

Non Model Approach Based Damage Detection in RC Frame with Masonry Infill [†]

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Abstract: The paper focuses on real-time damage detection based on vibration studies accomplished by CBRI Structural Health Monitoring team. The experiment was performed on the 1:3 scaled model of 6-story RC frame with masonry infill in the Building dynamics laboratory of CBRI. The forward problem is attended by inducing step-by-step damage in infill to investigate the changes in dynamic response as a result of change in physical properties of the structure. Recorded time histories are processed for Frequency Response Spectra (FRS) with Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) and mode shapes are obtained. Changes in natural frequency and modal curvature for each of the five damage cases are analyzed for damage detection and location in the structure. An Algorithm for damage identification viz. Curvature Damage Factor (CDF) approach is presented.

Keywords: Fast Fourier Transform; Frequency Response Spectra; Natural frequency; Damage detection; Structural Health Monitoring

1. Introduction

The major portion of existing infrastructure worldwide continues to be at a potential risk of failure on account of aging, corrosion and overloading principally during earthquakes. Moreover, most of the constructions done are not in conformance with the design codes. Their prolonged use beyond design service life proliferate damage that manifests itself usually in the form of cracks. In recent years, buildings have collapsed causing catastrophic impact to life and safety. India experienced the worst building fall-down disaster in 2013 in Thane owing to illegitimate construction. Bangladesh Savar building collapse of 2013 has remained the deadliest fortuitous structural failure in modern human history due to leaving the earlier appeared and detected cracks unattended and unrepaired. Prevailing damage multiplied due to vibrations from generators. Three buildings collapsed in the historic centre of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on January 2012 since the construction work violated local building codes. South Korea suffered the largest peacetime disaster in 1995 when the Sampoong department store disintegrated as vibration of the air conditioning widened cracks to about 10 cm causing complete failure of floor slabs. Such tragic disasters on the civil structures cause a large number of fatalities as well as social and monetary setbacks. In common terms, damage refers to the change in the physical characteristic attributing to detrimental change in structural performance. Any damage at local level should be vigilantly examined and repaired in order to terminate its further dissemination and prevent progressive collapse. Hence, monitoring the condition of these structures to impart the basic maintenance has become crucial to our civilization.

Evaluation of the health of building stocks is significant after natural hazards such as earthquake, or man-made disasters such as terrorist attack.

Traditionally, safety evaluation of buildings in India, is being carried out through periodic visual inspection and some kind of non-destructive testing (NDT), whenever the need is felt. The downside of the conventional techniques such as visual inspection and non-destructive test (NDT) is that these entail time and effort and require that the vicinity of damage is known a priori and that the portion of structure being inspected is readily accessible. The recurrent check-ups, as well as the improbable failures, which cannot be entirely eliminated, increases maintenance costs, operating expenses and vehicle down-time. This necessitates in-service check for strength and durability of structures allowing early detection and diagnosis of damage.

This calls for an urgent need to facilitate real time structural assessment for early detection and diagnosis of cracks. Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) identifies damage by virtue of changes in the overall vibration response of the buildings. The change in modal parameters (natural frequency, mode shapes and modal damping coefficient) gives an indication of the possible damage. Thus, SHM is the process of acquiring and analysing data from on-board sensors to determine the health of a structure [1-3]. The examination of a system encompasses sporadically sampled dynamic response from a range of sensors, extrication of damage-sensitive parameters from obtained response and their statistical analysis to determine the instant state of system's health. SHM encapsulates the technology and algorithms for sensing the condition of a structure, diagnosing the current state, conducting a prognosis of probable future performance, imparting information for its maintenance, safety, and emergency actions. This enhances serviceability and integrity of structures resulting in its reduced life cycle cost. The promising domain of SHM monitors the condition of structures in view of natural hazards like earthquakes and man-made disasters like terrorist attacks, vibrations from generators, air-conditioners, enabling well managed repair, rehabilitation and refurbishment facilities for minimizing the impact of the disaster. Research findings can find applicability in predicting distress in a building so that appropriate retrofitting and strengthening can be performed to prevent building failure.

