

STUDY ON 3-DIMENSIONAL BASE ISOLATION SYSTEM APPLYING TO NEW TYPE POWER PLANT REACTOR: PART 2 (HYDRAULIC 3-DIMENSIONAL BASE-ISOLATION SYSTEM)

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ABSTRACT

Three dimensional (3D) seismic isolation devices have been developed to use for the base isolation system of the heavy building like a nuclear reactor building. The developed seismic isolation system is composed of rolling seal type air springs and the hydraulic type springs with rocking suppression system for vertical base isolation device. In horizontal direction, the same laminated rubber bearings are used as horizontal isolation device for these systems.

The performances and the applicability have already been evaluated by the technical feasibility tests and performance tests for each system. In this study, it was evaluated that the performance of the 3D base isolation system with rolling seal type air springs combined with hydraulic rocking suppression devices. In this paper, the results of performance tests for hydraulic rocking suppression system will be reported.

A 1/7 scaled model of the 3D base isolation devices were manufactured and some performance test were executed for each device. For the hydraulic rocking suppression system, forced dynamic loading test was carried out in order to measure the frictional and oil flow resistance force on each cylinder.

And the vibration table tests were carried out with supported weight of 228 MN in order to evaluate and to confirm the horizontal and vertical isolation performance, rocking suppression performance, and the applicability of the this seismic isolation system as the combined system. 4 rolling seal type air springs and 4 hydraulic load-carrying cylinders with rocking suppression devices supported the weight.

As a result, the proposed system was verified that it could be applied to the actual nuclear power plant building to be target.

Keywords: Three Dimensional Base Isolation, Seismic Isolation, Hydraulic, Rocking

1. INTRODUCTION

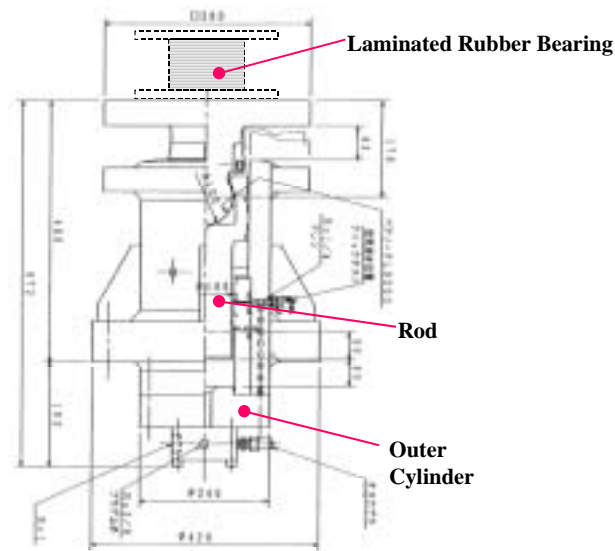
The 3D seismic isolation system is a means of isolating a structure from seismic movement in vertical as well as horizontal direction. In Japan, the relevant technology has been the subject of active research and development for its being considered an indispensable asset for letting nuclear installations combine the properties of earthquake resistance and economic viability. Other buildings and structures of more general nature also are considered to have potential need for this technology [1]. The current status of this technology, however, is that

- The forced dynamic loading tests on hydraulic rocking suppression devices
- The shaking table tests on the integrated system

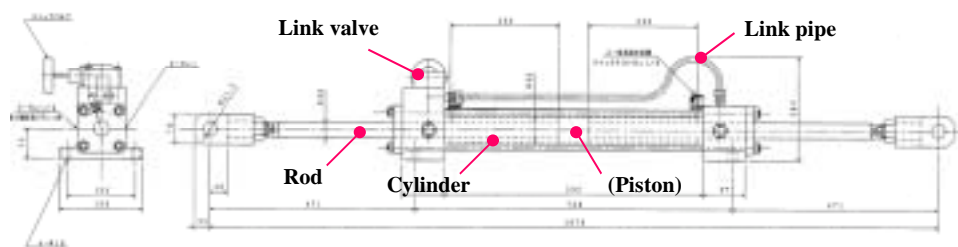
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2.3. Test Model of Rocking Suppression Devices

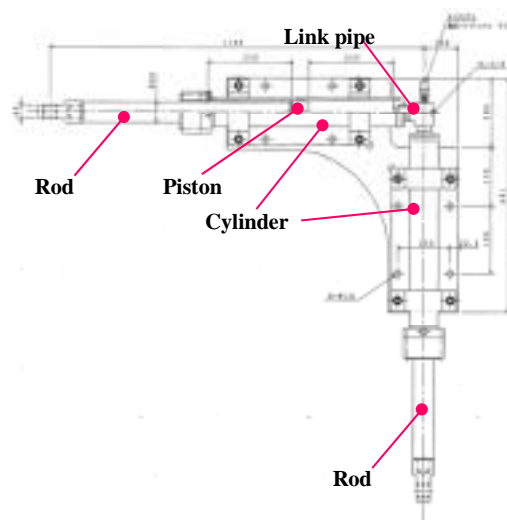
Rocking suppression system is composed of the load carrying cylinders, the rocking suppression cylinders, and the angle linkage cylinders. Each cylinder is connected with the pipe of 25mm in the inside diameter. The laminated rubber bearing set up in the upper part of the load carrying cylinder is the same as that of the air spring. The sectional view and specification of hydraulic rocking suppression device models are shown in Fig.2 and Table 3.



