

# LESSONS OF RECENT GIGANTIC EARTHQUAKE DISASTERS IN JAPAN



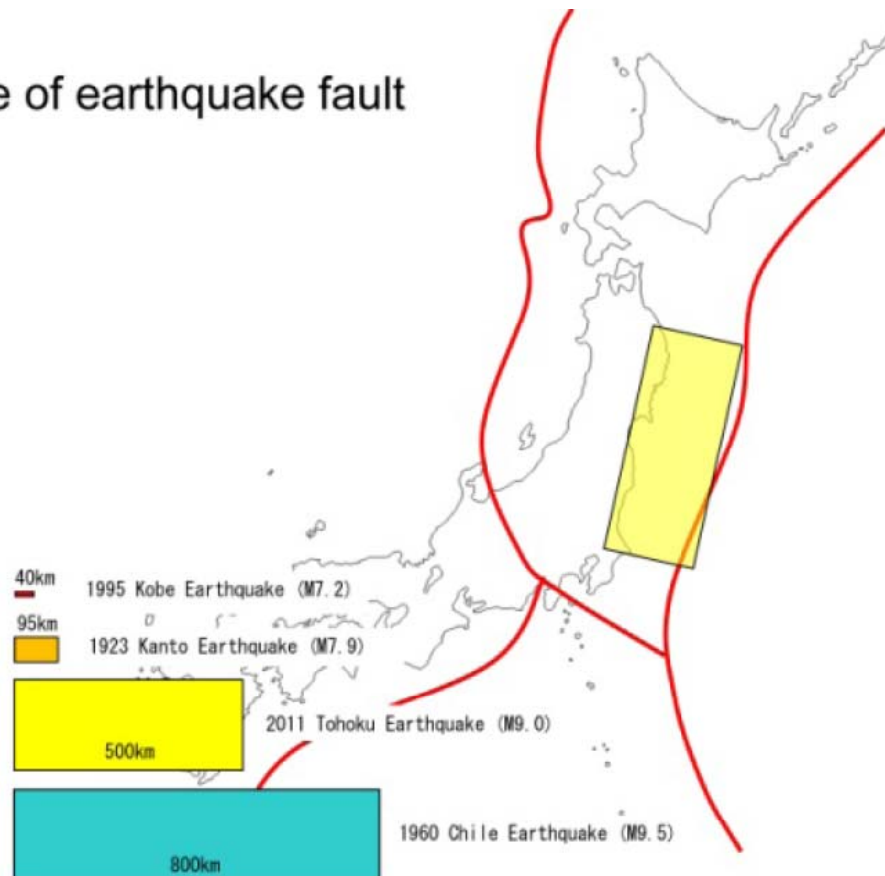
***Taiki SAITO***

Chief Research Engineer,  
International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering (IISEE),  
Building Research Institute (BRI)

