WIKIPEDIA IS A SPECIAL CASE OF MISREPRESENTING THE TWIN TOWER COLLAPSE PROGRESSION MODES OVER AND OVER SINCE 2005.

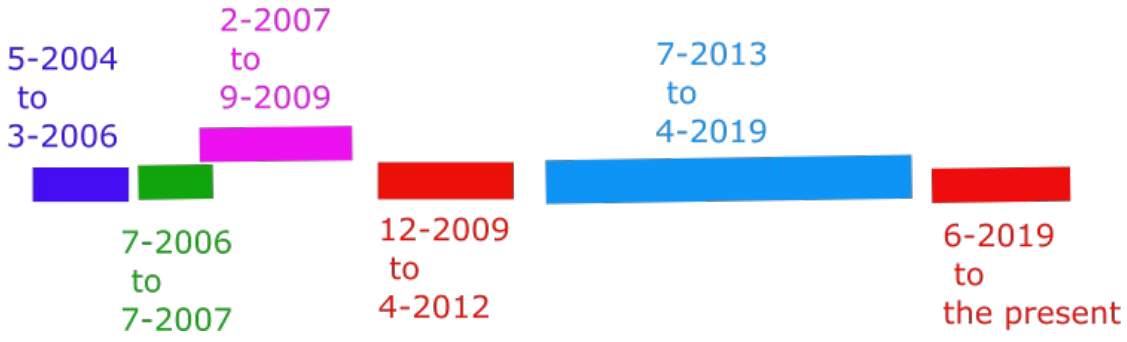
Wikipedia needs to be studied differently from all other sources. It is a special case of actively editing misrepresentations of the Twin Towers collapse progressions for at least 16 years. The first edit is from 2004. There have been over 5,000 edits over 16 years. The edit history is all logged. The edit history is of vital interest for how misrepresentations have been defended and have evolved over time.

They basically do what the New York Magazine did, but they do it over and over for more than 16 years.

Wikipedia is studied here to answer these questions:

> How are the Twin Towers collapse progression mechanisms described on Wikipedia from 2004 to 2021? How was the description edited over time?
>
> Answer: Wikipedia descriptions of the Twin Towers collapse progression modes from 2004 to the present time are collected at this link.
>
> Was there ever a time over 16 years when the Twin Towers collapse progression modes were described accurately?
>
> No.
>
> Is there any evolution in the description and who are the sources for the descriptions of the collapse modes?
>
> Yes. It is described below.

Wikipedia descriptions of Twin Towers collapse progressions came in 6 different (contradictory) phases



In none of the 6 phases are the Twin Tower collapse progression modes described correctly.

In the two red phases the collapses are described as ‘crushing down’, before ‘crushing up’. This is the same as the model in JEM from 2007 onward.

The first 3 phases until September, 2009, describe the Twin Towers collapse progressions in generic and general terms. They were unknowable, obscured and chaotic.

The first time the collapse descriptions took on any specific, distinct form was when they were described as crushing blocks, ‘crushing down’ before ‘crushing up’.

These are the main characteristics of misrepresentations of the Twin towers collapses:

1) they are vague, general, generic, unknowable, obscured, uncertain
2) mention of ‘blocks’, images of ‘blocks’ (see these images as examples)
3) They mystify the collapse progression modes rather than clarify them.

4) Misrepresentations of the collapse progressions are presented without the slightest skepticism or critique, as ‘matter-of-fact’ truth.

All these features are in the Wikipedia descriptions of the Twin Towers collapse progression modes for the last 16 years as this analysis demonstrates.

Two main things are missing from 16 years of Wikipedia descriptions:

1) Any sense of the unique, highly distinctive, knowable and mappable collapse progression modes

2) Any quote or diagram by a Government source which they reference to describe the collapse progression processes

FIRST PHASE, 5-2004 to 3-2006

Even though the final NIST reports on the Twin Towers collapses were issued in 2005, Wikipedia only used one sentence to describe the Twin Towers collapse progressions during this time period:

> The two towers collapsed in markedly different ways, indicating that there were in fact two modes of failure. The north tower collapsed directly downwards, "pancaking" in on itself, while the south tower fell at an angle during which the top 20 or so stories of the building remained intact for the first few seconds of the collapse.

This was the original comment in May, 2004. It remained the only comment describing the Twin Towers collapse progression modes until March, 2006.

SECOND PHASE, 7-2006 to 7-2007

This phrase began appearing in July, 2006 and remained until July, 2007:

> After collapse ensued, the total collapse of the towers was inevitable due to the enormous weight of the towers above the impact areas.

Through the first two phases from May, 2005 to July, 2007 the two quotes above were the only descriptions of the Twin Towers collapse progression processes.

