





Virtual drift ratio rehabilitation by composite and contact beams of a reinforced concrete building based on mixed testing.

C. A. Torres Montes de Oca^{1*} , M. A. Segovia Huitrón² ,
R. Prado González³ , A. G. Alba Campos⁴ 

*Contact author: ktcate2@hotmail.com; ctorresmo@ipn.mx

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this research is to simulate, by means of virtual modeling, the recovery of the drift ratio stability of a reinforced concrete building by means of composite and contact beams. The methodological procedure is based on previous studies such as pathological auscultation, concrete coring, sclerometry, environmental vibration tests, soil mechanics and generation of mathematical models. The analyses and studies are carried out in accordance with national and international standards. The model representing the current state of the structure was numerically calibrated. The results indicate that by using composite section beams for the reinforcement of the system, greater stiffness is obtained in the superstructure compared to contact beams.

Keywords: drift ratio rehabilitation; composite beams; contact beams; structural modeling; mixed testing.

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¹ Profesor investigador en la Sección de Estudios de Posgrado e Investigación (SEPI), Escuela Superior de Ingeniería y Arquitectura Unidad Tecamachalco (ESIA UT), Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN), 53950, Naucalpan de Juárez, Estado de México, México, <http://www.sepi.esiatec.ipn.mx>.

² Egresado de maestría en la Escuela Superior de Ingeniería y Arquitectura Unidad Tecamachalco (ESIA UT), Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN), 53950, Naucalpan de Juárez, Estado de México, México, <http://www.esiatec.ipn.mx>.

³ Alumno de nivel maestría en la Escuela Superior de Ingeniería y Arquitectura Unidad Tecamachalco (ESIA UT), Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN), 53950, Naucalpan de Juárez, Estado de México, México, <http://www.esiatec.ipn.mx>.

⁴ Alumno de nivel licenciatura en la Escuela Superior de Ingeniería y Arquitectura Unidad Tecamachalco (ESIA UT), Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN), 53950, Naucalpan de Juárez, Estado de México, México, <http://www.esiatec.ipn.mx>.

Contribution of each author

In this work, C. A. Torres Montes de Oca contributed 100% of the original idea, direction, and final writing, M. A. Segovia Huitrón contributed 50% of the initial writing of the document, 75% of the figure drawing, and 50% of the structural modeling, R. Prado González contributed 50% of the initial writing and 25% of the structural modeling, and A. G. Alba Campos contributed 25% of the graphics generation and 25% of the structural modeling. The four authors coordinated the development of the preliminary tests and studies at equal percentages.

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Rehabilitación distorsional virtual mediante traves compuestas y de contacto de un edificio de concreto reforzado basado en pruebas mixtas

RESUMEN

El objetivo de esta investigación es simular, por medio de modelación virtual, la recuperación de la estabilidad distorsional de un edificio de concreto reforzado mediante traves compuestas y de contacto. El procedimiento metodológico se fundamenta en estudios previos como la auscultación patológica, extracción de núcleos de concreto, esclerometría, pruebas de vibración ambiental, mecánica de suelos y generación de modelos matemáticos. Los análisis y estudios se llevan a cabo con normatividad nacional e internacional. El modelo que representa al estado actual de la estructura fue calibrado numéricamente. Los resultados indican que al utilizar traves con sección compuesta para el reforzamiento del sistema se obtiene mayor rigidez en la superestructura en comparación con las traves de contacto.

Palabras clave: rehabilitación distorsional; traves compuestas; traves de contacto; modelación estructural; pruebas mixtas.

Adaptação virtual à distorção por vigas mistas e de contacto de um edifício de betão armado com base em ensaios mistos.

RESUMO

O objetivo desta investigação é simular, através de modelação virtual, a recuperação da estabilidade distorcional de um edifício de betão armado por meio de vigas mistas e de contacto. O procedimento metodológico baseia-se em estudos anteriores, tais como a auscultação patológica, a sondagem do betão, a esclerometria, os ensaios de vibração ambiental, a mecânica dos solos e a modelação matemática. As análises e os estudos são efectuados em conformidade com as normas nacionais e internacionais. O modelo que representa o estado atual da estrutura foi calibrado numericamente. Os resultados indicam que, ao utilizar vigas de secção composta para o reforço do sistema, se obtém uma maior rigidez na superestrutura em comparação com as vigas de contacto.

Palavras-chave: reabilitação distorcional; vigas compósitas; vigas de contacto; modelação estrutural; ensaios mistos.

Discussions and subsequent corrections to the publication

Any dispute, including the replies of the authors, will be published in the second issue of 2026 provided that the information is received before the closing of the first issue of 2026.

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NOMENCLATURE

A_i	Area of the i-th section that make up the clad column.
Az	Roof
BD	Denison barrel
Cen	Center
CL	Free field
Cmax	Maximum load
CRCE	With springs in foundation with contact between buildings
CRSE	With springs in foundation without contact between buildings
CRTC	With springs in foundation with contact beams
CRTCM	With springs in foundation with composite beams
δ	Deflections, deformations, or lateral displacements
δ_v	Vertical deflections or deformations
δ_x	Lateral displacement in the X direction
δ_y	Lateral displacement in the Y direction
EA	Current state
E_c	Modulus of elasticity of concrete
E_{ce}	Theoretical elastic modulus related to sclerometric tests
E_{cl}	Existing elastic modulus obtained from laboratory tests
E_{cn}	Theoretical modulus of elasticity for new concrete
E_{cp}	Weighted modulus of elasticity
EAF	Signal amplitude in a specific frequency interval
E_i	i-th elastic modulus of the section that makes up the clad column
EL	Elongation
ER	Response spectrum
EsPot	Power spectrum
ESQ	Corner
ESQNE	Northeast corner
ESQNW	Northwest corner
ESQSE	Southeast corner
ESQSW	Southwest corner
FAS	Transfer functions
f'_c	Axial compressive strength of concrete with laboratory tests
$f'_c es$	Compressive strength obtained with sclerometric tests
f_e	Vibration frequency of the structure
f_y	Elastic limit of steel
γ	Interstory drift or drift ratio

γ_L	Limit drift ratio
γ_x	Interstory drift in the X direction
γ_y	Interstory drift in the Y direction
Hz	Hertz
H/V	Horizontal to vertical spectral ratio
i	i-th
ISE	Soil-structure interaction
k_x	Contact spring in the X direction
k_y	Contact spring in the Y direction
k_h	Horizontal spring in foundation
k_v	Vertical spring in foundation
L	Slab
L(x)	Longitudinal in the X direction
M	Structure vibration mode
n	Number of sections comprising the clad column
N	Floor level
NE	Northeast
P	Location of ambient vibration testing
PB	Ground floor
PCA	Open pit
Q	Ductility factor
Rot(x)	Rotation in X direction
Rot(y)	Rotation in Y direction
σ_{max}	Maximum stress
SM	Mixed sounding
SPT	Standard Penetration Test
SRCE	No springs in foundation with contact between buildings
SRSE	No springs in foundation without contact between buildings
SRTC	No springs in foundation with contact beams
SRTCM	No springs in foundation with composite beams
SW	Southwest
T	Beam
Tp	Main beam
T(s)	Structure vibration period in seconds
Ts	Secondary beam
T(y)	Transverse in Y direction
VA	Ambient vibration

1. INTRODUCTION

It has been observed that reinforced concrete structures tend to deteriorate and crack over time, leading to a loss of rigidity, and their useful life is around 50 years (NTC-Concrete, 2023). However, in real conditions, this is not always the case, given the degradation of the structure resulting from construction errors due to supervision limitations, few design specifications, and poor maintenance, including the incidence of recurrent earthquakes. Currently, there are many reinforced concrete buildings that are reaching the end of their useful life and have withstood accidental stresses such as seismic events and differential settlement, among others, which have contributed to accelerating their deterioration. For this purpose, in reinforced concrete buildings that have deteriorated significantly, it is common to resort to structural reinforcement as a corrective measure. However, to carry out an adequate reinforcement design, it is necessary to consider restoring a certain degree of rigidity, which is crucial for keeping the structure's displacements and distortions within permissible ranges (Figure 1).

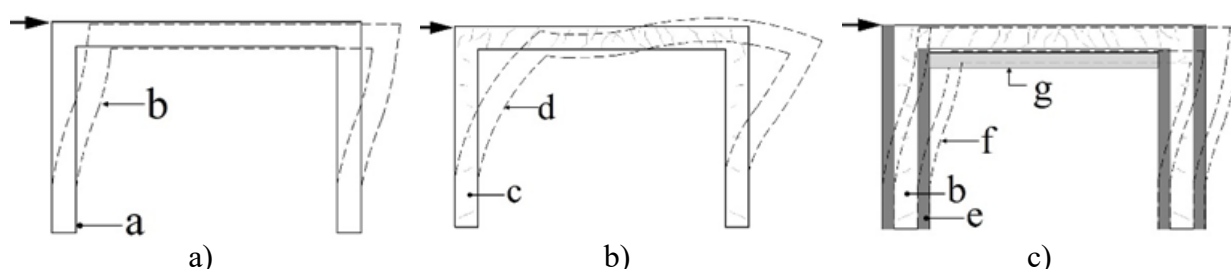


Figure 1. Behavior of reinforced concrete buildings based on frames with and without rigid diaphragms: a) building in normal conditions with rigid diaphragm; b) cracked building with loss of rigid diaphragm; c) rehabilitated building with diaphragm recovery. Where: a = undeformed structure, b = displacement of structure where rigid diaphragm is maintained, c = cracked structure, d = deformation of cracked structure, e = reinforcement of cracked column, f = displacement of reinforced structure, g = reinforcement with steel beam. Note: theory taken from Chopra, A. (2014), image modified by the authors.

According to Figure 1, concrete buildings that are damaged or do not comply with local structural safety regulations must be inspected and, if necessary, reinforced. Mexico is a highly seismic country with many buildings constructed with these types of materials and construction systems that are vulnerable to the effects of this phenomenon. The selection of the type of reinforcement depends on the construction system, structural damage, architectural functionality, and soil characteristics. Because of this, it is essential to understand the actual physical condition of the building to be reinforced, which is why it is essential to study its physical and mechanical properties. Although there is currently a wide variety of mathematical, graphical, and computational tools available, it is necessary to analyze the structural behavior of each building individually, since, even though the construction systems are similar and based on frames formed by columns and beams, each one must be located in a unique behavior compatible with the site where it is planted, including adjacent structural bodies. This document presents the structural analysis of a real case in a state of deterioration, built with reinforced concrete columns and beams. In order to facilitate general understanding and show the sequence of studies and proposals for reinforcements to rehabilitate lateral displacement and drift ratio, Figure 2 shows the relevant flow chart. This diagram is read from top to bottom following the direction of the solid arrows, where the dotted arrow represents a possible restart of the process when the results of the virtual analyses are unfavorable.

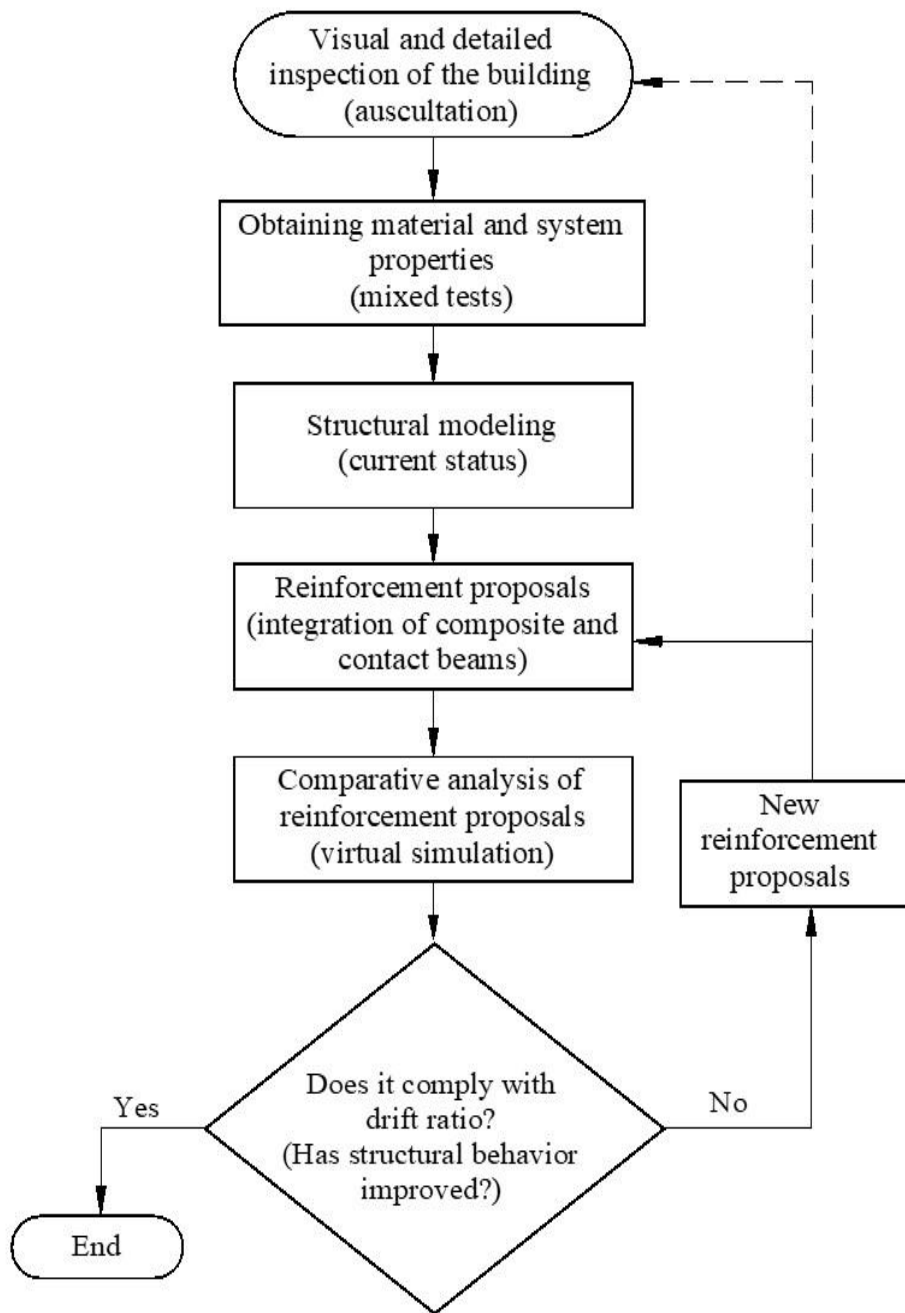


Figure 2. Flowchart of the study phases and reinforcement proposals for the rehabilitation of lateral displacement and drift ratio.

2. DETAILED INSPECTION

The building is currently in disuse due to its level of structural deterioration, which includes cracks in the main and secondary beams, as well as widespread deterioration throughout much of the building due to lack of maintenance (Figure 3).

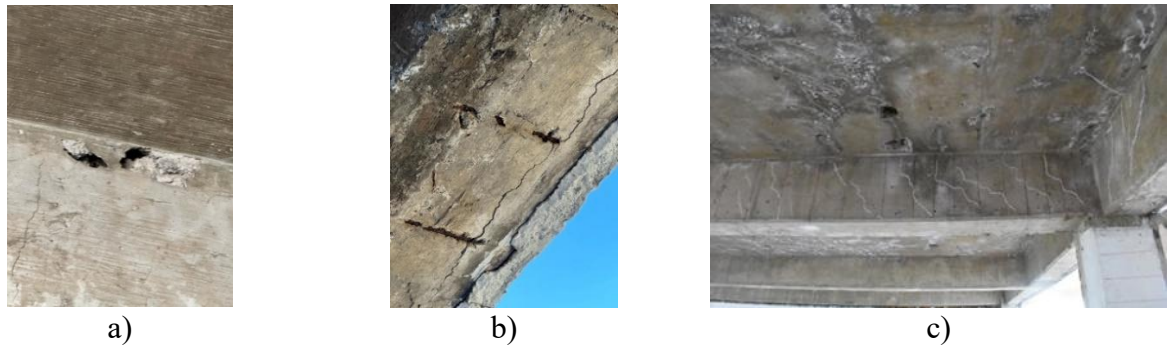


Figure 3. Damage and deterioration in the building; a) cracks and cavities in existing beams; b) corrosion in exposed reinforcing steel in secondary edge elements that do not provide lateral rigidity; c) presence of saltpeter and moisture in concrete slabs.

To obtain detailed information about the current physical structure, minimally invasive and non-invasive tests were carried out (Figure 5) to determine the compressive strength f'_c (red dots) and the modulus of elasticity E_c (black dots) in accordance with the provisions of NTC- Structural Rehabilitation 2023. For the minimally invasive tests, concrete cores were extracted in accordance with the provisions of Mexican Standard (NMX-C-169-ONNCCE-2009). These specimens were prepared and detailed to obtain perpendicularity and flatness at their ends (NMX-C-109-ONNCCE-2013). Subsequently, the test was carried out to determine the f'_c under the criteria established in NMX-C-083-ONNCCE-2014. The E_c was determined under the provisions of NMX-C-128-ONNCCE-2013. On the other hand, mechanical tests were performed on test specimens (Figure 4) of reinforcing steel (brown dots), obtaining the elasticity limit (f_y) of each sample.