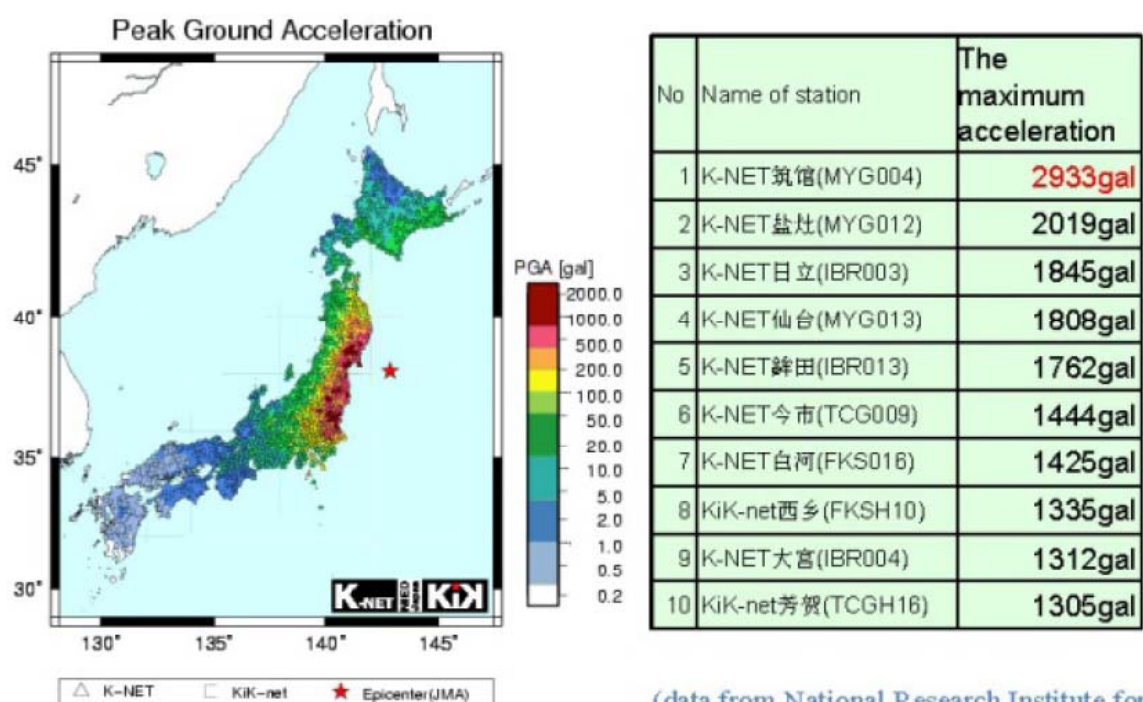
	1923 Great Kanto Earthquake	1995 Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake	2011 Great East Japan Earthquake
	Kanto Earthquake	Kobe Earthquake	Tohoku Earthquake
Date	1923.09.01	1995.01.17	2011.3.11
Time	11:58	05:46	14:46
Magnitude	7.9	7.2	9.0
Death & missing	Around 105,000	6,434	19,312 as of Dec.2011
Main cause of death	Fire 85%	Build. Collapse 75% Fire 12%	Tsunami 92%



## Size of earthquake fault



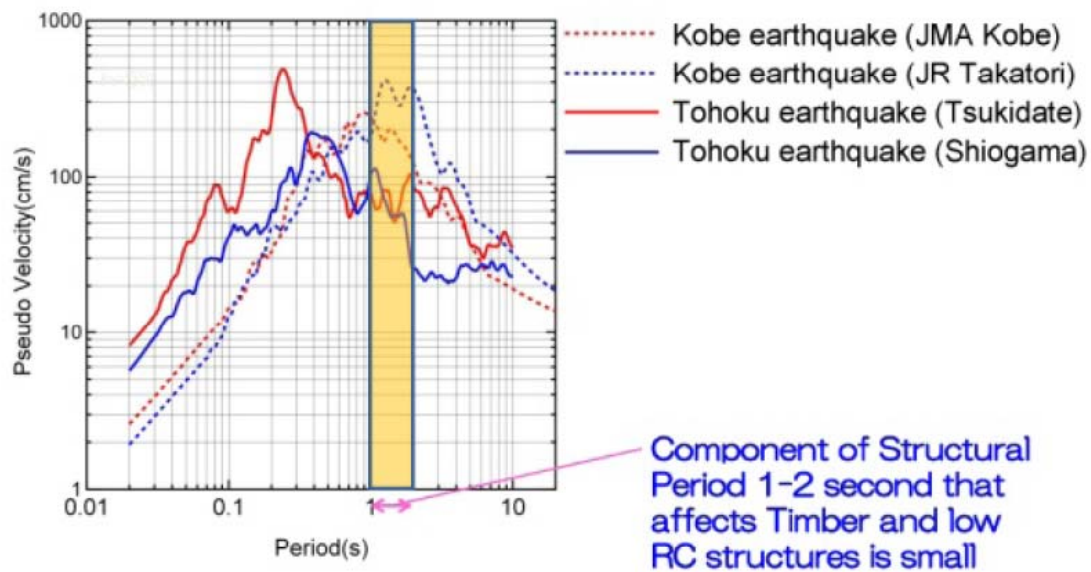
## Intensity of Tohoku Earthquake



2011/03/11-14:46 38.103N 142.860E 24km M9.0

(data from National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention)