The experiment was performed on a one-third scaled prototype model of a six story RC frame with masonry infill in the Building dynamics laboratory of CBRI. Progressive damage was introduced by virtue of cracks in infill. Numerous different sets of forced, free and ambient vibration tests were performed to determine natural frequencies for each of these five damage cases using frequency-domain operations such as Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)

The paper focuses on real-time damage detection based on vibration studies accomplished by CBRI Structural Health Monitoring team. The experiment was performed on the 1:3 scaled model of 6-story RC frame with masonry infill in the Building dynamics laboratory of CBRI. The forward problem is attended by inducing step-by-step damage in infill to investigate the changes in dynamic response as a result of change in physical properties of the structure. Recorded time histories are processed for Frequency Response Spectra (FRS) with Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) and mode shapes are obtained. Changes in natural frequency and modal curvature for each of the five damage cases are analyzed for damage detection and location in the structure. An Algorithm for damage identification viz. Curvature Damage Factor (CDF) approach is presented.

2. CSIR-CBRI Studied Model

The prototype frame used for this study is a 1:3 scaled down six storey, one by one bay, RC frame structure designed and constructed at the Building Dynamics Laboratory of CSIR-Central Building Research Institute (CSIR-CBRI)(Figure 1).The extent of this research effort follows the Indian codes and practices in design and construction of RC frame with masonry infill.

The building model used in the research study is 2000 mm by 1500 mm in plan dimension with 1100 mm storey height. The building consists of four columns (150x150 mm size), beams (100x175 mm size) and slabs (65mm thick), constructed in M20 grade of concrete and Fe415 reinforcement. The building is designed in accordance with IS 456-2000. The RC columns comprised of four number 12mm dia. bars width 6mm lateral ties, spaced at 150mm c/c.The RC beams comprise of 2 numbers

each 12mm dia. bars at top and bottom reinforcement with 6mm dia. stirrups at 120mm c/c, and RC slab having 6mm dia. at 150mm c/c reinforcement, in both the directions. The stiffness of the prototype model has been varied with the introduction of masonry infill in a storey along the direction of shorter span of the building (Fig. 1). The thickness of masonry infill is 100 mm spread across a length and height of 1350 mm and 930 mm respectively.

3. Experimental Investigation

The forced vibration testing comprised of a low amplitude vibrations set up by an APS-400 electrodynamic Long Stroke Shaker (LSS) installed at the first floor. The Tektronix AFG 3021B harmonic signal generator produces waveforms particularly sine continuous, sine sweep which are low power signals.



Figure 1. RC building Frame with Masonry Infill.

These signals are amplified to 5V using the Power Amplifier before feeding it to LSS. The LSS is operated under continuous sine excitation at different frequencies and in sine sweep excitation mode. The experimental set-up for test programme is shown in Figure 2 and 3.

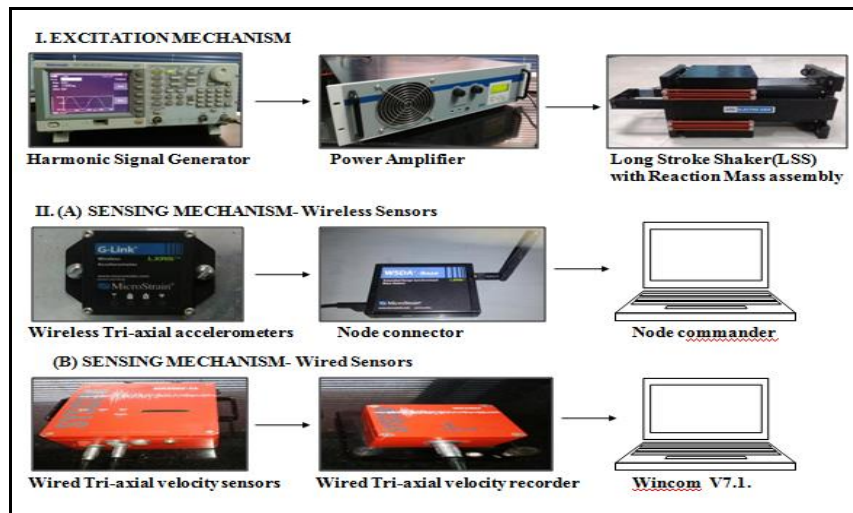


Figure 2. Experimental Setup Showing Excitation and Sensing Mechanism.

