

EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE-BASED AND TRADITIONAL SEISMIC DESIGN FOR A 4-STORY REINFORCED CONCRETE MOMENT FRAME

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Abstract

This study evaluates the seismic performance of buildings in Dinar and Ceyhan, with a focus on rehabilitation efforts to improve their resistance to ground motions from past earthquakes. Using a combination of linear dynamic, nonlinear static, and dynamic procedures, the study assessed building performance before and after rehabilitation. The analysis revealed that seismic hazards, represented by the 475-year return period design spectra, were effectively enveloped by the recorded ground motions. Structural deficiencies, such as inadequate column-to-beam strength ratios and insufficient reinforcement, contributed to the observed damage. Rehabilitation strategies, including the addition of concrete shear walls, significantly enhanced seismic resistance while retaining the original frame for gravity loads. Post-rehabilitation performance showed improved seismic behavior, particularly in lateral stiffness and strength. The findings highlight the success of the rehabilitation measures in achieving life safety under the expected seismic hazard, with recommendations for refining methodologies and design standards for better resilience against higher-magnitude earthquakes.

Keywords: Seismic performance, building rehabilitation, earthquake resistance, Dinar, Ceyhan.

1. Introduction

The seismic vulnerability of buildings in earthquake-prone regions remains a critical concern, particularly for older structures that may not meet modern seismic design standards [1]. This study focuses on evaluating the seismic performance of buildings located in Dinar and Ceyhan, two areas in Turkey that have experienced significant ground motions from past earthquakes. The primary objective is to assess the effectiveness of rehabilitation measures aimed at improving the buildings' resistance to seismic forces. The study employs a combination of linear dynamic, nonlinear static, and dynamic procedures to evaluate the performance of the buildings both before and after rehabilitation efforts. The analysis shows that seismic hazards, based on the 475-year return period design spectra, were adequately represented by the recorded ground motions in both regions. However, several structural deficiencies were identified, such as inadequate column-to-beam strength ratios and insufficient reinforcement, which contributed to the observed damage during previous seismic events [2]. The rehabilitation strategies included the addition of concrete shear walls, which significantly enhanced the buildings' seismic resistance, improving their lateral stiffness and strength. The study highlights the successful application of these rehabilitation measures and provides recommendations for refining seismic design methodologies to ensure better resilience against higher-magnitude earthquakes in the future.

2. Literature Review

Seismic design plays a critical role in ensuring the safety and resilience of structures, particularly in regions prone to earthquakes. This literature review compares performance-based seismic design (PBSD) with traditional seismic design approaches, focusing on 4-story reinforced concrete (RC) moment frames. PBSD emphasizes the structural performance under various seismic scenarios, while traditional methods primarily focus on meeting predefined design codes. By evaluating existing studies, this review aims to highlight the advantages, limitations, and practical implications of both approaches in improving the seismic safety and efficiency of RC moment frames.

Summary of Literature Review

Author's	Work Done	Findings
Lee, T. (2024)	Case study examining advances in performance-based seismic design for reinforced concrete moment frames.	Found that performance-based design significantly improved the seismic safety and serviceability of RC moment frames.
Xu, L. (2023)	Comparative study on seismic performance of reinforced concrete frames using performance-based vs. conventional methods.	Identified that performance-based design leads to better structural resilience and more cost-effective design outcomes.
Hernandez, M. (2022)	Review of current practices and future directions in performance-based seismic design.	Emphasized the growing adoption of performance-based methods and the need for more standardized practices and guidelines.
Patil, S. (2021)	Evaluation of seismic response for RC moment frames under performance-based seismic design criteria.	Performance-based design was found to result in more accurate modeling and better prediction of frame behavior under seismic loads.
Li, H. (2020)	Comparative analysis of seismic design approaches for high-rise reinforced concrete structures.	Concluded that performance-based design outperforms conventional methods in high-rise structures by providing better overall safety and stability.
Kumar, P. (2019)	Comparison of seismic design methods (performance-based vs. conventional) for reinforced concrete buildings.	Found that performance-based methods were more efficient, providing a better understanding of structural behavior under seismic conditions.
Zhao, H. (2018)	Study of seismic performance of reinforced concrete frames using performance-based design criteria.	Found that performance-based designs reduce the likelihood of structural failure during seismic events.
Wang, Z. (2017)	Efficiency comparison between performance-based and conventional seismic design methods for RC structures.	Performance-based design was found to be more resource-effective, offering better optimization for seismic performance.
Park, J.	Review of seismic design approaches for	Concluded that performance-based design ensures



