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## Response of Buildings with Inclined First-Story Columns to Near-Fault Ground Motion

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### ABSTRACT

In this paper a simple model of a three story building with inclined first-story columns has presented. The stories are supposed to be rigid and are connected to axially rigid mass less columns by elasto-plastic rotational springs and linear rotational dampers. The considered model is subjected to horizontal component of fault normal pulse with different magnitudes and the governed nonlinear differential equations of motion have been solved by the forth order Runge-Kutta method. Results indicate that the inclination of the first-story columns stiffens the system. However, the change of the frequency of the first mode is small. The deformation of the first story with inclined columns is such that it forces the building in a pendulum-like motion. So it would be possible to reduce the relative building response. Results indicate that an optimum value of inclination angle of the first-story columns is  $\alpha = 10^\circ$ . Under this condition the first-story drift decreases while upper-story drift increases, respect to the common building with  $\alpha = 0$ . For larger inclination angles the gravity effect leads to increase the first-story drift as well. This solution would be useful in earthquake resistant design of buildings with architectural limitations at the first story.

## 1. Introduction

In the near field of strong earthquakes, and especially close to surface faults, the strong

ground motion can be dominated by the permanent displacements (typically parallel to the fault surface) and by large pulses (often perpendicular to the fault). Traces of

these large displacements and pulses are not always obvious in the processed records of the recorded motions because of the band-pass filtering [1-3].

It is customary in the analyses of the response of structures to strong earthquake ground motion to neglect the effects of the propagating character of the wave motion in the ground. In those studies it is assumed that the seismic waves arrive simultaneously at various points of the base of the structure. This corresponds either to vertical wave incidence (i.e. to infinite phase velocity along the ground surface), or to waves with angle of incidence other than zero, but with very large wavelengths compared to the size of the base of the structure. However, in general, the seismic waves arrive towards the foundation with incident angles other than vertical, and may have wavelengths comparable with the horizontal dimensions of the structure, resulting in phased excitation at its base. When the distances between the multiple support points are large (bridges, dams, tunnels, long buildings), the effects of differential motions become important and should be considered in dynamic analyses [4]. Spatial and temporal stochastic representations of strong earthquake motion required for such analyses have been investigated in many papers and in a recent book by Zerva [5]. The consequences of differential ground motion have been studied for the bridges [6-8], long building [9-12], and dams [13-15]. However, with few exceptions, engineering applications of the response spectrum method ignore the wave propagation effects in the foundation soil, or consider only a simplified stochastic representation of the differences in motion among separate supports. Okubo et al [16] were among the first to measure and interpret finite ground strains of recorded earthquake motions, for

plan dimensions representative of intermediate and large buildings. They showed that for short-period (stiff) structures, finite ground strains lead to increased base shears. Zembaty and Krenk [17, 18] studied the same problem and addressed explicitly the contribution of quasi-static and dynamic terms to the response. They showed that although the relative response of the structure is reduced in case of differential motion of supports (due to ‘averaging’ of spatially correlated motions), the shear forces in the columns, maybe significantly larger than for synchronous excitation. Jalali et al [19] showed that the combined action of horizontal, vertical, and rocking components of strong ground motion, near causative faults, combined with asynchronous excitation leads to drift amplitudes that are very large compared with the typical design drift amplitudes. An idea of passive base isolation of buildings using inclined soft first-story columns was explored by Todorovska [20]. She modeled the building by an equivalent SDOF oscillator and by neglecting of issues such as gravity, geometric nonlinearities, inelastic response, dynamic buckling of the inclined columns, and dynamic instability of the model for coupled horizontal and vertical responses in the near-field of strong earthquakes, indicated that due to inclination, in addition to stabilizing the system, it would also be possible to reduce the relative building response. She has also shown that for earthquake excitation the optimum inclination and its effectiveness will depend on the frequency content of the excitation and for broad band excitation an optimum value of the inclination angle is such that  $0.05 < \frac{H}{h_r} < 0.1$ . The purpose of the present study is to investigate the effect of

inclination angle of the first-story columns on maximum story drift of a simple three-storey building, by considering gravity, geometric nonlinearities, inelastic response, and dynamic instability of the model, subjected to horizontal component of near-source strong ground motion.

### 2. Dynamic model and solution of nonlinear equation of motion

The system of nonlinear equations of motion of the model in Fig. 1, which is described in the Appendix [by equation (A.7)] can be solved by numerical methods. We chose the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method because of its self-starting feature and the long-range stability. In this method, the time domain is divided into  $n$  equally spaced intervals, where  $n$  is chosen based on the requirement to have at least 20 points per period of excitation or per fundamental period of the structure, whichever is smaller. Each of these equally spaced intervals is further subdivided into  $2^r$  intervals, where  $r$  varies from 1 to 9, to reach the desired accuracy. The parameter  $r$  is chosen so that the relative percent of error between the solutions for the neighboring two values of  $n$  is less than one percent, and then the larger  $n$  of the two is adopted for the calculations.

### 3. Near-fault ground motion

Strong ground motion near faults can be complicated due to irregular distribution of fault slip [1,3,21] because of non-uniform distribution of geologic rigidities surrounding the fault, non-uniform distribution of stress on the fault, and complex nonlinear processes that accompany faulting. Thus, in general it is not possible to predict the detailed nature of the near-fault ground motion and of the

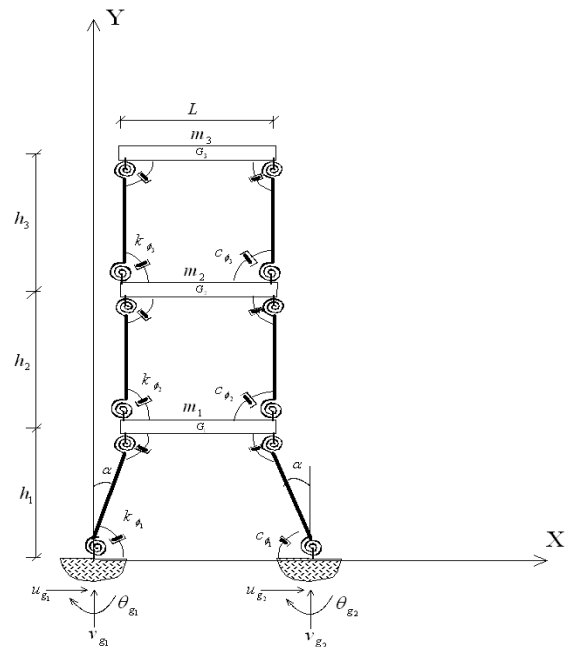
associated pulses. In this study, we adopt a simplified approach and model this motion by smooth pulse, which has correct average amplitude and duration, and which has been compared with and calibrated against the recorded strong motions in terms of their peak amplitudes in time and their spectral content.

