

The Built Environment Data Framework for Simulated Design and Vulnerability Modelling in Earthquake Engineering

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ROSE

CENTRE FOR TRAINING AND
RESEARCH ON REDUCTION
OF SEISMIC RISK

Background & Motivation

- Past earthquakes in have illustrated the vulnerability of existing RC frames structures

Beam-Column Joint



Masonry Infill Failure

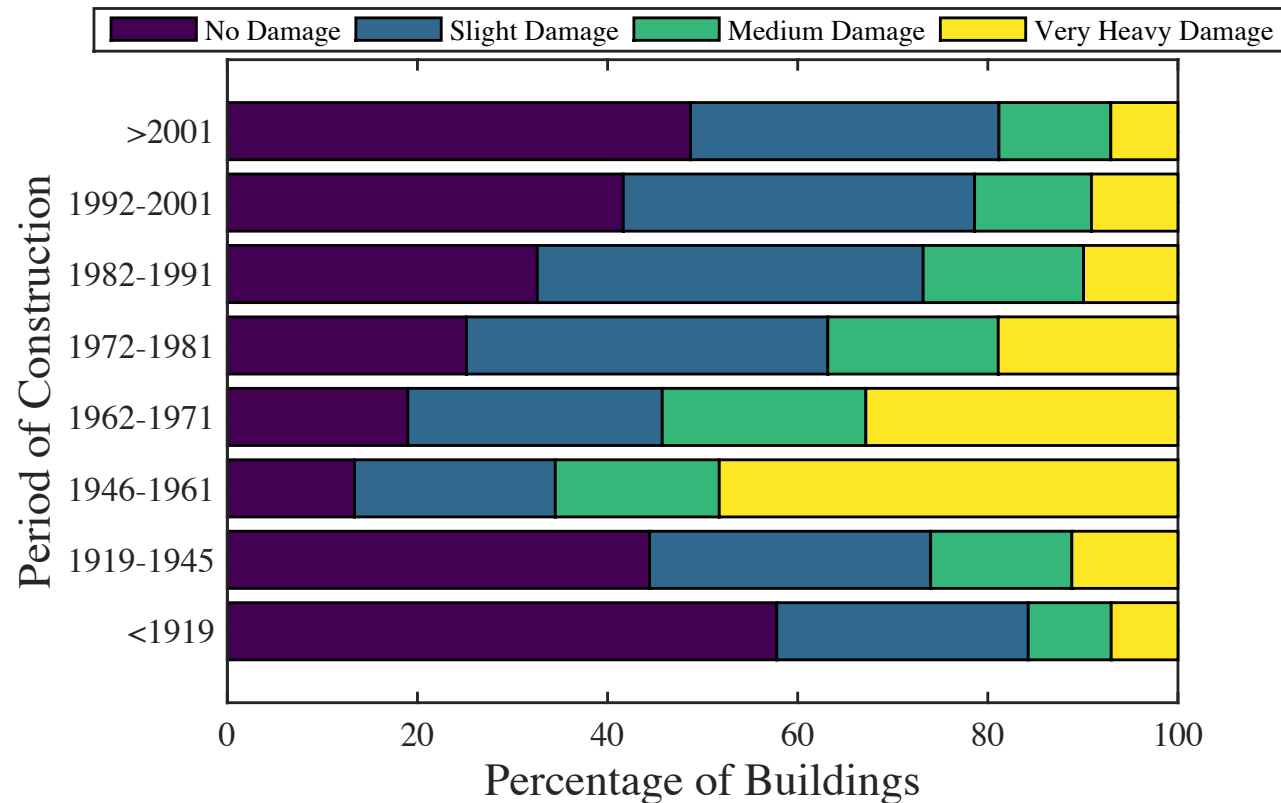


Soft Storey Collapse



Background & Motivation

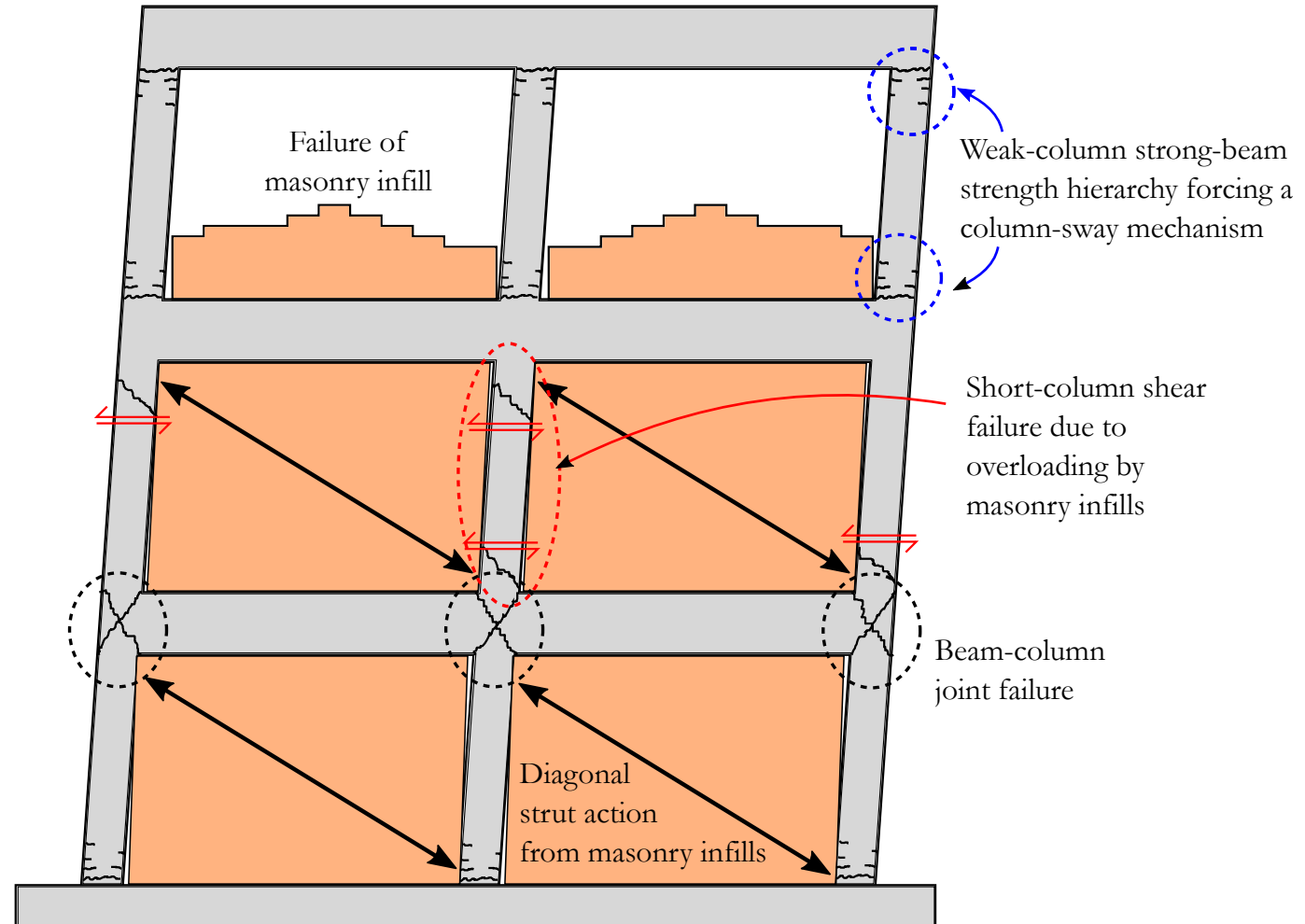
- Damage surveys following the L'Aquila event of 2009 have shown the vulnerability of RC frames constructed prior to the 1970s, when seismic design provisions were introduced



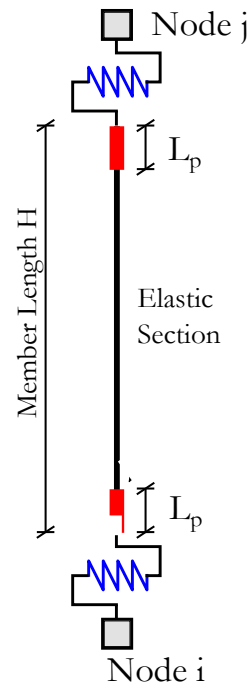
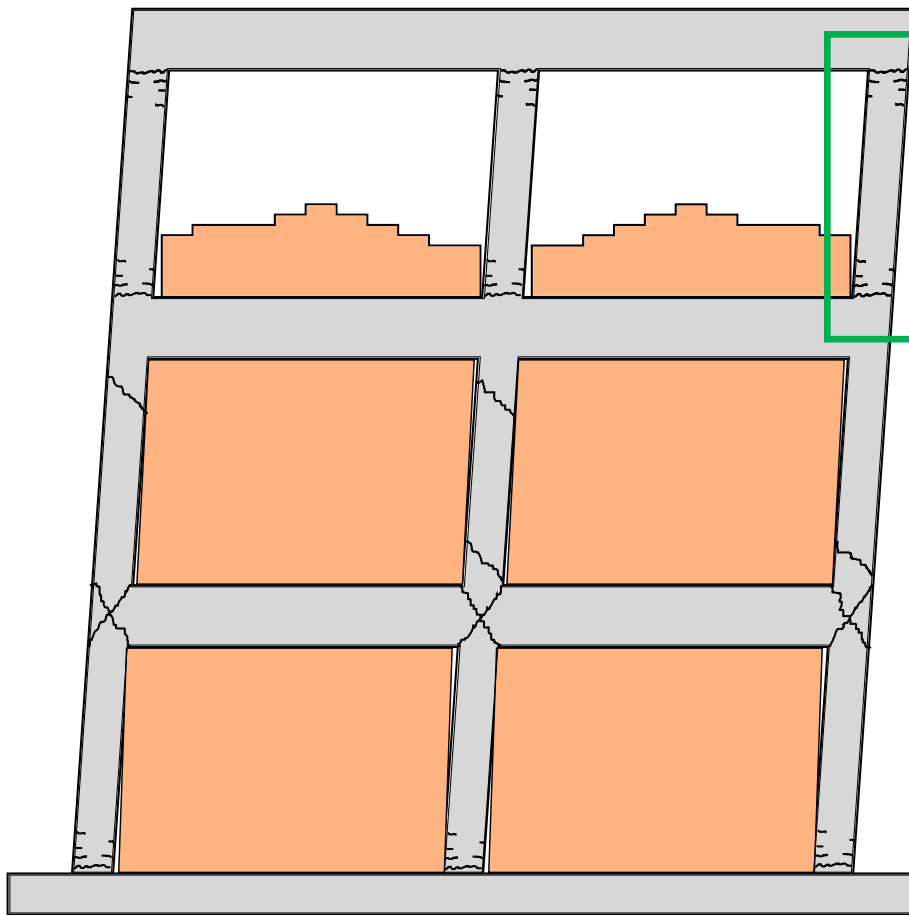
Distribution of observed damage to RC frames in L'Aquila

Numerical Modelling in OpenSees

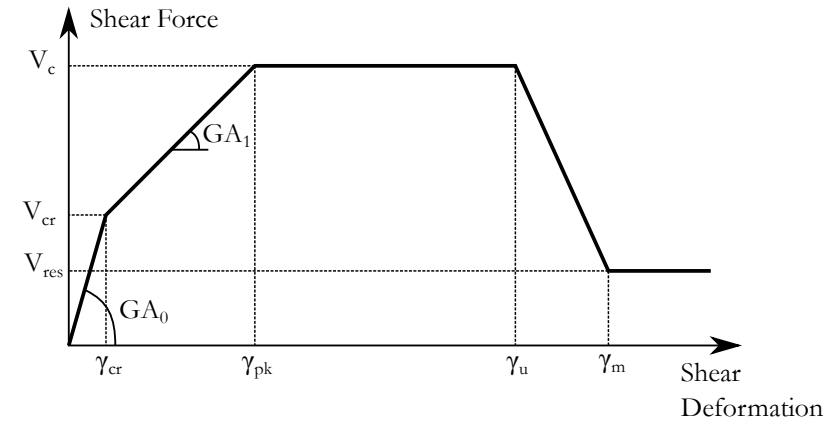
- Efficient numerical modelling approaches that capture the behaviour of the components vulnerable to damage are required
- Experimental testing and past damage observed following earthquakes have highlighted the vulnerability of various elements:
 - Non-ductile columns with modified behaviour due to smooth bars
 - Weak beam-column joints (no transverse shear reinforcement)
 - Shear failure of columns due to poor shear reinforcement and interaction with masonry infill



