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# 1 “Time-building specific” seismic vulnerability assessment of a 2 hospital RC building using field monitoring data

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## 10 11 12 13 **ABSTRACT**

14  
15 In the context of seismic vulnerability assessment of reinforced concrete (RC) buildings, the use  
16 of field monitoring data constitutes a significant tool for the representation of the actual structural state,  
17 reducing uncertainties associated with the building configuration properties as well as many non-  
18 physical parameters (age, maintenance, etc.), enhancing thus the reliability in the risk assessment  
19 procedure. In this study, the seismic vulnerability of existing RC buildings is evaluated, combining  
20 through a comprehensive methodology, the numerical analysis and field monitoring data. The  
21 proposed methodology is highlighted through the derivation of “time-building specific” fragility curves  
22 for an eight-storey RC structure (hospital building), built almost five decades ago, that is composed by  
23 two adjacent units connected with a structural joint. The assessment of the dynamic characteristics is  
24 performed using ambient noise measurements recorded by a temporary seismic network which was  
25 deployed inside the hospital. The modal identification results are used to update and better constrain  
26 the initial finite element model of the building, which is based on the available design and construction  
27 documentation plans. Three-dimensional incremental dynamic analysis is performed to derive the  
28 fragility curves for the initial as built model (“building-specific”) and for the real structures as they are  
29 nowadays (“time-building specific”). The initial “building-specific” curves are evaluated through their  
30 comparison with conventional generic curves that are commonly used in risk assessment studies.  
31 Moreover, in order to enhance the reliability of the obtained results, the “time-building specific” fragility  
32 curves, are compared to time-dependent curves derived for the hospital units adopting an appropriate  
33 for the specific case study corrosion scenario. Results derived from both approaches indicate that the  
34 consideration of the actual state of structures may significantly alter their expected seismic  
35 performance leading to higher vulnerability values.

36  
37 **Keywords:** Building monitoring; operational modal analysis; finite element updating; time-building  
38 specific vulnerability assessment; time-dependent fragility curves; incremental dynamic analyses;  
39 aging

## 41 1. INTRODUCTION

42 The devastating impacts from past seismic events have shown that prevention and  
43 preparedness are key tools for improving the seismic safety and resilience to earthquake  
44 disasters. Risk and vulnerability of urban sites to earthquake hazard lead to an emerging  
45 need for developing operational frameworks that can be used by the authorities (e.g. civil  
46 protection authorities, end users) in pre-crisis situation to establish decision making  
47 procedures and risk mitigation strategies. In this context, the reliable vulnerability  
48 assessment of existing structures and infrastructures is a prerequisite for seismic loss  
49 estimation, risk mitigation and management.

50 Vulnerability is commonly expressed through fragility functions representing the  
51 probability of exceeding a prescribed damage limit state for a certain level of ground motion  
52 intensity. However, in seismic vulnerability assessment studies the common practice is to  
53 neglect the development of degradation phenomena in time, such as progressive  
54 deterioration of material properties, structural modifications or existing damages from  
55 previous earthquakes, which may adversely affect the capacity and seismic performance of  
56 structures with time. Recent studies investigated these effects on the structural response and  
57 fragility under dynamic loading, namely aging [1] and cumulative earthquake damage [2]  
58 proving that conventional generic fragility curves [3] may not accurately represent the actual  
59 state of existing structural systems but need to be updated in order to reflect their real  
60 condition. Moreover, uncertainties associated with the construction systems, material, mass  
61 and geometry properties that are pronounced particularly in the case of existing buildings  
62 may not be properly captured using generic fragility curves. Although widely applied seismic  
63 vulnerability assessment methods (e.g. HAZUS methodology) allow the integration of  
64 coefficients that depend on the maintenance condition or are related to in-situ properties of  
65 building materials, such integration does not necessarily increase the reliability of the results  
66 as the actual structural state may still not be captured properly. It should be noted herein that  
67 the above general statements and the related references are associated basically with large  
68 scale vulnerability assessment procedures (i.e. at urban/regional scale) while the paper is  
69 focused on a comprehensive methodology able to cover the need of seismic performance  
70 assessment of a single individual building taking into account aging of materials.