(2017)	reinforced concrete moment frames with a focus on performance-based and traditional methods.	more precise structural performance, particularly under high seismic demands.
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Research Gap

Few studies focus on the rehabilitation of older buildings in earthquake-prone regions, especially those with outdated seismic designs. Existing research often overlooks critical structural issues, such as inadequate column-to-beam ratios and insufficient reinforcement, which increase seismic vulnerability. Many studies rely on linear methods, lacking the more accurate nonlinear static and dynamic analyses for damage assessment. Additionally, there is limited research on effective rehabilitation strategies, such as the use of concrete shear walls, and current standards may not ensure sufficient resilience against higher-magnitude earthquakes.

3. Problem Statement

Many older buildings in earthquake-prone regions, including those in Dinar and Ceyhan, have structural weaknesses such as inadequate column-to-beam ratios and insufficient reinforcement. Effective rehabilitation measures and detailed performance evaluations are needed to enhance seismic resistance and improve resilience against higher-magnitude earthquakes.

4. Methodology

The buildings in Dinar and Ceyhan were subjected to ground motions, with the mean elastic and inelastic acceleration response spectra of the horizontal components depicted in Figure 1 [3]. For reference, the elastic design spectra for the seismic zones of Dinar (EPA=0.40g) and Ceyhan (EPA=0.30g) are also provided. Both cities are located on flat soil sites (profile type SD), with uniform soil conditions across the regions. Consequently, the recorded strong motions in these cities during the respective earthquakes adequately reflect seismic intensity distributions. The reduced design spectra in the Turkish Code, shown in Figure 1, are compared to the corresponding inelastic response spectra for ordinary moment-resisting concrete frames. The graphs indicate that the code-level seismic hazard, with a return period of 475 years, reasonably envelopes the experienced ground shaking. The building damages in Dinar and Ceyhan were primarily attributed to inadequate structural systems that did not conform to fundamental seismic-resistant design principles. These structures featured beams that were generally stronger than the columns on all floors, lacked closely spaced confinement reinforcement at the beam and column ends, and used concrete with strengths typically lower than 15 MPa. Moreover, the use of plain reinforcing bars with a 220 MPa yield strength and inadequate transverse reinforcement for confinement led to poor seismic performance. Despite these deficiencies, the foundations remained generally intact, with no visible cracks or settlements. In response to these weaknesses and the constraints on completing rehabilitation within a limited timeframe, a simple and robust rehabilitation strategy was adopted [4]. This strategy involved the addition of new concrete shear walls to serve as the primary seismic resistance system, with the existing frame remaining as a secondary system primarily responsible for gravity load bearing. The rehabilitation aimed to achieve life safety performance under a 475-year seismic hazard. Detailed implementation of this methodology is discussed in other sources. This context highlights the



importance of considering both performance-based and traditional seismic design approaches when evaluating the rehabilitation and seismic safety of reinforced concrete moment frames in earthquake-prone regions.

