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Seismic Retrofit Screening of Existing Highway Bridges With Consideration of Chloride-Induced Deterioration: A Bayesian Belief Network Model

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Seismically deficient bridges, coupled with their aging and deterioration, pose significant threat to safety, integrity, and functionality of highway networks. Given limited funds available for bridge retrofitting, there is a need for an effective management strategy that will enable decision-makers to identify and prioritize the high-risk bridges for detailed seismic evaluation and retrofit. In this paper, a risk-based preliminary seismic screening technique is proposed to rank or prioritize seismically-deficient bridges. The proposed risk assessment entails hierarchically integrating seismic hazard, bridge vulnerability, and consequences of failure. The bridge vulnerability accounts for chloride-induced corrosion deterioration mechanisms. A Bayesian belief network based modeling technique is used to aggregate through the hierarchy and generate risk indices. The efficacy of the proposed method is illustrated on two existing bridges that are assumed to be located in high seismic zones and designed under different standards concerning their structural safety under seismic loads and durability performance.

Keywords: Bayesian belief network, corrosion, chloride ingress, reinforced concrete, bridges, risk assessment, seismic vulnerability, decision making

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INTRODUCTION

The seismic vulnerability of existing bridges in many countries is apparent from different earthquake reconnaissance reports, e.g., Northridge earthquake in USA (Mitchell et al., 1995; Basöz et al., 1999) and Hyogo-ken Nanbu earthquake in Japan (Anderson et al., 1996; Kawashim, 2000). Thus, bridges located in high seismic risk zones of Canada, such as British Columbia and the St. Lawrence valley in Quebec, for example, are prone to damage (e.g., Mitchell et al., 1991, 2013) and require detailed vulnerability assessment (e.g., Filiatrault et al., 1994). The seismic screening and retrofitting of all bridges owned or managed by a given department of transportation is prohibitively expensive and cannot be accommodated given the limited funds and competing needs. Hence, there is a need to identify and prioritize high risk bridges for seismic retrofit (e.g., Mitchell et al., 1994; Sexsmith, 1994) using risk-based prioritization approaches (Ellingwood, 2001; Lounis and McAllister, 2016). The problem is further compounded with the prevalence of aging and corrosion-induced deterioration (e.g., Zhong et al., 2012). Thus, in high seismic risk regions, efficient bridge

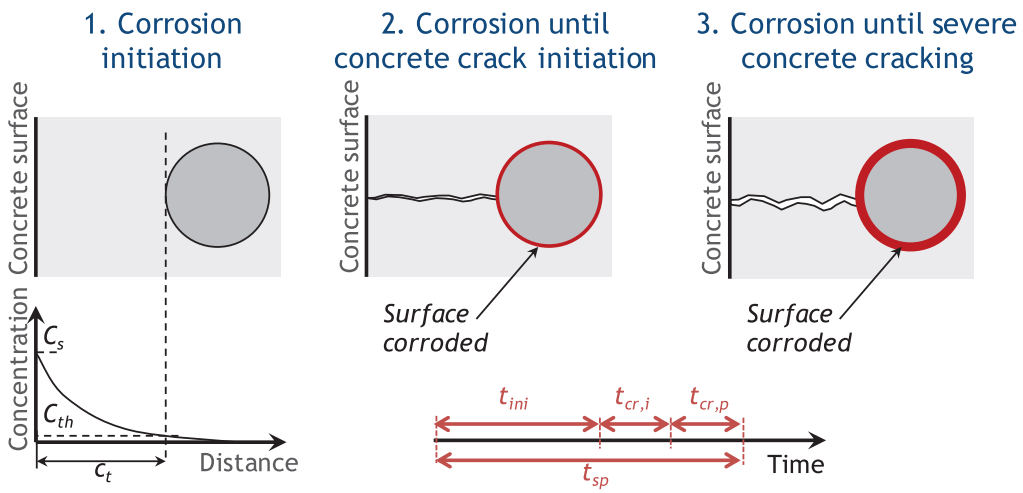

FIGURE 1 | Chloride-induced deterioration stages up to severe concrete cracking.

management entails accounting for the prevalent deterioration and site specific seismic risk (Mayet and Madanat, 2002).

Despite its practicality and relevance, the use of risk as a criterion for decision-making may not be easy given the complexities of assessing both the probability and the consequence of failure (Haimes, 2009). The assessment of seismic risk for highway bridges and its management are subject to uncertainties (e.g., Sexsmith, 1994). The uncertainty can be divided into three different categories (Klir and Yuan, 1995): (i) randomness (inherent to some process); (ii) incompleteness (what we do not know); and (iii) fuzziness (difficulty in establishing and defining boundaries). Thus, mathematical techniques that incorporate expert knowledge, qualitative and quantitative empirical data are required (Chen et al., 2016; Franchin et al., 2016).

Chloride ingress from de-icing salts and seawater is the principal cause of deterioration of reinforced concrete (RC) structures, with consequent reduction in serviceability, functionality and safety, increase in maintenance costs as well as users costs (De-Leon-Escobedo et al., 2013; Bastidas-Arteaga and Schoefs, 2015; Lounis and McAllister, 2016). Bhide (2008) highlighted that "about 173,000 bridges on the interstate system of the United States are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete due in part to corrosion." In order to minimize maintenance costs and failure risks, there is need to develop deterioration models to estimate the effects of chloride ingress on safety, serviceability, durability, and to develop optimized maintenance plans (Lounis and McAllister, 2016; Bastidas-Arteaga, 2018). For instance, De-Leon-Escobedo et al. (2013) provided a probabilistic approach to assess the time to corrosion initiation and the optimal inspection time by accounting for epistemic and aleatory uncertainty. The time to corrosion damage, (severe cracking or spalling), t_{sp} could be obtained as the sum of three stages (**Figure 1**) (Bastidas-Arteaga and Stewart, 2016): (i) corrosion initiation (t_{ini}); (ii) corrosion until concrete crack initiation ($t_{cr,i}$, time to first cracking–hairline crack of 0.05 mm width), and; (iii) corrosion until severe concrete cracking ($t_{cr,p}$, time for crack to develop from crack initiation to a limit crack width, w_{lim})–i.e., $t_{sp} = t_{ini} + t_{cr,i} + t_{cr,p}$.

