

Recent Greek Provisions For Rc Structures with Urm Infills

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Abstract: A new Greek Code is already approved and in force, covering structural assessment, interventions (repair or/and strengthening) and redesign of existing reinforced concrete (RC) structures, in line with the relevant provisions of Euro-Codes, and especially of EC 8-1 : 2004 and of EC 8-3 : 2005 (for new and existing structures, respectively).

Among the various aspects covered by this extensive Code, admittedly far beyond and more detailed than EC 8, is that of masonry partitioning-infilling walls (made mainly of perforated clay bricks), already existing (plain/unreinforced-URM, with one or two leafs-wythes, previously damaged or not) or enhanced or arranged on purpose for seismic upgrading of old or/and inadequate RC buildings, consisting of engineered masonry panels, unreinforced or even reinforced.

According to this new Greek Code (nGCI), a lot of additional (to those of the EC 8) related problems and aspects are at least shortly covered (in a code-like format) and presented/discussed in this paper, such as :

Basic principles, i.e. reliability aspects, interaction of URM infills and RC elements or structures, quantitative global and local influence for frames or quasi-frames, possibly adverse local effects, assessment, repair or/and strengthening;

Technological and geometrical aspects, i.e. types of infills, existing (non-engineered) or new, geometrical data, presence of one or of two leafs (connected or not), panel's thickness and slenderness, influence of openings and of wedging;

Mechanical behavior, i.e. out-of-plane and in-plane response, macro-models based on shear panels or onevalent compression diagonals (struts), mechanical characteristics and typical (default) mean values for design and redesign, influence of past damage and residual characteristics, as well as

Methods of analysis, assessment and redesign, i.e. linear and non-linear approaches, static or dynamic ones, verifications in terms of force (global or local behavior factors) or displacement, based on specific performance requirements and levels (no-collapse, significant damage, limited damage).

The rationalism, the methodology and the application rules of this new Greek Code on (Structural) Interventions (nGCI) are expected to influence EC 8 as well as the provisions for seismic design of even new framed or quasi-framed common RC structures of low to medium height (i.e. up to max. 10 storeys).

Keywords: Reinforced concrete (RC) structures, unreinforced masonry (URM) infills, shear panels, equivalent struts, behavior models, skeleton (back-bone) curves, assessment, redesign.

1. INTRODUCTION

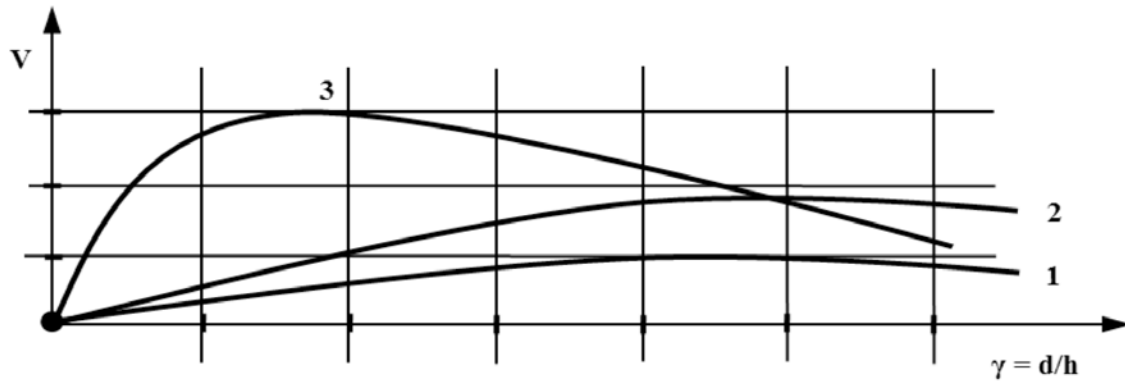
It has long been recognized (see, for example, the pioneered work by S.V. Polyakov and others, [1-12]), that the influence of even unreinforced and non-engineered partitioning-infilling masonry walls in the response of framed (or quasi-framed) RC structures could be significant Fig. (1), covering almost all aspects of seismic behavior, including redundancy, possible period shift and gradual or abrupt resistance degradation under inelastic cycling (seismic) actions.

Thus, ignoring such an influence and interaction (related with global or local effects, main or side ones), as it is the case for most common and conventional structural designs and redesigns – even nowadays, may not always result in

realistic and reliable predictions or even safe ones, not to mention the major problem regarding “open” (“soft” or “weak”) ground storeys-pilotis [13-15].