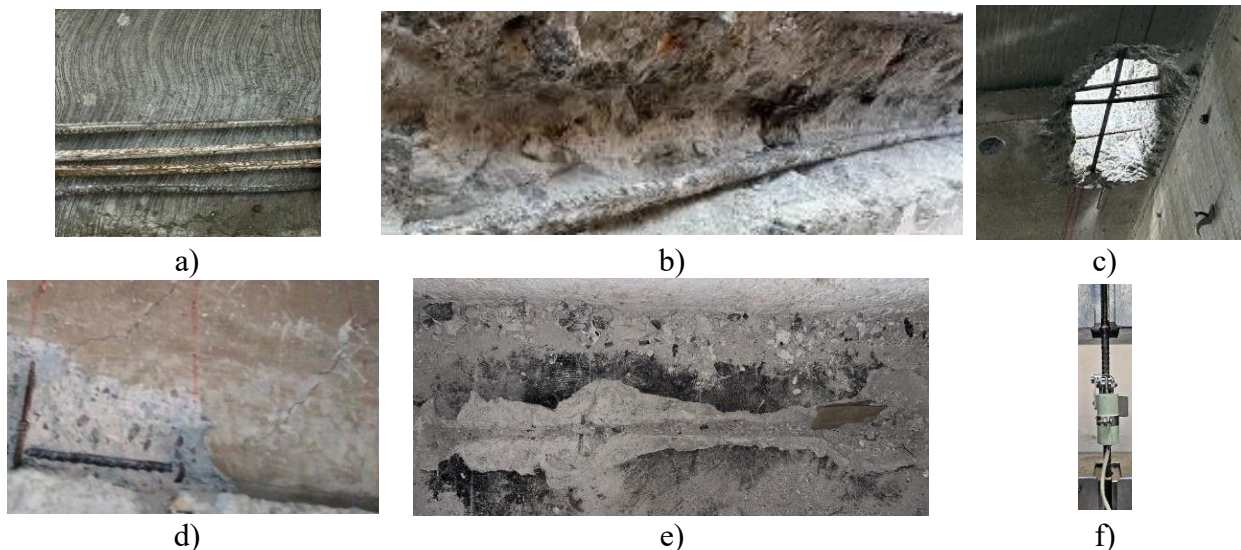


Figure 4. Extraction of reinforcing steel test specimens; a) steel test specimens; b) in secondary beam; c) in lower part of slab; d) in main beam; e) in upper part of slab; f) Tinius LoCap universal testing machine.

The test method was carried out in accordance with ASTM E-8/E8M-16a through the standard test for tensile testing of metallic materials. It should be noted that during the tests, the stress-strain graphs were not captured; however, it was possible to measure the elongation (EL), maximum stress (σ_{max}), maximum load (C_{max}), and yield strength (f_y) in test specimens with a length of 20 cm and a diameter of 3/8 inch (Table 1).

Table 1. Mechanical properties of reinforcing steel

Specimen	Element	Location	EL (%)	C _{max} (kg)	σ_{\max} (kg/cm ²)	f _y (kg/cm ²)
1	LN3	1-2, A-B	10	3875	8770	5220
2	LN2	3-4, A-B	9.5	5375	7583	5714
3	TN2	1, A-B	11	5300	7477	5379
4	TN3	3, A-B	10.5	5350	7522	5549

Where: L = slab, T = beam, N = floor level. The test specimens (brown dots) are identified in figure 4.

Sclerometry studies were carried out at different points of the building with a rebound hammer in accordance with the criteria established in NMX-C-192-ONNCCE-2018 (Figures 5 and 6) to obtain the f'_c value and supplement and/or compare them with the results obtained from the concrete cores, for which 75 tests were performed with 16 impacts each. The values obtained are shown in Figure 7.

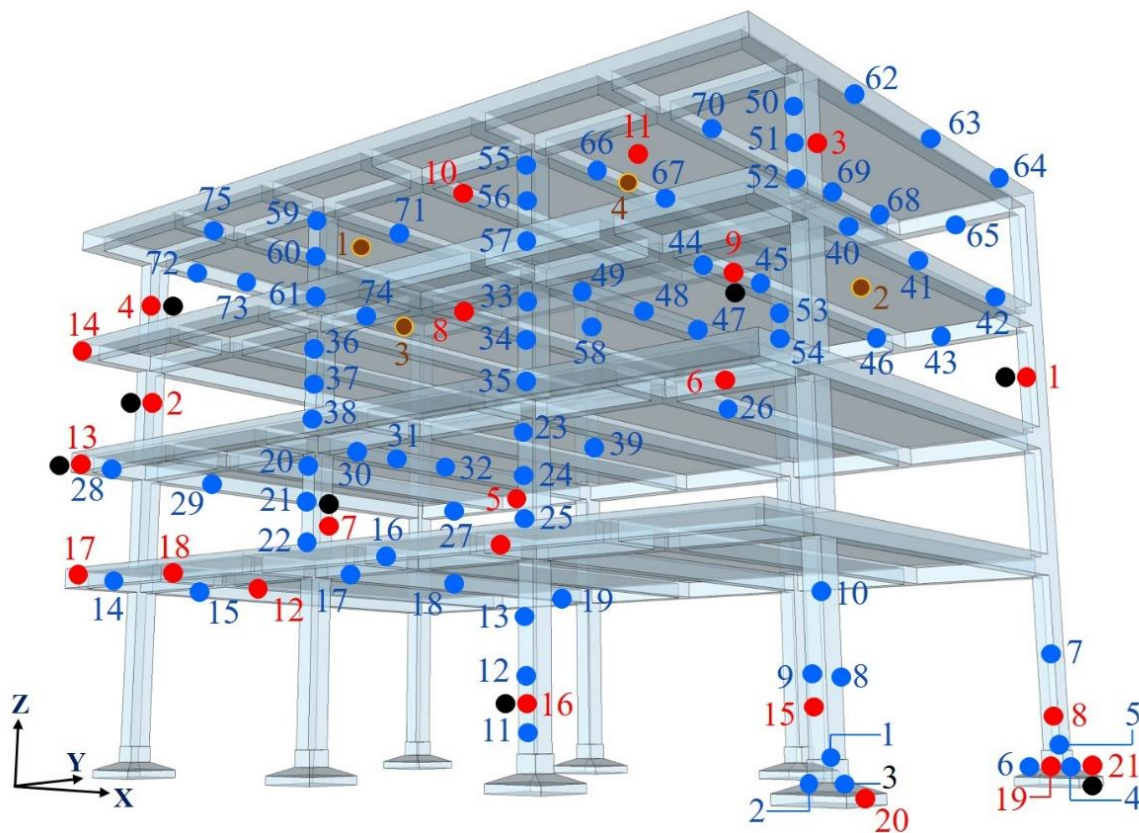


Figure 5. Location of tests in concrete and steel specimens. Where: black dots represent specimen extractions to obtain modulus of elasticity with laboratory tests, red dots indicate specimen extraction sites to obtain axial compressive strength with laboratory tests, blue dots indicate the locations of sclerometer tests to obtain compressive strengths, and cherry dots refer to steel test specimens (Figures 4, 6, and 7).

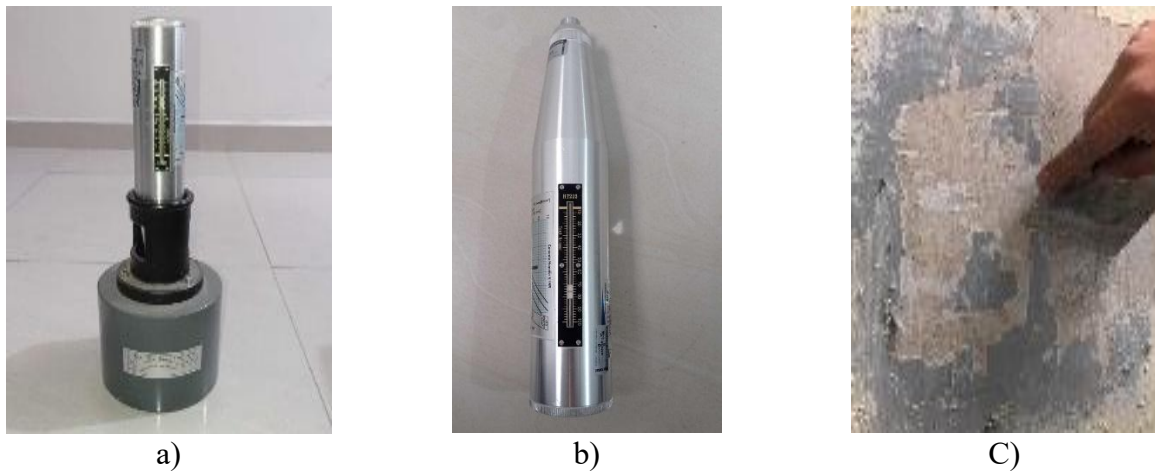


Figure 6. Tool for sclerometer testing; a) calibration of test hammer; b) sclerometer; c) surface cleaning with enamel paint remover.

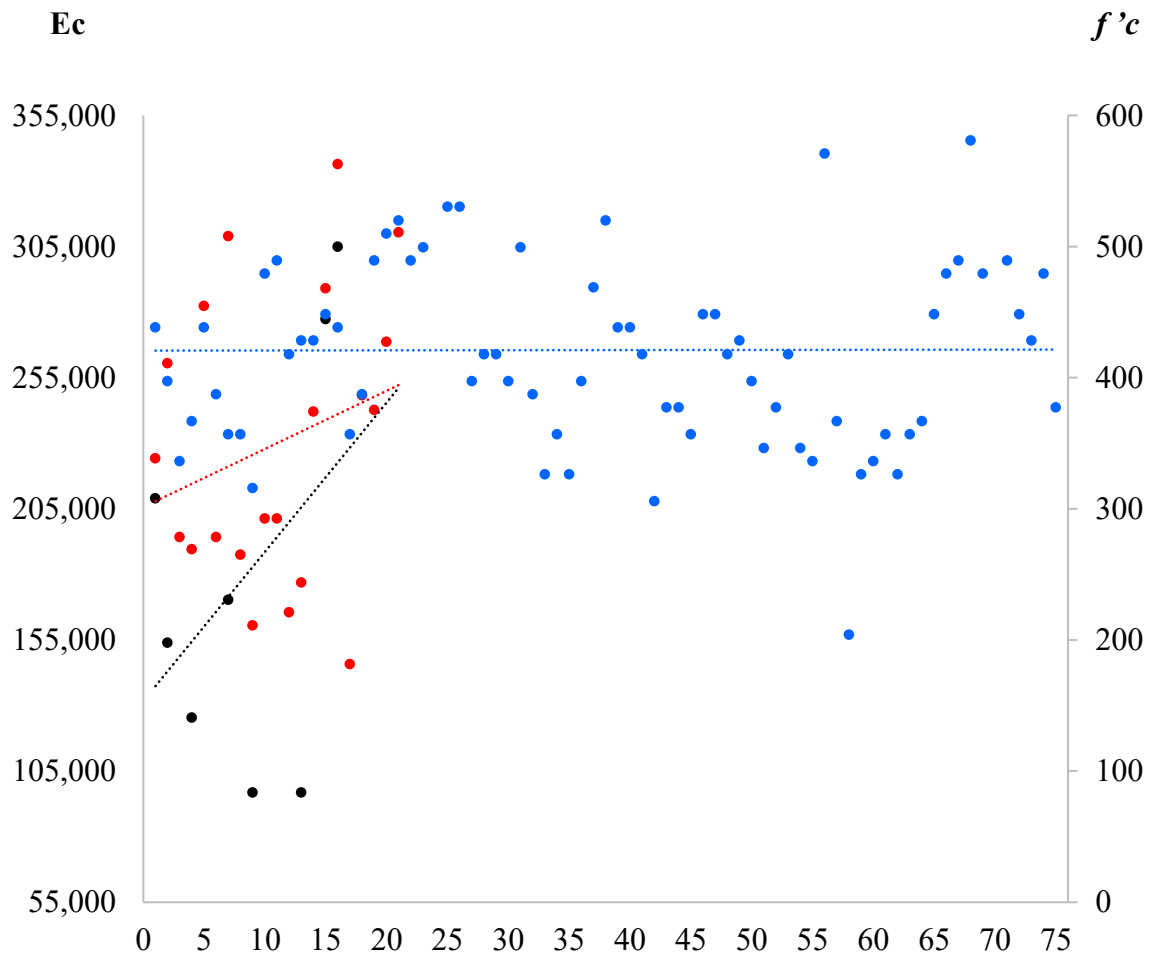


Figure 7. Concrete core and sclerometer tests. Values of $f'c$ and E_c . Where: E_c = Modulus of elasticity with laboratory tests (black dots), $f'c$ = Axial compressive strength with laboratory tests (kg/cm², red dots), $f'c_{es}$ = Compressive strength obtained with sclerometer tests (kg/cm², blue dots).

It should be noted that the areas and locations where the tests were carried out were selected in accordance with the permits granted for access to only certain areas of the building. Soil mechanics studies were carried out using two mixed probes (SM) and five open pits (PCA), where the SM were performed with standard penetration tests (SPT) and Denison barrels (BD), in accordance with NTC-Cimentación (2023) and ASTM (2018), which allowed for the identification of stratigraphic conditions, soil mechanical characteristics, and seismic response spectrum of the site. The first 15 cm revealed a layer of asphalt pavement, followed by a fill consisting of silty sand with gravel and gravel with a thickness of 175 cm. For this same layer, the number of blows was 7 to 44, obtaining a water content of 12 to 23%, with 23 to 41% sand and 31% gravel. The last layer identified was basalt rock with a thickness of 450 cm (Figure 8).

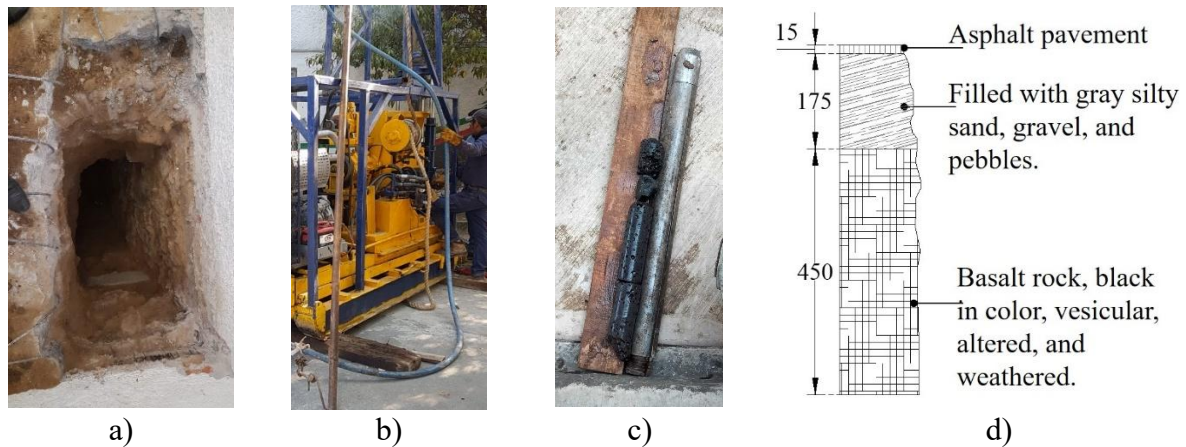


Figure 8. Soil auscultation; a) open pit (PCA); b) standard penetration test (SPT) and Denison barrel (BD); c) extracted samples; d) stratigraphy, measurements in cm.

The slab construction system consists mainly of reinforced concrete and fillers (Figure 9), supported by reinforced concrete beams (Figure 3c).

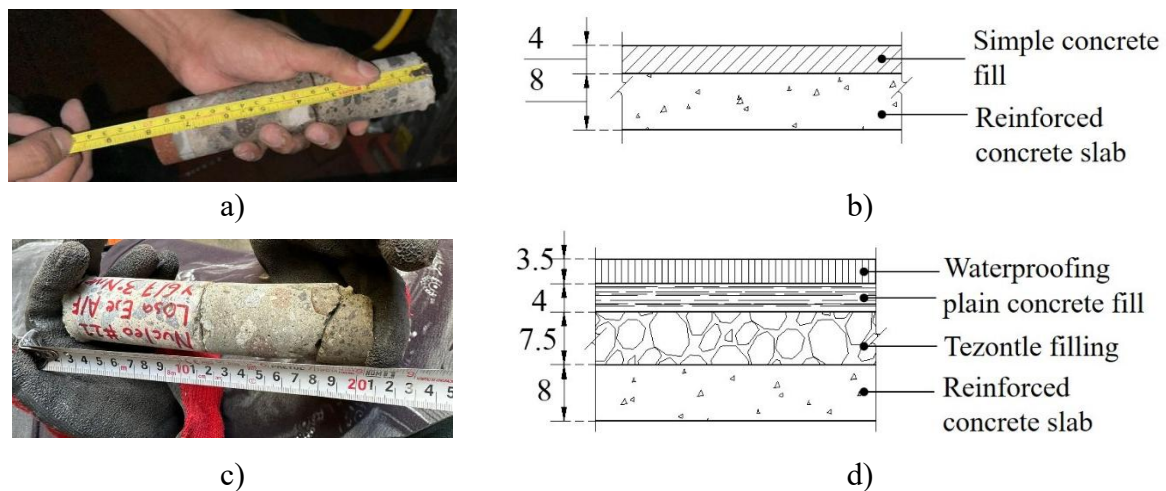


Figure 9. Construction system in floor and roof slabs; a) materials found in floor slab; b) thicknesses of materials in floor slab; c) materials found in roof slab; d) thicknesses of materials in roof slab. Units in cm.

The vertical deflections or deformations (δv) of the main and secondary beams of the building are presented in Table 2.

Tabla 2. δv en el centro de las trabes de concreto reforzado.

PB					N1					N2					N3				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2.1	1.5	1.9	3.3	2.0	1.3	1.4	1.8	2.7	1.9	3.6	4.5	4.5	4.6	3.0	3.6	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.8

Where: PB = Ground floor, L1 = Level 1, L2 = Level 2, L3 = Level 3. δv measurements taken at the center of the span. Units in cm.

Figure 10 shows response spectra (ER) and, according to the seismic regionalization indicated in the Manual de Diseño de Obras Civiles de Diseño por Sismo (CFE, 2015), the site spectrum (gray line) is obtained through a real seismic signal at station FJ74 of the Centro de Instrumentación y Registro Sísmico A.C. (CIRES). The station is located 1.2 km from the study site (RSCDMX, 2023) and corresponds to September 19, 2017, with a magnitude of 7.1 Richter (CENAPRED 2018). However, for the analysis of the cases of reinforcement with composite and contact beams developed in this work, the Roca (CFE) spectrum indicated by the blue line is used, since this is not negligible and the reinforcement in the foundation is proposed at rock level.