The sensing network comprises of eight MICROSTRAIN LXRS Tri-axial wireless accelerometers including six of them are installed on the beam in the direction of longer span (X-axis) while remaining two are installed along the shorter span (Y-Axis) of the framed structure. These are used to record acceleration at required locations in a structure. SYSCOM MR2002-CE Tri-axial wired velocity sensors are also employed in present study containing active geophones are capable of recording time series data with remarkable accuracy. Wincom V7.1 is used as communication software for base correction and for storage from recorder to data processing unit. The wireless sensors are fixed using 5mm thick aluminium plate anchored to RC floors/beam whereas the wired velocity sensors are placed on the surface i.e. floor level of RC frame building. The sampling rate used is 128 Hz, hence a total of 3,840 data sets are recorded in 30 seconds for post processing.

The Data Acquisition System (DAS) records the excitation and the response signals through a discrete-time series. The data processing is done using VIEW 2002 and SIGVIEW software package for wired and wireless sensors respectively. The signals are acquired in the form of time history which is then analysed by FFT (Fast Fourier Transform) to obtain FRS (Frequency Response Spectrum). The peak values obtained in the frequency response function plots correspond to the modal frequencies.

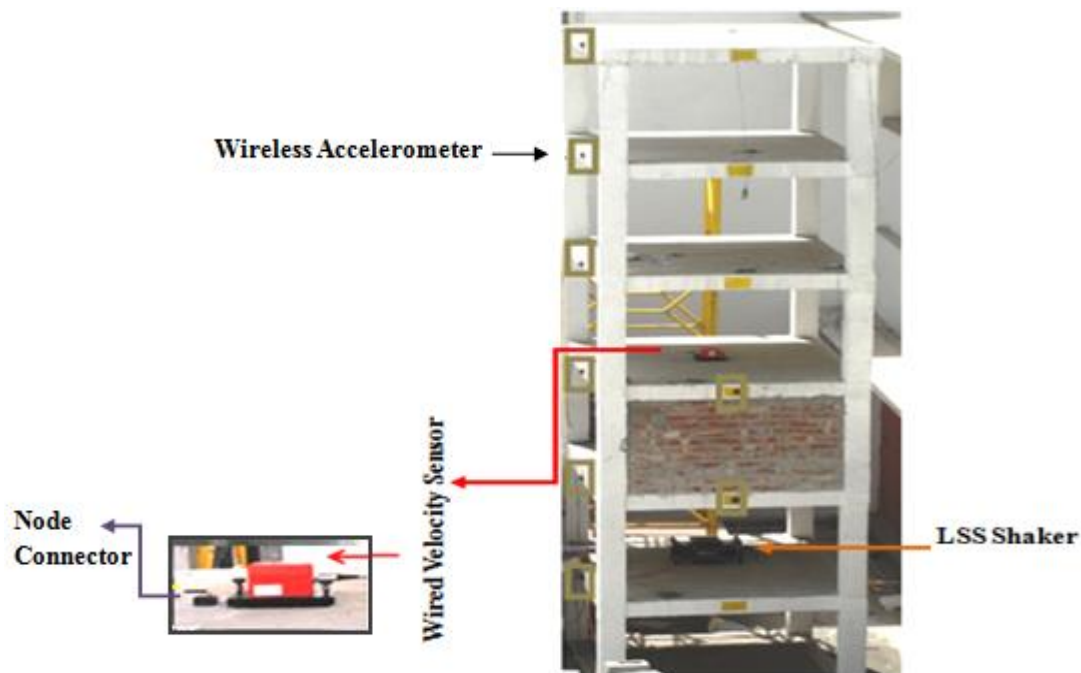


Figure 3. Experimental Study of RC building with Masonry Infill.

4. Damage Assessment of RC Building

Damage is identified as any change arising in a system with respect to its pristine state, which may infringe on its present or future performance. Changes in physical attributes such as material, geometry, boundary condition represents a damaged state. The fundamental principal in vibration based damage detection is that any damage will considerably vary the stiffness, mass or energy dissipation properties of the system, which further modifies the dynamic response of the system viz. Modal frequency, damping and mode shape, over the time [5-7] (Figure 4). The main aim is to efficiently detect damage at the earliest possible stage.

The forward problem is attended in this study. The structural damage is caused by addition of infill in second story along the direction of shorter span as well as by subsequently induced diagonal stepped cracks in masonry. This brings about increase and decrease in stiffness respectively that alters shears capacity of the structure. Five levels of cracks stimulation along their length (D1, D2,

D3, D4 and D5) are studied during testing (Figure 5). The modal parameters are obtained through the vibration test at a certain level of damage.