## Comparison between TOHOKU and KOBE Earthquakes



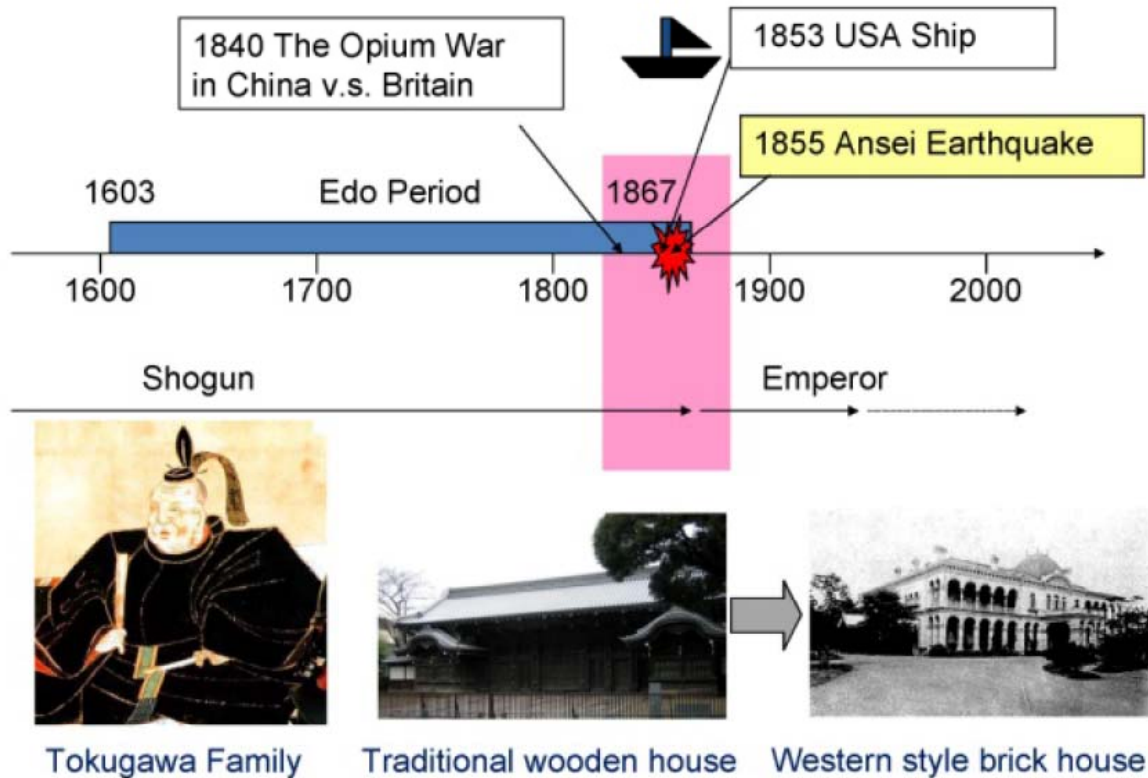
- Component of Short period is dominated at around the epicentre
- Component of the period of 1-2 second that affects structure is small.

(slide from ATC-JSCA meeting)

## 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake (Kanto Earthquake)

# Transition to western culture

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Government recommended buildings made of brick.



Ginza Brick Street (1873)



Asakusa Brick Tower (1890)



1891 Nobi Earthquake (M8.0)

1923 Great Kanto Earthquake (M7.9)

1924 The first seismic code

Brick → Reinforced Concrete



Ginza Brick Street (1873)



Asakusa Brick Tower (1890)