(a) Load Carrying Cylinder



(b) Rocking Suppression Cylinder



(c) Corner Linkage Cylinder

Fig.2 Test Model of Rocking Suppression Devices

Table 3 Dimension of Rocking Suppression Devices

Device	Parameter	Prototype	Model
Common	Support Load (kN)	9800	28.6
	Vertical Isolation Period (s)	2.0	0.76
	Pressure (MPa)	25	3.57
Load Carrying Cylinder	Diameter of Cylinder (mm)	720	100
	Movable Stroke (mm)	350	50
Accumulator unit	Volume of N ₂ gas (Liter)	650	1.8
	Volume Ratio of main-Tank to assist-Tank	1 : 2	1 : 2
Rocking Suppression Cylinder	Diameter of Piston (mm)	800	60
	Diameter of Rod (mm)	500	36
	Movable Stroke (mm)	1400	250
Corner Cylinder	Diameter of Rod (mm)	800	60
	Movable Stroke (mm)	1400	250

3. TEST OF ROCKING SUPPRESSION DEVICES ALONE

3.1. Outline of Test

In this test, one unit of four unit used by the shaking table test were taken out and the test was executed. Each cylinder (load carrying cylinder, rocking suppression cylinder, and corner cylinder) was connected with the pipe of 25mm in the inside diameter. Forced vibration displacement in the vertical direction was given to the load-carrying cylinder. The frictional resistance force generated from each cylinder and the damping force generated by the differential pressure before and behind the gas throttle installed between the accumulator and the backup bottle was measured.

To confirm the influence that a horizontal load gives to the frictional force in the vertical direction, the forced vibration test in the vertical direction was also executed under acting a horizontal static load.

The test apparatus is shown in Photo 1.

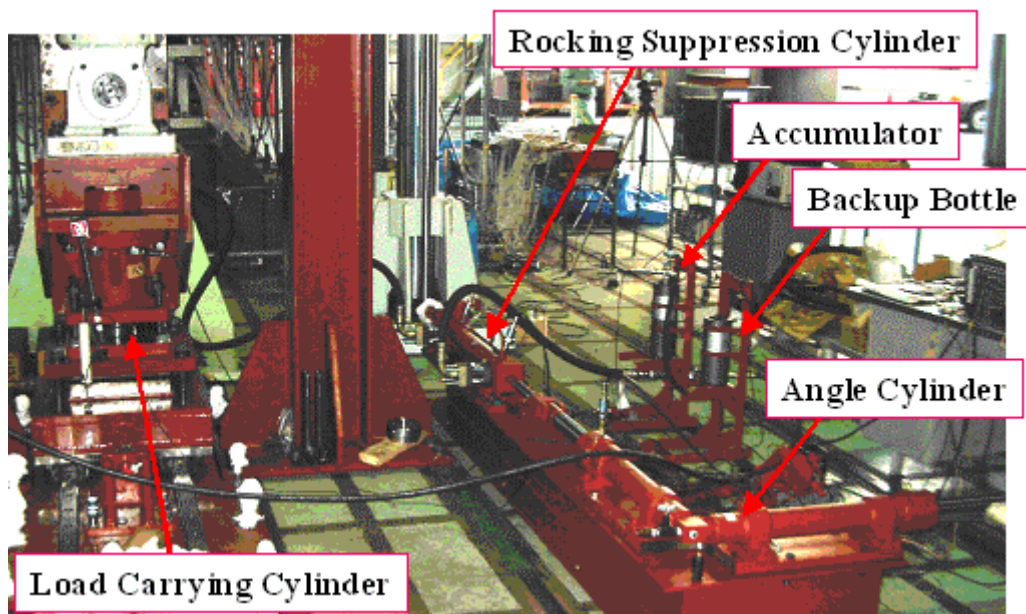


Photo 1 Test Apparatus of Rocking Suppression Devices

3.2. Frictional Force Measurement

Figure 3 shows the hysteresis loop in vertical direction. In this figure, LC is Load-carrying Cylinder, RC is Rocking-suppression Cylinder, and CC is Corner Cylinder. The behavior of frictional force is stable. The frictional force that occurs from each cylinder(LC, RC, and CC) can be separated according to the difference of the frictional force of three curves in this figure, and it is summarized in Table 4.

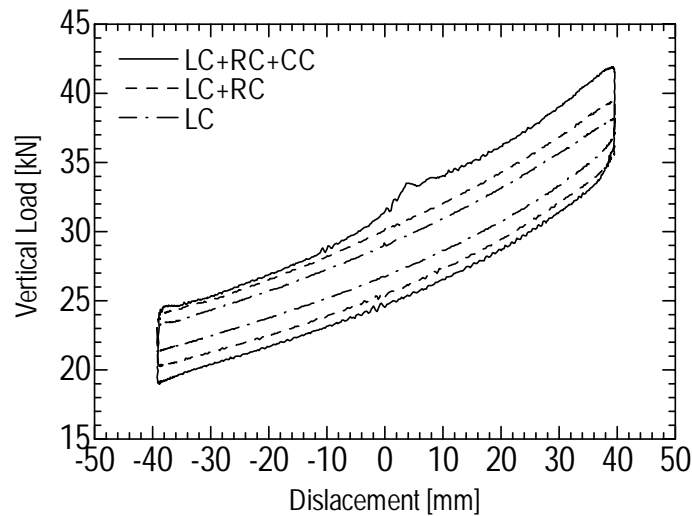


Fig. 3 Vertical Hysteresis Loop

Table 4 Frictional Force

Cylinder	Frictional Force (kN)
LC	1.10
RC	1.15
CC	1.25

Figure 4 shows the change in the frictional force in the vertical direction generated by the magnitude of the horizontal load. When the swivel works effectively, the vertical friction force became as a curve of the round symbols show in Fig.4. When the swivel is fixed, vertical friction force became as the curve shown as the square symbols.

