

EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE ANALYSIS  
OF TORSIONALLY COUPLED MULTISTOREY BUILDINGS

MARIO DI PAOLA<sup>I</sup>

SUMMARY

A considerable amount of research on the dynamics of lateral torsionally coupled building response has been carried out in recent years.

The most common idealization assumes the masses lumped at the floor levels.

Aim of this paper is to identify, for an asymmetric building structure, the earthquake horizontal ground motion direction which produces the maximum frame or wall relative displacement.

All the points of the foundation are herein assumed to undergo the same ground acceleration.

However the ground history is characterized by a random stationary Gaussian and ergodic process.

Once that direction of the ground motion has been determined the standard technique may be adopted.

ANALYSIS OF THE RESPONSE TO GROUND MOTION

Equation of motion in terms of generalized coordinates for a damped, linear, multistorey building having  $3n$  degree-of-freedom (DOF) ( $n$  = number of stories), and subjected to base excitation  $\ddot{z}(t)$  have the following matrix form:

$$\text{Eq.1) } \quad [\underline{M}] \{\ddot{x}\} + [\underline{C}] \{\dot{x}\} + [\underline{K}] \{x\} = - [\underline{M}] \{r(\beta)\} \ddot{z}(t).$$

Where  $[\underline{M}]$ ,  $[\underline{C}]$ ,  $[\underline{K}]$  are respectively,  $3n \times 3n$  generalized mass, damping and stiffness matrices;  $\{x(t)\}$  is the generalized relative displacement vector  $\{r(\beta)\}$  is a vector whose  $i$ -th entry is either a  $1 \cos \beta$  or a  $1 \sin \beta$  or a zero depending on the corresponding DOF being or not coincidental with the direction of the support motion;  $\beta$  is the direction of  $\ddot{z}(t)$ , constant respect to time.

Let  $[\underline{\phi}]$  ( $3n \times 3n$ ) the modal matrix O.N. respect to  $M$ , i e.:

$$\text{Eq.2) } \quad [\underline{\phi}]^T [\underline{M}] [\underline{\phi}] = [\underline{I}].$$

The usual coordinates transformation gives:

---

<sup>I</sup> Associate Professor, Dept. of Structures, Faculty of Engineering, University of Palermo (Italy)

$$\text{Eq.3)} \quad [I] \{\ddot{y}\} + [2v\omega] \{\dot{y}\} + [\omega^2] \{y\} = \{L(\beta)\} \ddot{Z}(t).$$

Where  $[2v\omega]$  is a matrix obtained by the diagonal elements of the operator  $[\phi]^T [C] [\phi]$  and  $\{L(\beta)\} = -[\phi]^T [M] \{r(\beta)\}$ .

The equation of motion for each mode is derived as follows, using the generalized mass and force for the mode, the modal frequency  $\omega_i$  and a specified value of the modal damping ratio  $v_i$

$$\text{Eq.4)} \quad \ddot{y}_i + 2 v_i \omega_i \dot{y}_i + \omega_i^2 y_i = L_i(\beta) \ddot{Z}(t)$$

To calculate the maximum displacement at k-th floor of the s-th frame, let the reference coordinate system ( $x^\circ$ ,  $y^\circ$ ) to be as in Fig. 1, the x axis rotated to coincide with the frame horizontal axis

The equation 4) in this reference is rewritten as:

$$\text{Eq.5)} \quad \ddot{y}_i^\circ + 2 v_i \omega_i \dot{y}_i^\circ + \omega_i^2 y_i^\circ = L_i(\beta^\circ) \ddot{Z}(t).$$

The Power Spectral Density function (PSD) of  $y_i(t)$  is:

$$\text{Eq.6)} \quad G_{yy_i}^\circ(\Omega) = |H_i(\Omega)|^2 \cdot L_i^2(\beta^\circ) G_{zz}(\Omega).$$

Where  $G_{zz}(\Omega)$  is the PSD of the input, and  $H_i(\Omega)$  is the transfer function.

If the input is a random stationary Gaussian and ergodic process, the variance is obtained (weakly damped system):

$$\text{Eq.7)} \quad \sigma_{yy_i}^{\circ 2} = \pi G_{zz}(\omega_i) / 2 v_i \omega_i^3.$$

The mean square response of the system is derived as:

$$\text{Eq.8)} \quad [\sigma_{xx}^2] = [\phi^\circ] [\sigma_{yy}^{\circ 2}] [\phi^\circ]^T.$$

The value of  $\beta$  which maximise the displacement for k-th floor of s-th frame which form an angle zero with  $x^\circ$  axis is expressed as:

$$\text{Eq.10)} \quad \text{tg } 2\beta^\circ = -2 \frac{\sum_{r=1}^{3n} G_{zz}(\omega_r) \xi_r \eta_r \phi_{kr}^{\circ 2} / \omega_r^3 v_r}{\sum_{r=1}^{3n} G_{zz}(\omega_r) (\eta_r^2 - \xi_r^2) \phi_{kr}^{\circ 2} / \omega_r^3 v_r} \quad k = 1, \dots, n$$

where

$$\text{Eq.11)} \quad \xi_r = \sum_{J=1}^n m_J [\phi_{jr}^\circ - y_{GJ}^\circ \phi_{j+2n,r}^\circ] \quad \eta_r = \sum_{J=1}^n m_J [\phi_{j+n,r}^\circ + x_{GJ}^\circ \phi_{j+2n,r}^\circ]$$

And  $x_{GJ}^\circ$ ,  $y_{GJ}^\circ$  are the coordinates of the center of gravity of J-th floor.