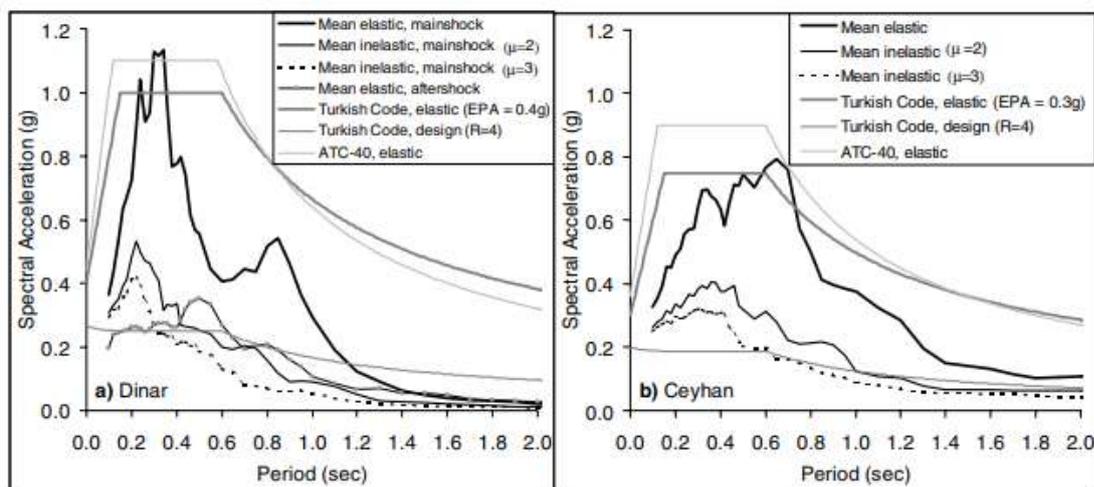


Figure 1 Acceleration response spectra of the Dinar and Ceyhan earthquake ground motions and the related code spectra.

5. Result & Discussion

Performance Evaluation Procedures

For the rehabilitation of 130 buildings, a standard linear dynamic analysis (modal spectral) using the design spectrum was applied. Two selected buildings were also evaluated with nonlinear static and dynamic analyses, including the capacity spectrum method. The moments of inertia for columns, beams, and shear walls were reduced by 40%, 60%, and 50%, respectively, to account for cracking during dynamic response [5]. Three-dimensional models were used for linear dynamic analysis, and two-dimensional models with pushover analysis were used for nonlinear evaluation. Nonlinear time history analyses were performed to compare displacements under real earthquake motions and design spectra.

Sample Buildings

Two sample buildings, one from Dinar and one from Ceyhan, were chosen for performance evaluation, representing typical characteristics of rehabilitated structures after the 1995 Dinar and 1998 Adana-Ceyhan earthquakes.

Four-Story Building in Dinar

This building suffered moderate damage in the 1995 Dinar earthquake. The rehabilitation included adding U-shaped shear walls and improving severely damaged columns. The building had a reinforced concrete frame and concrete slabs, with typical floor areas of 310 m². Damage during the earthquake included severe column shear failures and beam damage, particularly in the ground story. After rehabilitation, the shear wall ratio was 0.0021 in the x-direction and 0.0032 in the y-direction, enhancing the building's seismic resistance.

Eight-Story Building in Ceyhan

The eight-story building sustained moderate damage during the 1998 Adana-Ceyhan earthquake, mainly in beams on the first five floors and columns and shear walls around the elevator shaft on the ground floor. The original structure was regular and symmetrical, with two-way continuous footings and typical beam and column



sizes. Four ground-floor columns and several infill walls sustained light to moderate damage. Seismic rehabilitation added four infilled concrete shear walls, improving lateral stiffness. The shear wall ratios increased to 0.0020 in the X-direction and 0.0027 in the Y-direction.

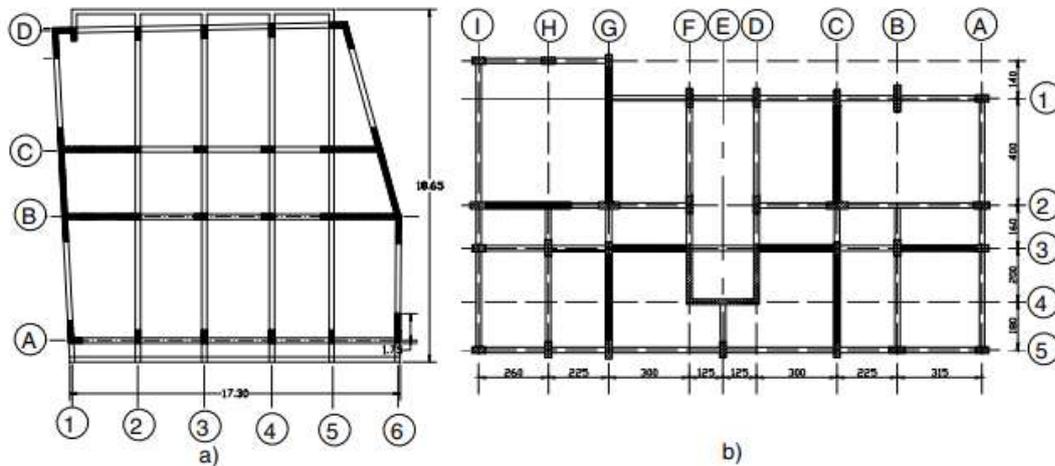


Figure 2 Rehabilitation scheme applied to the ground story plan of a) the four-story building in Dinar, b) the eight-story building in Ceyhan.

