

# Time History Analysis of Soft Storey Reinforced Concrete Structure

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**Abstract** –In the present paper study of dynamic analysis of Ten storied RCC building considering influence of masonry infill wall on seismic responses of symmetrical structure is studied using time history analysis, for this purpose different models of RC frame with soft storey at different level is prepared. The equivalent diagonal strut method has been utilized in order to account for the stiffness and structural action of the masonry infill panels. Dynamic time history using three ground motion records has been used to perform the seismic analysis of the considered model configurations. The structural software package ETABS has been used in developing the building models and performing analysis .the various response parameters like base shear, storey drift, storey displacements etc are calculated to understand seismic behaviour. the result of this study shows that masonry infill wall influences the overall behavior of the structure when subjected to lateral forces.

**Keywords**-RCC Building Frame, soft storey, time history analysis, Masonry infill walls, diagonal strut.

## INTRODUCTION

A large number of moment resisting frame buildings have been or are being constructed in all over the world .These types of buildings have functional uses such as parking garages, reception lobbies and any other open air spaces which have no infill masonry walls and called soft or weak storey. according to IS 1893:2000 a soft

storey is one in which the lateral stiffness is less than 70 percent of that in the storey above or less than 80 percent of average stiffness of three storeys above. The open floor consists of a little or no infill walls so it has less frame-infill interaction and may significantly decreases both stiffness and strength of the floor, due to sudden decrease in stiffness and strength such structures are more vulnerable to earthquake Since the distribution of the lateral forces in the high rise buildings is depend on the mass and the stiffness of the building. In-fill walls provide stiffness to the structures it improves the seismic behaviour of structures. Also opening provided in the masonry infill wall reduces the lateral strength of the structures. Present code of practice does not include provision of taking into consideration the effect of infill. It can be understood that if the effect of infill is taken into account in the analysis and design of frame, the resulting structures may be significantly different, presence of infill's has been ignored in most of the current seismic codes except their weight. However, even though they are considered non-structural elements & their influence was neglected during the modeling phase of the structure leading to substantial inaccuracy in predicting the actual seismic response of framed structures. The infill components increase the lateral stiffness and serve as a transfer medium of horizontal inertia forces, this paper discusses non-linear dynamic analysis of soft storey structure with soft storey at different levels.

## METHODOLOGY

In order to investigate seismic performance of RCC frame buildings with and without open soft storey a ten storey symmetrical reinforced concrete moment-resisting frame building is considered. The considered symmetrical building has of 16m in length and divided into 4 bays as shown in fig.1 below. The associated storey height considered is of 3.2m. In modeling building frame other relevant data is given as below,

Size of Building: 16 m X 16 m  
 Grade of concrete: M 25  
 Grade of steel: Fe415  
 Slab thickness: 150 mm  
 Wall thickness: 230 mm

Size of columns: 300x650  
 Size of beam: 300 mm x 450 mm  
 Live load on floor : 3kN/m<sup>2</sup>  
 Floor finishes : 0.75kN/m<sup>2</sup>  
 Seismic zone: V  
 Soil condition: Medium  
 Importance factor: 1.2  
 Density of concrete: 25 kN/m<sup>3</sup>  
 Density of masonry: 20 kN/m<sup>3</sup>

Different building models such as Bare frame, fully infill and Soft Storey models are prepared in ETAB Software package as shown in fig.1

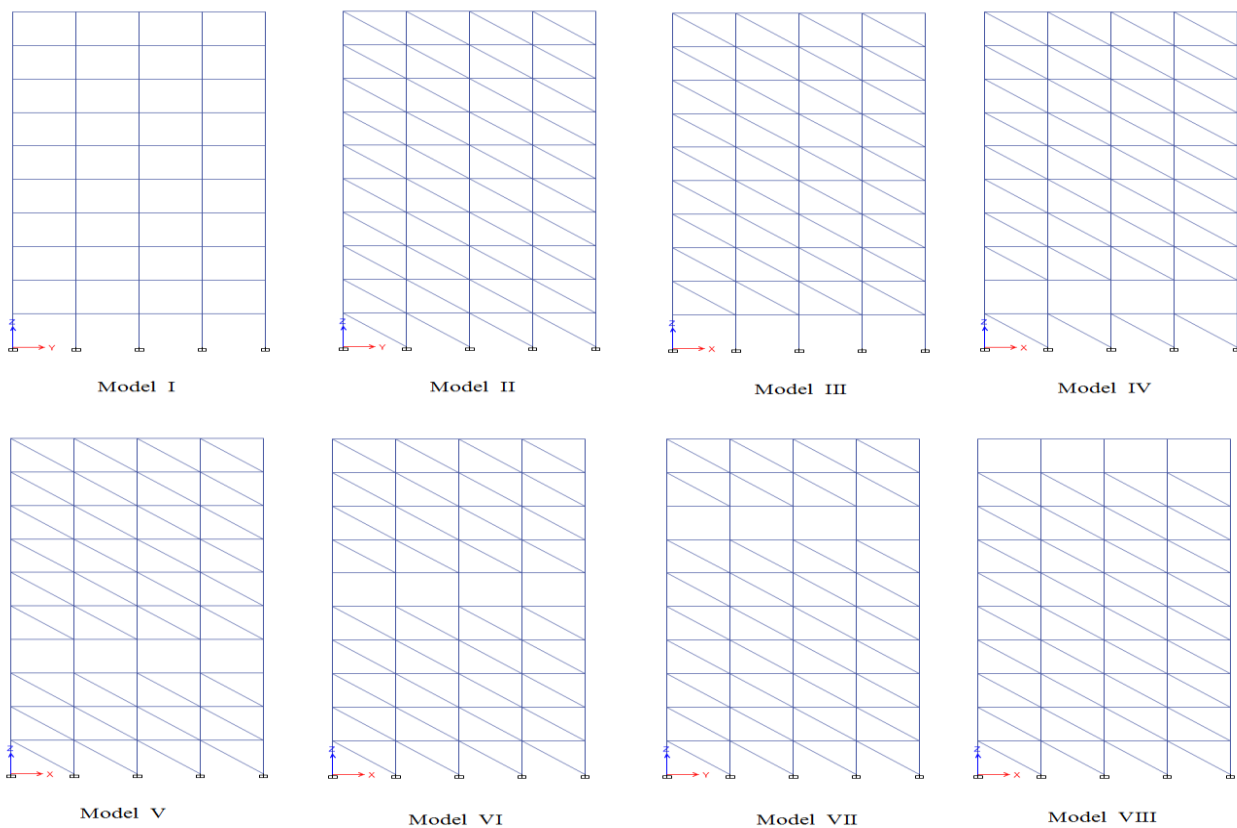


Fig. 1 Frame building model

### Modeling of Masonry Infill Walls

Infill wall is modeled using Equivalent diagonal strut method to study the response of masonry infill frame buildings. In the current study, walls are modeled as panel elements without any opening. Requirements of FEMA 356 will be followed to model the masonry infill walls.