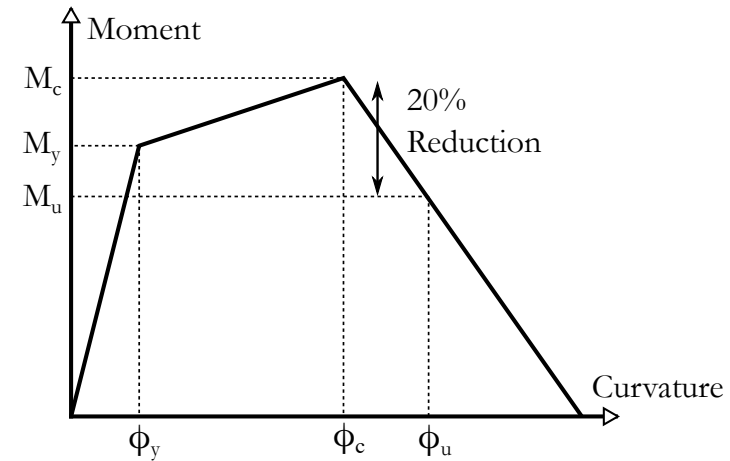
Beam-Column Element



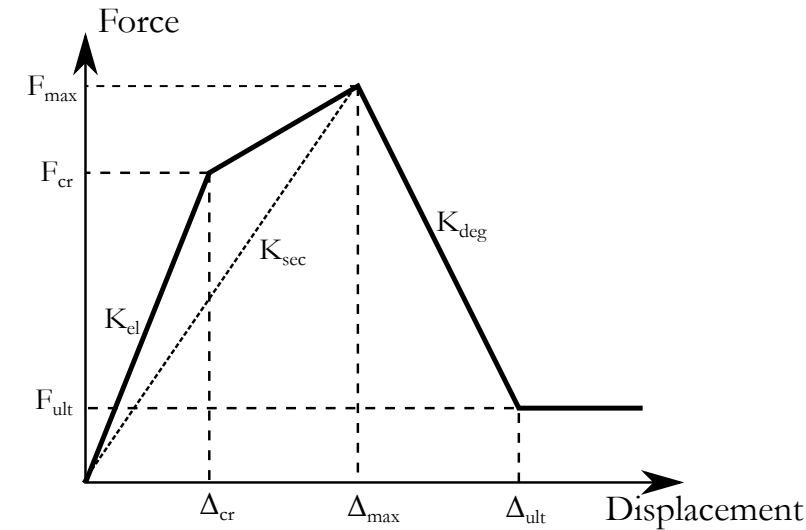
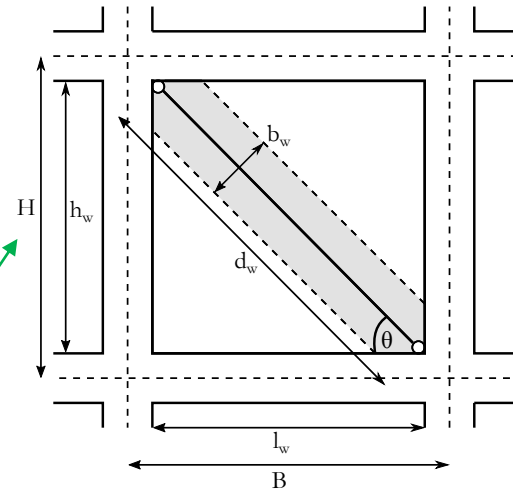
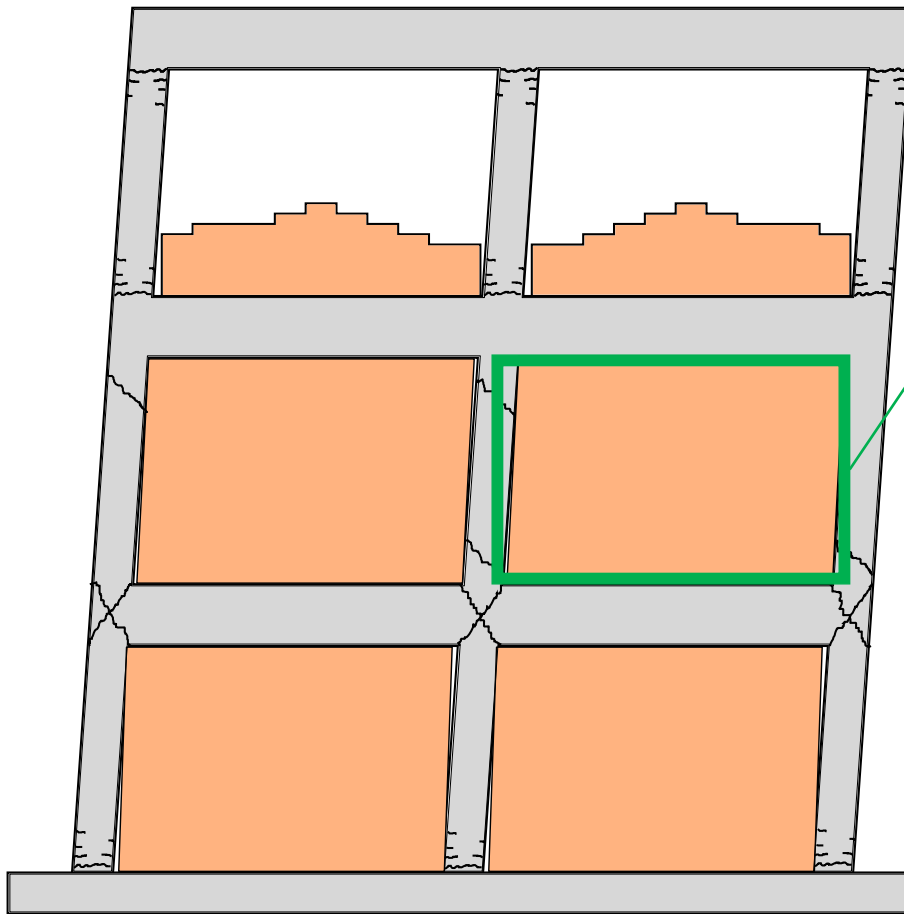
Lumped plasticity model adopted to capture ultimate ductility capacity and post peak strength degradation of members, which are calibrated to experimental data



UCSD shear model adopted from previous calibration by Mergos & Kappos [2008, 2012] and Zimos et al. [2015]

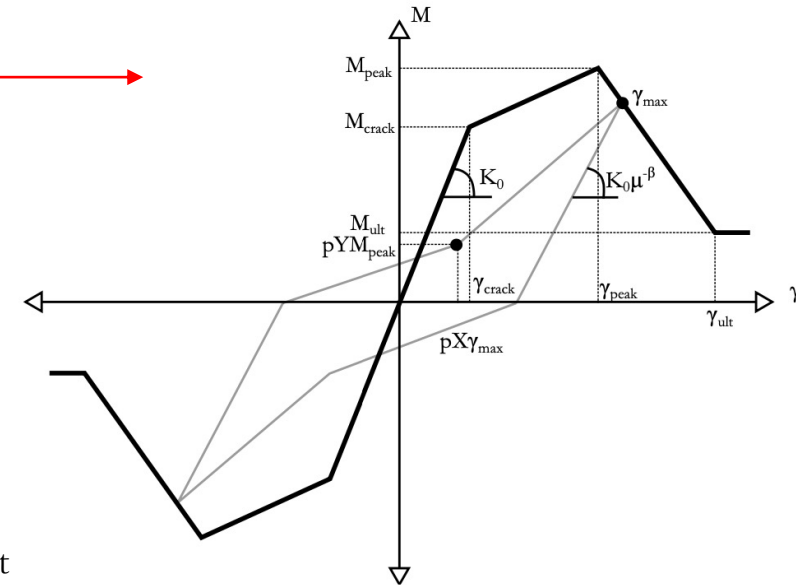
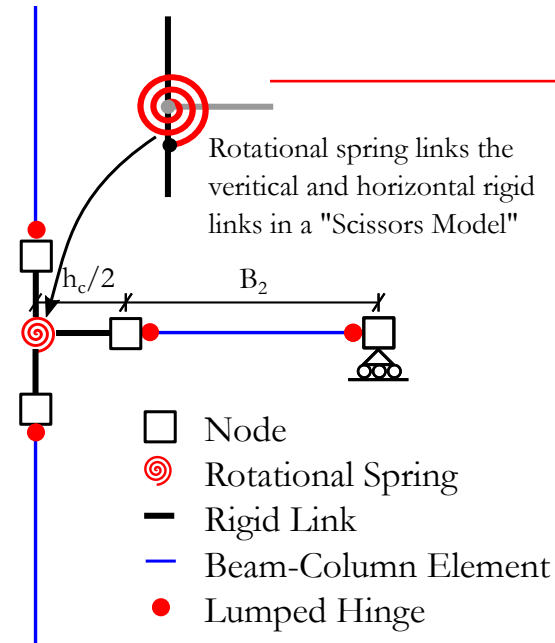
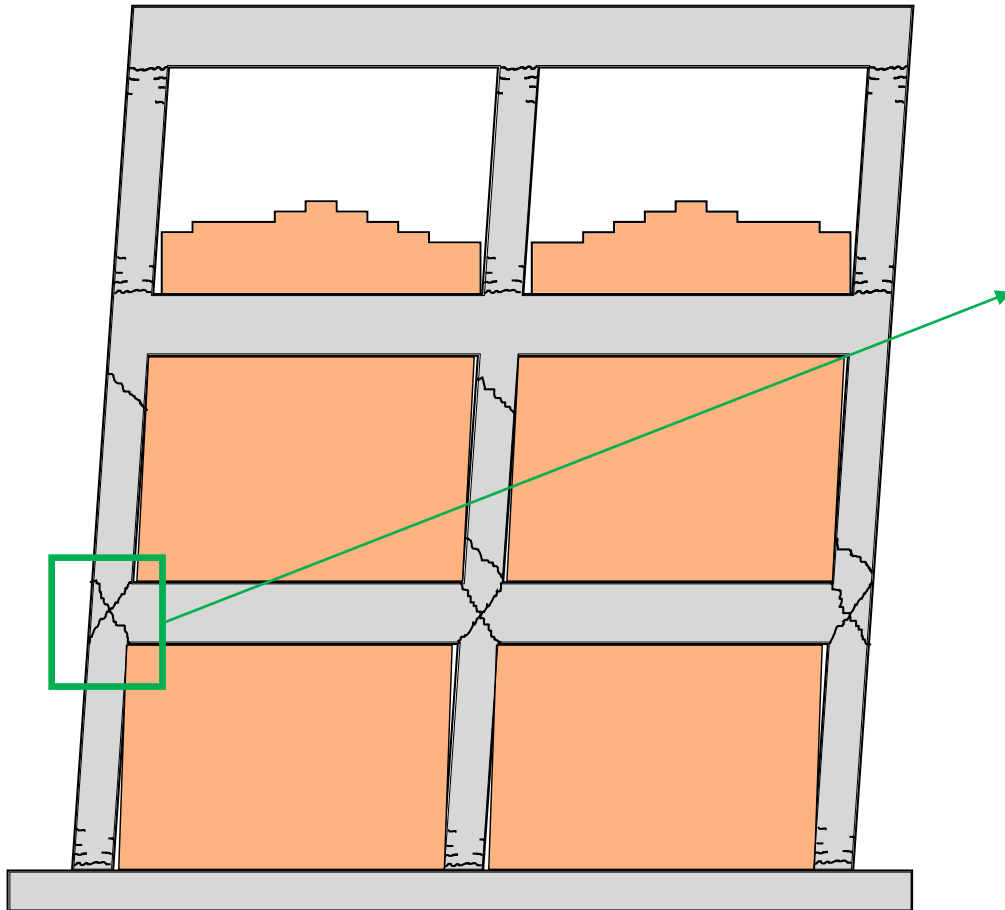


Masonry Infill



- Equivalent strut force deformation rule adopted from model proposed by Bertoldi et al. [1993] with more modifications by Sassun et al. [2015]
- Both single and double equivalent infill strut layouts outlined in Crisafulli et al. [2000] adopted here to represent the shear forces induced on the columns

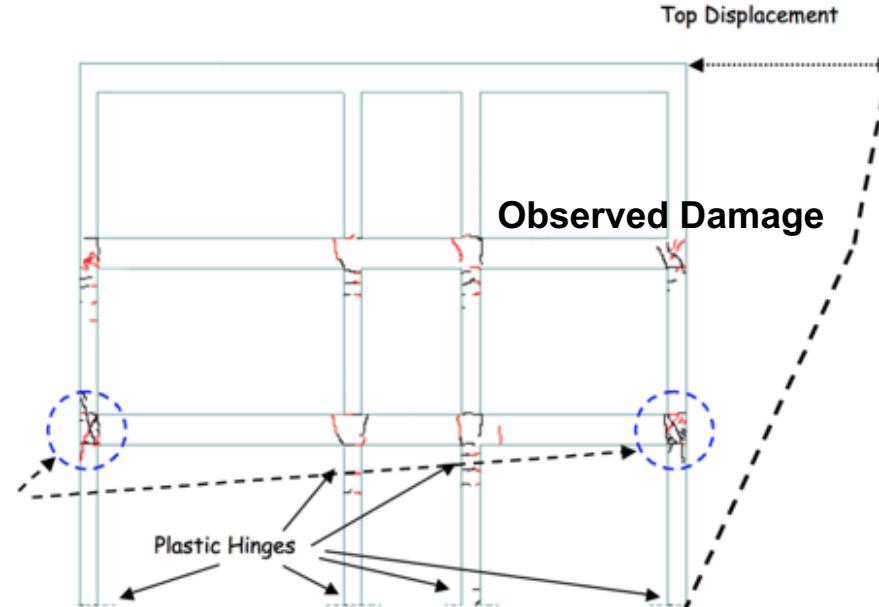
Beam-Column Joints



- Scissors Model with rigid offsets in the joint centre are adopted to represent the vulnerable behaviour of the beam-column joints
- Calibrated to experimental data to capture joint strength and potential degradation

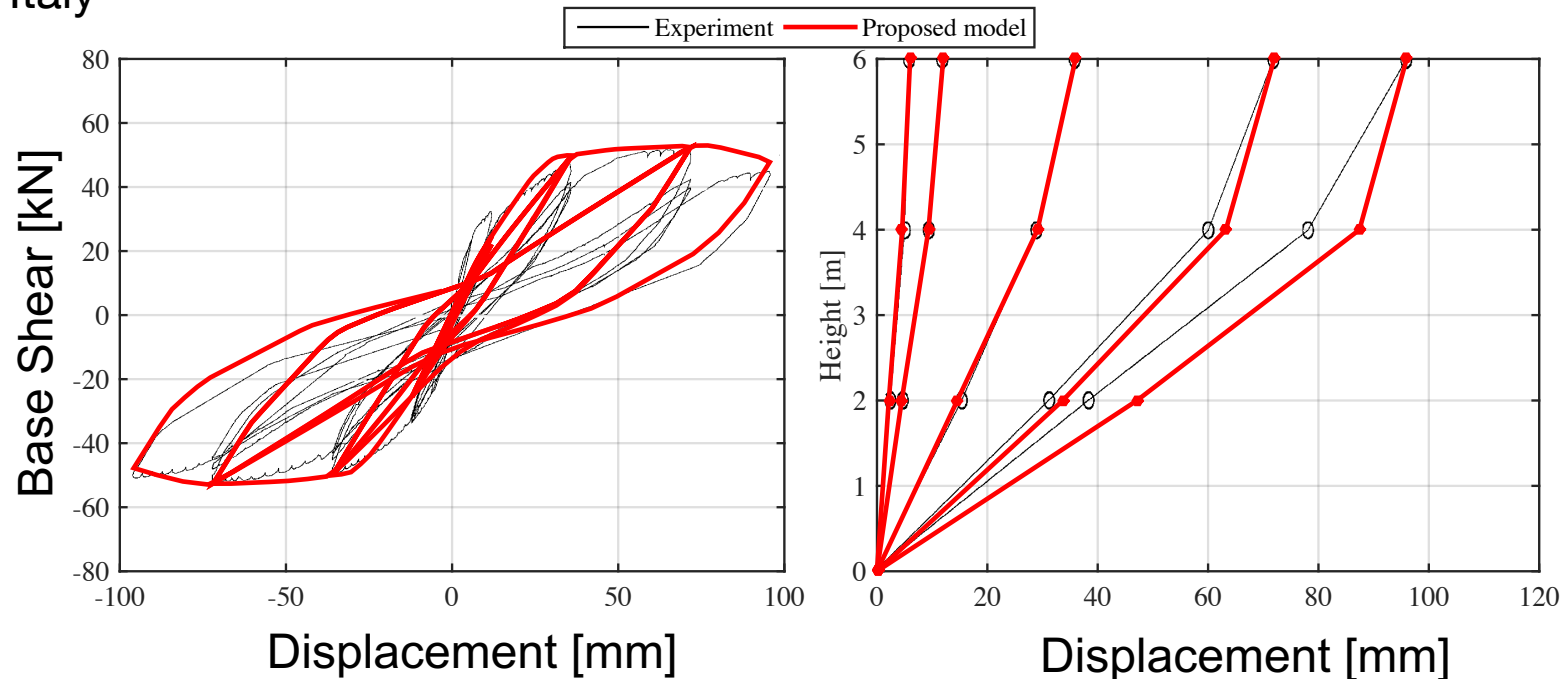
Model validation - Three-storey frame

- Three storey test frame designed to be representative of Italian RC frames constructed prior to 1970s and tested by Calvi et al. [2002] at the University of Pavia
- Damage to the columns and exterior joints led to the formation of a non-ductile mechanism
- The shear deformation of the joints led to a spread in drift over the two adjacent floors rather than a concentration in a single storey