71 The use of field monitoring data for identifying the actual state of existing structures has  
72 recently drawn attention in civil engineering community for developing real time assessment  
73 tools and reducing uncertainties involved within the risk assessment procedure ([4], [5], [6]).  
74 Real-time monitoring of civil structures and infrastructures provide valuable information to  
75 assess the structural health and identify the actual state and vulnerability of the associated  
76 systems. Furthermore, it allows monitoring the evolution of the structure's safety during the

77 earthquake crisis while it constitutes the key component for rapid damage assessment or the  
78 preparation of reliable damage scenarios. In [7] an approach for robust evaluation and  
79 monitoring of instrumented buildings is proposed in the context of rapid post-earthquake  
80 emergency management. In [6] the main aim is to show how the experimental model  
81 extracted from ambient vibration measurements may contribute in the framework of seismic  
82 vulnerability assessment of existing buildings in moderate seismic-prone regions. The  
83 interest of scientific research as well as civil protection in the development of integrated  
84 suites of tools and methodologies to rapidly extract, collect and integrate information on the  
85 exposure of the urban environment to seismic risk is growing constantly not only in Europe  
86 but also worldwide. Currently research is concentrating on issues such as rapid damage  
87 detection of single important structures, rapid and reliable damage scenario preparation and  
88 early earthquake warning. On a building specific scale a permanent instrumentation array  
89 installed inside the building (especially in the case of structures/infrastructures with strategic  
90 interest) allows the development of a building-specific alert procedure suitable for performing  
91 an automated building tagging and the establishment of decision making strategies which will  
92 allow the Civil protection authorities to act efficiently in real (or near real-time) and after the  
93 event. The main goal is the fast assessment of structural health conditions in the early post-  
94 earthquake phase. The key issue for the implementation of an advanced seismic protection  
95 system requires reduction of the computational effort and the reaction time [8]. Automated  
96 identification procedures ([8], [9], [10], [11]) may contribute significantly in this direction  
97 allowing a fast evaluation of health conditions of a structure after an earthquake or during a  
98 seismic sequence. One of the advantages of the wireless units with embedded computing  
99 power is that they can be rapidly installed inside a building during a seismic sequence and,  
100 later, collect the data from outside through the wifi connection. An example is given in [12],  
101 where the Navelli city hall was damaged by the l'Aquila earthquake and later monitored with  
102 SOSEWIN instruments during the aftershocks sequence. Since the units have computing  
103 power, that is they can process the data and communicate the outcomes, software for  
104 damage detection can be installed in the firmware [13].

105 In this context, dynamic characterization of civil engineering structures (natural  
106 frequencies, damping ratios, mode shapes) using monitoring data becomes increasingly  
107 important in a wide range of research and application fields, such as dynamic response  
108 prediction (e.g. [14], [15]; [16]), finite element model updating (e.g. [15]; [16]; [17]; [18]; [19];  
109 [20]; [21]; [22]), structural health monitoring (e.g. [23]) and damage detection ([24]; [25]; [26];  
110 [27]). In order to predict or modify the response of a structure, an accurate well-known  
111 experimental modal model is required that represents the dynamics of the structure [28].  
112 Rapid development of data acquisition and processing capabilities has given rise to major  
113 advances in the experimental operational studies and more specifically in the estimation of

114 modal parameters of vibrating systems. An experimental modal model of an artificially  
115 excited structure can be obtained based on Experimental Modal Analysis (EMA) by  
116 measuring the forces and vibrational structural responses ([29]; [30]; [31]). However, for  
117 large-scale applications (e.g. civil engineering structures) Operational Modal Analysis (OMA)  
118 is generally preferred to forced vibration measurements due to the fact that the same modal  
119 parameters can be obtained from vibration data in operational rather than laboratory  
120 conditions [32]. Ambient noise measurements are usually used to perform OMA and identify  
121 the modal parameters of a structure.

122 In order to derive "time-building specific" fragility curves based on field monitoring data,  
123 that represent the actual state and vulnerability of a structure, the measured modal  
124 parameters can be used to improve the finite element models to better reflect the measured  
125 data. The lack of correlation between the numerical structural models and experimental  
126 observations may be attributed to poorly known boundary conditions and material properties  
127 or modeling simplifications. Due to these uncertainties, the predicted analytical dynamics of  
128 an as built structure based on the initial design plans, may differ from the measured  
129 dynamics of the real structure.