The impact of corrosion on the seismic vulnerability of highway bridges is an on-going research endeavor. Recent experimental studies (e.g., Guo et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2016; Yuan et al., 2017) accounted for the three above-mentioned stages and have shown that with increasing level of corrosion-induced deterioration, there is significant reduction in strength and energy dissipation capacity. The impact of the deterioration on vulnerability assessment is also investigated analytically (e.g., Alipour et al., 2010; Ghosh and Padgett, 2010; Simon et al., 2010; Akiyama et al., 2011; Ma et al., 2012; Zhong et al., 2012). Current seismic screening criteria do not consider some factors, such as *aging, deterioration, and loss of strength,* that are important for a reliable structural performance evaluation of existing bridges. The main reasons for this include the lack of reliable deterioration models, and the prohibitive costs for the analysis of a large portfolio of bridges. To address these shortcomings, a practical Bayesian belief network (BBN)-based hierarchical approach for seismic risk bridge evaluation and screening for seismic retrofit is presented in this paper. This approach has been used for reliability updating in some previous studies for modeling the mechanisms of chloride-ingress into concrete (Tran et al., 2016) or lifetime assessment from accelerated tests (Tran et al., 2018). The application of the proposed approach is illustrated on a portfolio of existing bridges in high seismic hazard zones by using different design standards and integrating the durability performance in the seismic risk.

BAYESIAN BELIEF NETWORK FOR BRIDGE RISK ASSESSMENT

A BBN is a graphical model that permits a probabilistic relationship among a set of variables (Pearl, 1988). The BBN is Direct Acyclic Graph (DAG) consisting of a set of nodes (parents and children) that are connected by edges to illustrate their dependencies. Nodes in BBN are graphical representations of objects and events that exist in the real world and can be modeled as continuous or discrete random variables. A conditional Probability Density Function (PDF), $f\left(X|\mathbf{pa}(X)\right)$ or Probability Mass Function (PMF), $p\left(X|\mathbf{pa}(X)\right)$ is assigned to each child node, where $\mathbf{pa}(X)$ are the parents of X in the DAG. An edge may represent causal relationships between the variables (nodes) but this is not a requirement. The graphical structure of a BBN encodes conditional independence assumptions among the random variables. Hence, a BBN is a compact model representing the joint PDF or PMF of random variables. In this study, only BBN with discrete random variables are considered.

BBN allows the introduction of new information (evidences) from the observed nodes to update the probabilities in the network. On the basis of the Bayes' theorem for n number of mutually exclusive hypotheses H_i, $i = 1, \ldots, n$, and a given evidence E, the updated probability is computed as:

$$p\left(H_j/E\right) = \frac{p\left(E/H_j\right) \times p\left(H_j\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} p\left(E/H_i\right) \times p\left(H_i\right)} \tag{1}$$

where $p(H|E)$ is one's belief for hypothesis H upon observing evidence E, $p(E|H)$ is the likelihood that E is observed if H is true, $p(H)$ is the probability that the hypothesis holds true, and $p(E)$ is the probability that the evidence takes place. The network supports the computation of the probabilities of any subset of variables given evidence about any other subset. These dependencies are quantified through a set of conditional probability tables (CPTs); each variable is assigned a CPT of the variable given its parents.

The quantification of the structural safety under seismic loads requires complex numerical or analytical models. Different seismic screening tools were developed for existing bridges in Canada (e.g., Filiatrault et al., 1994; Sexsmith, 1994), USA (Caltrans (California Department of Transportation), 1992) and New Zealand (Transit New Zealand, 1998). Filiatrault et al. (1994) developed bridge screening criteria based on the Caltrans' (1992) prioritization procedure. Details of the different bridge prioritization are summarized in **Table 1**. However, the prioritization summarized in **Table 1** do not account for aging and deterioration. For initial seismic screening, complexity of the bridge vulnerability assessment can be handled through a system-based approach (Haimes, 2009; Tesfamariam and Modirzadeh, 2009; Franchin et al., 2016). A six-level hierarchical structure using BBN model is shown in **Figure 2**. The BBN model is implemented in Netica software (Norsys Software Corp, 2006). Details of the hierarchy are discussed in the subsequent sections.

Bridge Damageability

The bridge damageability is used to quantify the expected damage degree for a given level of shaking. The Canadian highway bridge design code (CSA, 2014) uses four damage states (*minimal damage*, *repairable damage*, *extensive damage*, *probable replacement*) and service levels (*immediate*, *limited*, *service disruption*, *life safety*). A sample of the CPT for bridge damageability is summarized in **Table 2**. For example, for Bridge vulnerability = very low (VL), PGA = [0, 0.1], liquefaction = No, from **Table 2**, the bridge damageability for (*minor*, *moderate*, *major*) are (0.930, 0.035, 0.035). The bridge damageability can be classified as minor = 93%, with negligible/small probabilities are assigned to *moderate* = 3.5% and *major* = 3.5%. The low probabilities are associated with the consideration degree of uncertainties in the CPT generation.

With the framework of the performance-based earthquake engineering, under different hazard levels, different functional classes of bridges (*Lifeline bridges*, *Major-route bridges*, *Other bridges*) will have different performance expectations (**Table 3**). For example, a bridge classified as *Other bridges*, with PGA value obtained from hazard level of 10% probability of exceedance in 50 years (475 years return period), the expected performance level is *service limited* with *Repairable* damage.

