

# RESPONSE OF MULTISTORY BUILDINGS TO EARTHQUAKE TRANSLATIONAL EXCITATION

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## ABSTRACT

An analytical study of the response of multistory buildings to earthquake translational excitation is presented. The lateral resisting elements of the buildings are columns and shear wall assumed to be elastic during the excitation. The earthquake excitation is represented by a design response spectrum. The study has led to the following main conclusions: the story shear decreases with the increase of building eccentricity, in the mean time; the story torque increases. The influence of the building eccentricity on the response is substantial when the uncoupled torsional and translational frequencies of the building get closer to each other.

## INTRODUCTION

Multistory buildings subjected to earthquake often undergo torsional motion in addition to the translational motions. The torsional motion may arise owing to eccentricities between the centers of mass and resistance at various floors of the building.

The torsional response of a single story building has been studied by several researchers [1,2]. More recently, Hejal and Chopar [3] have suggested a simplified procedure for the analysis of a class of multistory buildings with frame type lateral resisting elements. In this paper, the response of multistory monosymmetric buildings with shear type lateral resisting elements to earthquake translational excitation is presented. The influence of building different characteristics on the response is considered. The earthquake translational excitation is represented by design response spectrum [4].

## DESCRIPTION OF MULTISTORY BUILDING

The multistory building considered in this study is monosymmetric  $N$  story buildings as shown in Figure (1). The building floors are horizontal slabs having the same geometry and supported on columns and shear walls. The principal axes of resistance of all floors are oriented along  $x$  and  $y$  axes. The centers of mass of the floors lie on a vertical axis

and the centers of resistance lie on another vertical axis. The building mass is concentrated at the floor levels and the floors have the same radius of gyration  $r$  about the centers of mass axis.

The building is symmetric about the  $y$  axis while it is unsymmetric about the  $x$  axis. It has  $N$  translational degrees of freedom  $u_x$  in the  $x$  direction and  $N$  rotational degrees of freedom  $u_\theta$  about a vertical axis all considered at the centers of mass of various floor levels. The ratio  $\beta = k_{\theta l} / (r^2 k_{xl})$  is the same for all stories.

## EQUATIONS OF MOTION

The multistory monosymmetric building shown in Figure (1) has  $2N$  degrees of freedom;  $N$  of them are translational in the direction of the  $x$  axis and the other  $N$  are rotational about the vertical all acting at the centers of mass and measured relative to the ground. For floor  $l$  these are denoted by  $u_{lx}$  and  $u_{l\theta}$  respectively. The building is subjected to earthquake translational acceleration  $\ddot{u}_{gx}$  in the  $x$  direction.

The equations of motion of the multistory building shown in Figure (1) can be expressed as follows [5]:

$$[M] \{\ddot{u}\} + [K] \{u\} = \{P(t)\} \quad (1-a)$$

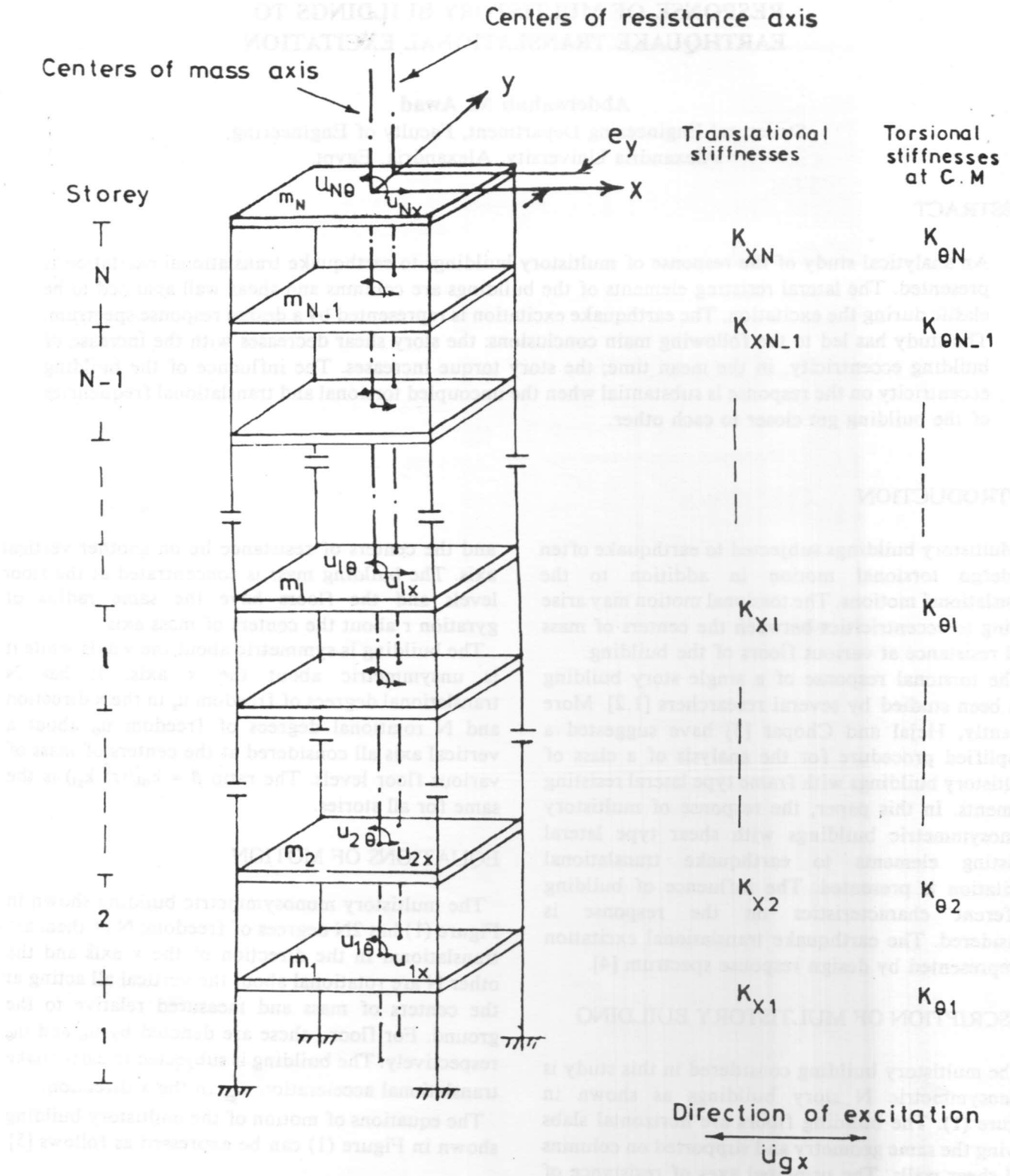


Figure 1. A Multistory building.

where  $[M]$  is the mass matrix,  $[K]$  is the stiffness matrix of the building,  $\{P(t)\}$  is the earthquake effective load vector acting on the building,  $\{u\}$  is the displacement vector relative to the ground and  $\{\ddot{u}\}$  is the acceleration vector.

Equations (1a) can be expressed in the following expanded form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} m & 0 \\ 0 & m \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{u}_x \\ \ddot{u}_\theta \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} K_x & -\frac{e_y}{r} K_x \\ -\frac{e_y}{r} K_x & K_t \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} u_x \\ ru_\theta \end{Bmatrix} = - \begin{Bmatrix} m & 1 & \ddot{u}_{gx} \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (1b)$$

in which the mass submatrix is

$$m = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & & \\ & m_2 & \\ & & \dots \\ & & & m_N \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $m_1$  is the mass at level 1. The displacement subvectors are

$$u_x = \begin{Bmatrix} u_{1x} \\ u_{2x} \\ \vdots \\ u_{Nx} \end{Bmatrix}, \quad ru_\theta = \begin{Bmatrix} u_{1\theta} \\ u_{2\theta} \\ \vdots \\ u_{N\theta} \end{Bmatrix}$$

where  $r$  is the radius of gyration of the floor and the stiffness submatrix are:

$$K_x = \begin{bmatrix} K_{x1}+K_{x2} & -K_{x2} & & & & \\ -K_{x2} & K_{x2}+K_{x3} & -K_{x3} & & & \\ & -K_{x3} & K_{x3}+K_{x4} & -K_{x4} & & \\ & & & & \dots & \\ & & & & & -K_{xN} \\ & & & & & -K_{xN} & K_{xN} \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $K_t = \beta K_x$

where  $\beta = \frac{K_{\theta t}}{r^2 K_x}$

$\mathbf{1}$  is a vector of ones and  $\mathbf{0}$  is a zero vector.

Equations (1b) are for undamped system. Damping will be introduced later as viscous damping ratio  $\zeta$  in each mode of vibration.

