

Seismic performance of concrete frames reinforced with superelastic shape memory alloys

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Abstract. Reinforced concrete (RC) framed buildings dissipate the seismic energy through yielding of the reinforcing bars. This yielding jeopardizes the serviceability of these buildings as it results in residual lateral deformations. Superelastic Shape Memory Alloys (SMAs) can recover inelastic strains by stress removal. Since SMA is a costly material, this paper defines the required locations of SMA bars in a typical RC frame to optimize its seismic performance in terms of damage scheme and seismic residual deformations. The intensities of five earthquakes causing failure to a typical RC six-storey building are defined and used to evaluate seven SMA design alternatives.

Keywords: seismic damage; seismic residual deformations; shape memory alloy; superelasticity; moment frame; reinforced concrete

1. Introduction

Recent research has focused on reducing residual lateral deformations using re-centring devices (Valente *et al.* 1999), passive energy dissipating devices (Clark *et al.* 1995), and Shape Memory Alloys (SMAs) (Alam *et al.* 2009). Sakai *et al.* (2003) have studied the self-restoration of concrete beams reinforced with superelastic SMA wires. Their experimental results show that mortar beams reinforced with SMA wires recover their inelastic deformations almost completely after releasing the load corresponding to the crushing state. Saiidi and Wang (2006) have used shake table tests to evaluate the seismic performance of RC columns reinforced with SMA bars in the plastic hinge area. Their results show that SMA RC columns are able to recover nearly all of their post-yield deformations, thus requiring minimal repair. They can also withstand earthquakes with higher amplitudes as compared to conventional columns. Wang (2004) has used shake table tests to investigate the seismic performance of a damaged SMA RC column after repairing using Engineering Cementitious Composites (ECC). The study showed that the use of ECC/SMA combination has reduced the concrete damage substantially, thus requiring minimal repair even after a very large earthquake. Youssef *et al.* (2008) and Alam *et al.* (2008) have utilized superelastic SMA in the plastic hinge area of beam-column joints and have conducted experimental/analytical investigations to evaluate SMAs' performance under reversed cyclic loading. Their results show that SMA RC

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joints are superior to steel RC joints because of their re-centring capability. The implications of using SMA bars on the design of RC elements was examined by Elbahy *et al.* (2009, 2010a, 2010b). Revised stress block parameters to estimate their flexural capacities and revised equations to assess their deformations were introduced.

Alam *et al.* (2009) have used dynamic analysis to assess the seismic performance of an eight-storey SMA RC frame. SMA bars have been utilized in the plastic hinge areas of all beams. The SMA RC frame has the advantage of reduced Residual Inter-storey Drifts (RIDs). However, it experiences higher Maximum Inter-storey Drifts (MIDs) due to the low modulus of elasticity of SMA. This study examines the possibility of maintaining the benefit of reduced RIDs using fewer SMA bars, thus reducing the associated costs and the increase in MIDs. Incremental dynamic analyses are performed for a typical steel RC framed building using five earthquake records. The building is then redesigned using SMA bars in the identified critical locations. Seven different arrangements for the SMA bars are selected resulting in seven different frames. Nonlinear dynamic analyses are then conducted to select the frame which has the best seismic performance in terms of the amount and severity of damage, the Maximum Inter-storey Drift (MID), and the Maximum RID (MRID). A comprehensive study is then conducted using Incremental Dynamic Analyses (IDA) to compare the seismic performance of the steel RC frame and the selected SMA RC frame in terms of lateral capacity, MID, MRID, and earthquake intensity at collapse.

2. Superelastic SMA

Superelasticity is a distinct property that makes SMA a smart material. A superelastic SMA can undergo large deformations and regain its initial shape after removal of stress (Saadat *et al.* 1999, DesRoches *et al.* 2004). Ni-Ti has appeared to be the most appropriate SMA among various composites for structural applications because of its large recoverable strain, superelasticity, energy dissipation, excellent low/high fatigue properties, and exceptionally good corrosion resistance. The phase change of this alloy can be stress-induced at room temperature if the alloy has the appropriate formulation and treatment (DesRoches and Delemont, 2002). In this study, unless otherwise stated, SMA refers to Ni-Ti SMA (commonly known as Nitinol).

Fig. 1 shows a simplified model for the stress-strain relationship of SMA (Alam *et al.* 2007, McCormick *et al.* 1993, Elbahy *et al.* 2009). For structural applications, it is recommended to design SMA RC sections to behave within the superelastic range (Youssef *et al.* 2008). Thus, the yield stress recommended for the design should be equal to f_{cr} (Elbahy *et al.* 2009). Within the superelastic strain range, SMA dissipates specific amount of seismic energy without permanent deformations. This dissipation results from the phase transformation from austenite to martensite during loading and reverse transformation during unloading. In earthquake engineering, the energy dissipation provided by a system is usually measured using equivalent viscous damping. The equivalent viscous damping refers to the energy dissipated per cycle divided by the product of 4π and the strain energy for a complete cycle. SMA damping capacity is affected by the bar diameter and loading rate (McCormick *et al.* 2006). Large diameter SMA bars have significantly lower damping capacity than SMA wires. The SMA damping capacity decreases with an increase in the loading rate (McCormick *et al.* 2006).

Several researchers have proposed uniaxial phenomenological models for SMA. These models have been implemented in a number of Finite Element (FE) packages, e.g., ANSYS (2005) and

Table 1 Predictions of the FE program for the experimental work by Sakai and Mahin (2005)

	70% Scale				100% Scale			
	N-S direction		E-W direction		N-S direction		E-W direction	
	Maximum	Residual	Maximum	Residual	Maximum	Residual	Maximum	Residual
Experimental Disp. (mm)	145.00	19.50	100.00	13.00	310.00	245.00	180.00	140.00
Analytical Disp. (mm)	125.00	16.50	95.00	11.50	280.00	246.00	180.00	140.00
Error (%)	13.79	15.38	5.00	11.50	9.68	0.41	0.00	0.00

ones was 6%. At 0.2 g, the numerically evaluated maximum top-storey drift varied from the experimental results by 1.5% and 5.5% in the forward and reverse directions, respectively. At 0.3 g, the forward and reverse maximum top-storey drift values varied from the experimental results by 1.7% and 1.2%, respectively (Alam *et al.* 2009).

The accuracy of Seismostruct in estimating the peak and residual drifts at failure is investigated by using the experimental measurements for the single cantilever column tested by Sakai and Mahin (2004). The column is subjected to two of the components of the Los Gatos Earthquake (Loma Prieta 1989) scaled by factors of 0.7 and 1.0 (Sakai and Mahin 2005). Table 1 shows a comparison between the experimental and analytical results. The maximum and residual drifts are predicted with suitable accuracy, maximum error of 15.38%.

The FE program uses the simplified SMA material model of Auricchio and Sacco (1997) which does not account for the strain rate effect. Thus, its ability to predict the performance of SMA RC elements under dynamic loads requires investigation. This simplified SMA material model is used to calculate the hysteretic damping of a 12.7 mm SMA bar assuming different SMA strain values. McCormick *et al.* (2006) have conducted cyclic tension tests on a similar bar using a loading rate of 1.0 hz to simulate a typical seismic load effect. The values of the equivalent viscous damping obtained experimentally and analytically are compared in Fig. 2. It can be noted that the performance of the simplified model is acceptable. For SMA wires, the effect of loading rate is more pronounced and further investigation is needed to judge on the capability of the model.