Site Seismic Hazard

The site seismic hazard is determined by *PGA*, *soil type*, and *liquefaction* potential (**Figure 2**). With consideration of different fault types, the *PGA* is quantified as a function of moment *Magnitude*, site to fault *Distance*, fault type, and *Soil Type* (Atkinson, 2004). The *PGA* values are computed for desired hazard level specified in **Table 3**. The unconditional probabilities (UPs) for *Magnitude Distance*, and *Soil Type* are assumed to take equal probabilities defined as $1/n_k$, where n_k is number of states per variable.

For the present study, the BBN for *Liquefaction* shown in **Figure 2** is adopted from Tesfamariam and Liu (2013) that was generated through empirical data. The *Liquefaction* is conditioned on six factors: *PGA*, *magnitude*, average grain size (*D50*), tip resistance (*qc*), total vertical over-burden pressure (*sigma_vo*), and effective vertical overburden pressure (*sigma_vo_prime*).

Bridge Vulnerability

The bridge vulnerability is assessed by considering *Super Structure*, *Sub Structure*, and *Aging and Deterioration* (level 4 in **Figure 2**). Discretisation of the parameters and corresponding transformation are summarized in **Table 4**. The *Super Structure* is quantified by *Skewness* of the bridge, *Deck Discontinuity*, and *Bearing Condition* (level 5). The *Bearing Condition* in turn depends on the *Bearing Type* and *Bearing Seat* (level 6). The substructure is quantified by considering *Support Redundancy* and *Year of Construction* (level 5). The *Year of Construction* has implications on both seismic design and durability (e.g., concrete cover depth effect on corrosion). Bridges designed prior to 1971 are particularly vulnerable due to elastic seismic design methods and non-ductile detailing (Yalcin, 1997). Furthermore, a major change in the bridge seismic

TABLE 1 | Existing bridge screening criteria.

References	Parameters	Aggregation
Caltrans (1992)	H = Hazard I = Impact V = Vulnerability A = Activity PI = Priority index	H = 0.33 (1 = poor soils or 0 = good soils) + 0.38 (peak rock acceleration with 0.7 g normalized to 1.0) + 0.29 (0.5 = short duration, 0.75 = medium duration, and 1= long) I = 0.28 (parabola with 1.0 = max daily traffic of 200,000) + 0.12 (same parabola for max daily traffic over/under structure) + 0.14 (detour length with 100 miles normalized to equal 1.0) + 0.15 (1 = residence or office underneath bridge) + 0.07 (1 = parking or storage underneath bridge) + 0.07 (1 = interstate, 0.8 = US or State,.7 = RR, 0.5 = fed. funded local, 0.2 = unfunded, 0 = other) + 0.10 (1 = critical utility present) + 0.07 (facility crossed (same as above)) V = 0.25 (0.5 = yr.<1946, 1 = 1946<yr<1971, 0.25 = 1972<yr<1979, 0= yr>1979) 0.165 (0 = no hinge,.5 = 1 hinge, 1 = 2 or more hinges) + 0.22 (1 = outriggers or shared columns) + 0.165 (0 = no columns, 0.25 = pier wall, 0.5 = multi-column bents, 1 = single column) + 0.12 (skew with 90 degrees normalized to 1.0) + 0.08 (0 = end diaphragm abutment, 1 = other) A = 1.0 (low seismicity = 0.25, moderate = 0.50, active = 0.75, high = 1.00) $PI = A \times H \times (0.6\,I + 0.4\,V)$
BC MoTI (2016)	S = Seismicity I = Importance SV = Structural vulnerability PR = Priority rating	S = 0.15 (acceleration ratio) + 0.05 (soil type) + 0.05 (liquefaction potential) I = 0.25 (average daily traffic) + 0.15 (length) + 0.10 (height) SV = 0.25 × [0 (very low vulnerability) + 0.20 (low vulnerability) + 0.50 (moderate vulnerability)] + 0.25 × [0.70 (moderate-high vulnerability) + 1.0 (high vulnerability)] $PR = 0.50\,(S + I) + 0.50\,(SV)$
Quebec Ministry of Transportation (QMT) (Filiatrault et al., 1994)	GIC_S [0, 10] = Global structural influence coefficient GIC_{NS} [0, 10] = Global non-structural influence coefficient FF [1, 2] = Foundation factor SRC [0, 5] = Seismic risk coefficient SVI = Seismic vulnerability index α, β= Weighting factors	GIC_S = 0.250 (structural type index) + 0.250 (structural complexity index) + 0.175 (deck discontinuity index) + 0.150 (support redundancy index) + 0.150 (bearing condition index) + 0.025 (skew index) GIC_{NS} = 0.300 (support road type index) + 0.250 (detour index) + 0.200 (daily traffic index) + 0.150 (crossing road type index) + 0.100 (service index) $SVI = [\alpha(GIC_S) \times \beta(GIC_{NS})] \times FF \times SRC$ $\alpha + \beta = 1$
New Zealand (Transit New Zealand, 1998)	I^V = Vulnerability index I^I = Importance index I^H = Hazard index SAG = Seismic attribute grade	I^H = 0.40 (peak ground acceleration, PGA) + 0.30 (remaining service life) + 0.15 (soil condition) + 0.15 (risk of liquefaction effect) I^I = 0.50[0.50 (AADT on bridge) + 0.50 (detour effect)] + 0.10 (AADT under bridge) + 0.15 (facility crosses) + 0.15 (strategic importance) + 0.10 (critical utility) I^V =0.25 (year designed) + 0.08 (superstructure hinges) + 0.10 (superstructure overlap) + 0.12 (superstructure length)+0.15 (pier type) + 0.05 (bridge skew) + 0.10 (abutment type) + 0.15 (other feature) $SAG = I^V \times I^I \times I^H$