According to FEMA 356, masonry infill walls prior to cracking is modeled with an equivalent diagonal compression strut of width  $a$ . The thickness and

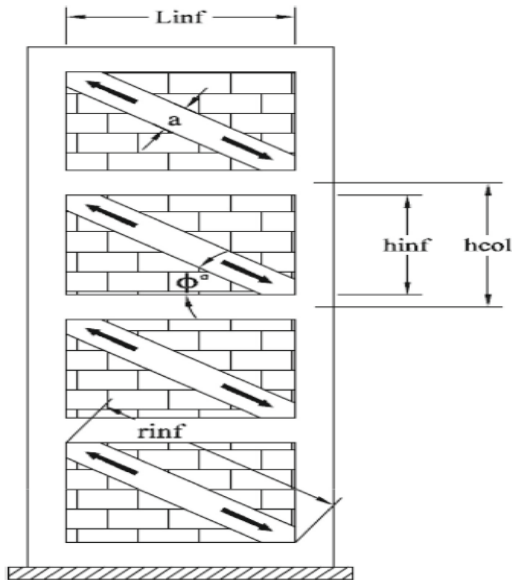
modulus of elasticity of the strut are same as those of the represented infill panel. the thickness of the strut can be written in terms of the column height  $h_{col}$  between centerlines of beams and the length of panel  $L$  as:

$$a = .175(\lambda_1 h_{col})^{-4} r_{inf}$$

where the value of diagonal length of infill panel  $r_{inf}$  is,

$$r_{inf} = \sqrt{L_{inf}^2 + h_{inf}^2}$$

The Coefficient  $\lambda_1$  which is used to determine equivalent width of infill strut can be calculated as a function of the infill panel height  $h_{inf}$  modulus of elasticity of both frame materials  $E_{fe}$  and material of infill panel  $E_{me}$ ,



**Fig.2** Equivalent diagonal compressive strut action

columns moment of inertia  $I_{col}$ , infill panel length  $L_{inf}$  and thickness  $t_{inf}$ .

$$\lambda_1 = \left[ \frac{E_{me} t_{inf} \sin 2\phi}{4 E_{fe} I_{col} h_{inf}} \right]$$

### Time History Analysis

It is also known as nonlinear dynamic analysis. It is an important technique for seismic analysis especially when the evaluated structural response is nonlinear. To perform such an analysis, a representative earthquake time history is required for a structure being evaluated. Time history analysis is a step-by-step analysis of the dynamic response of a structure to a specified loading that may vary with time. Time history analysis is used to determine the seismic response of a structure under

dynamic loading of representative earthquake. For analysis purpose Imperial Valley(6.95), Kern County(7.36), Northwest Calif(6.6) time histories with their richter magnitude are selected.

### Results and Discussion

Dynamic analysis for RC Frame building with soft storey is done by using time history analysis in earthquake zone V as per Indian standard code. Loads are calculated and distributed as per IS: 875 (part-1 to 3) 1987. The effect of location of soft storey at different height of building is evaluated. There is significant change in seismic parameters such as storey shear, storey drift is noticed and discussed below.

Distribution of storey shear forces due to the applied lateral load patterns is presented in Fig. 3 to Fig.8 for the considered building models under Imperial Valley, Kern County, Northwest Calif ground motion records applied in both x and y directions, respectively. The plotted curves shows significant difference between the cases of considering masonry infill walls and the case of bare frame in which modelling of masonry infill is ignored. storey shear results of bare frame model show the lowest values among all other models considered it has also been noticed that the Maximum shear at base is associated with the masonry infill model with soft storey at bottom level as shown in Fig.3. Regardless the direction of loading. it has also been noticed that the maximum shear at base is associated with the masonry infill model and models with soft storey at bottom level. Since earthquake resistant design considers the shear at base as a governing parameter, the ignorance of masonry infill action underestimates the values of shear at bases and may lead to unsafe design. Masonry infill action magnifies the storey shear values with about 2.5 and 1.5 times as compared to bare frame.

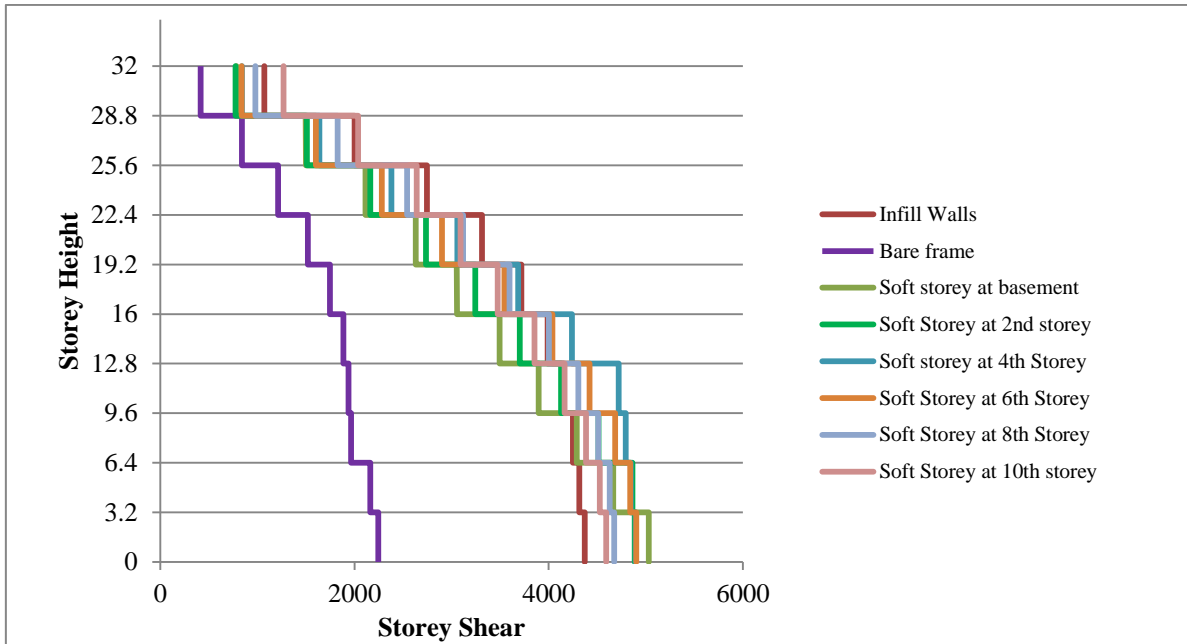


Fig.3 Storey shearforces under the Imperial valley earthquake records for X-direction loading.

