

## CHAPTER 152

### THE STRUCTURAL RESPONSES OF DOLOS ARMOR UNITS UNDER THE DYNAMIC LOADING

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#### ABSTRACT

The "Dolos" is now used widely for harbor and shore protection works in various ports of Taiwan (R.O.C.) and some damage has been noted. The purpose of this research is to understand the major factors which influence dolos breakage. The factors studied include plain or reinforced concrete, rebar arrangement, chamfered or enlarged fillet corner and the fracture behavior by pendulum and drop test.

Site observations and laboratory dynamic tests are included in this paper. The site observation investigated the behavior of the broken dolos at each harbor. In the laboratory dynamic tests 42 specimens of 1.5 tons dolos were used for drop tests; frontal and transverse pendulum tests (Fig.1).

The results show that the fracture behavior in the laboratory tests agree with those of site observation, i.e. cracking due to frontal impact is more severe than that of transverse impact. The arrangement of rebar also influences the strength of the dolos. Therefore, it is suggested that the dynamic tests are necessary for dolos testing.

#### INTRODUCTION

The sequence of breakwater failures in the late seventies and early eighties raised questions whether there were deficiencies in the design or construction of rubble mound breakwaters. Conclusions from some of the damage investigations were <sup>(1)</sup>:

- Damage to dolos of more than 15 tons can occur due to rocking, and hydraulic damage criteria are no longer applicable.
- More basic research and full scale monitoring is required to establish proper design guidelines.

A successful design must ensure both the hydraulic and structural stability of the units. Consequently, problems related to the structural strength of dolos have been discussed. Lillevang<sup>(2)</sup> used 3D

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photoelastic stress analysis to examine the stress distribution of dolos models with various shapes of stem-fluke corner under static loads. Burcharth<sup>(3)</sup> did drop and pendulum tests using 1.5 tons and 5.4 tons dolos, and proposed a method for a dynamic test, and Terao<sup>(4)</sup> also carried out drop and static load tests using 0.04 tons, 0.4 tons and 4 tons units.

Dolos have been used in various ports of Taiwan, R.O.C. The dolos have suffered impact loading resulting from rocking/rolling of units and missiles of broken units.

SITE OBSERVATIONS

Fig.2 is key map of the site obscration of dolos destruction in Taiwan and Table 1 shows a summary of detailed information of these dolos projects in Taiwan. The most severe storm damage which occurred at the east breakwater of Hua-Lien Harbor during typhoon Andy was up to 70%. The probable reason was the limited ability for placing 40 tons Dolos, hence the units were unstable on the steep armor slope. Damage of 20% occurred at the west breakwater of Hua-Lien Harbor, while still under construction and before the crown wall had been constructed. Hua-Lien Harbor faces the Pacific ocean and the units suffered from severe wave impact loades. Typical dolos destruction in Taiwan, R.O.C. is shown in Fig. 3.

THEORETICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR ANALYSIS OF DYNAMMIC TESTS

The dynamic testing of dolos to destruction is to simulate the impace force when the units are rocking or struck by broken units. Burcharth<sup>(3)</sup> derived formulae for the maximum tensile stress in a dolos exposed to impace load in a drop test and a pendulum test (Fig.4) by using impulse moment equations and dimensional analysis as follows:

$$\text{drop test : } \frac{\sigma}{MghC^{-3}} = C_1 \frac{1+r}{r^2} \sqrt{\frac{E}{\rho gh}} \quad , \quad 0.3 \leq r \leq 0.4 \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

$$\text{pendulum test (1) : } \frac{\sigma}{mghC^{-3}} = C_2 \frac{1}{r^3} \sqrt{\frac{E}{\rho gh}} \quad \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

- where  $\sigma$  = maximu tensile stress
- $M(m)$  = dolos (pendulum) mass
- $h$  = fall height of pendulum (or dolos center of gravity)
- $C$  = dolos height
- $g$  = gravitational acceleration
- $E$  = elastic modulus
- $\rho$  : mass density of pendulum and dolos
- $r$  : waist ratio (0.319 in this test for 1.5 tons dolos)
- $C_1$  and  $C_2$ : constant factors to be determined by tests