## Lessons from 1923 Kanto Earthquake

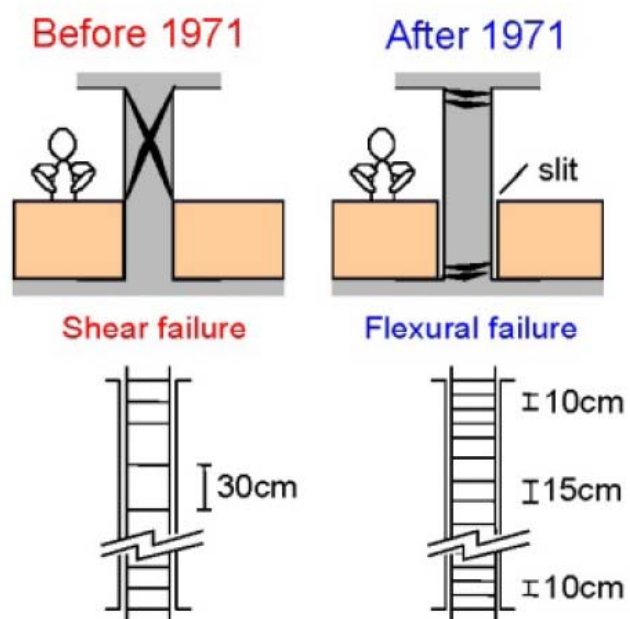
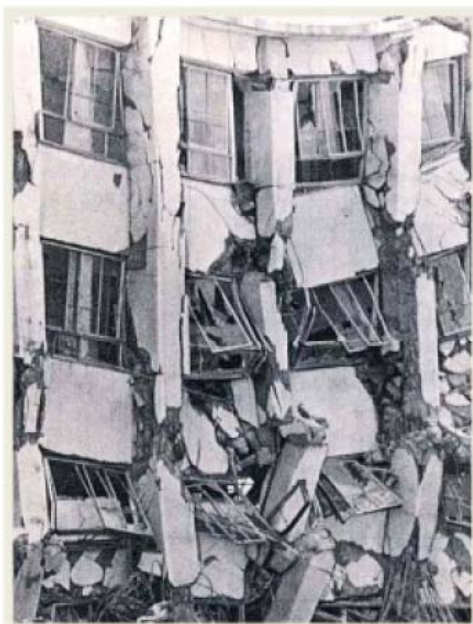
- **Brick building** was introduced as the symbol of western culture and fire resistance structure.
- No scientific study about seismic resistance.
- It was a trigger
  - to develop the **first seismic design code** in the world,
  - to give up brick structure and shift to **RC structure**,
  - to develop original structure (**SRC, RC shear wall**)

Quick and brave decision.

## 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (Kobe Earthquake)

1968 Tokachi-oki Earthquake

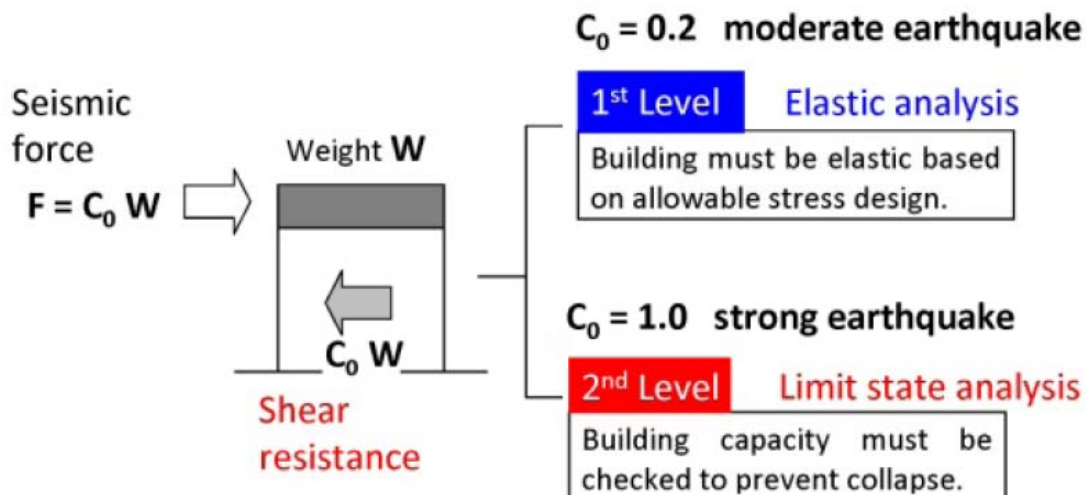
### 1971 Revision of AIJ Standards for RC



