

Seismic Performance Evaluation of Reinforced Concrete Frame Building Using Incremental Dynamic Analysis (IDA)

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Abstract—The increasing demand for high-rise buildings in seismic-prone regions has created the need for advanced seismic evaluation techniques capable of accurately predicting structural behaviour under strong earthquake loading. This study presents the seismic performance evaluation of reinforced concrete G+10, G+20, and G+30 buildings using Incremental Dynamic Analysis (IDA). Different lateral load resisting systems, such as Buckling Restrained Bracing (BRB), BRB-E systems, Crescent bracing, and X-bracing were incorporated to improve seismic performance. Nonlinear time history analysis was performed using incrementally scaled earthquake records ranging from 0.1g to 1.0g. Engineering demand parameters such as maximum storey displacement, inter-storey drift ratio, time period, and collapse behaviour were evaluated. The results indicate that the normal frame exhibits maximum displacement and seismic vulnerability, whereas BRB-E and BRB systems significantly improve stiffness, energy dissipation, and overall structural performance.

Keywords: Incremental Dynamic Analysis, RCC frame, BRB, BRB-E, seismic performance, nonlinear time history analysis.

I. INTRODUCTION

Earthquakes are one of the most destructive natural hazards affecting structural systems. Traditional seismic analysis methods such as Equivalent Static Analysis and Response Spectrum Analysis are often unable to capture the actual nonlinear behaviour of buildings subjected to strong ground motions. Incremental Dynamic Analysis (IDA) is an advanced nonlinear dynamic

analysis method that evaluates structural response from the elastic stage up to collapse under progressively increasing earthquake intensity levels.

IDA provides a comprehensive understanding of stiffness degradation, energy dissipation, plastic hinge formation, and collapse mechanisms. In the present study, the seismic response of G+10, G+20, and G+30 RCC buildings was evaluated using different bracing systems to understand their effectiveness in improving structural safety and seismic resilience.

II. METHODOLOGY

Three-dimensional ETABS models of G+10, G+20, and G+30 RCC buildings were developed using appropriate material properties and nonlinear hinge assignments. Five different structural configurations were considered for each height of building :

1. Normal Frame
2. BRB System
3. BRB-E System
4. Crescent System
5. X-Bracing

Incremental Dynamic Analysis was performed by applying earthquake records scaled from 0.1g to 1.0g. Nonlinear time history analysis was conducted for each intensity level. Engineering Demand Parameters (EDPs) such as storey

displacement, inter-storey drift, time period, and collapse capacity were extracted and compared.

Table I. Structural Models Considered

Model	Structural System	Main Function	Performance
Normal	Bare Frame	Baseline comparison	Poor
BRB	Buckling Restrained Brace	Energy dissipation	Very Good
BRB-E	Enhanced BRB	Improved damping	Excellent
Crescent	Crescent Bracing	Lateral resistance	Moderate
X-Brace	Steel Bracing	Increase stiffness	Good

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The analytical results revealed that the normal frame experienced the highest storey displacement, drift, and time period as seismic intensity increased. The absence of supplemental bracing resulted in reduced stiffness and increased seismic vulnerability (weakness of structure).

X-bracing and Crescent bracing improved lateral stiffness and reduced overall displacement. However, BRB and BRB-E systems demonstrated superior performance due to their enhanced energy dissipation characteristics. BRB-E exhibited the least displacement and drift values, indicating improved structural stability and collapse resistance.

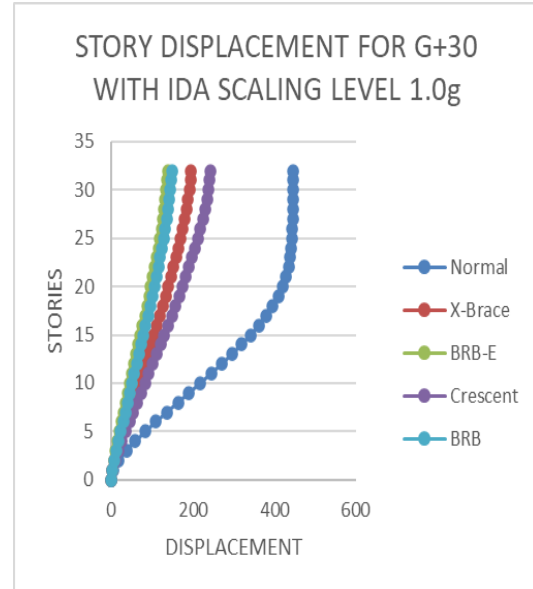


Fig. 1 : Storey displacement comparison for G+30 building.