In recognition of this fact, not to mention lessons learnt in past earthquakes (see, for example, a lecture by M.N. Fardis, [20]), and for several decades now, the interaction of frames and infills has been the subject of numerous theoretical and experimental investigations, in many countries, including large scale and shaking table tests [21, 22]. Of course, many of the earlier tests and studies (in the '50s up to the '70s) devoted to infilled frames for resisting blast loads or for stabilizing/restraining of tall buildings, or to steel frames with infills, made of rather strong concrete units-blocks (hollow or solid ones) or of micro-concrete. In addition, several attempts to model analytically and predict reliably the behavior of infilled frames have been reported in the rich technical literature, with models elaborated or even sophisticated. Nevertheless, a rather old statement (J.W. Axley and V.V. Bertero, [23]) still holds true – “infilled frame structural sys-

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[1 : Bare frame, 2 : Frame and a set of multiple URM piers, 3 : Frame and an URM panel.

To this end, the larger the increase in stiffness and strength, the smaller the corresponding maximum displacement.]

Fig. (1). Qualitative (schematic) shear force-angular distortion (storey drift ratio) curves for infilled RC frames, [16-19].

tems have resisted analytical modelling”, as a consequence of a lot of difficulties and uncertainties, interrelated or not ([24] and § 2e here below).

Certainly, most of the current (national or international) structural design codes and recommendations produced all over the world do contain a lot of principles, provisions or even application rules (quantitative and qualitative) regarding masonry infills in framed (or quasi-framed) RC structures (new or existing ones) of high or medium (or even low) overall ductility [25-29]. To this end, the new Greek Code on assessment and upgrading of existing RC structures [30] contains a lot of provisions and application rules for masonry infilled frames or quasi-frames (in line with the general principles of EC 8 : 2004 and 2005), which are expected to influence even the seismic design of new concrete structures.

In this paper, the basic additional provisions and rules of this Code are presented and discussed, as well as calibrated by means of comparisons to other relative international approaches and design methodologies for URM infills. Nevertheless, infilled structures are still treated with scepticism in modern seismic codes, not to mention the relative reliability aspects regarding their behavior during the earthquake (EQ) itself [31-33].

2. GENERAL ASPECTS BASED ON EC 8

Euro-Code 8 [29] contains certain principles and provisions for masonry infills which contribute significantly to the resistance of the building (EC 8-1, § 4.3.1 (8)) and should be properly taken into account. These additional measures apply only to frame or frame equivalent dual concrete systems (and to steel or composite steel-concrete resisting frames) of high ductility class (DC H), with interacting non-engineered masonry infills that fulfill a set of conditions (EC 8-1, § 4.3.6.1), as follows :

a) Frame or frame equivalent dual concrete systems (or steel or composite resisting frames) are the structural systems in which both the gravitational and the seismic loads are mainly resisted by spatial frames whose shear resistance at the building base exceeds 65% or 50%, re-

spectively, of the total shear resistance of the whole structural system.

For wall or wall equivalent dual concrete systems (or braced steel or composite systems), with similar percentages of base shear resistances, any interaction with the masonry infills may be neglected, in general.

In the above definitions, the fraction of shear resistances may be substituted by the fraction of acting shear forces in the design seismic situation.

b) Masonry infills, which are considered in principle as non-structural elements, are non-load bearing elements, constructed after the (assembly of the steel frame, in the case of steel or composite systems, and) hardening of the concrete frame, while they should be in contact with the surrounding frame elements (i.e. non-isolated, w/o any special gaps or separation joints) but w/o any structural connection to the frame (e.g. through posts, belts, ties or shear connectors).

On the other hand, if engineered masonry infills constitute part of the seismic resistant structural system (and the load bearing one), their design should be carried out in accordance with the principles, criteria and rules given for confined or quasi-confined masonry (see the relevant clause of EC 8).

c) It is assumed that no change in the structure and the masonry infills will take place during the construction phase or during the subsequent life and use of the building, unless proper justification and verification is provided.

Due to the specific nature of the seismic response, this applies even in the case of a change that leads to a favorable effect and an increase of resistance (EC 8-1, § 1.3 (2) P).

d) Although the scope of this and the subsequent clauses is limited to DC H, the provided criteria for good practice may be advantageous to be adopted for other ductility classes as well (medium – DC M and low – DC L). In particular, for masonry shear panels that might be vulnerable to out-of-plane damage or failure (especially at up-

per storeys of the building), the provision of ties can reduce the hazard of falling masonry (see § h).