Non-model approach is a direct response based technique that uses damage indices has been applied in the research work. The damage indicators such as change in frequencies, modal curvature and modal derivatives are considered [8-9]. The analysis of shift in dynamic parameters of buildings for various damage cases is captured using change in modal curvature [4]. The damage identification algorithm viz. Curvature Damage Factor (CDF) approach is presented.

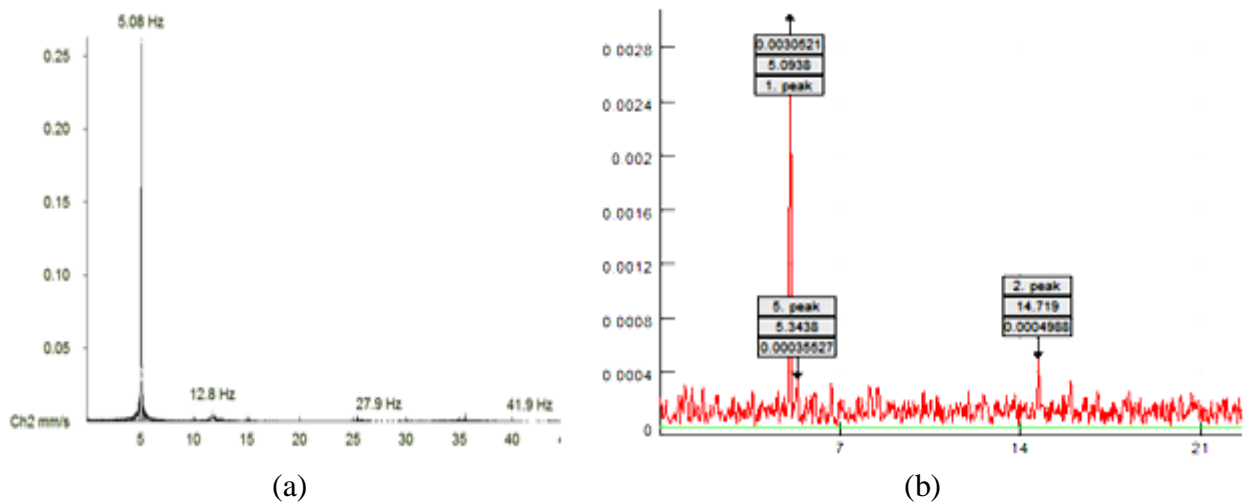


Figure 4. FRS Showing Frequency of RC frame with Infill in shorter direction (1.5 m) obtained via (a) Wired Velocity Sensors (b) Wireless Accelerometers.

4.1. Damage Detection: Change In Frequency

In the following experiment, the inclusion of infill wall increases stiffness and increase in frequency responses of a structure can be used to detect the variation in natural frequencies. Although frequency responses are easy to measure with a small number of sensors, they are global reflections of the system dynamic property and one single FRF oftentimes lacks the sensitivity to measure local variation of dynamic characteristics when in-filled. Hence, a large number of measured natural frequency shifts are analysed. The shift in modal parameters such as natural frequency on account of inclusion of infill wall has been observed (Figure 6).

The results showing reduction in frequencies corresponding to each damage level is compared (Table 1). Frequency based approach is a reflection of global nature of the system. Hence, this measure of correlation between intact and damaged state serves as an indicator of damage without showing location of damage. (Appendix A)

Table 1. Frequency Variation Due to Progressively Increased Damage in Masonry Infill

Mode	Natural Frequency (Hz) for Masonry Infill cases					
	Undamaged Cases	Damaged Cases				
		D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
1	5.08	4.64	4.56	4.47	4.41	4.38
2	12.8	11.8	11.6	11.5	11.3	11.2
3	27.9	25.9	25.7	25.4	24.3	24.1
4	41.9	34.9	34.7	34	33.7	33.4