Alam *et al.* (2008) used Seismostruct to simulate the SMA beam-column joint tested by Youssef *et al.* (2008) under reversed cyclic loading and the SMA RC column tested by Saiidi *et al.* (2006) under dynamic loading. The SMA bars were connected to the steel bars with mechanical couplers for both specimens. The numerical results showed that the FE program can simulate the behaviour of SMA RC elements with reasonable accuracy. The maximum error in the analytical predictions

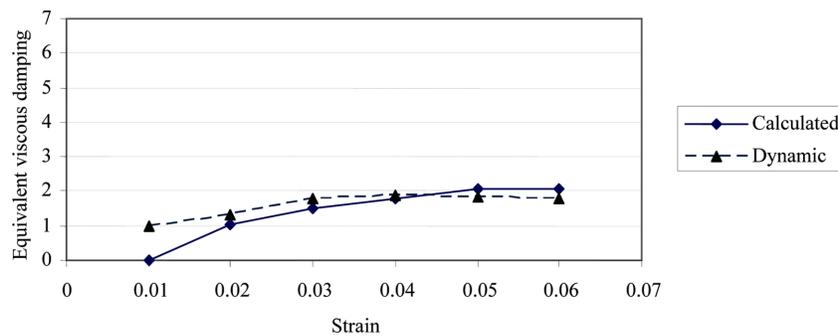
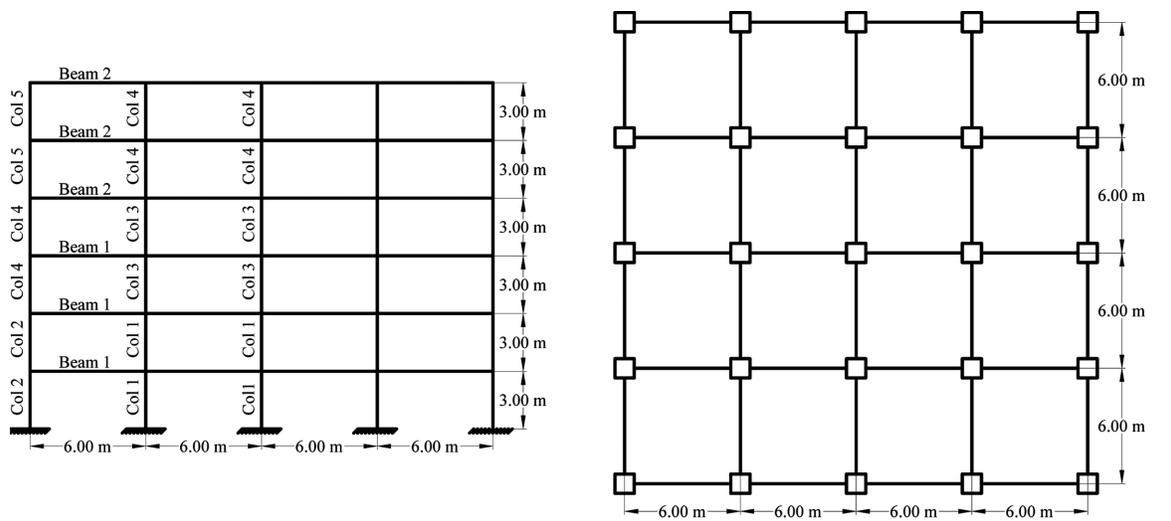


Fig. 2 Equivalent viscous damping of SMA bars

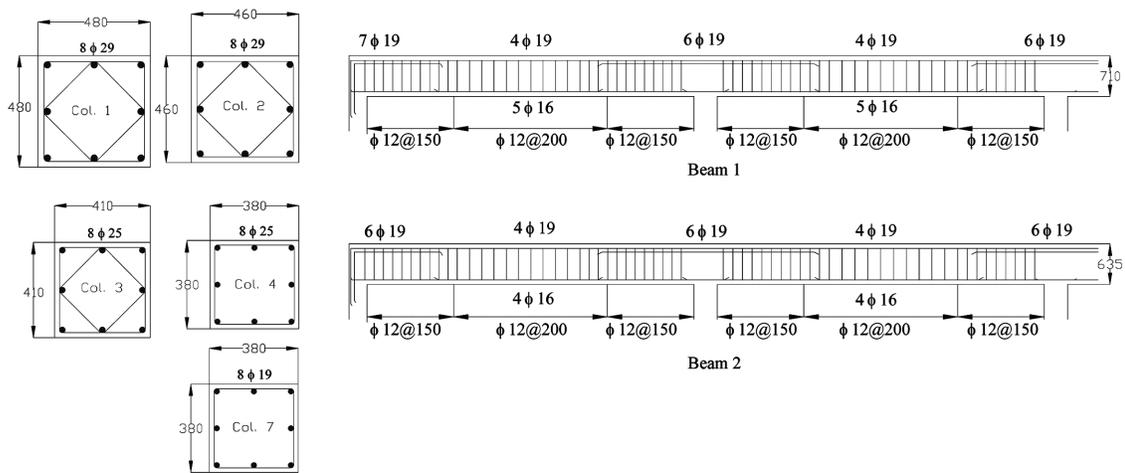
was 11% in the case of the SMA beam-column joint and 6.1% in the case of the SMA RC column (Alam *et al.* 2008).

4. Steel RC frame characteristics and modeling

A symmetric six-storey RC office building (Frame 1) is selected for this study. The selected dimensions and layout of the building are shown in Fig. 3. The building is designed according to the regulations of the International Building Code (IBC 2006) and the ACI requirements (ACI 318 2005) assuming that it is located in California, a high seismic region. The concrete unconfined



Plan and Elevation



Cross sections of beams and columns

Fig. 3 Six-storey RC building

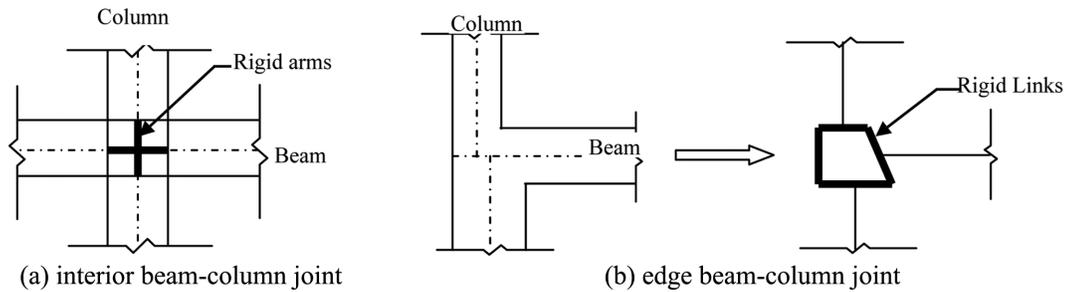


Fig. 4 Modeling of beam column joints

compressive strength and the reinforcing steel yielding strength are assumed to be 28 MPa and 400 MPa, respectively. The dead loads include the weight of the structural elements and the masonry walls. The live load is assumed to be equal 4.8 kN/m², which is a typical value for office buildings. The lateral load resisting system is composed of five special moment frames. Section dimensions and reinforcement details for a typical moment frame are given in Fig. 3.

As the structure is symmetric, a two-dimensional model is used. Beams and columns are modeled using cubic elasto-plastic elements. To match the distribution of longitudinal and transverse reinforcements and to monitor the progress of local damage, beams and columns are divided into six and three elements, respectively. Cross section of each element is divided into 300 fibres. Such a modeling is similar to the model used for the explained validation cases, and thus is deemed acceptable.

The frame beams are modeled as T-sections assuming an effective flange width equal to the beam width plus 14% of the clear span (Jeong and Elnashai 2005). The beam-column connections are modeled using rigid elements as shown in Fig. 4 for interior and edge joints.