THIRD PHASE, 2-2007 to 7-2009

In the third phase there were no more descriptions of the collapse progression processes that haven't already appeared. Instead it was explained that the NIST did not look at the collapse progression modes at all, and why that was justified.

2-2007:

> Once the collapse was initiated, the enormous weight of the portion of the towers above the impact areas overwhelmed the load bearing capacity of the structures beneath them. This was argued in a paper in the days immediately after the attacks by Zdenek P. Bazant and Yong Zhou. [15] Their analysis of global collapse allowed NIST to concentrate their efforts on the events that brought the structure to the point of global collapse, and NIST did not study the progress of the global collapse at all.[16] NIST did propose an explanation for the ejections of dust from the windows, however. As the floors above the impact point were relatively undamaged (save for fire), the upper portion fell and smashed through the lower floors as a unit. The air that was compressed ahead of the falling section was responsible for the ejections of dust and debris through the windows.[17]

9-2007:

> Once the collapse was initiated, the enormous weight of the portion of the towers above the impact areas overwhelmed the load bearing capacity of the structures beneath them. This was argued in a paper in the days immediately after the attacks by Zdeněk Bažant and Yong Zhou. [23] Their analysis of global collapse allowed NIST to concentrate their efforts on the events that brought the structure to the point of global collapse. NIST proposed an explanation for the ejections of dust from the windows.

12-2007:

> Enormous advancing dust clouds obscured the collapses, making it impossible to calculate the collapse times through visual evidence, but analysis of seismic data from the nearby Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University shows that the north tower collapsed in 12.73 seconds, or 57.7% longer than free fall, and that the duration of the south tower collapse was 10.53 seconds, or 42% longer than free fall.[20]
>
> While the NIST report analyzes the initial failure mechanism in detail, it does not address the subsequent total collapse of the WTC towers. An early analysis explains that the kinetic energy of the upper portion of the building falling onto the story below exceeded by an order of magnitude the amount of energy that the lower story could absorb,[21] crushing it and adding to the kinetic energy. This scenario repeated with each successive story, crushing the entire tower at an ever-increasing pace. While it is the most widely held view among engineers,[22] it has been been criticized for ignoring the resistance of the underlying structure, which may have slowed a progressive collapse much more dramatically and even prevented it altogether.[23]

8-2008:

> Analysis of video footage capturing the initial collapse and analysis of seismic data from Palisades, New York shows that the first fragments of the outer walls of the collapsed north tower struck the ground 9 seconds after the collapse started, and parts of the south tower after 11 seconds. The cores of the buildings began to fall 15 to 25 seconds after the initial start of the collapse. These times are approximate because dust obscured the view.[7][18]
>
> The NIST report analyzes the failure mechanism in detail. An early analysis explains that the kinetic energy of the upper portion of the building falling onto the story below exceeded by an order of magnitude the amount of energy that the lower story could absorb,[19] crushing it and adding to the kinetic energy. This scenario repeated with each successive story, crushing the entire tower at near free-fall speed.[20]

9-2009:

> Analysis of video footage capturing the initial collapse and analysis of seismic data from Palisades, New York, shows that the first fragments of the outer walls of the collapsed North Tower struck the ground 9 seconds after the collapse started, and parts of the South Tower after 11 seconds. The lower portions of both buildings' cores (60 stories of WTC 1 and 40 stories of WTC 2) remained standing for up to 25 seconds after the start of the initial collapse before they too collapsed. These times are approximate because dust obscured the view.[12][60]
>
> An early analysis explains that the kinetic energy of the upper portion of the building falling onto the story below exceeded by an order of magnitude the amount of energy that the lower story could absorb,[28] crushing it and adding to the kinetic energy. This scenario repeated with each successive story, crushing the entire tower at near-free-fall speed.[61]

FOURTH PHASE, 12-2009 to 4-2012

and

SIXTH PHASE, 2019 to the present (8-2021)

These two phases are basically identical. The Twin Towers collapse progression modes were and are described as blocks that ‘crush down’ before ‘crushing up’ in two distinct phases of collapse. The phases are called a ‘crush down’ phase and a ‘crush-up’ phase.

This is what Wikipedia claims happened to the Twin Towers

1-2010:

> The collapse of the World Trade Center has been called "the most infamous paradigm" of progressive collapse.[29] In the case of both towers, the top section tilted towards the face that had buckled, behaving largely as a solid block separate from the rest of the building. It fell at least one story in freefall and impacted the lower sections with a force equivalent to over thirty times its own weight. This was sufficient to buckle the columns of the story immediately below it; the block then fell freely through the distance of another story. Total collapse was now unavoidable as the process repeated through the entire height of the lower sections. The force of each impact was also much greater than the horizontal momentum of the section, which kept the tilt from increasing significantly before the falling section reached the ground. It remained intact throughout the collapse, with its center of gravity within the building's footprint. After crushing the lower section of the building, it was itself crushed when it hit the ground.[29]