The natural frequencies  $\omega$  and the mode shapes  $\alpha$  of the building are solutions of the following Eigenvalue problem of order  $2N$  [5]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_x - \omega^2 m & -\frac{e_y}{r} K_x \\ -\frac{e_y}{r} K_x & K_t - \omega^2 m \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \alpha_x \\ \alpha_\theta \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

The mode shapes of the building can be expressed in the following matrix form:

$$\alpha = [\alpha_1 \ \alpha_2 \ \dots \ \alpha_{2N}]$$

and the  $n$ -th. mode shape  $\alpha_n$  is expressed as

$$\alpha_n = \begin{Bmatrix} \alpha_{j\theta n} \\ \alpha_{jx n} \end{Bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} j = 1, 2, \dots, N \\ n = 1, 2, \dots, 2N \end{matrix}$$

and the natural frequencies can be expressed as:

$$\omega = \{ \omega_1 \ \omega_2 \ \dots \ \omega_{2N} \}$$

The displacement component of the building, relative to the ground, are then defined in terms of modal coordinates  $Y_n$  as follows

$$\begin{Bmatrix} u_x \\ u_\theta \end{Bmatrix} = \sum_{n=1}^{2N} Y_n \begin{Bmatrix} \alpha_{j1n} \\ \alpha_{j\theta n} \end{Bmatrix} \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (3)$$

and the uncoupled equations of motion of equations (1b) are given by (5).

$$\ddot{Y}_n(t) + 2 \xi \omega_n \dot{Y}_n(t) + \omega_n^2 Y_n(t) = \frac{P_n(t)}{M_n} \quad (4)$$

where

$Y_n(t)$  is the modal coordinate for the n-th mode at time t

$\xi$  is the damping ratio, assumed to be the same for all modes of vibration

$\omega_n$  is the natural frequency for the n-th mode

$M_n = \alpha_n^T [M] \alpha_n$  is the generalized mass for the n-th mode, and [M] is the mass matrix of the building

and

$P_n(t) = \alpha_n^T P(t)$  is the generalized load for the n-th mode

For earthquake translational excitation in the x direction only the generalized load for the n-th mode can be expressed as:

$$P_n(t) = -\alpha_n^T [M] \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \ddot{u}_{gx}$$

Using response spectrum, the absolute maximum value of the modal coordinate for the n-th mode is given by [5]

$$Y_n(t)_{\max} = \frac{L_n}{M_n \omega_n^2} S_{ax}(\omega_n, \xi) \quad (5)$$

where  $L_n = \alpha_n^T [M] \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix}$  is the model earthquake excitation factor in the x direction.

and  $S_{ax}(\omega_n, \xi)$  is the translational spectral acceleration.

The relative displacement model vector is then given by

$$U_n(t) = \alpha_n Y_n(t)_{\max}$$

$$U_n(t) = \frac{\alpha_n}{M_n \omega_n^2} L_n S_{ax}(\omega_n, \xi)$$

The maximum modal forces are finally obtained and expressed as:

$$f_n = \begin{Bmatrix} f_{j1n} \\ f_{j\theta n} \end{Bmatrix} = \omega_n^2 [M] u_n(t)$$

$$f_n = [M] \alpha_n \frac{L_n}{M_n} S_{ax}(\omega_n, \xi) \quad \begin{matrix} j = 1, 2, \dots, N \\ n = 1, 2, \dots, 2N \end{matrix}$$

The maximum value of any desired story resultant due to the n-th mode can be computed by standard method of statics from the external modal forces obtained from equations (7). Referring to Figure (2); the resultant modal shear and the resultant modal torque at floor l are expressed as follows:

$$V_{lkn} = \sum_{j=1}^N f_{j1n} \quad (8)$$

$j = 1, l+1, \dots,$

$$T_{l\theta n} = r \sum_{j=1}^N f_{j\theta n} \quad (8)$$

The resultant model torque can be converted about the center of resistance as follows:

$$(T_R)_{l\theta n} = T_{l\theta n} + e_y V_{lkn}$$

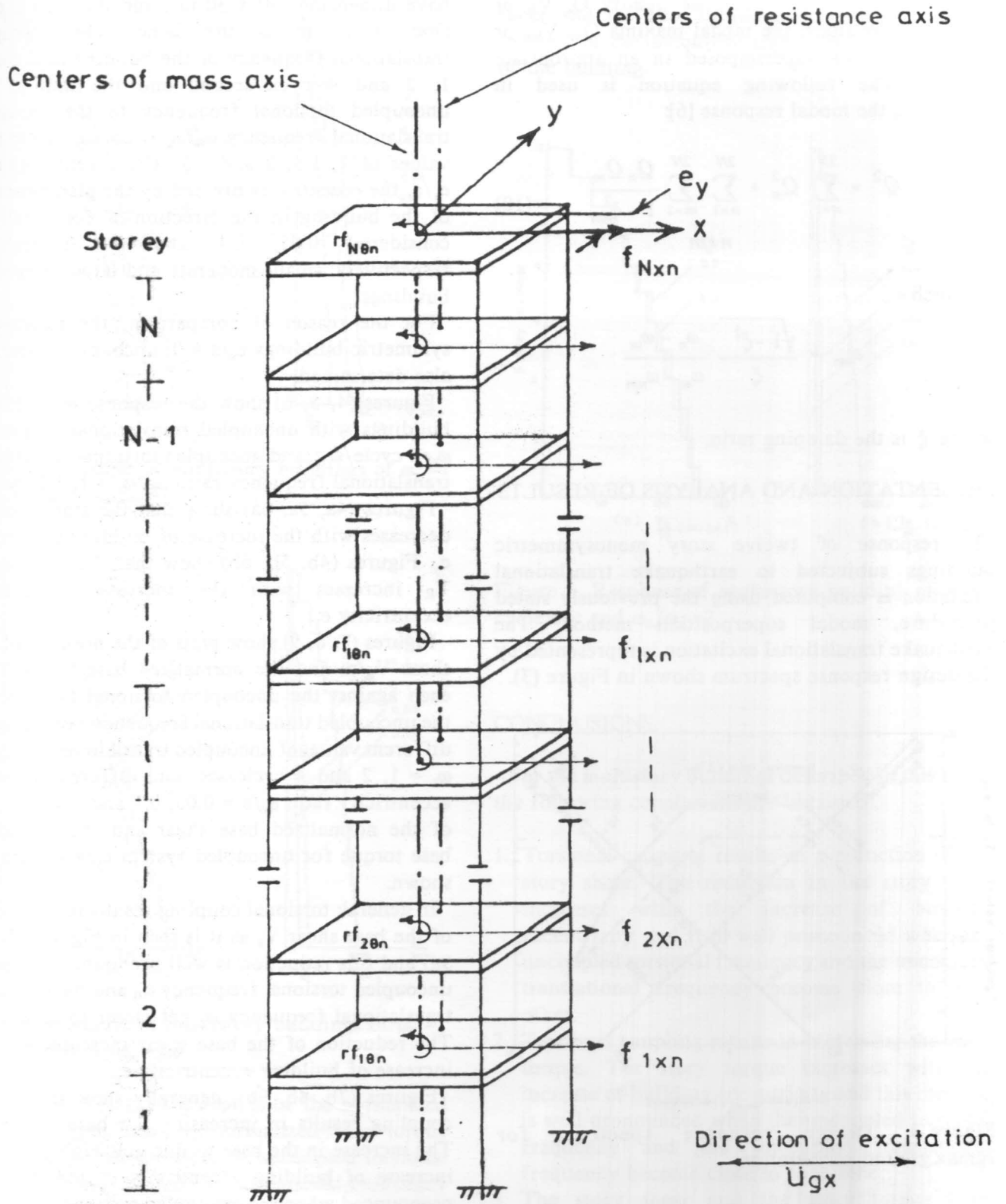


Figure 2. Modal forces acting on a multistory building.

To get the resultant response quality  $Q$ ,  $V_k$  or  $(T_R)_{\theta}$ , at any story; the modal maxima  $Q_n$ ,  $V_{kn}$  or  $(T_R)_{\theta n}$ , are then superimposed in an appropriate manner. The following equation is used in combining the modal response [6]:

$$Q^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{2N} Q_n^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{2N} \sum_{m=1, m \neq n}^{2N} \frac{Q_n Q_m}{1 + \xi_{nm}^2} \quad (10)$$

in which

$$\xi_{nm} = \frac{\sqrt{1 - \xi^2}}{\xi} \frac{\omega_n - \omega_m}{\omega_n + \omega_m}$$

where  $\xi$  is the damping ratio.

PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

The response of twelve story monosymmetric buildings subjected to earthquake translational excitation is computed using the previously stated procedure, modal superposition method. The earthquake translational excitation is represented by the design response spectrum shown in Figure (3).

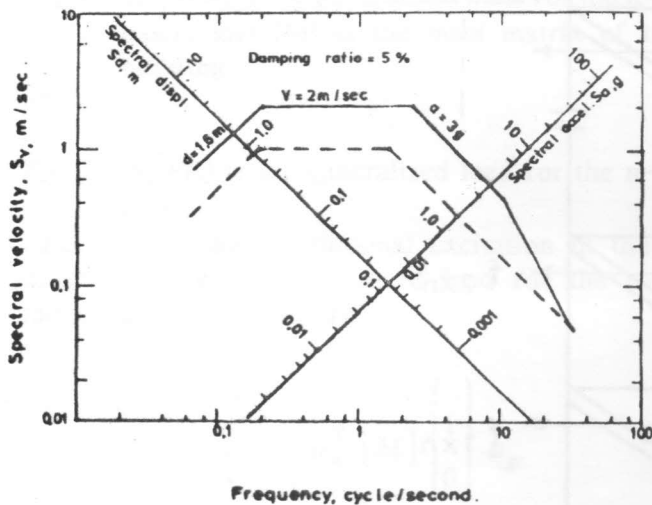


Figure 3. Design response spectrum for 1g max. ground acceleration.