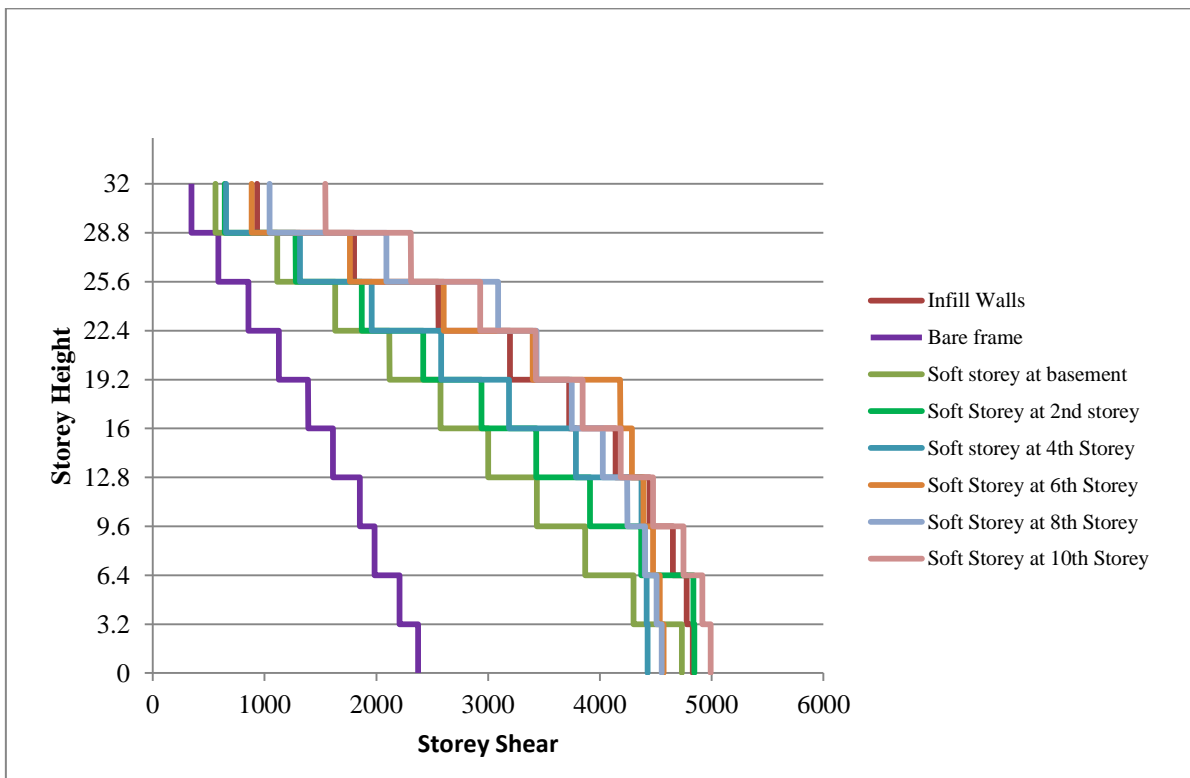


Fig.4 Storey shearforces under the Imperial valley earthquake records for Y-direction loading.

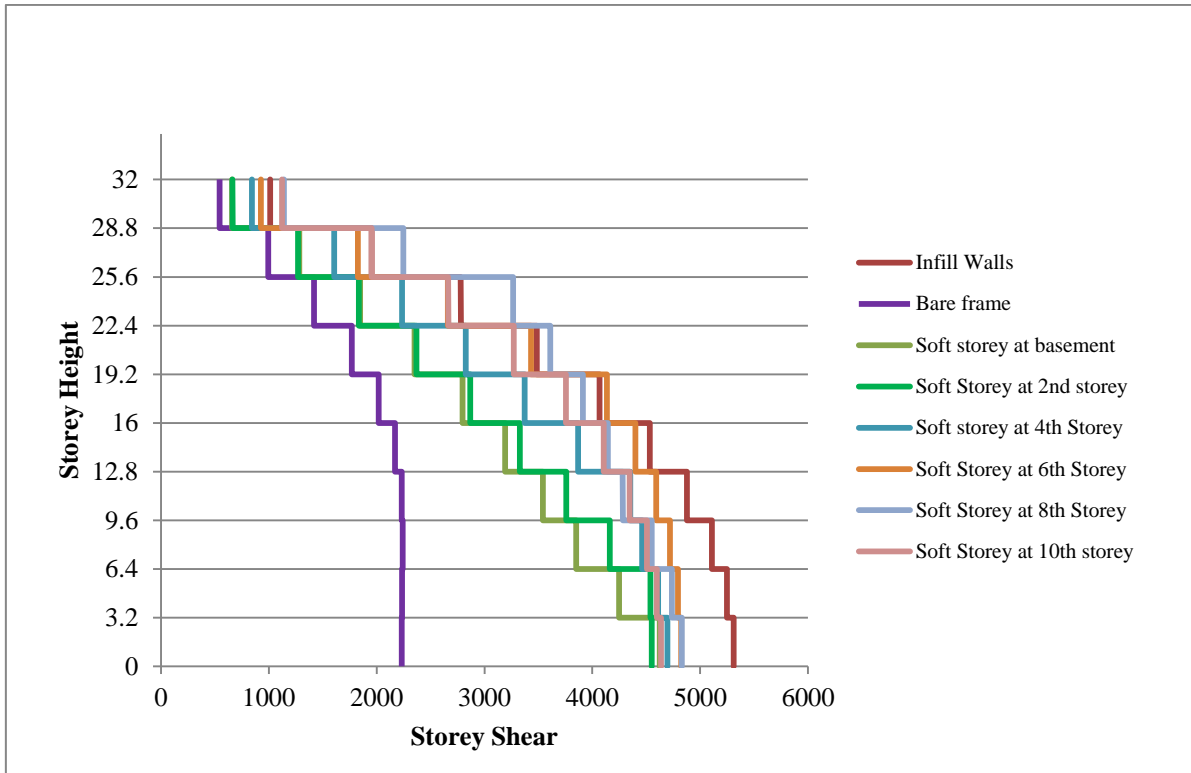


Fig.5 Storey shearforces under the Kern County earthquake records for X-direction loading.