- e) Account shall be taken of the high uncertainties related to the characteristics and the behavior of masonry infills, namely (EC 8-1, § 4.3.6.2 (3) P):
 - The variability of their mechanical characteristics and properties and of their contact with or attachment to the surrounding/bounding frame;
 - Their possible modification (even unintentional) in-time or wear or degradation or damage during the life and use of the building, as well as
 - Their non-uniform or “non-organized” degree of damage or failure suffered at various storeys of the building during the earthquake itself.
- f) The consequences of additional (non-structural) irregularities due to masonry infills in plan as well as in elevation, even unintentional, shall be properly taken into account (EC 8-1, § 4.3.6.2, (1) P and (2) P), § 4.3.6.3), see APPENDIX A.
- g) The possibly adverse local effects on the boundary RC members due to the frame-infill interaction (e.g. shear failure of columns or of beams under local shear forces induced by infills) shall be properly taken into account (EC 8-1, § 4.3.6.2 (4) P and § 5.9 for concrete buildings), see APPENDICES B to D.
- h) For frame or frame equivalent dual structural systems, belonging to all ductility classes (DC H, M or L), except in the cases of low seismicity (EC 8-1, § 3.2.1 (4)), appropriate measures (damage limitation ones) should be taken to avoid brittle failure and premature disintegration of the infill walls, in particular of panels with large openings or of friable or of degraded materials, as well as to avoid partial or total out-of-plane collapse of rather slender panels, EC 8-1, § 4.3.6.4. Particular attention should be paid to masonry infills with a slenderness ratio (ratio of the smaller of clear length or height to effective thickness) of greater than 15.

Examples of such appropriate measures, to improve both in-plane and out-of-plane integrity and behavior, include (among others) concrete posts and belts across the panel and through the full thickness of the wall, wall ties cast into the bed joints of the masonry and fixed to the columns and light wire-meshes well anchored on the wall (at least on its one face) and the bounding frame. If there are large openings or perforations in any of the masonry infill panels, their edges should be trimmed with posts and belts.

In addition, the “damage limitation requirement” is considered to have been satisfied, if, under a seismic action having a larger probability of occurrence than that corresponding to the “no-collapse requirement” (i.e. under a more frequent and less severe earthquake), the interstorey drifts are limited to $d_r \cdot v \leq 0,005 h$ (for non-structural elements of brittle materials “attached” to the structure, as URM), see EC 8-1, § 4.4.3, where d_r is the design interstorey drift ($d_r = q_d \cdot d_{r,et}$, with the displacement behavior factor $q_d \geq q$ if $T \leq T_c$ – short period range, in the cases of linear-elastic analyses) and h is the storey height, with v an appropriate reduction factor.

The v factor takes into account the lower return period of the associated seismic action, the seismic hazard conditions and the degree of protection of property objective, with recommended values of 0,5 for lower and 0,4 for higher importance classes, respectively, see EC 8.

Additional damage limitation verifications might be required in the case of buildings important for civil protection or of monumental value or containing “sensitive” or “valuable” objects, equipment etc.

To this end, and before presenting the additional and more detailed relevant provisions of the new Greek Code, especially for existing RC structures, the following comments are made :

- (i) How the “significant contribution” of masonry infills could be assessed, in a quantitative (and not only qualitative) and straight forward way ?

By means of response models, mechanical characteristics and default values, given in the next clauses of this paper (at least for common masonry infills in Greece), the in-plane shear strength of infills could be estimated for each storey and in each one of the two main orthogonal horizontal directions of the building. If this shear strength of infills, in any storey and in any direction, exceeds approx. 15% of the corresponding total shear resistance of the RC vertical elements, then the influence of infills could be considered as “significant” (see also APPENDIX A, (ii)), unless isolation (and additional) measures are taken (and maintained).

- (j) Admittedly, the principle of non-engineered, non-structural and non-load bearing masonry infills, in a “simple” contact with the surrounding concrete frame elements (§ b), is in contradiction to the measures and rules associated with damage limitation of infills (§ h), especially those regarding the arrangement of posts and belts (usually made of concrete), or of ties or of shear connectors, of various types.

3. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS OF THE NEW GREEK CODE

The main general additional principles of the new Greek Code on (Structural) Interventions [30] on existing RC structures (damaged or undamaged) are those related to a) inspection, investigation and documentation (leading to certain data reliability levels – DRLs, with an impact on almost all phases of redesign), b) performance levels and requirements (associated with the target behavior and degree of acceptable damage), c) elastic analyses based on global behavior or local ductility factors (q or m , respectively), and d) additional particularities related to URM infills in RC frames or quasi-frames.

- a) Before any structural assessment, redesign or intervention is carried out, it is needed to investigate and document the existing structure to a sufficient extent and depth so as to obtain maximum data reliability on which to base any relevant action, taking into account that any alteration of or intervention on the URM infills also constitutes a relevant action on the existing structure itself (see also §2c). This involves inspection and surveying of the building, its structure and its condition, gathering of reliable information, compilation of the structure’s “his-

tory” and maintenance, recording of any wear, deterioration or damage as well as conducting on-site and in-lab investigation works, tests and measurements, in a detailed and well specified manner (based on a plan prepared by the Structural Engineer), for both the foundation (and basement (s), if any) and the superstructure, separately for RC slabs, beams, columns and walls, as well as URM (or other) infills. To this end, and besides minimum requirements for investigation of and data on materials characteristics and strengths, there are minimum requirements regarding a set of “geometrical” data as well, including the following :

