Comparison of using Different Modeling Techniques on Prediction of the Nonlinear Behavior of R/C Shear Walls

O. Saghaetan, F. Nateghi

* Department of Civil Engineering, Azad University South of Tehran Branch, Tehran, Iran
b International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology, Tehran, Iran

Abstract

Reinforced concrete shear walls have been used throughout the world as known resisting elements for the lateral wind and earthquake loads. They are mostly designed and constructed based on elastic calculations and therefore resulting in uneconomical sections. In order to overcome this weakness, scientists have proposed different methodologies to account for the nonlinear behavior of these walls. However, using these different models, different results are obtained causing doubts about the domain of their usage. In this paper, three known methods are used for the prediction of the nonlinear behavior of R/C shear walls and then they are compared to finite element one; investigating possibilities and weakness of each method. In doing so, first a nonlinear finite element model has been generated for a quarter-scale wall specimen and verified by an experimental model and then applied as a basis of the comparison to the used analytical models. Results are compared and relatively good agreements are obtained amongst three modeling methods with finite element one. Thereafter, methods used, procedure, modeling and the analytical results are presented in this paper.

1. Introduction

In order to design an economical R/C shear wall, it would be appropriate to utilize the nonlinear behavior of these walls. The accurate evaluation of this nonlinearity requires close attention to the important behavioral features such as tension-stiffening, nonlinearity and the axial force effect on the strength and stiffness [1].

In view of that, there are various models developed for the assessment of this nonlinear behavior. One method of nonlinear behavior estimation for R/C shear walls offered in 1988 by Ghobarah and Yousef [2] as illustrated in Figure 1. In this model, the plastic zone of the wall is defined by the use of four steel and concrete springs. The boundary elements of the wall and its web element are also modeled with two outer and inner springs, respectively as shown.

Another practical approach on the inelastic behavior evaluation of the reinforced concrete shear walls, the equivalent reinforced concrete strategy, which has been depicted in Figure 2, suggested by Mazars et al. [3] in 2002. As the basis of framework method [4], this model utilized a lattice mesh to aid the evaluation of the nonlinear behavior of the shear walls. The fundamental idea of the framework method consisted in replacing the continuum material of the elastic body under investigation with a framework of bars was arranged according to a definite pattern, whose elements had appropriate elastic properties. 1-D constitutive law [5, 6] was handled for the concrete and steel materials.

Moreover, in 2006, Orakal and Wallace [7] postulated another beneficial strategy that revealed detailed information on the calibration of MVLEM by comparing the analytical results with the experimental results for the reinforced concrete walls with rectangular and T-shaped cross sections.

Figure 3 shows a structural wall which was modeled as a stack of m-elements, which were placed one upon the other. The flexural response is simulated by a series of n-uniaxial elements connected to infinitely rigid beams at the top and bottom levels.

Eventually, Belmouden and Lestuzzi [8] in 2006 advocated an inelastic one-dimensional finite element
model for a seismic two dimensional frame analysis. As shown in Figure 4, it consisted of multi-layered Timoshenko beam-elements coupled with the fiber connection hinges, which were two multilayer finite interfaces with zero length and two degrees of freedom. Taking into consideration the deformations that occur in the beam-to-column, column-to-footing or wall-to-footing connections, the fiber connection hinges should be specified at the beam ends. To characterize the constitutive laws of the layers, uniaxial stress–strain relationships should be simultaneous with shear stress–strain relationships for the beam elements.

It should be highlighted that there are widespread experimental evidences which indicate that diverse issues affect the nonlinear behavior of the shear walls. The monotonic loading tests on slender reinforced concrete shear walls validated that concentration and appropriate confinement of the longitudinal reinforcements in the boundary elements of the R/C walls extended their ductility [9]. Not only, this valuable insight provide in the monotonic loading tests, but also the aforesaid improvements have been confirmed in the cyclic ones as well [10, 11]. Another contributing factor that influences the nonlinear behavior of the shear walls is diagonal web reinforcement which was investigated by Sittipunt [12] in 2001.