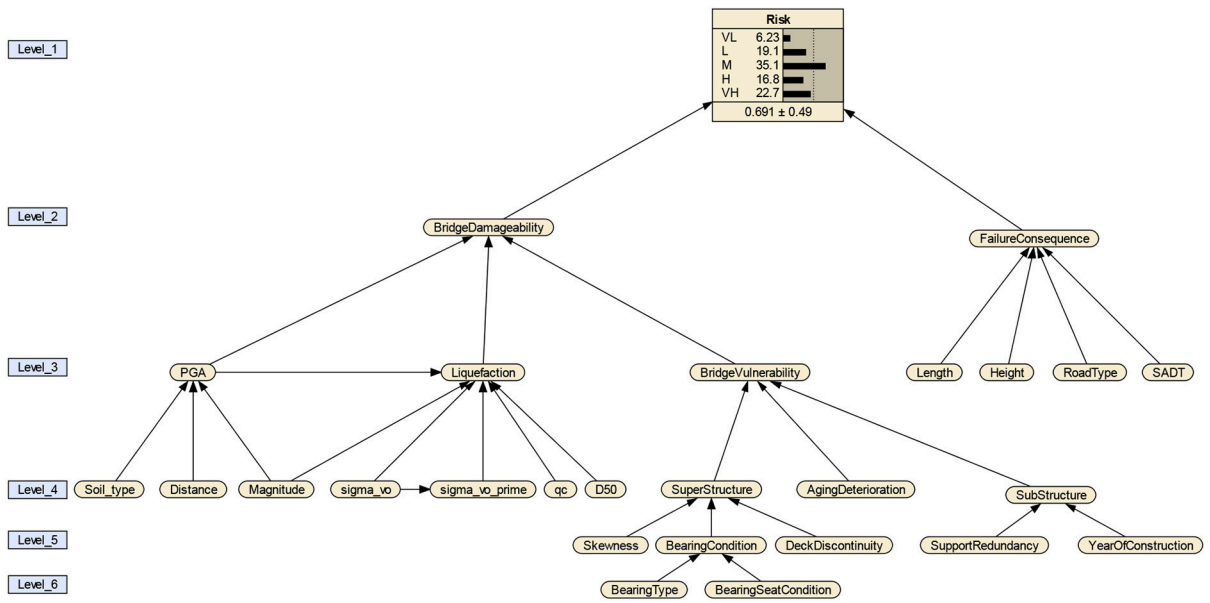

FIGURE 2 | BBN-based hierarchical bridge risk assessment.

design code was introduced in ATC-6 (ATC, 1981) that was adopted by AASHTO (1983). Elements of the superstructure and substructure are prone to different level of deterioration and aging. In this paper, chloride-induced corrosion is the primary deterioration mechanism considered and is modeled through stationary Markov chain. The details are given in the next section.

Consequences of Failure

The *Failure Consequences* of highway bridges account for fatalities, injuries, traffic delays due to bridge closure, criticality of bridge to lifeline operations (e.g., passage of emergency services vehicles), impacts on neighboring businesses and communities, etc. In this paper, the Failure Consequences are quantified through four parameters (level 3 of the hierarchy, **Figure 2**); *Length* and *Height* of the bridge, *Road Type* and *Summer Average Daily Traffic* (*SADT*) (**Table 5**). The cost of bridge replacement depends on many parameters: length, height, width, location, river crossing or overpass, time available for construction, etc. In this paper, however, the *Length* and *Height* of the bridge are used as surrogate parameters to quantify the cost of bridge replacement in the event of major damage or collapse. The *Road Type*, can be classified according to of the Canadian Highway Bridge Design Code (CSA) classification, "lifeline," "emergency-route," and "other" bridges (CSA, 2014). The *SADT* is used to quantify the impact of bridge damage on disruption/loss of personal mobility, and traffic delays. Furthermore, other parameters can also be included, e.g., width of the bridge, importance of the bridge in the overall network, other utilities carried by the bridge (gas, electricity, water).

TABLE 2 | Description of some of CPT for node variable Bridge damageability.

(Bridge vulnerability, PGA[§], liquefaction)	Bridge damageability (minor, moderate, major)
(VL[§], 0 to 0.1, No)	(0.930, 0.035, 0.035)
⋮	⋮
(VH[§], 0.5 to 0.6, Yes)	(0.035, 0.035, 0.930)
⋮	⋮

[§]*peak ground acceleration (PGA), VL, very low; VH, Very high.*

STATIONARY MARKOVIAN APPROACH FOR MODELING CHLORIDE-INDUCED DETERIORATION PROCESSES

A discrete-time Markov process can be used to predict the future states of a concrete structure by knowing its present state. Space of the variables/phenomena of interest is discretised into M states. The Markov process is thus used to determine the probability that an event belongs to a state j knowing that for a preceding time step it belonged to a state i. This probability, noted $a_{ij} = p[X_{t+1} = j|X_t = i]$, is called *transition probability*. It is considered herein that a_{ij} is independent of t (stationary Markov process). The transition probabilities can be grouped in a matrix of size $M \times M$ called transition matrix $\mathbf{P}$. According to the Chapman-Kolmogorov equations, by knowing the initial state, the probabilities of belonging to the other states after t transitions, $\mathbf{q}(t)$, are:

$$\mathbf{q}(t) = \mathbf{q}_{ini}\mathbf{P}^t \tag{2}$$

where the vector $\mathbf{q}_{ini}$ contains the probabilities of belonging to the states at an initial time–for example at $t = 0$. If it is supposed that after construction ($t = 0$) there is no deterioration, all the structures/structural components belong to the first state. Consequently, $\mathbf{q}_{ini}$ will become $\mathbf{q}_{ini} = [1, 0, 0, ..., 0]$ and **Equation (2)** provides a vector containing the probabilities of belonging to a state j at time t, where state j corresponds to more deterioration than at state i (i.e., assuming no repair is done).

In this study, the variables of interest are three ($M = 3$ states) and represent each stage of the deterioration process described in **Figure 1**:

State 1: This state represents the chloride ingress process at the concrete cover. The structural components are supposed to belong to this state if the concentration of chlorides at the cover depth is lower than the threshold value to corrosion initiation $t \in [0, t_{ini}]$.