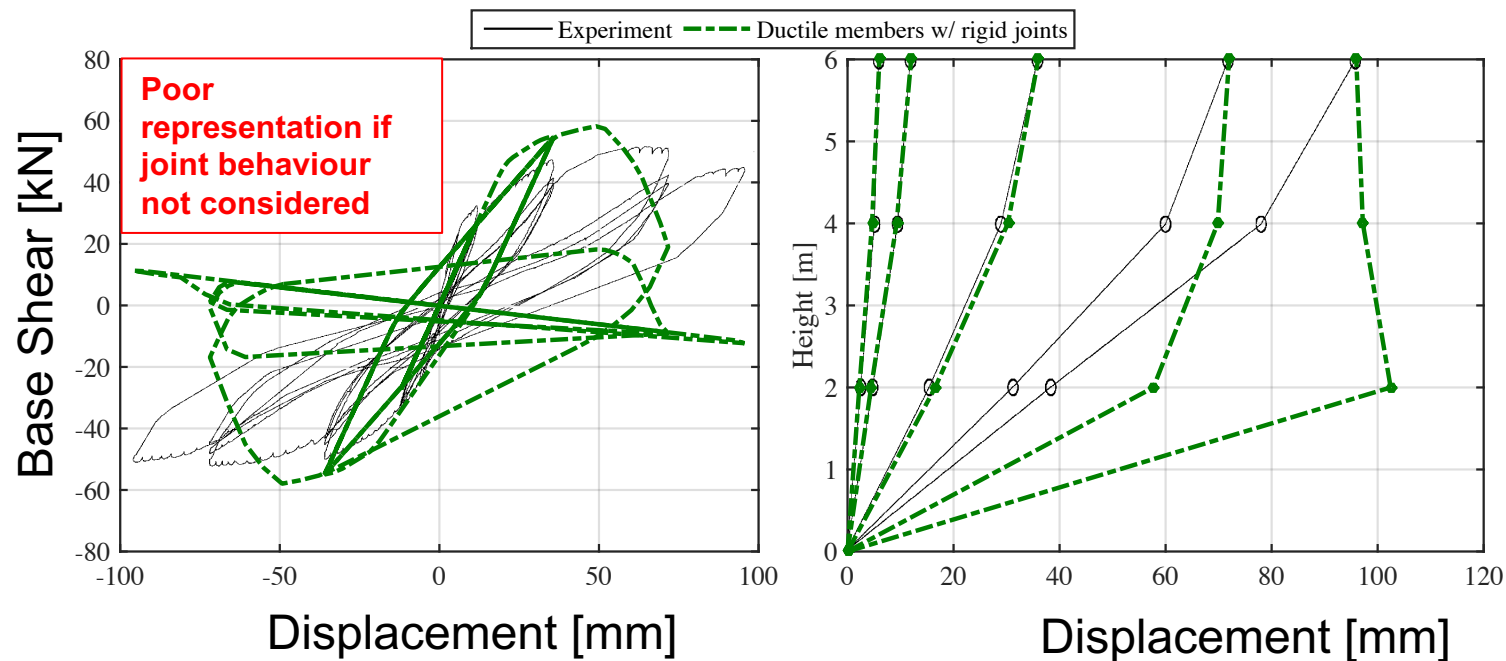
Model validation - Three-storey frame

- The proposed modelling captures the overall strength, stiffness and cycle transitions well
- The displaced shape with each cycle peak is matched well here, the joint failure on the ground floor, along with the column damage on the first floor, both captured
- This highlights the model's ability to adequately capture the different behavioural aspects particular to GLD RC frames in Italy



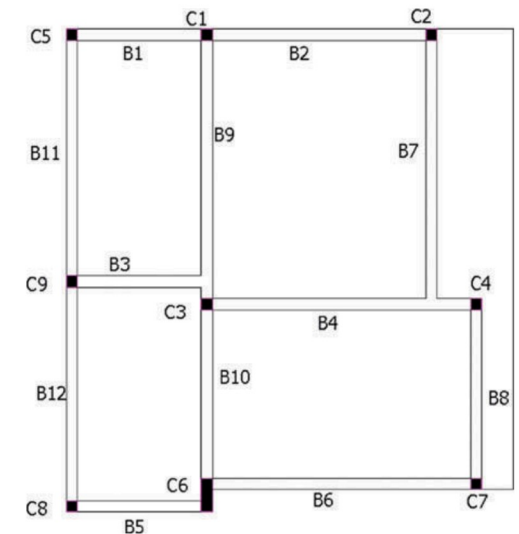
Model validation - Three-storey frame

- Alternatively, lumped plasticity model developed by Haselton et al. [2008] for ductile structures and no explicitly joint modelling is investigated
- The response of the structure is not well represented with the hysteretic loops much fatter than those of the test specimen and the overall displaced shape and governing is not well represented
- Highlights the need to properly consider the various aspects of GLD RC frames



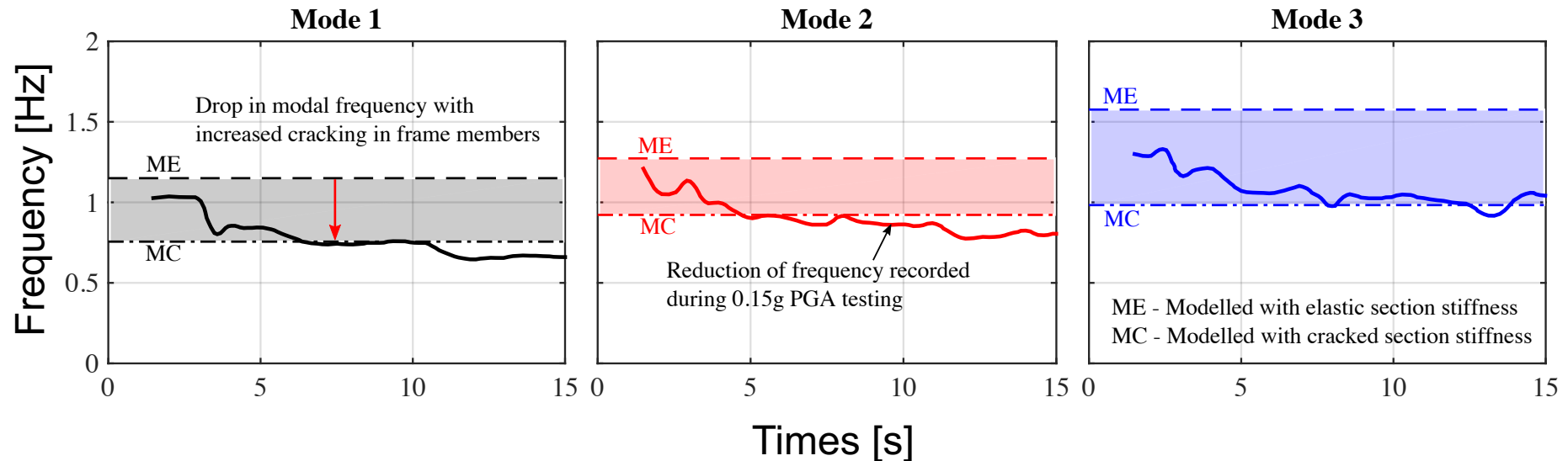
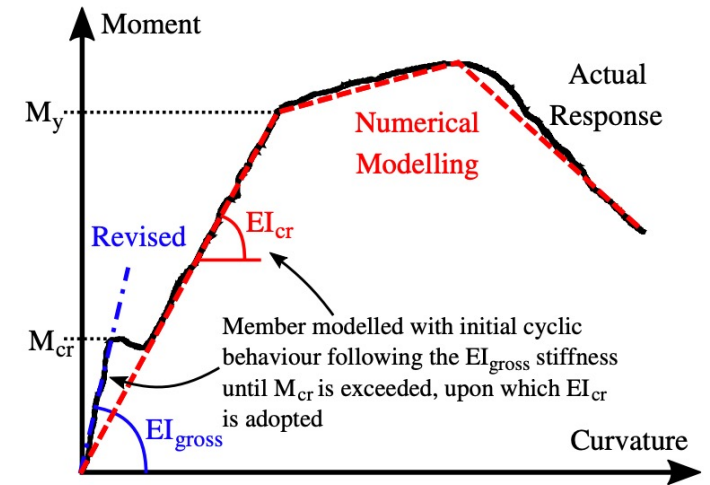
Model validation – SPEAR test frame

- Designed to the Greek design code in place between 1954 and 1995
- Similar to the construction practice across much of southern Europe
 - Designed to resist vertical gravity loading only
 - Poor structural configuration considerations
 - Lack of capacity design used in modern design codes
- Structure was doubly asymmetric meaning that torsional response was expected to be significant
- It was pseudo-static dynamic test via actuators
- The ground motion record used was from the 1979 Montenegro event and was spectrally adjusted to be compatible with the Eurocode 8 soil type C design spectrum



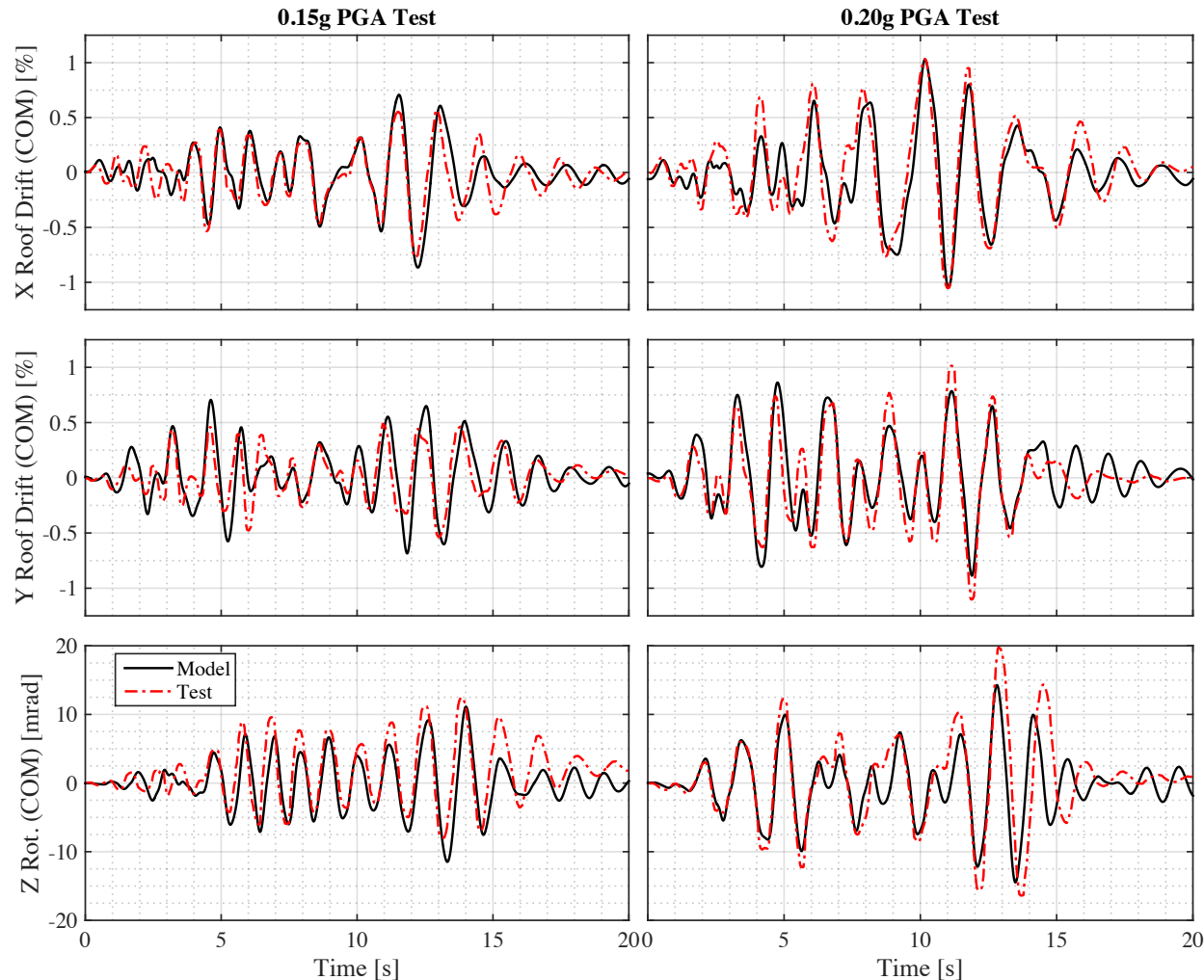
Model validation – SPEAR test frame

- Throughout the testing, the dynamic properties were continuously monitored
- At the beginning of the test, the cracked section stiffness model tended to underestimate
- As the test progressed and the sections began to crack, the modal properties gradually moved toward the cracked model's frequency