This paper motivates by establishing the validity of the analytical model which is implemented in the ABAQUS. In this way, the correlation between the analytical results in ABAQUS and the experimental results obtained by Thomsen and Wallace are studied [13]. Afterwards, the exactness of the column analogy, truss analogy and fiber element modeling approaches are compared with the finite element model. Comparisons are carried out not only to comprehend the nonlinear behavior of the R/C shear walls, but also to discern the capability of the models and the techniques to improve them.

2. EXPERIMENTAL AND ANALYTICAL RESULTS FOR A QUARTER-SCALE WALL SPECIMEN

2.1. Experimental Results Experimental data and results for the quarter-scaled wall specimen with a rectangular cross section were obtained from Thomsen and Wallace tests [13] for verification of one finite element model. According to these experiments, the wall specimen had a height of 3.66 m, a thickness of 102 mm, and a web length of 1.22 m. Furthermore, the boundary elements detail of the wall specimen were achieved by employing displacement-based design methods [14, 15] and its shear capacity was estimated.
by ACI318-19 code [16]. Reinforcement details for the wall specimen are shown in Figure 5.

An axial force was applied at the top of the wall by a hydraulic actuator and held constant during the test. Cyclic lateral displacements were applied to the wall by means of a hydraulic actuator mounted horizontally on the wall. To prevent twisting of the wall specimen for the duration of the test, out of plane support was provided. Given analytical wall specimen that was implemented in ABAQUS were subjected to horizontal displacement up to the target point; the monotonic enveloped curve of the experimental load-deformation should drawn special attention. Figure 6 depicts the load-displacement diagram from the experiment. The concrete and reinforcement properties are summarized in Table 1 and 2 [7, 13].

2.2. Analytical Results  As the finite element technique is a numerical progression to resolve the differential equations, it can provide engineers with valuable insight into the behavior of the structural elements. This section employs ABAQUS to reproduce the nonlinear behavior of a reinforced concrete wall specimen. ABAQUS is a robust analytical tool used for element and structural modeling and also has been widely applied in a variety of fields. Taking advantage of the ability of ABAQUS to represent the nonlinear behavior of materials, the concrete and steel relations will be characterized later.

This program has a broad range of elements and the key issue here would be the selection of an appropriate element type based on the problem. In this case, the four-node shell elements are preferred by virtue of the displacement and rotational degrees of freedom in order to model the reinforced concrete shear wall under the seismic loads [16]. These elements are utilized to represent structures in which one dimension, the thickness, is considerably smaller than the other dimensions. Actually, the shell elements discretize a body by defining the geometry at a reference surface, and the thickness is defined through the section property definition. Figure 7 exhibits the discretization of the wall cross section by means of shell elements. Precise recreation through a computational attempt necessitates the properties of the materials involved, to be modeled as close to the physical specimen as plausible. In this regard, the stress-strain relations of the reinforcements were defined by means of kinematic hardening model [17] which was presented in the documentation of ABAQUS; in fact, it is a cyclic model which can take into account the Bauschinger effect and the buckling. As input data in ABAQUS, the stress and the strain at the yield point and at an arbitrary point were given. The parameters utilized for modeling of the steel stress-strain relations in ABAQUS are presented in Table 3 and 4. [7]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 1. Concrete properties [7]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concrete properties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boundary (confined concrete)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web (unconfined concrete)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 2. Steel properties [7]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steel properties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3 reinforcing bars (dₘ = 9.53mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2 reinforcing bars (dₘ = 6.35mm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5. Wall cross section [7]

Figure 6. Comparison of analytical and experimental load-deformation responses [7]
To characterize the concrete stress-strain relations, Concrete Damage Plasticity model [17, 18] which was implemented in ABAQUS documentation is utilized. One of the possible advantages of this strategy is the assessment of the wall behavior based on the progression of the damage in the concrete. This requires an estimate of the variation of the accumulated damage with respect to the strain in concrete. If a chosen material model is unable to map such feature, the structural response will be imprecise. Indeed, the Concrete Damage Plasticity model incorporates the behavior of concrete in both tension and compression and also the significant features of the behavior such as hardening, softening and stiffness degradation effects in the concrete. Furthermore, modeling the wall specimens in ABAQUS, Hoshikuma unconfined concrete relations [19, 20] were applied to generate the values of stress and strain of this model. The required relation for the estimation of plastic strain besides the concrete stress-strain relations which was proposed by Hoshikuma will be then briefly addressed.