- Type and geometry of the foundation, the basement(s), if any, and the superstructure, general dimensions, lengths, heights, cross-sections etc., with a set of detailed drawings;
- Type and geometry, arrangement, thicknesses, degree of wedging, connections (if any), construction details etc. of the URM infills, shown on the same structural drawings;
- Thickness and weights of cladding, finishes, coverings, coatings, architectural or functional elements, other dead weights etc., and
- Reinforcement details, including reinforcement layout, number and diameter of bars, anchorage lengths, lap and starter bar lengths, detailing and closing of stirrups etc.

The desired reliability level of the above mechanical and geometrical data depends on several factors and affects all phases of assessment and redesign, including the determination of actions, action-effects and resistances, while uncertainties are covered by introducing the concept of “Data Reliability Level – DRL”, far beyond the relevant provisions of EC 8-3 regarding “Knowledge Levels and Factors” (or of FEMA [27]).

Three DRLs are distinguished : High (H), Sufficient or Satisfactory (S) and Tolerable (T), corresponding roughly to “Knowledge Levels” – KLs 3 to 1 of EC 8-3 (Full, Normal, Limited), as far as “primary” seismic elements are concerned. For “secondary” seismic elements, a DRL less than Tolerable (T) could be permitted, while for URM infills a DRL H or S is imposed.

In addition, DRL is not necessarily the same for the entire building or even the same group of elements or of data; different DRLs for the various sub-categories of elements and of information could be determined. It is only for the selection of the proper method of analysis that the most unfavorable among the individual DRLs shall be used.

Depending on DRL (i) an appropriate method of analysis is chosen (since there is no point in the desired precision of any advanced method being higher than the expected inaccuracy of the data which will be used), (ii) the appropriate safety factors γ_r are selected for certain actions of higher uncertainty, combined with relevant γ_{sa} factors (i.e. uncertainties of the models through which the effects of actions are assessed), and (iii) the appropriate safety factors γ_m for material properties are selected, combined with relevant γ_{Rd} factors (i.e. uncertainties of the models for resistances of all types and kinds). Generally, for DRL S the γ -factors are se-

lected according to the provisions of the Codes for the design of new structures, with no modifications.

- a) Three Performance Levels – PLs (target structural behaviors) are foreseen : Collapse Prevention (C) or no-collapse or near collapse (associated with extensive and severe/heavy structural damage, but w/o collapse), Life (and Property) Protection (B) or significant/substantial and extensive structural damage (a repairable one), and Immediate Use and Function (A) or limited structural damage (associated with no or minor damage and immediate occupancy and use w/o any restriction). In fact, these three PLs correspond (in general) to the three Limit States of EC 8-3, namely Near Collapse (NC), Significant Damage (SD) and Limited Damage (LD).

These PLs (strictly for the load bearing structure alone) are combined with the foreseen seismic action to give a “target” for the assessment or the redesign of the structure, not necessarily the same. To this end, and for a conventional life-time of 50 yrs (the same for new and existing buildings), the seismic action could be assessed on a probability of exceedance equal to (1) 10% (mean return period of approx. 475 yrs) - in general, or (2) 50% (mean return period of approx. 75 yrs) - after the approval of a Public Authority, leading to an overall seismic action of 100% or 60% compared to that of EC 8-1, respectively. The importance factor γ_I of EC 8-1 should be properly taken into account, allowing for the expansion of life-time beyond 50 yrs, or (equivalently) taking into consideration the generalized consequences of a potential failure.

The “targets” could be two, namely B1 and A2 or C1 and B2 or A2, depending on the use and importance of the building, while for new buildings the “target” according to EC 8-1 is in principle B1 (life and property protection, $p_e = 10\%$ in $L_t = 50$ yrs).

This foreseen “target” (a combination of PL and of the seismic action, in terms of p_e —if and when this is permitted) influences all phases of assessment and redesign, including methods of analyses (linear for PL A or B, non-linear for PL B or C), \mathbf{q} and \mathbf{m} factors, actions and action-effects, resistances, detailed provisions, verifications etc.

- b) When linear (or pseudo-linear) analyses are to be used for existing structures, two methodologies are foreseen according to the new Greek Code, namely :

- The use of an overall (global) ductility factor \mathbf{q} , for the entire structure, being in fact a product of the over-strength (\mathbf{q}_o) and the ductility (\mathbf{q}_d) factors of the building as a whole, i.e. $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}_o \cdot \mathbf{q}_d$, or
- The use of local “displacement” ductility factors \mathbf{m}_i (directly interrelated to \mathbf{q}_d , i.e. $\mathbf{m}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{q}_d$), for individual structural elements (primary or secondary) or URM infills, based on their available ductility (their skeleton or back-bone curves).