State 2: This state considers that the corrosion process has started in the structural components. It starts after corrosion initiation and ends once concrete cover cracking initiates $t \in]t_{ini}, t_{ini} + t_{cr,p}]$.

State 3: This state encompasses the process of cover cracking propagation. It initiates once a hairline crack is nucleated in the concrete cover and ends when a limit crack width is reached $t \in]t_{ini} + t_{cr,p}, t_{sp}]$.

TABLE 3 | CAN-CSA-S16-14 performance criteria (CSA, 2014).

Seismic ground motion probability of (return period)	Lifeline bridges		Major-route bridges		Other bridges	
	Service	Damage	Service	Damage	Service	Damage
10% in 50 years (475 years)	Immediate[§]	Minimal[§]	Immediate	Minimal	Service limited	Repairable[§]
5% in 50 years (975 years)	Immediate	Minimal	Service limited	Repairable[§]	Service disruption[§]	Extensive[§]
2% in 50 years (2475 years)	Service limited	Repairable	Service disruption	Extensive	Life safety	Probable replacement

[§]*Optional performance levels unless required by the Ministry.*

TABLE 4 | Description of the BBN parameters for bridge vulnerability.

Parameter	Values
Skewness§	$\theta_S = [0, 90°]$
Deck discontinuity§	≤2
	3
	4
	≥5
Bearing type§	With lateral support
	With direct or indirect shear key
	Steel to steel apparatus
	Rollers
	Mobile rocker bearings
	Fixed rocker bearings
Bearing seat condition	Continuous seat
	Pedestal seats
	Close to free edge
Aging and Deterioration	Poor
	Fair
	Good
Support redundancy§	No pier, abutments only
	Wall pier (shaft); wood crib, wood trestle
	Multiple columns; steel trestle
	Single column
Year of construction§§	Low code (YC < 1941)
	Moderate code (1941 < YC < 1975)
	High code (YC > 1975)

§*Adapted from Filiatrault et al. (1994).*
§§*Adapted from Tesfamariam and Saatcioglu (2008).*

TABLE 5 | Description of the BBN parameters for failure consequences.

Indicator	Values
	Other
Road type	Emergency-route
	Lifeline
	0–5,000
	5,000–10,000
Summer average daily traffic	10,000–20,000
	20,000–50,000
	>50,000
	0–100 m
Length	100–300 m
	>300 m
	0–12 m (low)
Height	12–30 m (medium)
	>30 m (high)

For $M = 3$ states, the transition matrix becomes:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{3}$$

Transition matrices are estimated from Monte Carlo simulations of a probabilistic model of chloride-induced deterioration (Bastidas-Arteaga and Stewart, 2015, 2016). From all simulations, the frequency of belonging to a given state (i.e., a histogram) is determined. The probability of belonging to a state j at time t is obtained from:

$$\hat{q}_j(t) = \frac{n_j(t)}{N} \tag{4}$$

where $n_j(t)$ is the number of observations in the state j measured at time t and N is the total number of simulations.

The transition probabilities a_{ij} are computed by minimizing the difference between the probabilities estimated from simulations $\hat{\mathbf{q}}(t)$ and those obtained from the stationary Markov model $\mathbf{q}(t)$ **(Equation (5))** (Bastidas-Arteaga and Schoefs, 2012).

$$\begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{a}} \max_{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{a}) = (f_1(\mathbf{a}), f_2(\mathbf{a}), \ldots, f_M(\mathbf{a}))^T \\ \text{u.c. } a_{ij} \geq 0 \text{ and } \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} a_{ij} = 1 \end{cases} \tag{5}$$

where $\mathbf{a}$ is a vector containing the transitions probabilities to estimate in Equation (3) (optimization parameters) and $f_j(\mathbf{a})$ is the explained sum of squares (ESS) for each state j:

$$f_j(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{t=0}^{t_{ana}} (\hat{q}_j(t) - q_j(t, \mathbf{a}))^2 \tag{6}$$

where t_{ana} represents the analysis period used to perform the adjustment. This problem of multi-objective optimization has been solved by using a goal attainment method (Gembicki, 1974) available in the 'optimization toolbox' of Matlab®.

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF THE BBN MODEL

Since the final output of the BBN is dependent on the CPTs, there is a need to carry out a sensitivity analysis to identify critical input parameters that have a significant impact on the output results (Laskey, 1995; Castillo et al., 1997). Since the input parameters of the BBN have discrete and continuous values, the variance reduction method was used (Pearl, 1988). The variance reduction method works by computing the variance reduction of the expected real value of a query node Q (e.g., *PGA*) due to a finding at varying variable node F (e.g., *Soil type, Distance, Magnitude,* see **Figure 2**). Thus, the variance of the real value of Q given evidence F, $V\left(q/f\right)$, is computed as (Pearl, 1988):

$$V\left(q/f\right) = \sum_{q} p\left(q/f\right)\left[X_q - E\left(Q/f\right)\right]^2 \tag{7}$$

where q is the state of the query node Q, f is the state of the varying variable node F, $p\left(q/f\right)$ is the conditional probability of q given f, X_q is the numeric value corresponding to state q, and $E\left(Q/f\right)$ is the expected real value of Q after the new finding f for node F.