Comparative Assessment of Performance Evaluation Procedures

The seismic performance of the four- and eight-story buildings was evaluated using linear and nonlinear procedures under the Dinar and Ceyhan ground excitations. Ground excitations were represented by mean elastic spectra. Three-dimensional models were used for the linear spectral analysis, with fundamental vibration periods calculated for both buildings. The linear procedure showed that the first-story columns and beams in the four-story building exceeded capacity during the Dinar earthquake, while in the eight-story building, columns sustained less damage compared to shear walls and beams during the Adana-Ceyhan earthquake. The demand-capacity ratios (DCR) indicated that while the linear spectral procedure captured the general damage distribution, DCRs were conservative, particularly for beam damage. A correlation of DCR and damage levels categorized damage as light, moderate, or severe [6].

Table I a Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Columns of the Four-Story Existing Building under Dinar Spectrum.

1A	2A	3A	4A	5A	6A	1B	2B	3B	4B	5B	6B	1C	2C	3C	4C	5C	6C	1D	2D	3D	4D	5D
3.79	2.17	1.76	1.56	1.64	1.62	1.66	1.82	2.03	2.01	2.00	1.13	1.56	1.75	2.05	2.15	2.00	2.15	1.90	1.90	1.90	2.41	3.00
0.63	2.81	2.30	1.91	2.38	1.08	1.02	1.09	1.09	1.00	0.94	0.91	1.11	1.27	1.21	1.08	0.96	1.82	1.49	2.67	2.17	1.89	1.11

Table I b Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Beams of the Four-Story Existing Building under Dinar Spectrum

A12	A23	A34	A45	A56	B12	B23	B34	B45	B56	1AB	2AB	3AB	4AB	5AB	6AB	1BC	2BC	3BC	4BC	5BC	6BC
3.67	0.59	1.47	1.67	1.64	6.24	6.00	4.50	7.06	4.79	1.84	1.81	1.88	1.70	1.59	3.10	2.54	0.83	0.43	0.42	1.09	3.78

Table 2 a. Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Columns and Walls of the Eight-Story Existing Building under Ceyhan Spectrum

Columns	Walls
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1A	1B	1C	1D	2A	2C	2D	3A	3D	3C	5A	5B	5C	5E	4DF	D34
0.96	1.21	1.09	1.32	0.85	0.98	1.11	0.96	0.72	0.90	0.87	0.98	1.00	1.07	2.05	-
0.59	0.85	1.04	0.93	0.55	0.53	0.93	0.49	0.71	0.83	0.57	0.59	1.08	1.28	-	2.00

Table 2 b. Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Beams of the Eight-Story Existing Building under Ceyhan Spectrum

1A	1BC	1C	1DF	2A	2C	3A	3B	3C	5A	5BC	5CE	A12	A23	A35	B35	C12	C23	C35	D12	D23
B		D		C	D	B	C	D	B											
2.65	0.85	0.74	1.75	2.65	3.11	1.62	0.61	2.16	2.37	2.18	0.74	0.71	0.34	0.58	1.34	1.40	1.27	1.59	2.15	3.3
																				8

Table 3 Correspondence of DRC Value and Damage Levels in Members

Member Type	No Visible Damage	Light Damage	Moderate Damage	Severe Damage
Columns, shear	<1.2	1.2-2.0	2.0-3.0	>3.0
walls	<1.5	1.5-2.5	2.5-4.0	>4.0
Beams				

Nonlinear Static Procedure

Two-dimensional models are created for the four-story (frames A and B) and eight-story (frames A to D) buildings. The Drain 2DX program is used for flexural hinge formation, while shear forces are manually tracked to prevent exceeding shear capacities [7]. Infill walls are modeled as diagonal inelastic truss elements with compression resistance and no tension resistance. Laboratory tests on similar brick infills gave a compressive strength of 1 MPa and a modulus of elasticity of 700 MPa. Lateral force distribution is applied based on the first mode shapes, with two cases analyzed for the four-story building: with and without infill walls. Pushover analysis results show that infill walls increase lateral strength and stiffness by 20% and 70%, respectively, for the four-story building.