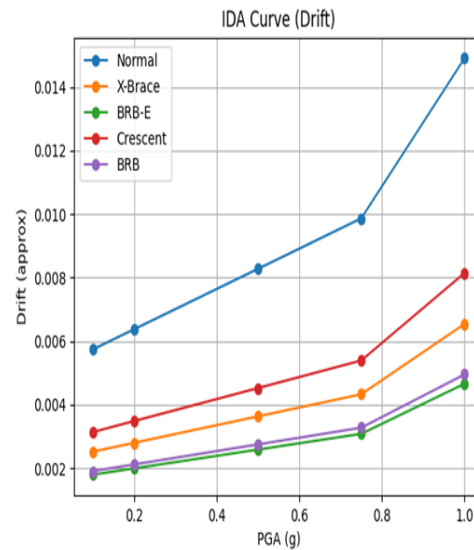


Fig. 2 : Storey drift comparison for different bracing systems.

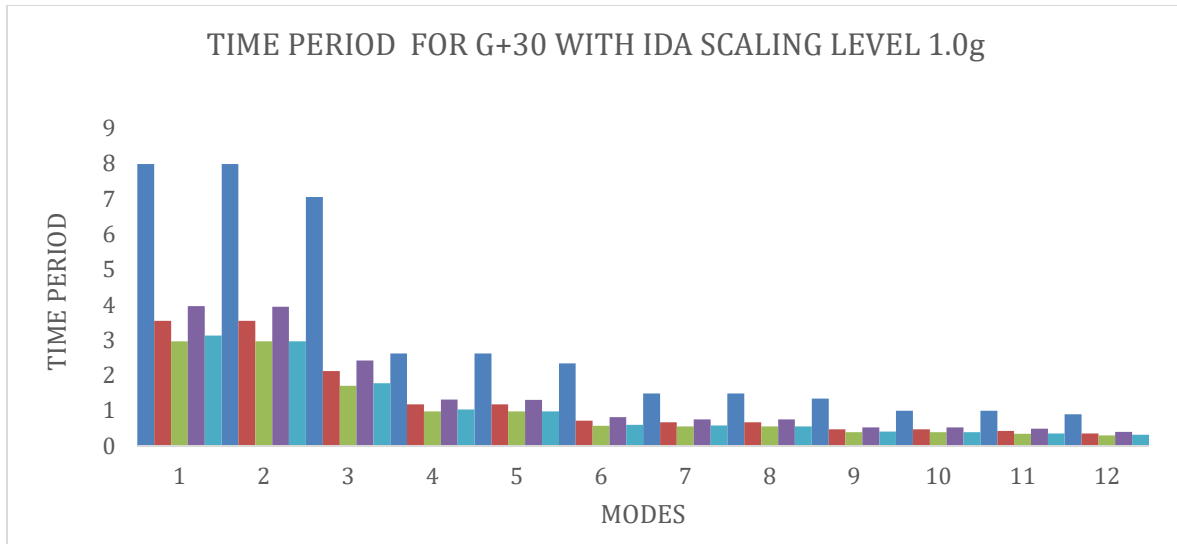


Figure. 3 : Time Period for G+30 with IDA Scaling Level 1.0g

Table II. Comparative Structural Response

System	Displacement	Drift	Overall Response
Normal	Very High	High	Severe Damage
X-Brace	Moderate	Moderate	Improved
Crescent	Moderate	Moderate	Stable
BRB	Low	Low	Very Stable
BRB-E	Very Low	Very Low	Best Performance

IV. CONCLUSION

Incremental Dynamic Analysis proved to be an effective tool for evaluating the nonlinear seismic behaviour of RCC multi-storey buildings. The study demonstrated that the incorporation of advanced bracing systems significantly improves seismic performance by reducing displacement

and inter-storey drift while increasing stiffness and energy dissipation capacity. Among all systems considered, BRB-E and BRB systems showed superior seismic resistance and collapse prevention capability. The results highlight the importance of advanced lateral load resisting systems in improving the resilience and safety of high-rise buildings located in seismic zones.

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