The applied displacement history on the top of the wall has been depicted in Figure 9. As well, from the comparison between the analytical and experimental load-deformation responses, reasonable agreement with the experimental results is obvious (Figure 10). It should be stated that larger analytical load-deformation values may be due to the fact that experimental results which were represented by Thomsen and Wallace [13] have been investigated under the cyclic loading, whereas the analytical diagram has been provided through monotonic loading in ABAQUS. This accommodates the test results of Portland cement in which fifty percent degradation of the flexural strength under the cyclic loading as well as the slow increase in the amplitude of the loading are observed as compared with monotonic load [10, 11].

2.3. Hoshikuma Concrete Constitutive Model

As previously mentioned, Hoshikuma [19] constitutive model has provided the plastic strain values for the concrete. In continuation, various parameters associated with this model in the compression and tensile region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 3. Modeling parameters for #3 bars [1]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Point of stress-strain curve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start yielding point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbitrary point beyond yielding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 4. Modeling parameters for #2 bars [1]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Point of stress-strain curve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start yielding point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbitrary point beyond yielding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 7. Modeling of the R/C wall using 4-node shell elements [1]

Figure 8. Hoshikuma concrete constitutive model [19]

Figure 9. Applied displacement history [29]
are shown in Figure 8. The parameters of the concrete compression region are the compressive stress $f_{cc}$, the corresponding strain $\varepsilon_{cc}$, the ultimate strain of confined concrete $\varepsilon_{cu}$, the compressive stress in unconfined concrete $f_{co}$, and the corresponding strain $\varepsilon_{co}$. The parameters of the concrete tensile region are the concrete tensile stress $f'_t$ and the ultimate tensile strain $\varepsilon_t$.

Concrete in compression:
- Ascending branch:
  $$f_c = E_c \varepsilon_c \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{\varepsilon_c}{\varepsilon_{cc}} \right)^n \right]$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (1)
- Descending branch:
  $$f_c = f_{cc} - E_{des} (\varepsilon_c - \varepsilon_{cc})$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (2)
  $$n = \frac{E_c \varepsilon_{cc}}{E_c \varepsilon_{cc} - f_{cc}}$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (3)
  $$E_{des} = \frac{f_{cc} - f_{cc \text{resid}}}{\varepsilon_{co} - \varepsilon_{cc}}$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (4)
  $$\varepsilon_{cc} = 0.004 + \frac{1.4 \rho_{sh} f_{sh} \varepsilon_{sub}}{f_{cc}}$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (5)
  $$f_{cc} = f_{co} + 3.8 \alpha \rho_{sh} f_{sh}$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (6)
  $$\varepsilon_{cc} = 0.002 + 0.033 \beta \frac{\rho_{sh} f_{sh}}{f_{cc}}$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (7)

According to Mender constitutive model [21], $\rho_{sh}$, $\varepsilon_{sub}$, and $f_{sh}$ are respectively the volumetric ratio, the ultimate strain and the yield strength of the transverse reinforcement. As well, $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are the cross section coefficients. It should be noted that for the circular sections, $\alpha = \beta = 1$ and for square sections, $\alpha = 0.2$ and $\beta = 0.4$. In this way, to avoid the numerical problems, $0.2 f_{cc}$ is considered as a residual value of the confined concrete strength. The plastic strain for ABAQUS calculations are given by [22]:
  $$\varepsilon_p = 0.145 \left( \frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon_{cc}} \right)^2 + 0.13 \left( \frac{\varepsilon - \varepsilon'_t}{\varepsilon_{cc}} \right)$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (8)

The unconfined concrete constitutive model consists of a nonlinear ascending branch and a linear descending branch (Figure 8). The relationships for these branches in both unconfined concrete and confined concrete are similar except that $f_{cc}$ and $\varepsilon_{cc}$ which are replaced with $f_{co}$ and $\varepsilon_{co}$ (Equations (1), (3) and (8)), respectively and $E_{des}$ is given by $E_{des} = f_{co}/2\varepsilon_{co}$. In this paper, $f_{co} = 0.85 f'_c$ and $f'_c$ is the compressive strength of concrete from the standard compressive test in terms of MPa. $\varepsilon_{co}$ is taken as 0.002. The bilinear constitutive model which represents the confined and unconfined concrete in tension is shown in Figure 8.