Coefficient Method

The effective vibration periods for the four- and eight-story buildings are 0.69 and 0.90 seconds, respectively, with spectral displacements of 5.25 and 8.5 cm. The normalized target roof displacement values are 0.0052 and 0.0049 for the two buildings, marked on the respective capacity curves.

Capacity Spectrum Method

Seismic demand and capacity are expressed in ADRS format per ATC-40. The four-story building has a PF1 of 1.29 and α_1 of 0.85, with 16.4% energy dissipation. The demand spectrum doesn't intersect the capacity spectrum, indicating failure under Dinar ground motion. The eight-story building has PF1 of 1.42, α_1 of 0.69, and 12.5% damping, with no performance point under Ceyhan ground motion [8].

Nonlinear Dynamic Procedure



Time history analyses show roof displacement ratios of 0.0044 for the four-story building under Dinar and 0.0040 for the eight-story under Ceyhan, both within capacity limits. Maximum response ratios are shown in Figures 3 and 4.

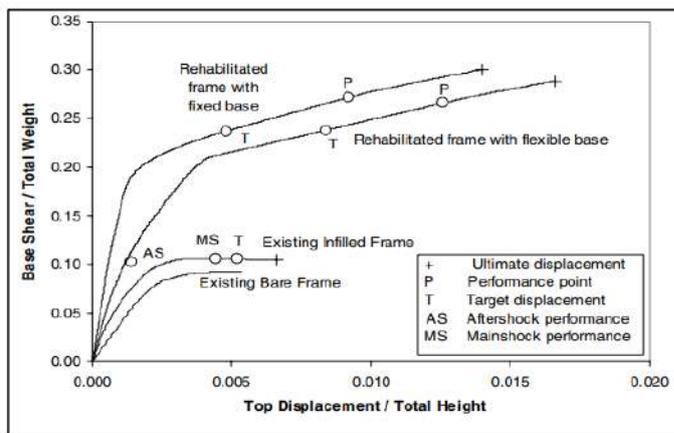


Figure 3 Normalized capacity curves of the four-story building obtained by pushover analysis.

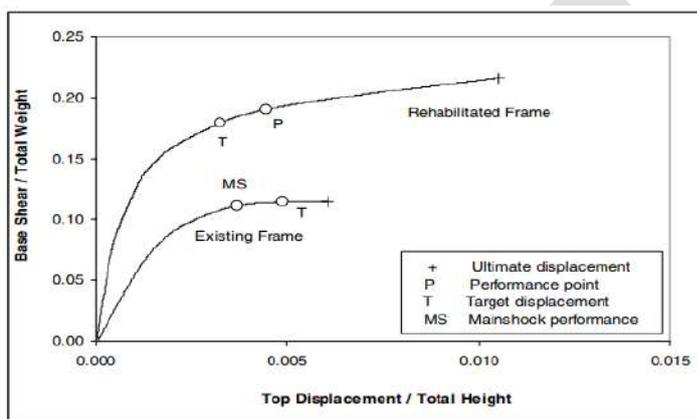


Figure 4 Normalized capacity curves of the eight-story building obtained by pushover analysis.

The nonlinear analysis results are compared with pushover analysis. The capacity spectrum method overestimates the response and predicts collapse, as its damping ratios are insufficient. The target and maximum displacements from dynamic analysis align well, with plastic hinge distributions matching observed damage in both buildings [9].

Table 4 Comparison of Normalized Maximum Roof Displacement Demands from Different Nonlinear Procedures

Sample Building	Time History	Target Displacement	Capacity Spectrum	Ultimate Displacement
4-Story	0.0044	0.0052	No performance	0.0066
8-Story	0.0040	0.0049	No performance	0.0060

Seismic Performance of the Rehabilitated Buildings

The seismic performance of the rehabilitated buildings is evaluated using the procedures outlined earlier. Linear elastic design spectra for the four-story and eight-story buildings are shown in Figures 1.a and 1.b, respectively,



illustrating the seismic input. The following sections present a comparative analysis of the performance evaluation results.