A damping ratio  $\xi = 5\%$  is considered in the analysis. The floors of the buildings are identical and

have dimensions 30 x 30 ms, and the mass at each floor level  $m$  is the same. The uncoupled translational frequency of the building  $\omega_x$  is chosen 1, 2 and 4 cycle/second and the ratio of the uncoupled torsional frequency to the uncoupled translational frequency  $\omega_{\theta}/\omega_x$  is considered to have values of 1, 1.5, 2 and 2.5. The eccentricity ratio  $e_y/a$ , the eccentricity divided by the plan dimension of the building in the direction of eccentricity, is considered 0.05, 0.1 and 0.4 representing respectively; small, moderate and large eccentricity buildings.

For the reason of comparison, the response of symmetric buildings  $e_y/a = 0$ , uncoupled systems, is also determined.

Figures (4, 5, 6) show the response of multistory buildings with uncoupled translational frequencies  $\omega_x = 1$  cycle/sec. and uncoupled torsional frequency to translational frequency ratio  $\omega_{\theta}/\omega_x = 1, 1.5$  and 2.

Figures (4a, 5a, 6a) show that the story shear  $V_x$  decreases with the increase of building eccentricity  $e_y$ . Figures (4b, 5b, 6b) show that the story torque  $T_R$  increases with the increase of building eccentricity  $e_y$ .

Figures (7, 8, 9) show plots of the normalized base shear  $V_x/m$  and the normalized base torque  $T_R/m$  each against the uncoupled torsional frequency to the uncoupled translational frequency ratio  $\omega_{\theta}/\omega_x$  for different values of uncoupled translational frequency  $\omega_x = 1, 2$  and 4 cycle/sec. and different values of eccentricity ratio  $e_y/a = 0.05, 0.1$  and 0.4. The plots of the normalized base shear and the normalized base torque for uncoupled system  $e_y/a = 0$  are also shown.

In general; torsional coupling results in a reduction of the base shear  $V_x$  as it is seen in Figures (7a, 8a, 9a) and this reduction is well pronounced when the uncoupled torsional frequency  $\omega_{\theta}$  and the uncoupled translational frequency  $\omega_x$  get closer to each other. The reduction of the base shear increases with the increase of building eccentricity  $e_y$ .

Figures (7b, 8b, 9b), generally show that torsion coupling results in increasing the base torque  $T_R$ . The increase in the base torque gets higher with the increase of building eccentricity  $e_y$  and it is well pronounced when the uncoupled torsional frequency  $\omega_{\theta}$  and the uncoupled translational frequency  $\omega_x$  get closer to each other.

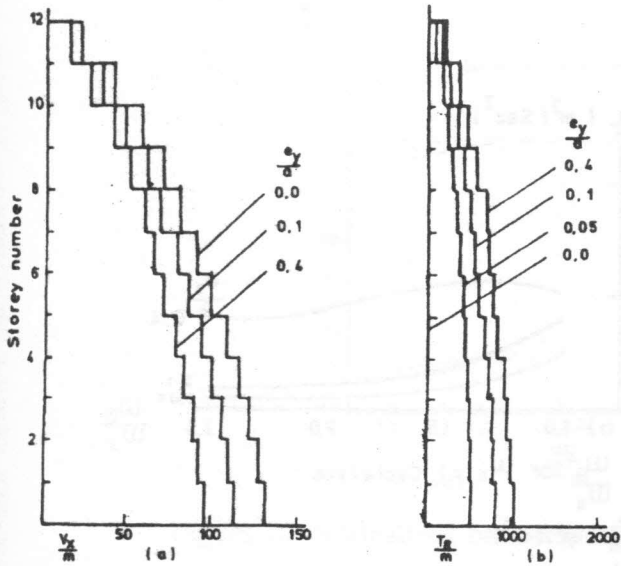


Figure 4. Response of multistory buildings of  $\omega_x = 1$  cycle/sec and  $\omega_\theta/\omega_x = 1$