The Code contains detailed criteria and application rules for estimating \mathbf{q}_o , \mathbf{q}_d and \mathbf{m}_i values, for existing elements (damaged or not) or for elements after repair/strengthening or for new (added) elements, as well as for the interrelation $\mathbf{m}_i \leftrightarrow \mathbf{q}_d$, for assessment or redesign purposes, depending of course on PLs and DRLs.

To this end, two comments are made:

- The values of m_i factors (m for member) are chosen and calibrated so that the value of the corresponding overall q factor of the structure as a whole does not deviate by more than 15% than the foreseen conservative default value according to the Code, and
- The value of m_i factor for an individual element is a good and reliable estimator of its seismic behavior; by convention, if $m_i \geq 2$, i.e. if the behavior is quasi-ductile, verification is made in terms of “deformation” (based, in principle, in materials’ properties represented by just their mean values, properly calibrated), while if $m_i < 2$, i.e. if the behavior is quasi-brittle, verification is made in terms of “force” (based, in general, on materials’ properties represented by their mean values minus one standard deviation, taking into account proper γ_m factors, depending on DRLs).

In general, the verification and the check of safety inequality, i.e. $E_d = \gamma_{Sd} \cdot E (E_k \cdot \gamma_f) < (1/\gamma_{Rd}) \cdot R(R_k/\gamma_m) = R_d$, is performed in terms of “force” for linear analysis or non-linear analysis and brittle members, or in terms of “displacement” for non-linear analysis and ductile members. In addition, linear modelling is meant to be used mainly for new buildings and non-linear is meant to be used primarily for the purposes of assessment and redesign of existing buildings, while for infilled structures dynamic analyses (of any type) are not recommended.

d) For URM infills, the following specific criteria and rules are foreseen according to the new Greek Code :

- Survey and documentation include exposing masonry walls at (at least) 2 locations on each floor, with an exposed area of approx. 0,7x0,7 m. When inspecting and surveying, reliable information is collected regarding:
 - The system and the quality of construction, the wedging between infills and bounding elements;
 - The type and the quality of materials (bricks and mortar);
 - Possible wear or deterioration, damage etc.;
 - The thickness of leafs-wythes, their possible connection;
 - The thickness of joints (volume of mortar) and the degree of filling with mortar, for both bed and head joints, and
 - The presence and the details of any posts, belts, connectors etc.

To this end, if differences and deviations are high, additional investigation is needed, e.g. at 4 locations on each floor.

- In order to determine the behavior of infills, compressive and shear strengths, as well as the corresponding moduli, are of interest.
 - When more precise data are not available, the above properties could be determined indirectly by semi-empirical relations or taken as equal to their foreseen default values; in this case, the DRL for the mechani-

cal characteristics is considered Sufficient or Satisfactory (DRL S);

- When the mechanical characteristics are calibrated by means of tests and measurements on-site or/and in-lab of a certain number of representative samples/specimens (according to the Structural Engineer’s judgment), the DRL can be considered High (DRL H);
- A Tolerable DRL (DRL T) is not allowed for URM infills to be taken into account in assessment or in redesign;
- For DRL S or H, γ_m values for the strength of URM infills may be taken equal to 2,5 or 2,0, respectively.
- Similar provisions are foreseen, regarding DRLs (S or H) of geometrical characteristics, i.e. mainly the number of leafs-wythes and the thicknesses.
- For URM infills (existing or built on purpose) only PLs A and B are allowed, while all PLs (including C, collapse prevention) are allowed only in the case of engineered and reinforced RM infills.

In addition, and based on specific skeleton curves, URM infills could be checked in terms of “force” (q or m values) or of “displacement” (non-linear analysis), considering them as quasi-ductile thanks to the “confining” action of the surrounding framing RC elements.

- The q values (default ones) for RC frames (or quasi-frames) with URM infills, for assessment or redesign, depend on three main and decisive factors, namely (i) the standards applied for their design (and construction), (ii) their favorable presence or absence, or their generally (not locally) unfavorable presence, and (iii) the degree of damage (if any) in primary structural elements, not to mention PLs.

As an example, for Greece, and for PL B (life and property protection), a building constructed in the ’70s, with a substantial structural damage and unfavorable presence of URM infills on a large scale (i.e. presence of many “short” columns), may be assessed for $q \approx 1,1$, but redesigned for $q \approx 1,3$ or even 1,7, simply if damage is fully repaired or if a favorable presence of full height URM infills on a large scale is ensured as well, respectively. Also, a building constructed in the ’90s, with a considerable structural damage and unfavorable presence of URM infills as in the previous case, may be assessed for $q \approx 1,3$, but redesigned for $q \approx 1,7$ or even 2,3, simply if damage is fully repaired or if the unfavorable effects of infill walls are eliminated (e.g. by removal of infills or by lessening of their effects or by converting partial to full infilling) as well, respectively.