Figure 2 shows schematically a fault and characteristic motion,  $d_F$ , which describe a pulse, with particle motion usually perpendicular to the fault and associated with failure of a nearby asperity or passage of dislocation under or past the observation point [22,23].

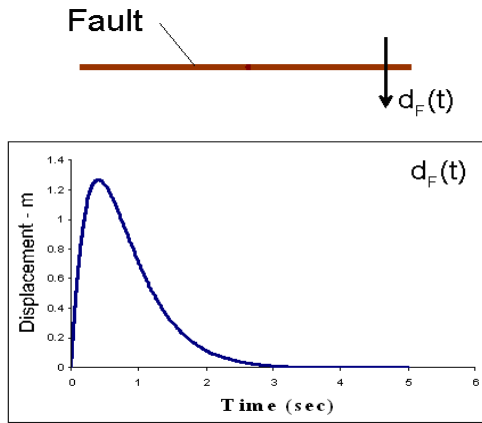
For the fault-normal pulse, we chose a pulse (Fig. 2):

$$d_F(t) = A_F t e^{-\alpha_F t} \tag{1}$$

Where the values of  $A_F$ , and  $\alpha_F$ , for different earthquake magnitudes, are shown in Table 1 [24].



**Fig.1.** Model of a three-story building with inclined first-story columns subjected to differential horizontal, vertical, and rocking components of ground motions



**Fig. 2.** Fault -normal (pulse),  $d_F(t)$ , ground displacement

Because the strong motion data are abundant only up to about  $M = 6.5$ , we place the values of  $\alpha_F$  and  $A_F$  for  $M = 7$  in Table 1 in parentheses to emphasize that those are based on extrapolation. The amplitude of has been studied in numerous regression analyses of recorded peak displacements at various distances from the fault.

An important physical property of  $d_F$  function, as used in this study, is its initial

velocity. It can be shown that  $\dot{d}_F \sim \sigma\beta/\mu$ , where  $\sigma$  is the effective stress ( $\sim$  stress drop) on the fault surface [23-25],  $\beta$  is the velocity of shear waves in the fault zone, and  $\mu$  is the rigidity of rocks surrounding the fault. The largest peak velocity observed so far, 5 to 10 km above the fault, is about 200 cm/s. For example, 170 cm/s was recorded during the Northridge, California earthquake of 1994 [26]. Because there are no strong-motion measurements of peak ground velocity at the fault surface, the peak velocities  $\dot{d}_F$  can be evaluated only indirectly in terms of  $\sigma$ . The accuracy of the stress estimates depends upon the assumptions and the methods used in interpretation of recorded strong-motion records, and it is typically about one order of magnitude. Therefore, solving the above equations for  $\sigma$  we can use  $\sigma \sim \mu\dot{d}_F/\beta$  to check their consistency with other published estimates of  $\sigma$  [27].

**Table 1.** Characteristics of the Fault-normal Pulse [24]

M (magnitude)	$\alpha_F$ (1/s)	$A_F$ (cm/s)	$d_{F,\max}$ (cm)	$\dot{d}_{F,\max}$ (cm/s)
4	14.04	56.48	1.48	56.48
5	7.90	151.61	7.06	151.61
6	4.44	546.97	45.32	546.97
7	(2.50)	(860.34)	(126.6)	(860.34)

#### 4. Structural response

The nature of relative motion of individual column foundations or of the entire foundation system will depend on the type of foundation and stiffness of the connecting beams and slabs, the characteristics of the

soil surrounding the foundation, the type of incident waves, and the direction of wave arrival. In reality, at the base of each column, the motion has six degrees of freedom, which will depend on the foundation-soil interaction and on the degree to which the nonlinear deformations occur in

the structure and in the soil. In this paper, we consider simultaneous action of horizontal, vertical, and rocking components of ground motion, but we neglect the effects of foundation-soil interaction, and we perform the analysis for structures on separate foundations only. We assume that the structure is near the fault and that the longitudinal axis of the structure (X-axis) coincides with the radial direction (r-axis) of the propagation of waves from the earthquake source so that the absolute displacements of the bases of columns are different, because of the wave passage. However, we assume that the ground motion can be described approximately by linear wave motion. Thus, the nonlinear soil strains and cracks in the soil, which accompany violent strong ground motion, will not be considered. By considering the wave propagation from left to right in Fig. 1, we assume that the excitations at two piers have the same amplitude, but different phase. The phase difference (or time delay) between the two ground motions depends on the distance between piers and the horizontal phase velocity of the incident waves. As is seen from Fig. 1, the system is excited by differential horizontal, vertical, and rocking

ground motions,  $u_{g_i}, v_{g_i}, \theta_{g_i}, i=1,2$ , at the two bases. In this paper the building is subjected to synchronous horizontal ground motion so that

$$\begin{aligned} u_{g_2}(t) &= u_{g_1}(t) \\ v_{g_2}(t) &= v_{g_1}(t) = 0 \\ \theta_{g_2}(t) &= \theta_{g_1}(t) = 0 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

For illustrations in this work, it is assumed that  $L = 20$  m and the height of each story is  $h_1 = h_2 = h_3 = 3.5$  m. The first natural period of the system is supposed to be  $T_1 = 0.3$ , and 0.6 sec. The damping ratio of the first mode is taken to be  $\xi_1 = 0.02$ . The material is assumed to be elasto-plastic, and the yielding limit of rotational springs of three stories is supposed to be  $\phi_y = 0.01$ .