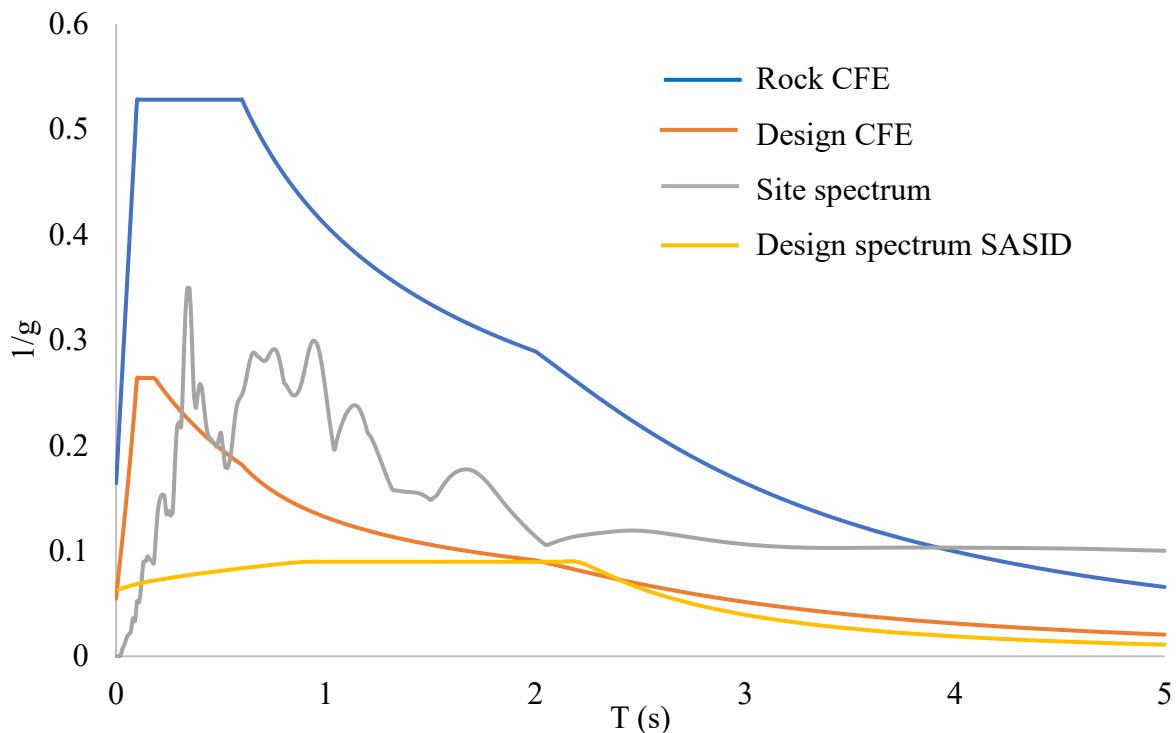


Figure 10. Response spectra $Q = 2$. Where $T(s)$ = Period in seconds, Q = ductility factor

Figures 11 and 12 show, in general terms, the location of the tests carried out on the structural elements, as well as the sections of existing structural elements.

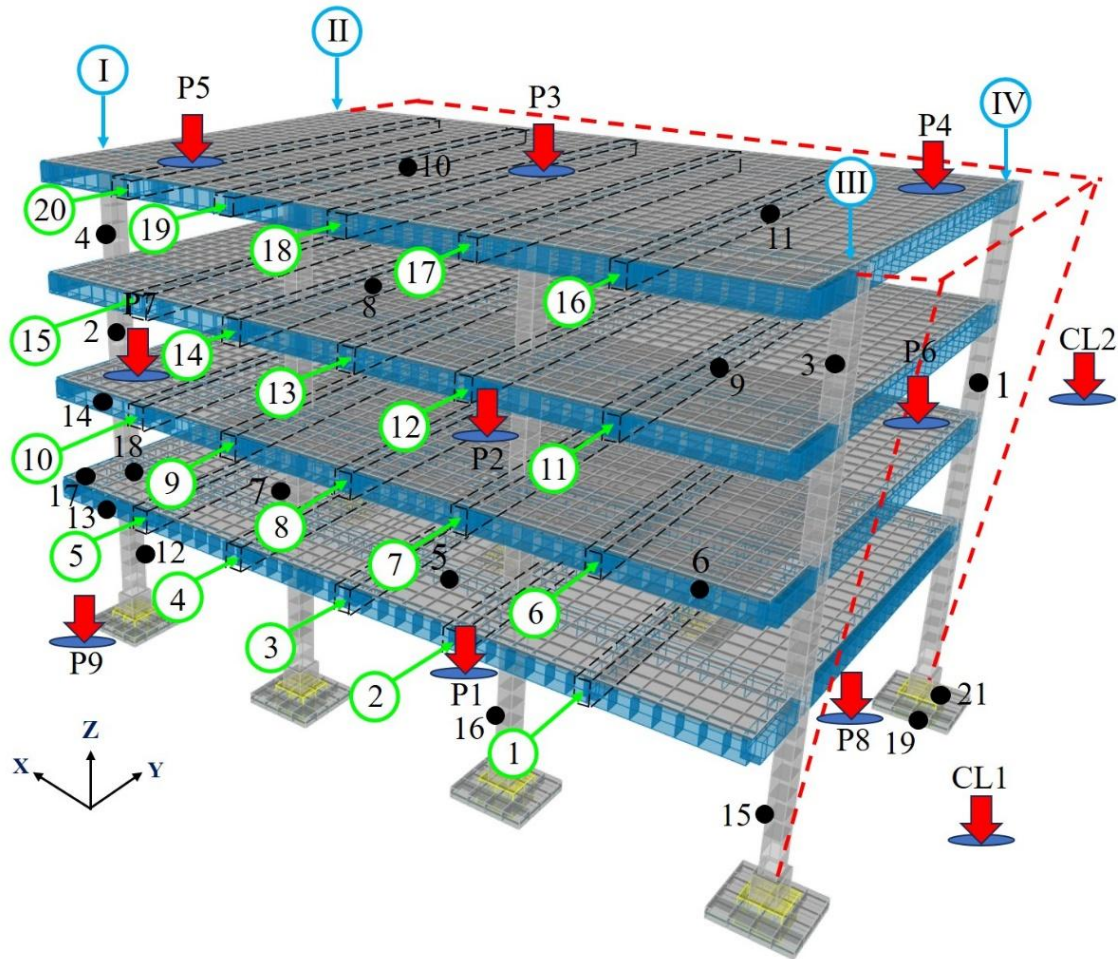


Figure 11. Current state (EA); location of deformations in concrete beams, loss of verticality, identification of extracted concrete cores, and ambient vibration measurement points. Where: CL represents the free field, black dots indicate concrete cores extracted to obtain E_c , green circles indicate beams with deformation, red arrows indicate the locations where accelerometers were placed, and blue circles with Roman numerals indicate the reference axes for measuring loss of verticality.

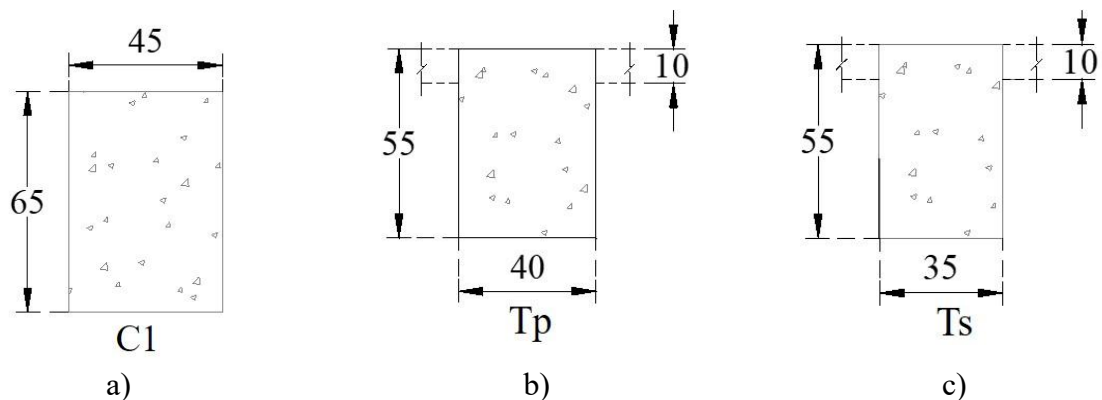


Figure 12. Structural concrete elements of the EA; a) Columns (C1); b) Main beams (Tp); c) Secondary beams (Ts). Dimensions in cm.

3. DYNAMIC MONITORING

Ambiental vibration (VA) data was collected at nine points located as shown in Figure 13, where accelerometers were placed starting at the roof level, with these points repeated on the lower levels.

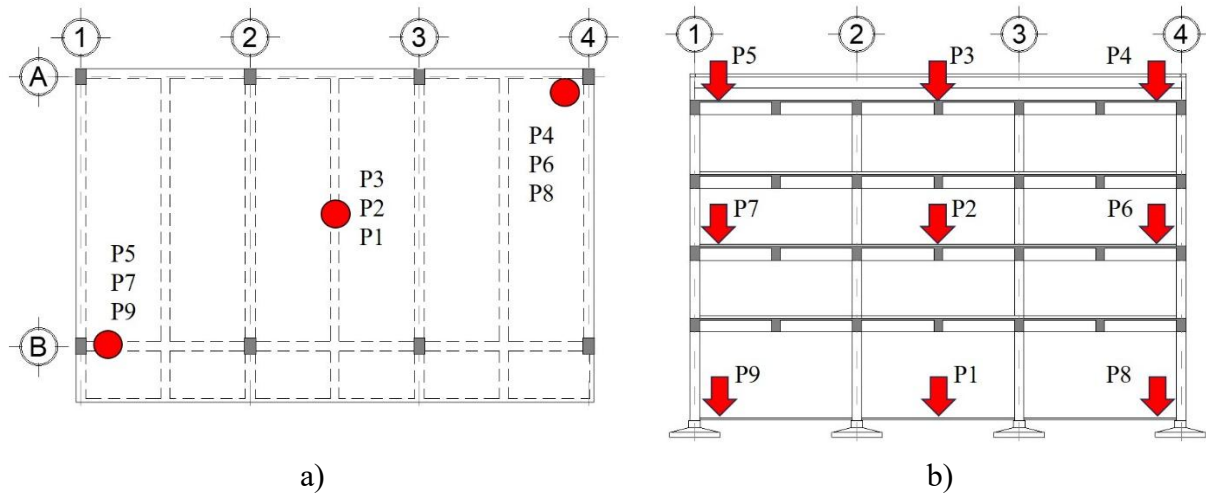


Figure 13. VA measurement points; a) location of measurement points in the standard floor plan; b) location of points in the general section.

Where: P1 = PB Cen, P2 = N2 Cen, P3 = Az Cen, P4 = Az ESQNW, P5 = Az ESQSE, P6 = N2 ESQNW, P7 = N2 ESQSE, P8 = PB ESQNW, P9 = PB ESQSE.

In order to calibrate the mathematical model with the actual building, the properties and dynamic characteristics of the system were determined using non-parametric techniques based on the analysis of signals in the time and frequency domains (Figures 14 to 23) (Muriá, 2007; Camargo, 2012 and 2013; Torres, 2009).

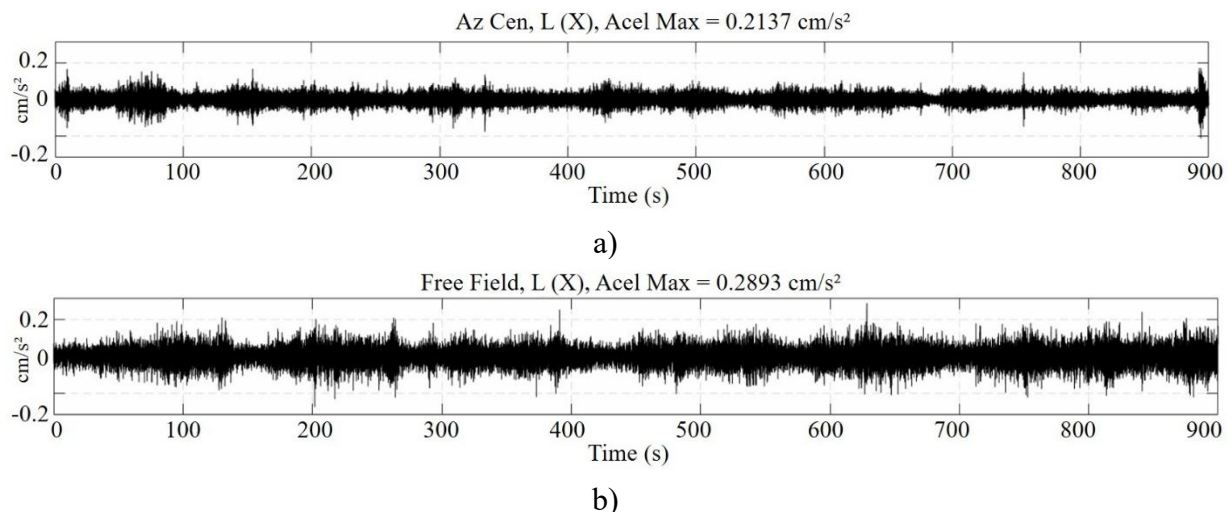
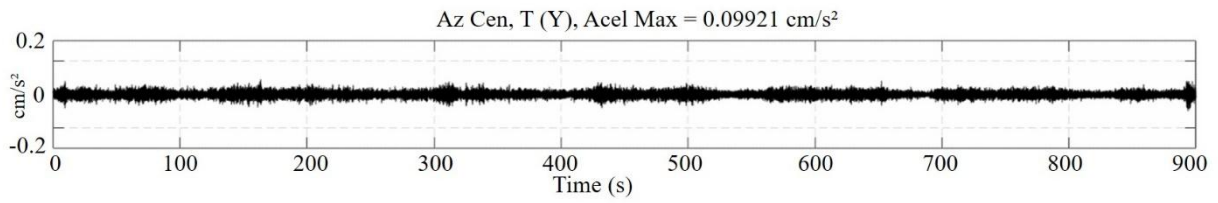
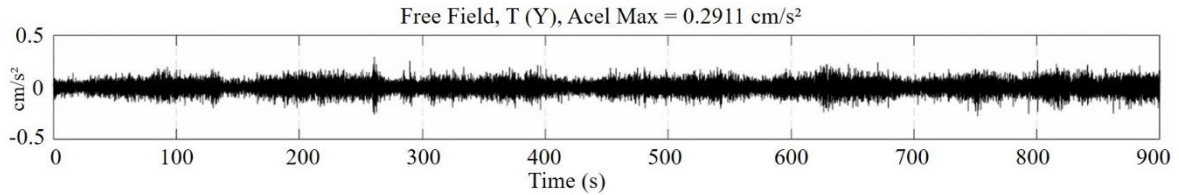


Figure 14. Ambient vibration (VA) signals located at the geometric center of the roof (Az Cen) L(X) and free field (CL) L(X); a) Az Cen L(X); b) CL. Where L=longitudinal, Az = roof.

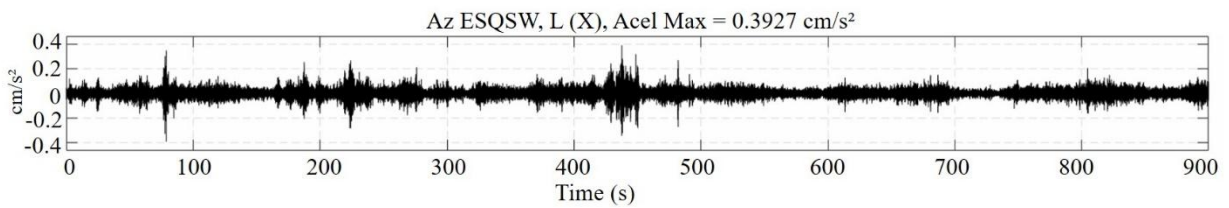


a)

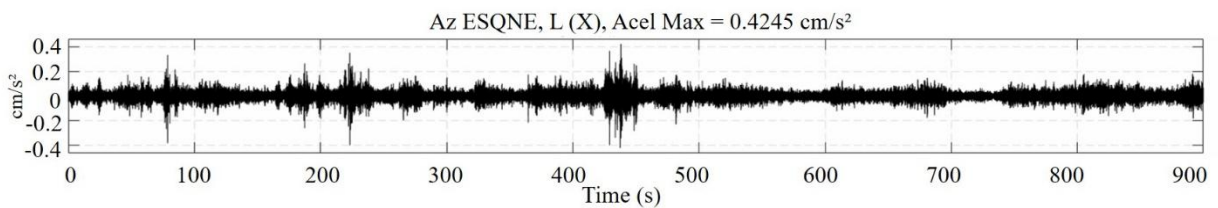


b)

Figure 15. VA signals located at the geometric center of the roof (Az Cen) T(Y) and free field (CL) T(Y); a) Az Cen T(Y); b) CL. Where T = Transversal.

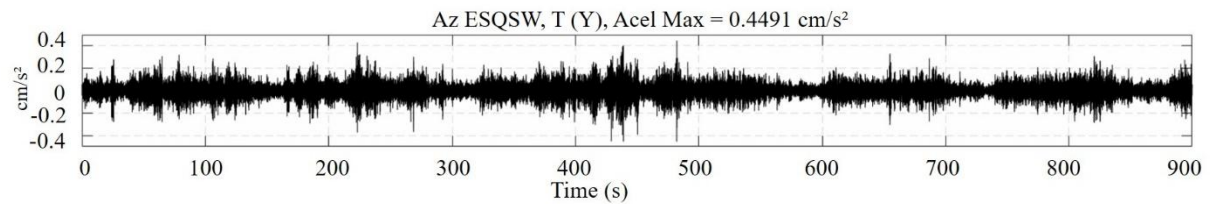


a)

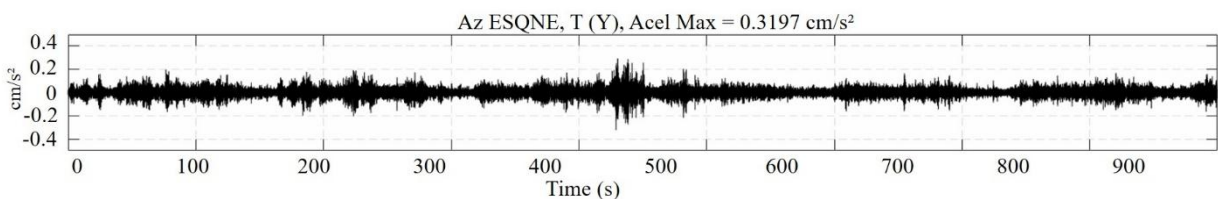


b)

Figure 16. VA signals located to the southwest (SW) and northeast (NE); a) Az ESQSW L(X); b) Az ESQNE L(X). Where ESQ = corner.



a)



b)

Figure 17. VA signals located to the southwest (SW) and northeast (NE); a) Az ESQSW T(Y); b) ESQNE T(Y).