It is confirmed that the increment of the frictional force becomes small by the effect of the swivel as a result. However, the effect of the swivel is not so higher than frictional force generated by RC and CC.

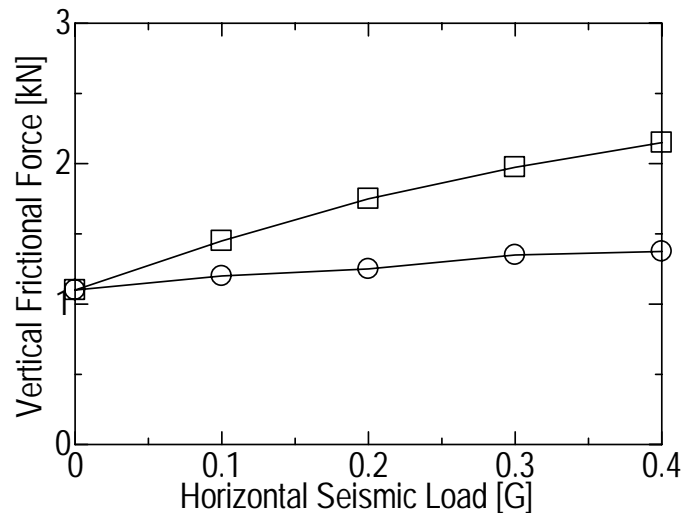


Fig. 4 Vertical Friction Force

3.3. Damping Force Measurement

The damping force generated by the pressure loss before and behind the gas throttle when the forced vibration displacement of the sine wave was given was measured. Figure 5 shows the hysteresis loop of pressure loss for each excitation frequency. Excitation amplitude of displacement (X_0) is 10mm and 20mm. As shown in Fig.5, the area of hysteresis of pressure loss depends on both frequency and excitation amplitude of displacement.

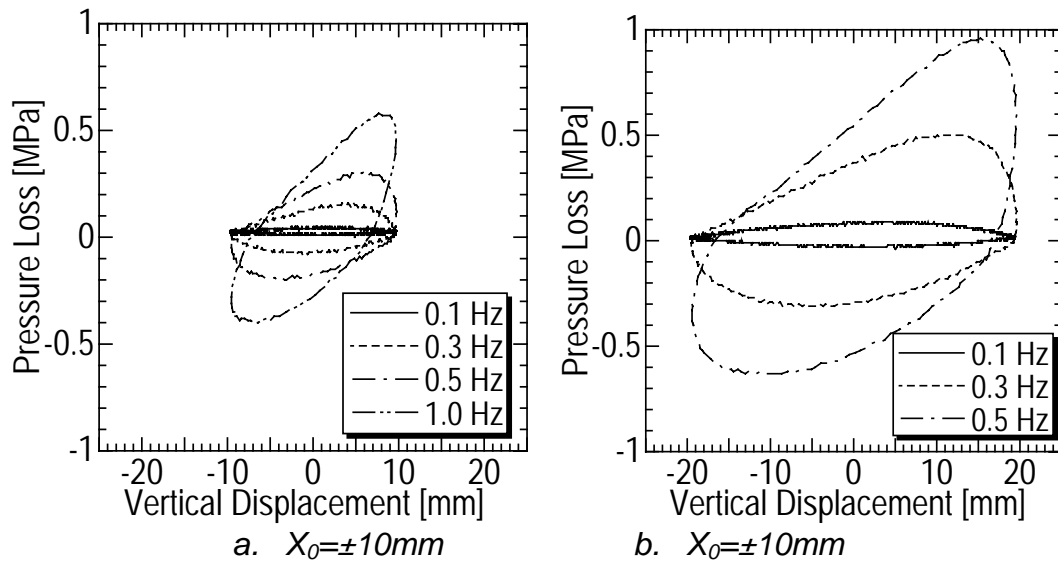


Fig. 5 Hysteresis Loop of Pressure Loss at Gas Throttle

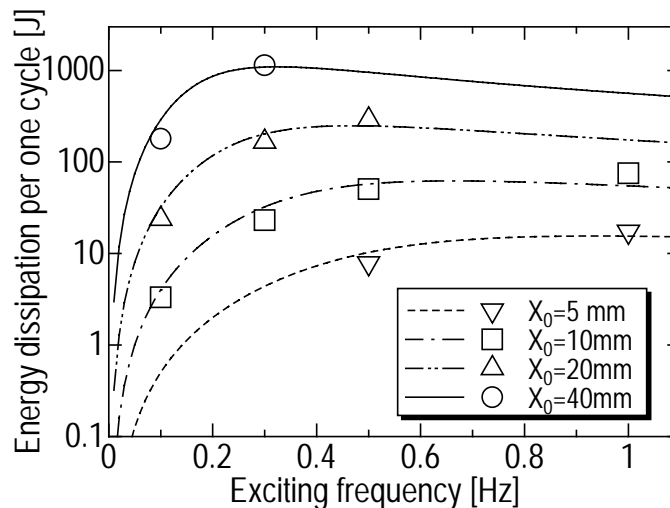


Fig. 6 Energy Dissipation of Gas Throttle

Figure 6 shows the relationship between the excitation frequency and dissipated energy per a cycle for each amplitude of excitation vibration displacement. The plots show the value obtained by the experiment in this figure, and the curves are a theoretical value obtained by three-element model [3].

The experimental values show the good agreement with the theoretical curves, thus the validity of the theory for obtaining the damping force generated by the throttle valve is confirmed.