### 5. Results and discussion

In this paper, because of the inclined first-story columns and the differential motions of the ground at two piers, the relative rotation of each column at the top and at the bottom corners of each story will be different, and therefore the story drift is defined as follows:

$$Drift = \frac{\max \left\{ h_1 \sin(\psi_{11} + \theta_{g_1} - \theta_{G_1}), h_1 \sin(\psi_{12} + \theta_{g_2} - \theta_{G_1}), h_1 \sin(\psi_{11}), h_1 \sin(\psi_{12}) \right\}}{h_1} \text{ (For the first story)}$$

$$Drift = \frac{\max \left\{ h_i \sin(\phi_{i1} + \theta_{G_{i-1}} - \theta_{G_i}), h_i \sin(\phi_{i2} + \theta_{G_{i-1}} - \theta_{G_i}), h_i \sin(\phi_{i1}), h_i \sin(\phi_{i2}) \right\}}{h_i} \text{ (For } i\text{-th story)}$$

(3)

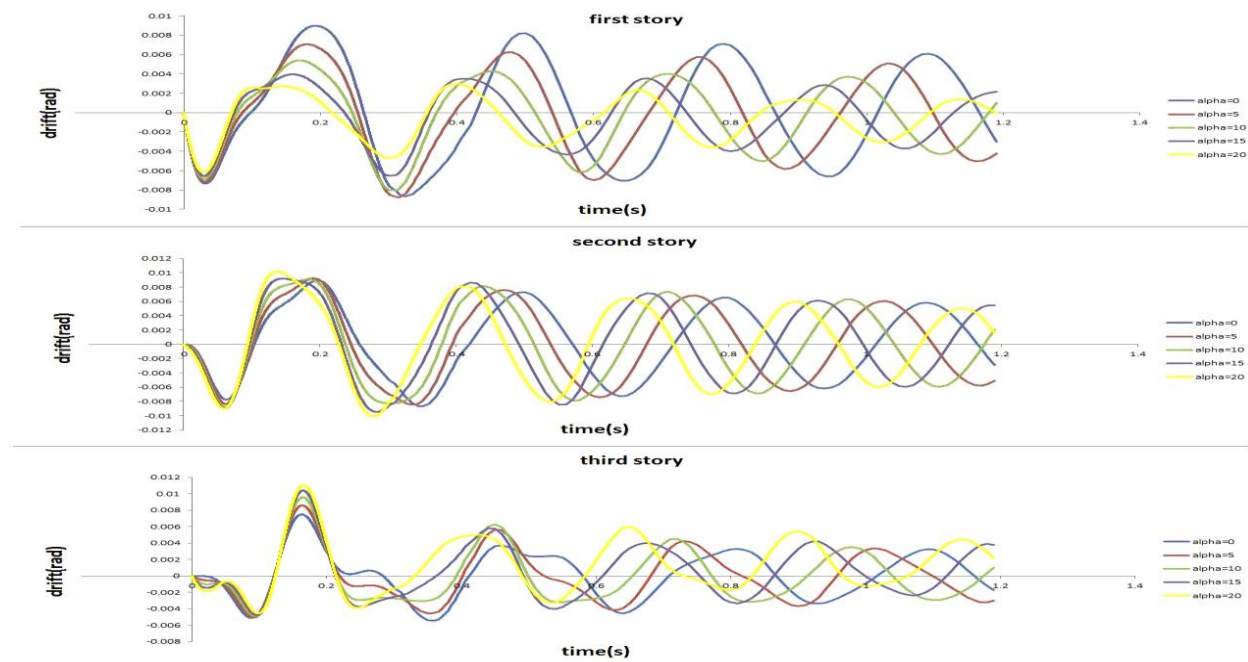
Results indicate that the inclination of the first-story columns stiffens the system. However, the change of the frequency of the first mode is small. The deformation of the

first story with inclined columns is such that it forces the building in a pendulum-like motion. Due to the inclination, in addition to stabilizing the system, it would also be

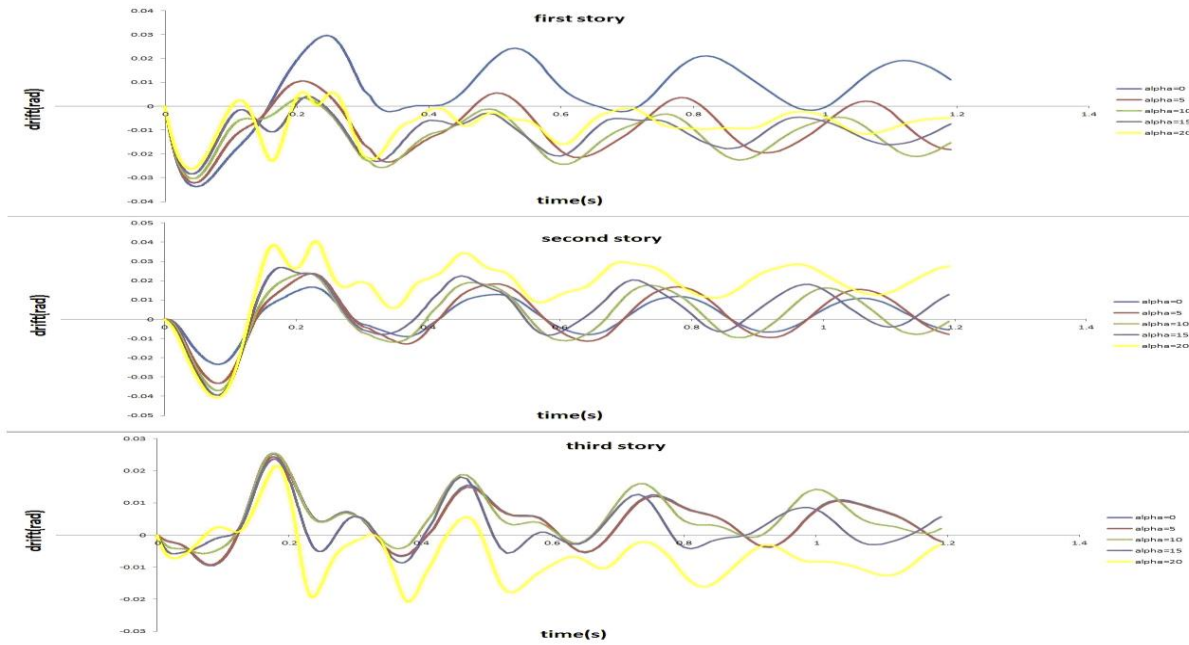
possible to reduce the relative building response.