Since thest formulae were developed for specific test set-ups involving bending and shear stress in the most exposed cross seciton, we developed another test set-up for a transverse pendulum test which creates mainly torque in the stem. A formula were developed similar to the frontal pendulum test as follows:

pendulum test (2) :  $\frac{\tau}{mghC^{-3}} = C_3 \frac{1}{r^3} \sqrt{\frac{E}{\rho gh}}$  ..... (3)

where  $\tau$  = torsion

$C_3$  = constant to be determined by tests.



DROP TEST



PENDULUM TEST(1)



PENDULUM TEST(2)

Fig.1 DYNAMIC TESTING SET UP

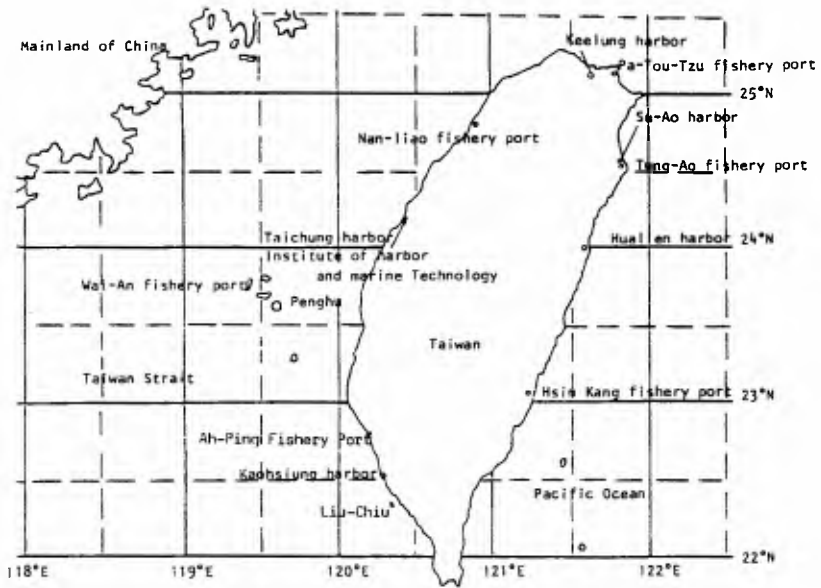


Fig. 2 KEY MAP OF THE SITE OBSERVATIONS OF DOLOS DESTRUCTIOIN IN TAIWAN



KEELUNG HARBOR



SU-AO HARBOR



HALIEN HARBOR



PA-TOU-TZU  
FISHING PORT



SU-AO HARBOR



HALIEN HARBOR



KAOHSIUNG HARBOR



TUNG-AO FISHING PORT



HSIN KANG FISHING PORT

Fig. 3 TYPICAL DOLOS DESTRUCTION IN TAIWAN

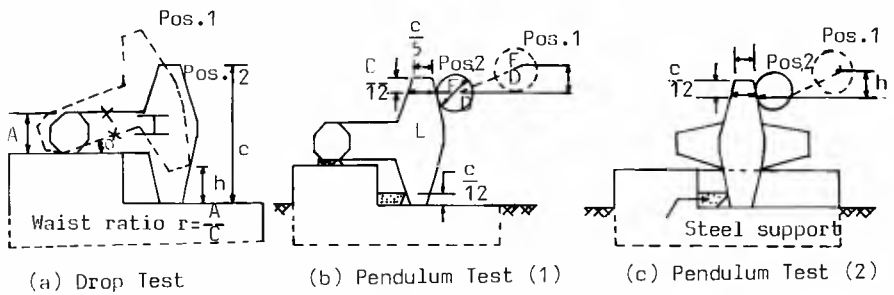


Fig 4. SIMULATED DYNAMIC TEST

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF DETAILED INFORMATION ON KNOWN DOLOS PROJECTS IN TAIWAN

Project & details	Design conditions		Structure geometry		Dolos (recurring particulars)					Site Experience							
	Wave height (m)	Wave period (s)	Armor slope (tan)	Crest height (m)	Dolos mass (k/tons)	Water depth (m)	Void ratio	Design Program (Mts)	Design layer (tons)	Dolos strip (days)	Dolos moving (days)	Dolos Placing (days)	Recovery (days)	Storm wave height (m)	Storm damage (%)	Unit cost (USD)	
50. - Ab. harbour																	
composite caisson break-water, 1974-1979	10	11	0.5	+32	25	25	4.2	0.32	2.45	28	2-5	1	5	28	28	5130	
1974-1979	10	13	0.5	+27	8-20	8-20	3	0.32	2.45	28	2-5	1	5	28	28	9300	
Sealing harbour																	
PA-DY-NEW breaker																	