5. Failure criteria

Local yielding of elements is defined when the tensile strain in the longitudinal reinforcement reaches the yield strain (0.002 for steel and 0.007 for SMA). A number of criteria were suggested by different researchers to define local failure of concrete members. These criteria include defining a value for ultimate curvature or crushing strain (Mwafy and Elnashai 2001). The crushing strain is expected to depend on the type of concrete, the level of confinement, and the level of axial force. The crushing strain varies from 0.0025 to 0.006 for unconfined concrete (MacGregor and Wight 2005) and from 0.015 to 0.05 for confined concrete (Paulay and Priestley 1992). In this paper, crushing is assumed to occur when the confined concrete strain causes the stirrups to reach their fracture strength as proposed by Pauley and Priestley (1992), Eq. (1).

$$\varepsilon_{cu(\text{confined concrete})} = \varepsilon_{cu(\text{unconfined concrete})} + \frac{1.4 \rho_s f_y \varepsilon_{sm}}{k_h f'_c} \quad (1)$$

where ρ_s is the ratio of the volume of transverse reinforcement to the volume of concrete core measured to outside of the transverse reinforcement, f_y is the steel yielding stress, ε_{sm} is the steel strain at maximum tensile stress, and K_h is the confinement factor.

The collapse limit has been defined by the majority of researchers using a single value of MID or

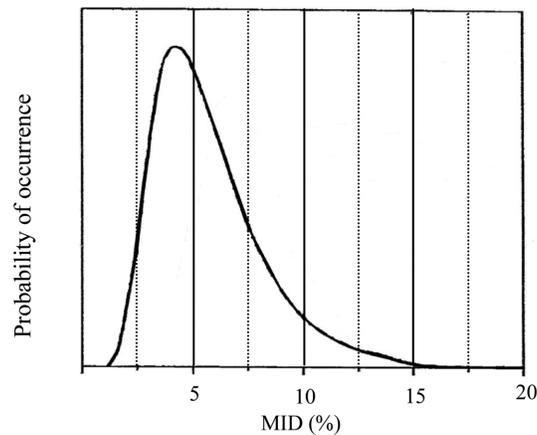


Fig. 5 Distribution of ID at failure

RID. This has led to a wide range of proposed values for MID at collapse including 2% (Sozen 1981), 2.5% (SEAOC 1995), 3% (Broderick and Elnashai, 1994, Kappos 1997), 4% (FEMA 273 1997), 5.6% (Ghobarah *et al.* 1998), and 6% (Roufaiel and Meyer 1983). Dymiotis (2000) established statistical distribution of the critical storey drift at collapse using existing shake table test results of small-scale bare frames. Fig. 5 shows this distribution and it is evident that the MID varies from about 3% to about 15%. Unlike MID, only a few researchers defined damage levels using RIDs. Toussi and Yao (1982) and Stephens and Yao (1987) showed that buildings are considered to be critically damaged at 1% RID. FEMA 273 (1997) introduced a value of 3% RID to define the collapse limit. In this study, building collapse is not defined using a single value of drift. The collapse state is assumed to occur when four columns located in the same storey reach the crushing state. The corresponding values of MID and RID are presented to study their variation from one record to another and their ability to define local and global damage.

6. Dynamic analysis of the steel RC frame

Eigen value analysis is performed to determine the natural periods of the frame. The periods of vibration for the first four modes are equal to 0.501, 0.177, 0.104, and 0.075 seconds, respectively. Five earthquakes records are selected to conduct the dynamic analysis. These records cover a wide range of ground motion frequencies as represented by the ratio between the peak ground acceleration and the peak ground velocity (A/v ratio). The characteristics of the chosen records are presented in Table 2. Fig. 6 shows spectral acceleration for the chosen earthquakes scaled to match the design spectra at the first period of vibration. Using a reliable method to scale the selected records is critical when conducting dynamic analysis. Available methods include scaling based on: Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA), peak ground velocity, and the 5% damped spectral acceleration at the structure's first-mode period ($Sa(T1, 5\%)$). Using $Sa(T1, 5\%)$ to scale the records was found to be a reliable method (Shome and Cornell 1999, Vamvatsikos and Cornell 2002).

The damage schemes at collapse under the effect of the selected records are shown in Fig. 7. Table 3 presents values for Sa , MID, and MRID at collapse and defines the critical stories. It can be observed from Fig. 7 that: (1) collapse occurs due to crushing of the lower ends of the first storey

Table 2 Chosen earthquake records

Earthquake	Date	Ms magnitude	Station	PGA (g)	A/v
Northridge USA	17/01/94	6.7	Arleta-Nordhoff	0.340	Inter.
Imperial Valley USA	15/10/79	6.9	El Centro Array #6	0.439	Low
Loma Prieta USA	18/10/89	7.1	Capitola (CAP)	0.530	High
Whittier USA	01/10/87	5.7	Whittier Dam	0.316	High
San Fernando	09/02/71	6.6	Pacoima Dam	1.230	Inter.

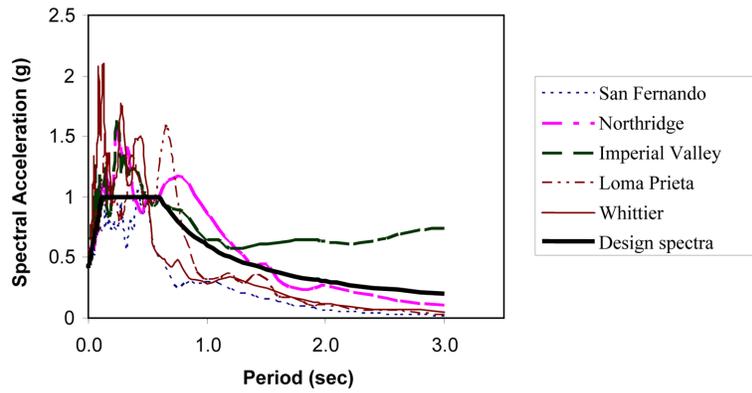


Fig. 6 Spectral acceleration diagrams

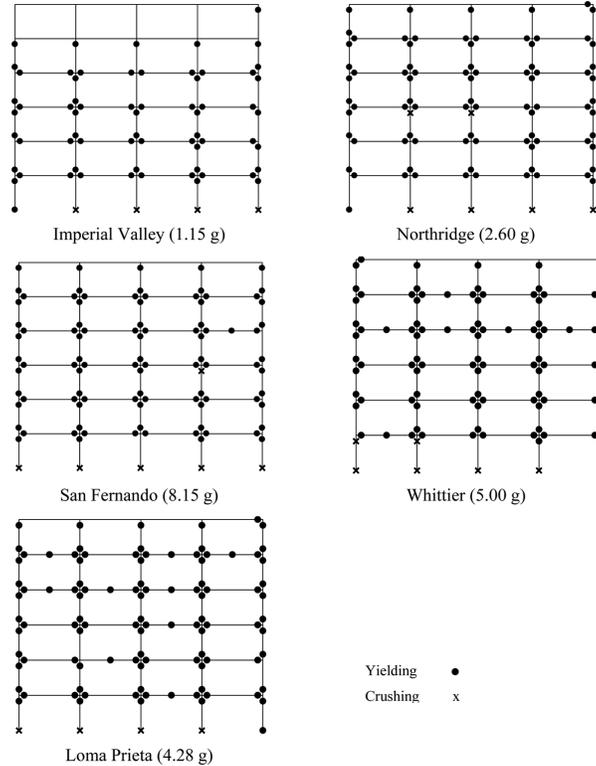


Fig. 7 Damage Scheme of Steel RC frame at collapse

Table 3 MID and MRID of the steel RC frame at failure

Earthquake record	Storey experiencing MID		Storey experiencing MRID	
	Storey No.	MID (%)	Storey No.	MRID (%)
Northridge (2.60 g)	2 nd	5.13	2 nd	3.00
Imperial Valley (1.15 g)	2 nd	4.36	2 nd	2.68
Loma Prieta (4.28 g)	5 th	5.00	2 nd	2.72
Whittier (5.00 g)	1 st	6.25	1 st	2.47
San Fernando (8.15 g)	2 nd	5.25	1 st	2.60

columns; (2) most of the beams and columns experience some degree of yielding; (3) the 4th floor beams experience the highest damage as they sustained yielding at their mid-spans under the effect of Whittier, Loma Prieta and San Fernando earthquakes, and (4) the 5th floor beams sustain yielding at their mid-spans under the effect of Whittier and Loma Prieta earthquakes. Damage to the 4th and 5th floor beams results during exposure to earthquakes that excite higher modes of vibration. Table 3 shows that the MIDs and MRIDs at collapse vary from 4.36% to 6.25% and from 2.47% to 3.00%, respectively. It can also be noted that the storey experiencing the MID is not necessarily the one experiencing the MRID. It is clear that local damage cannot be estimated using a single value of MID or MRID. The collapse drift limit suggested by FEMA (4% MID) is conservative for the studied frame and the residual drift limit (3% MRID) is un-conservative.