4. SHAKING TABLE TEST OF COMPOSED DEVICES

4.1. Outline of Shaking Table Test

The model used for an shaking table test consists of four air springs and oil dampers, and four load carrying cylinders, rocking suppression cylinders, accumulator units and corner cylinders. Four air springs and four load carrying cylinders supported the building model of 248kN by eight points in total and 31kN was supported equally respectively.

The rigid body model was designed so that the ratio of base width and center-of-gravity height might become the same by the actual plant and the model, which is 3.5:1. Figure 7 shows the schematic drawing of arrangement of the devices for shaking table test, and the photograph of the model is shown in Photo 2.

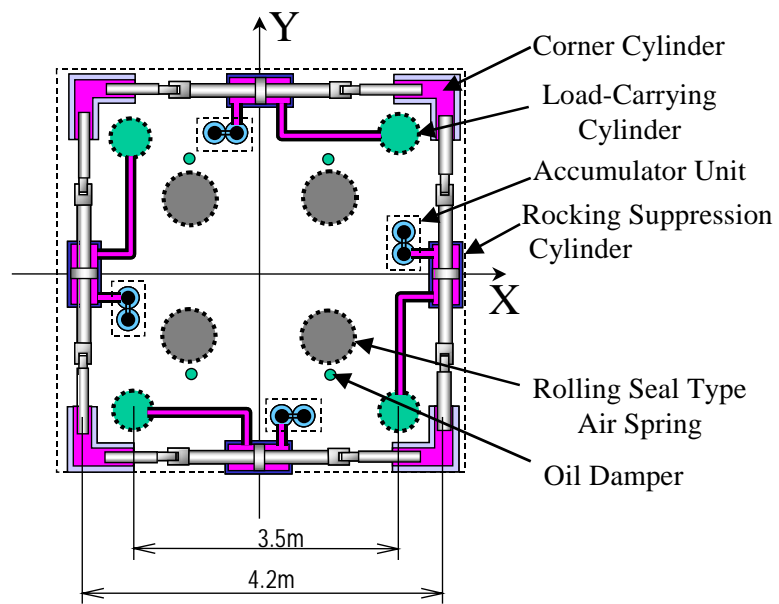


Fig.7 Schematic Drawing of Shaking Table Test Model (Top View)

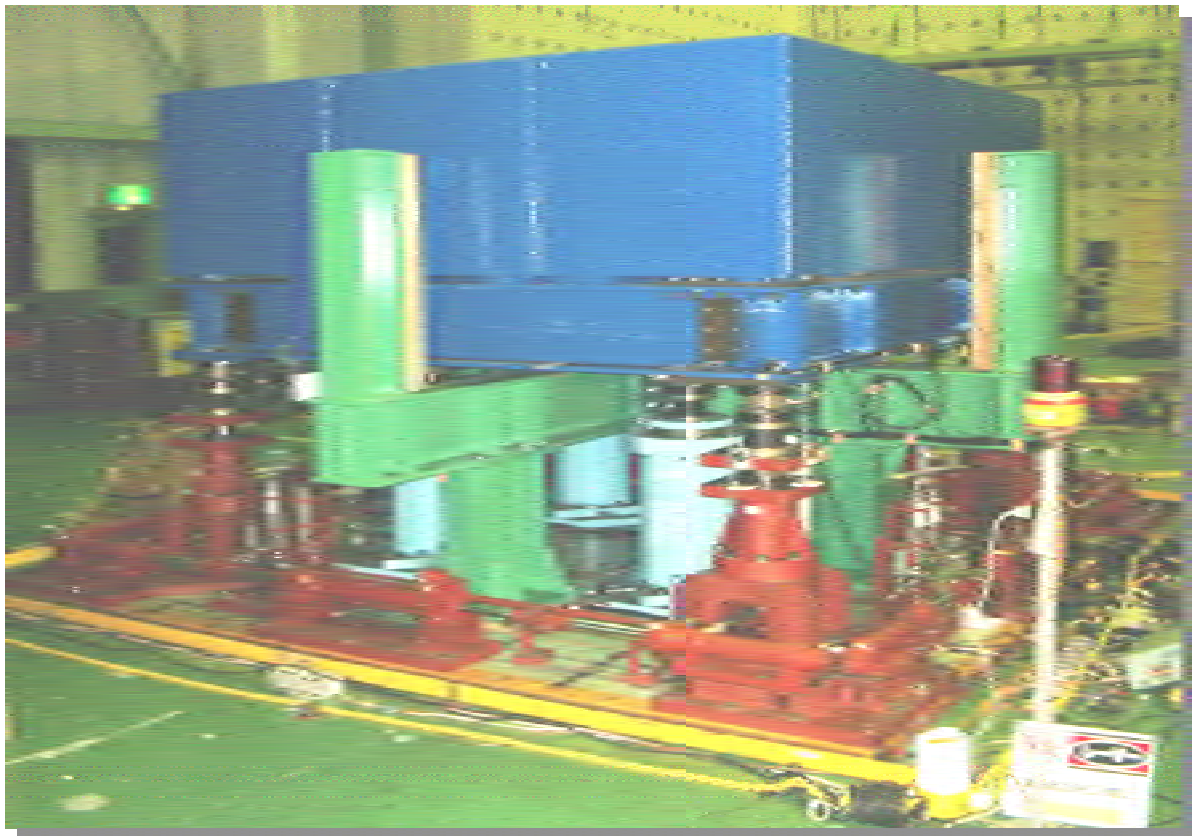
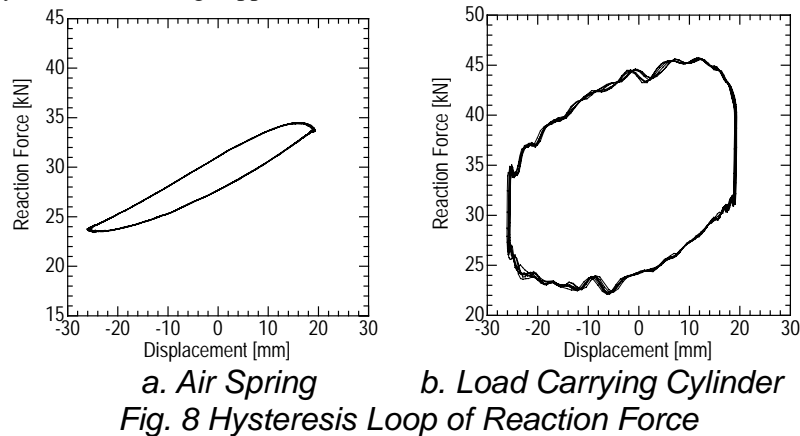


