifications to improve container performance. Furthermore, these analyses contribute to the development of regulations and standards for radioactive waste management. The insights gained from structural and non-linear dynamic analysis can inform the establishment of guidelines for container design, testing, and performance evaluation. By ensuring the structural integrity and reliability of radioactive waste containers, these regulations help protect public health, safety, and the environment [10].

## Conclusion

In conclusion, assessing the performance of radioactive waste containers is a critical step in the safe management of nuclear materials. Structural and non-linear dynamic analysis techniques provide valuable insights into the container's behavior under various loading conditions, including extreme events. By integrating these analyses, engineers can optimize container design, enhance safety, and contribute to the development of regulations and standards in radioactive waste management. Through these efforts, the reliable containment of radioactive waste can be ensured, minimizing the potential risks associated with its storage and disposal. However, the evaluation of radioactive waste container performance goes beyond static loading conditions. Non-linear dynamic analysis is essential to understanding the behavior of containers during extreme events, such as earthquakes, accidents, or impacts. Non-linear dynamic effects, including large deformations, material yielding, and nonlinear material behavior, significantly influence the container.

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