7. SMA RC frames

The analyzed steel RC frame is redesigned, in this section, using combination of steel and SMA bars. To maximize the benefit of using SMA while minimizing the instantaneous additional cost, seven alternative locations for SMA bars are examined. These alternative locations are based on the critical sections defined by the dynamic analysis of the steel RC frame. The positions selected for the SMA bars, shown in Fig. 8, are: (1) SMA bars at the ends of all beams to address the observed yielding (Frame 2), (2) SMA bars at the bottom ends of the first storey columns as they are considered the most critical columns (Frame 3), (3) SMA bars at the ends of the fourth floor beams as they are considered the most critical beams (Frame 4), (4) SMA bars at the ends of the fifth floor beams to address the excessive yielding observed at these locations (Frame 5), (5) SMA bars at the ends of the first floor beams to study the effect of using SMA bars in the beams adjacent to the critical columns (Frame 6), (6) SMA bars at the ends of the fourth and first floor beams (Frame 7), and (7) SMA bars at the ends of the first floor beams and at the bottom ends of its columns (Frame 8).

The SMA yielding stress is assumed to be 401 MPa (Alam *et al.* 2009). For each frame, the SMA RC sections are redesigned using the method proposed by Elbahy *et al.* (2009). This method includes:

(1) calculating the concrete maximum strain using a chart given by Elbahy *et al.* (2009). It is taken equal to 0.0035 for beam sections as they sustain very low axial loads. The axial load supported by the first floor columns is about 60% of the axial load capacity. The concrete maximum strain corresponding to this axial load level is 0.00255.

(2) The maximum strain values are used to calculate the stress block parameters as proposed by Elbahy *et al.* (2009). These parameters are used to calculate the moment capacity of the SMA RC sections.

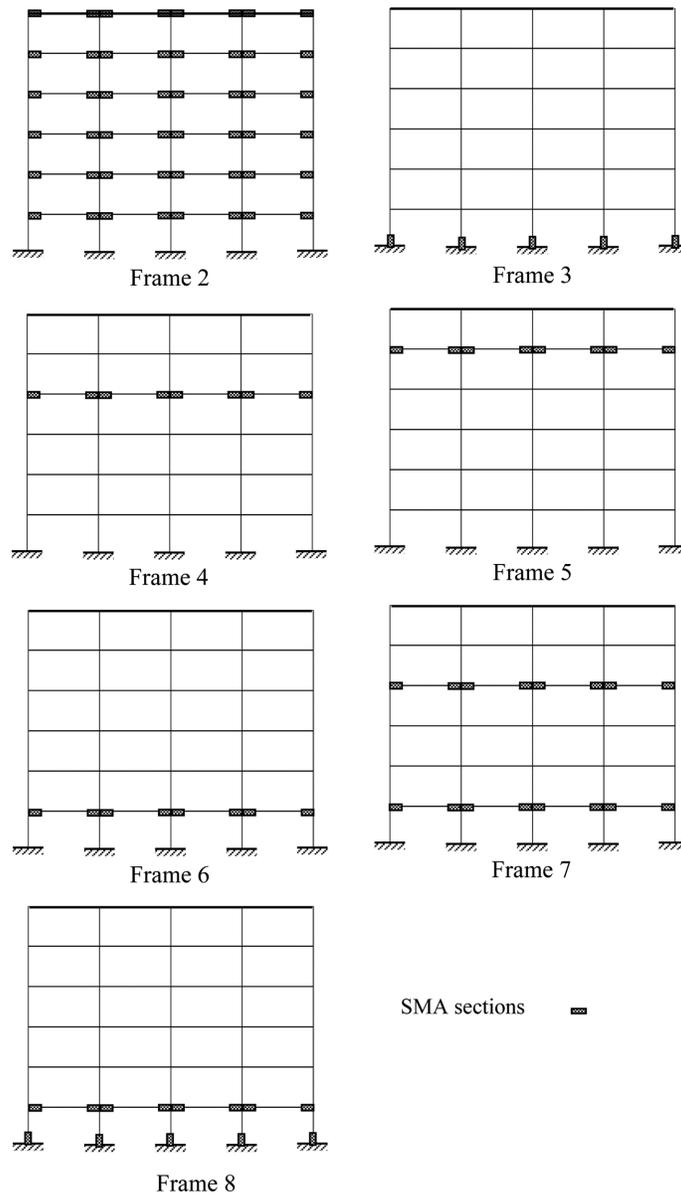


Fig. 8 Locations of SMA bars

The length of the plastic hinge (L_p) is calculated using Eq. (2) that was proposed by Paulay and Priestley (1992) and recommended for SMA RC elements by Alam *et al.* (2008) and Wang (2004).

$$L_p = 0.08 \cdot L + 0.022 \cdot d_{sma} \cdot f_{cr} \quad (2)$$

where L is the element length from the face of the beam-column joint to mid-span of the beam, d_{sma} is the SMA bar diameter, and f_{cr} is the yielding stress of the SMA bars. The plastic hinge length for 19 mm and 29 mm SMA bars is calculated as 390 mm and 373 mm, respectively. Mechanical couplers are assumed to connect SMA with regular steel bars as recommended by Youssef *et al.* (2008) and Saaidi