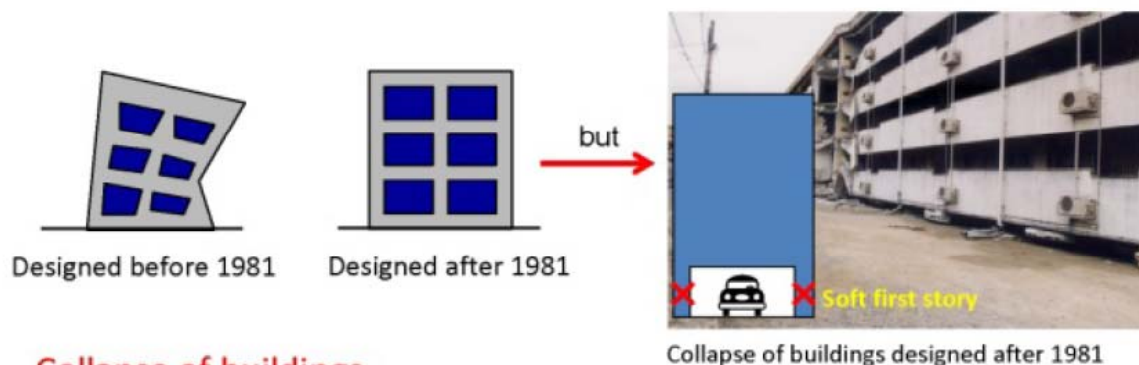
## 1978 Miyagiken-oki Earthquake

### 1981 Revision of Building Standard Law

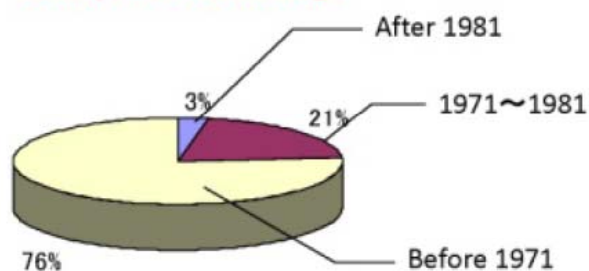
#### Two stage design procedures



### 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake



#### Collapse of buildings



1995 Law on the promotion of the earthquake resistance of building

## Lessons from 1995 Kobe Earthquake

- Seismic design code was **revised every time** after severe earthquake damage of buildings.
- The biggest revision was made in 1981 introducing the regulation to check **the seismic capacity of a building**.
- The building designed **after 1981** survived well at the 1995 Kobe earthquake.
- It was a trigger to **promote seismic retrofit** of existing buildings designed before 1981.