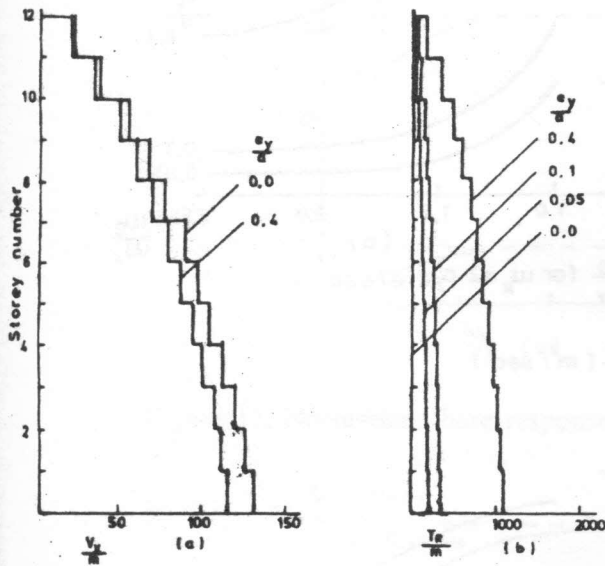


Figure 5. Response of multistory buildings of  $\omega_x = 1$  cycle/sec and  $\omega_\theta/\omega_x = 1.5$

Figures (10, 11, 12) show plots of the normalized base shear  $v_x/m$  and the normalized base torque  $T_R/m$  each against the ratio of uncoupled torsional frequency to the uncoupled translational frequency  $\omega_\theta/\omega_x$  for uncoupled translational frequency  $\omega_x = 1, 2$  and 4 cycle/sec.

It is seen from Figures (10, 11, 12) that the base

shear and the base torque both increase with the increase of the uncoupled translational frequency  $\omega_x$  of the building.