Photo 2 Shaking Table Test Model with Air Springs and Rocking Suppression System

4.2. Sine Wave Excitation Test

The sine wave excitation test was carried out in order to confirm the vertical damping characteristics of the air springs and of rocking suppression devices were suitable for the designed characteristics.

Figure 8 shows the hysteresis loop of reaction forces measured by the load-cells installed on the air springs and the load carrying cylinders of rocking suppression devices.



The reaction force of air spring was similar to the test result of air springs only. The area of hysteresis loop of rocking suppression device consists of the damping force generated by the gas throttle, the frictional force generated by cylinders, and the pressure loss of oil piping. These components can be calculated from reaction force and hydraulic pressures measured in the test as shown in Fig. 9.

The equivalent damping factor calculated from the area of hysteresis is summarized in Table 5. For the air spring, the equivalent damping factor is suitable to designed value. For the rocking suppression device, the equivalent damping factor of gas throttle and piping is suitable to designed value, but that of frictional force is larger than designed value. But the influence of friction becomes 1/7 in a real size device, because the support pressure increases to seven times that of the model.

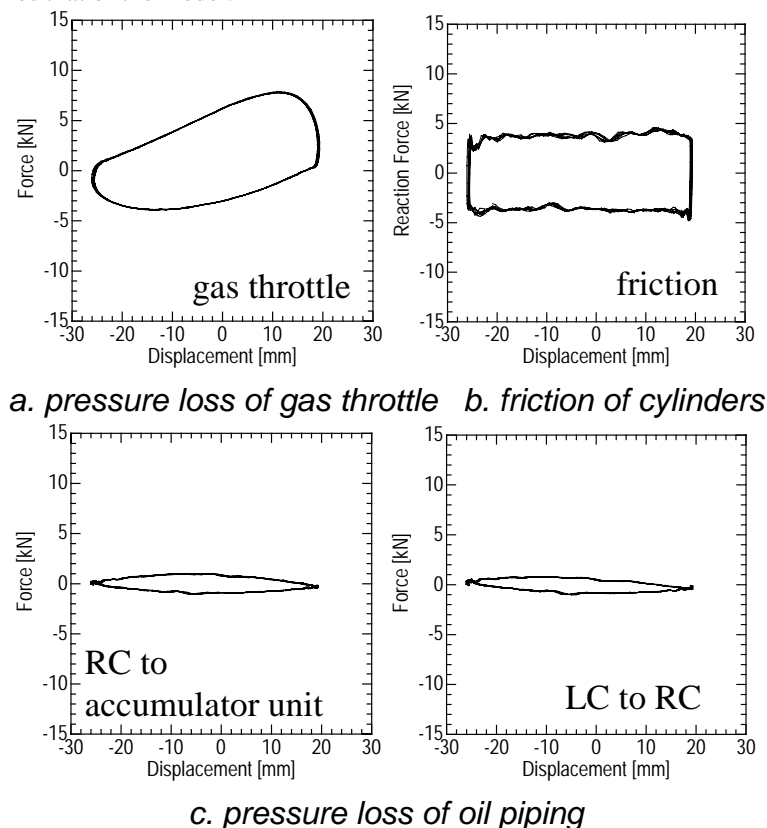


Table 5 Equivalent Damping Factors

		Aarea of Hyst. [Nm]	h_{eq} [%]	
			(Measured)	(Target)
Air Spring	Orifice	130.6	6.5	6.3
	Oil Damper	-	(4.7)	5.0
Rocking Suppression Device	Throttle	272.3	13.6	12.5
	Oil Piping 1	67.2	3.3	2.0
	Oil Piping 1	74.6	3.7	2.0
	Friction	427.5	21.3	(3.0)

4.3. Earthquake Wave Excitation Test

4.3.1. Input Motion

The input earthquake motion into a shaking table is taken as the greatest excitation S2 whose response spectrum of 5% of damping in a long period is 2 m/s. However, an input earthquake motion cuts a long period and a short period with a band path filter because of restrictions of the shaking table capability. (Refer to Fig. 10).