Concrete in tension [17, 19]:
  $$f'_t = 0.1 f_c$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (9)
  $$\varepsilon_t = \frac{f'_t}{E'_t}$$  
  \hspace{1cm} (10)

![Figure 10. Analytical and experimental load-deformation responses [29]](www.SID.ir)
simplified analysis strategies and also compared with finite method.

3.1. Design of the Realistic Wall Specimen

The realistic wall specimen was 4 m tall and 0.3 m thick. Typical material properties were selected for design, i.e. \( f' = 210 \text{kg/cm}^2 \) and \( f_y = 4000 \text{kg/cm}^2 \). The exhaustive material properties of the wall specimen are summarized in Table 5.

Initially, a prototype residential building in the high seismic risk area was employed to assess the wall geometry and the reinforcing details (Figure 11) [23]. The prototype building was a three story building with a total height of 9 m and incorporated rectangular walls, besides moment resisting frames to cope with the lateral and gravity loads. Then, to design the wall specimen, which is illustrated in Figure 11, the three-dimensional model of the building was built via ETABS 9.5.0.

It should be noted that gravity loads of the building were evaluated based on Iranian National Building Code [24] and also its seismic loads were estimated based on 2800.3, standard code. By the way, taking the advantage of the ultimate strength design methodology in ACI318-95 [16], the detailing requirements were determined for the wall specimen (Figure 12). The boundary vertical steels consist of 8-\( \phi 18 \) (\( d_b = 18 \text{mm} \)) bars, while the web bars compose of 14-\( \phi 14 \) (\( d_b = 14 \text{mm} \)) bars. Additional information are illustrated in Figure 12.

### Table 5. Concrete and steel properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Density (kg/cm²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modules of elasticity for 0.5( f' ) stress (kg/cm²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poison coefficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compressive strength of concrete (kg/cm²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield stress of longitudinal steel (flexural) (kg/cm²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yield stress of transverse steel (kg/cm²)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2. Analysis Method

The realistic wall specimen is analyzed by the nonlinear static analysis approach, also named pushover analysis, which is a simplified analytical strategy for the performance evaluation of buildings under seismic loads. In this approach, a monotonically increasing lateral load is statically applied to the structure until the target displacement at the certain point (control point), is exceeded or the structure is collapsed. At the outset, given the Seismic Rehabilitation of Building Code [25] requirements, one of the three following lateral load patterns should be underlined:

1. A vertical distribution which is proportional to vertical distribution of linear static method. Use of this distribution shall be permitted only when more than 75% of the total mass participates in the fundamental mode in the direction under consideration, and the uniform distribution is also used.

2. A vertical distribution which is proportional to the shape of the fundamental mode in the direction under consideration. Use of this distribution shall be permitted only when more than 75% of the total mass participates in this mode.

3. A vertical distribution which is proportional to the story shear distribution and is calculated by combining modal responses from a response spectrum analysis of the building, including sufficient modes to capture at least 90% of the total building mass, and using the appropriate ground motion spectrum. This distribution shall be used when the period of the fundamental mode exceeds 1.0 second [25].

Regarding to modal data which is reported in Table 6, the third pattern is selected. It is to be emphasized that nonlinear static analysis of the structures can be accomplished in various approaches like the displacement coefficient and the capacity spectrum method. Considering all factors that relate to this issue, the displacement coefficient method was utilized. In this regard, the mass center of the third floor is taken as the displacement control point and the target displacement
of the shear wall is also regarded at the Life Safety Performance Level.

Finally, the effects of the upper and lower limits of the gravity loads in the combinations of the gravity and lateral loads are assessed from the following relations using seismic rehabilitation of building code:

\[ Q_{d1} = 1.1(Q_d + Q_{L}), Q_{d2} = 0.9Q_d \]

- \( Q_d \): Dead-load
- \( Q_L \): Effective live load

- \( SPUY \): The upper limit of gravity load combination + the vertical distribution proportional to the story shear distribution calculated from a response spectrum analysis

- \( SPLY \): The lower limit of gravity load combination + the vertical distribution proportional to the story shear distribution calculated from a response spectrum analysis

It should be stated that in present paper, the upper limit of gravity load combination has been studied.