If the r-th mode only is acting, it may be easily shown the  $\beta$  depending on the same r-th mode shape only equation 11) becomes

$$\text{Eq.12)} \quad \text{tg } 2 \beta = - 2 \xi_r \eta_r / (\eta_r^2 - \xi_r^2)$$

Consider now one storey building, the ground motion in  $\beta$  direction calculated by eq.12) results orthogonal to direction  $C_R G$  where  $C_R$  is the center of rotation of the rigid-plan deck, and G is the center of gravity.

The geometrical interpretation of this result leads to conclude that in order to maximise the k-th mode it must be input the ground motion in direction  $\beta$  which maximise the moment of inertial forces respect to the center  $C_R$ .

#### NUMERICAL EXAMPLE

Consider a undamped 2-storey building (plane view in Fig.2) table I reports its geometrical and mass properties

Table I - Properties of sample building

| Floor | Mass<br>Kg sec <sup>2</sup> /cm | $X_G = Y_G$<br>cm | $S_X = S_Y$<br>Kg sec <sup>2</sup> | $J_O$<br>kg sec <sup>2</sup> cm |
|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2     | 36                              | 300               | 10.800                             | 8,64.10 <sup>6</sup>            |
| 1     | 36                              | 300               | 10.800                             | 8,64.10 <sup>6</sup>            |

$E = 2.10^5 \text{Kg/cmq}$

#### NUMERICAL RESULTS

The analysis follows the sequence of steps presented in the paper.

In this example a frame 3-4 is selected for study.

The frequencies of the building are:

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_1 &= 8,21 \text{ rad/s} & \omega_2 &= 10,09 \text{ rad/s} & \omega_3 &= 17,46 \\ \omega_4 &= 23,87 \text{ rad/s} & \omega_5 &= 34,85 \text{ rad/s} & \omega_6 &= 63,15 \end{aligned}$$

The modal matrix

|          |           |           |           |           |             |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 0.174787 | -0.093145 | -0.112072 | 0.114671  | -0.041673 | -0.05264562 |
| 0.097605 | -0.038897 | -0.080302 | -0.169945 | 0.097775  | 0.11625504  |
| 0.015240 | 0.122817  | 0.206143  | -0.024747 | 0.050520  | 0.09202370  |
| 0.005544 | 0.054598  | 0.087965  | -0.017797 | -0.117875 | -0.21091133 |
| 0.000220 | -0.000005 | -0.000551 | 0.000222  | 0.000007  | -0.00024885 |
| 0.000131 | 0.000003  | -0.000289 | -0.000222 | 0.000003  | 0.00055955  |

It is decided in this study to choose a stationary Gaussian process for  $\ddot{z}(t)$  with the following spectral properties

$$\text{Eq.13) } G_{zz}(\omega) = S_1 \omega_g^4 / [(\omega_g^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4(\rho \omega \omega_g)^2]$$

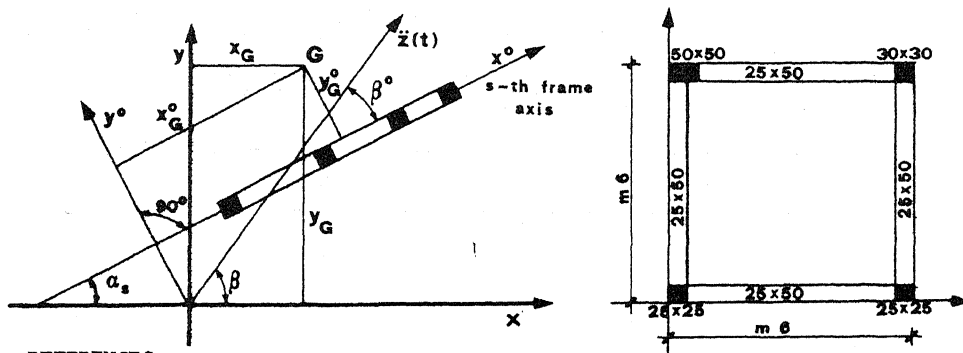
the various constant in this equation have been selected as  $\omega_g = 4 \pi$ ,  $\rho = 0,5$ ,  $S_1 = 0,02 \rho \pi \omega_g$ .

The characteristic angle value, which maximise the relative displacement for a given frame 3-4 is  $\beta = 36^\circ$  for both floors.

The relative displacement at each floor for various values of  $\beta$  have been calculated with standard procedure (average response spectrum) and are presented in table II.

Table II - Values of relative displacement for various values of  $\beta$

| Floor | $\beta = 0$<br>dir. x (cm) | $\beta = 90^\circ$<br>dir. y (cm) | $\beta = 36^\circ$<br>max | $\beta = 116^\circ$<br>min |
|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1     | 0,66                       | 0,48                              | 0,725                     | 0,286                      |
| 2     | 1,11                       | 0,90                              | 1,298                     | 0,599                      |



REFERENCES

- 1 - Kan, Chopra - "Elastic Earthquake Analysis of a Class of Torsionally Coupled Buildings" - A.S.C.E. - Journal of the Structural Division - April, 1977.
- 2 - Douglas, Trabert - "Coupled Torsional Dynamic Analysis of a Multistorey Building" - Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America - vol 63 n°3, June, 1973.
- 3 - Rutemberg A., Tso W.K., Heidebrecht A.C. - "Dynamic Properties of Asymmetrical Wall-Frame Structures" - Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics, vol.5, pgg. 41-51, 1977
- 4 - Shinozuka - Jan - "Simulation of multivariate and multidimension process" J. Acous Soc. Amm. 49, 357-368, 1971.