Figures 3a through 3c illustrate the effect of inclination angle of the first-story columns on time-history response of story drift of the building with main period  $T_1=0.3$  sec, under fault-normal pulse with different magnitudes. As it is seen, by increasing of inclination angle of the first-story columns

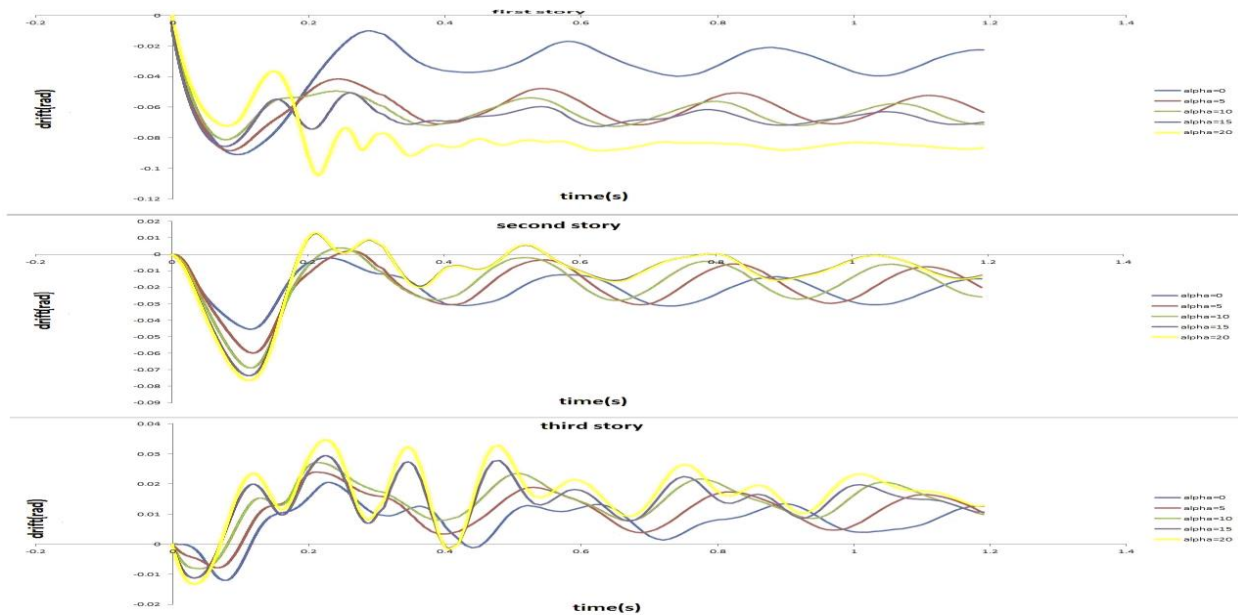
the drift amplitude of the first story decreases, except for inclination angle  $\alpha > 10^\circ$  and under earthquake magnitude  $M=7$ , that the effect of gravity leads to increase the drift amplitude of the first story as well. For upper stories by increasing of inclination angle of the first-story columns the drift amplitude increases.



**Fig.3a.** Effect of inclination angle of the first-story columns on maximum story drift for  $T_1=0.3$  sec, under fault-normal pulse with magnitude  $M=5$



**Fig.3b.** Same as Fig. 3a except for M =6.

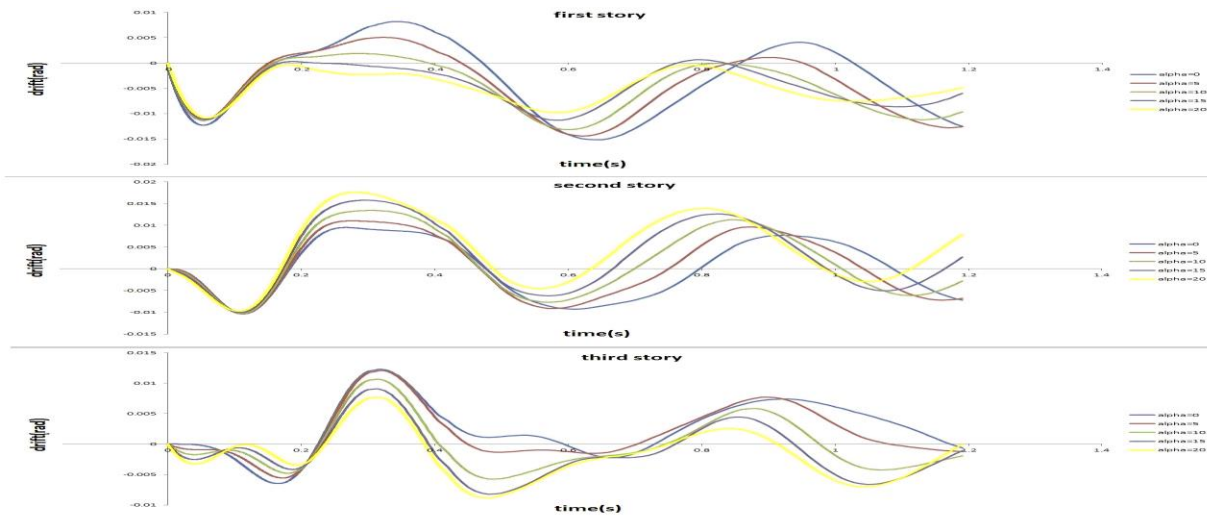


**Fig.3c.** Same as Fig. 3a except for M =7.

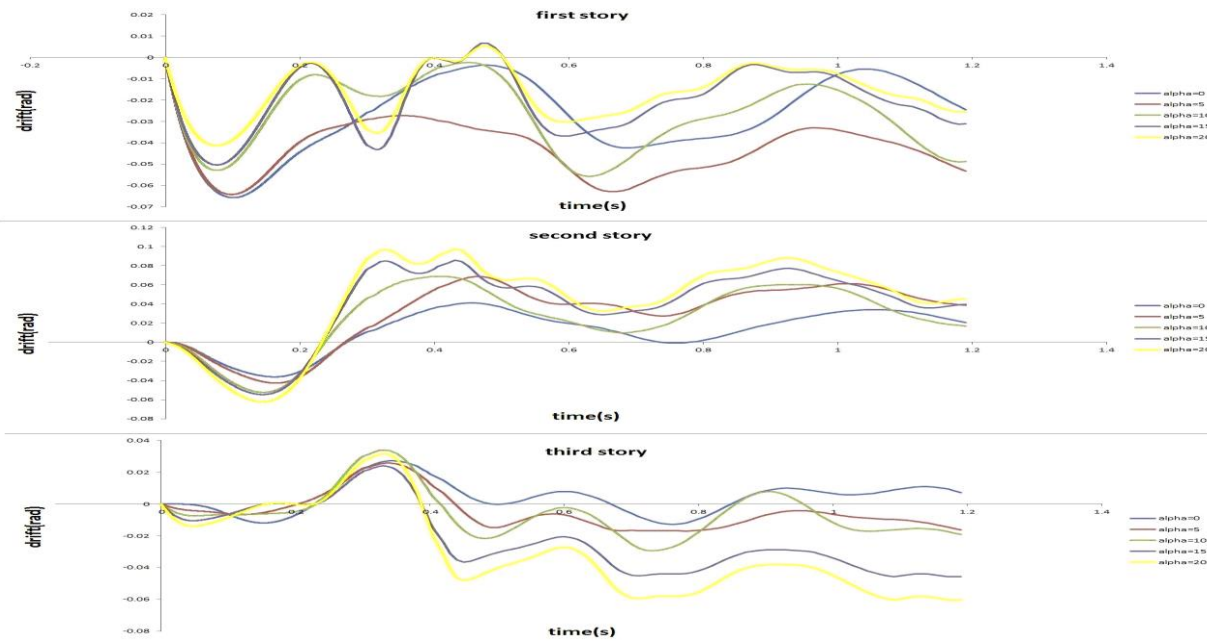
In Figures 4a through 4c the main period of building is  $T_1=0.6$  sec, and the trend is same as Figures 3a through 3c for building with main period  $T_1=0.3$  sec.