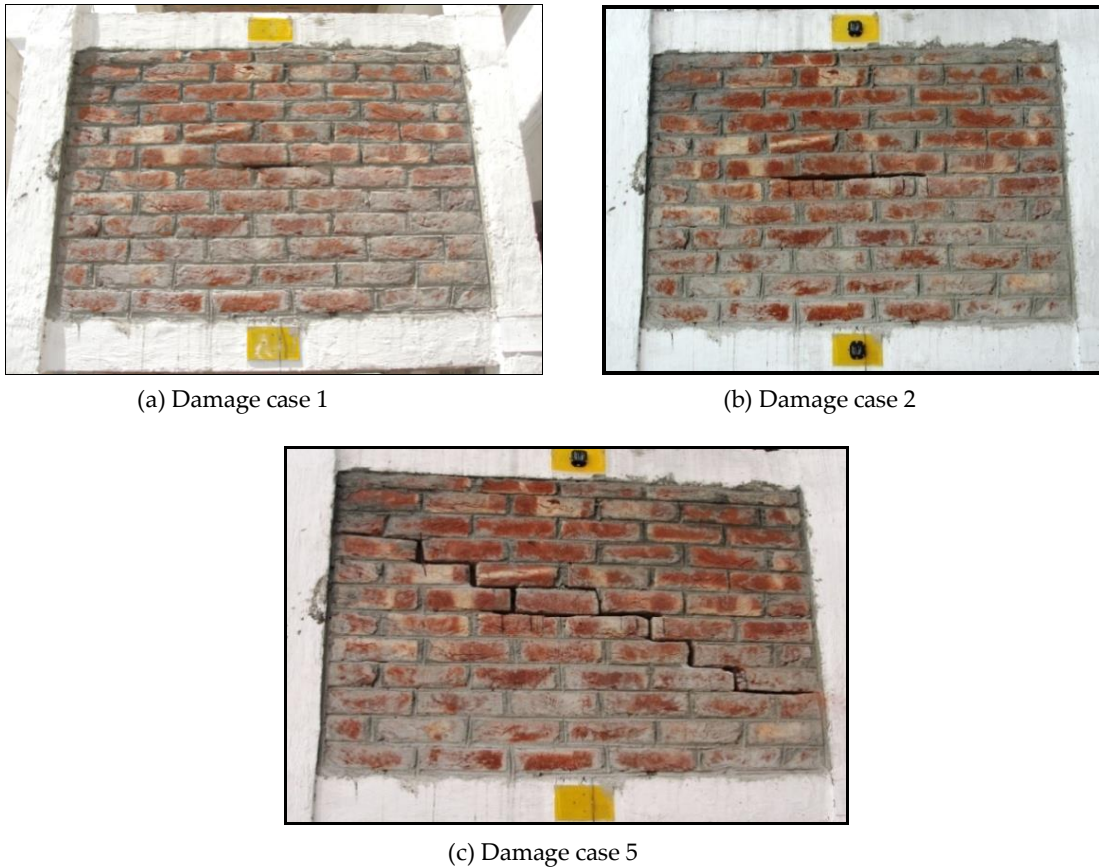


Figure 5. Progressive Damages in Masonry Infill Wall.

4.2. Damage Detection : Curvature Mode Shape (CMS) Approach

The underlying concept of this approach is that at a given location, the loss of stiffness will lead to increment in the curvature. This method has been proposed and successfully used for locating the damage in cantilever beam by Pandey et.al [16] [17-21]. The curvature of a beam under pure bending

moment M may be given as
$$\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = \frac{M}{EI}$$

Where, v denotes the transverse displacement of the beam. From the displacement mode shapes, curvature modes are obtained by using a central difference approximation, as

$$k_j = \frac{v_{i+1} - 2v_i + v_{i-1}}{l^2}$$

Where i is the floor level, l is the storey height. Thus, the curvature of the j^{th} mode shape may be obtained by the value of vertical displacement of the same mode shape.

Figure 6 presents the comparison between changes in Curvature of Mode shapes at different damage extent for fundamental mode. It is observed that there is a clear deviation of modal curvature for damaged situation to undamaged situation. The maximum peaks for the mode as seen in the graph corresponds to the same damage location i.e. second storey, of the Masonry infilled RC building.

The results show that the difference of curvature mode shapes from intact and damaged structure can be a good indicator for damage location. For higher modes, the difference in modal curvature shows several peaks not only at the damage location but also at other positions, which may lead to a false indication of damage. To avoid false alarm, the first mode has proved to provide the most reliable curvature.