1979-1980			0.33	+11.8	-5.0	-6.0	30	3.32	0.27	35	3-5	3	7	15	28	1320	
1976-1981			0.5	+14.1	-10.0	-11.0	40	4.75	0.36	24.5	0.5-1	2	15	28	35	1083	
East Breakwater																	
1976-1981			0.67	+7.0			54.5	5.43	0.27	35	2	3	7	15	35	1083	
Zhengshing harbour																	
Second harbor breakwater																	
1977-1978	6.0	10				13.0	7.5	2.67	20.59	20.59	2	7	23.6			3025	
1977-1978	6.0	10				8.0	7.5	2.67	20.59	20.59	2	7	23.6			5023	
Chong Shan university Breakwater 1983-1984																	
Mallian harbour																	
Old - east breakwater																	
1980-1982			2	+11	8	6	4	4.56	0.33	2.4	28	1.43	7-5	30	0	1	424
Old - west breakwater																	
1981-1984			2	+13	6	6	4	4.56	0.33	2.4	28	1.49	NO	30	0	1	424
New - west breakwater																	
1980-1983			2	+13	6	6	41	4.56	0.33	2.4	28	1.49	NO	30	0	1	424
FLANKY PORTS:																	
Pa - Tan - Tzu																	
1980-1982	7.2	11.0															
1981-1980	13.0	13.1															
1982-1984	3.7	9.3															
1981 - CHU	1.6	5.7															
1981 - KANG	7	11.7															
1978 - AN																	
1982 - AO	4.1	8.6															
1983	6.7	6.5															

\* 18T/18H - Main Breakwater; 18T/18H - Inner Slope.

x All days after casting.

± All depths are to be mean sea level (MSL).

‡ Calculated from Andy Tsipson, (July 28 1983).

§ Damage occurred at the section of 18T where crown wall had not built completed; the Thirds of the depth was 2.0m.

TEST PROGRAMME

Test Specimens

A total of 42 units of 1.5 tons dolos were used in the tests and classified into seven types. Six units of each type were used for drop tests, frontal and transverse pendulum tests. The geometry and specifications of the units are shown in Fig. 5 and Table 2 respectively.