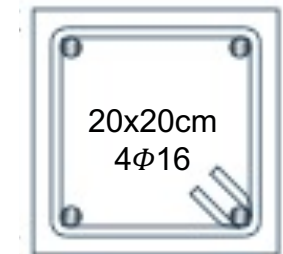
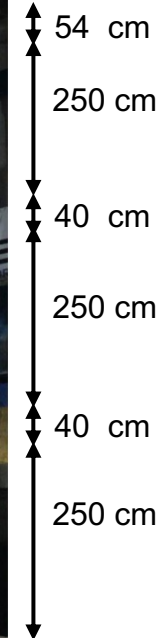
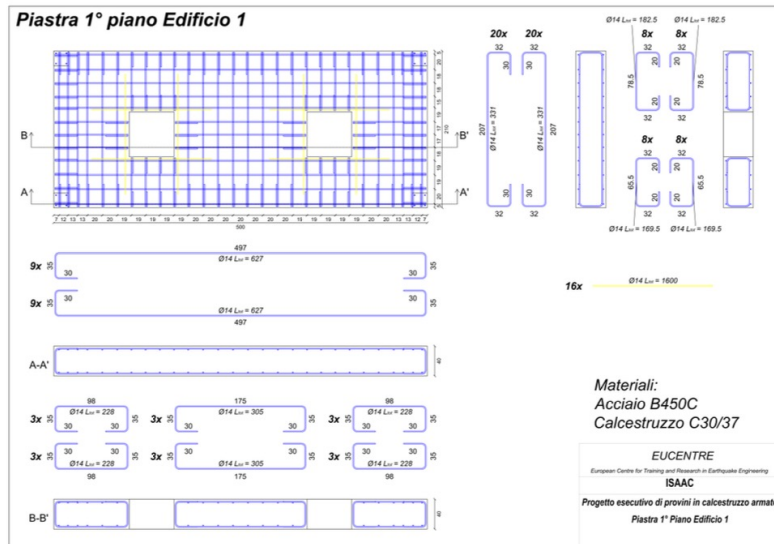
Model validation – SPEAR test frame

- The response was compared with those predicted using some of the numerical modelling strategies previously outlined
- The maximum displacements in the X direction are matched excellently, whereas the displacements in the Y direction and the torsional response are slightly underestimated, but still reasonably representative
- Comparing test observations with the damage observed in the numerical prediction showed a similar damage pattern with light damage to the column ends, no damage recorded in the beam-column joints and some light damage to beams in the vicinity of column C6



Model validation (ISAAC Blind Prediction Contest)

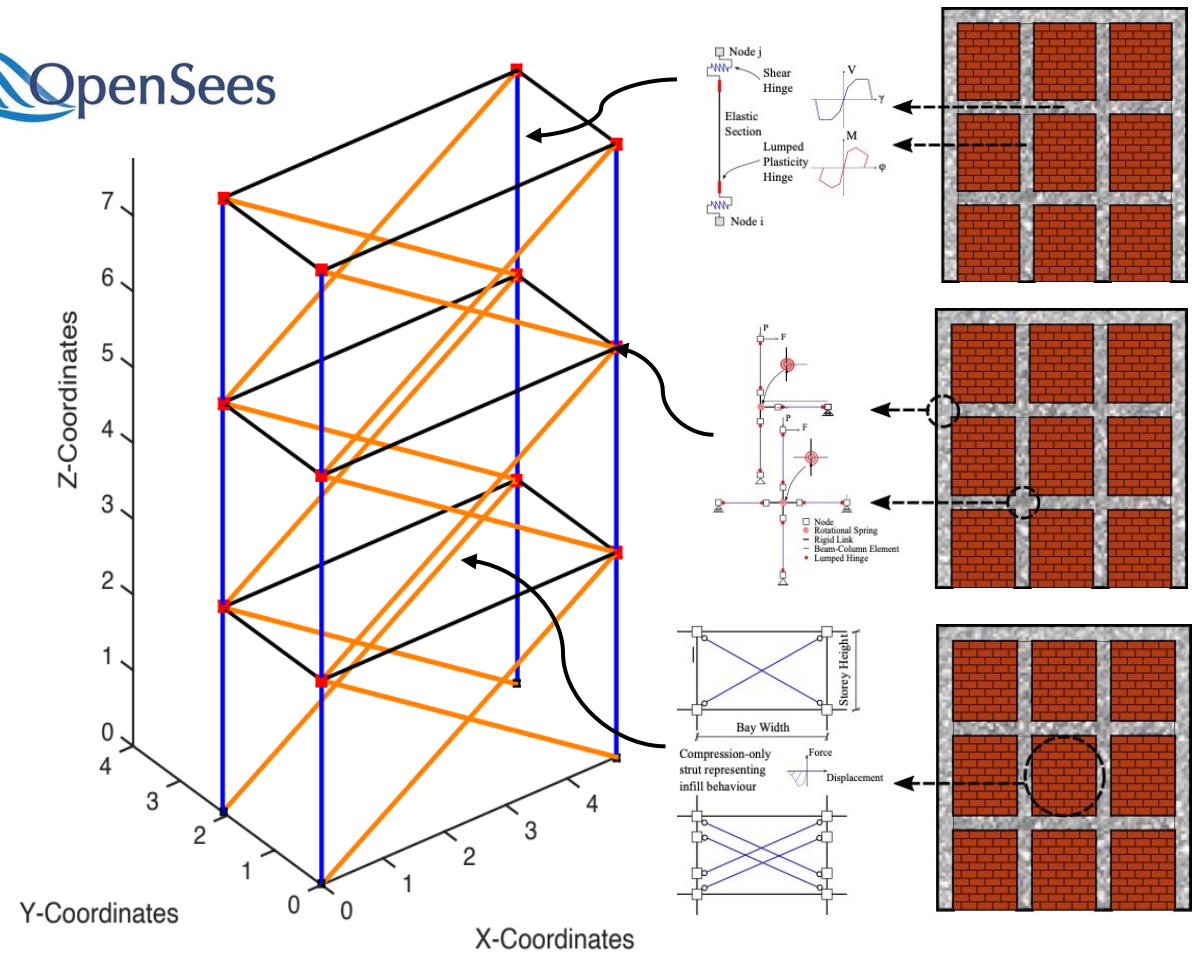
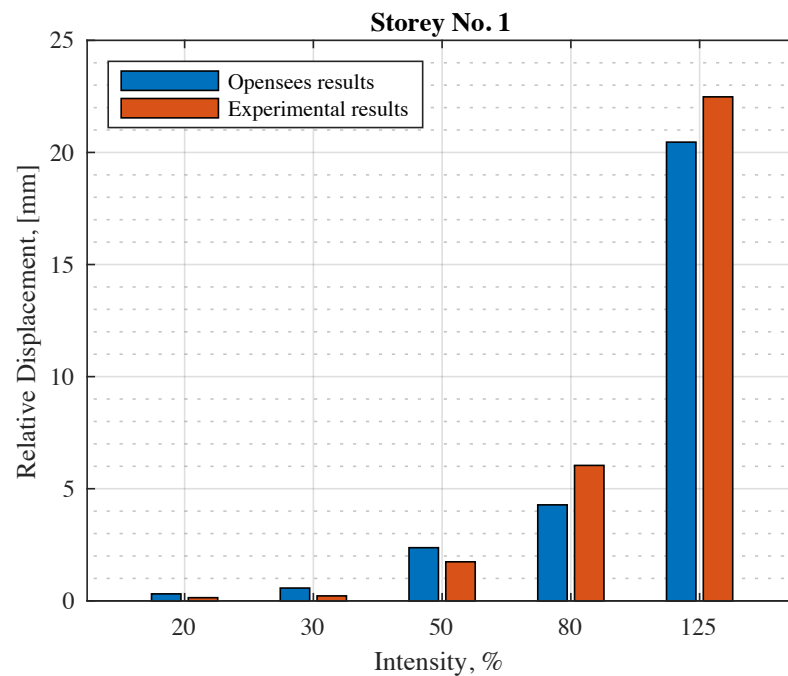
- Three-storey infilled RC building
- B450C rebars ($F_y=420$ MPa, $F_u = 450$ MPa)
- C30/37 concrete ($f'_c = 30$ MPa)
- Malta M5 infill panels (25x25x8 cm)
- Beams: 54x25cm, 40x25cm
- Columns: 20x20cm



Experimental setup

Model validation (ISAAC Blind Prediction Contest)

- Three-dimensional lumped plasticity OpenSees model
- Non-ductile RC beam-column elements
- Non-ductile exterior beam-column joints
- Single-strut infill panels

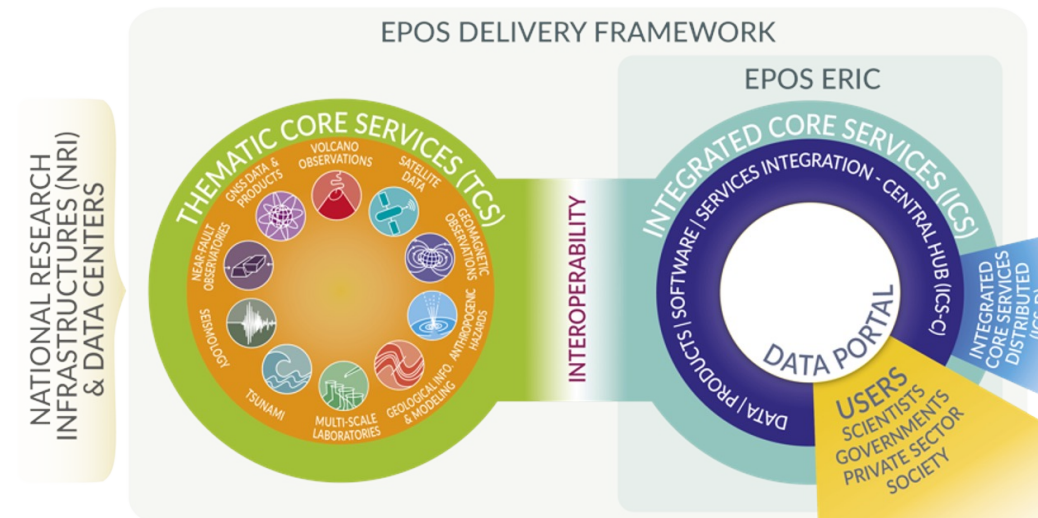


Built Environment Data

- The collection and archiving of data is key in this context
- At the Eucentre Foundation, we are leading an initiative termed Built Environment Data (BED)
- It aims to provide access to data and services related to the built environment
- A memorandum of understanding (MoU) exists with the European Plate Observing System (EPOS) to integrate BED as a Thematic Core Service (TCS)



www.builtenvdata.eu



Built Environment Data

- BED hosts both data and services needed to enhance risk assessment and ensure the safety and resilience of the built environment
- Currently, there are four services within BED led by different institutions around Europe:
 - Experiments (EUCENTRE)
 - RESSLab-Hub (EPFL)
 - Simulated Design (U.PORTO)
 - Embodied Carbon (GEM)
 - URM Data (EPFL)
 - Stone Masonry Data (EPFL)
- The scope is to extend and grow these services in the context of risk assessment of the built environment

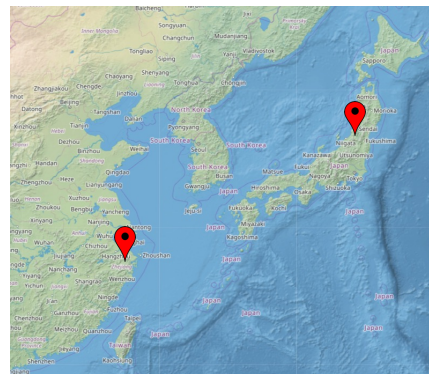
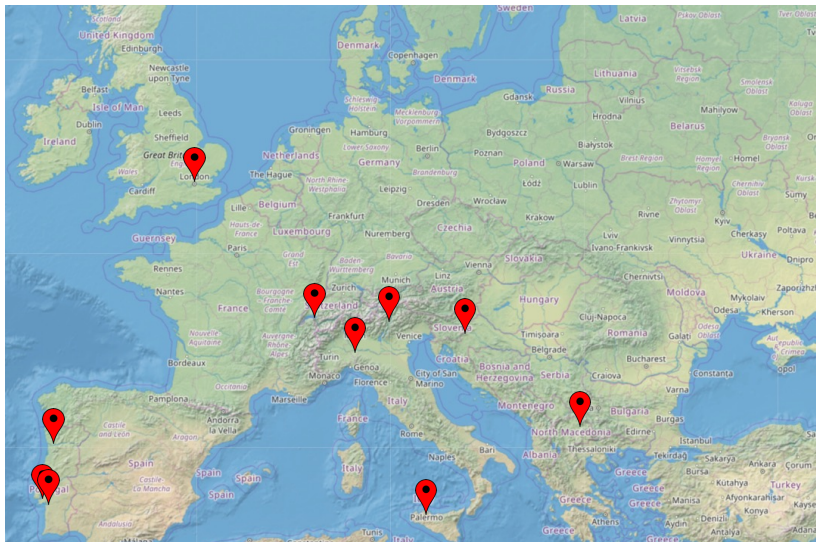


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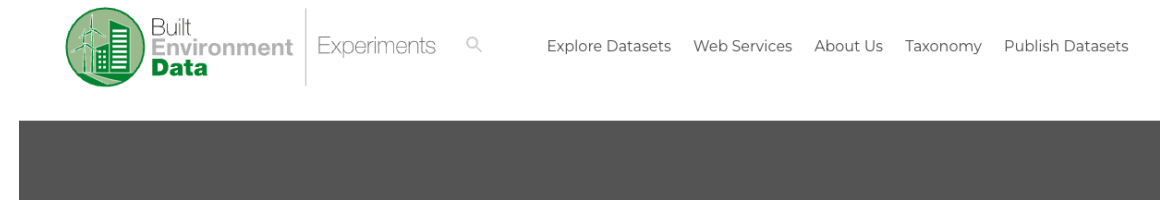
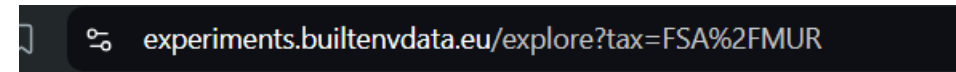


BED: Experiments

- One service that is growing quickly relates to experimental test data
- While not directly related to vulnerability modelling, it is fundamental to understand structural behaviour and calibrate numerical models
- Currently contributions from laboratories across Europe and around the world, with more tests added each week



Query the datasets



Explore Published Datasets

Taxonomy String: Number of Available Datasets / Total Number of Datasets Available: explore-results/FSA/MUR
5 / 20