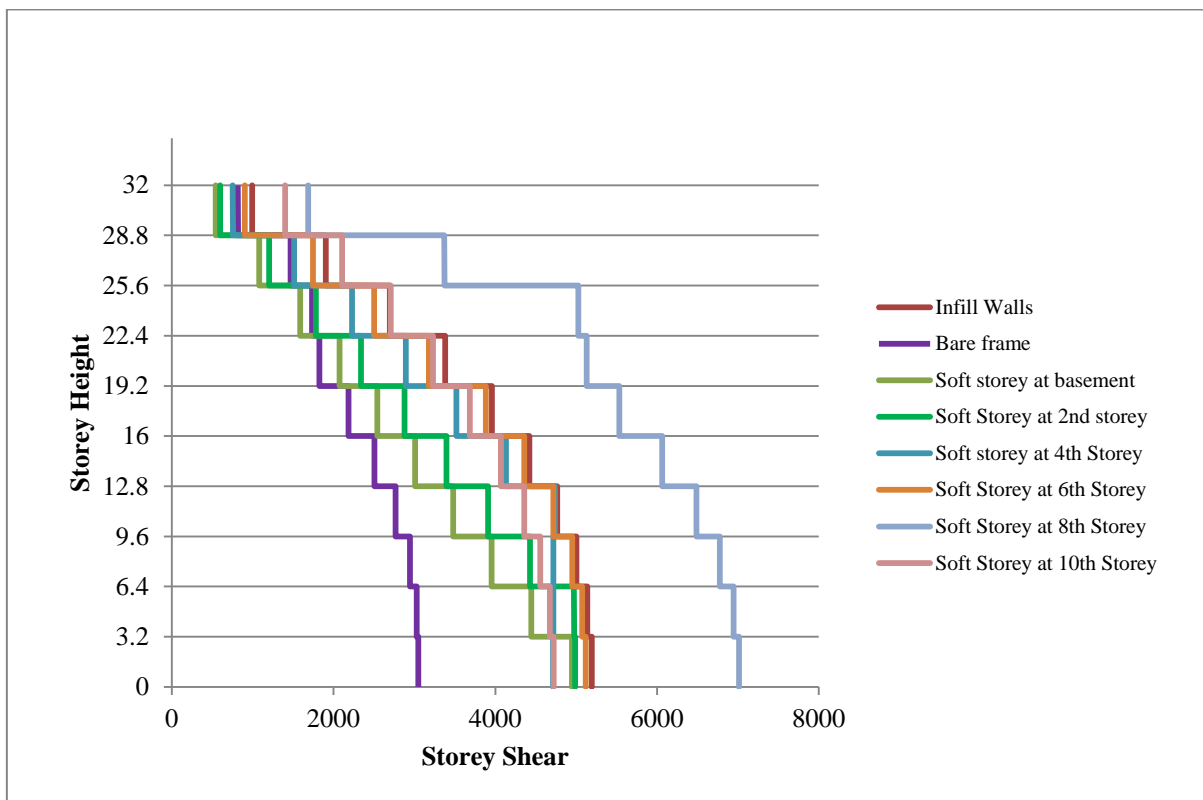


Fig.6 Storey shearforces under the Kern County earthquake records for Y-direction loading

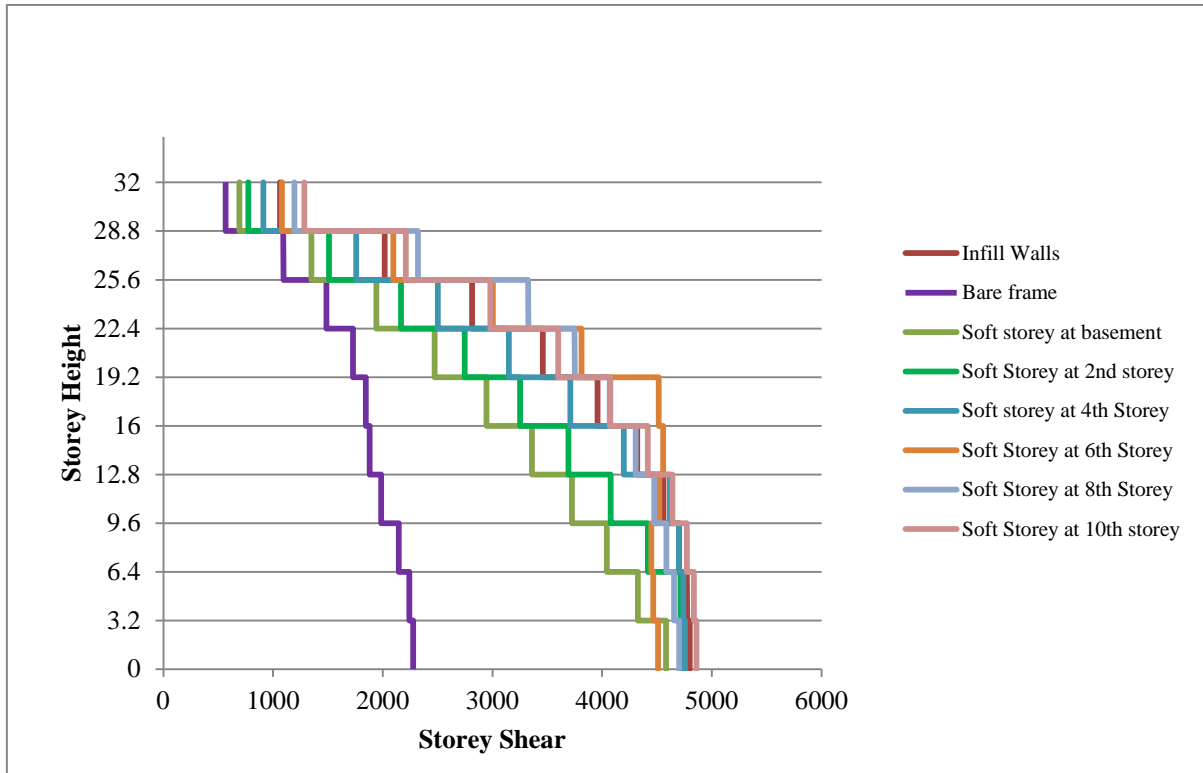


Fig.7 Storey shearforces under the Northwest Calif earthquake records for X-direction loading

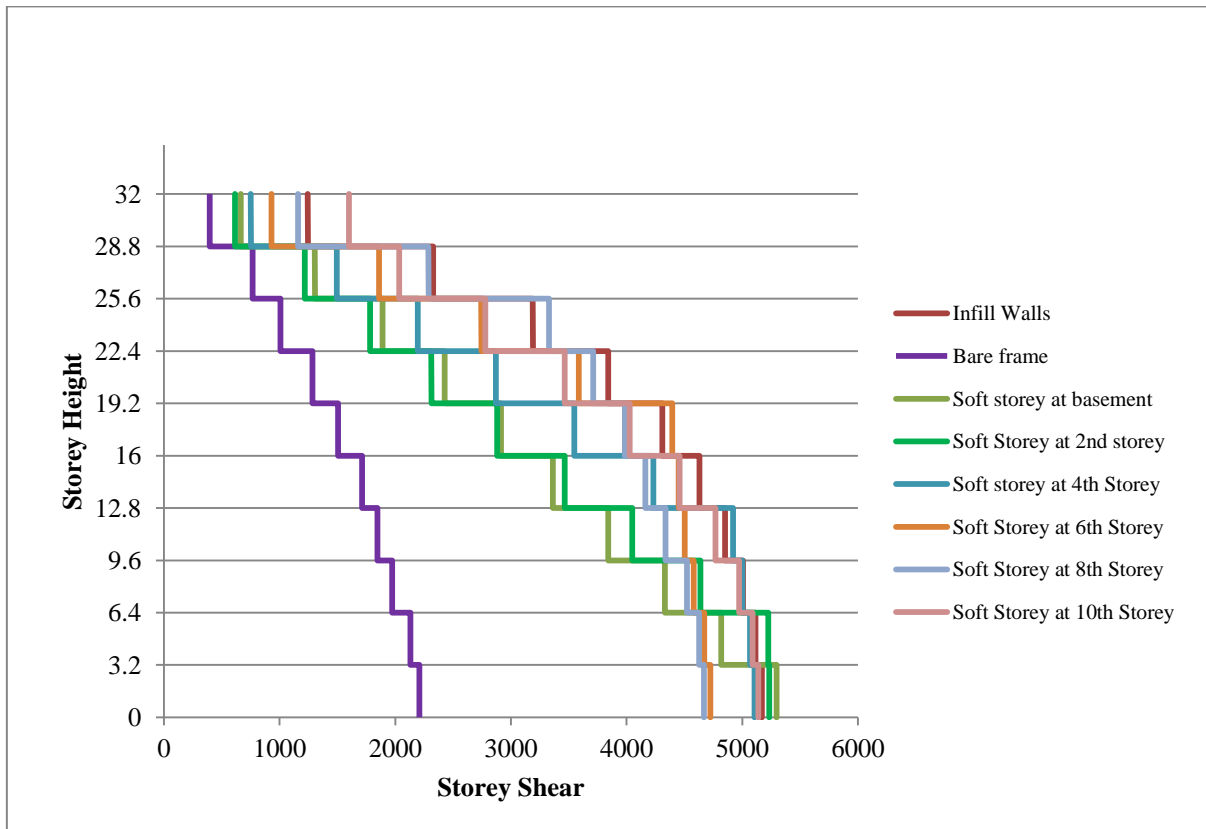


Fig.8 Storey shearforces under the Northwest Calif earthquake records for Y-direction loading