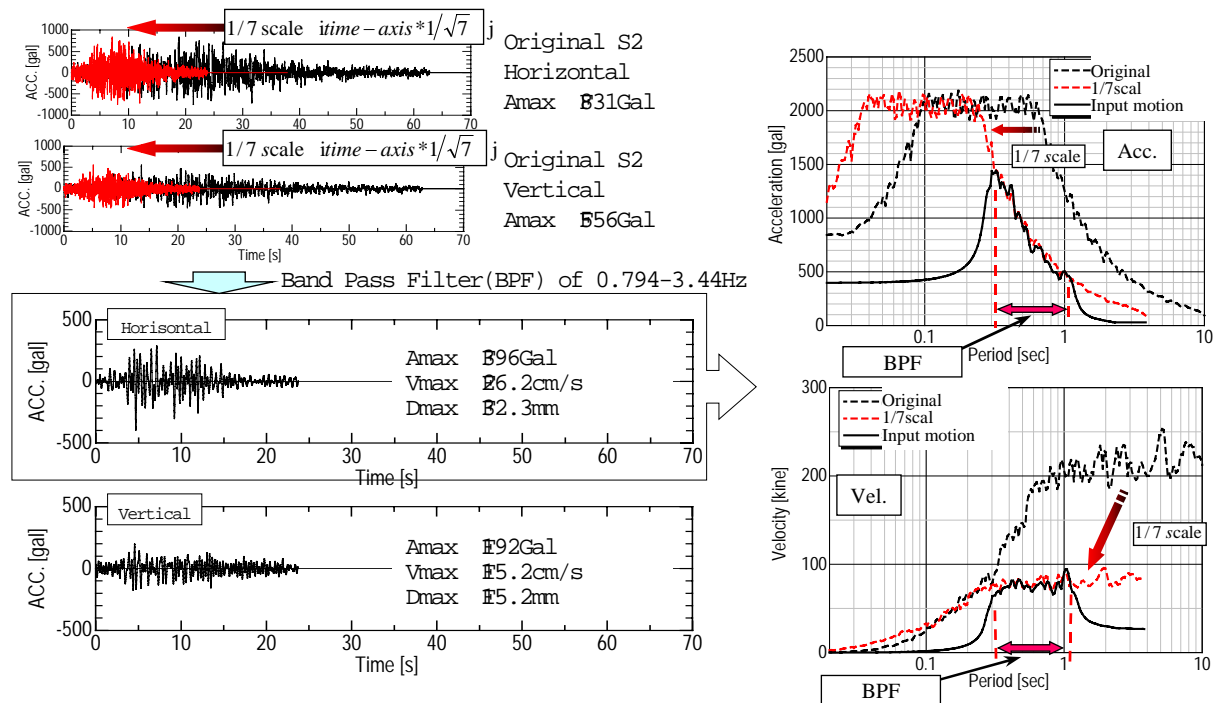


Fig. 10 Input motion

4.3.2. Test Cases

The cases of earthquake wave excitation test are summarized in Table 6. Though the wave that gave the band-pass filter processing was used in most cases, the tests that used the wave that gave the high-pass filter that left the high frequency element was executed in the case with the excitation only of the direction of Z. The band pass filter processing wave is the same as the test of the air springs alone .

Table. 6 Test Case of Earthquake Wave Excitation Test

Input Level	Exciting Direction*	Filter
S2 x 1.0	X, Y, Z, XY, XZ, XYZ	0.794-3.44 Hz BPF
S2 x 1.0	Z	0.3Hz HPF
S2 x 1.5	X, Y, Z, XZ	0.794-3.44 Hz BPF

* 'XY' means earthquake wave in X and Y direction input simultaneously.

4.3.3. Isolation Performance

Figure 11 shows the response spectrum of input acceleration and of response acceleration of the building model

in case of that $1.0 \cdot S_2$ wave in X (horizontal) direction and Z (vertical) direction input simultaneously. In horizontal direction, the response under the period of 0.5 sec is isolated obviously. Similarly, the response acceleration in vertical direction under the period of 0.5 sec has been isolated, but vertical isolation performance is not as clear as that of horizontal direction because of the lower cut off frequency of band-pass filter, which is about 0.3 sec is close to 0.5 sec.

Figure 12 shows the time history of the response acceleration of the building model. As shown in Fig.12, maximum acceleration of input 553 gal was reduced to 304 gal.