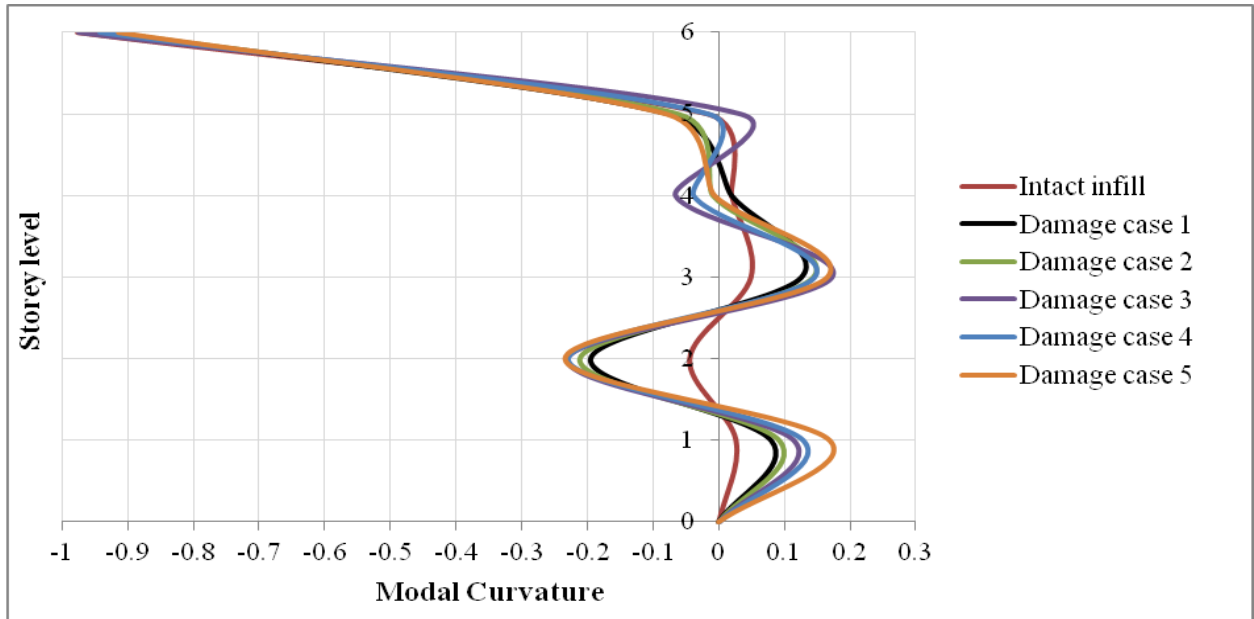


Figure 6. Comparison between changes in Curvature of (Fundamental) Mode shapes of Masonry Infilled RC building in different extent of damages.

4.3. Damage Detection: Curvature Damage Factor (CDF) Approach

Foti (2007, 2013) discussed (i) the Change in Mode Shapes Method and (ii) Mode Shapes Curvature Method; for predicting damage location and severity [10-15]. In order to eliminate the possibility of false alarm, Curvature Damage Factor (CDF) was calculated as:

$$CDF = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |v_{oi} - v_{di}|$$

where, N is the total no of modes considered, v_{oi} - curvature mode shape of intact structure and v_{di} that of the damaged structure. CDF is based on average absolute difference in intact and damaged curvature mode shapes of all modes (Figure 7).