- Correspondingly, rather low m values of URM infills could be estimated, based on their skeleton curves (see §6 of this paper) and their deterioration or damage, if any and if not fully repaired (see § 7 of this paper).
- Finally, additional criteria and rules are provided, as in the following clauses and paragraphs of this paper, while, as a general principle, URM infills could be taken into account only if (i) they are in a “simple” contact with RC

moting” an “intermediate” level of linear (elastic) analysis based on member ductilities m_i (including URM infills), finally and overall calibrated by means of a global (and modified) behavior factor q , suitable for infilled RC frames (or quasi-frames) as well.

Nevertheless, it has to be mentioned that certain relative aspects are not duly covered by the technical literature or the Codes themselves, as follows :

(i) The increased ability of infilled frames to absorb energy even after their max. resistance should be properly taken into account in the seismic design, e.g. by means of an increased viscous damping (based e.g. on their global influence regarding period values and on their residual characteristics), compared to those of the RC structure.

(ii) Infilled frames, even with non-engineered and non-structural URM infills, could be taken into account not only in PLs A and B but in PL C as well (i.e. collapse prevention), if a detailed analysis proves that the bounding RC frame remains fully stable following the failure (or loss) of an infill panel.

(iii) Possible eccentricities between the infill panels and the surrounding in contact RC framing elements should be considered. Of course, EC 8-1 contains a relative and rather strict rule for ductile RC structures (DC H or M):

The eccentricity of the beam axis relative to that of the column into which it frames shall be limited, to enable efficient transfer of cyclic action-effects between “primary” elements to be achieved, while to enable this requirement to be met the eccentricity e (i.e. the distance between the centroidal axes of the 2 members) should be limited to less than $b_c/4$, where b_c is the cross-sectional dimension of the column normal to the longitudinal axis of the beam (and to the planar frame).

Due to the facts that (1) some RC members in infilled structures could be regarded as “secondary” seismic elements and (2) the need for cyclic transfer between RC members themselves is “blunted”, a more relaxed rule is proposed by the authors, that of $e < b_c/3$ instead of $e < b_c/4$. Of course, the full thickness of infill panels should be “contained” within the width of the beam and of the column.

(iv) It seems that the biaxial in-plane behavior and strengths of URM panels-infills, “contained” (\rightarrow “confined”) or not, unfortunately **DO NOT** follow any of the well known constitutive laws or approaches.

A set of strengths (and mechanical characteristics) depend on the “composite” (and its construction details), while another set of strengths depend primarily on the mortar itself (with a limited overall influence of the “composite”).

In fact, this is true for masonry in general (load bearing or not), with a very low relative strength ratio of the constituent materials, as it is the case of URM panels-infills, with $f_{bc}/f_{mc} > 2$ to 3 and $f_{bt}/f_{mt} > 5$ to 8 (see APPENDIX E).

Therefore, there is a need of additional studies and calibration of models and resistances, as well as of the interaction of URM panels-infills and of modern RC structures, designed and constructed according to modern seismic codes.

APPENDIX A

Additional Irregularities Due to Masonry Infills

For structural systems and masonry infills as per §§ 2a to 2e of this paper, the consequences of any additional irregularities especially due to the infills shall be properly taken into account in the design or redesign (see § 2f), as follows (EC 8-1, § 4.3.6.3) :

(i) Irregularities in plan

- Strongly irregular, non-uniform or non-symmetrical arrangements of infills in plan, taking into account the extent of wedging or of openings or perforations in infill panels, should be avoided.
- In the case of severe in plan irregularities due to the infills (e.g. existence of infills mainly along two consecutive faces of the building), spatial models should be used for the analysis.

Infills should be included in the model and a parametric sensitivity analysis should be performed, regarding their position and their properties, e.g. by disregarding 1 out of 3 or 4 panels in a planar frame, especially on the more flexible sides.

Special attention should be paid to the verification of structural elements on the more flexible sides of the plan of the building (i.e. furthest away from the side where infills are concentrated) against the effects of any, even accidental, torsional response caused by the infills.

To this end, infill panels with more than 1 significant openings or perforations (e.g. a door and a window) should be disregarded in such models for analyses (in accordance with the previous paragraphs).

- When masonry infills are not regular, but not in such a way as to constitute a strong irregularity in plan, these irregularities may be taken into account by increasing by a factor of 2 the effects of the accidental torsional eccentricity of storey mass from its nominal location (i.e. $e_a = \pm 0,10 L$ instead of $\pm 0,05 L$, where L is the floor dimension perpendicular to the direction of the seismic action), in accordance with the rules for linear-elastic analyses.