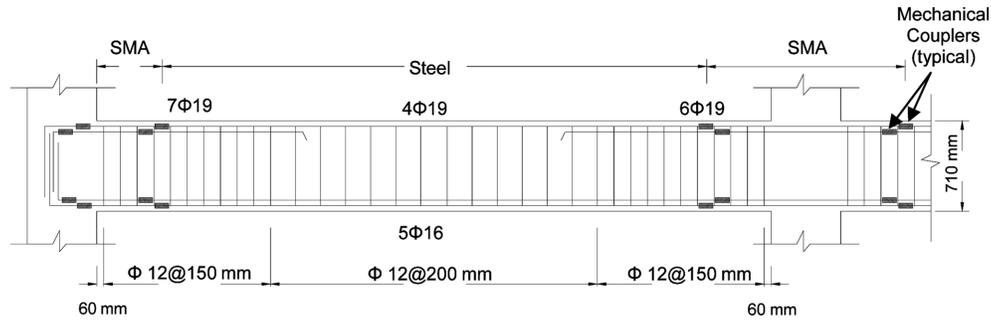


Fig. 9 Reinforcement details of a typical SMA RC beam

Table 4 MID and MRID at Sa causing failure of the steel frame

	Frame 1 (Steel frame)		Frame 2 (48 SMA sections)		Frame 3 (5 SMA sections)		Frame 4 (8 SMA sections)		Frame 5 (8 SMA sections)		Frame 6 (8 SMA sections)		Frame 7 (16 SMA sections)		Frame 8 (13 SMA sections)	
	MID (%)	MRID (%)	MID (%)	MRID (%)	MID (%)	MRID (%)	MID (%)	MRID (%)	MID (%)	MRID (%)	MID (%)	MRID (%)	MID (%)	MRID (%)	MID (%)	MRID (%)
Northridge (2.60 g)	5.13	3.00	5.53	0.83	5.77	1.67	7.42	3.33	5.53	3.33	5.67	0.83	5.86	1.00	5.78	1.17
Imperial Valley (1.15 g)	4.36	2.68	4.37	0.20	5.08	1.6	4.32	2.52	5.09	2.33	4.42	0.67	4.06	0.73	4.38	0.67
Loma Prieta (4.28 g)	5.00	2.72	6.85	0.50	4.69	1.67	5.33	2.17	5.51	2.17	4.92	1.00	5.27	0.33	4.67	0.50
Whittier (5.00 g)	6.25	2.47	8.60	1.00	7.10	0.67	6.59	3.33	7.01	2.50	6.70	0.33	6.77	0.67	7.03	0.67
San Fernando (8.15 g)	5.25	2.60	6.76	0.67	5.70	2.77	5.18	2.67	5.2	2.93	6.12	1.83	6.44	0.70	6.42	2.80
Average value	5.20	2.69	6.42	0.64	5.67	1.68	5.77	2.80	5.67	2.65	5.57	0.93	5.68	0.69	5.66	1.16
Percent of change*	NA	NA	23.51	-76.24	9.04	-37.79	10.97	4.08	9.04	-1.56	7.08	-65.38	9.27	-74.54	8.81	-56.87

*The percent of change is referenced to the steel RC frame

and Wang (2006). For the exterior joints, the lengths of the 19 mm and 29 mm SMA bars (centre to centre of the couplers) are 480 mm and 465 mm, respectively. For the interior joints, the length of the SMA bars (centre to centre of the couplers) is 1350 mm. The arrangement of couplers in a typical SMA RC beam is shown in Fig. 9. Each SMA RC frame is subjected to the selected five earthquake records scaled to the intensity causing collapse of the steel RC frame. The original periods of vibrations of the SMA RC frames are similar to the steel RC frame. Under loading, concrete cracks and changes to the periods are affected by the lower modulus of SMA bars.

The values of the MID and the MRID for the studied frames are illustrated in Table 4. Fig. 10 shows a comparison between their average values. The steel RC frame has the lowest MID (5.20%) and Frame 2 (SMA used at 48 sections) has the highest MID (6.42%). All the other frames have relatively similar average values of MID (varying from 5.57% to 5.77%). The percentage difference between the average values of MID and MRID for the SMA RC frames and those for the Steel RC frame are presented in Table 4. The values show that the maximum increase in the MID demand is observed in Frame 2 (23.51%) where the SMA bars are used at 48 sections (at the end of all the beams). For other frames, this increase ranges from 7.08% for Frame 6 to 10.97% for Frame 4.

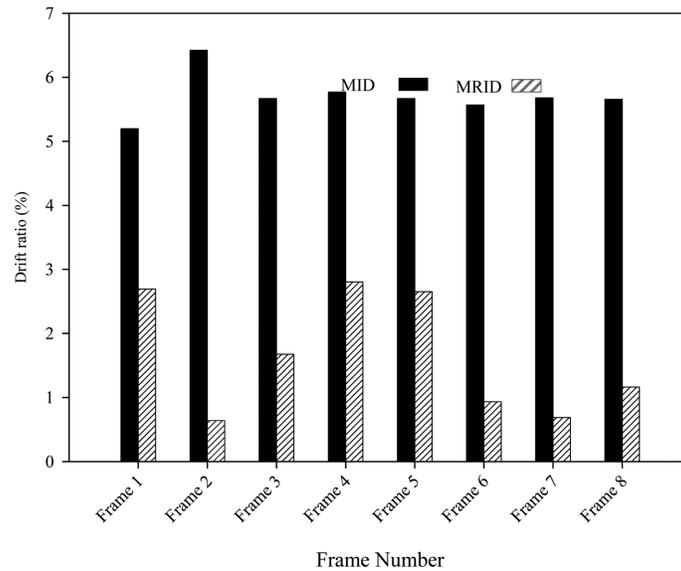


Fig. 10 Average values of MID and MRID at Sa causing failure to the steel frame

Both of Frames 4 and 6 have SMA bars at eight sections. It is clear that the location of these bars has a minor effect on the value of the MID. The increase in the values of the MID for the SMA RC frames is due to low modulus of elasticity of the SMA bars, which is about one third of the steel modulus of elasticity. The average values of MRID demands show a different scenario than that observed for MID. The location of the SMA bars greatly affects the MRID demands. It can result in a significant reduction (Frames 2, 6, 7, and 8), a low reduction (Frames 3 and 5), or an increase (Frame 4) in the MRID as compared to the steel RC frame. The reductions in the average values of MRID are 76.24%, 74.54%, 65.38%, and 56.87% for Frames 2, 7, 6, and 8, respectively. A lower reduction is observed for Frame 3 (37.79%) and for Frame 5 (1.56%). The MRID has increased in Frame 4 (4.08%).

The damage schemes of the seven frames illustrated in Figs. 11(a) to 11(g) show that: (1) yielding is observed at the ends of almost all beams and columns, and (2) yielding at mid-spans of the beams is mostly observed in the cases of San Fernando, Whittier, and Loma Prieta earthquakes due to an increase in the vertical deformation demand.

The damage schemes for Frame 2, Fig. 11(a), show that: (1) crushing can be observed in the first storey columns in the case of San Fernando, and (2) in the case of Whittier, the frame can be considered at collapse state where four of the first storey column sections and five of the third storey column sections sustained crushing.

The damage schemes for Frame 3, Fig. 11(b), show that: (1) crushing is only observed at the first storey columns, (2) in the case of Whittier earthquake, crushing is observed at the ends of five columns and the frame reached collapse at the same PGA as that of Frame 1, and (3) for the other four records, Frame 3 did not collapse and can sustain higher PGA than Frame 1.

The damage schemes of Frame 4, Fig. 11(c), show that: (1) crushing is concentrated at the first storey columns, and (2) the building can be considered at collapse state in case of three earthquakes (Imperial Valley, Northridge, and Whittier) where four of the first storey columns have experienced crushing.