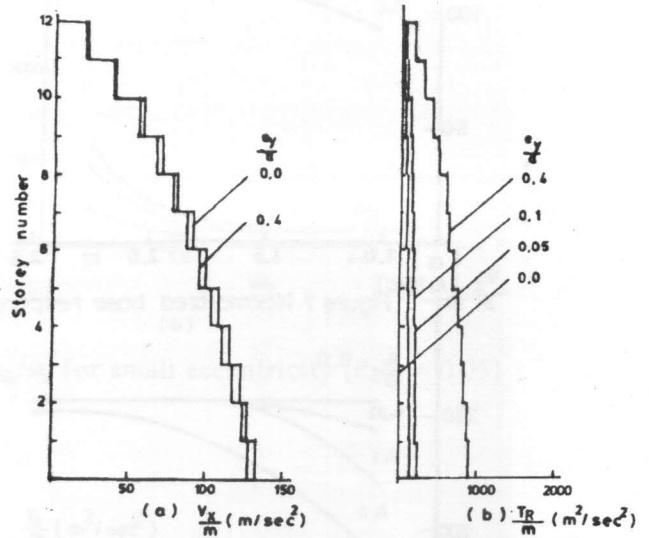
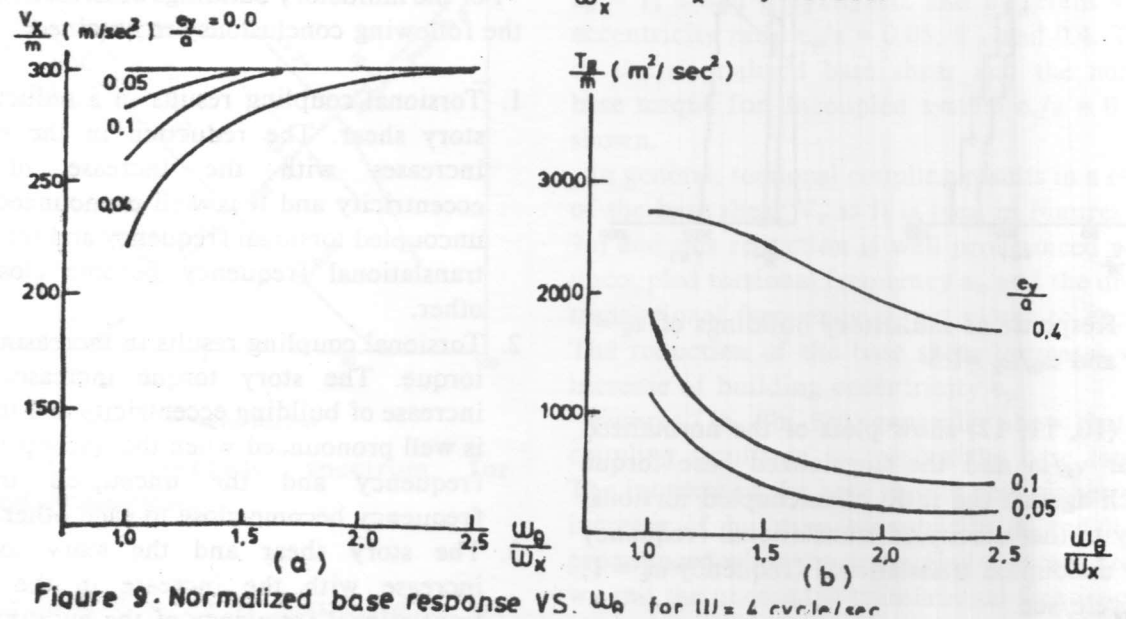
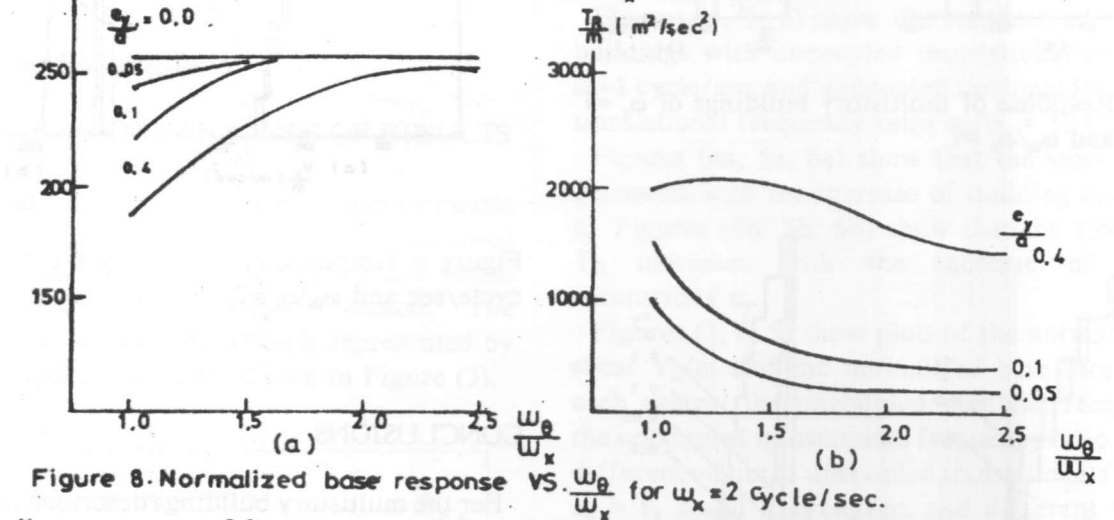
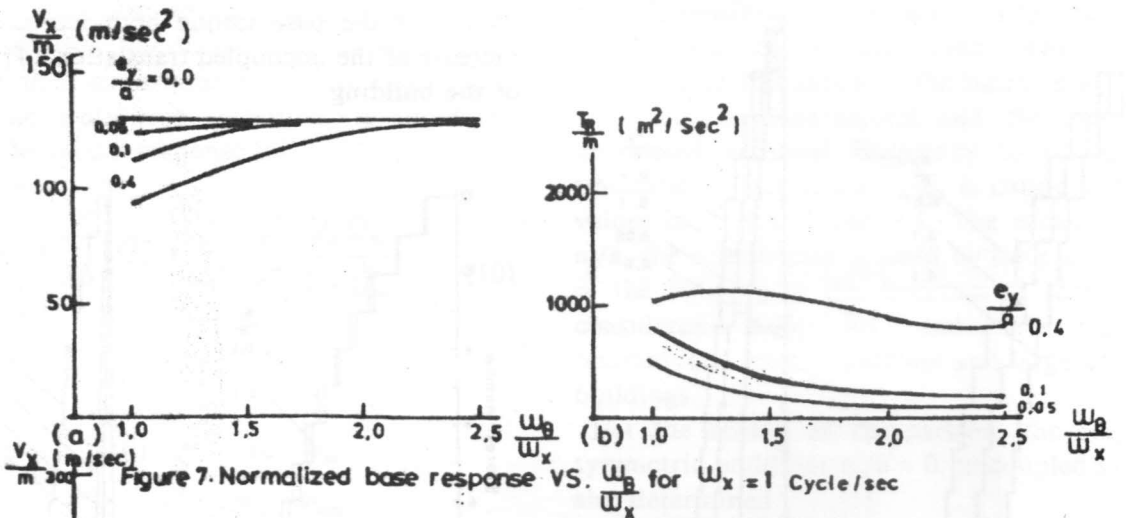


Figure 6. Response of multistory building of  $\omega_x = 1$  cycle/sec and  $\omega_\theta/\omega_x = 2$

### CONCLUSIONS

For the multistory buildings described in this paper the following conclusions are obtained:

1. Torsional coupling results in a reduction of the story shear. The reduction in the story shear increases with the increase of building eccentricity and it is well pronounced when the uncoupled torsional frequency and the uncoupled translational frequency become close to each other.
2. Torsional coupling results in increasing the story torque. The story torque increases with the increase of building eccentricity and this increase is well pronounced when the uncoupled torsional frequency and the uncoupled translational frequency become close to each other.
3. The story shear and the story torque both increase with the increase in the uncoupled translational frequency of the building.