(ii) Irregularities in elevation

- As a basic principle, if there are considerable irregularities in elevation (e.g. drastic reduction of infills in 1 or more storeys compared to the others, pilotis etc.), the seismic action-effects in the vertical elements of the respective storeys shall be increased, as a counterbalance measure against the lack of increased resistance due to infills.
- If a more precise and detailed approach is not used, a relative deemed to satisfy rule is the amplification of calculated seismic action-effects (axial forces, bending moments and shear forces) by a magnification factor $\eta = (1 + \Delta V_{Rw} / \Sigma V_{Ed}) \leq q$, where q is the behavior factor, ΔV_{Rw} is the total reduction of the resistance of masonry infills in the storey concerned, compared to the more infilled storey above it, and ΣV_{Ed} is the sum of the seismic shear forces acting on all vertical seismic members of the storey concerned, and especially the primary ones – i.e.

Table E.3. Typical values of the 4 relevant models.

	τ_{cr} (MPa)	γ_{cr} (‰)	τ_{max}/τ_{cr}	γ_{max}/γ_{cr}	τ_{res}/τ_{max}	$\gamma_{res}/\gamma_{max}$
[18] 1984	0,30	(0,75)	1,30	1,30	0,30	2,25
[70], [71] 1996	0,25	1,50	1,30	3,00	0,10	$\geq 2,00$
[72], [73] 1998	0,25	1,00	1,45	4,50	—	—
[45] 2004	0,20	2,00	1,25	3,00	0,25	2,50
RECOMMENDED VALUES	0,25	1,50	1,25	3,00	0,25	2,50

$\gamma_{res} \approx (2,0 \text{ to } 3,0) \cdot \gamma_{max}$ [depending on the damage]

To this end, one could conclude that :

$\tau_{cr} \approx f_{wt,s}$ and $\gamma_{cr} \approx 2,0 \text{ ‰}$, while $G \approx 500 f_{wt,s}$.

Index s is valid for diagonal strengths, with $f_{wv} \approx f_{wt,s} \approx 0,15 f_{wc,s}$ (overall mean values).

The basic characteristics and the relevant values according to these 4 models are compared in the Table here below.

To this end, differences are not that high, taking into account the variety of related (or even interrelated) uncertainties, not to mention that the response of infills is influenced by their geometry, i.e. their aspect ratio ($\alpha=h/\ell$), their slenderness ($\lambda=L/t_{eff}$), and the surrounding RC framing elements. Nevertheless, γ_{cr} values are lower than those of the nGCI by a factor of 2.

(i) Based on [43] to [45], as well as on relevant calibrations (see, e.g., [74, 75]), the following analytical data are given for common greek URM infills :

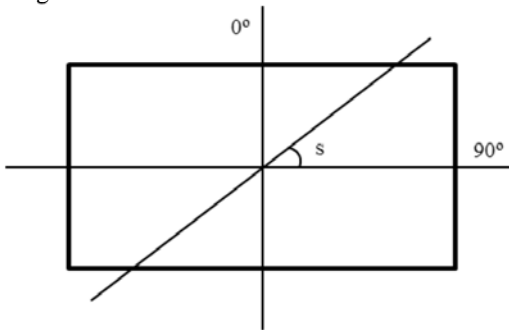


Fig. E.2: Explanation of subscripts used in the following text.

- Highly increased uncertainties are encountered, even higher than those associated with plain masonry itself (load bearing one); therefore, large scattering of mechanical (and other) characteristics is expected.
- Common clay units-bricks (**b** for blocks) are used, with approx. dimensions 60x85x185 mm, with 6 horizontal perforations (more than 35 and up to 50 % voids) and with webs of 5 up to 10 mm in thickness.

The compressive strengths of bricks are : $f_{bc,0} \approx 2,0/4,0$ to $7,0/9,0$ MPa (overall mean 4,0 MPa)

$f_{bc,90} \approx 6,0/9,0$ to

15,0/22,0 MPa.

- Common poor lime-cement mortars (**m** for mortars) are used, of low strengths and characteristics, depending on a lot of (construction) parameters.

Their strengths are : $f_{mc} \approx 1,0$ to $5,0/7,0$ MPa (overall mean 1,5 MPa)

$f_{mt} \approx 0,1$ to $0,4$ MPa (overall mean $\approx 0,2$

$f_{mc} \approx 0,3$ MPa).

- Infills are made with a running bond, with almost fully filled bed joints (with a thickness of 10÷15 mm) and partially (~50 %) filled head joints (with a similar thickness).