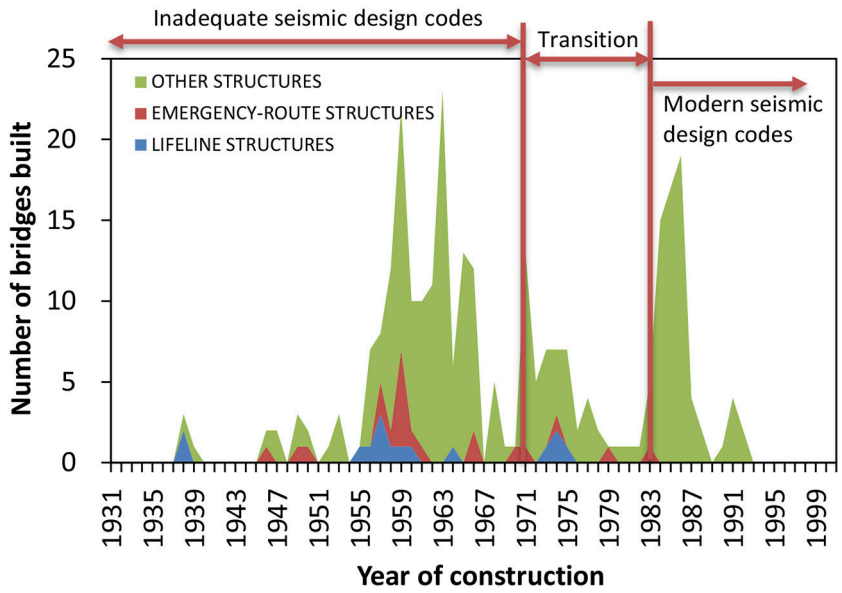

FIGURE 3 | Bridge inventory and year of construction for British Columbia, Canada.

A sensitivity analysis for the model illustrated in **Figure 2** is performed for *risk*, at *Level 1, by* varying the basic input parameters (at the base levels). The top six sensitive parameters for the risk assessment, measured in terms of variance reduction, are: *Aging and Deterioration* (0.718%), *Road Type* (0.0855%), *Year of Construction* (0.0294%), *Height* (0.0221%), and *Length* (0.0179%).

APPLICATION

The proposed methodology will be illustrated on highway bridges from British Columbia (BC), Canada. A non-exhaustive inventory of the lifeline, emergency-route and other bridges in BC are plotted in **Figure 3**. **Figure 3** shows that most of the bridges were built before the modern code were implemented, and possibly, some have been retrofitted. Each bridge, however, for different hazard levels, will have different performance limit states (**Table 2**).

Two bridges designed in 1969 (old code) and 2005 (modern code) are considered herein. The basic input parameters for the two bridges are given in **Table 6**. For Bridges 1 and 2, from 2015 National Building Code of Canada seismic hazard (http://www.earthquakescanada.nrcan.gc.ca/hazard-alea/interpolat/index_2015-en.php), the PGA values correspond to a 2% probability of exceedance in 50 years. In this paper, values shown as N/A, e.g., soil type, are handled in BBN by keeping the initial UP values. Alternatively, the best and worst values can be considered, and interval risk values are computed.

TABLE 6 | Input parameters for both bridges.

Basic input parameters	Bridge 1	Bridge 2
SITE SEISMIC HAZARD		
PGA	0.334*g*	0.368*g*
Soil type	N/A	N/A
Liquefaction	Unknown	Unknown
CONSEQUENCE OF FAILURE		
Length	100.364 m	128.498 m
Height	16 m	6.5 m
Road type	Highway	Highway
SADT	43850	5000
SUPERSTRUCTURE		
Skewness	20°	20°
Deck discontinuity[§]	<2	< 2
Bearing	Null	No roller
Bearing seat	NA[‡]	NA
SUBSTRUCTURE		
Support redundancy[§§]	Multiple column	Multiple column
Year of construction	1969	2005

[§]*Span number;* [§§] *Provided as No. Columns per Pier;* [‡]*NA = Not available.*

Quantification of Transition Probabilities

This application focuses on existing RC bridges built in a coastal area and subjected to a splash and tidal exposure. Durability design standards have been modified according to the experience feedback under real operating conditions, the better understating of deterioration mechanism, the use of new construction materials and methods, etc. For instance, evolution of design cover recommendations according to French standards for structures built between 1950 and 2010 and a splash and tidal zone are shown in **Figure 4**. It is observed that modern design codes recommend larger concrete covers to improve the durability performance of RC structures in a chloride-contaminated environment.

For the existing bridges shown in **Table 6**, no information is available about the characteristics of the concrete used for their construction as well as the design concrete cover. For simplicity, this paper assumes that both bridges were built using the same concrete with a characteristic compressive strength of $f'_{ck} = 35$ MPa. It is also considered that the rebar diameter of stirrups is $d_0 = 16$ mm for all structural components. This example takes into account the evolution in time of the concrete cover for existing bridges given in **Table 8**. We also assume that all structural components will be subjected to one-dimensional chloride ingress in a splash a tidal zone.

The random variables used to estimate damage probabilities of each state [$\hat{q}_j(t)$, **Equation (4)**] are given in **Table 7**. It is assumed that all the random variables are independent to provide the worst scenario that overestimate deterioration consequences. Damage probabilities could be updated by considering real values for concrete properties. For old structures, it could be expected low concrete strength and larger variability. This will certainly reduce the durability performance and increase seismic vulnerability. Real data could be also very useful to estimate correlations between the parameters given in **Table 7** and improve deterioration assessment.

Uncertainties in **Table 7** will be propagated into comprehensive deterioration models to assess the durability performance of bridges from initial construction up to severe concrete cracking (three stages in **Figure 1**). For the stage of corrosion initiation, the implemented finite element model for chloride ingress accounts for: (i) chloride ingress by diffusion and convection; and (ii) influence of temperature and relative humidity variations (Nguyen et al., 2017). The corrosion propagation model is based on electrochemical principles and takes into account only temperature variations (DuraCrete, 2000). Two models combining mechanical and electrochemical principles assess the stages of corrosion until concrete crack initiation [$t_{cr,i}$, El Maaddawy and Soudki (2007)] and severe concrete cracking [$t_{cr,p}$, Mullard and Stewart (2011)].