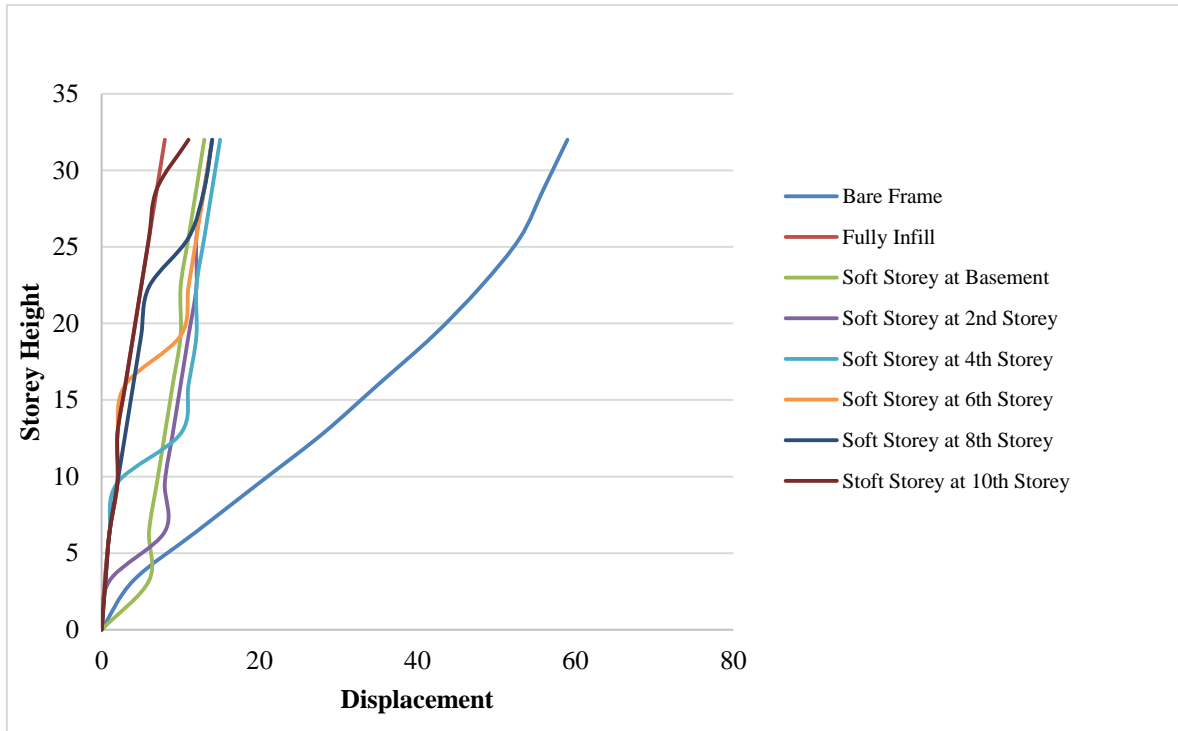


Fig.9 Induced storey displacements under Imperial Valley earthquake records for x-direction loading.

Peak displacement patterns of the 10-storey bare frame Building model and fully infill building model as well as the building model with soft storeys at different levels under three different time history earthquake records are Presented in Figs. 9,10 and 11. Respectively. The two earthquake records are applied in two orthogonal directions. the existence of soft storey causes a sudden change in the obtained peak displacements. This abrupt

change leads to an increase in storey displacements just after passing the soft storey level which is highly pronounced under the Imperial valley records. The bare frame model produces higher peak storey displacements as compared to the masonry infill building frame models without and with soft storeys under three earthquakes. This can be due to infill frame building systems with and without soft storeys have higher stiffness than the bare frame building model under the applied dynamic lateral load. This added stiffness to the infill system is due to the presence of masonry infill walls.

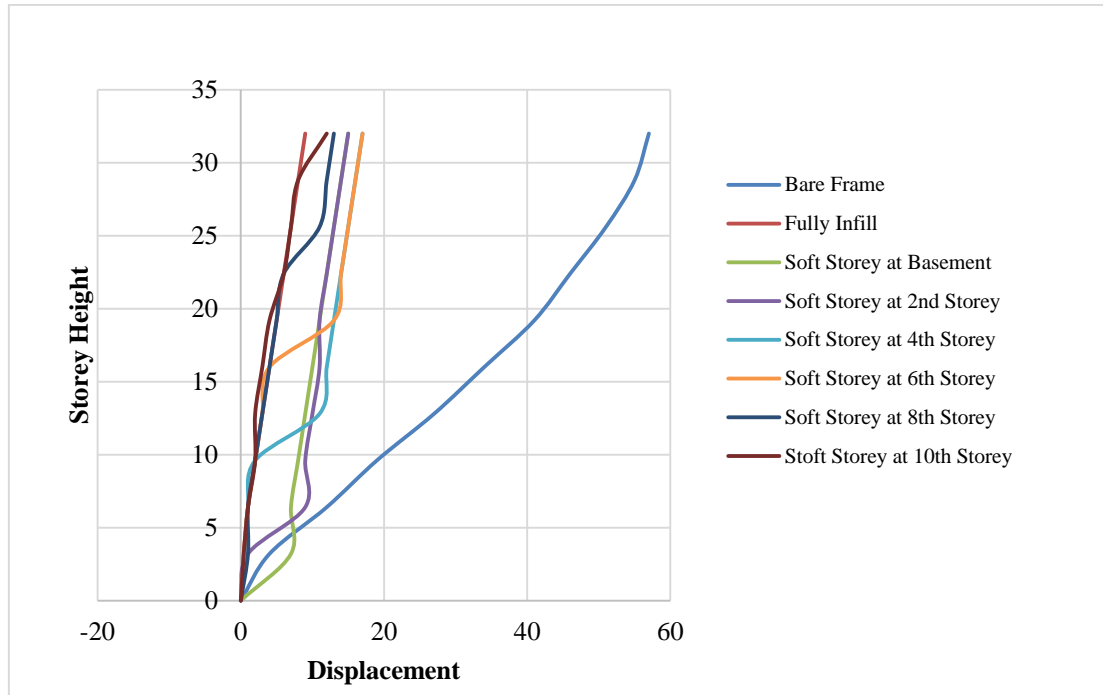


Fig.10 Induced storey displacements under Kern County earthquake records for x-direction loading.