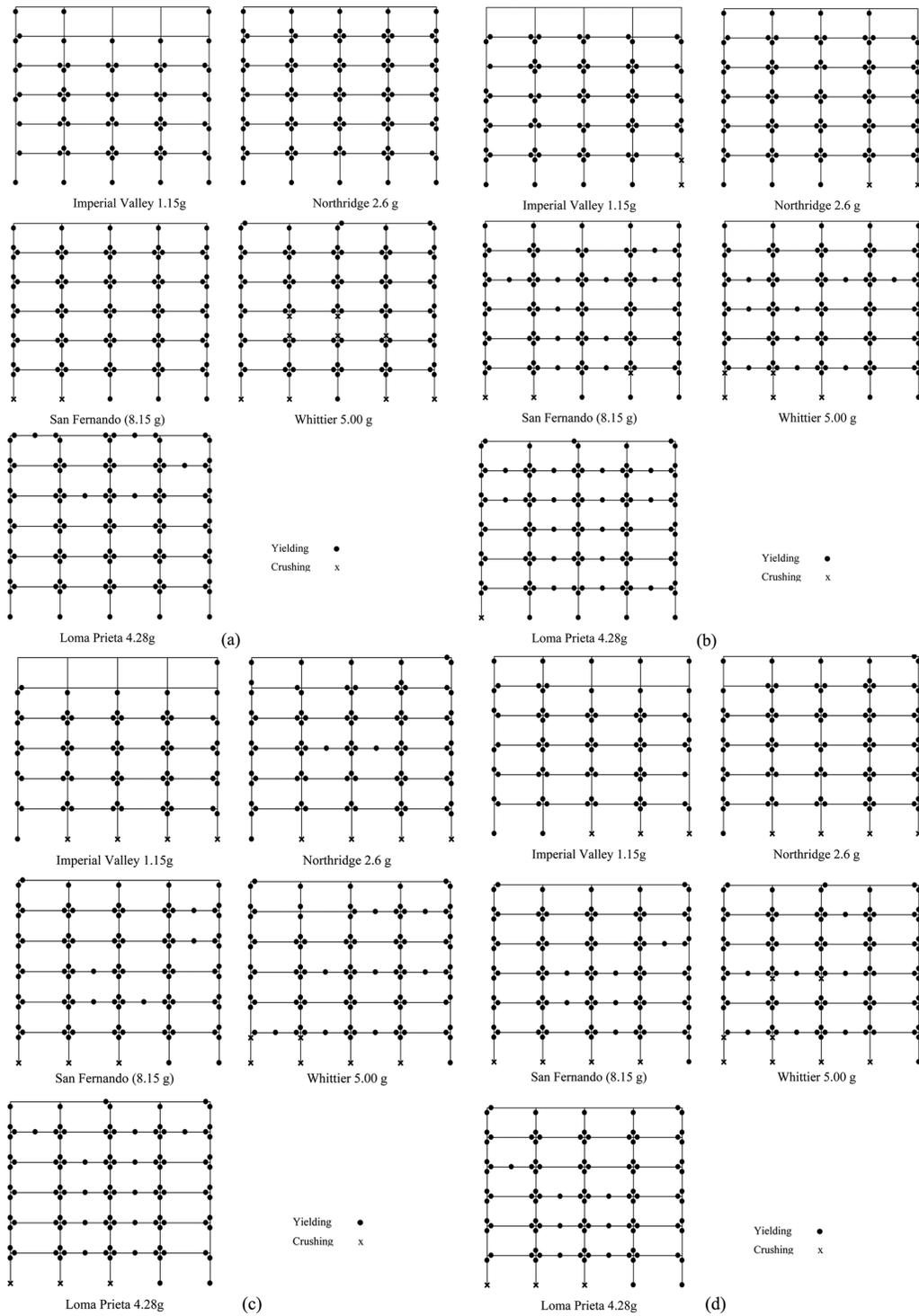


Fig. 11 (a) Damage to Frame 2 (SMA at the ends of all beams), (b) damage to Frame 3 (SMA at the lower ends of all the first storey columns), (c) damage to Frame 4 (SMA at the ends of the fourth floor beams), (d) damage to Frame 5 (SMA at the ends of the fifth floor beams)

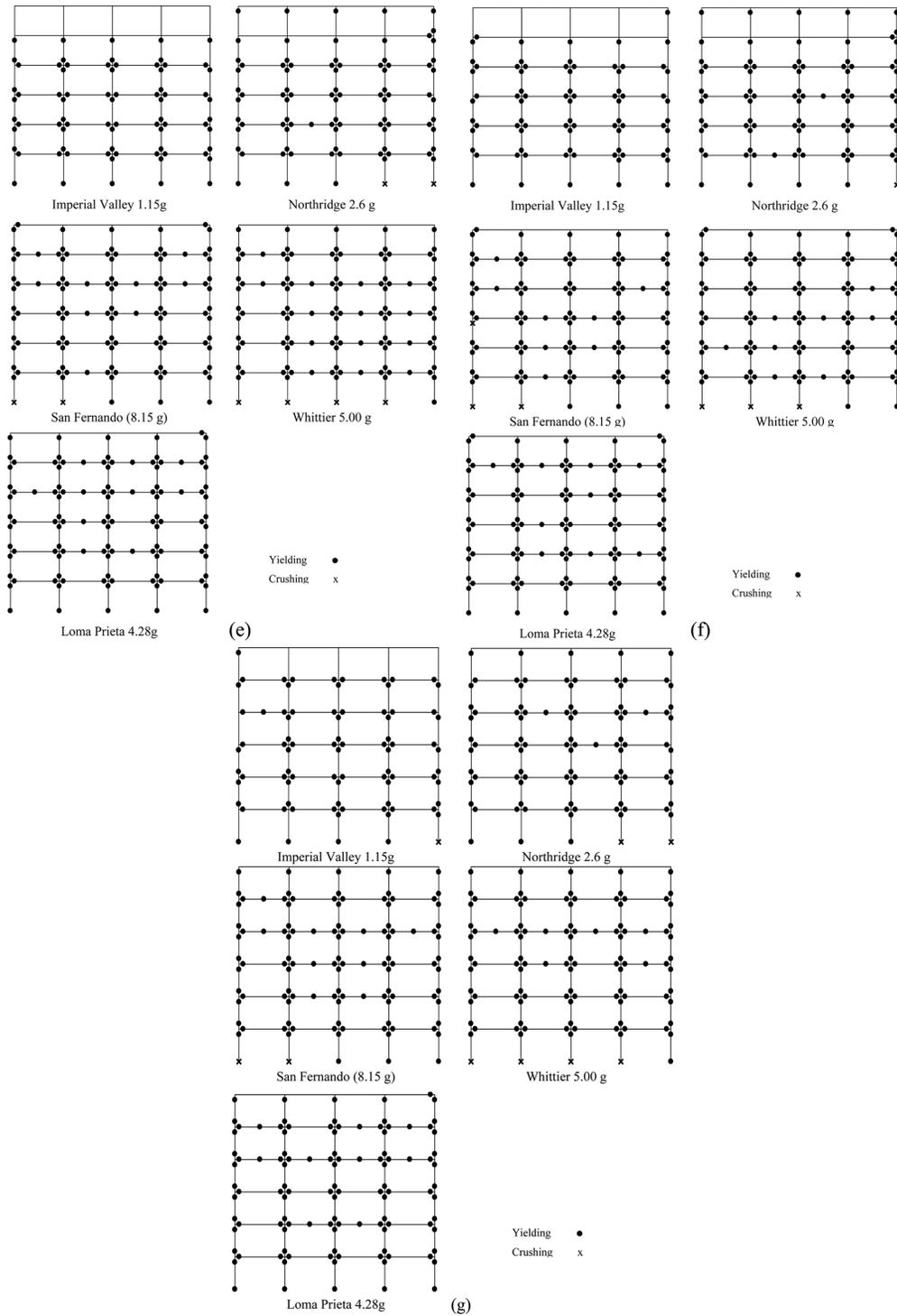


Fig. 11 (continued) (e) Damage to Frame 6 (SMA at the ends of the first floor beams), (f) damage to Frame 7 (SMA at the ends of the first and the fourth floor beams) and (g) damage to Frame 8 (SMA at the first floor beams and columns)

The damage schemes of Frame 5, Fig. 11(d), shows that: (1) crushing is concentrated at the first storey columns, (2) two of the third storey columns reach crushing at their top end in the case of Whittier record, (3) the frame is at collapse state in the case of Northridge, San Fernando, and Whittier records, and (4) for the other two records, it can tolerate higher seismic intensities.

The damage schemes of Frame 6, Fig. 11(e), show that: (1) crushing is observed at the first storey columns in three earthquakes, (2) no crushing is observed at higher storey columns, (3) while the building is considered at the collapse state in the case of Whittier earthquake, it can sustain higher intensities for the other four earthquakes, (4) using SMA at the ends of the first floor beams only (Frame 6) produces a similar damage scheme to Frame 2 (SMA at the ends of all the beams).

The damage schemes of Frame 7, Figure 11f, show that: (1) crushing is only observed at the first storey columns, and (2) under the effect of all the earthquake records used, the frame does not reach the collapse state and can tolerate higher earthquake intensities.