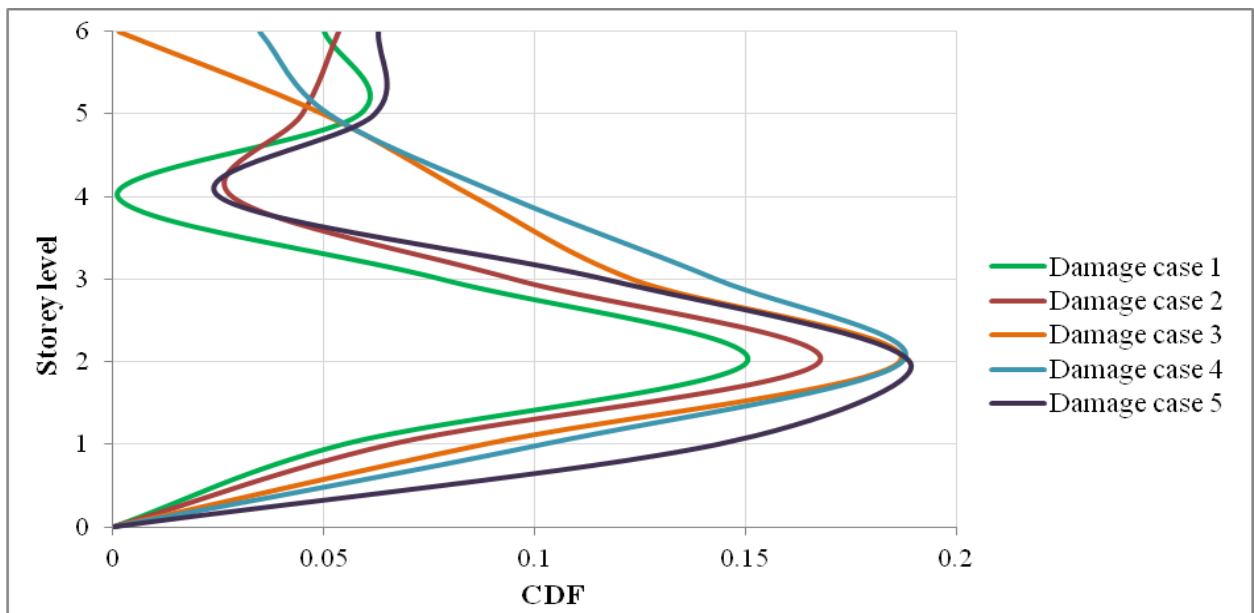


Figure 7. Comparison between changes in Curvature of (Fundamental) Mode shapes of Masonry Infilled RC building in different extent of damages.

In this study, the fundamental mode (N=1) of five damage cases were considered for the computation of CDF and these values were plotted against for each storey level. Figure 7 clearly shows that the peaks of CDF values also increase with increase in damage levels. It indicates change in stiffness of the structure due to progressive damage in masonry infill.

5. Results and Conclusions

Non-model approach is a direct response based technique that uses damage indices has been applied in the research work. The damage indicators such as change in frequencies, modal curvature and modal derivatives are considered.

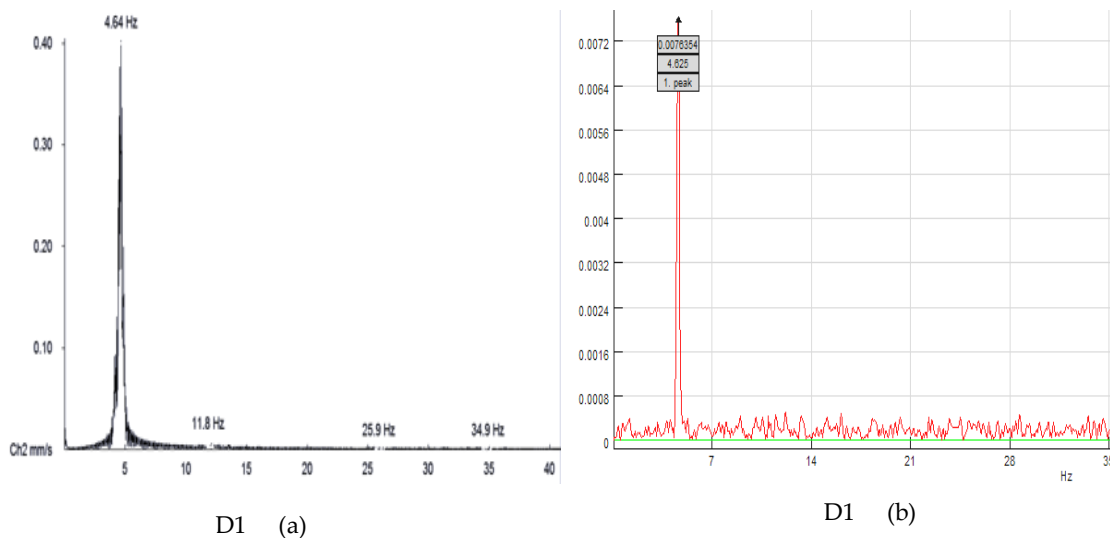
1. Frequency based Damage indices (DI) are a reflection of the global nature of the system. The probability of errors is relatively low with respect to other methods. However, it proves to be less sensitive in detecting intensity of damage and a large number of frequency shifts are to be analyzed for more reliable data.
2. The study concludes that the variations in curvature mode shapes are more sensitive than those in displacement mode shape since the curvature mode shapes are localized about the damage location. Significant deviation in peaks corresponding to the increase in damage size or intensity is thus evident.
3. Results show that curvature of mode shape is a good damage sensitive parameter to detect and locate damages in structures. This is also due the fact that second modal derivative is fairly more sensitive to minute perturbations in the structural system.
4. CMS approach also shows peaks owing to high noise levels, which may lead to a false indication of damage. To eliminate this problem, CDF shows the absolute change in mode shape values between two states.