## 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake (Tohoku Earthquake)



## Introduction

### Casualties

Deaths	15,843
Missing	3,469
Injured	5,890

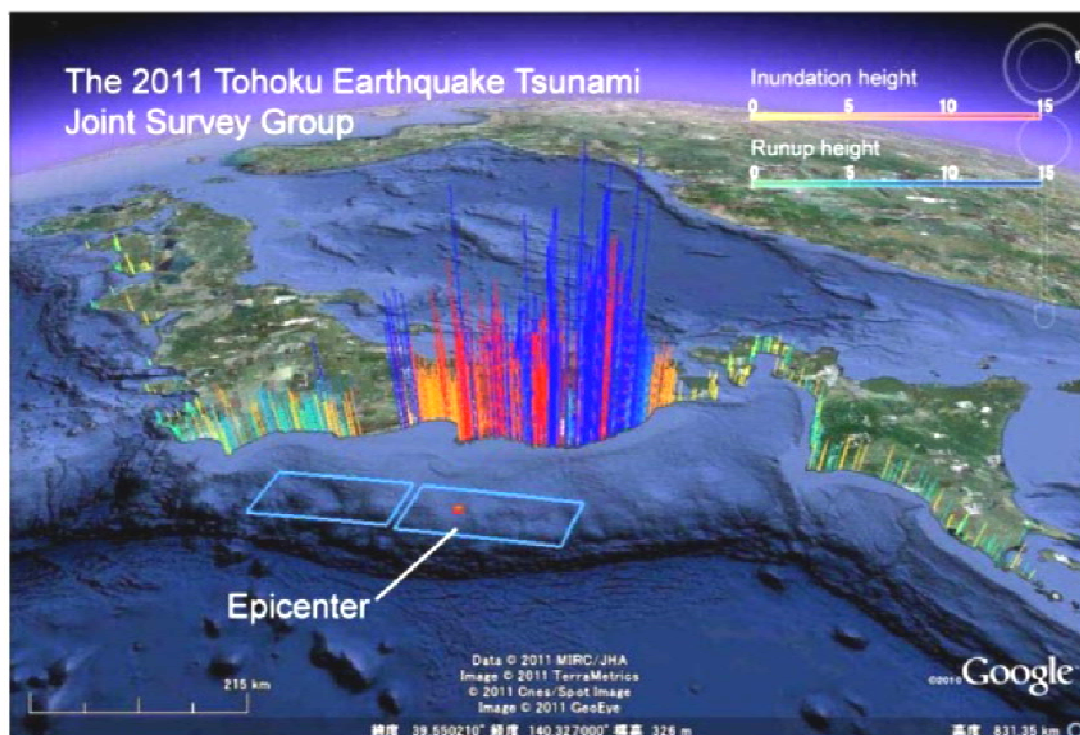
### Damage to buildings

Total collapse	126,315
Partial collapse	227,339

More than 92% of casualty was caused by **Tsunami** induced by the earthquake.

The **earthquake shaking** was also strong in wide area of Japan; however, the damage of buildings due to shaking was limited.

*Source: National Police Agency, as of 22 December 2011*

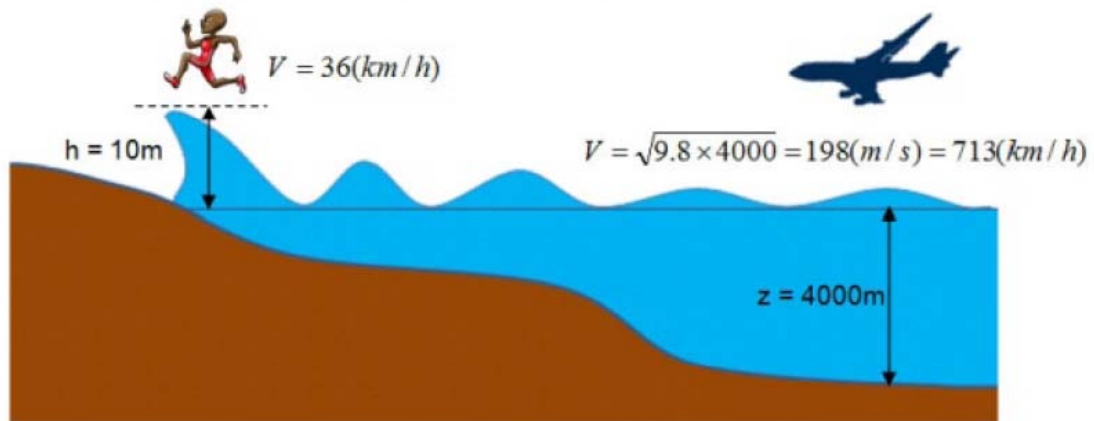


By JSCE Coastal Engineering Committee

## Tsunami Speed

$$V(m/s) = \sqrt{g(m/s^2) \times (z(m) + h(m))}$$

Where  $g$  : gravity acceleration( $=9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ ),  $z$  : depth of water,  $h$ : tsunami height