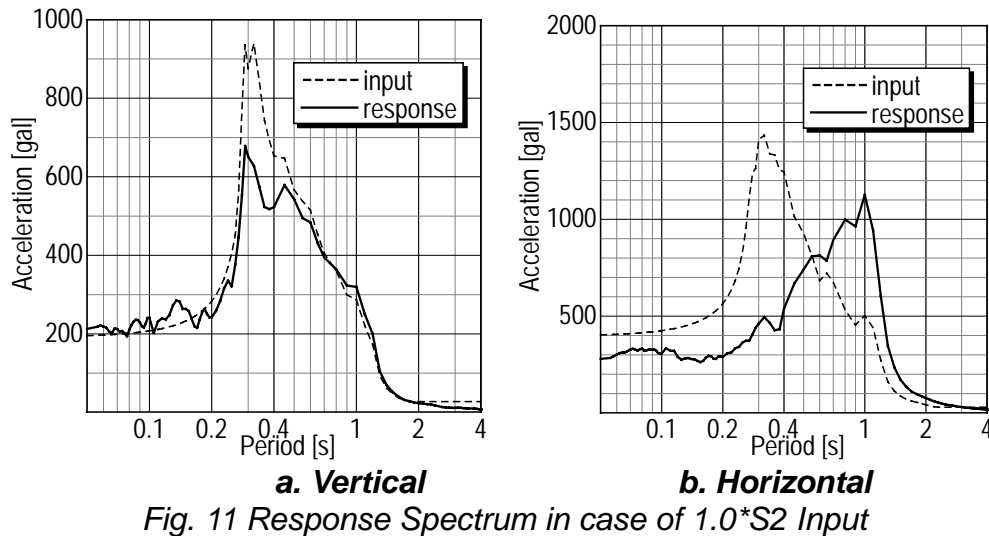


Fig. 11 Response Spectrum in case of $1.0 \cdot S_2$ Input

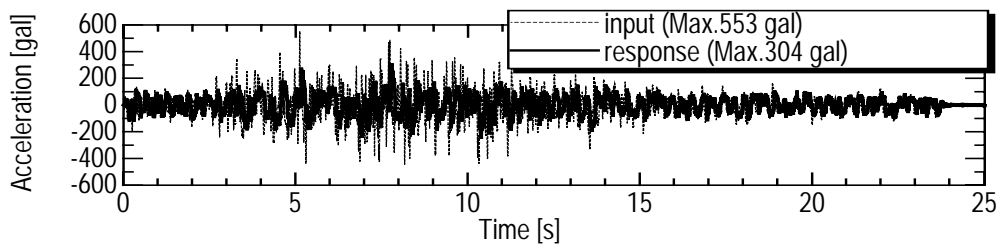


Fig. 12 Time History of Response Acceleration in Vertical Direction (0.3Hz HPF input)

Figure 13 shows the response spectrum of the input acceleration and of response acceleration of the building model in vertical direction. It is confirmed that the response spectrum is greatly decreased in a low area of the period than 0.5 seconds as shown in Fig.13.

We can see that the isolation performance also appears well in vertical direction.

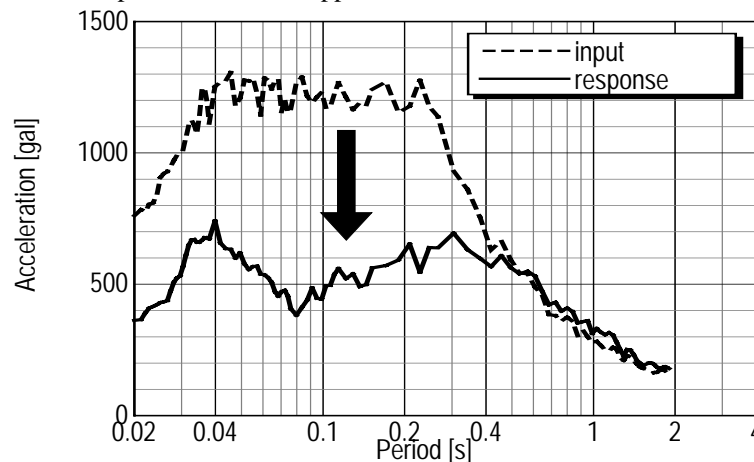


Fig. 13 Response Spectrum in Vertical Direction (0.3Hz HPF input)

4.3.4. Health to Excessive Level of Earthquake

Figure 14 shows the response spectrum of input acceleration and of response acceleration of the building model in case of

that 1.5*S2 wave in X (horizontal) direction and Z (vertical) direction input simultaneously. The shape of response spectrum in Fig.14 is almost similar to that in Fig.11 (which is that of 1.0*S2). Thus it is confirmed that the excessive level of earthquake input both in horizontal and in vertical direction does not affect the isolation performance.

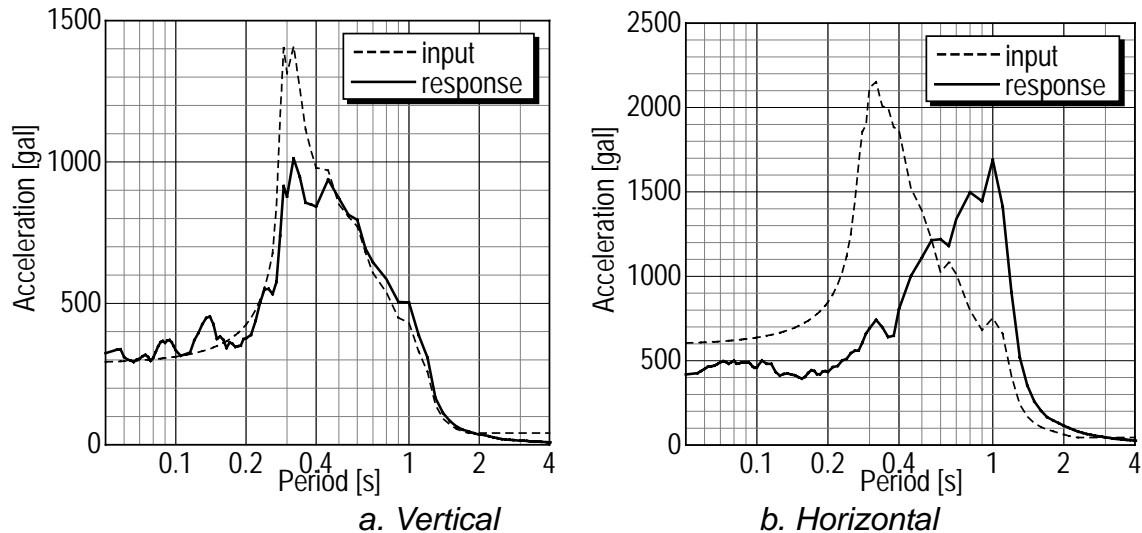


Fig. 14 Response Spectrum in case of 1.5*S2 Input

4.3.5. Independency of Performance in Horizontal and Vertical direction

Figure 15 shows the response spectrum in the case of the shaking table excited in X direction only, in X and Z direction and in X, Y and Z direction simultaneously. As shown in this figure, input condition does not affect the response spectrum both in horizontal direction and in vertical direction; in other words, isolation performance is almost independent from each other. This is a convenient characteristic to design the isolation performance.