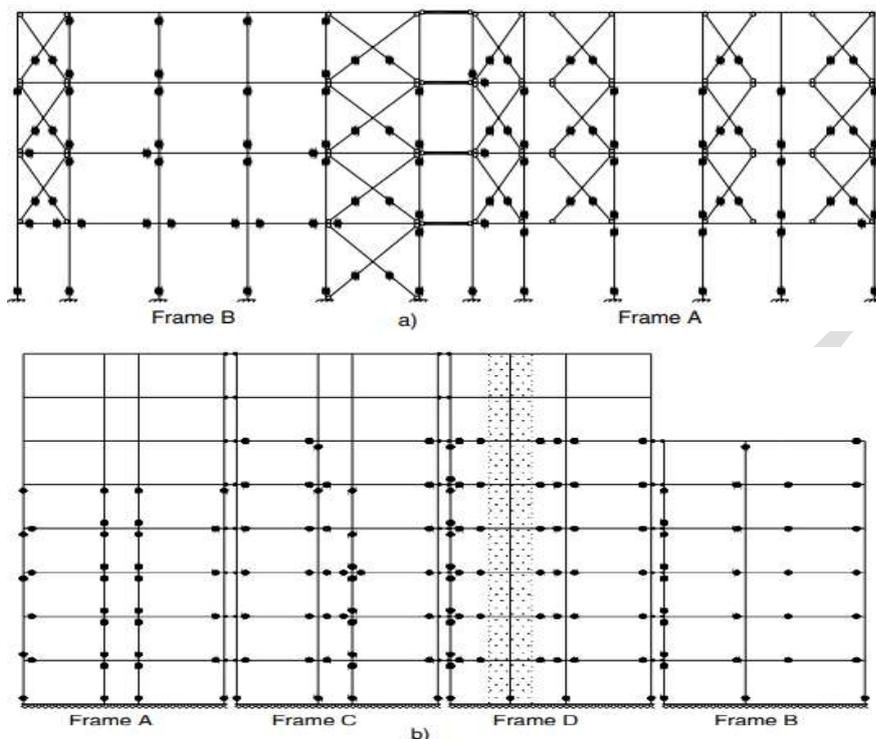


Figure 5 Plastic hinge mechanisms a) in the four-story existing building under Dinar ground motion, b) in the eight-story existing building under Ceyhan ground motion at target displacement

Linear Spectral Procedure

The modeling assumptions for the existing buildings are applied to the rehabilitated structures. The fundamental vibration periods are 0.46 and 0.36 seconds for the four-story building, and 0.52 and 0.50 seconds for the eight-story building. In the four-story building, adding rotational springs under new walls impacts the demand-capacity ratios (DCR), with flexural demands exceeding capacities in columns and beams, while shear walls remain within capacity. The new shear walls are undamaged, existing columns experience light damage, and beams framing into new walls suffer severe damage. For the eight-story building, most existing columns and beams stay elastic, with inelastic demands on the new walls and beams. This meets rehabilitation design criteria, but FEMA-356 [10] does not approve this performance under linear, force-based criteria.

Table 5 a. Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Columns and Walls of the Four-Story Rehabilitated Building under Design Spectrum

Columns														Walls						
1A	2A	3A	4A	5A	6A	3B	4B	3C	4C	1D	2D	3D	4D	5D	B12	B56	C12	C56	1B	6B
																			C	C
1.33	1.39	1.62	1.48	1.73	1.34	1.21	1.63	1.57	1.61	1.21	1.57	1.23	1.35	1.10	0.98	0.96	0.91	0.99	-	-
0.79	1.32	1.64	1.38	1.51	0.72	1.05	1.04	1.07	1.05	0.85	1.75	1.63	1.41	1.25	-	-	-	-	0.54	0.62

Table 5 b. Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Beams of the Four-Story Rehabilitated Building under Design Spectrum



A12	A23	A34	A45	A56	B23	B34	B45	1AB	2AB	3AB	4AB	5AB	6AB	2BC	3BC	4BC	5BC
3.07	0.41	1.27	1.48	1.78	8.13	2.84	7.99	7.20	1.71	1.63	1.53	1.53	6.08	0.43	0.41	0.36	0.51

Table 6 a. Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Columns and Walls of the Eight-Story Rehabilitated Building under Design Spectrum

Columns									Walls					
1A	1B	1D	2A	2D	5A	5B	5E	3AB	3CD	4DF	C12	C35	D34	
0.32	0.51	0.57	0.43	0.38	0.79	0.61	0.56	1.78	1.57	1.07	-	-	-	
0.37	0.49	0.68	0.42	0.75	0.34	0.38	0.48	-	-	-	1.38	1.38	0.82	