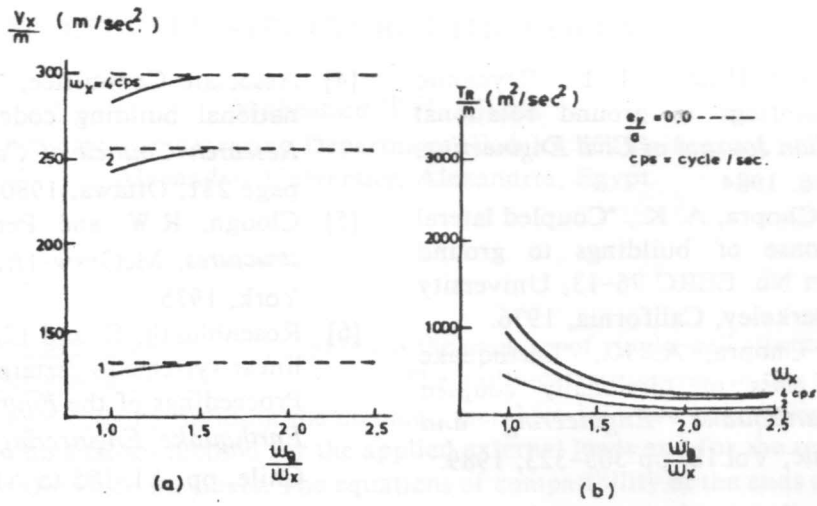


Figure 10. Normalized base response vs  $\omega_\theta/\omega_x$  for small eccentricity ( $e_y/a = 0.05$ )

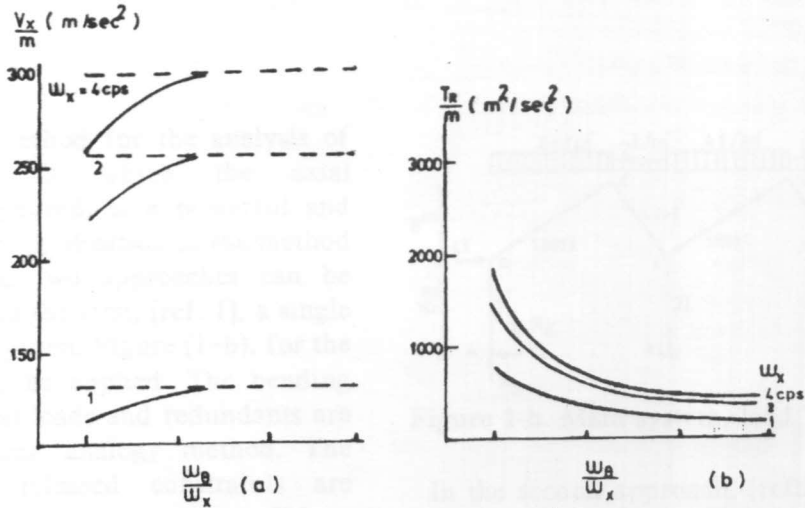


Figure 11. Normalized base response vs  $\omega_\theta/\omega_x$  for moderate eccentricity ( $e_y/a = 0.1$ )

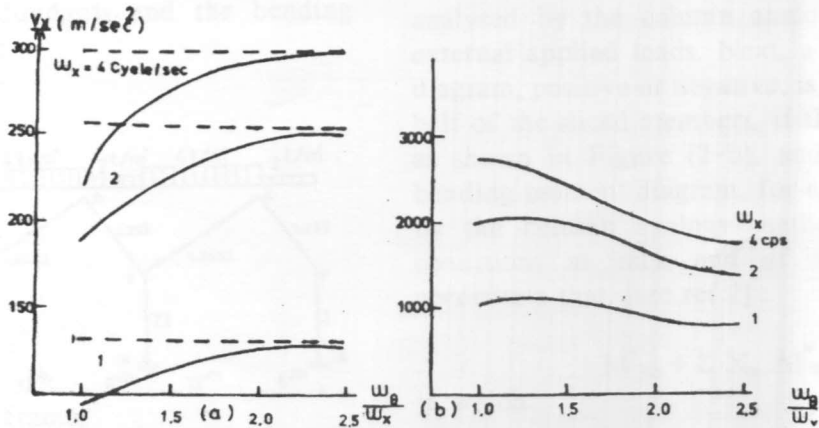


Figure 12. Normalized base response vs  $\omega_\theta/\omega_x$  for large eccentricity ( $e_y/a = 0.4$ )

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