In Figure 5b the building with main period  $T_1=0.3$  sec, is subjected to El Centro earthquake (Figure 5a) and the effect of inclination angle of the first-story columns

on time-history response of story drift is shown. As it is seen, the inclined first-story columns play important role in decreasing of the first-story drift. Nevertheless, they lead to increase the upper-story drift. This solution would be useful in earthquake resistant design of buildings with architectural limitations at the first story.



**Fig.4a.** Effect of inclination angle of the first-story columns on maximum story drift for  $T_1=0.6$  sec, under fault-normal pulse with magnitude  $M=5$



**Fig.4b.** Same as Fig. 4a except for  $M =6$ .



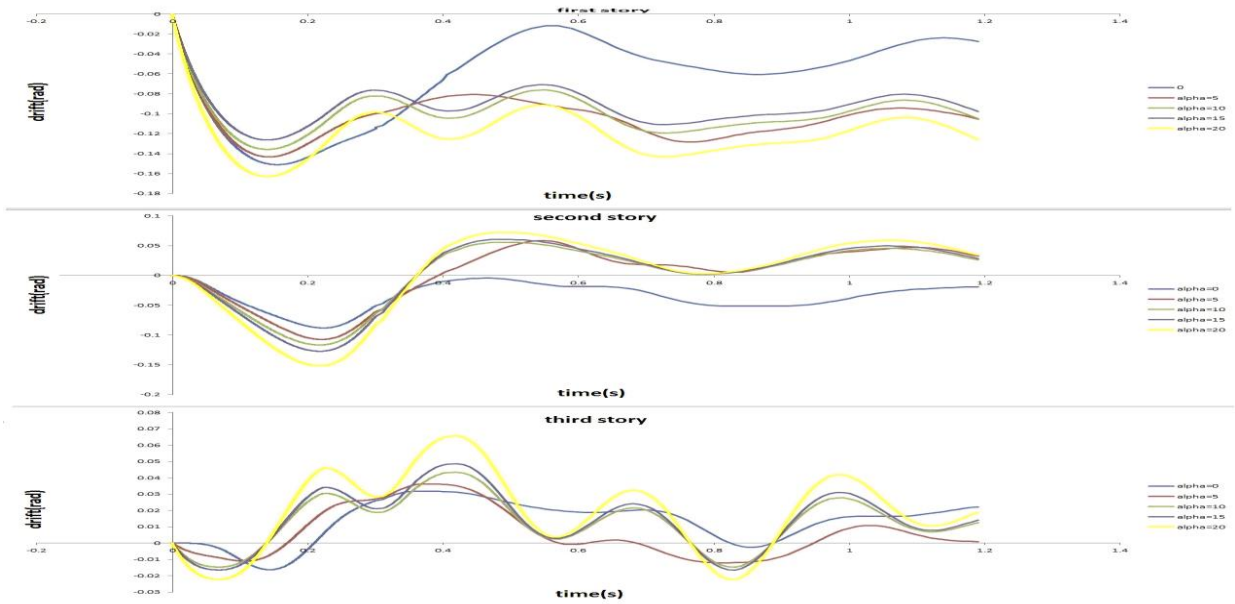


Fig.4c. Same as Fig. 4a except for M =7.

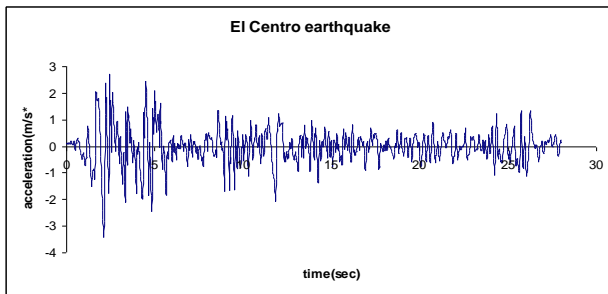


Fig.5a. Acceleration time-history of El Centro earthquake.

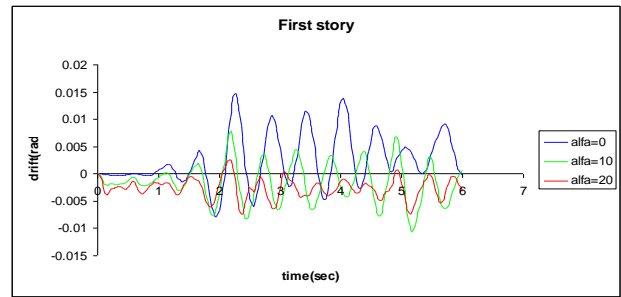


Fig.5b

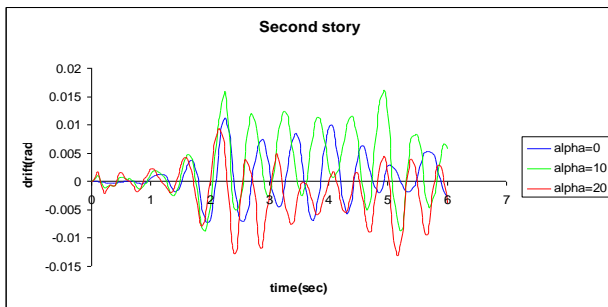


Fig.5b

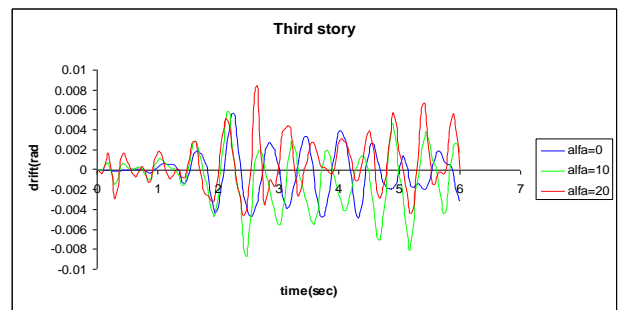


Fig.5b

Fig.5b. Effect of inclination angle of the first-story columns on maximum story drift for  $T_1=0.3$  sec, under El Centro earthquake