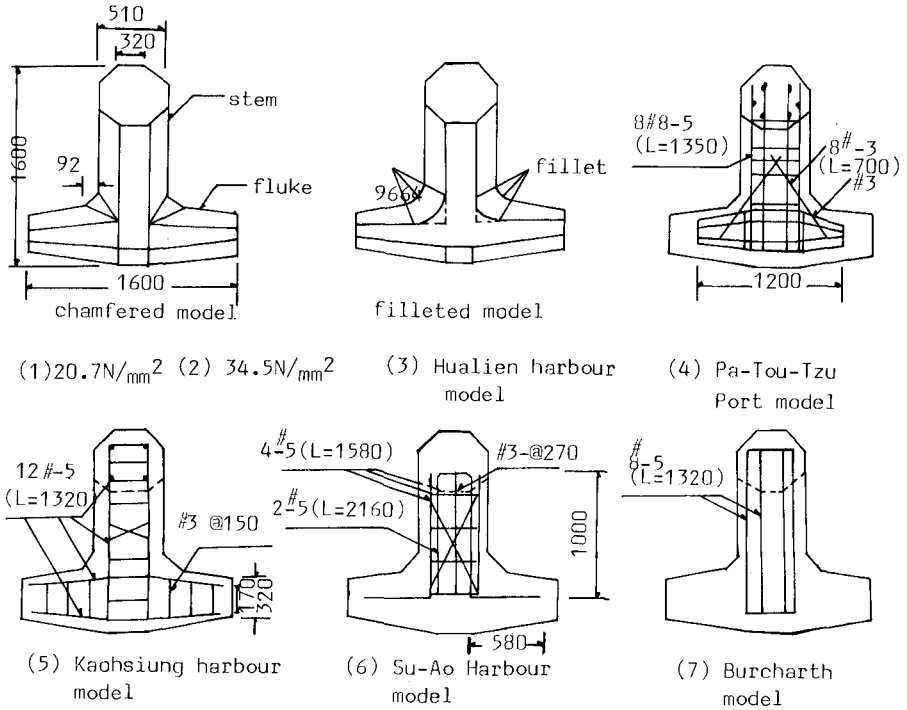


Fig 5. GEOMETRY OF DOLOS UNITS

Fig. 6 shows the preparation of dolos specimens. For quality control, two control specimen (15 cm x 30 cm) for each dolos unit were manufactured and tested by 100 tons universal material testing machine (Fig.7). They were also taken nondestructive tests by using test hammer (Fig.8) and ultra-sonic pulse measuring units (Fig.9). These data were compared to the compressive strength of control specimen's results.

TABLE 2. SPECIFICATIONS OF THE TEST SERIES

Series No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Design compression strength (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	20.7		34.5				
Mass of unit M(Tons)	1.39	1.44	1.44	1.49	1.48	1.47	1.46
Density $\rho$ (Tons/m <sup>3</sup> )	2.14		2.22				
Height of unit C (mm)	1600	1600	1600	1610	1610	1600	1600
Waist ratio $r = \frac{A}{C}$	0.319			0.329			
Mass of pendulum m(Tons)	0.318			0.323			
Cement content (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	294			417			
Water-Cement ratio	0.68			0.48			
Aggregate	crushed, max. dia 20mm						
Mean static compression strength; 150x300 mm cylinder $\sigma_c$ (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	22.7		43				
Mean flexural strength; center point loading test $\sigma_f$ (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	4.64		8.08				
Mean static tensile strength; cylinder splitting test. $\sigma_T$ (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	1.85		3.58				
Poisson ratio (%)	24.2		21.8				
Mean dynamic modulus of elasticity; ultrasonic method test E (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	3.6x10 <sup>4</sup>		4.3x10 <sup>4</sup>				
Mass of steel (kg)	0	0	0	47	38	25	21
Steel VS. Conc. ratio by weight (%)	0	0	0	3.26	2.64	1.74	1.46
Steel area ratio (%)	0	0	0	1.890	0.945	1.890	1.890



THE BIRD'S EYE VIEW  
OF DOLOS MANUFACTURE



DOLOS MOLDING



CURING



PLACING



DEMOLDING



DOLOS SPECIMENS

Fig.6 DOLOS SPECIMES PREPARATION



Fig.7 100 TONS UNIVERSIVAL  
MATERIAL TESTING MACHINE



Fig.8 TEST HAMMER



Fig.9 ULTRA-SONIC  
PULSE MEASURING  
UNIT

### Experimental Method and Equipment

Three different types of test were used (Fig.4). The drop test simulates the wave induced rocking of the units. The pendulum tests (1) and (2) simulate the frontal and transverse impact from pieces of broken units that are thrown around by the waves.



The experiment was carried out on a test platform. In the drop test, one end of the dolos is lifted to a predetermined height and then dropped by means of a quick release hook (Fig.10 & 11). In the pendulum tests (1) and (2), the pendulum is pulled back a certain distance and then released.