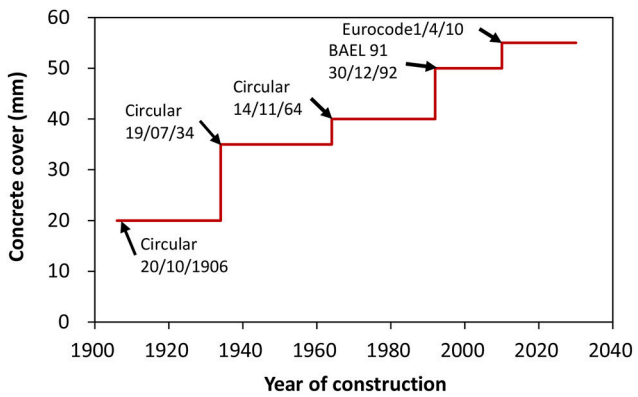

FIGURE 4 | Design concrete cover for structures built since 1906 in France. Adapted from: Bastidas-Arteaga and Stewart, 2016.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The transition matrices for different construction years and concrete covers are computed and summarized in **Table 8**. For example, using the results shown in **Table 8**, the Markov transition probabilities for Bridge 1 (construction year 1967,

TABLE 8 | Markov transition probabilities for different construction years.

Construction Year	Cover (mm)	a_{11}	a_{12}	a_{13}	a_{22}	a_{23}
1950	35	0.95	0.05	0.00	0.85	0.15
1960	35	0.95	0.05	0.00	0.86	0.14
1970	40	0.96	0.03	0.01	0.92	0.08
1980	40	0.96	0.04	0.00	0.91	0.09
1990	50	0.97	0.02	0.01	0.93	0.07
2000	50	0.97	0.02	0.01	0.89	0.11
2010	55	0.98	0.02	0.00	0.92	0.08

TABLE 7 | Random variables (Bastidas-Arteaga and Stewart, 2016).

Variable	Units	Distribution	Mean	COV
Reference chloride diffusion coefficient, $D_{c,ref}$	m^2/s	Log-normal	3×10^{-11}	0.20
Environmental chloride concentration, C_{env}	kg/m^3	Log-normal	7.35	0.20
Concentration threshold for corrosion initiation, C_{th}	wt% cem.	Normal[a]	0.5	0.20
Cover thickness, c_t	mm	Normal[b]	**Table 8**	0.25
Reference humidity diffusion coefficient, $D_{h,ref}$	m^2/s	Log-normal	3×10^{-10}	0.20
Thermal conductivity of concrete, λ	W/(m°C)	Beta on [1.4;3.6]	2.5	0.20
Concrete specific heat capacity, c_q	J/(kg°C)	Beta on [840;1170]	1000	0.10
Density of concrete, ρ_c	kg/m^3	Normal[a]	2400	0.04
Reference corrosion rate, $i_{corr,20}$	$\mu A/cm^2$	Log-normal	6.035	0.57
28 day concrete compressive strength, f'_c (28)	MPa	Normal[a]	1.3 (f'_{ck})	0.18
Concrete tensile strength, f_{ct}	MPa	Normal[a]	0.53 $(f_c)^{0.5}$	0.13
Concrete elastic modulus, E_c	MPa	Normal[a]	4600 $(f_c)^{0.5}$	0.12

[a] *truncated at 0.*
[b] *truncated at 10 mm.*

thus the transition matrix for year 1960 is used) are plotted in **Figure 5**. With the evaluation done in 2018, the bridges are 55 and 13 years old, respectively. From **Figure 5**, for Bridge 1, time after construction = 55 years, the probabilities for corrosion initiation, concrete crack initiation and severe concrete cracking are [0.06, 0.03, 0.91]. Similarly, using the transition matrix in **Table 8**, for Bridge 2, the values can be computed to be [0.69, 0.21, 0.10]. As expected, the probability of severe concrete cracking is larger for the older bridge (Bridge 1).

For year 2018, the risk assessment was carried out for Bridges 1 and 2, with PGA values of 0.334 and 0.368 g, respectively, for hazard level of 2% probability of exceedance in 50 years (**Table 6**). **Figure 6** shows results of *bridge vulnerability*, *damageability*, *failure consequence* and *risk*. Given that Bridge 1 is seismically deficient (from a design point-of-view) and higher deterioration values, it is showing a higher vulnerability value, i.e., Bridge 1 has higher expected value (EV = 0.62) than Bridge 2 (EV = 0.35). Since similar levels of PGA values are considered for both bridges, consequently, as expected, Bridge 1 is showing higher *Bridge damageability* value.

For the two bridges classified as "*other bridges*" and 2% probability of exceedance in 50 years PGA values, the CAN-SCA-S16-14 (CSA, 2014) performance criterion is *probable replacement* (**Table 3**). The evolution of the low, medium and high damage probability with respect to PGA values, for Bridge 1, are shown in **Figure 7**. As expected, damage probability increases for larger PGA values.

Using the damageability probabilities for *high*, fragility curves are generated for the two bridges (**Figure 8**). **Figure 8** shows that, as expected, for all PGA values, the curve of Bridge 1 (constructed in 1963, age = 55 years) shows higher probability of damage. To highlight the impact of aging and deterioration, the vulnerability of Bridge 2 (constructed in 2005, age = 13 years), is computed at the age 55 years (assuming all other parameters are time-invariant). **Figure 8** also indicates that, the same bridge, with aging and deterioration, the probability of

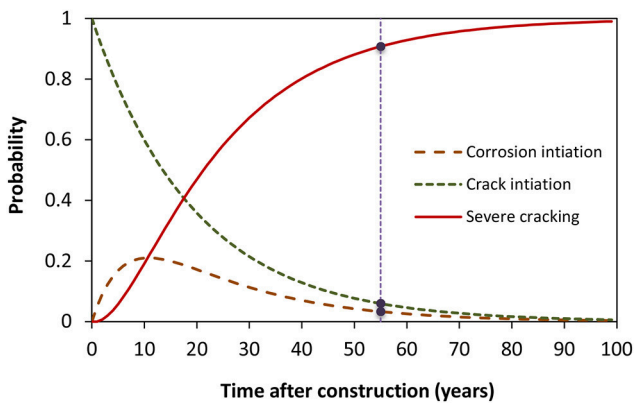

FIGURE 5 | Markov model probabilities for three damage states (Data for Bridge 1 built in 1963).