Show:

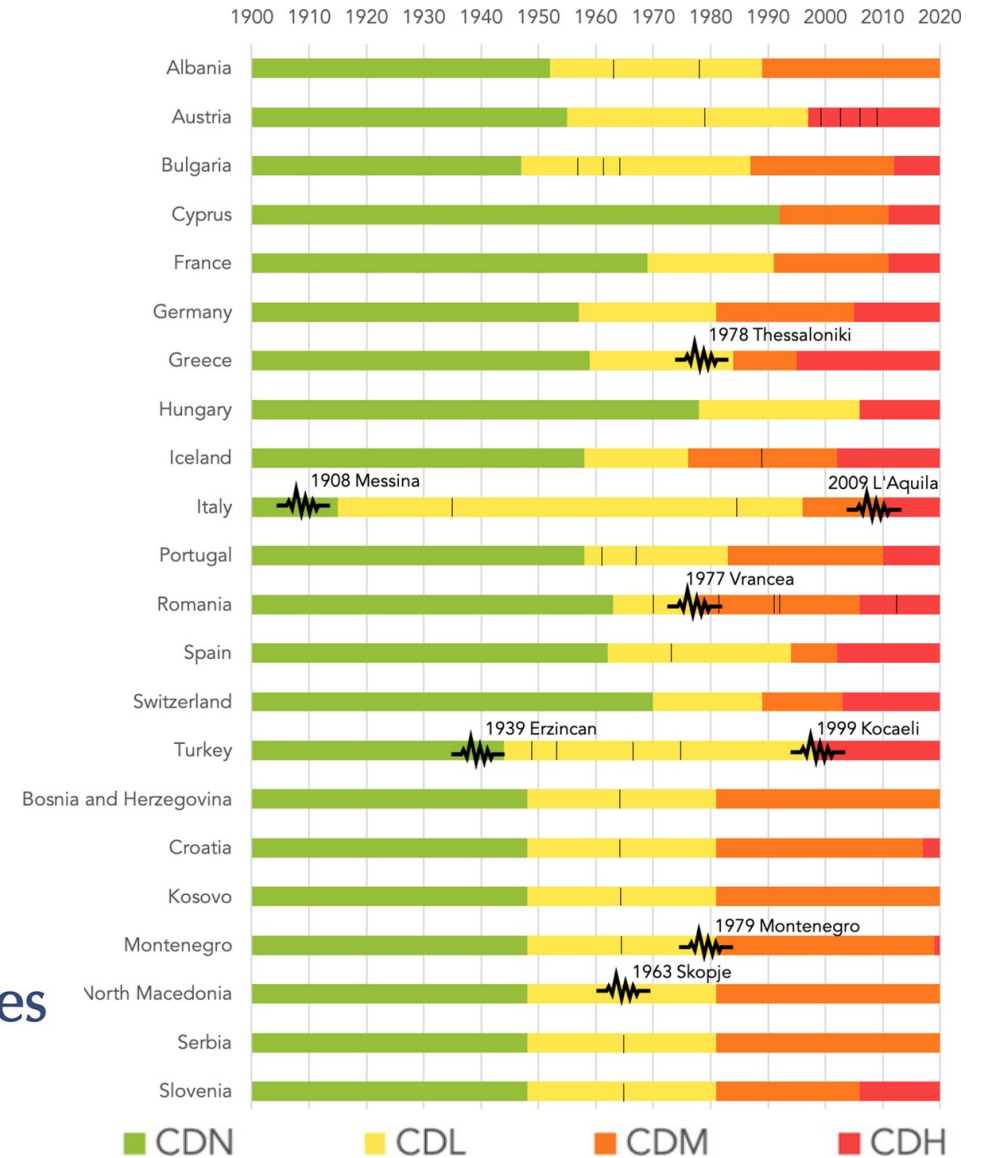
Dataset Title	Dataset PI(s)	Dataset Facility	Year of Experiment
Shake-table testing of two full-scale URM cavity-wall buildings: effect of an innovative timber retrofit (EUC-BUILD-6 & -7)	F. Craziotti	EU CENTRE, Pavia	2019
Shake-table testing of three identical clay-URM buildings under multi-directional seismic input motions (EUC-BUILD-8.1, -8.2 & -8.3)	F. Craziotti	EU CENTRE, Pavia	2019
Shake-table testing of a full-scale clay-URM building with chimneys to near-collapse conditions (LNEC-BUILD-3)	F. Craziotti	LNEC, Lisbon	2018

Documentation of web services available at <https://experiments.builtenvdata.eu/web-services>

BED: Simulated Design

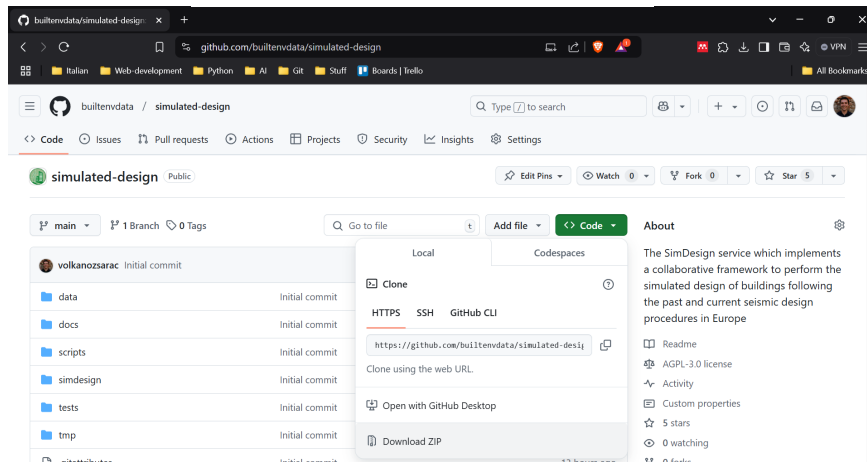
- BED: Simulated Design is an initiative aimed at automating the creation of numerical models
- They are regionally specific and capture the temporal evolution of construction practices across Europe
- The typical choices of engineers at various points in time have been collected and documented
- This allows building designs to be simulated and be representative of what was done at different locations and at different times in the past
- The principal outputs are designs and numerical models for feasible designs

Simple inputs



SimDesign Package

- This SimDesign framework is available on GitHub
- Available at:
<https://github.com/builtenvdata/simulated-design>
- This lets you download and use it as part of your Python workflow



Usage

Once installed, you can import and use the package in Python:

```
# Example usage
from simdesign import rcmrf

# The main inputs for each design class
inputs = {
    'bcim': {
        'design_class': 'eu_cd1',
        'sample_size': 30,
        'num_storeys': 4,
        'beta': 0.1,
        'seed': 2
    },
    'bnsim': {
        "scheme": 'FMP',
        "dincr": 1e-4,
        'max_drift': 0.1,
        'opensees': 'py'
    }
}

# Run the bed-workflow for rcmrf systems and save the outputs
bcim, bdim, bnsim = rcmrf.generate(inputs=inputs, outdir="Outputs")
```

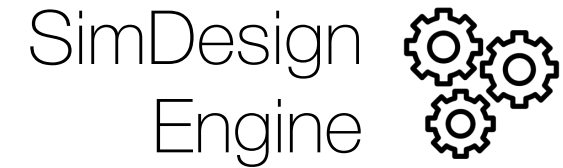


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The Built Environment Data Framework for Simulated Design
Gerard J. O'Reilly

Lausanne, Switzerland
6th March 2025

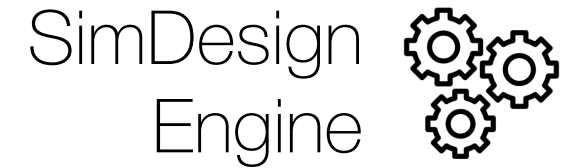
Workflow



User Inputs

Typology	}	Year Region
Taxonomy		
# Storeys		
β Coefficient		

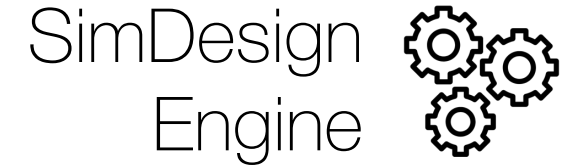
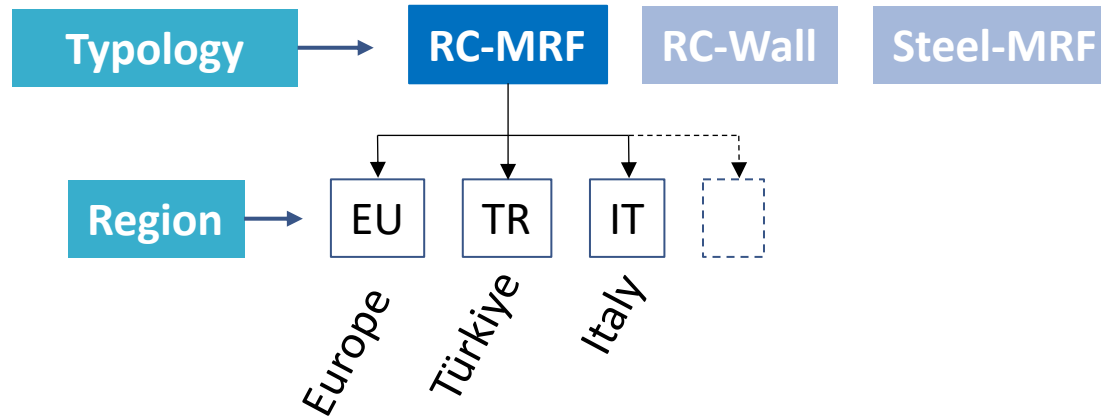
Workflow



User Inputs

Typology	}	Year
Taxonomy		
# Storeys		Region
β Coefficient		

Workflow

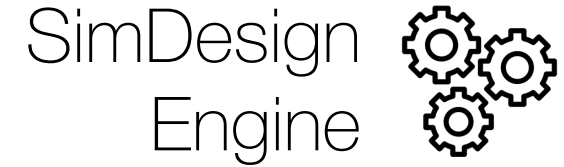
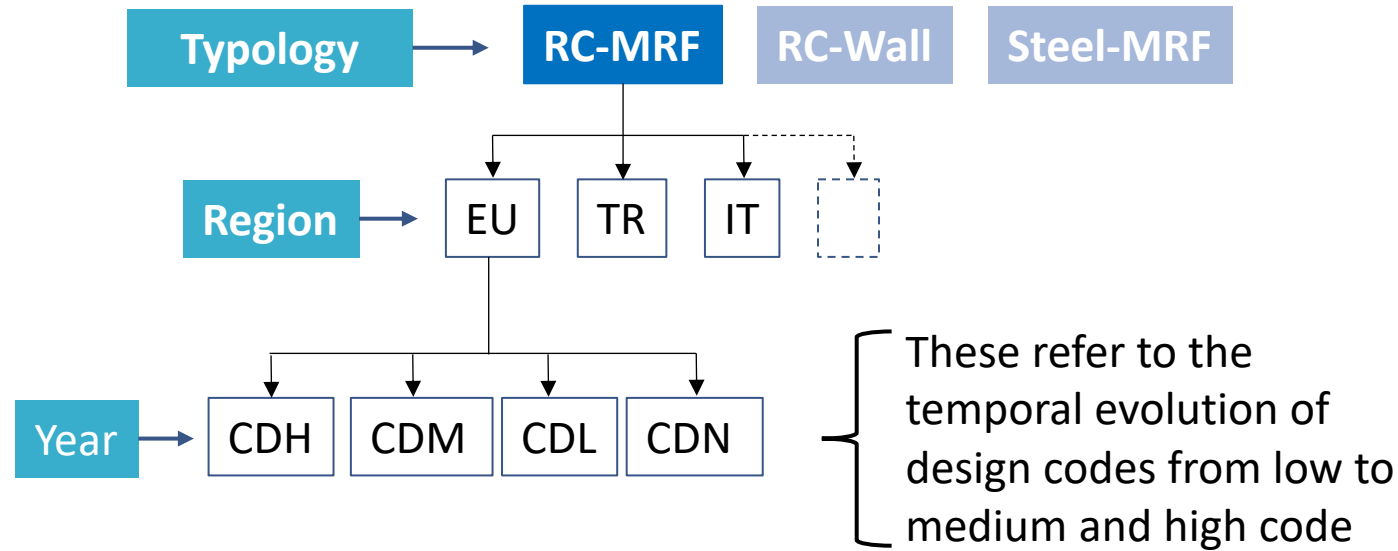


