

DEVELOPMENTS DURING ONE DECADE

On 4th of October 1957, the first satellite was launched and the human being may land on the moon next year. The developments of the space technology during one decade are really dazzling and admirable. As for the earthquake engineering, an international organization was formed at the 2nd World Conference on Earthquake Engineering in Tokyo and Kyoto about one decade ago. Since then, the 3rd Conference was held in New Zealand and the 4th one will open in Chile next year. Through these conferences, research engineers have been encouraged and research activities have been much advanced.

In the field of earthquake engineering, dynamic analysis and response calculation attracted many attentions about 10 years ago. Hundreds of papers on nonlinear as well as linear response calculations have been published. The problems of energy dissipation, internal friction and dynamic characteristics of soil, especially the problem of liquefaction have been cleared. And now, the finite element method has begun to be applied to investigate dynamic behaviors of the continuous system, for instance, soil foundation, the fill-type dam and so on.

Science and technology are now continuing to make rapid progress. Progress in engineering is not discontinuous and a few germs of problems which will be actively studied may have sprouted anywhere in this field. It is important for us to search for and grow them carefully. In the earthquake engineering field, what are the germs of future problem which will bloom one decade later since now? This may be a question for all.



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