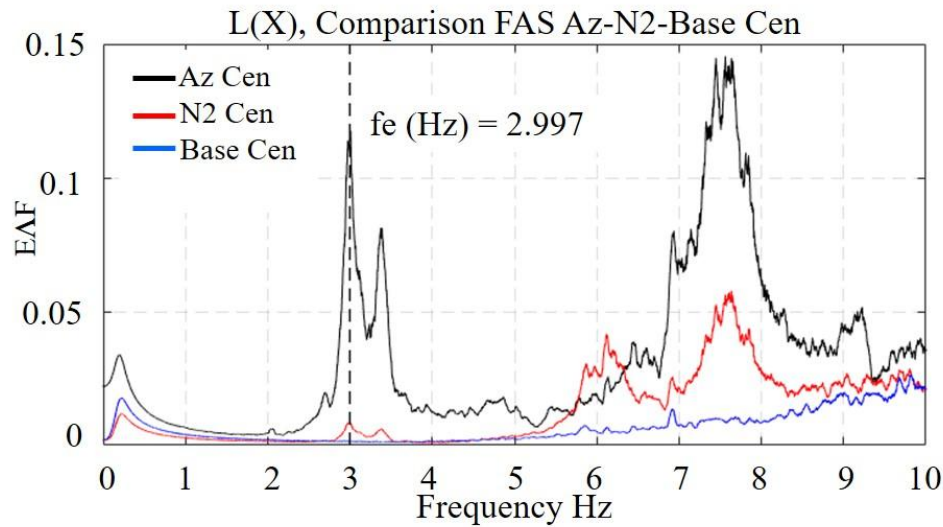


Figure 18. Frequencies in X. a) Fourier spectra of the Roof (Az), Level 2 (N2) and Ground Floor (Base) in direction L(X), located in the center to obtain translation modes. Where: $E\Delta F$ = signal amplitude in a specific frequency interval, FAS = transfer functions.

The frequencies in the L(X) and T(Y) directions are obtained from the Fourier spectra of the points measured at the center of the structure (Figures 18 and 19).

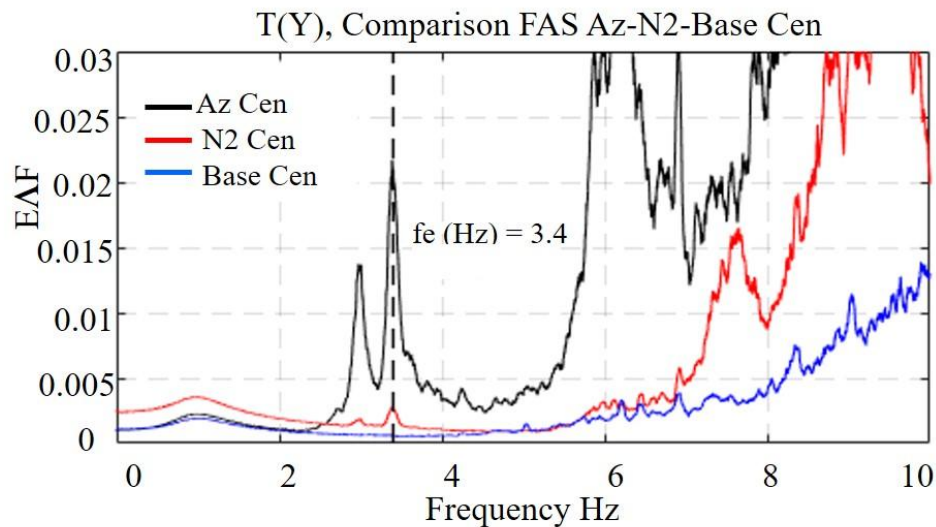


Figure 19. Frequencies in Y; a) Fourier spectra of the Roof (Az) Level 2 (N2) and Ground Floor (Base) in the T(Y) direction, located in the center to obtain translation modes.

Fourier spectra of the corners measured on the roof were used to identify the torsion mode. Figure 20 shows the spectra in the L(X) and T(Y) directions.

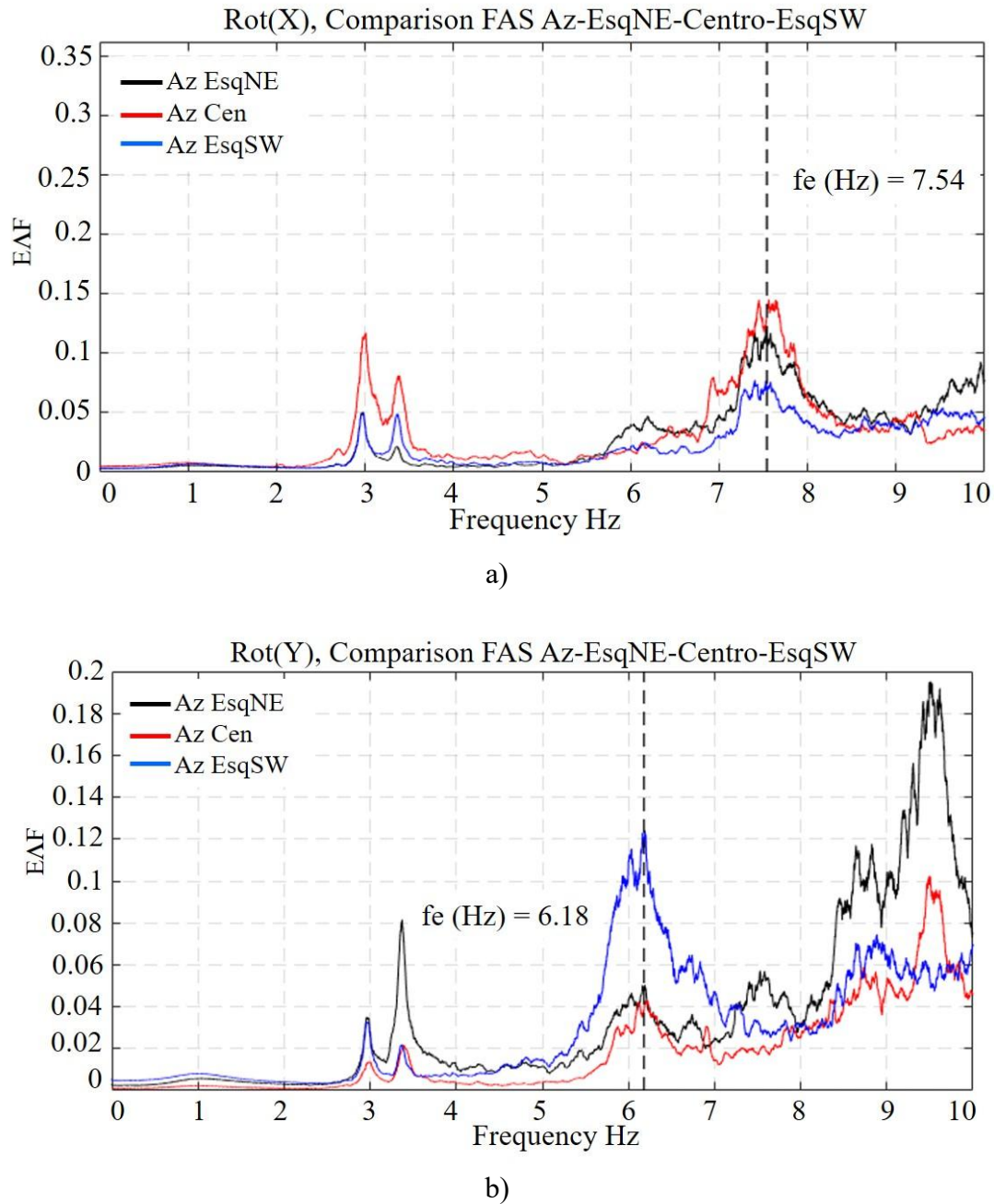
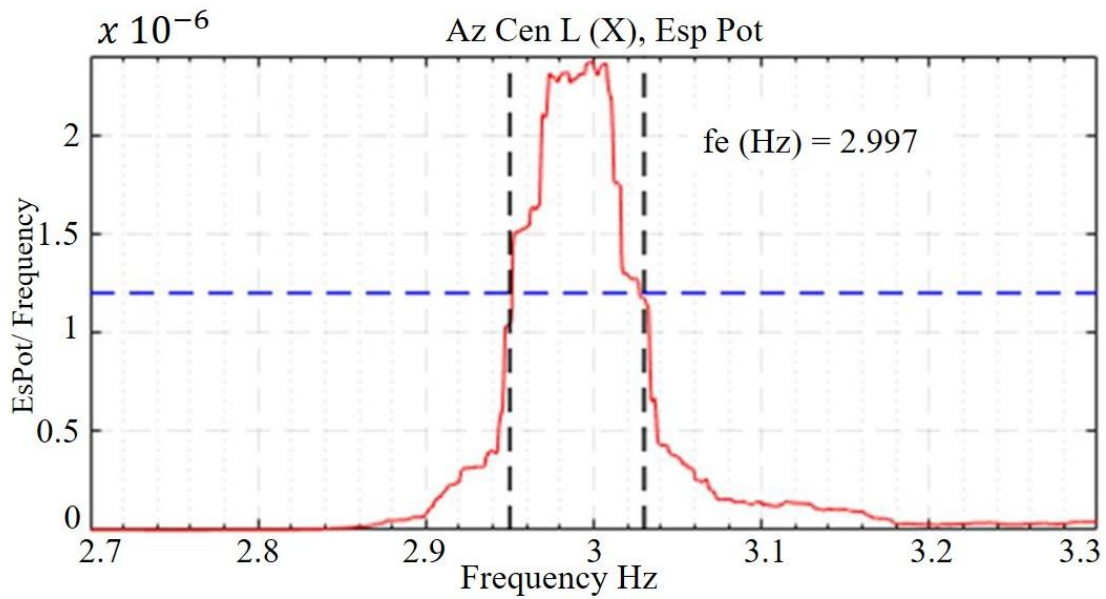
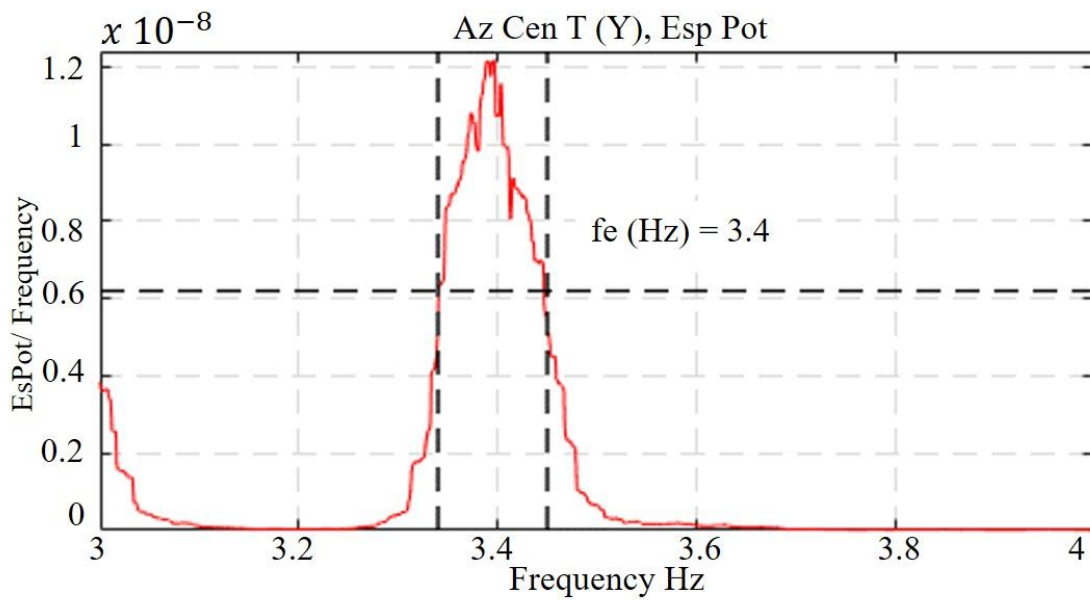


Figure 20. Fourier spectra for obtaining torsion modes; a) Northeast Corner Roof (Az EsqNE), Center Roof (Az Cen), and Southwest Corner Roof (Az EsqSW), direction L(X); b) Northeast Corner Roof (Az EsqNE), Center Roof (Az Cen) and Southwest Corner Roof (Az EsqSW), direction T(Y). Where: FAS = transfer functions, EAF = amplitude of the signal in a specific frequency interval.

Figures 21 and 22 show the application of the method developed by Kawasumi and Shima (1965) to determine the average value of the critical damping fraction.



a)



b)

Figure 21. Power spectrum and frequency relationship graphs corresponding to L(X) and T(Y). a) Frequency close to 2.997 Hz in the L(X) direction; b) Frequency close to 3.4 Hz in the T(Y) direction. Where: Esp Pot = power spectrum.

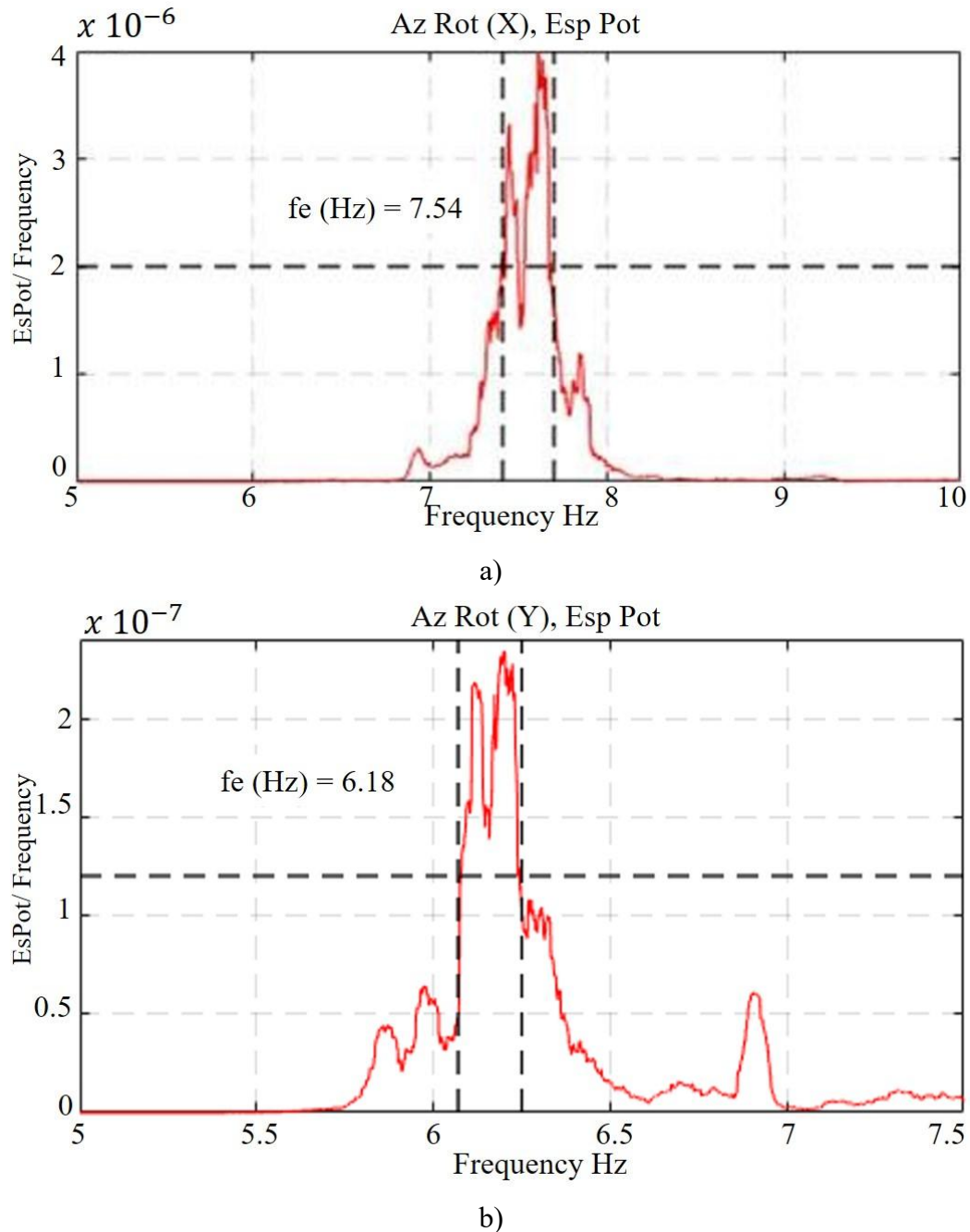


Figure 22. Power spectrum and frequency relationship graphs corresponding to rotation;
a) frequency close to 7.54 Hz in the L(X) direction;
b) frequency close to 6.18 Hz in the T(Y) direction.

The ground period (Figure 23) was determined using the Nakamura (H/V) technique, which was developed by Yutaka Nakamura (1989) using strong earthquakes. However, he first applied this technique to microtremors in urban areas in Japan, so it can be applied even to records of strong or weak seismic movements (Lermo et al., 1993. Nakamura, 1989).