## Typical damage state – RC structure (1)

turnover of an entire building

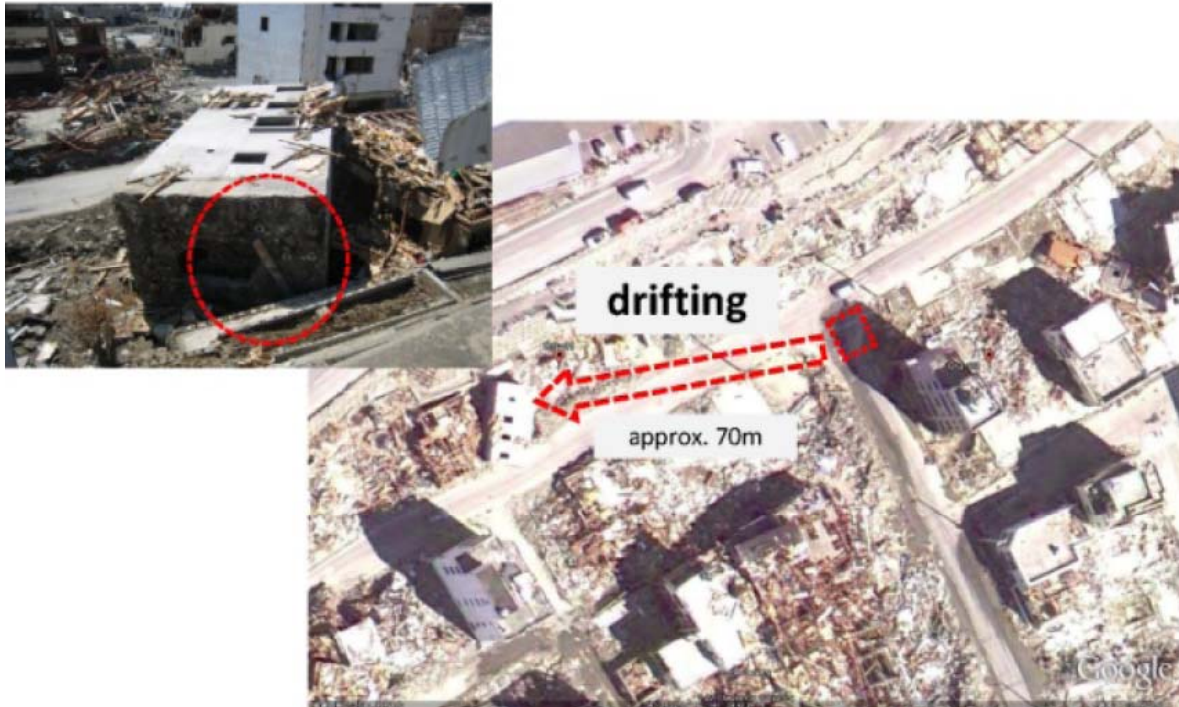




## Typical damage state – RC structure (2)

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- turnover and drift of an entire building



## Typical damage state – RC structure (3)

22

Entire building suffered from significant sinking following the effect of erosion in the ground.



## Typical damage state – Steel structure (1)

23

Turnover and drift of entire building following the fracture of exposed-type column base



## Typical damage state – Steel structure (2)

24

- Turnover and drift of entire building following the fracture of column capital
- This type of damage was observed in the buildings whose columns have concrete encased base or imbedded type base.