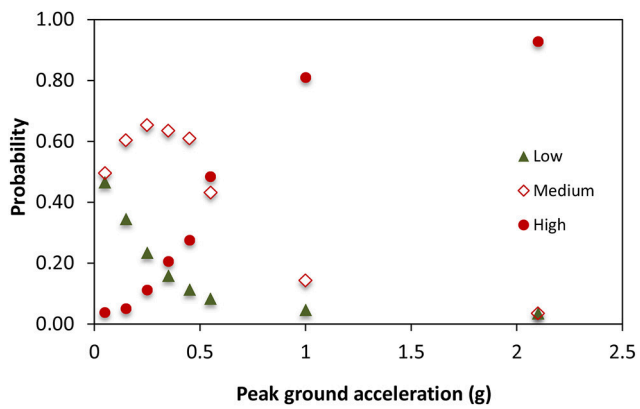

FIGURE 7 | Low, medium and high damage probability evolution with varying PGA values.

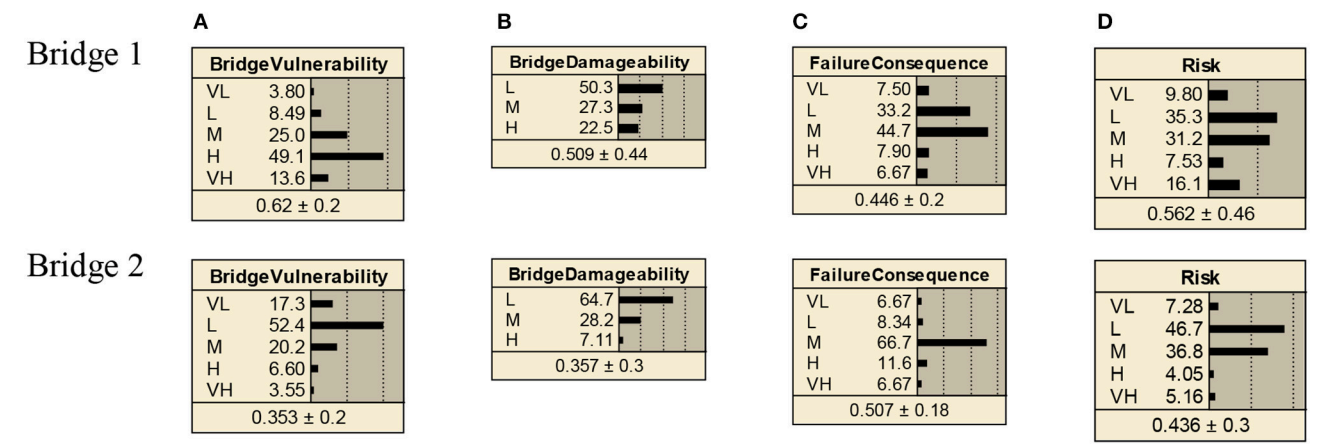

FIGURE 6 | Comparison of Bridge 1 and Bridge 2: **(A)** bridge vulnerability, **(B)** bridge damageability; **(C)** failure consequence; and **(D)** risk. VL, very low; L, low; M, medium; H, high and VH, very high.

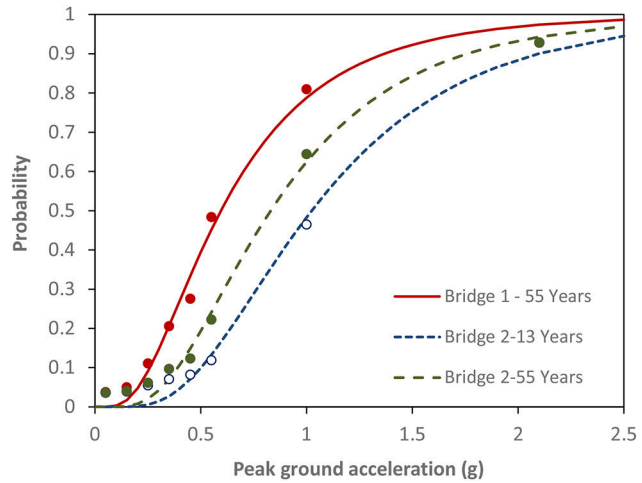

FIGURE 8 | Vulnerability of bridges.

damage increases. In addition, it can be discerned that, Bridge 2, after 55 years, performs better than Bridge 1 highlighting the impact of the recommendations proposed by modern design codes with respect to seismic and durability performance.

CONCLUSIONS

Existing approaches to bridge management and decision making have serious limitations as they express all losses in monetary terms and consider only one criterion at a time, e.g., minimization of owner costs. On the other hand, a multi-objective approach for decision-making, can incorporate all relevant objectives and enables a better evaluation of the effectiveness of preservation and protection strategies in terms of several objectives (safety, mobility, cost) and determines the optimal solution that achieves the best trade-off between all of the objectives (including conflicting ones, such as safety and cost).

A practical BBN-based approach for risk-based prioritization is proposed to provide support and relevant information to decision-makers. The risk is quantified through consideration of the bridge vulnerability, site seismic hazard and consequences of failure. A BBN using six levels is proposed to integrate all key parameters that affect bridge seismic risk. The proposed risk-based technique is applied for two bridges under a high seismic hazard. The technique showed promising results that are useful to evaluate the vulnerability of bridges by accounting for seismic hazard and chloride-induced damage. It could be extended to include other deterioration processes, cumulative damage due to previous earthquakes or at a network level, however, it has to be further calibrated with additional models and databases of field data.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

ST developed the seismic screening and BBN model. EB-A and ZL contributed on corrosion deterioration and Markov modeling.

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