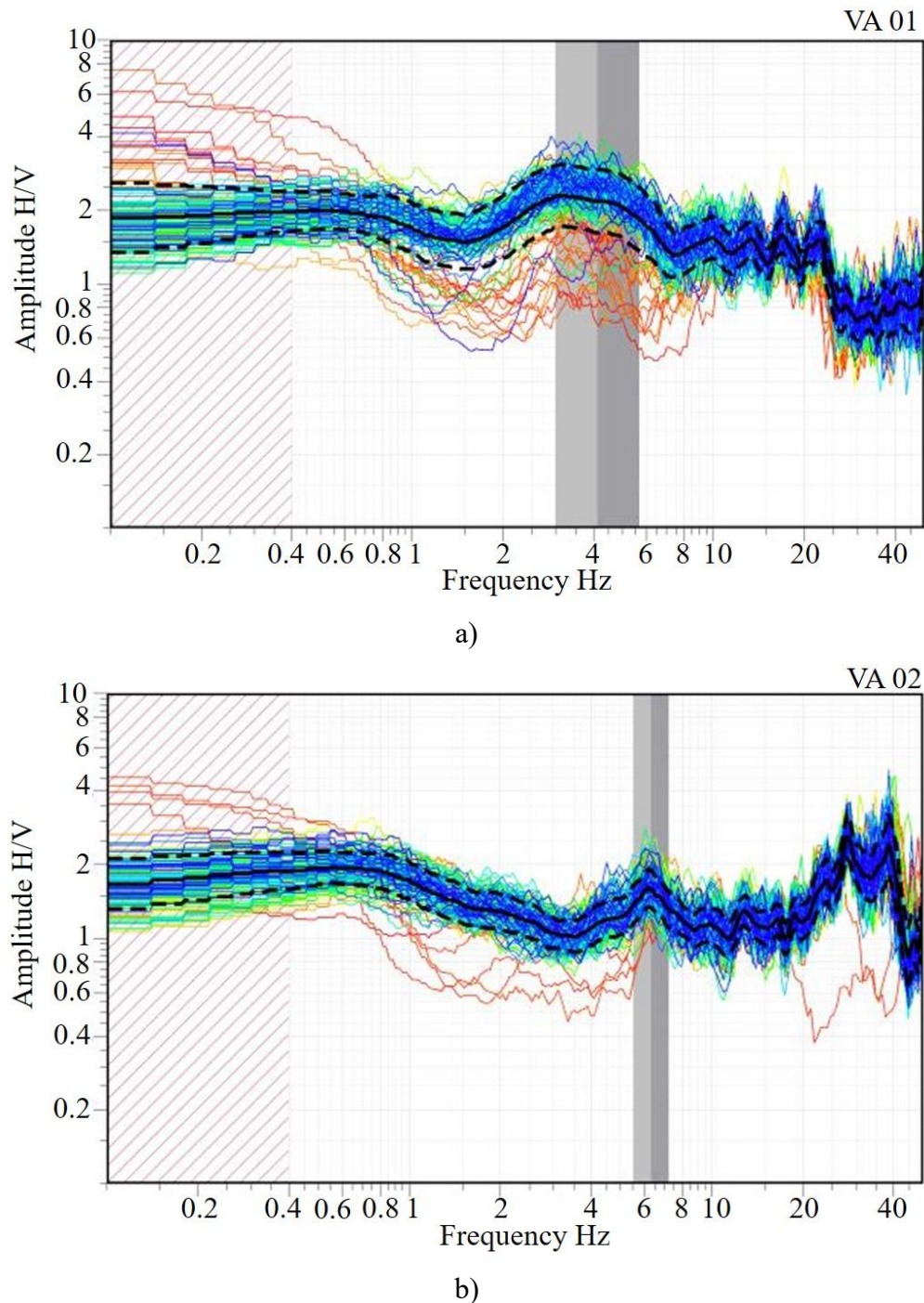


Figure 23. Empirical transfer function graphs; a) corresponding to CL1; b) corresponding to CL2. Where: H/V = Horizontal to vertical spectral ratio.

4. STRUCTURAL TWIN

4.1 Boundary conditions

The following points were considered in the EA structural analysis: the existence of two adjacent structures labeled ALFA and GAMA that restrict the movement of the BETA building, so restrictions were placed in the structural model by means of springs, which represent the areas of physical contact between the buildings, which will eventually be partially demolished (ALFA and GAMA buildings) to ensure the separation of the seismic joints (Figure 24).

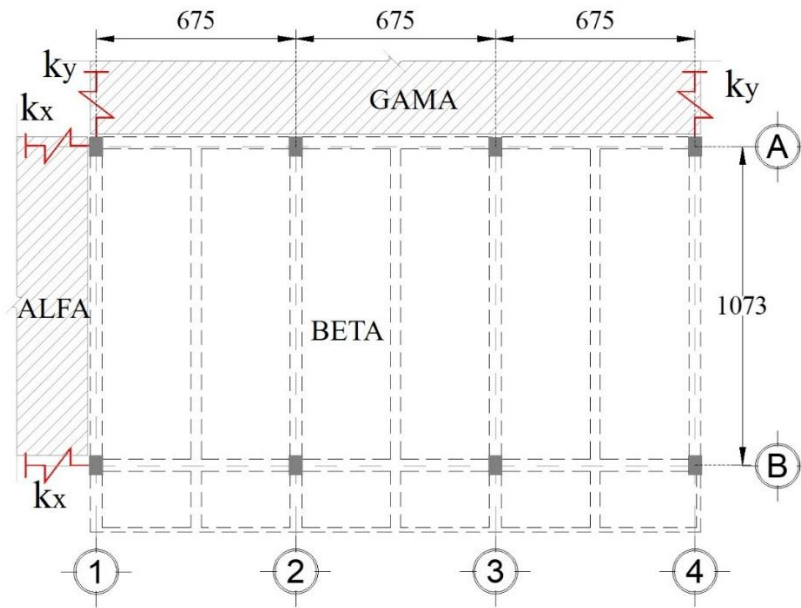
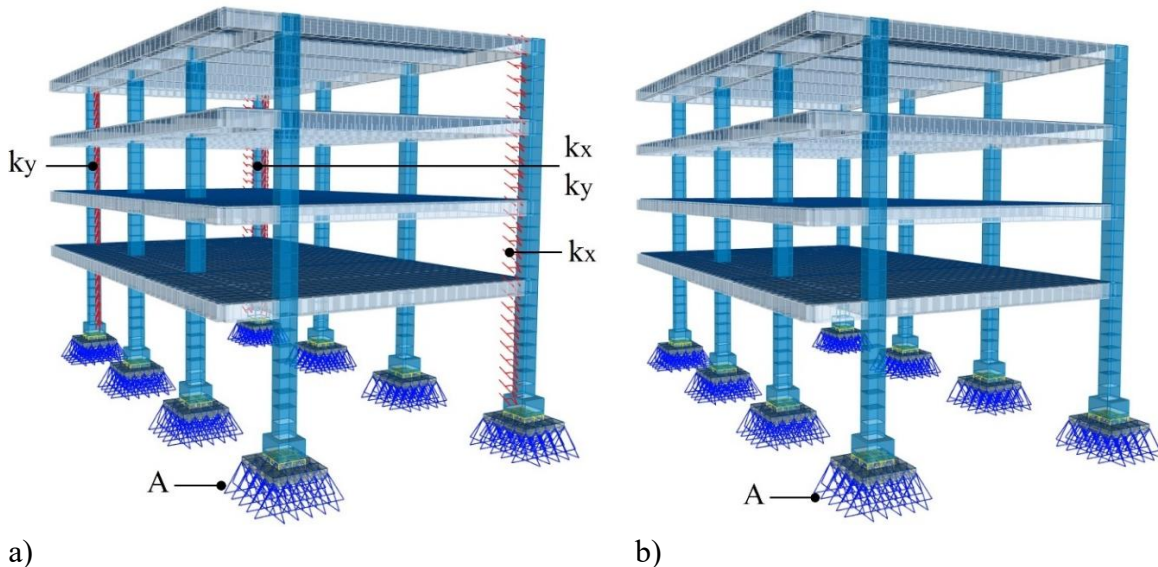


Figure 24. Assignment of springs in areas of physical contact between buildings (plan view, dimensions in cm).

On the other hand, Figures 25 and 26 show the different models of the case study considering the interactions between buildings and the foundation soil, so, for the current state, we have: SRCE = no springs in the foundation with contact between buildings, SRSE = no springs in the foundation without contact between buildings, CRCE = springs in the foundation with contact between buildings, CRSE = springs in the foundation without contact between buildings.



a) b)
Figure 25. EA model with supported foundation; a) SRCE; b) SRSE, where: k_x = contact spring in X direction (7000 kg/cm), k_y = contact spring in Y direction (13000 kg/cm), A = infinitely rigid support.

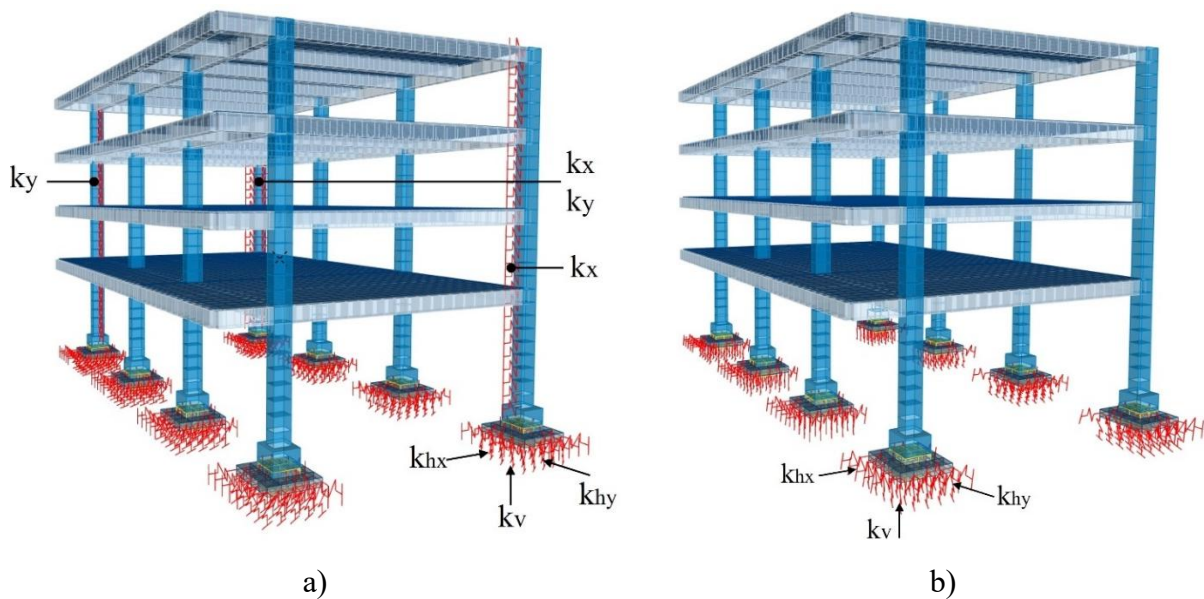


Figure 26. EA model with soil-structure interaction; a) CRCE); b) CRSE, where: $k_x = 7000$ kg/cm, $k_y = 13000$ kg/cm, k_{hx} = horizontal contact spring in X (5745 kg/cm), k_{hy} = horizontal contact spring in Y (5745 kg/cm), k_v = vertical spring (9575 kg/cm).

The mathematical model represents the EA of the reinforced concrete BETA building, consisting of a ground floor and three upper floors, simulated in SAP2000 with a total of 5,230 nodes. The structure is composed of column and beam frames, solid floor slabs, and isolated footings (Figures 25 to 27).

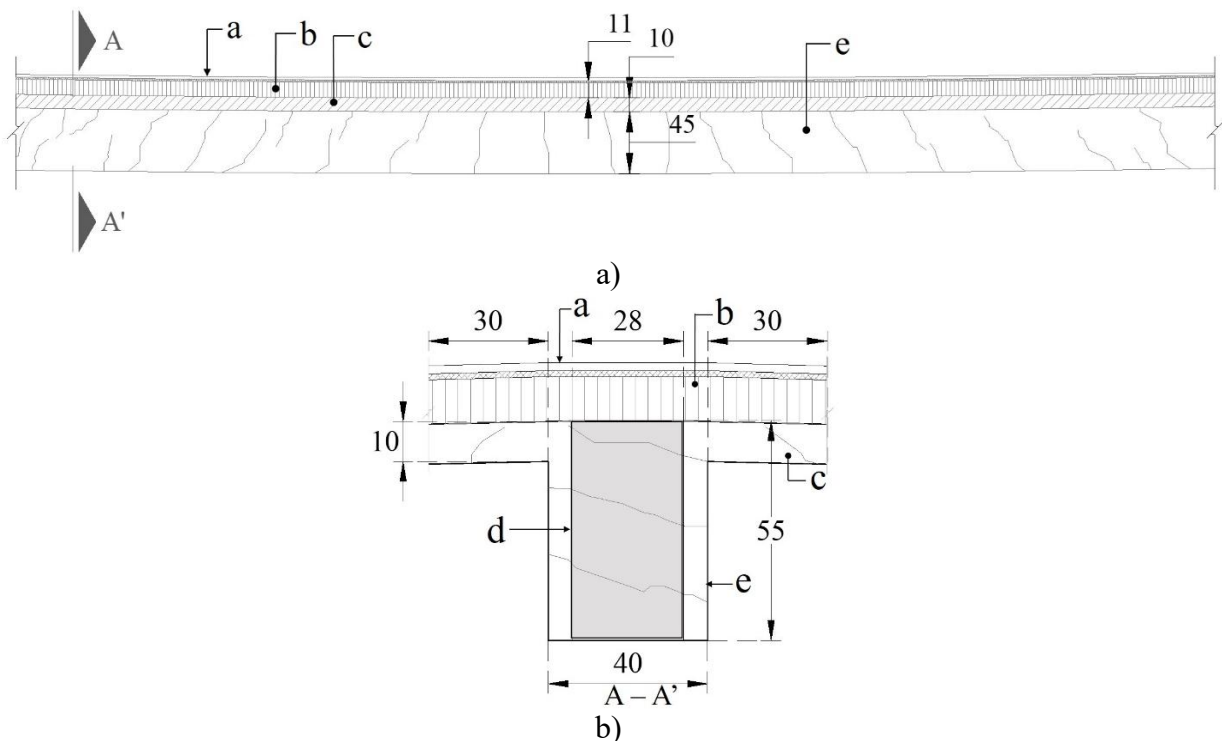


Figure 27. EA reinforced concrete beams; a) longitudinal view; b) cross-sectional view. Where: a = floor finish, b = unreinforced concrete fill, c = reinforced concrete slab, d = transformed section of concrete beam considered for the calculation of the cracked moment of inertia, e = cracked reinforced concrete beam, dimensions in cm.

For the calibration of the mathematical rehabilitation model, a weighted value of the elastic modulus of concrete calculated using equation (1) was considered, based on the results obtained from laboratory tests (E_{cl}), because when new concrete is integrated into existing elements, the elastic modulus as a composite section is modified due to the interaction of the materials.

$$E_{cp} = \frac{\sum(A_i * E_i)}{\sum A_i} \quad (1)$$

E_{cp} = weighted modulus of elasticity.

A_i = área of the i -th section that make up the clad column.

E_i = i -th elastic modulus of the section that makes up the clad column.

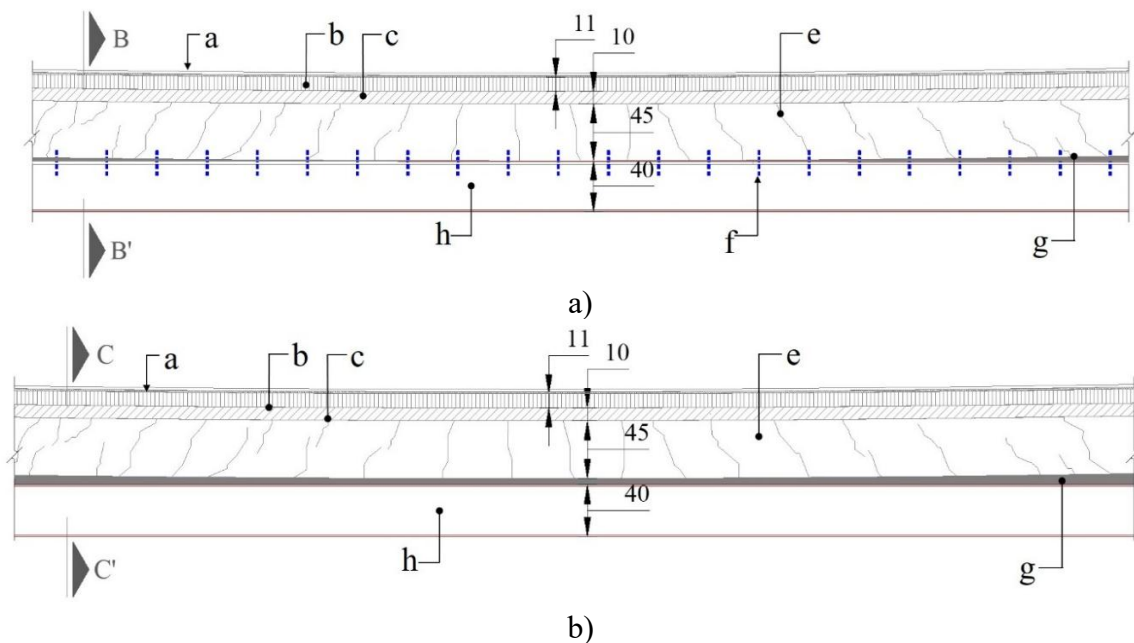
i = i -th (1 to n)

n = number of sections comprising the clad column.

In this way, the weighted value of $E_{cp} = 216530 \text{ kg/cm}^2$ was obtained for concrete-coated elements (columns), and an elastic modulus value of $E_{cn} = 221359.44 \text{ kg/cm}^2$ was considered for new concrete. For existing concrete elements, the average of the existing elastic moduli obtained from laboratory tests (E_{cl}) was calculated, which was 206890 kg/cm^2 . On the other hand, the average of the resulting theoretical elastic modulus related to the sclerometer tests (E_{ce}) was calculated, which was 286171 kg/cm^2 .

5. PROPOSALS FOR REINFORCEMENT

By not considering mechanical connectors in the contact section, the existing beams and steel reinforcement profiles work separately, generating two independent neutral axes, as well as slippage between the contact edges. On the other hand, composite beams work as a single element due to the presence of mechanical connectors, forming a single neutral axis, eliminating slippage between elements and increasing their stiffness (Figures 28 to 32). (de Buen López, 2004; Salmon and Johnson, 1996; McCormac and Csernak, 2013; Segui, 2000; Gere and Goodno, 2016).



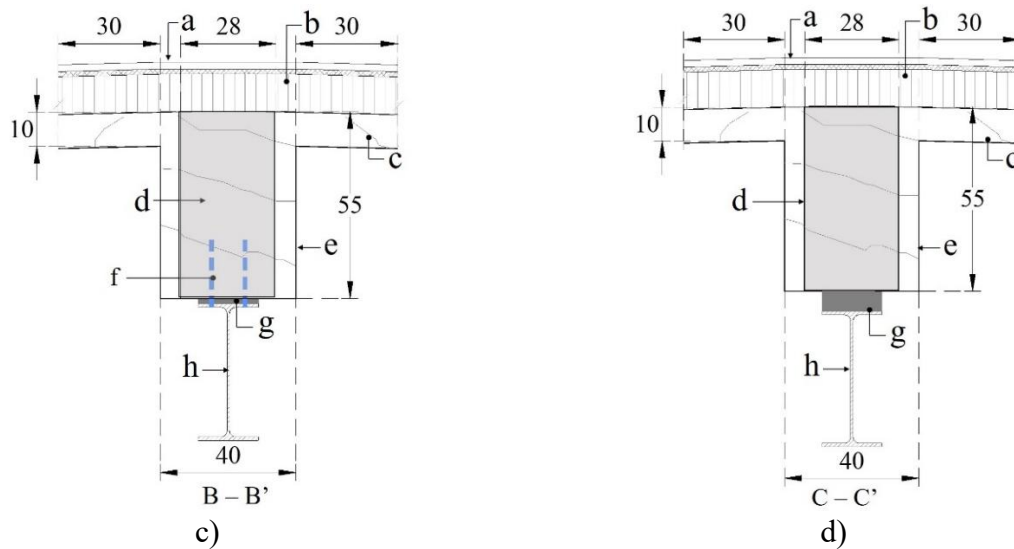


Figure 28. Main beam reinforcement; a) longitudinal view of composite beam; b) longitudinal view of contact beam; c) cross-sectional view (B-B'); d) cross-sectional view (C-C'); where: a = floor finish, b = unreinforced concrete fill, c = reinforced concrete slab, d = transformed section of concrete beam considered in accordance with the decrease in moment of inertia, e = cracked reinforced concrete beam, f = projection of connectors between the two elements, g = non-metallic grout filling, h = A-50 steel profile (IR 406 mm x 53.70 kg/m). Dimensions in cm.