The pendulum is a steel cylinder mould with wall thickness of 10 mm, filled with the same type of concrete as used in the dolos. Its weight is 1/5 of the dolos weight. The pendulum is suspended on two wires hanging on a steel gantry.

Before dynamic testing the dolos specimen were tested by using test hammer and ultronic-sonic pulse measuring unit (Fig.12) to be sure of good quality.

In the drop tests, we measured the fall height (the vertical distance from the base to the center of the fluke end); the initial drop of 100mm was gradually increased in increments of 20mm. In the pendulum tests, we measured the draw back distance (the shortest distance between the surface of the pendulum and the impact point on the dolos); and it was gradually increased from 300mm in the first strike, in increments of 20mm.

Because of the rebound, the dolos was jerked back against the steel packing block after each pendulum blow.

The concrete surface was carefully examined after each strike and the width and extent of the cracks were recorded.

With the purpose of examining the fracture, the loading on the plain concrete was continued until the unit broke into two pieces. Failure of the reinforced units was taken as occurring when the crack width exceeded 0.15mm which examined by a crack detection microscope (Fig.13).



Fig.10 DROP TEST  
QUICK RELEASE  
HOOK

Fig.11 PENDULUM  
TEST QUICK  
RELEASE HOOK

Fig.12 ULTRA-SONIC  
PULSE VELOCITY  
MEASUREMENT OF  
DOLOS

Fig.13 CRACK  
DETECTION  
MICROSCOPE

## TEST RESULTS

### Maximum Fall Height

The average maximum fall height of the pendulum (or the dolos center of gravity) was defined as the point at which the plain concrete dolos broke into two pieces and the crack width of reinforced units exceeded 0.15mm.

The test results of average maximum fall height of dolos destruction for the seven types used are shown on Fig.14. It is quite obvious that the Pa-Tou-Tzu fishery port model is the best one. For chamfered corner dolos made of plain concrete, a strength of 34.5 N/mm<sup>2</sup> (5000 psi) is better than that of 20.7 N/mm<sup>2</sup> (3000 psi), and for the same strength of 34.5 N/mm<sup>2</sup> (5000 psi), the chamfered corner type is better than the enlarged fillet corner type.

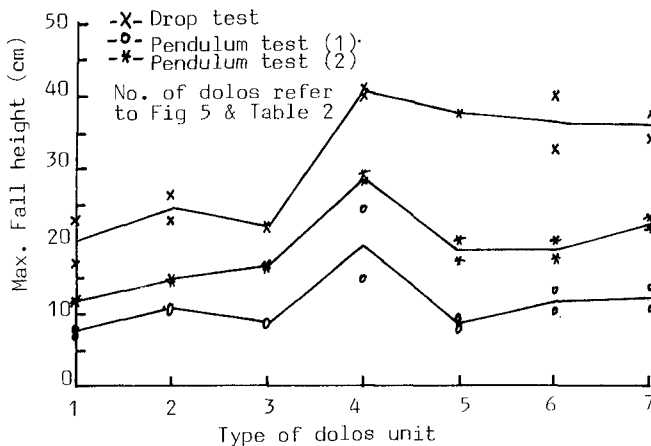


Fig 14 Max. Fall Height of Dolos Destruction

### Fracture Types

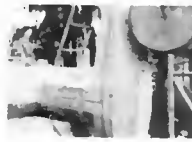
The fracture types of dolos destruction are shown on Fig.15 and Fig.16 and described as follows:

**Drop test:** There were two fracture types. In the first type, cracks started at the top of the stem-fluke corner and spread to the bottom of the stem. In the second type, the fractures not only developed in the stem-fluke corner but also in the middle part of the bottom of stem, and spread to the top of the stem.