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Appendix A

The appendix A shows the reduction in frequencies corresponding to each damage level as obtained by Frequency response Spectra (FRS) via wireless sensors and wired velocity sensors. (Figure 8)



D1 (a)

D1 (b)

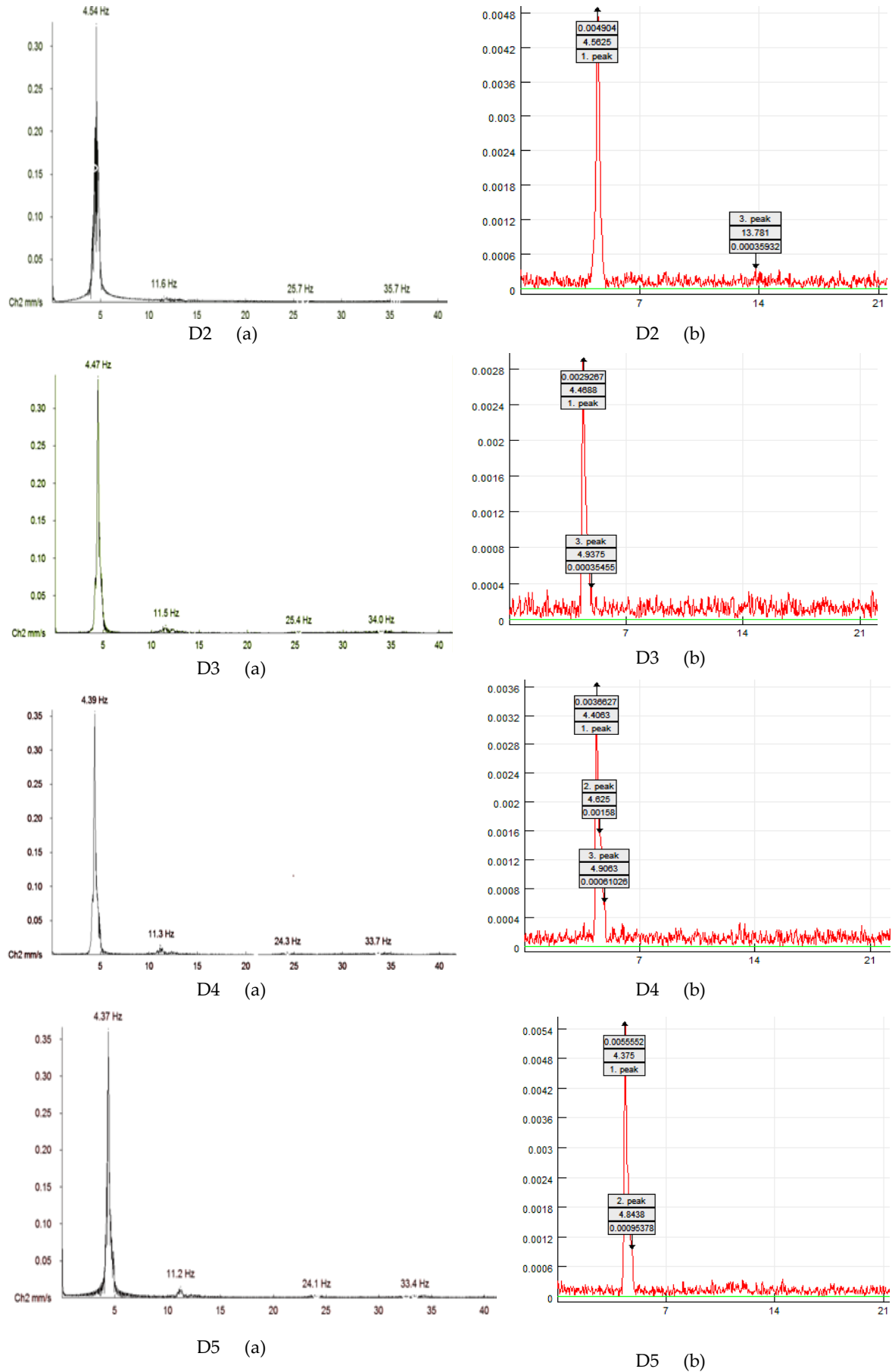


Figure 8. FRS Showing Frequency of RC frame with Infill in shorter direction (1.5 m) in five damage cases obtained via (a) Wired Velocity Sensors (b) Wireless Accelerometers.

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