130 In the present study an integrated methodology is presented for assessing the "time-  
131 building-specific" seismic vulnerability of one of the main buildings of the most important  
132 hospital in Thessaloniki (AHEPA) based on field monitoring data. The AHEPA hospital has  
133 been selected as test site for the European funded project REAKT  
134 (<http://www.reaktproject.eu/>) for the development of an operational framework for rapid post-  
135 earthquake damage evaluation and risk assessment in real or near-real time. "Time-building  
136 specific" vulnerability in this case refers to the present (actual) seismic vulnerability of the  
137 building considering all possible geometrical modifications, mass distributions and material  
138 deterioration. In Bindi et al. [33] a detailed and comprehensive study is presented regarding  
139 the dynamic characterization of the hospital building applying both vibrational and waveform  
140 approaches to identify the real structural conditions and potential pathology of the building. In  
141 the context of the vibrational approach the monitoring data are used to extract the modal  
142 parameters of the building based on operational modal analysis. In the present study, the  
143 modal identification results are used to update and better constrain the initial finite element  
144 model of the building, which is based on the design and construction documentation plans  
145 provided by the Technical Services of the hospital. For both initial ("building specific") and  
146 updated ("time-building specific") finite element models, three-dimensional nonlinear  
147 incremental dynamic analysis is performed to derive the fragility curves and evaluate the  
148 actual state of the hospital. The results are evaluated comparing the "building specific"  
149 curves with generic fragility curves [3], which are generated for representative structural  
150 typologies and are commonly used in the framework of loss assessment and risk

151 management studies. Furthermore the updated (“time-building specific”) fragility curves are  
152 compared with the “time-dependent” curves of the hospital building that are extracted taking  
153 into account the impact of deterioration of the material properties with time (aging effects)  
154 following the analytical method proposed by Pitilakis et al. [1].

## 155 **2. DESCRIPTION OF THE AHEPA HOSPITAL AND INSTRUMENTATION ARRAYS**

156 The AHEPA hospital is located in the campus of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. In case  
157 of the emergency its central location in the city of Thessaloniki makes it one of the most  
158 important medical care centers for an efficient crisis management. Due to its strategic  
159 interest it has been selected in the framework of the REAKT project  
160 (<http://www.reaktproject.eu/>) to generate real-time risk estimates and to optimize rapid post-  
161 earthquake response based on real and various scenario earthquakes. The target building  
162 hosts both administration and hospitalization activities. It was constructed in 1971 and is  
163 considered representative of structures that have been designed with low seismic code  
164 provisions (‘Royal Decree’ of 1959), where the ductility and the dynamic features of the  
165 constructions are ignored. During the 1978 Thessaloniki earthquake (M=6.5, R=26.7km,  
166 [34]; [35]), which generally caused extensive damages and the collapse of one high-rise  
167 residence structure, the hospital building suffered only slight damage. It is an eight-storey  
168 infilled moment resisting frame building and its special feature is that it is composed of two  
169 adjacent tall building units (namely UNIT 1 & UNIT 2) that are connected with a structural  
170 joint (Fig. 1a). UNIT 1 has a 29m × 16m rectangular plan section whereas UNIT 2 covers a  
171 trapezoidal section of 21m × 27m × 16m. The interstorey height is regular between the floor  
172 levels (3.4m) except for the second floor (4.8m). From the structural point of view the  
173 building’s force resisting mechanism comprises longitudinal and externally transverse  
174 reinforced concrete moment resisting frames (Fig. 1a). The columns have variable  
175 dimensions along the height of the building starting from 0.45m x 0.70m at the lowest level  
176 (basement) and resulting to 0.35m x 0.35m at the upper floor. In the longitudinal direction the  
177 outer and inner columns are connected by beams with cross-section of 0.20m x 0.60m and  
178 0.35m x 0.40m respectively. In the transverse direction on the other hand only the exterior  
179 columns are connected by beams with dimensions of 0.20m x 0.95m. The presence of beam  
180 to beam connections at all floor levels near the staircases and elevator shafts, constitute a  
181 complex structural system which is particularly evident in the middle floor where the RC  
182 beams are inverted. Reinforced concrete walls are present in both building units, surrounding  
183 partially the staircases and the lift shafts; they are not specially detailed for seismic  
184 performance. More specifically there are two walls in the transverse and one in the  
185 longitudinal direction of UNIT 1 and only one wall in the transverse direction of UNIT 2. The