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## APPENDIX - The dynamic model

### Nonlinear equations of motion for three-story building with inclined first-story columns subjected to differential base excitation

As can be seen from Fig. 1, the model we consider is a three-story building with inclined first-story columns consisting of three rigid beams with mass  $m_i$ , polar moment inertia  $I_i$ , and length  $L$  supported by rigid massless columns connected at two ends by circular springs. The stiffness of the springs is assumed to be bilinear, as shown in Fig. A1.a. The massless columns are connected at two ends by circular dashpots providing the fraction of critical damping. Rotation of the columns is assumed not to be

small, which leads us to consider the geometric nonlinearity. The masses are acted upon by the acceleration of gravity,  $g$ , and are excited by differential ground motions at two piers. The deformed shape and all forces that act on the structural model, including the D'Alembert's forces and moments, are shown in Figs.A2, and A3, respectively. We define the parameters of the model as follows:

$k_{\phi_i}$  = Initial rotational stiffness of column springs of  $i$ -th story

$c_{\phi_i}$  = Linear rotational damping coefficient of columns of  $i$ -th story

$m_i$  = Mass of rigid beam of  $i$ -th story

$L$  = Length of rigid beam

$I_i = \frac{1}{12} m_i L^2$  = Polar moment inertia of rigid beam of  $i$ -th story

$h_i$  = Height of  $i$ -th story

$\psi_{1i}$  = Relative rocking angle of  $i$ -th column of the first story

$\phi_{11} = \theta_{g_1} + \psi_{11} + \delta_1$  = Absolute rocking angle of the first column of the first story

$\phi_{12} = \theta_{g_2} + \psi_{12} + \delta_2$  = Absolute rocking angle of the second column of the first story

$\phi_{ji}$  = Relative rocking angle of  $i$ -th column of  $j$ -th story ( $i=1, 2; j=2, 3$ )

$u_{g_i}, v_{g_i}, \theta_{g_i}$  = The free-field horizontal, vertical, and rotational motions of ground surface at the base of  $i$ -th column ( $i=1, 2$ )

$U_{G_i}, V_{G_i}, \theta_{G_i}$  = Absolute horizontal, vertical, and rotational motions of the center of gravity of  $i$ -th rigid beam.

$\delta_1 = -\delta_2 = \alpha =$  The inclination angle of the first-story columns respect to the vertical axes

According to Fig.A2, and because of the rigidity of the columns and beams, we can write the following relations between the displacements of beams and columns.

Absolute horizontal and vertical displacements of i-th beam ends:

Absolute horizontal and vertical displacements of the top of the first-story columns:

$$u_{T_{i1}} = U_{G_i} + \frac{L}{2}(1 - \cos \theta_{G_i})$$

$$u_{T_{i2}} = U_{G_i} - \frac{L}{2}(1 - \cos \theta_{G_i})$$

$$v_{T_{i1}} = V_{G_i} + \frac{L}{2} \sin \theta_{G_i}$$

$$v_{T_{i2}} = V_{G_i} - \frac{L}{2} \sin \theta_{G_i}$$

$$i = 1, 2, 3$$

(A.1)

$$u_{T_{11}} = u_{g_1} + \frac{h_1}{\cos \alpha} (\sin \phi_{11} - \sin \delta_1)$$

$$u_{T_{12}} = u_{g_2} + \frac{h_1}{\cos \alpha} (\sin \phi_{12} - \sin \delta_2)$$

$$v_{T_{11}} = v_{g_1} + \frac{h_1}{\cos \alpha} (\cos \phi_{11} - \cos \delta_1)$$

$$v_{T_{12}} = v_{g_2} + \frac{h_1}{\cos \alpha} (\cos \phi_{12} - \cos \delta_2)$$

(A.2)

Absolute horizontal and vertical displacements of the top of i-th story columns:

$$u_{T_{i1}} = u_{T_{(i-1)}} + h_i \sin(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{11})$$

$$v_{T_{i1}} = v_{T_{(i-1)}} - h_i \left[ 1 - \cos(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{11}) \right]$$

$$u_{T_{i2}} = u_{T_{(i-1)2}} + h_i \sin(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{12})$$

$$v_{T_{i2}} = v_{T_{(i-1)2}} - h_i \left[ 1 - \cos(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{12}) \right]$$

$$i = 2, 3$$

(A.3)

By combining equations (A.1), (A.2), and (A.3), we find the absolute motions of the rigid beams as follows:

$$U_{G_i} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ u_{g_1} + u_{g_2} + \frac{h_i}{\cos \alpha} (\sin \phi_{11} + \sin \phi_{12}) \right]$$

$$V_{G_i} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ v_{g_1} + v_{g_2} + \frac{h_i}{\cos \alpha} (\cos \phi_{11} + \cos \phi_{12} - \cos \delta_1 - \cos \delta_2) \right]$$

$$\theta_{G_i} = \sin^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{L} \left( v_{g_1} - v_{g_2} + \frac{h_i}{\cos \alpha} (\cos \phi_{11} - \cos \phi_{12}) \right) \right]$$

$$U_{G_i} = U_{G_{i-1}} + \frac{h_i}{2} \left[ \sin(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{11}) + \sin(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{12}) \right]$$

$$V_{G_i} = V_{G_{i-1}} - \frac{h_i}{2} \left[ 2 - \cos(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{11}) - \cos(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{12}) \right]$$

$$\theta_{G_i} = \sin^{-1} \left\{ \sin \theta_{G_{i-1}} + \frac{h_i}{L} \left[ \cos(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{11}) - \cos(\theta_{G_{i-1}} + \phi_{12}) \right] \right\}$$

$$i = 2, 3$$

(A.4)

According to Fig.A3 we can obtain the system of equations of motion of the model as follows

$$\begin{cases} c_{11}\ddot{\phi}_{11} + c_{12}\ddot{\phi}_{12} + c_{13}\ddot{\phi}_{21} + c_{14}\ddot{\phi}_{22} + c_{15}\ddot{\phi}_{31} + c_{16}\ddot{\phi}_{32} + c_{17} = 0 \\ c_{21}\ddot{\phi}_{11} + c_{22}\ddot{\phi}_{12} + c_{23}\ddot{\phi}_{21} + c_{24}\ddot{\phi}_{22} + c_{25}\ddot{\phi}_{31} + c_{26}\ddot{\phi}_{32} + c_{27} = 0 \\ c_{31}\ddot{\phi}_{11} + c_{32}\ddot{\phi}_{12} + c_{33}\ddot{\phi}_{21} + c_{34}\ddot{\phi}_{22} + c_{35}\ddot{\phi}_{31} + c_{36}\ddot{\phi}_{32} + c_{37} = 0 \end{cases}$$