User Inputs

Typology
Taxonomy
Storeys
 β Coefficient

{ Year
Region

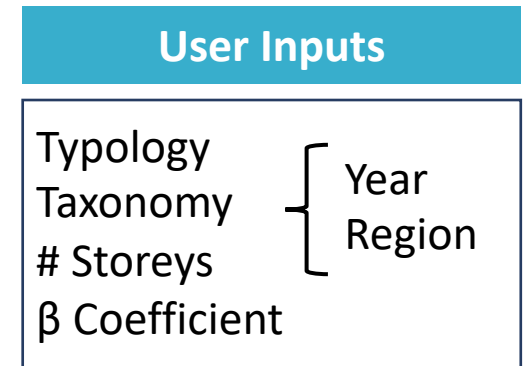
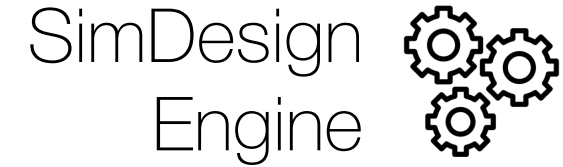
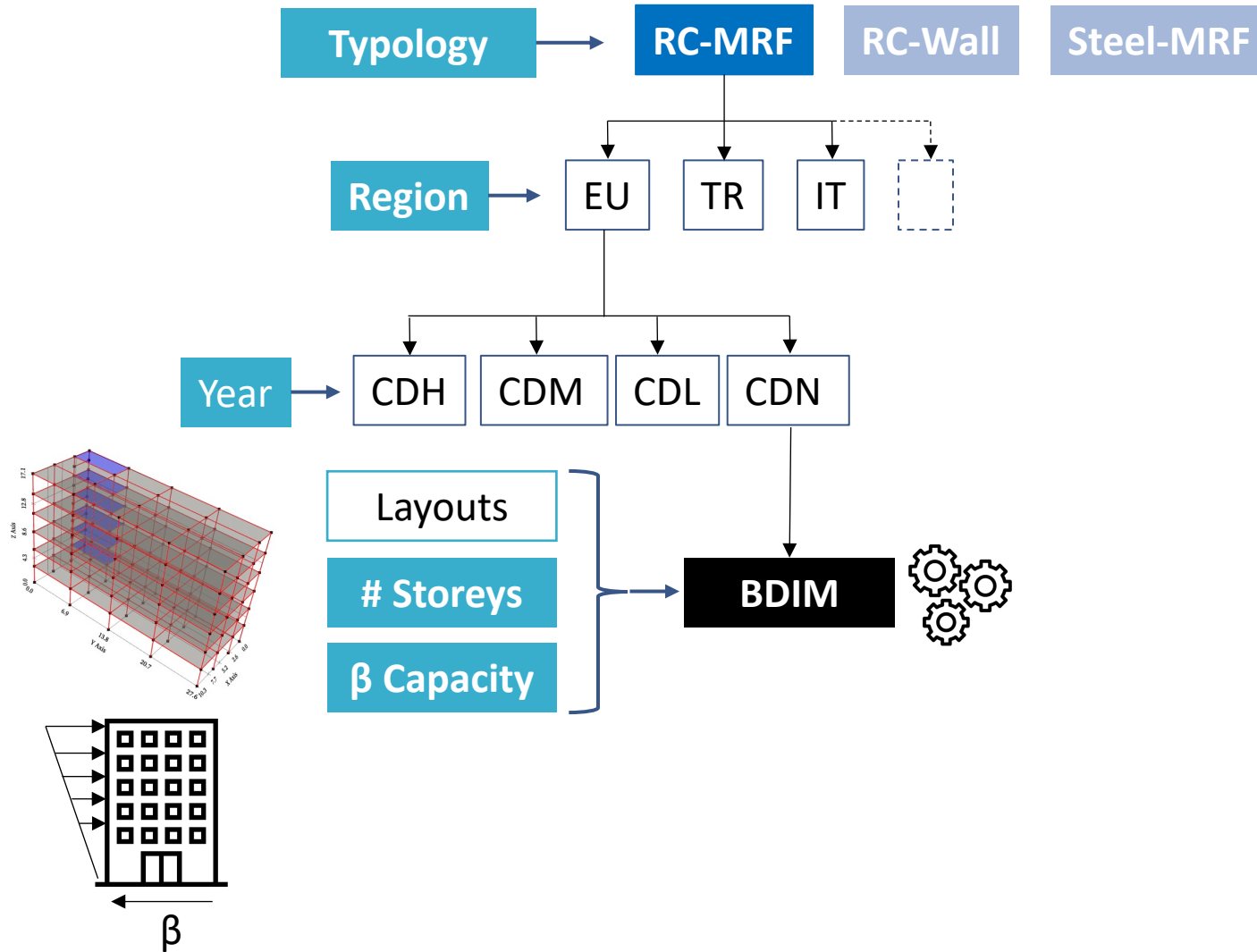
Workflow



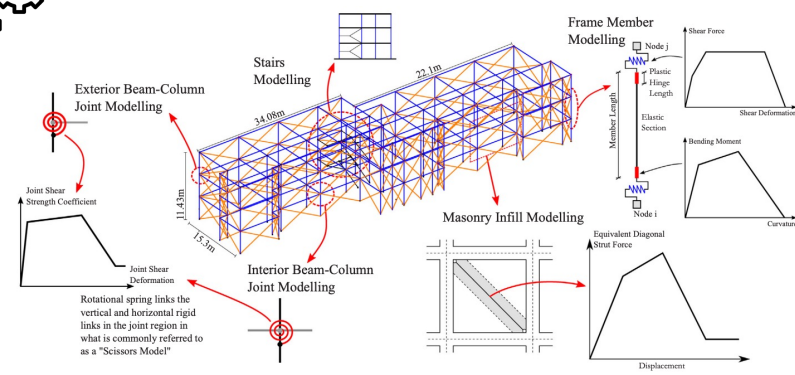
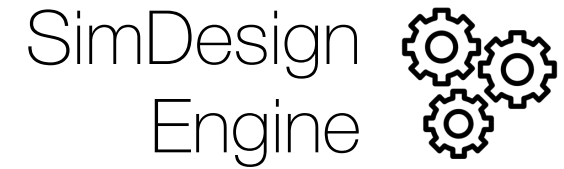
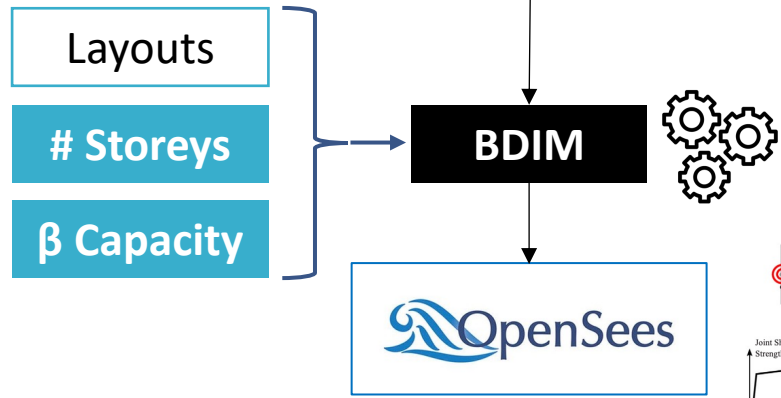
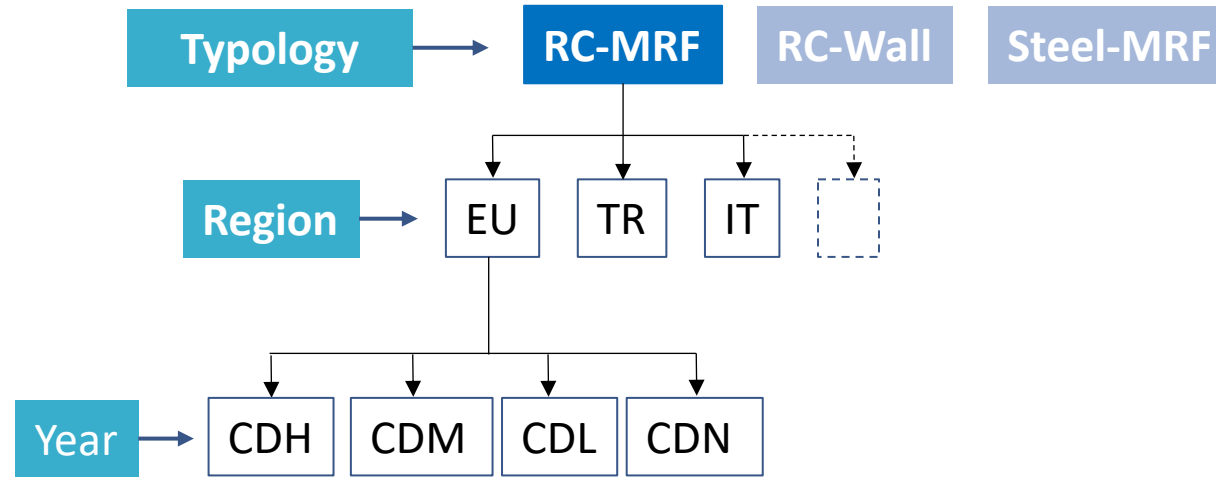
User Inputs

Typology	}	Year Region
Taxonomy		
# Storeys		
β Coefficient		

Workflow



Workflow



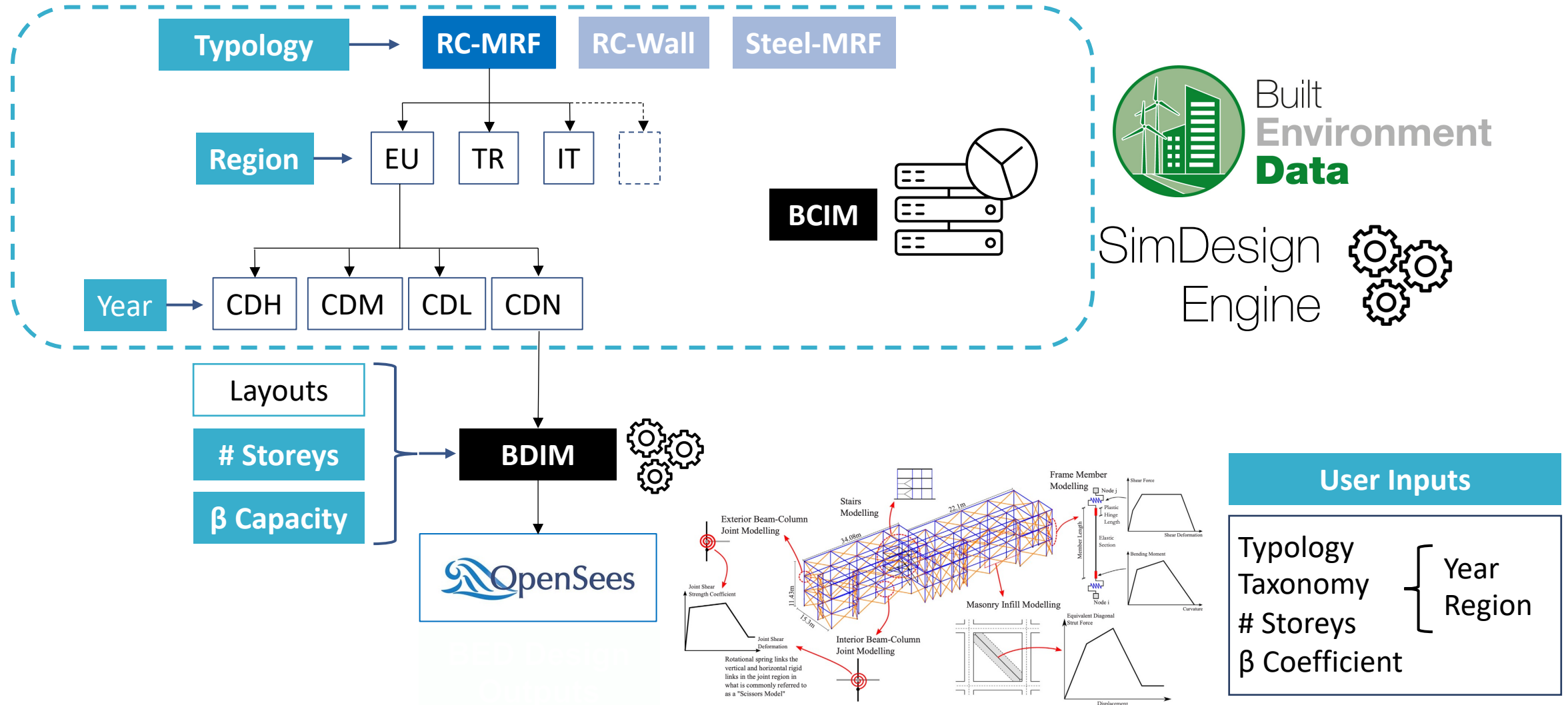
User Inputs

Typology
 Taxonomy
 # Storeys
 β Coefficient

}

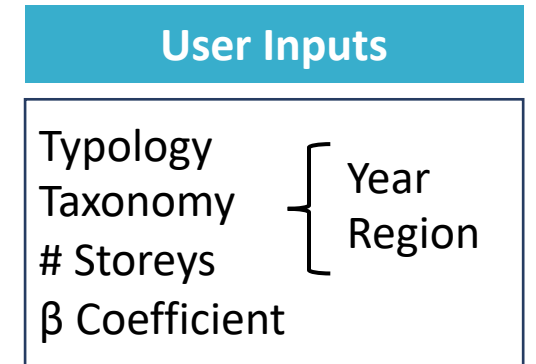
Year
 Region

Workflow



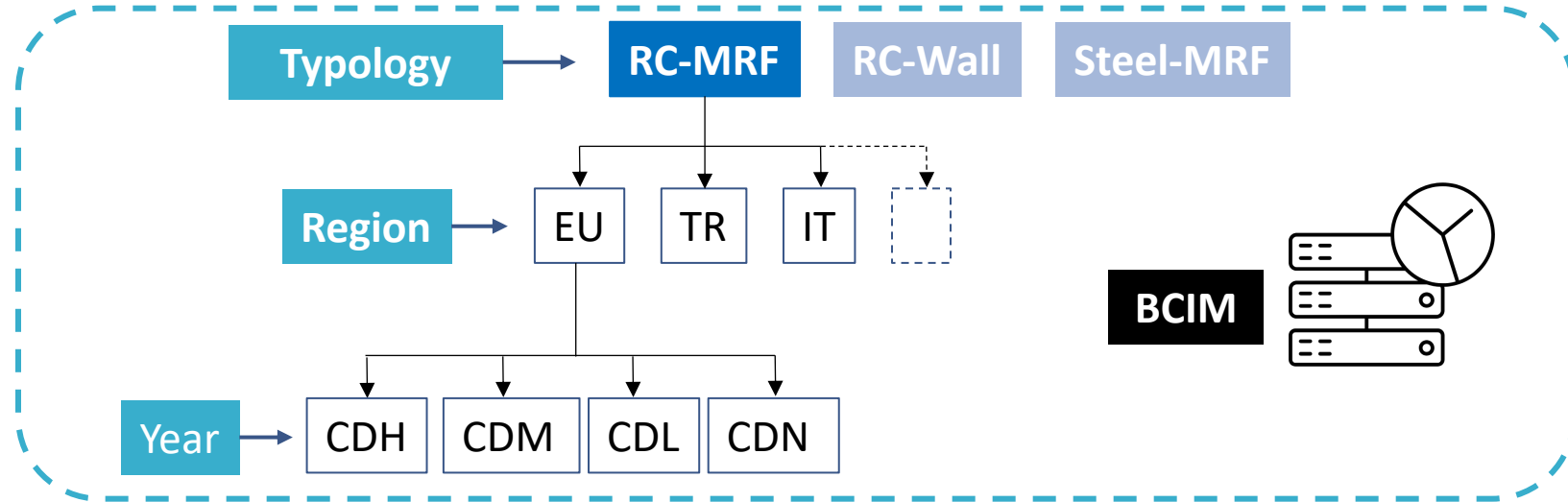
User Input

- The scope of the Simulated Design framework is to allow risk analysts to generate representative building models for large-scale analysis
- Detailed inputs are difficult to obtain systematically
- Hence, the user needs to provide some general parameters and the framework takes care of the rest:
 - `typology`
 - `design_class` (region/year)
 - `num_storeys`
 - `beta coefficient`
 - `layout`
 - `sample_size`
- These are provided in simple JSON file format



```
"square_column_ratio": 0.50,  
"layout": "all",  
"beta": 0.25,  
"num_storeys": 5,  
"design_class": "eu_cdh",  
"seed": 1987,  
"sample_size": 150
```