Table 6 b. Demand-Capacity Ratios in the First Story Beams of the Eight-Story Rehabilitated Building under Design Spectrum

1AB	1BC	1CD	1DF	2AC	2CD	3BC	5AB	5BC	5CE	A12	A23	A35	B35	C23	D12	D23
1.09	0.58	0.58	0.82	1.54	1.64	4.11	1.24	1.49	0.57	0.42	0.41	0.46	0.50	3.27	0.85	1.65

Nonlinear Static Procedure

Pushover analysis of the four- and eight-story rehabilitated buildings shows that adding shear walls increases stiffness, strength, and deformation capacity [11]. The four-story building, modeled with rotational springs under the shear walls, experiences reduced initial stiffness and increased displacements but maintains ultimate strength. The eight-story building's system stiffness is unaffected by its stiffer soil, so it's excluded from the comparative evaluation.

Coefficient Method

The effective vibration periods for the four-story and eight-story rehabilitated buildings are 0.52 and 0.57 seconds, with spectral displacements of 8.2 cm and 6.0 cm, respectively. The normalized target displacements are 0.0084 and 0.0032, influenced by higher design spectrum and foundation flexibility in the four-story building.

Capacity Spectrum Method

Using equivalent damping of 26%, the normalized roof displacements at the performance points are 0.0106 for the four-story and 0.0044 for the eight-story building.

Performance Evaluation

The capacity spectrum method yields larger displacements than the coefficient method [12]. However, target displacements, which align with time history analysis results, show both buildings exceed their global yield displacements but stay below ultimate displacements, meeting the life safety performance level according to FEMA-356 criteria.

Table 7 Comparison of Normalized Maximum Roof Displacement Demands of the Rehabilitated Buildings from Nonlinear Static Procedures

Sample Building	Target Displacement	Capacity Spectrum	Ultimate Displacement
4-Story, fixed base	0.0048	0.0092	0.0140



4-Story, flexible base	0.0084	0.0126	0.0170
8-Story	0.0032	0.0044	0.0105

Figure 6 illustrates the plastic hinge distribution at the target displacement of the four-story building, while Table VIII provides the corresponding plastic rotations for the first-story members. The members in Figure 6 are numbered sequentially from left to right, with Table VIII listing the maximum plastic rotations from both ends of each member [13].

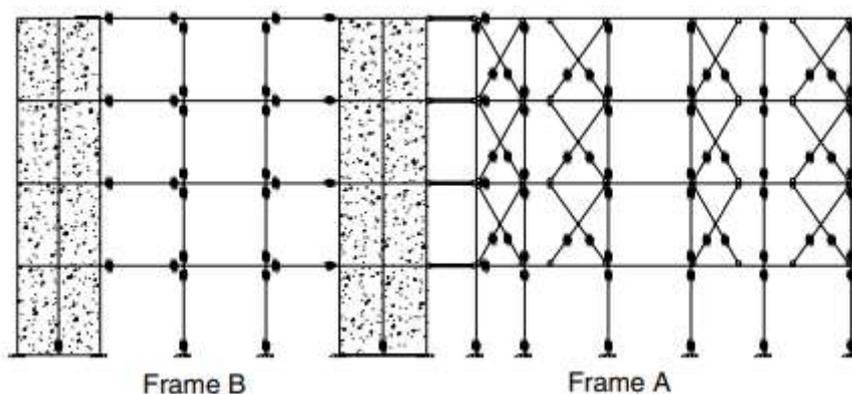


Figure 6 Plastic hinge mechanism in the four-story rehabilitated building at target displacement under design ground motion

Table 8 Plastic rotations of Members in the First Story of the Four-Story Building (rad)

Member Type	Member Numbers							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Beams	0.0083	0.0044	0.0108	0.0060	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Columns	0.0042	0.0050	0.0031	0.0050	0.0032	0.0031	0.0032	0.0043
Walls	0.0028	0.0045						