(A.5)

Where  $c_{ij}$  are nonlinear functions of  $\phi_{ij}, \dot{\phi}_{ij}, \alpha$ , and base excitations. Because of differential ground motion, the system has six degrees of freedom—three independent and three dependent. For the solution of Eq. (A.5), we need three other equations that represent geometric relations in the model. Because of the assumed rigidity of beams, their lengths are constant. Therefore, for the deformed shape of the model we can write the following relations for three beams:

$$\begin{aligned} (L + u_{T_{12}} - u_{T_{11}})^2 + (v_{T_{12}} - v_{T_{11}})^2 &= L^2 \\ (L + u_{T_{22}} - u_{T_{21}})^2 + (v_{T_{22}} - v_{T_{21}})^2 &= L^2 \\ (L + u_{T_{32}} - u_{T_{31}})^2 + (v_{T_{32}} - v_{T_{31}})^2 &= L^2 \end{aligned} \tag{A.6}$$

Taking the first and second derivatives of Eq. (A.6) with respect to time and substituting into Eq. (A.5) gives

$$\begin{cases} z_{11}\ddot{\psi}_{11} + z_{12}\ddot{\phi}_{21} + z_{13}\ddot{\phi}_{31} + z_{14} = 0 \\ z_{21}\ddot{\psi}_{11} + z_{22}\ddot{\phi}_{21} + z_{23}\ddot{\phi}_{31} + z_{24} = 0 \\ z_{31}\ddot{\psi}_{11} + z_{32}\ddot{\phi}_{21} + z_{33}\ddot{\phi}_{31} + z_{34} = 0 \end{cases} \tag{A.7}$$

Where  $z_{ij}$  are nonlinear functions of  $\psi_{11}, \phi_{21}, \phi_{31}, \dot{\psi}_{11}, \dot{\phi}_{21}, \dot{\phi}_{31}, \alpha$ , and input ground motion.

Equation (A.7) is a system of coupled, nonlinear differential equations for  $\psi_{11}, \phi_{21}$ , and  $\phi_{31}$  that can be solved by numerical methods. Floor masses and story stiffness vary linearly from top to bottom as follows. Their relative values are so proportioned that the fundamental period of vibration of the building is nearly equal to  $0.1N$ ,  $N$  being the number of stories in the building.

$$\begin{aligned} m_j &= (1.0 - 0.4 \frac{j-1}{N-1})m_1 \\ k_{\phi_j} &= (1.0 - 0.4 \frac{j-1}{N-1})k_{\phi_1} \\ j &= 1, 2, \dots, N \end{aligned} \tag{A.8}$$

We suppose that the floor damping coefficients vary linearly from top to bottom as well:

$$\begin{aligned} c_{\phi_j} &= (1.0 - 0.4 \frac{j-1}{N-1})c_{\phi_1} \\ j &= 1, 2, \dots, N \end{aligned} \tag{A.9}$$

For small deformations of a linear system, and by neglecting gravity, damping, input ground motion, and high-order parameters, and by taking the Fourier transform of Eq. (A.7) we would have

$$[K - \omega^2 M] \begin{Bmatrix} \psi_{11} \\ \phi_{21} \\ \phi_{31} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix},$$

$$[K] = \begin{bmatrix} \left( \frac{8K_{\phi_1} \tan \alpha \sin \alpha}{L^2} + \frac{4K_{\phi_1} \sin \alpha}{Lh_1} + \frac{4K_{\phi_1} \tan \alpha}{Lh_1} + \frac{4K_{\phi_1}}{h_1^2} + \frac{4K_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} - \frac{8K_{\phi_2} \tan \alpha}{Lh_2} \right) & \left( -\frac{4K_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} + \frac{8K_{\phi_2} \tan \alpha}{Lh_2} - \frac{8K_{\phi_3} \tan \alpha}{Lh_3} \right) & \frac{8K_{\phi_3} \tan \alpha}{Lh_3} \\ -\frac{4K_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} & \left( \frac{4K_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} + \frac{4K_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \right) & -\frac{4K_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \\ 0 & -\frac{4K_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} & \frac{4K_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[M] = \begin{bmatrix} \left( m_1 \cos \alpha + \frac{0.344h_1^2 \tan \alpha \sin \alpha}{L^2} (m_1 + m_2 + m_3) \right) & 0 & 0 \\ \left( m_2 \left( \cos \alpha - \frac{2h_2 \sin \alpha}{L} \right) - m_2 \right) & m_2 & 0 \\ \left( m_3 \left( \cos \alpha - \frac{4h_3 \sin \alpha}{L} \right) - m_3 \right) & 0 & m_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

(A.10)

As it is seen from the above equation the stiffness and the mass matrices are not symmetric. For  $\alpha=0$  the stiffness and the mass matrices are same as those for common shear building. For nonzero solution of Eq. (A.10), the determinant of the coefficients should be zero. Therefore, the characteristic equation of the model would be

$$|K - \omega^2 M| = 0$$

(A.11)

By solving Eq. (A.11), one can find the rotational stiffness of columns and natural frequencies of the model. For example for  $\alpha = 10^\circ$  we have

$$\begin{cases} T_1 = 0.3 \\ \alpha = 0 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{Eq. (A.11)}} \frac{k_{\phi_1}}{m_1 h_1^2} = 449 \xrightarrow[\alpha=10^\circ]{\text{Eq. (A.11)}} \begin{cases} \omega_1 = 22.11 \\ \omega_2 = 49.77 \\ \omega_3 = 72.03 \end{cases}$$

For  $\alpha=0$ , we can determine the rotational damping coefficient of columns for a prescribed fraction of critical damping. The mass, stiffness, and damping matrices of the model are

$$[M] = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_3 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$[K] = \begin{bmatrix} \left( \frac{4k_{\phi_1}}{h_1^2} + \frac{4k_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} \right) & -\frac{4k_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} & 0 \\ -\frac{4k_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} & \left( \frac{4k_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} + \frac{4k_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \right) & -\frac{4k_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \\ 0 & -\frac{4k_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} & \frac{4k_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$[C] = \begin{bmatrix} \left( \frac{4c_{\phi_1}}{h_1^2} + \frac{4c_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} \right) & -\frac{4c_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} & 0 \\ -\frac{4c_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} & \left( \frac{4c_{\phi_2}}{h_2^2} + \frac{4c_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \right) & -\frac{4c_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \\ 0 & -\frac{4c_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} & \frac{4c_{\phi_3}}{h_3^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