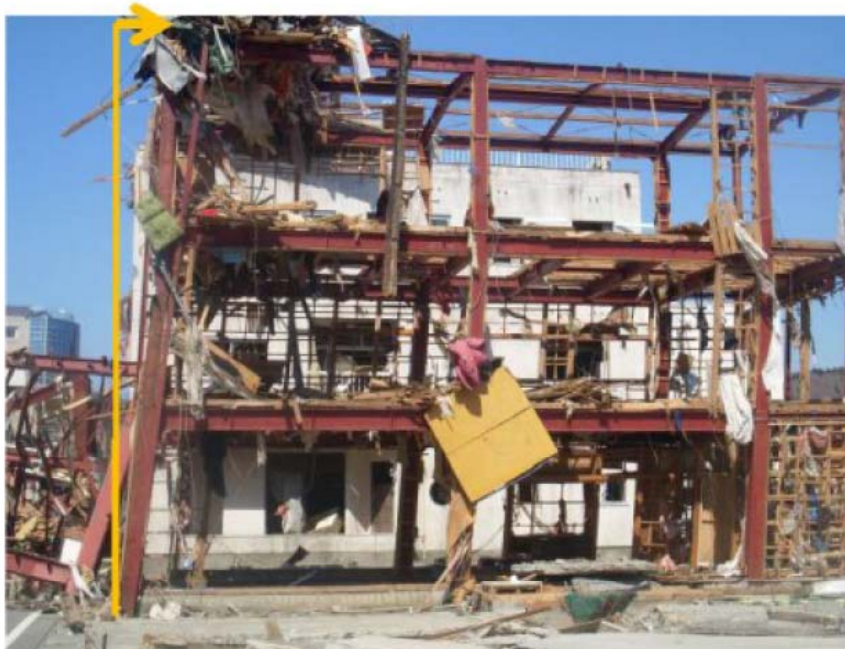




## Typical damage state – Steel structure (3)

25

Main columns and beams in some buildings are almost intact after all the external claddings were swept away. But they have residual deformation in columns.



## Typical damage state – Timber structure (1)

26

Entire buildings are swept away.



## Typical damage state – Timber structure (2)

27

If timber structures are located just behind a relative large-scale building, they were not swept away because of the decrease of direct tsunami effect on them.



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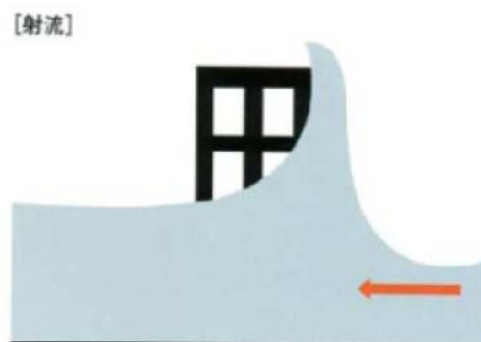
### Normal flow



$v < \sqrt{gD}$  Smooth Tsunami

$V$ ; flow speed  
 $g$ ; gravity acceleration  
 $D$ ; water depth

### Flush flow



$v > \sqrt{gD}$  Atrocious Tsunami

Water depth is shallow and flow speed is very high. When it attacks the building, it goes jumping up.

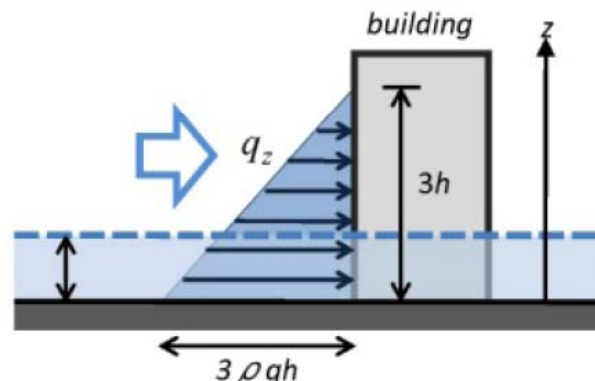
## Guideline on the structural design of buildings for vertical evacuation from tsunami

### 2005 guideline

Design wave pressure

$$q_z = \rho g(3h - z)$$

Design water depth:  $h$



### 2011 guideline

$$q_z = \rho g(\alpha h - z)$$

$$\alpha \quad (\alpha = 1.5 - 3.0)$$

$\rho gh$

## Lessons from 2011 Tohoku Earthquake

- There is a need to consider **tsunami force in building design** in a tsunami hazard area.
- Building damage due to earthquake shaking was **limited to old buildings** designed before 1981.
- However, the following problems emerged;
  - Extensive **liquefaction** occurred,
  - **Nonstructural damage** such as fall of ceiling panels caused human loss and regulation must be reviewed.
  - **Highrise building** suffered large & long time shaking.



## Conclusion

- Tsunami has attacked Tohoku regions repeatedly. However, people forgot such lessons and started living again in dangerous areas near the ocean.
- The return period of the gigantic earthquake is too large for human to keep awareness of disaster prevention.
- Therefore, it is important to change regulations or make the new ones reflecting the lessons as soon as possible. Also, sharing such experience with other countries is very important.

**Japanese people are deeply grateful of the strong support and encouragement which people in other countries have given us through this difficult time.**

**Thank you very much  
for your kind attention.**