Building Class Information Model (BCIM)

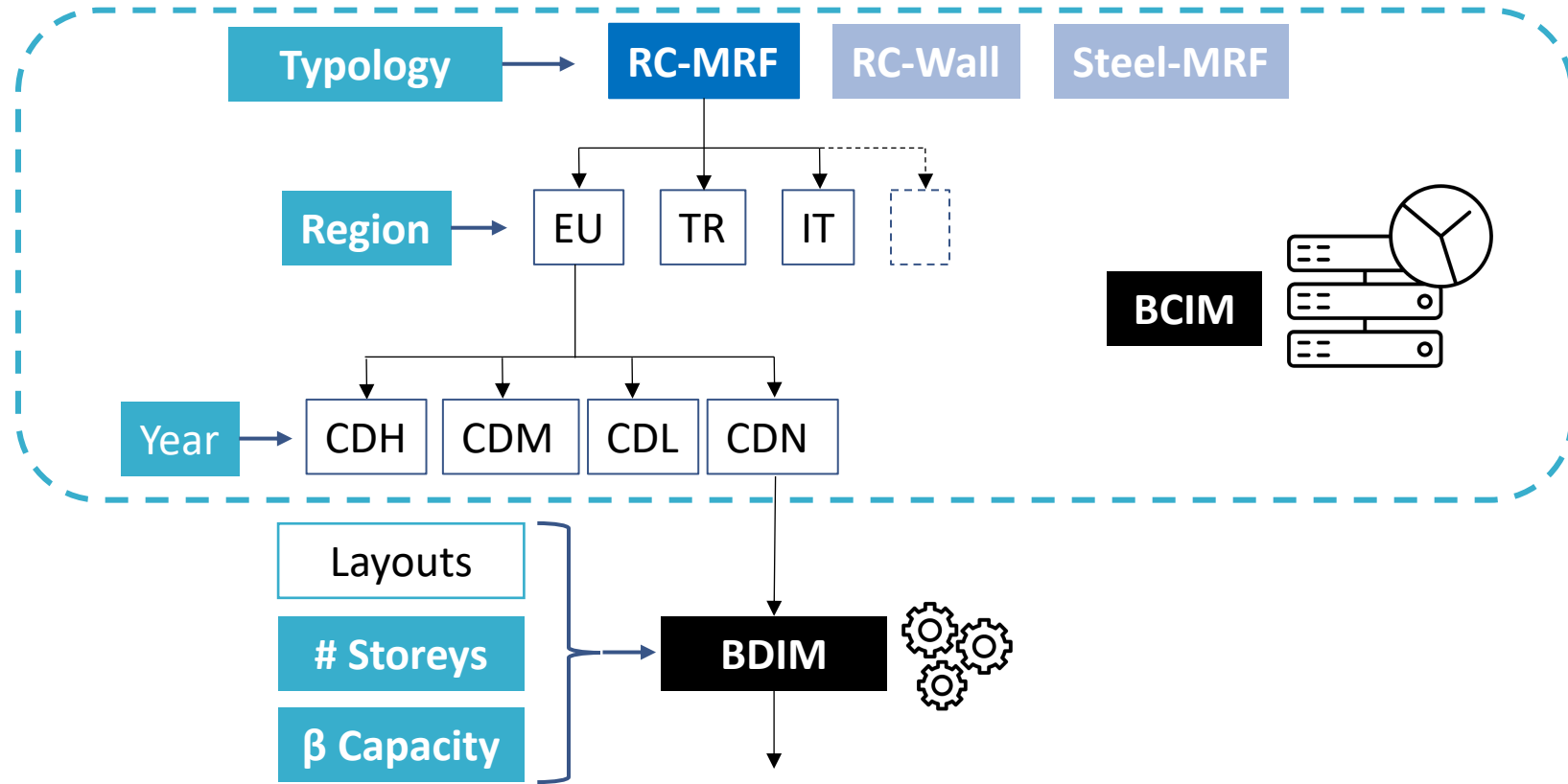


Building Class Information Model (BCIM)

- The **building class information model** (BCIM) contains statistical information about a country's construction and evolution over time
- It answers the question:
“What kind of buildings were constructed in this region?”
- It is obtained from case studies, census data, practitioner interviews, etc.
- It is stored in JSON file format also and is developed in specific studies:
 - typical_storey_height
 - staircase_bay_width
 - standard_bay_width
 - steel
 - concrete
 - ground_storey_height
 - construction_quality
 - slab_properties
 - square_column_ratio

```
"steel":
  {
    "grade": ["S400", "S500"],
    "probability": [0.10, 0.90]
  },
"concrete":
  {
    "grade": ["C20", "C25", "C30", "C35"],
    "probability": [0.30, 0.45, 0.20, 0.05]
  },
"ground_storey_height":
  {
    "maximum": 4.20,
    "factor": [1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4],
    "probability": [0.55, 0.10, 0.20, 0.10, 0.05]
  },
"construction_quality":
  {
    "probability": [0.6, 0.3, 0.1]
  },
"slab_properties":
  {
    "one_to_one_and_comp_ratio": 0.50,
    "two_to_two_and_comp_ratio": 0.65,
    "max_solid_length": 6.0,
    "max_thickness": 0.85,
    "staircase_slab_depth": 0.15
  }
```

Building Design Information Model (BDIM)



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Lausanne, Switzerland
6th March 2025

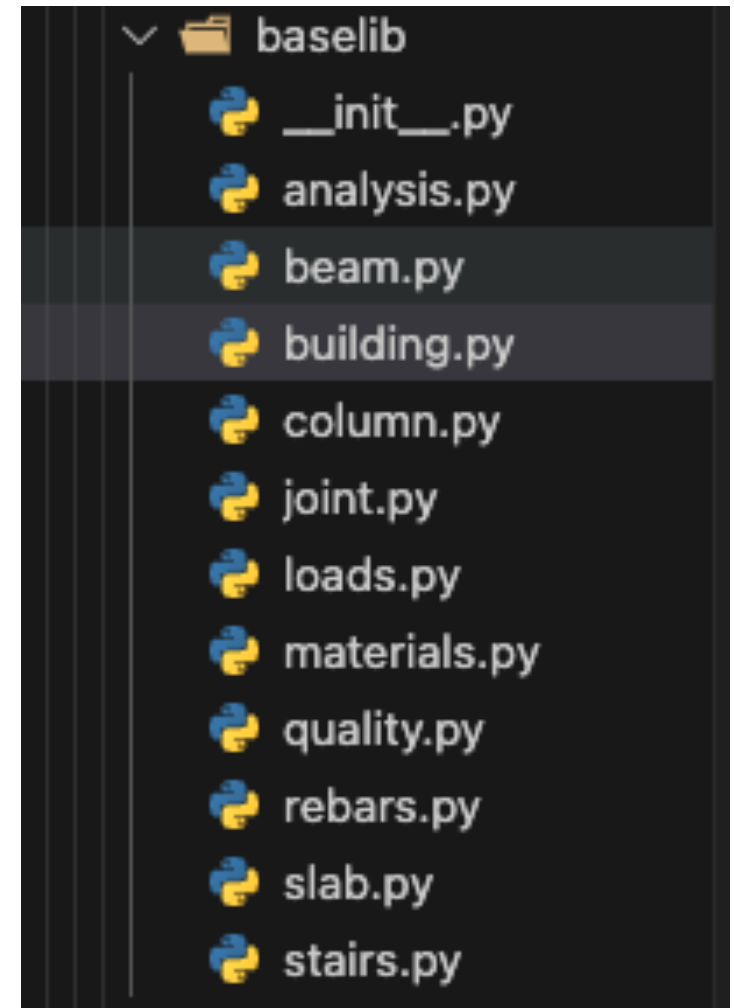
Building Design Information Model (BDIM)

- This **building design information model** (BDIM) defines the way in which engineers designed these buildings

- It answers the question:

“For these kinds of buildings that were constructed in this region, how did the engineers typically design them during that period?”

- It is obtained from past design manuals, reference textbooks, case studies, practitioner interviews, etc.
- It is implemented as several classes and methods in what is termed the base library
- The BDIM for specific regions, periods and typologies can be modified and extended



Example 1: Building-to-Building Variability

- Case-study portfolio generation (RC-MRF buildings)

- Design class: CDL → **Seismic Design Practice**
- Design lateral load coefficient, β : 0.1 → **Seismic Hazard Level**
- Number of storeys: 4
- Sample size: 30

} **Expected Ductility Level**

$$\beta = K_s \cdot K_o \cdot K_d \cdot K_p$$

K_s : coefficient based on seismic intensity (e.g., PGA_{475} in g)

K_o : coefficient based on the type/importance of the building

K_d : coefficient that accounts for dynamic response (e.g., lambda factor of EC8-1 section 4.3.3.2.2)

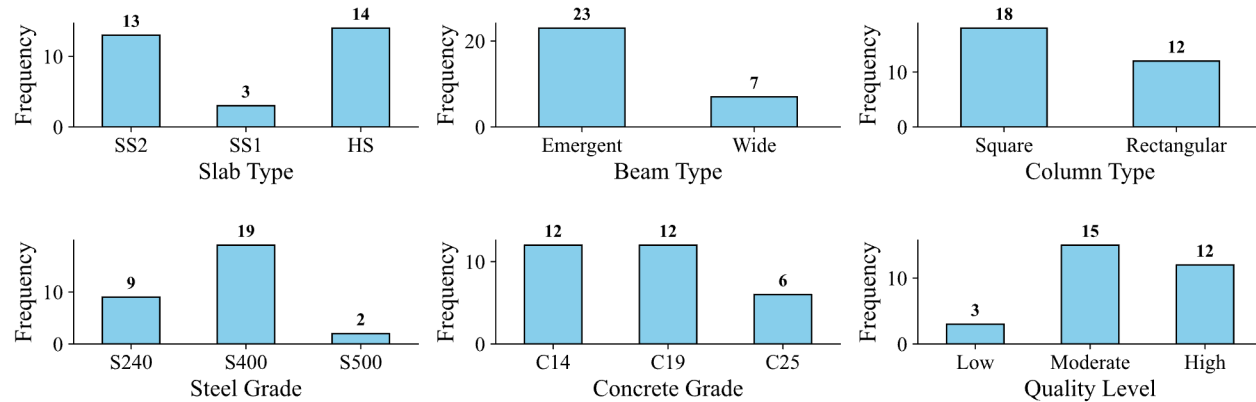
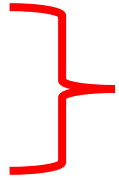
K_p : coefficient that accounts for ductility and energy dissipation

```
# Example usage
from simdesign import rcmrf

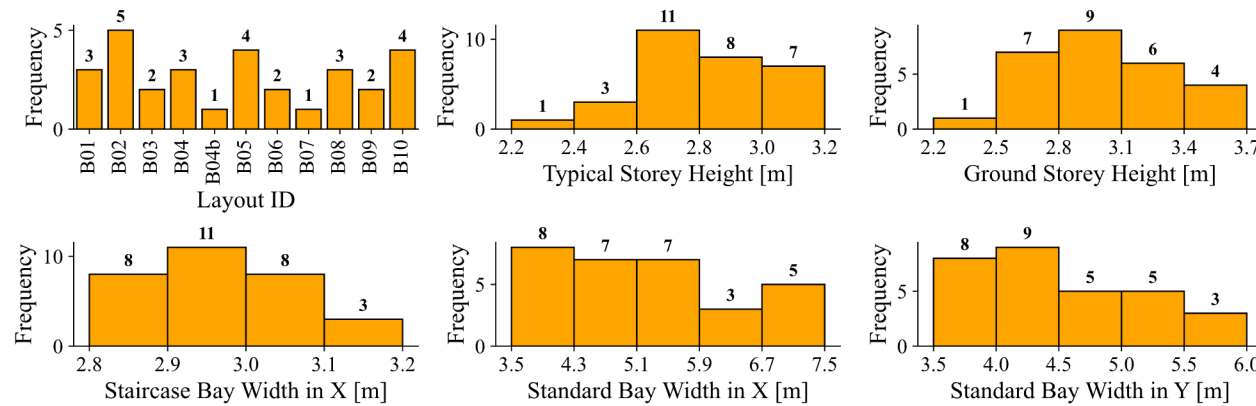
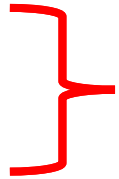
# The main inputs for each design class
inputs = {
    'bcim': {
        'design_class': 'eu_cdl',
        'sample_size': 30,
        'num_storeys': 4,
        'beta': 0.1,
        'seed': 2
    },
    'bnsm': {
        "scheme": 'FMP',
        "dincr": 1e-4,
        'max_drift': 0.1,
        'opensees': 'py'
    }
}
```

Example 1: Building-to-Building Variability

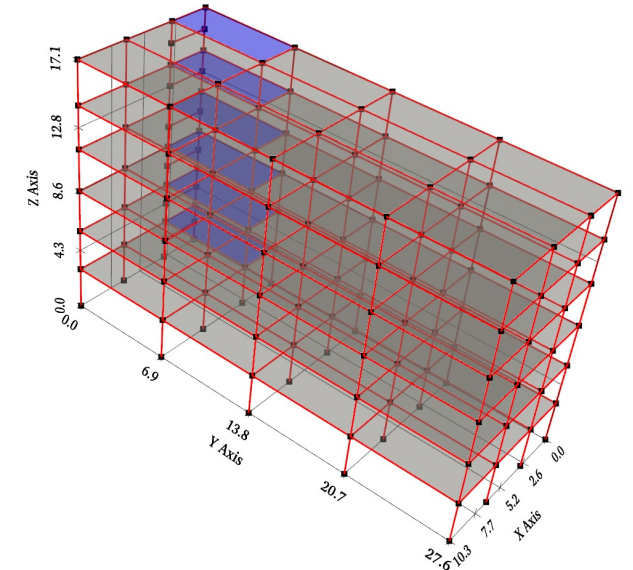
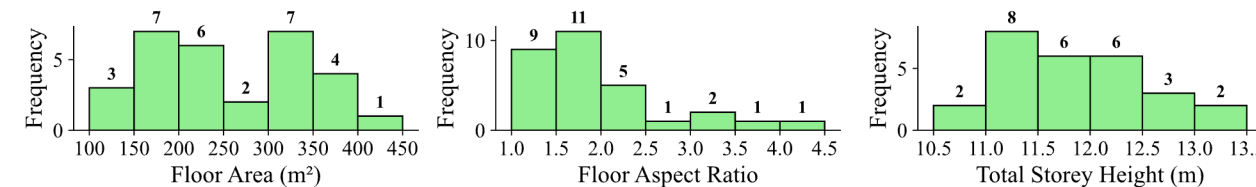
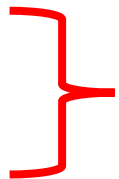
Sampled secondary attributes