The damage schemes of Frame 8, Figure 11g, show that: (1) the performance of Frame 8 (SMA bars at the first storey beams and columns) is better than Frame 3 (SMA at columns of the first storey), (2) the number of crushed columns is reduced in San Fernando, Whittier and Imperial Valley cases, and (3) the frame is considered at the collapse state in the case of Whittier record.

It is clear from the damage schemes and the drift values, that using a reasonable amount of SMAs at the right locations leads to a lower level of damage, a minor increase in the MID, and a high reduction in the MRID as compared to a steel RC frame. Frame 7 is considered to have the best seismic performance as it has the best damage scheme, a minor increase in MID demands, and a high reduction in the MRID. The frame can also tolerate earthquakes with higher intensities. By comparing the MRID results with the damage schemes in Fig. 11, it can also be observed that the frames with high values of MRID (Frames 4 and 5) have reached the collapse state under the effect of a minimum of three records. Frames 2, 6, 7 and 8, which have low values of MRID, can tolerate higher earthquake intensities for at least four of the records. MRID is clearly related to the damage state of the building. A comprehensive comparison between the seismic performance of Frames 1 and 7 is presented in the following section.

8. Steel RC Frame (Frame 1) Versus SMA RC Frame (Frame 7)

Results of Incremental Dynamic Analysis (IDA) are presented in Figs. 12(a), (c), and 12(e) for Frame 1 and in Figs. 12(b), (d) and (f) for Frame 7. Figs. (a) and 12(b) show that using SMA bars has a minor effect on the frame lateral capacity (the maximum base shear demand). It results in an average reduction of the frame lateral capacity of about 6.8%.

Figs 12(c-d), and 12(f) show that: (1) Frames 1 and 7 have almost the same values of MIDs and MRIDs at low levels of S_a , (2) Frame 7 experiences slightly higher values of MIDs than Frame 1 at high level of S_a (increase of 9.27% at S_a causing failure to Frame 1), and (3) Frame 7 experiences significantly lower values of MRIDs than Frame 1 at high levels of S_a (decrease of 74.54% at S_a causing failure to Frame 1).

Loma Prieta earthquake is chosen to provide additional discussion in this section. Figs. 13(a) and (b) show that the steel and the SMA frames have almost the same values of MID and MRID ratios for S_a values less than 2.0 g. For higher values of S_a , the MID ratios of the SMA frame are higher than those of the steel frame. The maximum difference is observed at 3.0 g S_a where the MID of Frames 1 and 7 are 4.4% and 5.85%, respectively. Fig. 13(b) shows that the re-centring effect of the

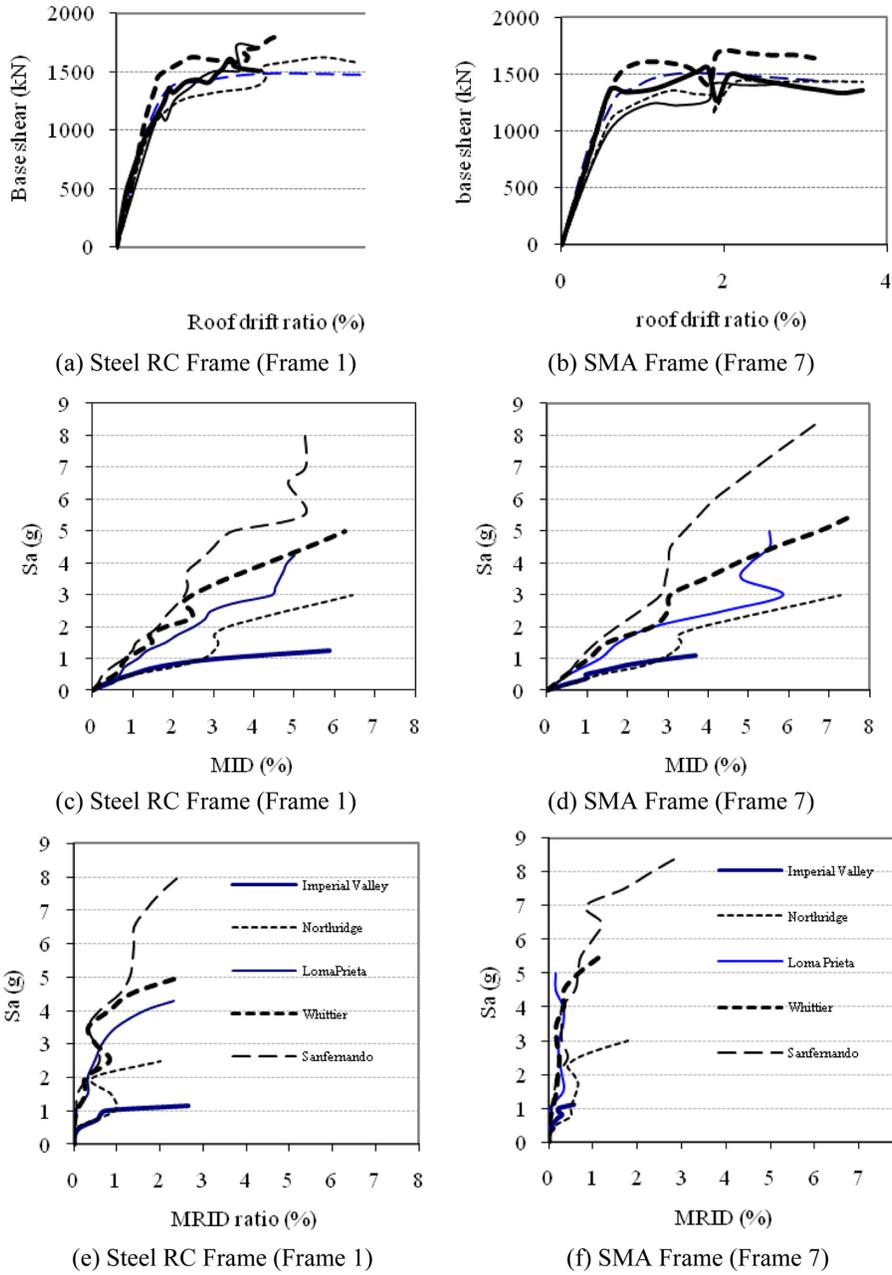
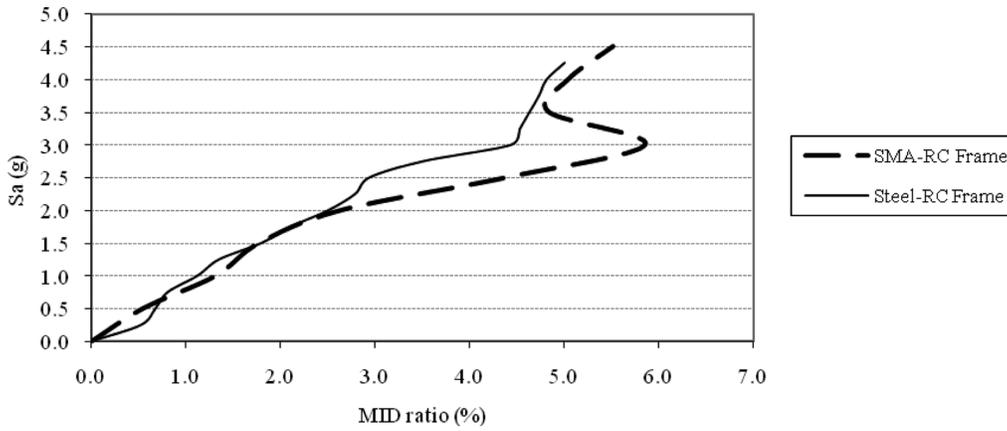