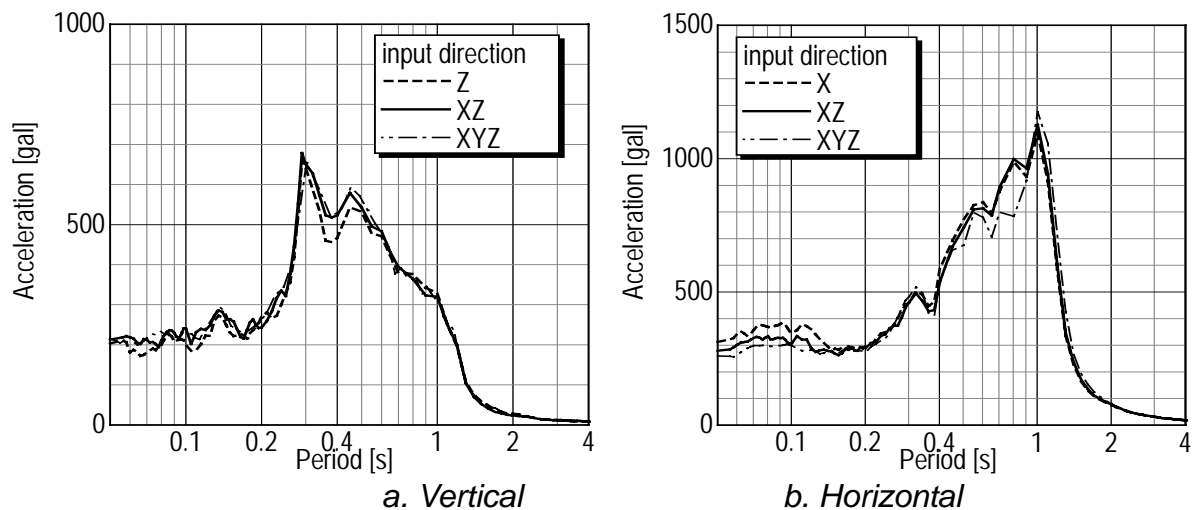


Fig. 15 Influence of Input Condition on Response

4.3.6. Performance of Rocking Suppression

Figure 16 shows the vertical response displacement due to the rocking motion at the load-carrying cylinder under the input condition of that excited in X, Y and Z direction simultaneously. The response displacement due to the rocking motion is only 1.35 mm. It indicates the effect of the rocking suppression is remarkable under three-dimensional seismic excitation.

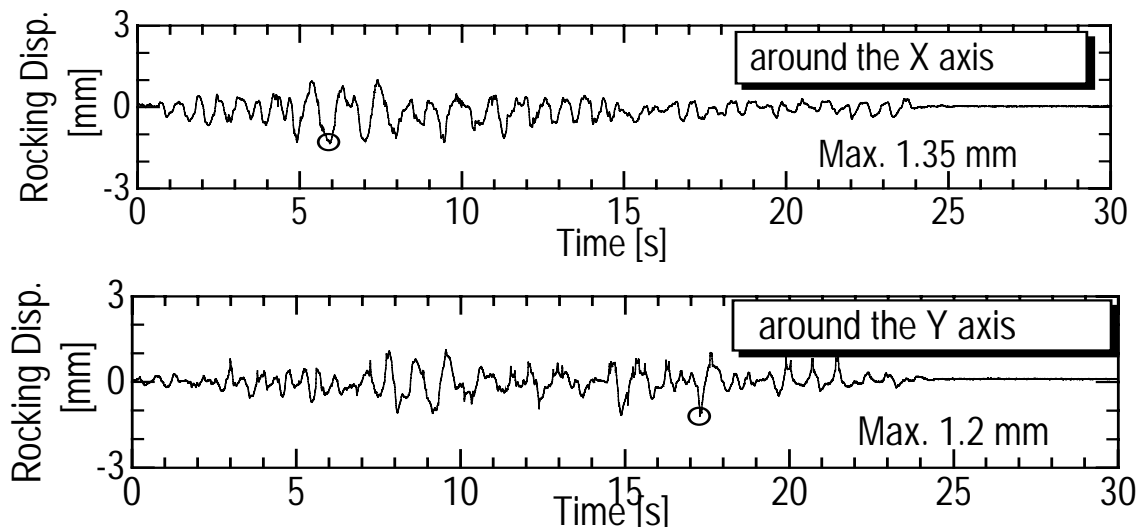


Fig.16 Vertical Displacement due to Rocking Motion

CONCLUSION

Shaking table tests of the 3D seismic isolation system that combined air springs and hydraulic rocking suppression devices were executed. Following points became clear as the results of the tests.

- # The device characteristics (natural frequency, damping factor, etc.) obtained from the test were almost equal to designed values.

- # The maximum response values in the test were almost equal to results of the prediction analysis.

- # The hydraulic rocking suppression devices proved to be effective to three-dimensional input excitations.

- # It is quite possible to actualize the air spring the burst pressure of which exceeds 20MPa.

- # In this isolation system, almost no interaction was observed between horizontal and vertical responses to 1.5 S2 input excitations.

- # Effectiveness of the seismic isolation system was confirmed through the test result that response vertical acceleration spectra greatly decreased in short period domain if high-pass filtered vertical S2 wave, which was close to original S2 wave, was input.

As the results shown above, it is confirmed that the 3D seismic isolation device is applicable to a nuclear power plant.

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