3.3. Finite Element Model

The realistic wall specimen was implemented in ABAQUS to draw a direct comparison between the results of the finite element method and three simplified modeling approaches. Again, the numerical analysis for the above wall specimen are performed via four-node shell elements in ABAQUS as those accomplished for the quarter scale wall specimen (Figure 13). Concerning the material behaviors, the stress-strain relations of the concrete and reinforcement bars were performed using concrete damage plasticity [26, 27] and kinematic hardening model respectively in ABAQUS. In this regard, the required stress-strain values for the concrete damage plasticity model have been assessed based on the Hoshikuma unconfined concrete relations [19] same as the earlier sections. Before analysis, the analytical models were subjected to the dead and live loads which were the concentrated loads applied at the nodes of the floor level. Simultaneously, the weight of each element are estimated and imposed on the central point of the wall elements with regard to the material density in ABAQUS. Afterwards, the lateral load distribution, based on Table 7, is applied on the floor levels and also gradually increases until target displacement at the mass center of third floor is exceeded.

### Table 7. Story force due to response spectrum analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Story</th>
<th>Height (mm)</th>
<th>Force (N)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STORY3</td>
<td>9000</td>
<td>165683.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORY2</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>125286.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORY1</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>72502.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 6. The building modal information via ETABS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Period (s)</th>
<th>Dimensionless displacement in X direction</th>
<th>Dimensionless displacement in Y direction</th>
<th>Accumulated dimensionless displacement in X direction</th>
<th>Accumulated dimensionless displacement in Y direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>71.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>71.12</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>71.54</td>
<td>71.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>71.54</td>
<td>72.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>75.04</td>
<td>72.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>75.04</td>
<td>74.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>75.04</td>
<td>74.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>20.80</td>
<td>75.04</td>
<td>95.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>20.65</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>95.69</td>
<td>95.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>95.69</td>
<td>95.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>95.70</td>
<td>98.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>98.83</td>
<td>98.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>98.83</td>
<td>98.83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 8. Target displacement [1]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target displacement (mm)</th>
<th>C0</th>
<th>C1</th>
<th>C2</th>
<th>C3</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>TE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14.10</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 9. Modeling parameters for steel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point of stress-strain curve</th>
<th>Modulus of elasticity (GPa)</th>
<th>Stress (MPa)</th>
<th>Plastic strain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start yielding point</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>392.30</td>
<td>0.00000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbitrary point beyond yielding</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>396.42</td>
<td>0.00102</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4. Column Analogy Method

The column analogy methodology is a frame based model which incorporates a set of frame elements. Based on the previous studies, a thin symmetrical wall with a height-to-length ratio greater than 2 can be assumed as a vertical cantilever on account of the fact that it is governed by the bending moment. The moment of inertia and the shear surface of the column in each zone is the same as the primary wall. Since the height-to-length ratio of the wall specimen is about 2.25, the column analogy method seems appropriate [28, 29].

It is essential to know that the nonlinearity of material in any frame element can be disclosed by either lumped [30] or the distributed plasticity model [31]. In the lumped plasticity model, a frame element is composed of two zero-length nonlinear rotational spring elements and an elastic element which connects them. The nonlinear behavior of structures is evaluated by nonlinear moment–rotation relationships of these spring elements. More specially, the lumped plasticity model is widely used in the high-volume analysis calculations such as nonlinear time-history analysis of a large structure due to effortlessness of this model [19].

The column analogy strategy is implemented the lumped [31] plasticity model at the critical sections (location where the yielding is expected like the critical flexural sections at the top and the bottom of story height and also the critical shear section at the middle of story height), it also assumes that the rest of element remains perfectly elastic. Figure 15 details the two nonlinear rotational springs (PMM) at the two ends of element together with the shear hinges (VHING) at the middle height of each story in SAP.

