

Evaluation of Frame in Tube Structures with a Combination of Vertical Irregularities for Various Shaped Plan Configurations

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Abstract: The rapid increase in population and urbanization has intensified the demand for land, making tall structures a critical solution to address space constraints. Historically, structural design primarily focused on resisting gravity loads; however, the rise in building heights and the understanding of seismic zones necessitate the consideration of lateral loads such as wind and earthquake forces. Advances in three-dimensional structural analysis and computational power have enabled the efficient and secure construction of taller buildings. Modern design approaches prioritize minimizing structural motion over traditional strength-based methods to ensure stability and performance.

This study investigates the seismic behavior of irregular building frames employing tube systems, which are increasingly favored for their excellent resistance to lateral forces and suitability for tall structures. A time history analysis was performed on six G+40-storey reinforced concrete buildings located in Zone-V, as defined by IS 1893. Among these, four buildings feature irregular plans, while two have regular plans, with all models designed without shear walls. The study examines the seismic performance of these buildings under the influence of mass-stiffness irregularity and setback-stiffness irregularity. Key parameters analyzed include overall building drift, storey drift, storey shear, storey acceleration, and storey torsion.

The findings of this research aim to provide insights into optimizing the seismic design of tall buildings, especially those with irregular configurations, contributing to the advancement of safe and resilient high-rise construction practices.

Keywords: Seismic behavior, Frame in tube system, Linear Time history analysis, Mass – Stiffness irregularity and Setback Stiffness irregularity

I. INTRODUCTION

Earthquakes are dynamic and unpredictable phenomena that impose significant demands on structural engineering, particularly in high-rise construction. Modern design philosophies emphasize not only ensuring the safety of human life but also

enhancing the performance of structures during seismic events. High-rise buildings, due to their height and slenderness, are inherently vulnerable to lateral forces induced by wind and seismic activity. These lateral forces often lead to excessive storey displacements, structural instability, and potential collapse if not adequately addressed.

The growing demand for tall structures, driven by urbanization and limited land availability, has necessitated the adoption of advanced lateral load-resisting systems. Among these, tubular structural systems—such as framed tubes, trussed tubes, tube-in-tube, bundled tubes, and hybrid systems—have gained prominence. These systems leverage the concept of a hollow cantilevered tube, offering enhanced stiffness, reduced material consumption, and efficient resistance to lateral forces. The configuration of these systems, which integrates tightly spaced perimeter columns and deep spandrel beams, ensures that both gravity and lateral loads are effectively distributed and resisted.

Dynamic analysis is critical for evaluating the seismic performance of tall buildings. Unlike static analysis, which assumes constant loading, dynamic analysis considers the time-dependent nature of seismic forces, capturing the complex interplay of inertia, damping, and stiffness. This approach enables the accurate prediction of structural responses, including storey drift, torsion, and shear distribution.

This study investigates the seismic behavior of irregular high-rise reinforced concrete frames designed with tubular systems. The focus is on understanding the influence of plan irregularities (such as re-entrant corners and torsional effects) and vertical irregularities (such as stiffness and setback irregularities) on seismic performance. The research employs time history analysis in Zone-V seismic conditions, as per IS 1893 guidelines, to evaluate parameters including overall building drift, storey

drift, storey shear, storey acceleration, and torsional behavior. The findings aim to contribute to the optimization of high-rise designs for enhanced seismic resilience and structural efficiency.

II.OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

To analyze the performance of high-rise structures under lateral loads using linear time history analysis.

To Study the behavior of Frame in tube structures with different plan configurations with vertical irregularities

To study the forced vibration behavior (Base shear, storey drift, storey shear, Torsion displacement). By performing linear dynamic analysis to all models with the combination of Mass - stiffness irregularity and Setback – Stiffness irregularity

III.NEED OF STUDY

Modern architectural designs frequently incorporate irregular structures characterized by discontinuities in geometry, mass, or load-bearing components, as opposed to regular structures with symmetrical configurations. Plan irregularities, often unavoidable due to asymmetrical land availability, generate significant torsional forces, necessitating an assessment of high-rise framed tube buildings with such configurations.