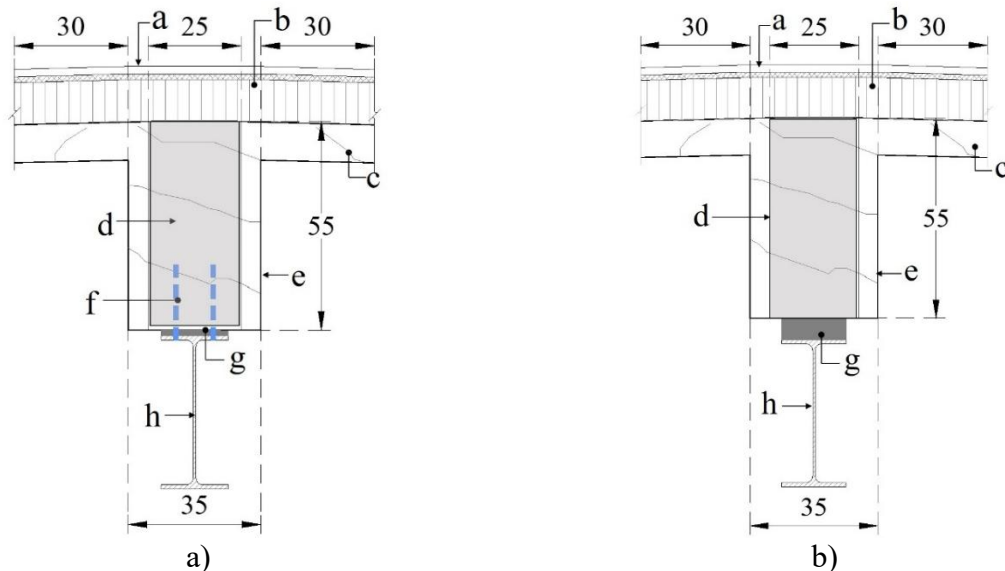


Figure 29. Secondary beam reinforcement; a) cross-section of composite beam; b) cross-section of contact beam; where: a = floor finish, b = unreinforced concrete fill, c = reinforced concrete slab, d = transformed section of concrete beam considered in accordance with the decrease in moment of inertia, e = cracked reinforced concrete beam, f = projection of connectors between the two elements, g = non-metallic grout fill, h = A-50 steel profile (IR 406 mm x 53.70 kg/m). Dimensions in cm.

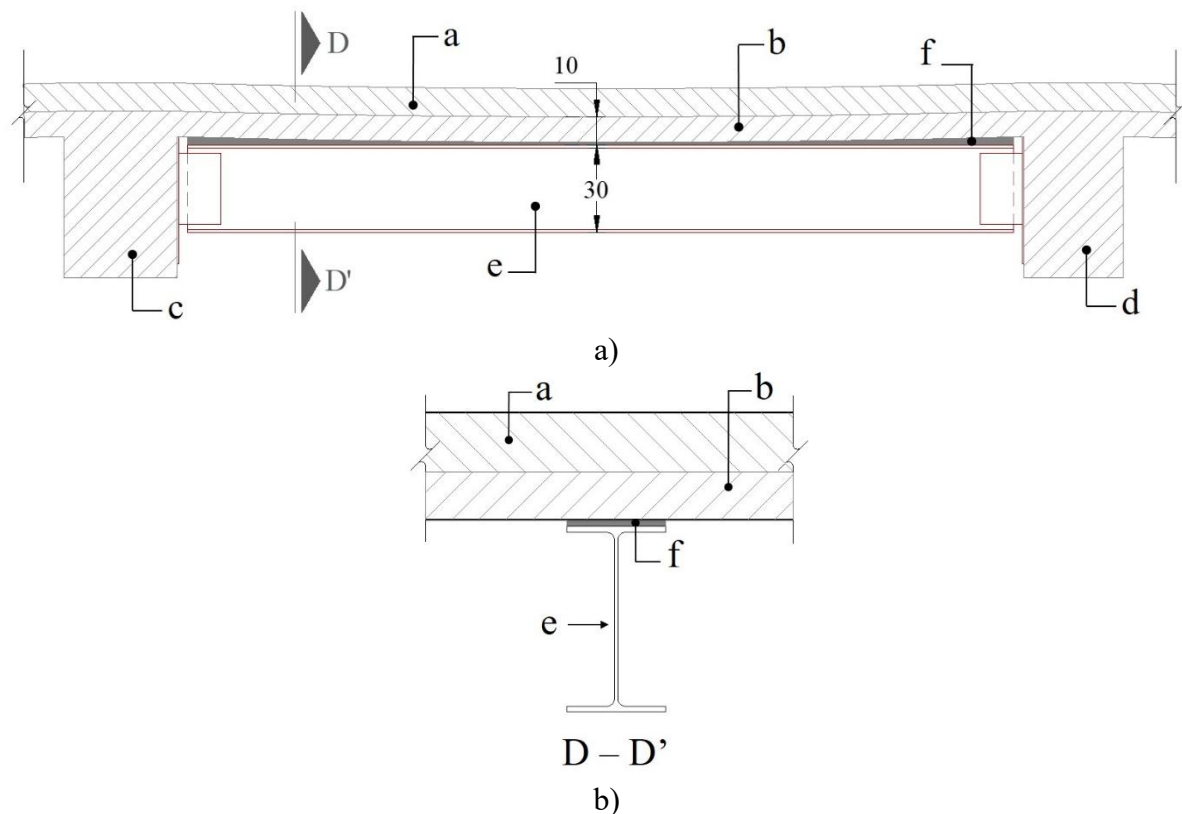


Figure 30. Tertiary beam to support the solid reinforced concrete slab; a) longitudinal view; b) cross-sectional view; where: a = unreinforced concrete fill, b = reinforced concrete slab, c = main reinforced concrete beam, d = secondary reinforced concrete beam, e = A-50 steel profile (IR 305 mm x 38.70 kg/m), f = non-metallic grout fill.

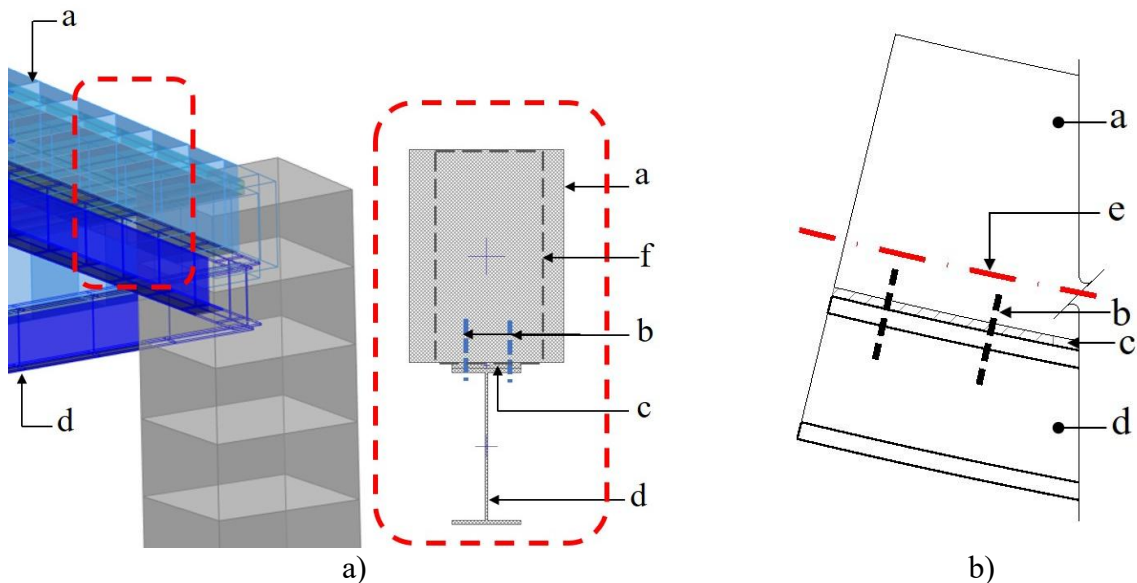


Figure 31. Composite main beams; a) structural model with composite beams; b) detail of composite beam; where: a = cracked reinforced concrete beam, b = mechanical connector, c = non-metallic grout, d = steel beam, e = neutral axis, f = transformed section of concrete beam considered in accordance with the decrease in moment of inertia.

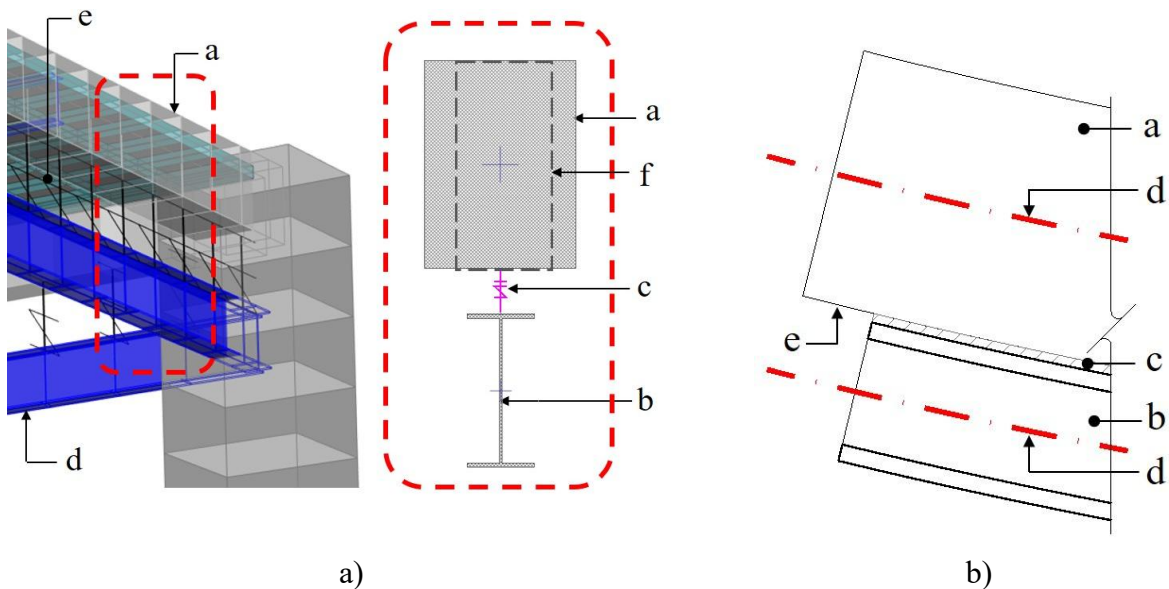


Figure 32. Main contact beams; a) structural model with contact beams with gaps; b) detail of contact beam; where: a = cracked reinforced concrete beam, b = steel beam, c = contact gap element, d = neutral axis, e = sliding between structural elements, f = transformed section of concrete beam considered in accordance with the decrease in moment of inertia.

In order to restore the initial or adequate rigidity to rehabilitate the structural behavior, it was decided to reinforce the existing columns with reinforced concrete cladding. Likewise, the foundation, which currently consists of isolated footings, is reinforced with a system of continuous footings and tie beams (Figures 33 and 34).

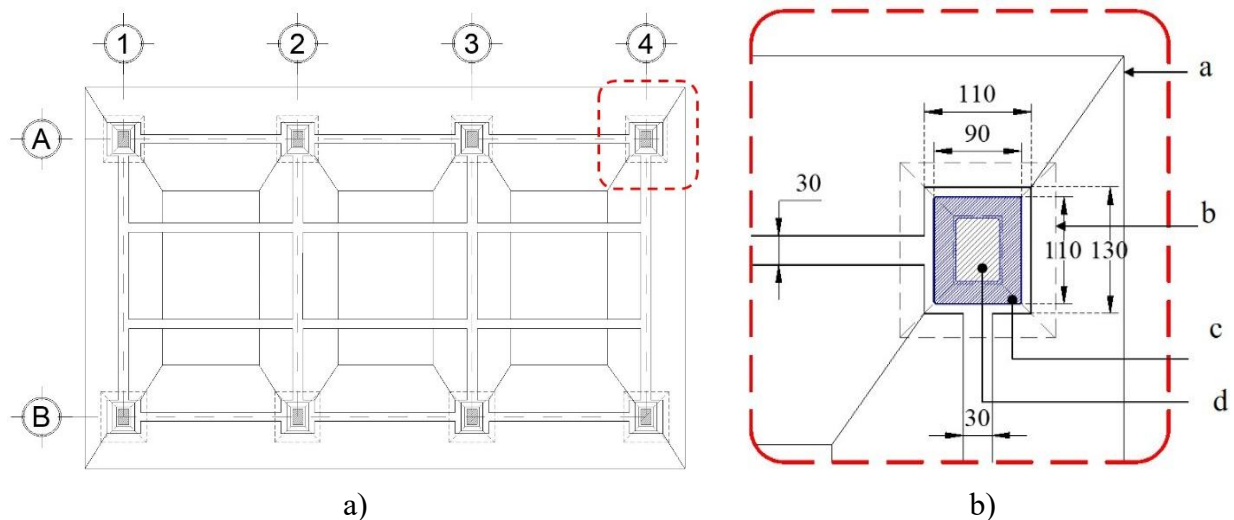


Figure 33. Cladding on columns and foundations; a) plan view of the clad foundation; b) plan view of the cladding on the existing reinforced concrete footing and column; where: a = foundation reinforcement based on continuous footings, b = projection of existing isolated footing, c = reinforced concrete cladding on existing column, d = existing reinforced concrete column.

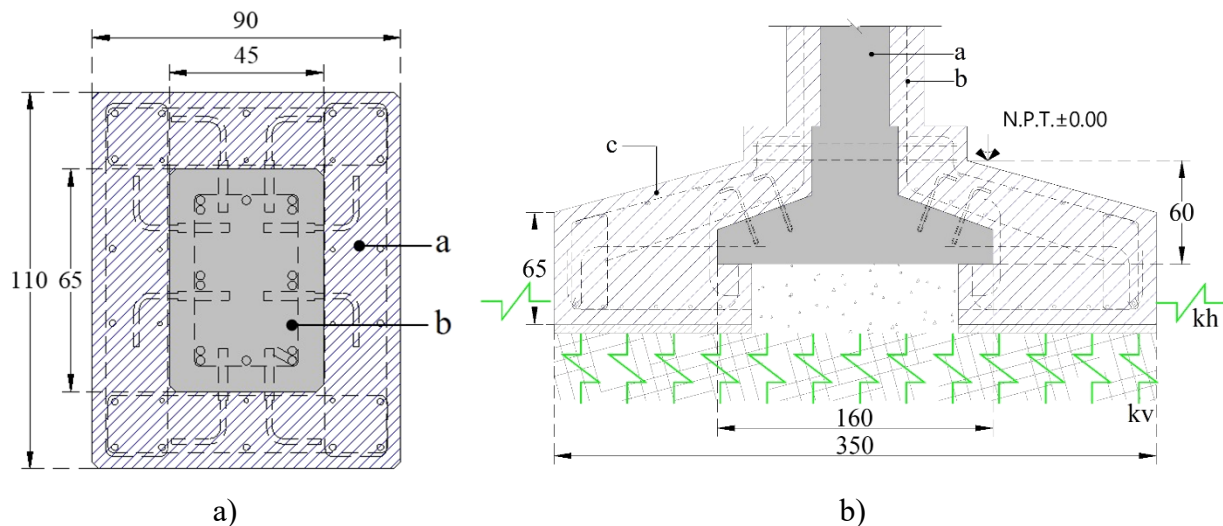


Figure 34. Details of column and foundation reinforcement; a) reinforcement of existing reinforced concrete column; b) reinforcement of existing reinforced concrete foundation; where: a = column reinforcement using reinforced concrete cladding, b = existing reinforced concrete column, c = foundation reinforcement using strip footings. Dimensions in cm.

6. COMPARISON OF DYNAMIC BEHAVIOR BETWEEN THE STRUCTURAL TWIN AND THE REINFORCED MODEL

Based on mathematical models, the periods associated with the building's vibration modes in different cases were determined (Table 3).

Table 3. Periods associated with vibration modes.

Case Study	T(s)		
	M1	M2	M3
SRCE (EA)	0.35	0.30	0.19
SRSE (EA)	0.85	0.83	0.69
CRCE (EA)	0.85	0.45	0.41
CRSE (EA)	1.03	1.0	0.84
SRTC	0.48	0.40	0.37
SRTCM	0.42	0.39	0.34
CRTC	0.47	0.39	0.36
CRTCM	0.40	0.38	0.33

Table 3 shows that, in the first case, vibration modes M1, M2, and M3 for the EA of the SRCE case practically reached the periods determined with the VA, which is why the base mathematical model was calibrated. On the other hand, Figures 35 to 42 show the vibration modes of each case mentioned in Table 3 graphically.