Sampled geometry variables

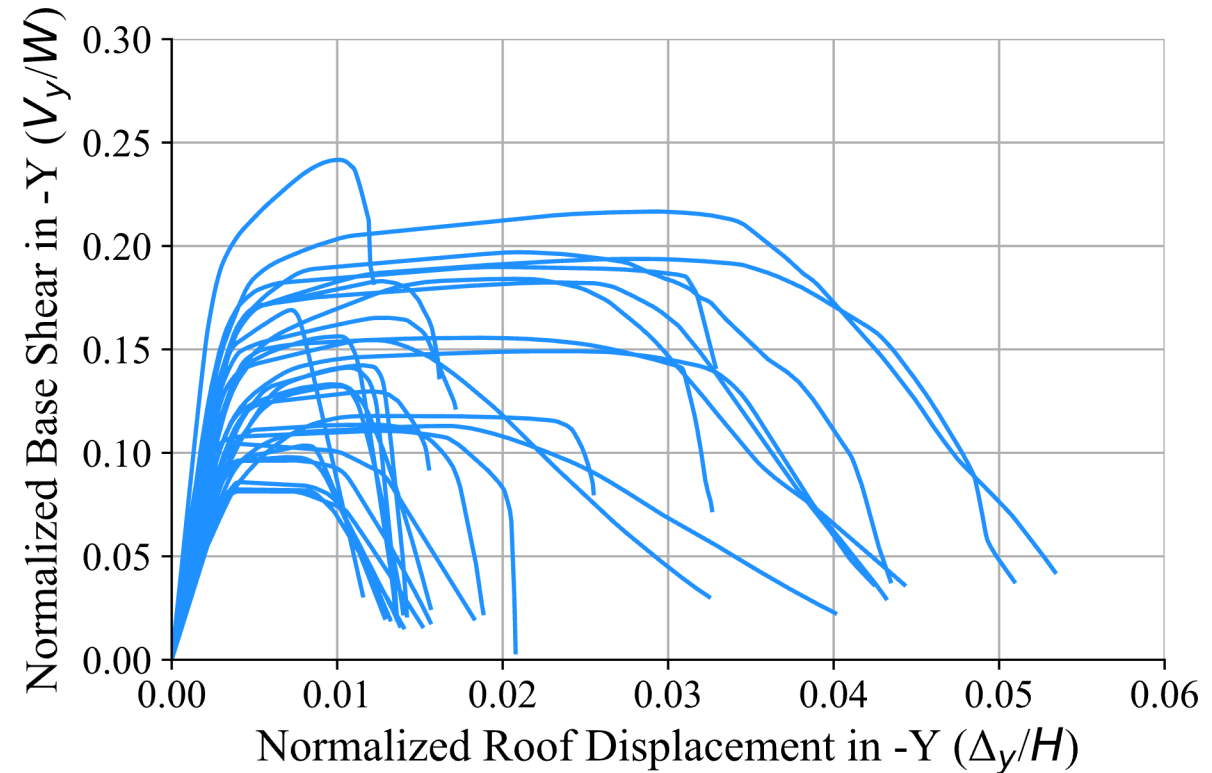
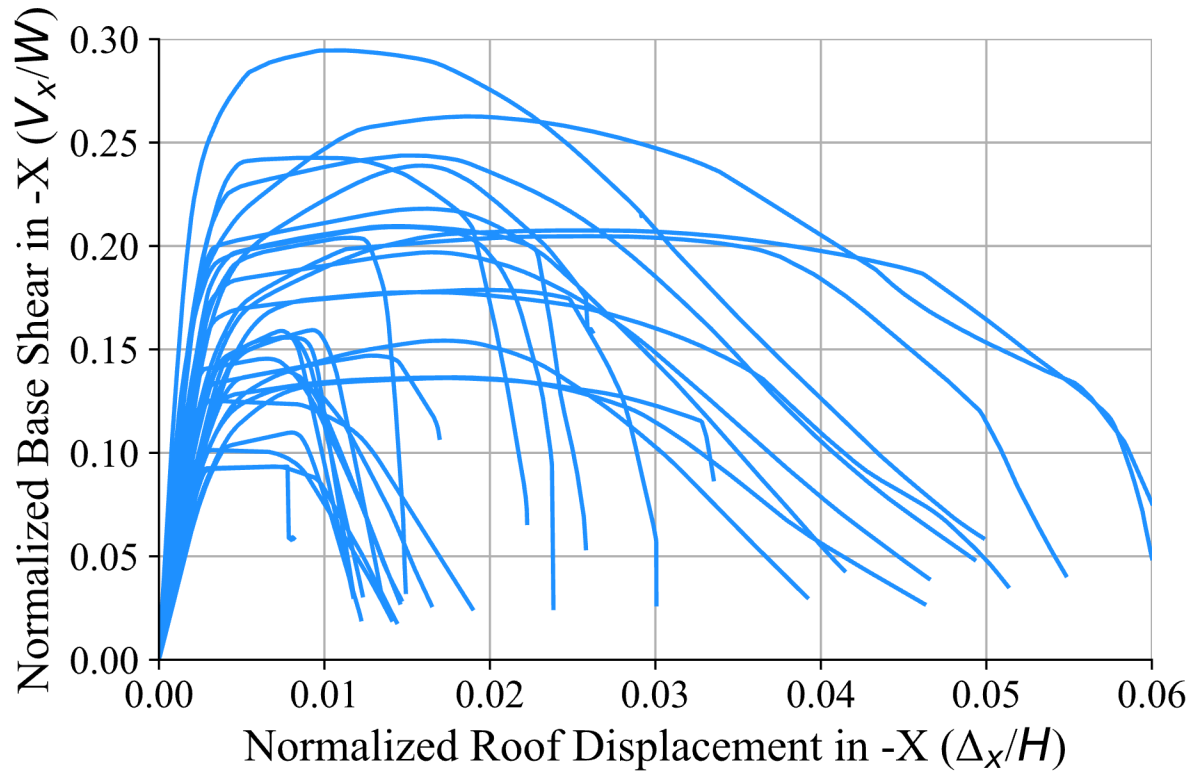


Resulting geometrical properties



Example 1: Building-to-Building Variability

- Nonlinear static pushover analyses results

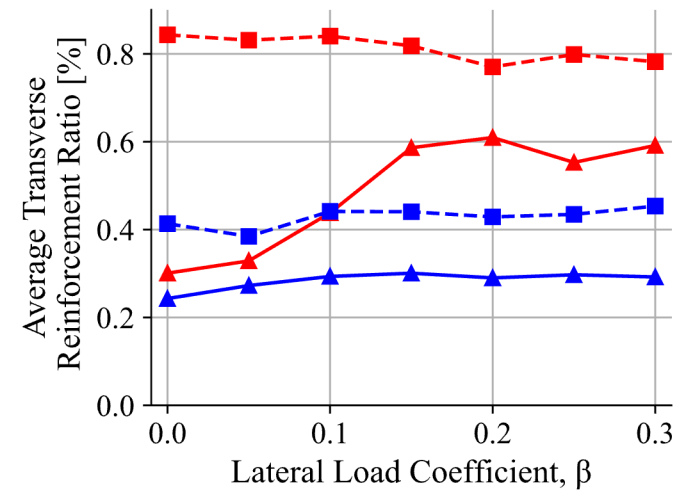
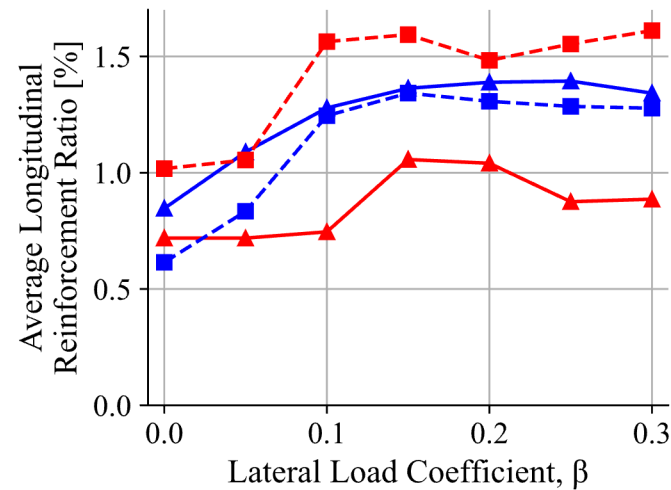
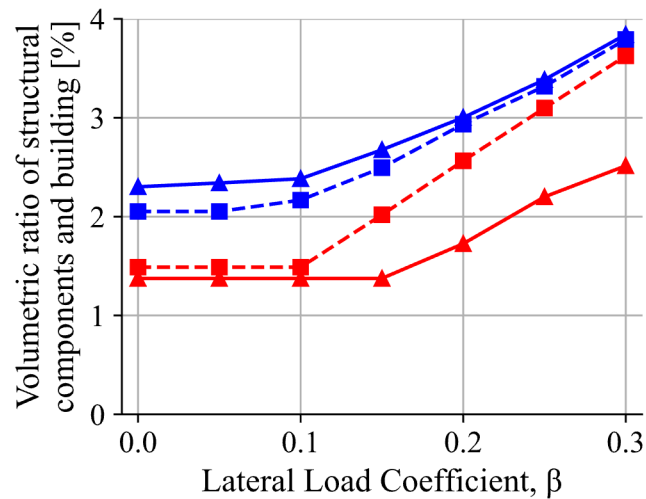
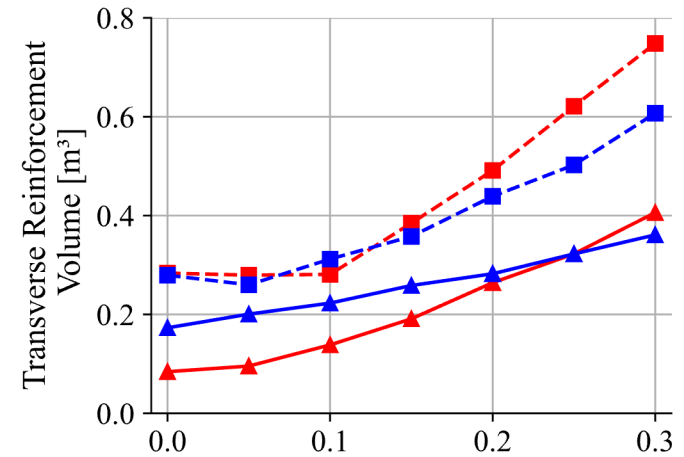
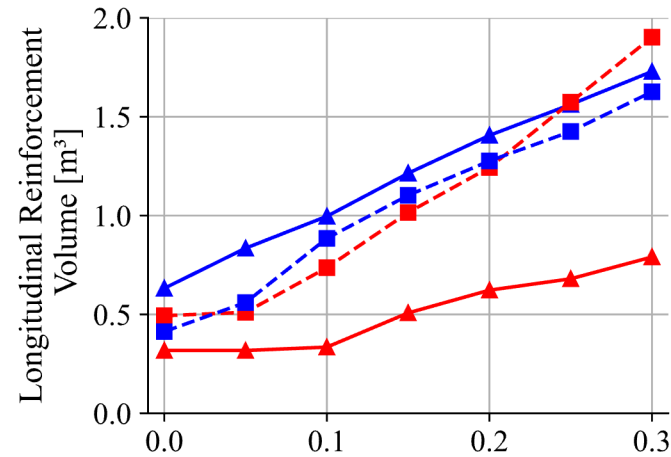
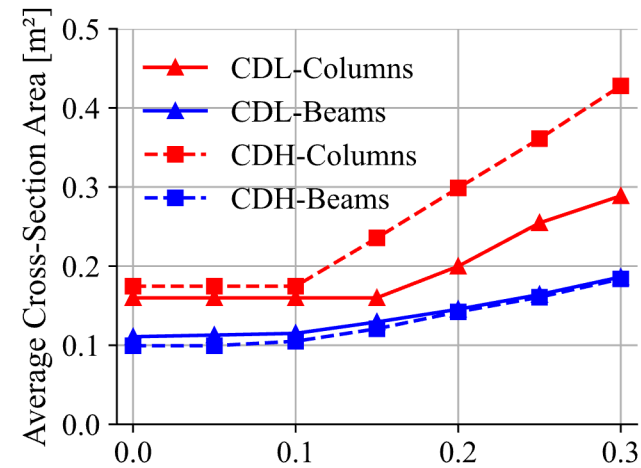


Example 2: Simulated Design Capabilities

- The same BCIM data for two different design classes, CDL and CDH, across varying seismic hazard levels (β values).
- CDL: Designed for lateral resistance using first generation of seismic codes
 - Based on Portuguese specifications (common in Europe, 1960s–1970s)
 - Uses allowable stress design
 - Seismic action is represented by equivalent lateral forces computed only from floor weights
- CDH: Designed for lateral resistance using Eurocodes
 - Uses limit state design coupled with ductility requirements (e.g., capacity design)
 - For seismic design, DCM requirements in Eurocode 8 are followed, as more commonly adopted in Europe
 - Seismic forces computed based on both floor weights and storey heights



Example 2: Simulated Design Capabilities



Summary and future possibilities

- A powerful tool **BED: Simulated Design** was presented help recreate designs for risk analysis
- The output is a numerical model of existing structures in OpenSees (both Py and Tcl)
- It has several functions but possible modifications:
 - Adding different national contexts (i.e., BCIM)
 - Adding different structural typologies
 - Adding different modelling approaches
- With modest modifications, this can be extended to other contexts: tsunami, wind, etc.
- Overall aim is to make these tools available and integrate them on the broader sphere of EPOS



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Questions?



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