The growing demand for tall buildings, driven by population growth and advancements in structural analysis and construction technology, has heightened their vulnerability to lateral forces such as earthquakes and wind. Ensuring safety, serviceability, and economy in structural design is paramount, particularly in seismic regions. Past earthquakes have demonstrated the catastrophic failure of traditional designs, with excessive storey displacement being a critical factor in structural collapse.

This study addresses the challenges posed by irregular layouts, focusing on the performance of high-rise framed tube systems under seismic conditions to enhance resilience and ensure structural safety.

IV.SCOPE OF THE STUDY

This study focuses on the seismic performance of seven G+40 reinforced concrete (RCC) structures with different plan dimensions and column arrangements. The models were designed to replicate tubular structural behavior, with columns placed at close intervals along the periphery of the plan to form

a framed tube system. Specifically, the peripheral columns were spaced at 2-meter intervals, while the inner columns were spaced at 4-meter intervals. This configuration ensures the structure behaves like a tubular system, enhancing its lateral load resistance. All models were designed without shear walls, with uniform floor-to-floor height of 3 meters.

The study incorporates two types of irregularity conditions: mass-stiffness irregularity and setback-stiffness irregularity. These irregularities are critical to understanding the behavior of tall buildings with non-uniform geometries and mass distributions under seismic loads. The buildings were analyzed under Zone-V seismic conditions, adhering to the guidelines of IS 1893-2016, which represents the highest seismic hazard level in India.

Linear Time History Analysis was employed as the primary method to evaluate the dynamic response of these structures. This analysis was conducted using ETABS 2019 software, which provides robust tools for modeling, analysis, and design of high-rise buildings. The results of this study offer valuable insights into the performance of framed tube systems in seismic regions, aiding in the development of safer and more resilient designs for tall buildings.

V.METHODOLOGY

The methodology focuses on evaluating the seismic performance of structures through Linear Time History Analysis, a dynamic approach that determines structural responses like displacements and forces under time-dependent earthquake loads. The dynamic equilibrium equation $Ku(t)+C\dot{u}(t)+M\ddot{u}(t)=r(t)$ was solved using Modal Superposition and Direct Integration Methods, with nonlinear material properties approximated as linear elastic for simplicity. ETABS 2019 software was employed for three-dimensional modeling, analysis, and design. In the models, walls and slabs were represented as shell elements to provide in-plane stiffness, while slabs were treated as rigid diaphragms. The out-of-plane bending stiffness of slabs was neglected to account for potential cracking caused by creep and shrinkage. This comprehensive approach facilitated an accurate assessment of the dynamic behavior and seismic resilience of the structures.

VI.MODEL INFORMATION

In this study, 7 RCC structures of G+40 storeys having various plan dimensions (as described below)

and column arrangement is selected. The models are made in such a way that they behave like a tubular structure. All the models are made without shear wall. The columns in the periphery of the plan are placed very close at a distance of 2 meters to each other so that it behaves like tube. The columns in the inner area of the plan are placed at a distance of 4 meters. In this way the structure is made like Framed Tube Structure. A floor-to-floor height of 3m is assumed with Mass - Stiffness Irregularity combination and Setback - Stiffness Irregularity combinations. The location of the buildings is assumed to be in Zone-V according to IS 1893. By using ETABS 2019 software, which helps to analyse and design the models, the analysis method used for this study is the Linear Time History Analysis for dynamic analysis for providing force vs. displacements curves.

Shapes:

- Square Shape
- Rectangle Shape
- Plus – Shape
- L – Shape
- C – Shape
- T – Shape
- Model Details
 - o Building Height: 123m (G+40)
 - o Storey Height: 3m
 - o Plan Area:
 - Square Shape: 2304 m²
 - Rectangle Shape: 2304 m²
 - Plus – Shape: 2304 m²
 - o RCC Frame: SMRF
 - o Live Load: 3 kN/ m²
 - o Floor Load: 1.5 kN/ m²
 - o Wall Load: 7kN/m
 - o Seismic Load: Zone V
- L – Shape: 2304 m²
- C – Shape: 2304 m²
- T – Shape: 2304 m²
- Mass - Stiffness Irregularity combination and Setback - Stiffness Irregularity combination
- Importance Factor – 1.5

- Response Reduction Factor – 5
- Soil Type – 1 (Hard Soil)
 - o Calculated using Excel Sheet and Imported in ETABS.