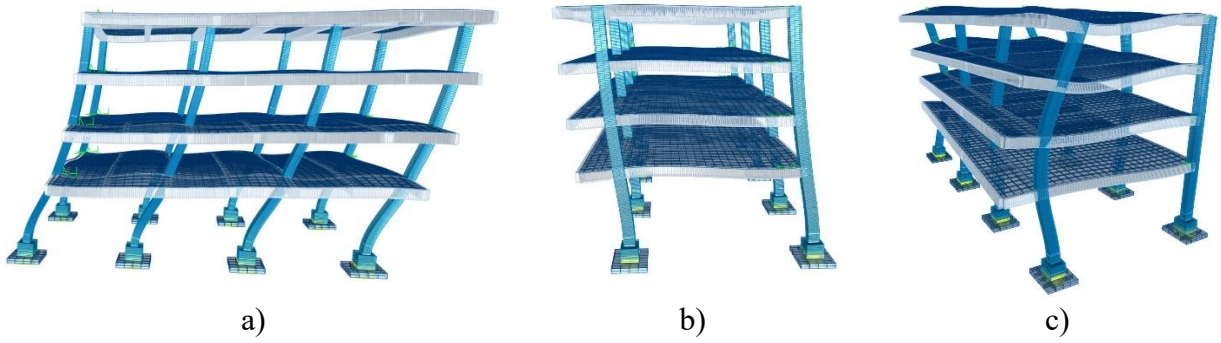


Figure 35. Vibration modes in SRCE; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

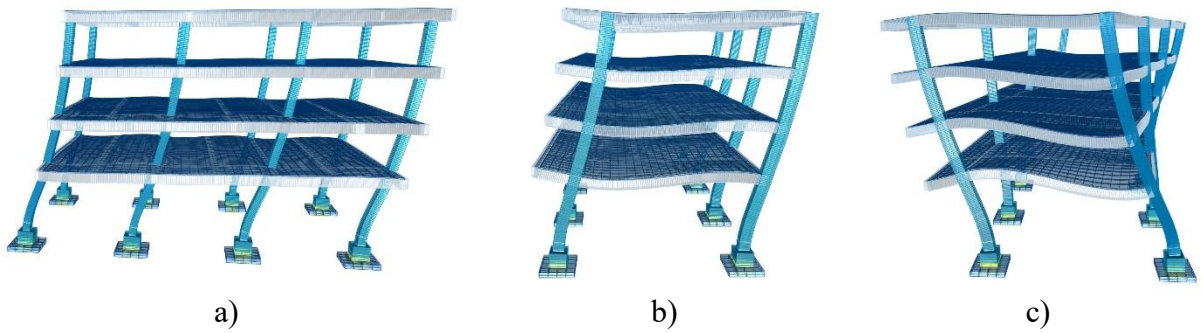


Figure 36 Vibration modes in SRSE; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

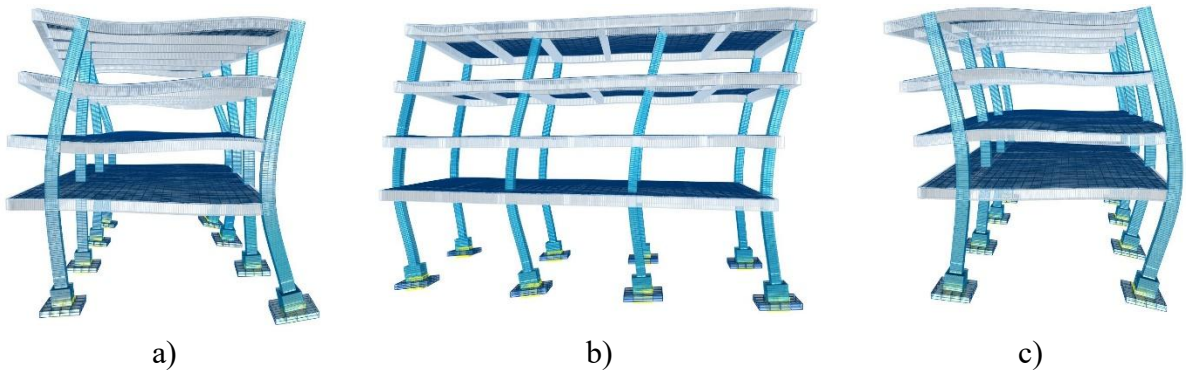


Figure 37. Vibration modes in CRCE; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

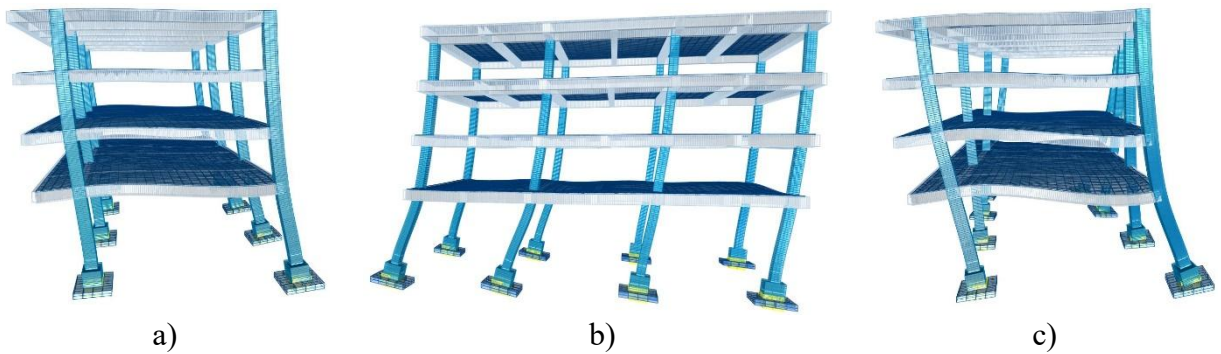


Figure 38. Vibration modes in CRSE; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

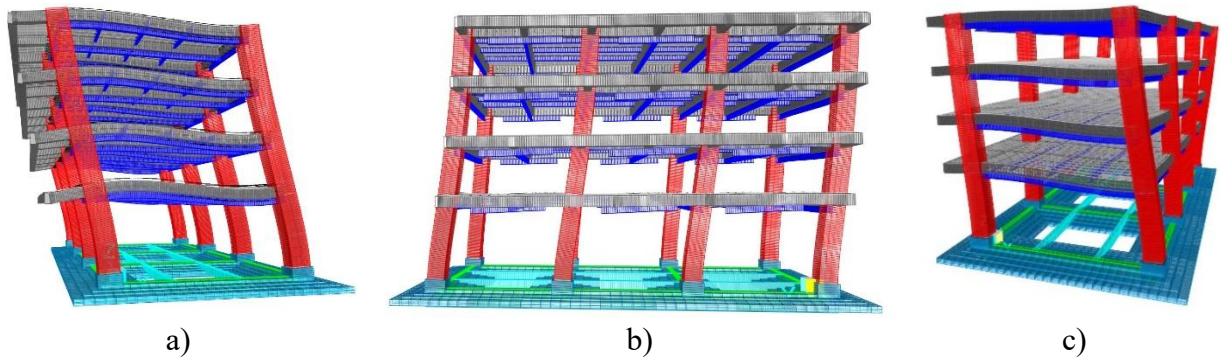


Figure 39. Vibration modes in SRTC; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

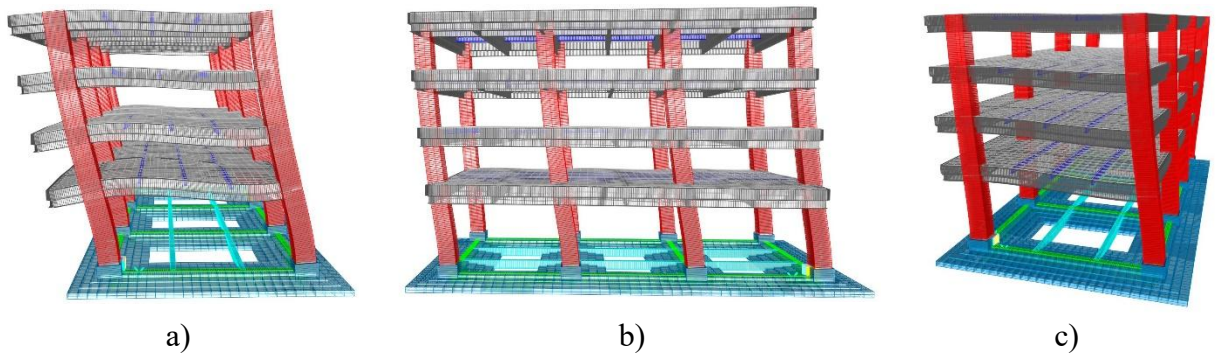


Figure 40. Vibration modes in SRTCM; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

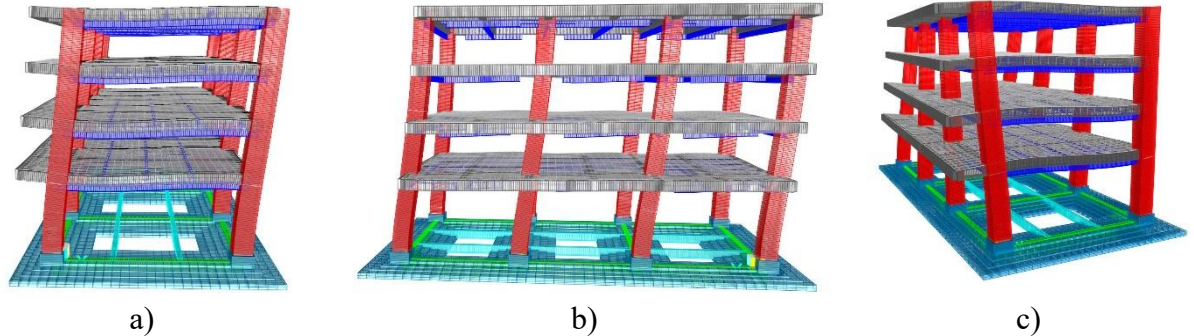


Figure 41. Vibration modes in CRTC; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

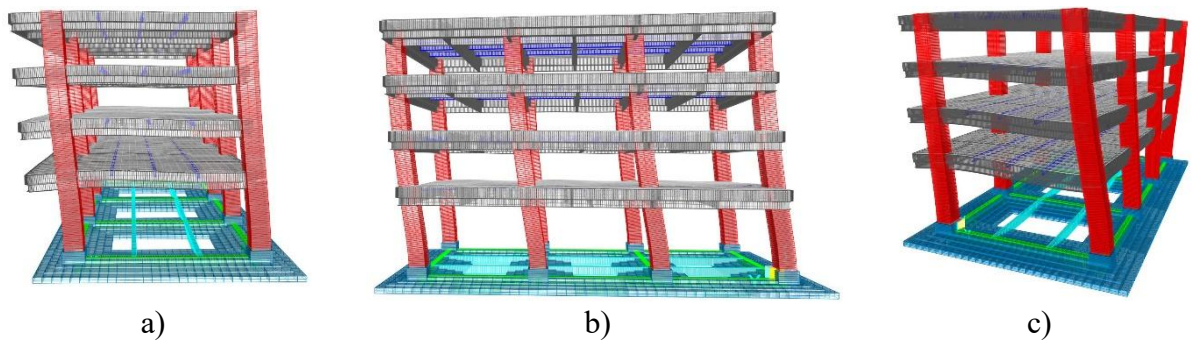


Figure 42. Vibration modes in CRTCM; a) M1; b) M2; c) M3.

7. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the above, the displacements and distortions of all cases (Figures 43 to 46) were obtained in accordance with NTC-Sismo (2023).

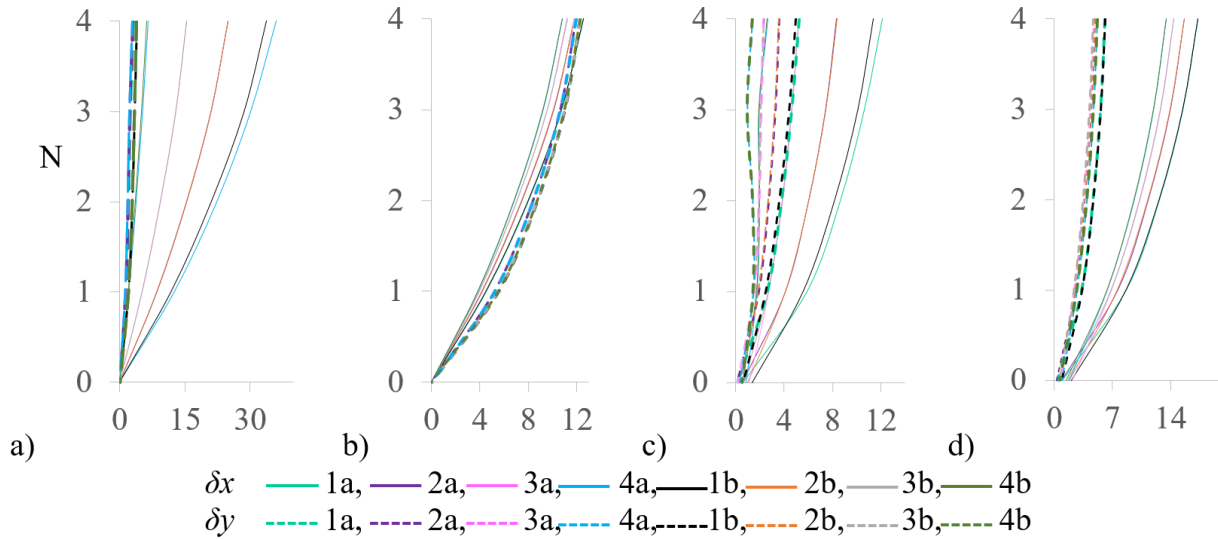


Figure 43. Lateral displacements (δ) in EA; a) δ in X and Y (SRCE); b) δ in X and Y (SRSE); c) δ in X and Y (CRCE); d) δ in X and Y (CRSE), where: N = Floor level, δx = displacements in the X direction, δy = displacements in the Y direction. δ in cm.

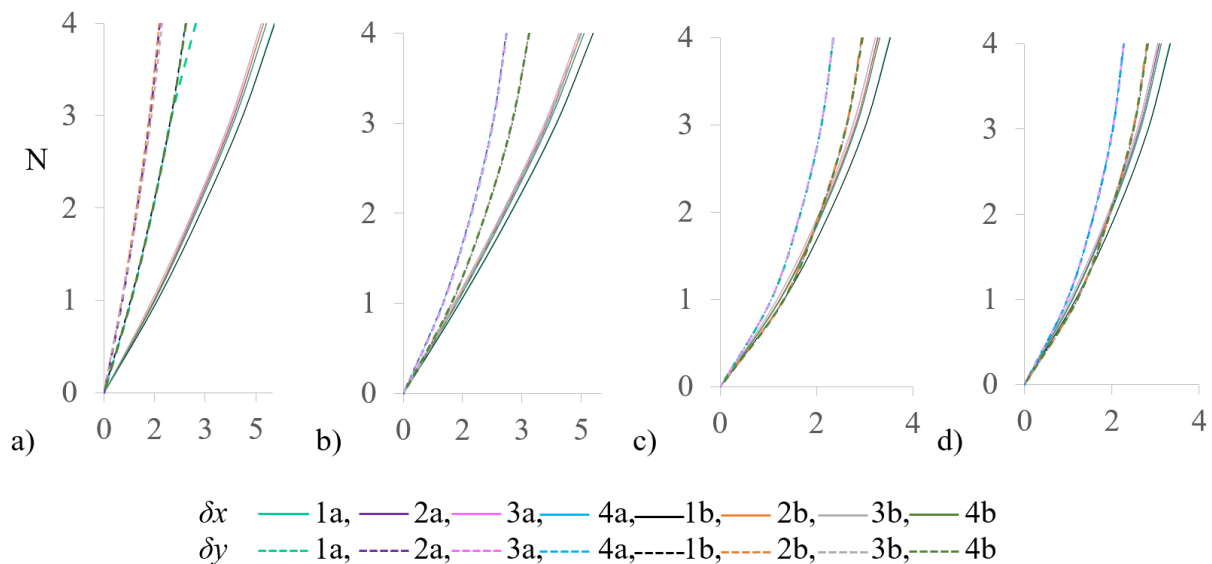


Figure 44. Lateral displacements (δ) in reinforced building; a) δ in X and Y (SRTC); b) δ in X and Y (SRTCM); c) δ in X and Y (CRTC); d) δ in X and Y (CRTCM), where: N = Floor level, δx = displacements in the X direction, δy = displacements in the Y direction. δ in cm.

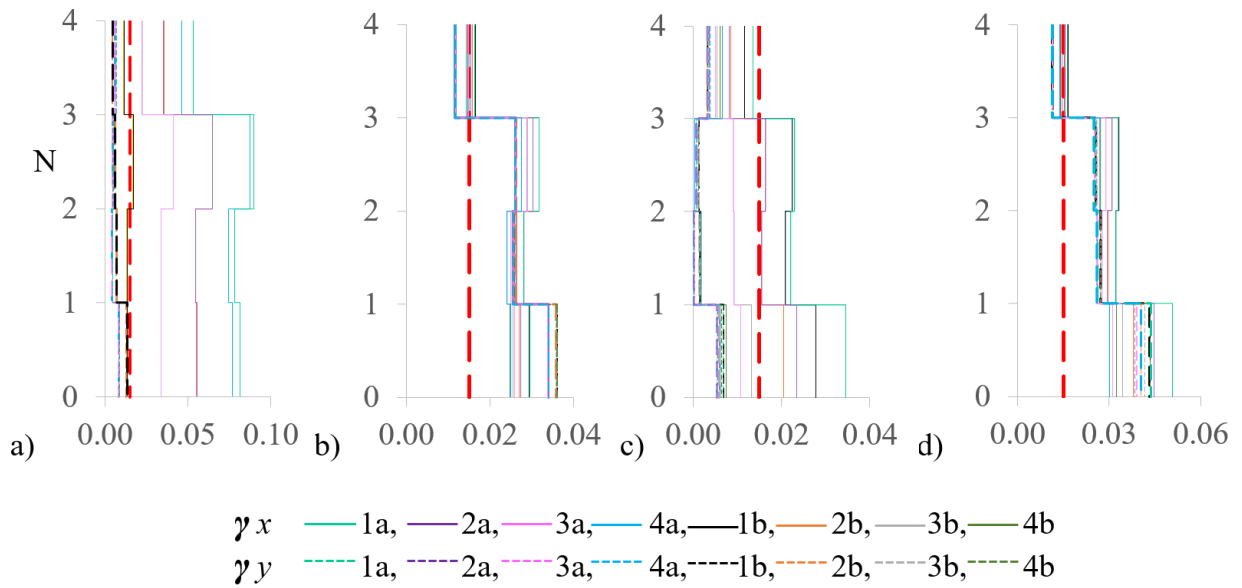


Figure 45. Drift ratio (γ) in EA on the axes of the structural system; a) γ in X and Y (SRCE); b) γ in X and Y (SRSE); c) γ in X and Y (CRCE); d) γ in X and Y (CRSE). Where: γ_L = Limit drift ratio NTC-Sismo (2023), N = floor level.