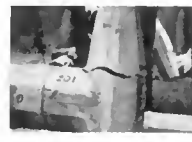
**Pendulum test (1) :** In one type, cracks started at the bottom of the stem-fluke corner and spread to the top of the stem. In another, cracks started at the top of stem-fluke corner and spread to the fluke.



KAOHSIUNG HARBOR MODEL  
DROP TEST



PA-TOU-TZU PORT MODEL  
PENDULUM TEST(1)



PLAIN CONC FILLETED  
PENDULUM TEST(2)



PLAIN CONC CHAMFERED  
DROP TEST

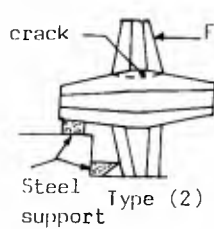
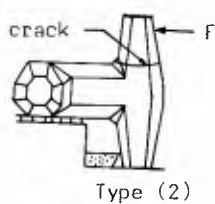
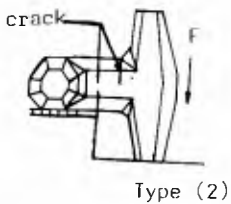
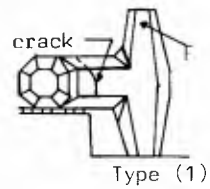
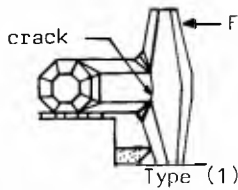
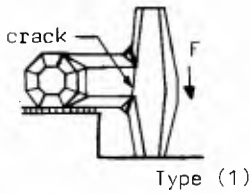


KAOHSIUNG HARBOR MODEL  
PENDULUM TEST(1)



SU-AO HARBOR MODEL  
PENDULUM TEST(2)

Fig.15 TYPICAL FAILURE TYPES UNDER DYNAMIC TESTS



(a) Drop test

(b) Pendulum test (1)

(c) Pendulum test(2)

Fig 16. Typical cracks and fractures under dynamic tests

Pendulum test (2) : The cracks either started in the middle part of the top of the stem and spread to the bottom of the stem, or started at the top of the stem-fluke corner and spread to the fluke. For reinforced units, the crack spread is fast in the fluke and very slow in the stem.

#### Maximum Stress vs Fall Height

Test data for the three kinds of plain concrete units were input into eq.(1), eq.(2) and eq(3). The constant factors were determined by test results and are shown in Table 3. The maximum tensile stress on the dolos is proportional to the square root of the average maximum fall height of the pendulum. This relationship is shown in Fig.17. Therefore by comparing with the plain concrete cylinder splitting test data, the mean static tensile strength of each type of dolos model can be obtained and is shown in Table 4.

TABEL 3. FACTORS IN EQ.(1)-(3) DETERMINED BY TEST RESULTS

Test type	Factor	34.5N/mm <sup>2</sup> Chamfered	34.5N/mm <sup>2</sup> Filletted	20.7N/mm <sup>2</sup> Chamfered
Drop	C1	0.116	0.123	0.074
Pendulum(1)	C2	0.333	0.372	0.227
Pendulum(2)	C3	0.286	0.266	0.178

TABLE 4. COMPARISON OF MEAN STATIC TENSILE STRENGTH IN REINFORCED UNITS (N/mm<sup>2</sup>)

Test type	Pa-Tou-Tzu fishery port	Ksohsiung Harbor	Su-Ao Harbor	Burcharth's paper
Drop	4.628	4.454	4.379	4.349
Pendulum(1)	4.912	3.273	3.829	3.894
Pendulum(2)	4.595	4.132	4.155	4,540