Models:

Mass - Stiffness Irregularity:

- M1. Square Shape
- M2. Rectangle Shape
- M3. L – Shape
- M4. C – Shape
- M5. T – Shape
- M6. Plus – Shape

Setback - Stiffness Irregularity:

- M7 Square Shape
- M8. Rectangle Shape
- M9. L – Shape
- M10. C – Shape
- M11. T – Shape
- M12. Plus – Shape

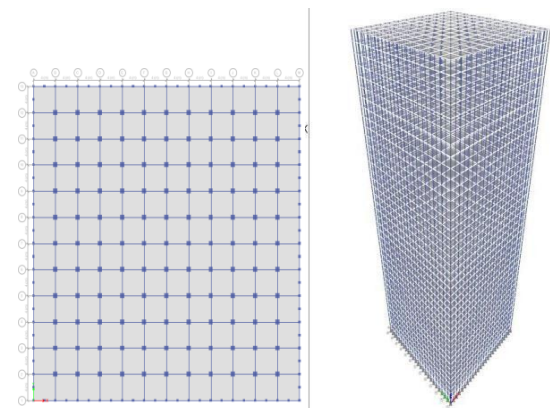


Fig.1 Plan view and 3-Dimensional view of Square - Shape model

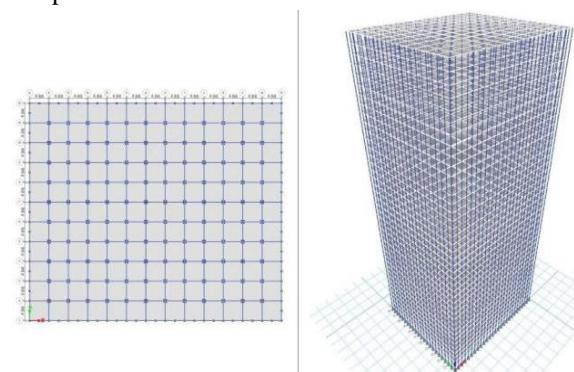


Fig.2 Plan view and 3-Dimensional view of rectangle - Shape model

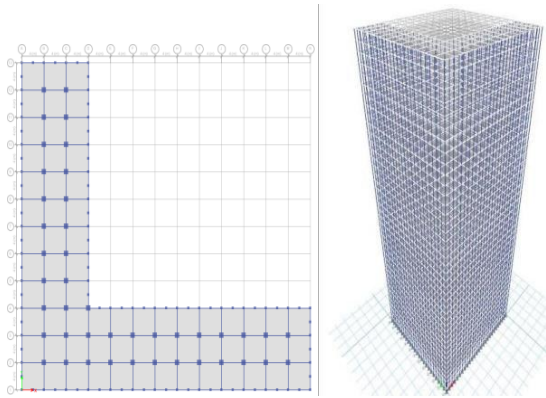


Fig.3 Plan view and 3-Dimensional view of L-Shape model

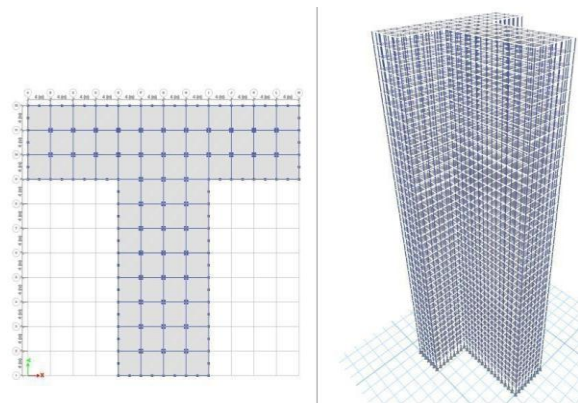


Fig.4 Plan view and 3-Dimensional view of T-Shape model

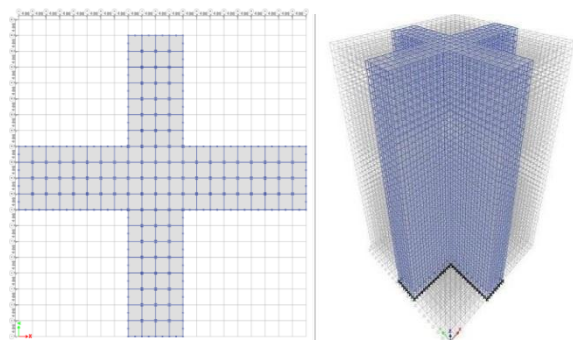


Fig.5 Plan view and 3-Dimensional view of Plus-Shape model

VII.RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Mass - Stiffness Irregularity