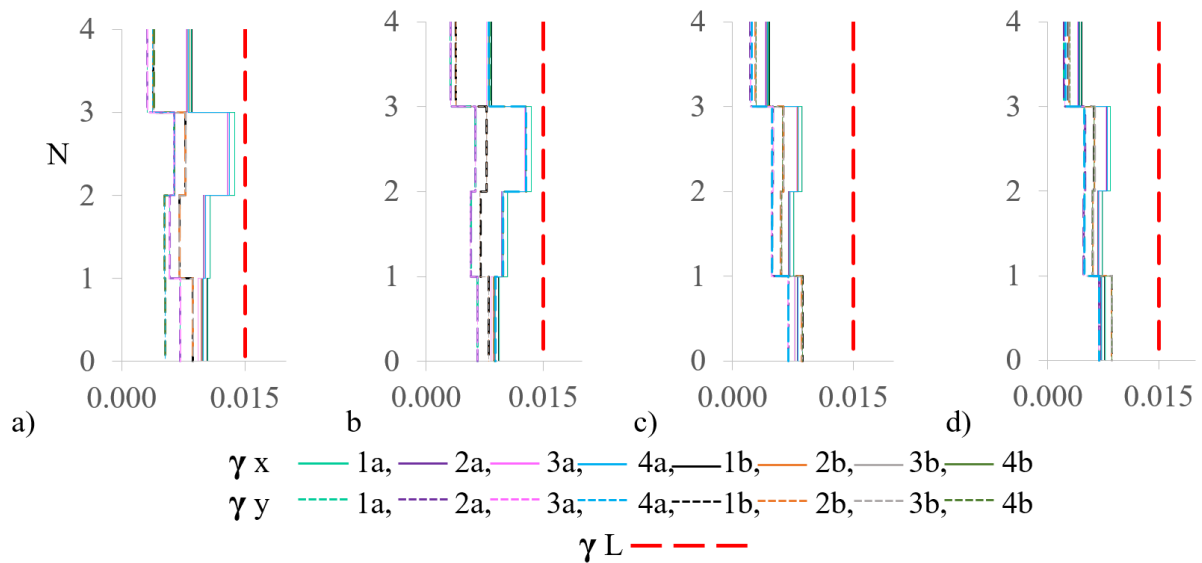


Figure 46. Drift ratio (γ) in reinforced buildings on the axes of the structural system; a) γ in X and Y (SRTC); b) γ in X and Y (SRTCM); c) γ in X and Y (CRTC); d) γ in X and Y (CRTCM). Where: γ_L = Limit drift ratio NTC-Sismo (2023), N = floor level.

Based on the structural analysis of the building in EA and reinforced structure, stress concentrations (in kg/cm²) were identified in the elements (Figures 47 to 50).

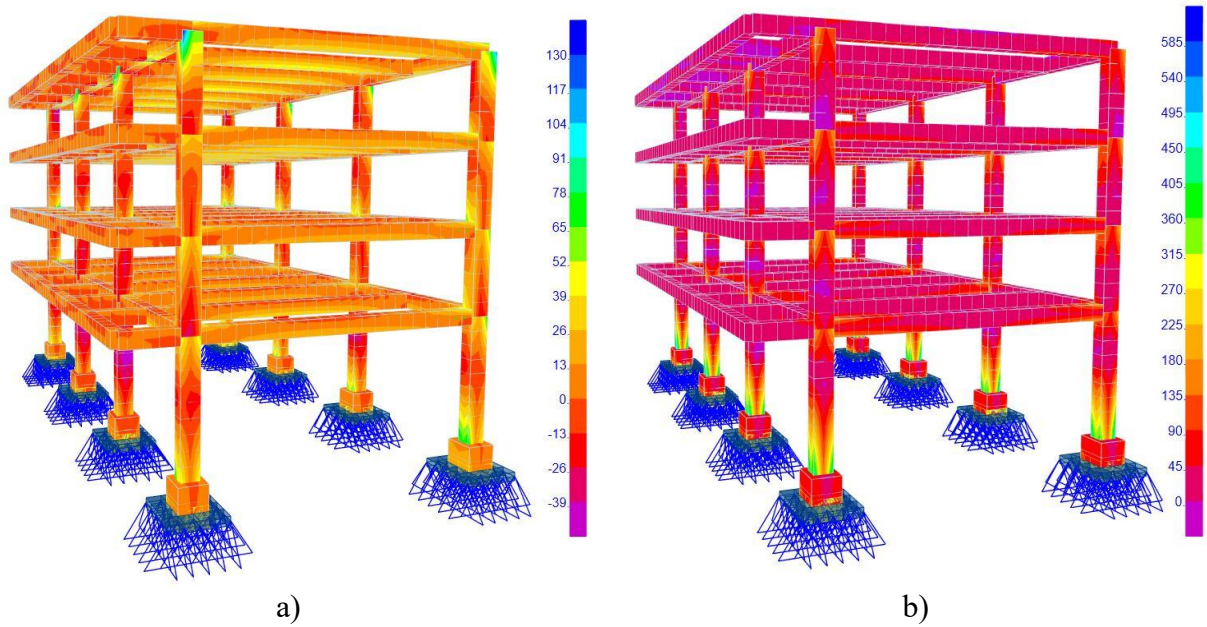


Figure 47. Stress concentration in EA without soil-structure interaction (ISE); a) SRCE; b) SRSE.

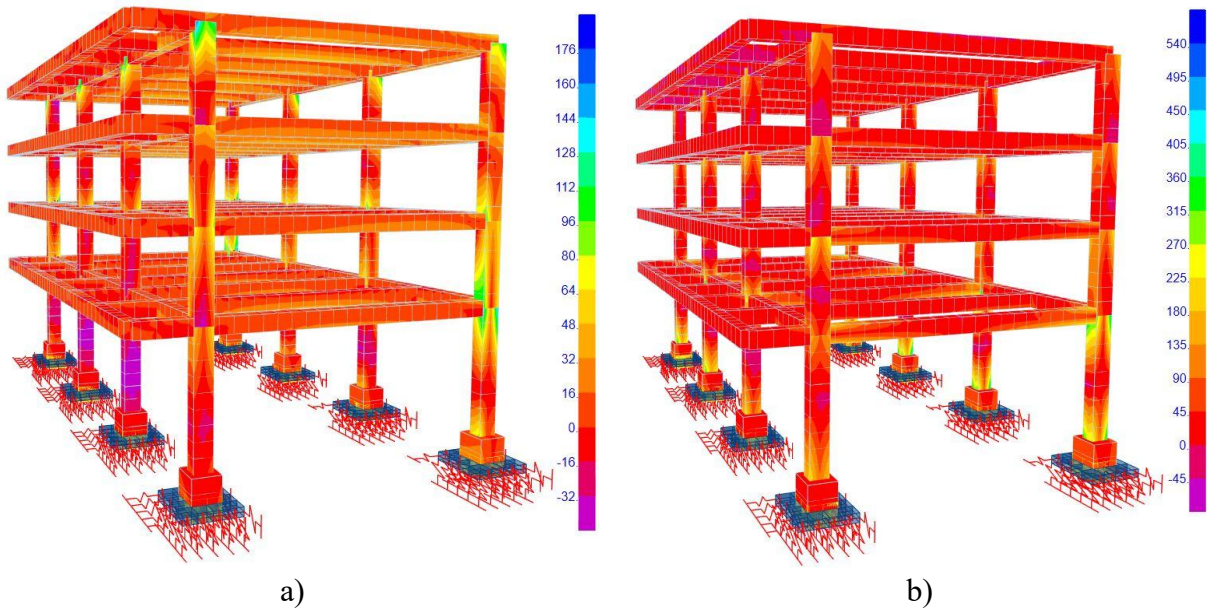


Figure 48. Stress concentration in EA with ISE; a) CRCE; b) CRSE.

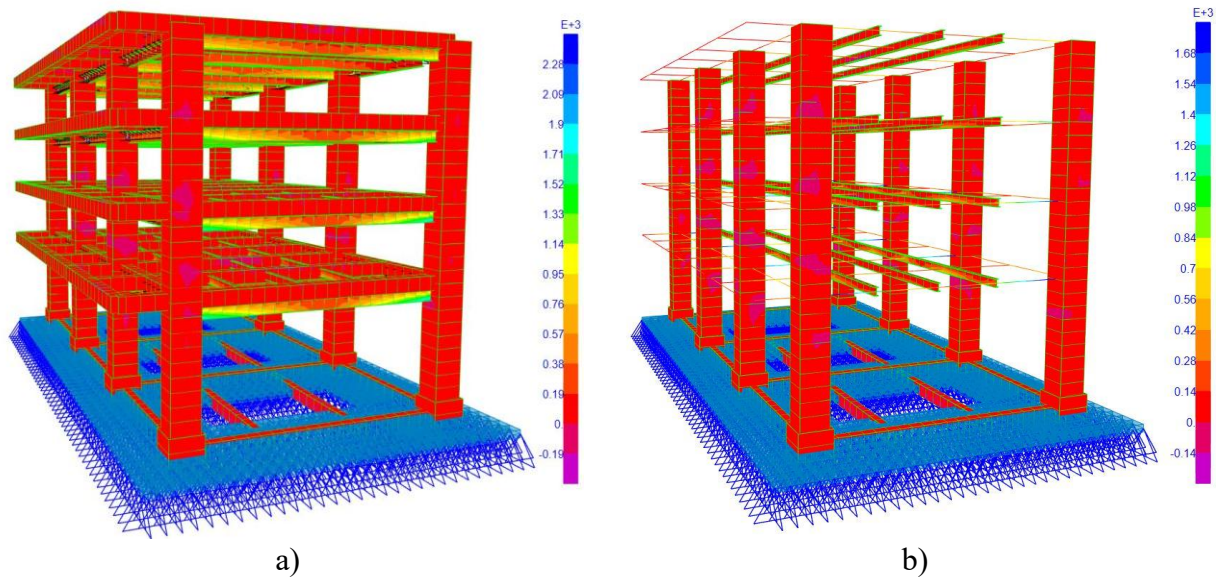


Figure 49. Stress concentration of cases without ISE; a) SRTC; b) SRTCM. Note: the model shown in Figure 49b does not show the extruded composite beams, because the software only recognizes the extrusion of preloaded sections, showing only their color-coded relationship to the stresses.

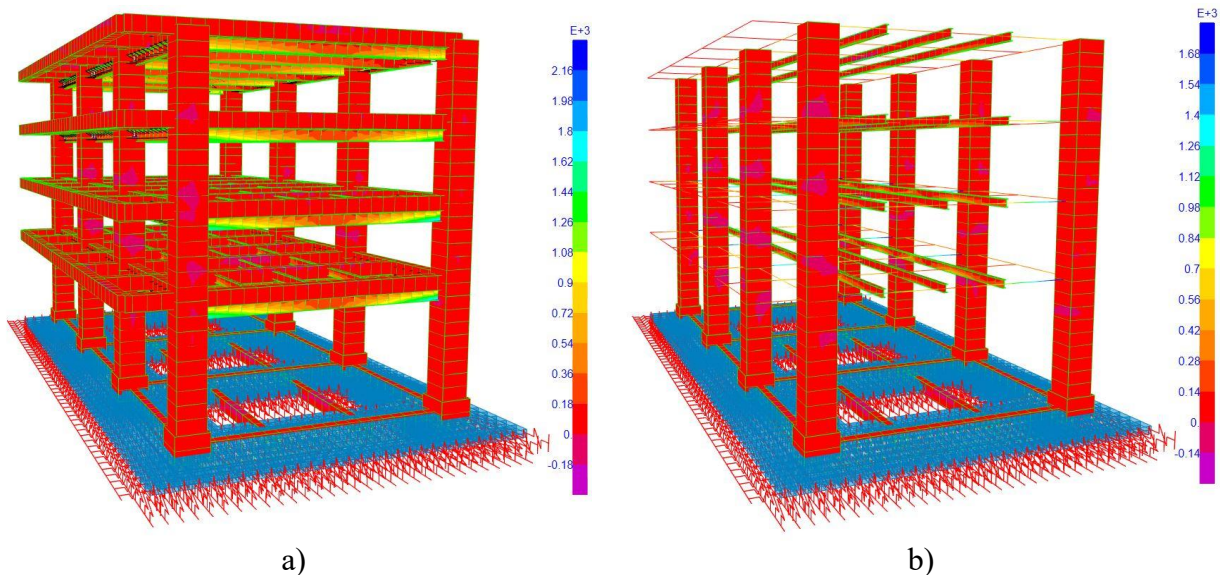


Figure 50. Stress concentration of cases with ISE; a) CRTC; b) CRTCM. Note: the model shown in Figure 50b does not show the extruded composite beams, because the software only recognizes the extrusion of preloaded sections, showing only their color-coded relationship to the stresses.

For the case study, a difference was determined between the elastic moduli of the existing structure (E_{cl}) and the theoretical elastic modulus of the new concrete (E_{cn}), the latter used to simulate the column cladding. This difference was obtained using the E_{cn}/E_{cl} ratio, which was approximately 7%. On the other hand, the difference in the E_{ce}/E_{cl} ratio was approximately 38%. Obtaining the E_{ce}/E_{cn} ratio resulted in a difference of 29%. Likewise, the compressive strength (f_c) determined with the sclerometer tests was 421 kg/cm² on average and a median of 418 kg/cm², which differs from the f_c obtained directly from the laboratory tests, which was 335 kg/cm² on average, resulting in a difference in the f_c ratio between the two tests of approximately 25%. This shows that the f_c in older buildings, with a certain level of deterioration, or even new buildings, may not comply with the theoretical E_c stipulated in the regulations. On the other hand, in order to determine the dynamic properties of the structure in its current state, VA tests were performed. Measurements were taken using a SARA Geobox seismometer and five KINEMATRICS K2 triaxial accelerometers, with sensors that directly record vibrations in three orthogonal directions at each of the selected measurement points. The base model was also calibrated, where the periods obtained with VA associated with modes 1, 2, and 3 were 0.33s, 0.29s, and 0.16s, respectively. In addition, the predominant soil periods in CL1 and CL2 were identified with values of 0.24s and 0.16s, respectively. Likewise, when reviewing the capacity of the EA foundation, a deficiency was observed in terms of its footing surface. In addition, the weight of the structure was increased due to the addition of reinforcement elements and column cladding. For this reason, and considering the characteristics revealed by the soil mechanics study, it was decided to reinforce it (Figures 9, 33, and 34). The composite beam model showed better performance in terms of displacement and drift ratio compared to the contact beam model (Figures 43 and 45), while the composite beam model further reduced the fundamental periods (Table 3). It should be noted that both reinforcement considerations comply with the reduction of drift ratio and the limits indicated in NTC-Sismo-2023. However, from a construction standpoint, composite beams require greater care when connecting steel beams to cracked concrete beams. For this reason, it was decided to simulate the models with the same size steel beams, since in the event of failure due to resistance in the composite beam system, the steel reinforcement beams will perform at least as well as the contact beams.

When simulating the structure of the building in contact with other bodies, greater displacements were observed. This was due to the impact of such contact (Figures 43a and 43c), due to the modification of the center of stiffness in the body labeled BETA, since when interacting with the ALFA and GAMA bodies, the columns of axes 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, and 4b are practically free.

The difference in displacements between the structure in its current state, without considering contact with secondary bodies, and the reinforced structure was 25 cm (Figures 43 and 44). This significantly reduced the drift ratio, bringing them within the permissible range (Figures 45 and 46).

For this case study, the effect of carbonation and durability on the service life of concrete was not considered. Likewise, corrosion in steel occurs in secondary elements and in very few areas of the building, which does not contribute to the lateral rigidity of the building, such as slabs and some edge beams. However, it is important and advisable that future work takes this corrosion into account and compare the results. Regarding the concentration of forces in the EA, it can be observed that these tend to be magnified at the junction of beams with columns and at the connections of columns with foundations (Figures 47 and 48), putting the structure at risk, since a failure in a vertical element makes the entire system vulnerable. In the models where composite beams, contact beams, column cladding, and foundations were integrated, it is evident that the stress concentration was redistributed throughout the system and mainly in the new steel beams (Figures 49 and 50), decreasing its concentration and balancing these stresses in the materials of the different elements.

8. CONCLUSIONS

It can be concluded that the degradation of materials over time, as well as the lack of preventive maintenance, led to a decrease in the rigidity of the system's constituent elements. This significantly modified the dynamic properties of the structure, showing an increase in vibration periods, as well as lateral displacements and drift ratio of the structure. Once the physical auscultation has been carried out, mixed tests are of utmost importance prior to modeling and structural analysis, since, by reading the building, the structural system in its current state can be understood more precisely. Through this process, the degree of deterioration in the building's behavior can be determined more accurately, as well as the current state of structural health in the face of lateral displacement effects (service condition).

The analysis of the physical and mechanical properties of materials, soil, and dynamic properties is essential for calibrating models and determining structural drift ratio. On the other hand, sclerometer tests alone yielded considerably high elastic moduli compared to those obtained from laboratory tests. When steel beams were installed to restore the diaphragm floor and control these deflections, they increased the weight of these floors, and since the objective was to improve lateral drift ratio, the columns were clad with reinforced concrete to increase lateral stiffness, as the use of diagonal elements was not permitted for reasons of preserving the functionality of the architectural spaces.

It is important to note that there are many procedures and materials available for rehabilitating drift ratio. However, in the case studied, the reinforcement elements were required and conditioned by the architectural design discipline in terms of the use of steel beams in the lower bed of the existing slabs and concrete beams, given that these present considerable deformations and deflections, which is currently causing, among other effects, the floor slabs not to function as completely rigid diaphragms, in addition to the aspect ratio between the main beams and the columns of the building in its EA not complying with the required condition of weak beam and strong column.

On the other hand, it was decided to intervene in the secondary buildings ALFA and GAMA to separate the structures and ensure the relevant seismic joints, thereby eliminating the tendency for continuity due to contact between structures. The models that include reinforcement showed that, in addition to restoring structural rigidity to the system, they can also control resonance effects, given the vibration periods of the virtually rehabilitated structure and the ground.

Drift ratio decreased when springs were considered at the base. This is because the foundation tends to rotate, and these rotations absorb part of the inertial forces of the superstructure, which begins to function similarly to a rigid block, thereby reducing drift ratio.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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