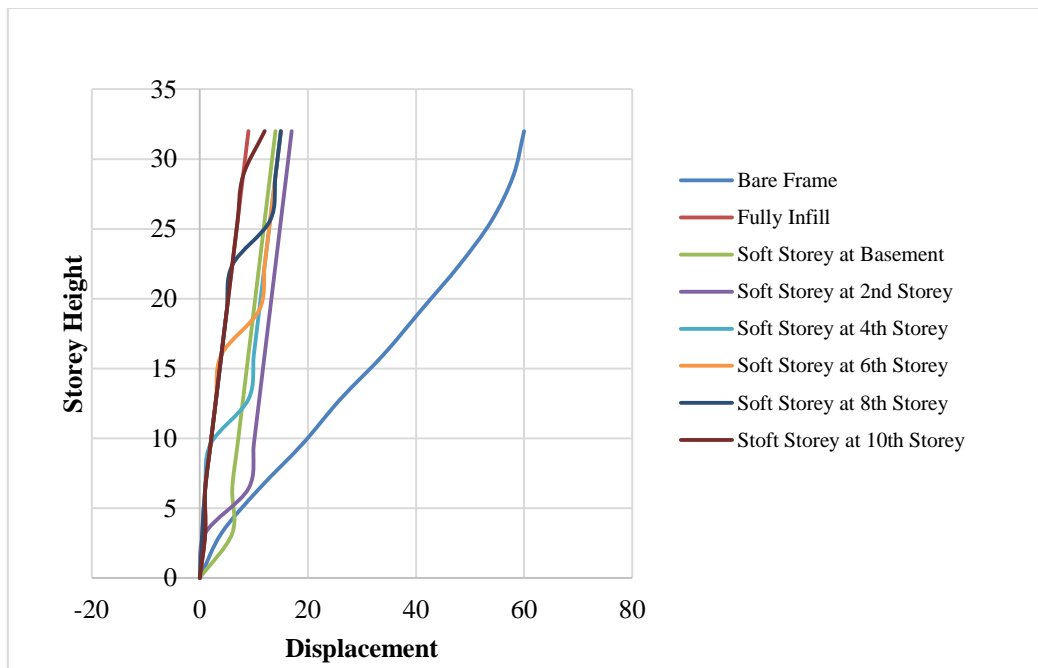


Fig.11 Induced storey displacements under Northwest Calif earthquake records for x-direction loading.

Fig. 12 and 17 show the results of maximum storey drift ratios of 10-storey structure under Imperial Valley, Kern County, Northwest Calif ground motion records. These obtained results demonstrate the differences among the drift profiles of the building structure modelled as bare frame, fully infilled building model and infilled building

models with soft storeys. As it can be seen from the figures, the bare frame building model has drift ratios of higher values than those associated with the considered fully infill frame building model under Imperial Valley, Kern County. It has also observed that presence of soft storey increases drift at that particular storey.



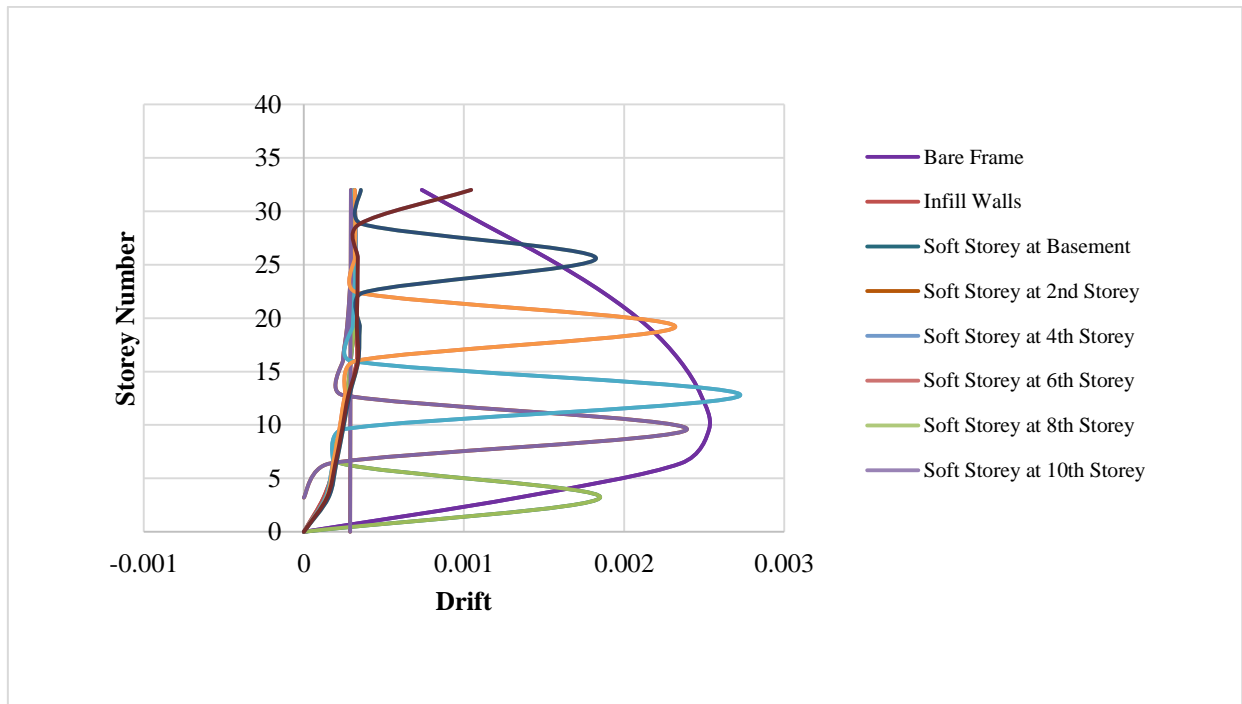


Fig..12 Storey drifts under the Imperial Valley earthquake records for X-direction

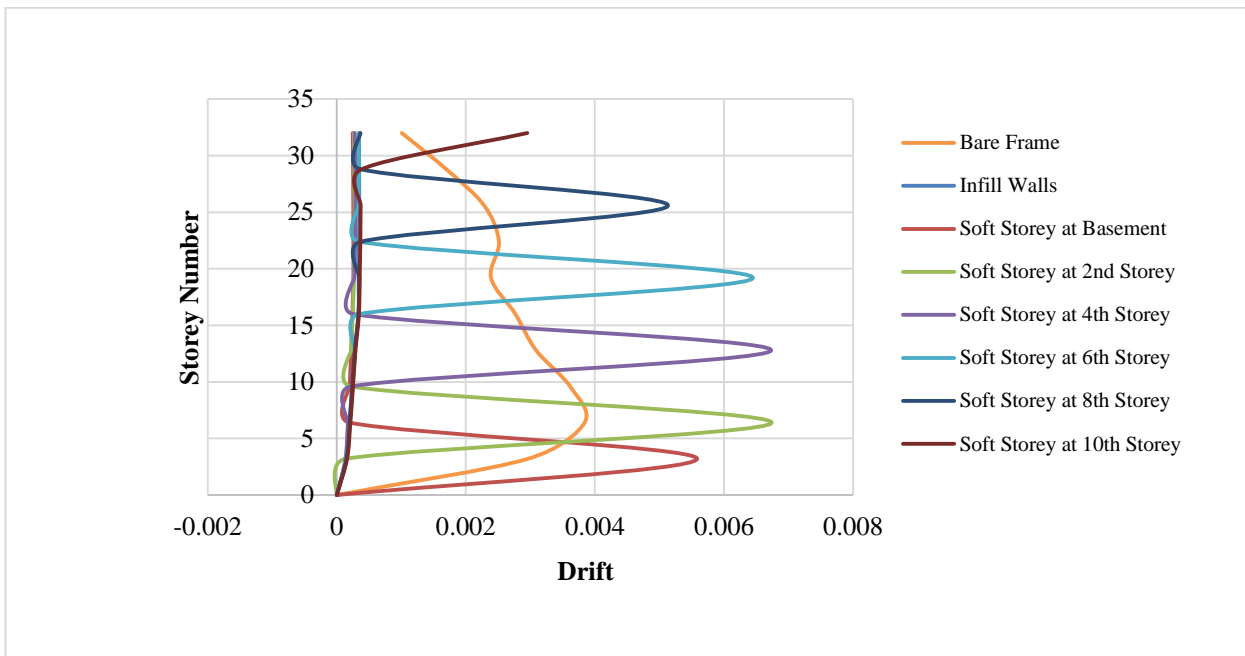


Fig..13 Storey drifts under the Imperial Valley earthquake records for Y-direction