Base shear

- In L- shaped model the Base Shear is 13.11% less than T- shaped model and 16.82% less than C- shaped model.
- In T- shaped model the Base Shear is 3.28 % less than C- shaped model.
- In Square shaped model the Base Shear is 0.51%

less than Plus shaped model and 0.88% less than Rectangle shaped model.

- In Plus shaped model the Base Shear is 0.37% less than Rectangle shaped model

Storey Drift

- In T- shaped model the Storey Drift is 11.25% less than C- shaped model and 18.27% less than L- shaped model.
- In C- shaped model the Storey Drift is 6.31 % less than L- shaped model
- In Plus shaped model the Storey Drift is 1.63% less than Rectangle shaped model and 2.77% less than Square shaped model.
- In Rectangle shaped model the Storey Drift is 1.12% less than Square shaped model

Storey Shear

- In L- shaped model the Storey Shear is 22.3% less than T- shaped model and 26.3% less than C- shaped model.
- In T- shaped model the Storey Shear is 3.27 % less than C- shaped model.
- In Plus shaped model the Storey Shear is 0.52% less than Rectangle shaped model and 3.26% less than Square shaped model.
- In Rectangle shaped model the Storey Shear is 2.72% less than Square shaped model.

Storey Torsion

- In L- shaped model the Storey Torsion is 11.92% less than C- shaped model and 58.16% less than T-shaped model.
- In C- shaped model the Storey Torsion is 41.32 % less than T- shaped model.
- In Square shaped model the Storey Torsion is 7.6% less than Rectangle shaped model and 75.66% less than Plus shaped model.
- In Rectangle shaped model the Storey Torsion is 63.25% less than Plus shaped model.

Storey Displacement

- In L- shaped model the Storey Stiffness is 0.16% less than T- shaped model and 1.12% less than C-shaped model.
- In T- shaped model the Storey Stiffness is 0.95 % less than C- shaped model

- In Square shaped model the Storey Stiffness is 0.47% less than Rectangle shaped model and 1.77% less than Plus shaped model.

- In Rectangle shaped model the Storey Stiffness is 1.29% less than Plus shaped model

Setback - Stiffness Irregularity Base shear

- In L- shaped model the Base Shear is 0.9% less than C- shaped model and 3% less than T- shaped model.

- In C- shaped model the Base Shear is 2.1 % less than T- shaped model

- In Square shaped model the Base Shear is 2.21% less than Plus shaped model and 2.75% less than Rectangle shaped model.

- In Plus shaped model the Base Shear is 0.53% less than Rectangle shaped model

Storey Drift

- In T- shaped model the Storey Drift is 29.51% less than L- shaped model and 37.69% less than C- shaped model.

- In L- shaped model the Storey Drift is 6.31 % less than C- shaped model.

- In Square shaped model the Storey Drift is 2.72% less than Plus shaped model and 4.41% less than Rectangle shaped model.

- In Plus shaped model the Storey Drift is 1.64% less than Rectangle shaped model.

Storey Shear

- In L- shaped model the Storey Shear is 4.34% less than C- shaped model and 6.53% less than T- shaped model.

- In C- shaped model the Storey Shear is 2.1 % less than T- shaped model.

- In Square shaped model the Storey Shear is 2.22% less than Plus shaped model and 2.75% less than Rectangle shaped model.

- In Plus shaped model the Storey Shear is 0.52% less than Rectangle shaped model.

Storey Torsion

- In L- shaped model the Storey Shear is 11.92% less than C- shaped model and 58.16% less than T- shaped model.

- In C- shaped model the Storey Shear is 41.31 %

less than T- shaped model.