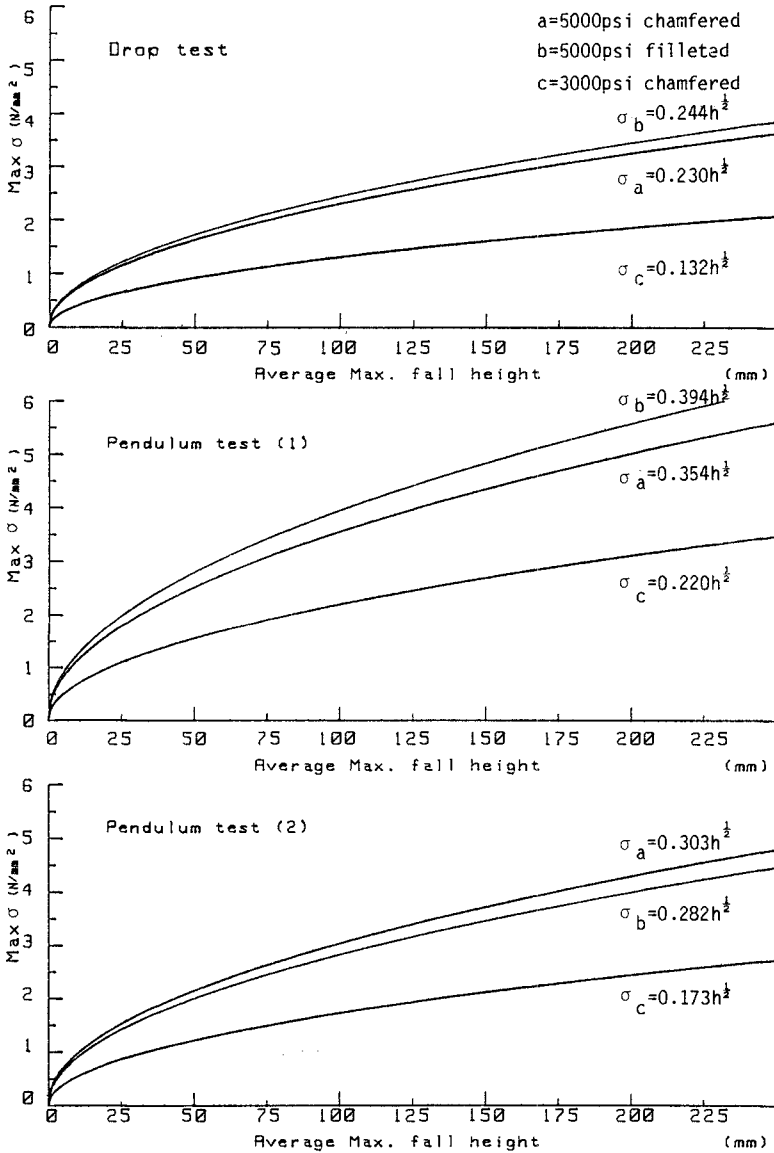


Fig 17 Max. tensile stress vs average max. fall height

### DISCUSSION

1. Fig.14 shows that the dynamic strength of reinforced concrete units is better than that of plain concrete, therefore putting suitable rebar into the tension zone will reinforce the tensile strength of dolos.
2. Wave forces are random, therefore the rebar should be distributed throughout the stem and fluke of the dolos. In the Su-Ao Harbor model, the rebar in the fluke deflected to one side, and the dynamic strength was low. In the Kaoshiung harbor model, the quantities of rebar in the stem were inadequate. There is no rebar in the fluke of the Burcharth model, so it is easy to break the fluke. The rebar design in the Pa-Tou-Tzu fishery port model is better, and therefore it shows the best performance in the dynamic tests.

### CONCLUSIONS

1. The cracking behavior in dynamic tests coincided with those of site observation. In the design of dolos, the design criteria should consider both the hydraulic and mechanical instability.
2. Comparing the results for units of both reinforced and plain concrete, it is clear that reinforcement of the unit could reduce the magnitude of the stress concentration, but a suitable rebar arrangement must be made to ensure durable behavior, otherwise corrosion of rebar may occur.
3. From the dynamic tests, it was found that cracks start at the corner between the stem and fluke. If the cross section of this corner is increased, then the free length of fluke will be shortened and the probability of dolos fracture will be decreased.
4. Fracture by frontal impact is more severe than that of transverse impact which in turn is more severe than that of the drop test.

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