| TABLE 10. Nonlinear flexural-axial hinges properties |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| $T_w=$ | 300 | $P/(T_w L_w f_c)=0.1$ | $0.25$ |
| $L_w=$ | 4000 | $P=$ | 2473200000 | 6183000 |
| $f_c=$ | 20.61 | $a=$ | 0.0150 | 0.0090 |
| $b=$ | 0.0200 | $c=$ | 0.7500 | 0.6000 |

| TABLE 11. Nonlinear shear hinges properties |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| $T_w=$ | 300 | $V_c=$ | 653734.63 |
| $L_w=$ | 4000 | $V_s=$ | 1640624.40 |
| $f_c=$ | 20.61 | $V=$ | 2294359.03 |
| $v_c=$ | 0.54 | $a=$ | 0.75 |
| $A=$ | 1200000 | $b=$ | 2.00 |
| $F_Y=$ | 392.50 | $c=$ | 0.40 |
In continuation, the properties of the flexural hinges in conjunction with the shear hinges have been defined by seismic rehabilitation of building code (Table 10 and 11). It should be mentioned that combination of the gravity loads, the lateral loads, and their distribution in the analysis of all later simplified schemes are the same as those in the analysis of the finite element method.

3.5. Truss Analogy Method  The truss analogy strategy is also a frame based model which incorporates a set of braced frame elements. Correspondingly, the cross section of the column is postulated as 25% wall’s cross section, yet the cross section of the brace elements has been estimated so that elastic lateral stiffness of the trusses and the shear walls are the same. The plastic moment arm of wall’s cross section is equivalent to the distance between two centers of the boundary elements in the horizontal plane (3200 mm). This value is adopted by ACI318-95 code regulations 11-10-4 [16] where the effective depth of shear is taken 0.8L, here L stands for the length of the wall.

In order to achieve a good compromise between the simplicity and the accuracy, a bilinear description is used in the axial hinges (Figure 18). Relevant parameters to define this model such as the yield axial force, the plastic axial force and plastic deformation of the cross sections have been calculated through use of the moment and rotation values.

To evaluate the plastic moment of the wall, the moment-curvature curves obtained from SAP software have been employed [32]. In this regard, the nonlinear behavior of the concrete materials in the boundary regions is assessed using confined concrete Hoshikama relations and at the web of the wall using unconfined ones (Figure 10), and the nonlinear behavior of the reinforcement bars has been estimated by the Equation (11) (Figure 17):

\[ f_s = f_y - (f_y - f_u) \left( \frac{\varepsilon_{su} - \varepsilon_s}{\varepsilon_{su} - \varepsilon_{sh}} \right)^2, \varepsilon_s < \varepsilon_{su} \]  

where, \( f_s, \varepsilon_s, f_y, \varepsilon_{sh}, \) and \( \varepsilon_{su} \) are respectively the steel stress, the steel strain, the ultimate stress, ultimate strain, the strain at the beginning of hardening, and ultimate strain. Regarding the dependence of the moment-curvature diagrams on the gravity load values, those should be computed in each floor level. It is to be noted that plastic moment of the cross-section occurs when the moment reaches its maximum point in Figure 20.

Nevertheless the plastic rotations, \( \theta_p \), is evaluated based on the seismic rehabilitation of building code provisions in case that \( \frac{[A - A']^T f_y}{\tau_y f_y} \leq 0.1 \), the slope of the bilinear curve is equal to slope from point A to B (Figure 21) [25].
The shear behavior of the wall have been assumed in the elastic domain before the analysis, and afterwards the validity of the first postulation has been investigated through the estimation of the ratio of the existing shear force to the yield strength in each floor. In this way, as this ratio was less than one, the first assumption could be correct.

3.6. Simulation with Fiber Element

Simulation with the fiber element as the third method of the modeling shear walls in this part of the article will be considered. In this section, the perform-3D model will employ fiber cross-sections or what perform-3D labels as “shear wall elements” consisting of the steel and concrete fibers. The shear wall element not only is a macro-element with 4-nodes and 24 degrees of freedom, [33] but also defines the nonlinearity of the material by the distributed plasticity model [19]. See Figure 22 for a graphical representation of the steel and concrete fibers. However, the shear wall elements in PERFORM have the identical behavior with the deep beams and their out-of-plane bending is assumed to be elastic [20].

To begin, the wall specimen is divided by 50 × 50 cm shear wall elements (Figure 23) and also each shear wall element is subdivided into two concrete and steel fibers (Figure 22). Then the nonlinear behavior of the concrete and steel are assigned to the fibers. Since the transverse bars cannot be modeled in perform-3D, the confined concrete Hoshikuma model is implemented in the boundary elements of the wall, while the unconfined model is utilized in the web element (Figures 14 and 16). The nonlinear behavior of the steel is defined by the steel constitutive model which is depicted in Figure 24.