- In Square shaped model the Storey Shear is 7.6% less than Rectangle shaped model and 75.66% less than Plus shaped model.

- In Rectangle shaped model the Storey Shear is 63.25% less than Plus shaped model.

Storey Displacement

- In T- shaped model the Storey Shear is 9.34% less than L- shaped model and 24.98% less than C- shaped model.

- In L- shaped model the Storey Shear is 14.31 % less than C- shaped model

- In Square shaped model the Storey Shear is 6.05% less than Rectangle shaped model and 7.42% less than Plus shaped model.

- In Rectangle shaped model the Storey Shear is 1.29% less than Plus shaped model.

VIII. CONCLUSION

This study assessed the seismic performance of structural configurations with a focus on Mass-Stiffness Irregularity and Setback-Stiffness Irregularity. The analysis considered key parameters such as base shear, storey drift, storey shear, storey torsion, and storey displacement. The findings reveal:

Mass-Stiffness Irregularity:

Base Shear:

L-shaped models exhibited 13.11% less base shear than T-shaped models and 16.82% less than C-shaped models. Among symmetrical shapes, the Square configuration showed 0.51% less base shear than Plus-shaped and 0.88% less than Rectangle-shaped models.

Storey Drift:

T-shaped models demonstrated superior performance with storey drift 11.25% less than C-shaped models and 18.27% less than L-shaped models. Symmetrical configurations showed small variations, with Plus-shaped models having 1.63% less drift than Rectangle-shaped models.

Storey Shear:

L-shaped models had 22.3% less storey shear than T-shaped models and 26.3% less than C-shaped models. Square models performed better among symmetrical configurations, with 2.72% less storey shear than

Rectangle-shaped models.

Storey Torsion:

Torsion was lowest in L-shaped models, which showed 58.16% less torsion than T-shaped and 11.92% less than C-shaped models. Among symmetrical shapes, Square configurations exhibited 7.6% less torsion than Rectangle-shaped and 75.66% less than Plus-shaped models.

Storey Displacement:

T-shaped models had the least displacement, 0.95% less than C-shaped models and 0.16% less than L-shaped models. Among symmetrical configurations, the Rectangle model displaced 1.29% less than Plus-shaped models.

Setback-Stiffness Irregularity:

Base Shear:

L-shaped models showed 0.9% less base shear than C-shaped models and 3% less than T-shaped models. Square-shaped models performed marginally better among symmetrical shapes.

Storey Drift:

T-shaped models excelled, with storey drift 29.51% less than L-shaped models and 37.69% less than C-shaped models. In symmetrical shapes, Square configurations exhibited 4.41% less drift than Rectangle-shaped models.

Storey Shear:

L-shaped models performed well, showing 4.34% less storey shear than C-shaped models and 6.53% less than T-shaped models. Among symmetrical shapes, Square models outperformed by 2.75% compared to Rectangle-shaped models.

Storey Torsion:

L-shaped models reduced torsion by 58.16% compared to T-shaped and 11.92% compared to C-shaped models. Symmetrical Square-shaped configurations demonstrated a significant 75.66% reduction compared to Plus-shaped models.

Storey Displacement:

T-shaped models displaced 9.34% less than L-shaped models and 24.98% less than C-shaped models, indicating their superior stiffness. Among symmetrical shapes, Square-shaped models displaced 7.42% less than Plus-shaped models.

This comprehensive comparison highlights the influence of irregularities on seismic performance. Mass-Stiffness Irregularity was more pronounced in irregular configurations, with T-shaped and L-shaped models offering specific advantages like reduced drift and torsion.

Setback-Stiffness Irregularity showed similar trends, with symmetrical shapes, especially Square and Rectangle configurations, achieving balanced performance across parameters. These insights provide valuable guidance for designing earthquake-resilient structures, optimizing both irregular and symmetrical designs based on site-specific requirements.

IX.FUTURE SCOPE

- 1) The current study focused on linear time-history analysis. Further studies can be conducted using nonlinear analysis methods to investigate the behavior of structures with significant inelastic deformations.
- 2) For future study, the focus can be on using energy dissipation devices, such as dampers, to minimize the effects of vertical irregularities on the stability and performance of buildings during seismic events.
- 3) Further research can be carried by using different types of bracings.

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