In modal space we would have

$$[M_n] = [\Phi]^T [M] [\Phi] = \begin{bmatrix} M_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & M_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & M_3 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$[K_n] = [\Phi]^T [K] [\Phi] = \begin{bmatrix} K_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & K_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_3 \end{bmatrix},$$

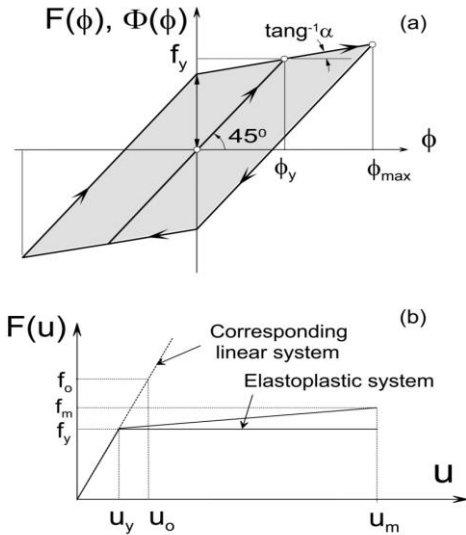
$$[C_n] = [\Phi]^T [C] [\Phi] = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The damping ratio of *i*-th mode would be

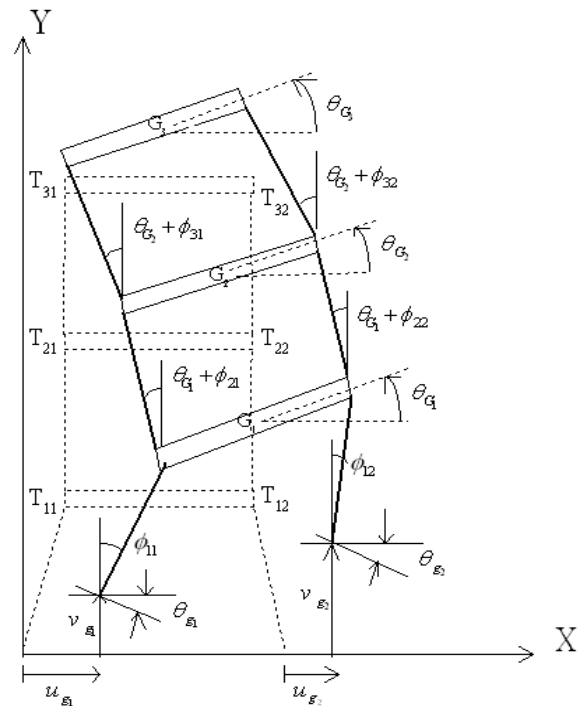
$$\xi_i = \frac{C_i}{2M_i\omega_i}.$$

So, by assuming that the damping ratio of the first mode is equal to  $\xi_1 = 0.02$ , one would have the rotational damping coefficient of columns as follows:

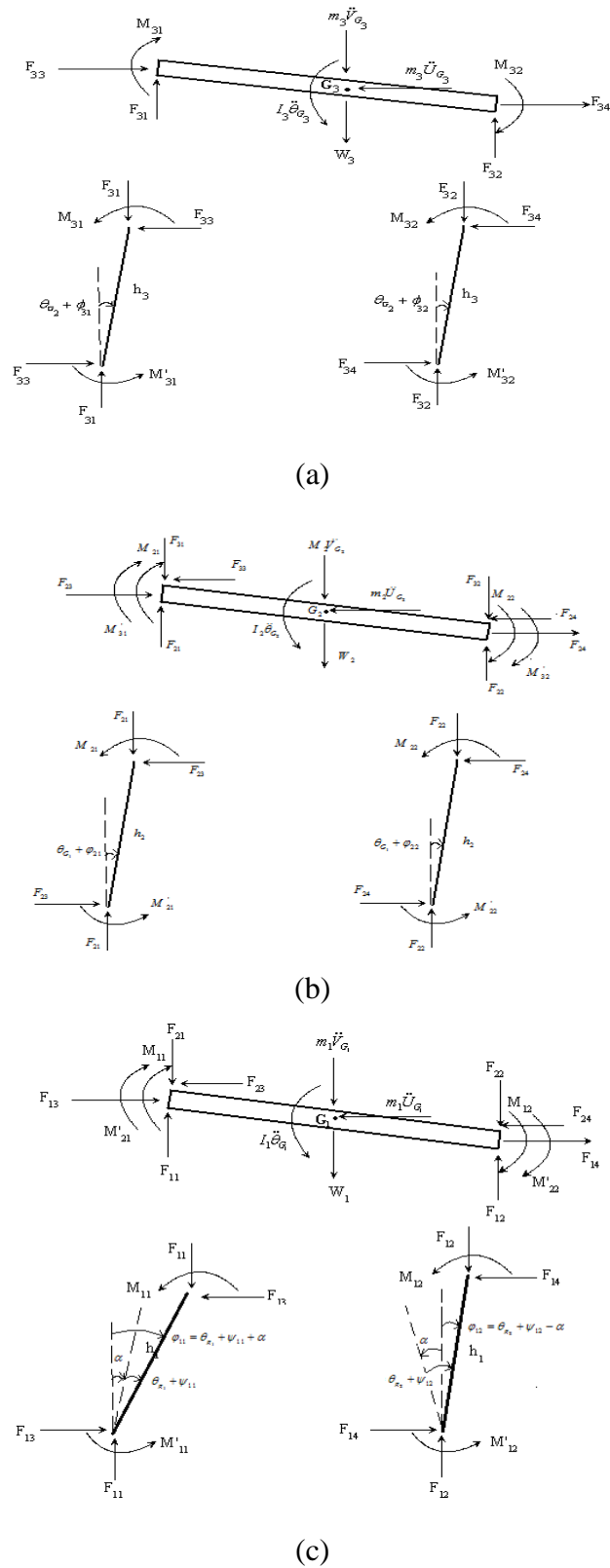
$$\xi_1 = 0.02 \Rightarrow \frac{c_{\phi_1}}{m_1 h_1^2} = 0.86$$



**Fig. A1.** (a) Bilinear rotational stiffness models, (b) elasto-plastic system and the corresponding linear system.



**Fig. A2.** Deformed shape of the model in Fig. 1, subjected to differential motions at the base of its columns.



**Fig. A3**, (a) Free-body diagrams for the third story, (b) the second story, and (c) the first story of the model in Fig. 1.