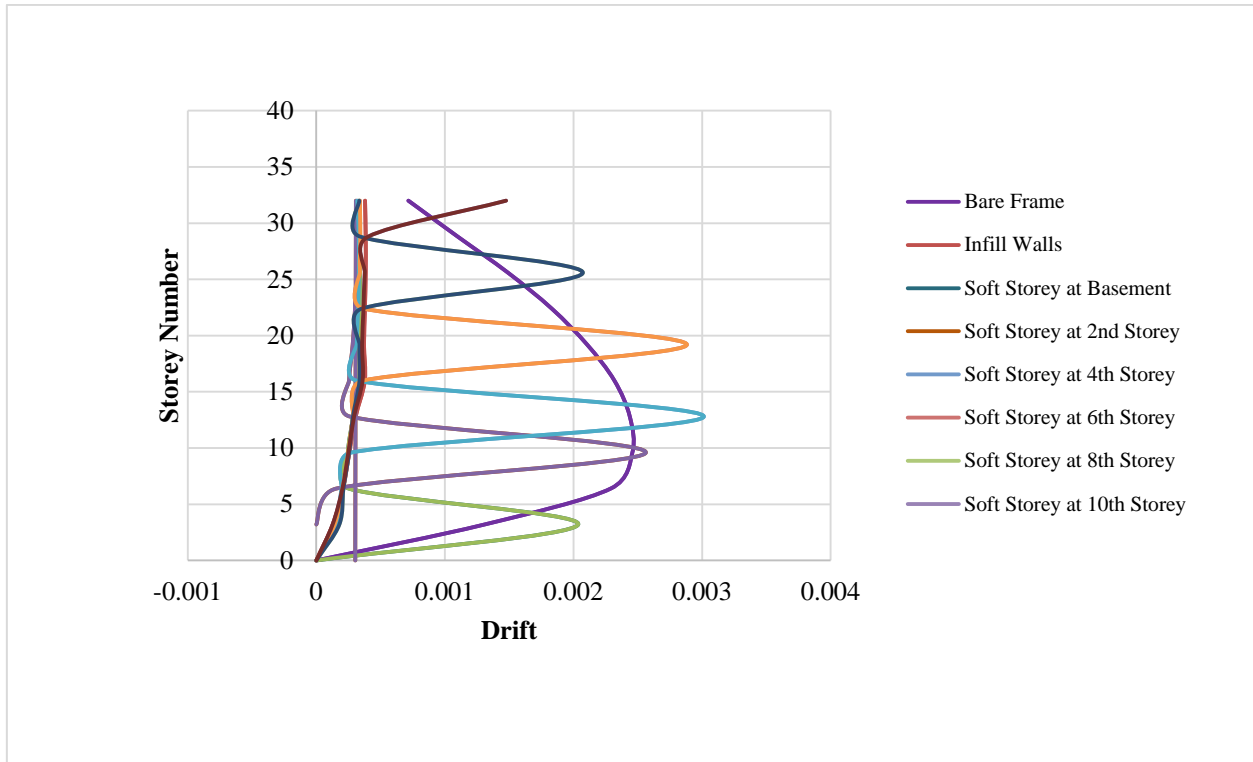


Fig..14 Storey drifts under the Kern County earthquake records for X-direction

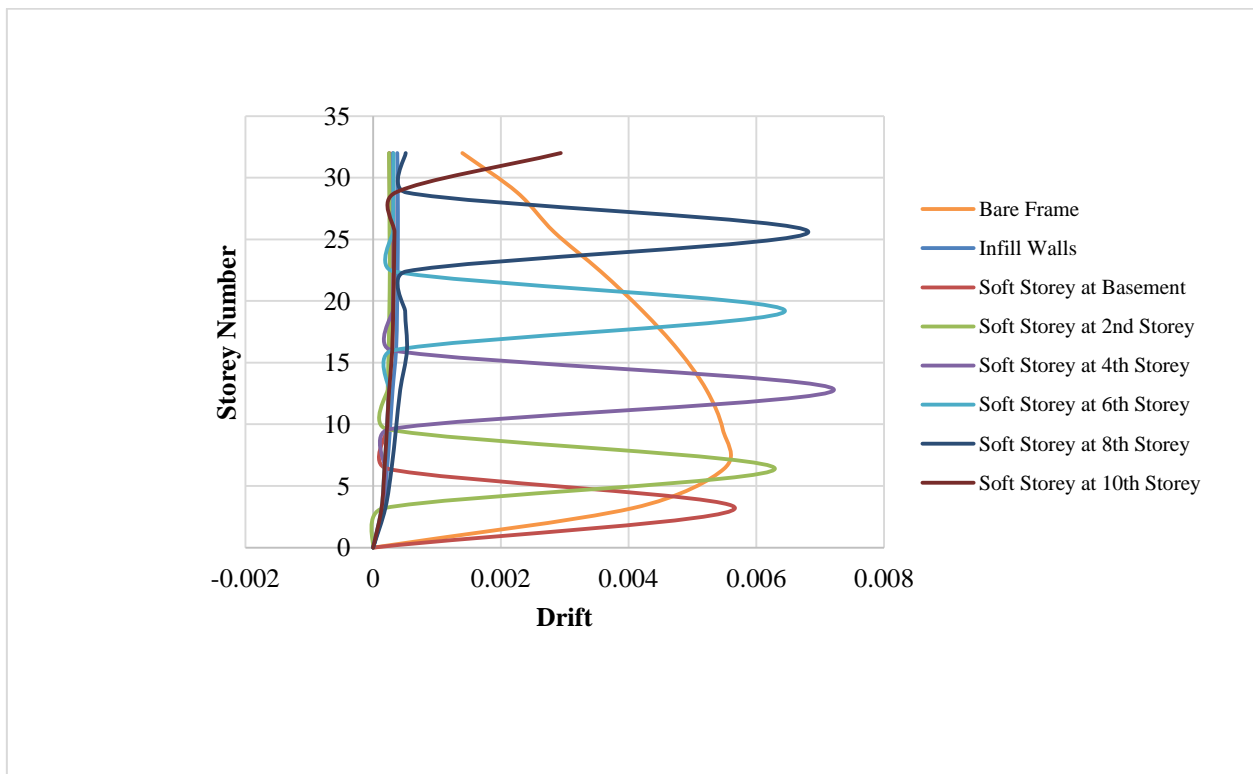


Fig..15 Storey drifts under the Kern County earthquake records for Y-direction

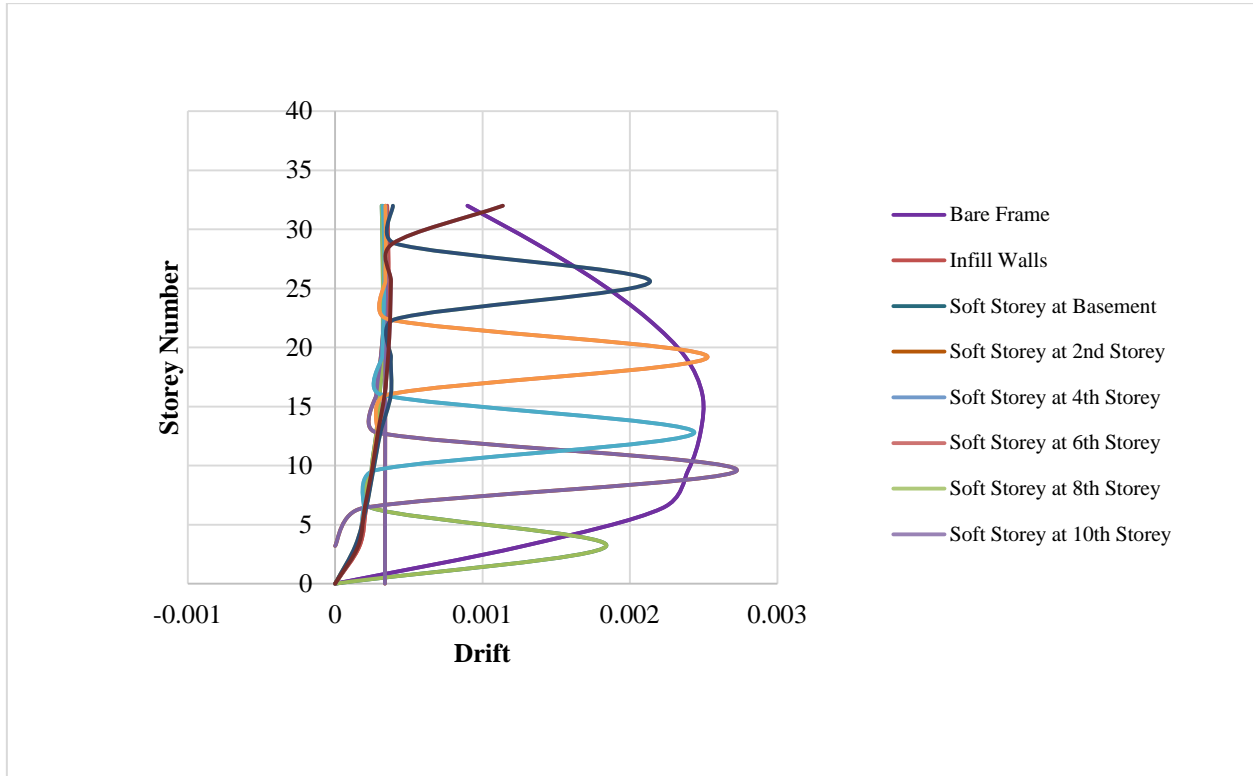


Fig..16 Storey drifts under the Northwest Calif earthquake records for X-direction

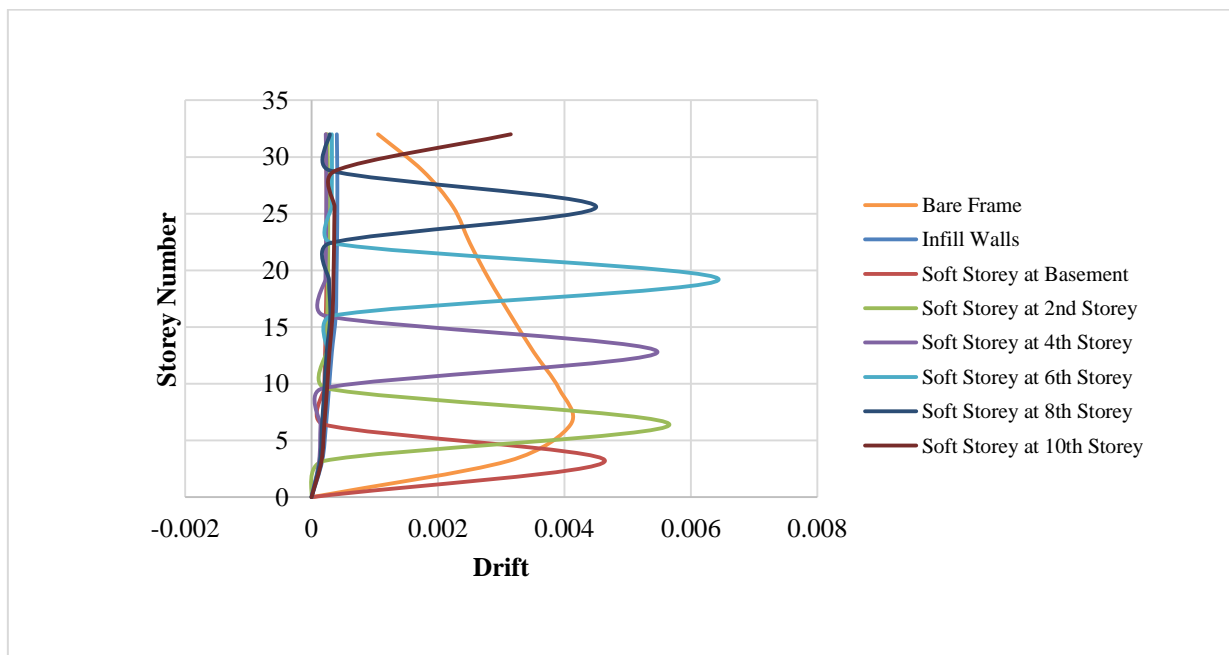


Fig..17 Storey drifts under the Northwest Calif earthquake records for Y-direction

**CONCLUSION**

The current research study has been carried out on reinforced concrete framed buildings fully as well as partially infilled under seismic loads. Dynamic time history analysis has been performed employing three ground motions. The influence of infill wall action on the seismic performance storey has been investigated. The following results summarize the main findings of the considered different scenarios of the structural models.

1. The masonry infill action has a significant influence on the performance of the building structure where the induced structural responses for bare frame case do significantly vary with the different configurations associated with masonry infill walls under different earthquake loads.

2. Considering masonry infill action reduces the induced storey displacements as compared to the bare frame case. However, the induced storey moments and storey shear forces increase with the incorporation of masonry infill action. 3 The level of soft storey has a significant role on the induced storey shear forces under different earthquake records.

4. Masonry infill walls enhance the seismic performance of the building structure during earthquake excitations in terms of displacement control, storey drifts and lateral stiffness.

5. Compared to the fully infilled frame building model, the infill frame models with soft storeys have sudden increase in the obtained responses at the specified soft storey levels regardless direction of loading and the type of the applied earthquake records as well.

6. Although the masonry infill action decreases the values of induced storey drift as compared to the bare frame case, the existence of a soft storey at a specified level highly magnifies storey drift at that level with values exceed those associated with the bare frame case.

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