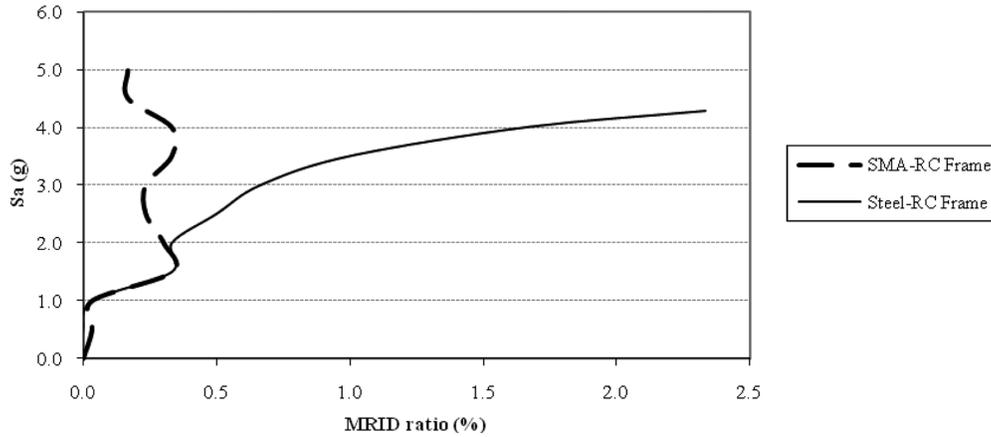
Fig. 12 IDA results

SMA is very significant. At high levels of Sa, the MRIDs of the steel frame have reached values higher than 2.3% while those for Frame 7 are lower than 0.5%.

A comparison of the damage scheme of the two buildings at the same level of Sa (Figs. 7 and 11(f)), reveals that while the steel frame is at the collapse state, the SMA frame is not at the collapse state and can tolerate higher levels of Sa. Table 5 summarizes the Sa that causes collapse to



(a) Variation of MID values during dynamic analysis (Loma Prieta record)



(b) Variation of MRID values during dynamic analysis (Loma Prieta record)

Fig. 13 Variation of drift values during the IDA considering Loma Prieta record

Frame 7, the corresponding MID, and MRID. The damage schemes of Frame 7 at collapse are presented in Fig. 14. The collapse of the SMA frame is similar to that of the steel frame where four of the first storey columns are crushed. Using SMA bars has resulted in spreading the local damage (yielding and crushing) to include higher stories. For example, column crushing is observed at the third and fourth stories in the cases of San Fernando, Loma Prieta, and Northridge records. The spreading of the damage has led to higher energy dissipation and higher seismic capacity. It can be observed from Table 5 that Sa values causing collapse of the SMA frame are much higher than those causing collapse of the steel RC frame (Table 3). Table 5 also shows that at collapse, the MID varies from 5.7% to 7.64% and the MRID varies from 1.00% to 4.00%. By comparing these values to those obtained for the steel RC frame (Table 3), it can be concluded that the SMA frame is more ductile than the steel frame, undergoes higher maximum drifts, and has lower permanent drifts.

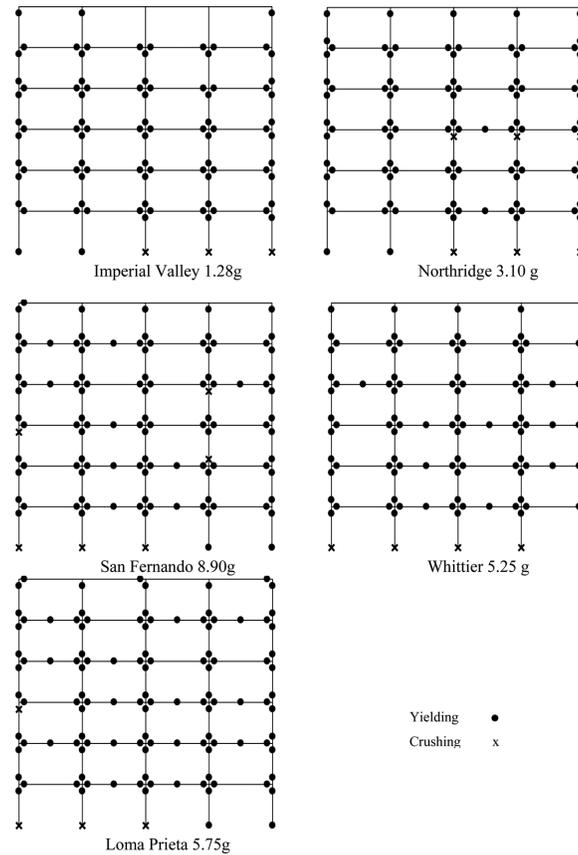


Fig. 14 Damage scheme of Frame 7 at collapse

Table 5 MID and MRID of the SMA RC frame (Frame 7) at failure

Earthquake record	Storey experiencing MID		Storey experiencing MRID	
	Storey No.	MID (%)	Storey No.	MRID (%)
Northridge (3.10 g)	3 rd	7.64	3 rd	2.07
Imperial Valley (1.28 g)	1 st	5.70	3 rd	1.10
Loma Prieta (5.75 g)	5 th	6.33	3 rd	1.33
Whittier (5.25 g)	1 st	7.25	1 st	1.00
San Fernando (8.90 g)	3 rd	7.30	3 rd	2.50

9. Conclusions

This paper optimizes the use of smart material, SMA, in RC frames to achieve the best seismic performance in terms of: damage scheme, lower MRIDs, and reasonable values of MID. The accuracy of the used finite element program is validated for steel and SMA RC sections. The SMA model proposed by Auricchio and Sacco (1997) is found to be acceptable in providing good estimates for the damping capacity of large diameter SMA bars.

A six-storey RC frame building located in a highly seismic zone is considered as a case study.

The building is subjected to nonlinear dynamic analyses using five different earthquake records scaled to different S_a levels. After defining the position of the critical sections in the building, seven different alternative designs that utilize SMA bars are tested. These seven alternatives are subjected to nonlinear dynamic analysis using the same records scaled to the predefined S_a level that caused collapse of the steel RC frame. The building having the least damage, low values of MRID, and reasonable MID values is selected. A comparative study is then carried out between the seismic performance of the steel RC frame and the selected SMA RC frame.

Failure of the steel RC frame has resulted from crushing of the columns in the first storey. The largest number of yielded sections has been observed in the beams of the 4th and the 5th floors. The building's deformations showed that the MID representing the collapse varied between 4.36% and 6.25% showing that the value (4.00% MID) suggested by FEMA is conservative. However, the MRID obtained from the analyses varied between 2.47% and 3.00% showing that the value suggested by the FEMA for permanent drift (3.00% MRID) is un-conservative. The analyses for the steel RC frame have confirmed that using a single value of MID or MRID is not capable of estimating the position of local damage.

The dynamic analyses conducted for the seven SMA frames during this study resulted in the following conclusions: (1) using SMA bars in the critical beams or the critical columns does not lead to good enhancement of the building seismic performance, (2) using SMA bars at the ends of all the beams increases the seismic capacity of the frame and reduces the seismic residual deformations but it significantly increases the instantaneous drifts, (3) using the SMA bars at the ends of beams adjacent to the critical columns (first floor beams) has led to very good values of MRID and prevented the building from reaching the collapse state in four out of five ground motion records, (4) The best arrangement of SMA bars in the building is found to be a combination of using them at the critical sections of the beams, 4th floor beams, and using the SMA at the beam ends adjacent to the critical columns, 1st floor beams (Frame 7), and (5) The MID values are affected by the amount of SMA bars used in the building, while the damage and the MRIDs depend on the location of these bars.

The comparison between the performance of the selected SMA RC frame (Frame 7) and the performance of the steel RC frame (Frame 1) has led to the following conclusions: (1) the SMA frame experiences slightly higher values of MID than those of the steel RC frame, (2) using SMA has significantly reduced the MRID of the frame under the effect of all records, (3) the SMA frame has a lower number of crushed columns, and (4) the SMA frame is able to sustain higher earthquake intensities.

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