4. COMPARISON OF ANALYTICAL STATEGIES AND FINITE ELEMENT RESULTS

Figures 25-29 compare the ABAQUS results and three equivalent modeling approaches corresponding to the SPUY level of loading. Figure 25 compares the base shear profiles of various approaches, the following results have been achieved:
1. It has been observed that simulation with fiber element method in comparison with the other ones is in good agreement with the finite element strategy. The pragmatic differences in the nonlinear region can be attributed to the uncertainty in the parameters associated with modeling the confined concrete relations.

2. Truss analogy method is more accurate by virtue of the brace element which simulates the wall’s shear behavior in comparison with the column analogy strategy which cannot reproduce this behavior.

3. Given the bilinear behavior which employed for the concrete material in the nonlinear hinges, the bilinear trend in the base shear-deformation diagram in the truss analogy and column strategies can be reasonable.

4. Results presented in Figure 25 also reveals that simulation with fiber element has the most precision among all strategies followed by truss analogy and column analogy, respectively.

As well, the following results are obtained by the comparison of the base shear stories graphs:

1. In simulation with fiber element at the second and third-story levels, which the base shear values cannot be captured with the finite element model, little discrepancies are beholden. Nevertheless, these values have
predicted almost similarly with finite element method in the first-story levels.

2. The exactness of predicted results resemble those discussed for above strategy. In continuation, the predicted lateral deformations values of three approaches are in close agreement with the finite element one (Figure 27). In the long run, Figure 28 illustrates that the column analogy strategy has a good potential to provide precise prediction of the story drift values.

5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In this work, three simplified modeling approaches, which compared with finite element method, are characterized to simulate the nonlinear seismic response of R/C walls: column analogy, truss analogy, and simulation with fiber elements. The paramount virtue of them lies in their straightforwardness and the fast calculations for the official and commercial objectives, notwithstanding above approaches the finite element one is computationally more involved but it provides more precise values.

At the beginning, this article drew a comparison between the finite element model and the test results for a quarter-scale wall specimen. Given the exactitude of achieved results, this model was capable to predict the inelastic response of the R/C walls. Eventually, the results of three aforementioned models were compared with the finite element one for a realistic wall specimen. From the comparison, excellent agreement with the finite element was observable. As well, three important conclusions of general view could be drawn as follows:

![Figure 27. Drift profiles in SPUY combination](image)

![Figure 28. Lateral displacement profiles in SPUY combination](image)

Firstly, the estimated lateral deformations and the base shear values disclose that simulation with fiber element approach in comparison with other ones is the most precise and the column analogy strategy is the least one. The simulation with fiber element approach underestimates the finite element top displacements by up to approximately 9% in the regions where inelastic deformations are expected. However, the truss analogy method overestimates the finite element top displacements (by up to 18%), as well as those in column analogy technique (by up to 20 %).

Secondly, the lateral deformations predicted by all above approaches are in good agreement with finite element one.

Thirdly, the column analogy strategy captures the finite element story drifts reasonably well. Nevertheless, the fiber element approach overestimates the story drifts at the second besides third floor, and underestimates them at the first floor. Likewise, the truss analogy approach overestimates the story drifts at the first floor level.

8. REFERENCES

1. A., S., Predicting nonlinear behavior of rc shear walls, in Civil Engineering Department., Azad University South of Tehran Branch (2010.)
23. "Building and housing research center (BHRC), iranian code of practice for seismic resistant design of buildings, standard no. 2800-94, 3rd edition, building and housing research center, 1994)
Comparison of using Different Modeling Techniques on the Prediction of the Nonlinear Behavior of R/C Shear Walls

O. Saghaeian, F. Nateghi

* Department of Civil Engineering, Azad University South of Tehran Branch, Tehran, Iran

b International Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology, Tehran, Iran

PAPER INFO

Paper history:
Received 16 January 2013
Received in revised form 19 August 2013
Accepted 22 August 2013

Keywords:
Concrete Shear Walls
RC Walls
Nonlinear Behavior
Finite Element Model

doi: 10.5829/idosi.ije.2014.27.02b.11