Three types of URM infills are common, namely :

- Single leaf, with a nom. thickness of 100 to 120 (140) mm and an effective one of 100 mm (nom. weight $\sim 2,0$ kN/m²);
- Double leaf, with a nom. thickness of 180 to 220 (240) mm and an effective one of 200 mm (nom. weight $\sim 3,5$ kN/m²), and
- Cavity or “hollow” panels, made of 2 wythes, mostly unconnected, to facilitate insulation or other (architectural) needs.

In what follows, mean values of strengths of the two main greek types of infills are given, while higher or lower values (up to ± 20 %) are expected for double or single leaf panels, respectively; cavity panels (with an actual thickness of each skin equal approx. to 70 up to 100 mm) are not considered at all regarding in-plane behavior.

- Compression strengths :

$f_{wc,0} \approx 1,5$ to $5,0$ MPa (overall mean 2,75 MPa)

$f_{wc,90} \approx 0,4$ to $0,9 f_{wc,0}$

$f_{wc,s} \approx 0,5$ to $0,7 f_{wc,0}$ (overall mean 1,50 MPa).

To this end, $f_{wc,0}$ could be found based on the relative strengths of the constituent materials (see, also, T. Paulay and M.J.N. Priestley, 1992, [46], based on the work of H.K. Hilsdorf, 1969), as follows :

$f_{wc,0} \approx \xi (0,65 f_{bc,0} + 0,1 f_{mc})$, with $\xi \approx 1,00$ for $t_{joints} \approx 10$ to 15 mm or $\xi \approx 0,85$ for $t_{joints} > 15$ mm.

Other relevant “characteristic” are : $\epsilon_{\max} \approx 2,0/3,0$ to $4,0/9,0$ ‰ ;

E at $\sim 0,5 f_{wc,0} \approx 500$ to $900 f_{wc,0}$, and

E at $\sim 0,9 f_{wc,0} \approx 100$ to $500 f_{wc,0}$.

- Tensile strengths :

$$f_{wt,0} \approx 0,5 \text{ to } 0,8 f_{wt}$$

$$f_{wc,90} \approx 1,7 \text{ to } 2,0 f_{wt,0}$$

$$f_{wt,s} \approx (f_{wt,0} \approx) 0,75 f_{mt} \text{ (overall mean } 0,25 \text{ MPa).}$$

- Shear strengths :

– Horizontal sliding

$$f_{wv}S = f_{wvo} + \mu \cdot \sigma_o, f_{wvo} \approx 0,1 \text{ to } 0,3 \text{ MPa}, \mu \approx 0,3 \text{ to } 0,9 \text{ (0,5),}$$

$$\text{while for } \sigma_o \approx 0 \rightarrow f_{wv}S \approx 0,75 f_{mt} (\approx f_{wt,s}).$$

$$\text{Alternatively, } f_{wv}S \approx 0,15 \text{ (to } 0,25) (f_{wc,0})^{1/2}.$$

– Diagonal cracking

$$f_{wv}C = (0,6 \text{ to } 1,3) f_{wt,s} \cdot (1 + \sigma_o/f_{wt,s})^{1/2},$$

$$\text{while for } \sigma_o \approx 0 \rightarrow f_{wv}C \approx f_{wt,s} (\approx 0,75 f_{mt}).$$

Therefore, both shear failure mechanisms are almost equally probable.

- Regarding the biaxial behavior of masonry see also [74] or the “classical” works by A.W. Page and A.W. Hendry during the ’70s and the ’80s.
- Regarding horizontal sliding under shear, the following are foreseen by others :

$$\text{– } f_{wv}S \approx 0,5/(1+5/f_{wc,0}) \approx 0,1 (f_{wc,0})^{1/2}, \text{ in MPa, for } f_{wc,0} \leq 5 \text{ MPa,}$$

$$f_{wv}S \approx 0,25 \text{ MPa for } f_{wc,0} \geq 5 \text{ MPa, for older structures, [3];}$$

$$\text{– } f_{wv}S \approx f_{wvo} + \mu \cdot \sigma_o \leq 0,15 \text{ (to } 0,20) f_{wc,0}, \text{ with } f_{wvo} \approx 0,1 \text{ to } 1,5 \text{ MPa (} 0,04 f_{wc,0})$$

and $\mu \approx 0,3$ to $1,2$ (0,5), as a simplification for uncracked masonry, [46].

- For out-of-plane earthquake (EQ) loading, the bending (tensile) strengths of greek URM infills are :

– Approx. 0,30 to 0,40 MPa, for arching between beams, i.e. for horizontal cracking, or

– Approx. 0,50 to 0,70 MPa, for arching between columns, i.e. for vertical cracking.

- Finally, it should be mentioned that URM infills are favorably influenced (in terms of strength and deformation as well) by being “contained” in a RC frame (\rightarrow “confined”), while (at the same time) the area of joints and of end-segments of RC framing elements are almost equally “confined” by infills, in the case of full infilling.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors confirm that this article content has no conflicts of interest.

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