The acceptable plastic rotation for beams with non-conforming transverse reinforcement is 0.005 radians at the life safety level. Beams 1 and 3, framing into new walls, exceeded this limit, but such rotations are tolerable if the beams fail in flexure and act as "fuses" (Holmes [14]). Their rotation capacity was increased with carbon fiber strips. For non-conforming columns, the acceptable plastic rotation is 0.005 radians for low axial loads, reducing to 0.002 with higher loads. Axial loads in columns were below 0.20, except for columns 4 and 5, which reached 0.40, with minimal shear stresses. Shear walls, not carrying axial loads, performed well with rotations well below the limit. In the eight-story building, all components had plastic rotations below acceptable limits, including coupling beam 4, which had a limit of 0.008 radians. The three shear walls, carrying 70% of the base shear, performed at the immediate occupancy level. Rehabilitation costs were 23% and 25% of replacement costs for the two buildings, with costs not exceeding 30% in 130 rehabilitated buildings [14]. This simple rehabilitation approach is effective for medium-rise concrete buildings in seismic regions.

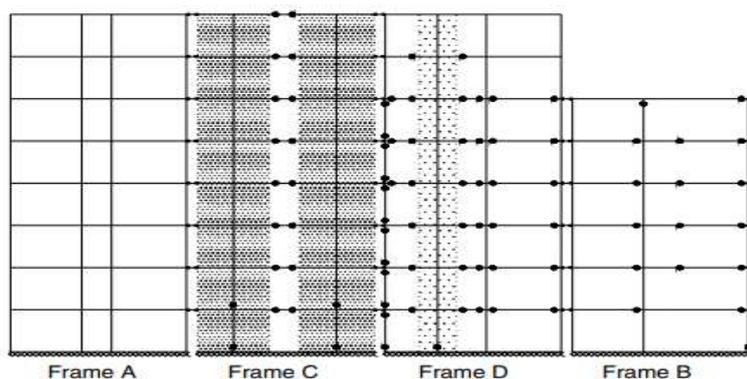


Figure 7 Plastic hinge mechanism in the eight-story rehabilitated building at target displacement under design ground motion

Table 9 Plastic rotations of Members in the First Story of the Eight-Story Building (rad)

Member Type	Member numbers									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Beams	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0072	0.0019	0.0027	0.0015	0.0008	0.0009	
Columns	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0031	0.0033	0.0033	0.0032	0.0032	0.0006
Walls	0.0018	0.0017	0.0014							

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, this study provides a comprehensive evaluation of the seismic performance of buildings in Dinar and Ceyhan, focusing on the rehabilitation efforts undertaken to enhance their resistance to ground motions from past earthquakes. The analysis involved a combination of linear dynamic, nonlinear static, and dynamic procedures to assess the performance of buildings before and after rehabilitation. The results indicated that the seismic hazard, represented by the 475-year return period design spectra, was effectively enveloped by the recorded ground motions in both regions. However, the structural deficiencies of the buildings, such as inadequate column-to-beam strength ratios and insufficient reinforcement, were critical in the observed damage during the earthquakes. The rehabilitation strategy employed involved the addition of concrete shear walls, significantly improving the seismic resistance of the buildings while retaining the original frame primarily for gravity load-bearing. Both the four-story building in Dinar and the eight-story building in Ceyhan demonstrated improved seismic performance after rehabilitation, with the incorporation of shear walls enhancing lateral stiffness and strength. Performance evaluations, including the comparison of demand-capacity ratios (DCRs), indicated that the rehabilitation effectively addressed key vulnerabilities in the original structures. However, the linear spectral analysis proved conservative in its predictions, particularly for beam damage. The nonlinear static and dynamic analyses provided a more accurate depiction of the damage distribution, aligning better with observed behavior during actual earthquake motions. The results underscore the importance of considering both traditional seismic design approaches and performance-based strategies in rehabilitating older structures. The findings highlight that the rehabilitation measures adopted in this study were successful in achieving life safety performance under the expected seismic hazard. Future efforts should focus on refining rehabilitation

methodologies, improving design criteria, and ensuring that structures remain resilient to higher-magnitude earthquakes.

Future Scope

- Further research into cost-effective retrofitting methods using innovative materials and technologies for enhanced seismic resilience.
- Development of more precise seismic design criteria, considering regional variations and dynamic loading conditions.
- Expanding studies to assess building performance under higher-magnitude earthquakes for comprehensive risk assessment.
- Integration of advanced seismic analysis techniques, including real-time testing and machine learning, for improved predictions.

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