7-2011:

> The collapse of the World Trade Center has been called "the most infamous paradigm" of progressive collapse.[30] In the case of both towers, the top section tilted towards the face that had buckled, behaving largely as a solid block separate from the rest of the building. It fell at least one story in freefall and impacted the lower sections with a force equivalent to over thirty times its own weight. This was sufficient to buckle the columns of the story immediately below it; the block then fell freely through the distance of another story. Total collapse was now unavoidable as the process repeated through the entire height of the lower sections. The force of each impact was also much greater than the horizontal momentum of the section, which kept the tilt from increasing significantly before the falling section reached the ground. It remained intact throughout the collapse, with its center of gravity within the building's footprint. After crushing the lower section of the building, it was itself crushed when it hit the ground.[30]

4-2012:

> The collapse of the World Trade Center has been called "the most infamous paradigm" of progressive collapse.[51] In the case of both towers, the top section tilted towards the face that had buckled, behaving largely as a solid block separate from the rest of the building. It fell at least one story in freefall and impacted the lower sections with a force equivalent to over thirty times its own weight. This was sufficient to buckle the columns of the story immediately below it; the block then fell freely through the distance of another story. Total collapse was now unavoidable as the process repeated through the entire height of the lower sections. The force of each impact was also much greater than the horizontal momentum of the section, which kept the tilt from increasing significantly before the falling section reached the ground. It remained intact throughout the collapse, with its center of gravity within the building's footprint. After crushing the lower section of the building, it was itself crushed when it hit the ground.[51]

The same type of description for the Twin Towers returned to Wikipedia in June, 2019 and is still the current description in August, 2021.

6-2019:

> The collapse of the World Trade Center has been called "the most infamous paradigm" of progressive collapse.[47] After the collapse initiated, it proceeded through two phases. During the *crush-down* phase, the upper block destroyed the structure below in a progressive and accelerating series of column failures. After falling through the distance of a single story, the block impacted the columns of the story below, which then buckled, allowing the block to fall through the distance of that story. This process continued until the upper block reached the ground and the *crush-up* phase began. Here, the columns also buckled successively, one story at a time, starting from the bottom of the upper section. As each story buckled, the weight of the remaining block pushed down from above until the entire section had been crushed.[47]
>
> While the buildings were designed to support enormous static loads, they provided little resistance to the moving mass of the sections above the floors where the collapses initiated. Structural systems respond very differently to static and dynamic loads, and since the motion of the falling portion began as a free fall through the height of at least one story (roughly three meters or 10 feet), the structure beneath them was unable to stop the collapses once they began. Indeed, a fall of only half a meter (about 20 inches) would have been enough to release the necessary energy to begin an unstoppable collapse.[48]

8-2021:

> Structural systems respond very differently to static and dynamic loads and, while the towers were designed to support enormous weight under normal conditions, they provided little resistance to the moving mass of the section above the damaged floors. In both cases, the collapses began with the drop of the upper section through the height of at least one story (roughly three meters or ten feet), yet a fall of only half a meter (about 20 inches) would have released the necessary energy to begin an unstoppable collapse.[31]
>
> From there collapse proceeded through two phases. During the *crush-down* phase, the upper block destroyed the structure below in a progressive series of column failures roughly one story at a time. Each failure began with the impact of the upper block on the columns of the lower section, mediated by a growing layer of rubble consisting mainly of concrete from the floor slabs. The energy from each impact was "reintroduced into the structure in [the] subsequent

> impact, ... concentrate[d] in the load-bearing elements directly affected by the impact."[26] This buckled the columns of the story immediately beneath the advancing destruction down to the next point of lateral support, usually the floor trusses of the given story. After the columns buckled the block was once again unsupported and fell through the distance of that story, again impacting the columns of the story below, which then buckled in the same way.
>
> This repeated until the upper block reached the ground and the *crush-up* phase began. Here, too, the columns buckled one story at a time, now starting from the bottom. As each story failed, the remaining block fell through the height of the story, onto the next one, which it also crushed, until the roof finally hit the ground.[6] The process accelerated throughout, and by the end each story was being crushed in less than a tenth of a second.[31]

As mentioned earlier, the the main characteristics of misrepresentations of the Twin Towers collapse progression modes are:

1) they are vague, general, generic, unknowable, obscured, uncertain

2) the mention of ‘blocks’, images of ‘blocks’ (see these images as examples)

3) they mystify the collapse progression modes rather than clarify them.

Phases 1, 2 and 3 were extremely vague, general descriptions of what was believed to be unknowable, and obscured. The actual collapse progression modes were the opposite of this in every way.

Phases 4 and 6 are all about ‘blocks’.

And each phase served to mystify the collapse progression modes rather than clarify and detail them.

FIFTH PHASE 7-2013 TO 4-2019

being written