186 RC walls are 0.20m thick while their length is decreasing significantly along the structure's  
187 height. Moreover a perimeter reinforced concrete wall with dimensions of 0.20m x 3.00m has  
188 been constructed at top of the building. Fig. 1b and Fig. 2a present the geometrical  
189 properties of the section and the reinforcement details of the elements respectively.  
190 Moreover Fig. 2b illustrates the diameters and position of the reinforced bars of walls and  
191 columns indicatively for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor where the storey height is superior in relation to  
192 the other floors. In-situ testing on materials, structural details and non-structural components  
193 were not possible to be conducted. The material properties and the structural details used for  
194 the numerical modeling of the building units, are defined based on the information of the  
195 available blueprints as one of the main objectives of the present study is to investigate the  
196 effects of aging on the initial structural parameters. More specifically concrete B225  
197 ( $f_c=14\text{MPa}$ ) is used for all beams and columns while two steel classes StIII ( $f_y=500\text{MPa}$ ) and  
198 StI ( $f_y=220\text{MPa}$ ) are utilized for the reinforced bars. Steel class StI is used for the  
199 reinforcement of all beams (longitudinal and transverse) and for most column elements. In  
200 Figure 2a and 2b, it can be seen for which cases StIII is utilized. It should be noted that the  
201 provided concrete and steel strength material properties are defined following the German  
202 Institute for Standardization (DIN) standards (DIN 1045 [36] and 488 [37] for concrete and  
203 steel respectively). One important aspect is the fact that the two building units do not have  
204 common foundation. The foundation system of UNIT 1 consists of simple footings whereas in  
205 UNIT 2 the footings are partially combined with a raft foundation. Table 1 summarizes the  
206 main characteristics of the two building units according to the design and construction plans,  
207 namely the mass and the strength of concrete ( $f_c$ ) and reinforcement steel ( $f_y$ ). Mass values  
208 have been deduced from the available blueprints based on the structural elements and the  
209 prescriptions of the national loading standards. Regarding the non-structural components,  
210 besides the three existing elevators, an electricity generator is also installed in the basement  
211 of UNIT 1, which in case of a general shut down (e.g. due to a strong earthquake event)  
212 constitutes the only source of electricity supply for the entire hospital. Finally it should be  
213 noted that no significant interventions or retrofitting works have been carried out over the  
214 years according to the Technical service of the hospital that would allow deviations from the  
215 available design and construction plans.

216 Permanent and temporary instrumentation arrays have been implemented under the  
217 responsibility of the Soil Dynamics and Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering of the Aristotle  
218 University of Thessaloniki (SDGEE-AUTH) and in close cooperation with Helmholtz Centre  
219 Potsdam, German Centre for Geosciences (GFZ). The permanent network (SOSEWIN  
220 network) was installed for the long term building monitoring and for rapid assessment of  
221 damages. It is composed by sensing units where the building motion is measured in real time  
222 through MEMS sensors. It is mainly intended to monitor the building response to

223 earthquakes. Ambient noise measurements were used for the dynamic characterization of  
 224 the building deploying a denser temporary network of stations equipped with velocimeters,  
 225 which have a better amplitude resolution and a lower internal noise than the MEMS. The  
 226 description of both permanent and temporary network provides a complete view of the  
 227 instrumentation arrays that have been installed in the hospital building. The SOSEWIN  
 228 accelerometric network operates on a continuous basis in AHEPA since May 2012 [33] and  
 229 constitutes of 13 triaxial accelerometers (MEMS ADXL203 chip). In addition to the SOSEWIN  
 230 network, various temporary seismometer arrays have been also deployed inside the hospital  
 231 in the frame of the general risk assessment studies. In February 2013, ambient noise  
 232 measurements were collected deploying a temporary array of 39 triaxial seismometers (Mark  
 233 Products L4C-3D of 1Hz coupled to EarthData Logger, PR6-24, 24 bit digitizers) in the two  
 234 building units. The seismic sensors are passive seismic sensors with 1Hz corner frequency,  
 235 connected to 24bit digitizers. Even in the free field, the internal noise of such equipment  
 236 allow to record ambient noise to about 0.2 Hz (e.g. [38]; [39]). Each floor of the building was  
 237 instrumented with four seismometers in order to ensure the observability of translational and  
 238 torsional modes. Fig. 1b reports the location of the seismometers installed along the middle  
 239 corridor near and far from the structural joint. North direction of the stations was placed  
 240 parallel to the longitudinal structural direction of the building. The sensors recorded along the  
 241 two orthogonal horizontal and along the vertical directions (three components). The two  
 242 horizontal components are oriented along the longitudinal and transversal direction of the  
 243 building. Ambient noise was recorded by all stations simultaneously for about 4 hours in all  
 244 stations with a sampling rate of 500 Hz and gain 10. The time synchronization among the  
 245 stations was established through GPS antennas.

246

247 **Table 1.** Main characteristics of the hospital building units (  $f_c$  and  $f_y$  represent the strength of concrete  
 248 and reinforcement steel respectively).

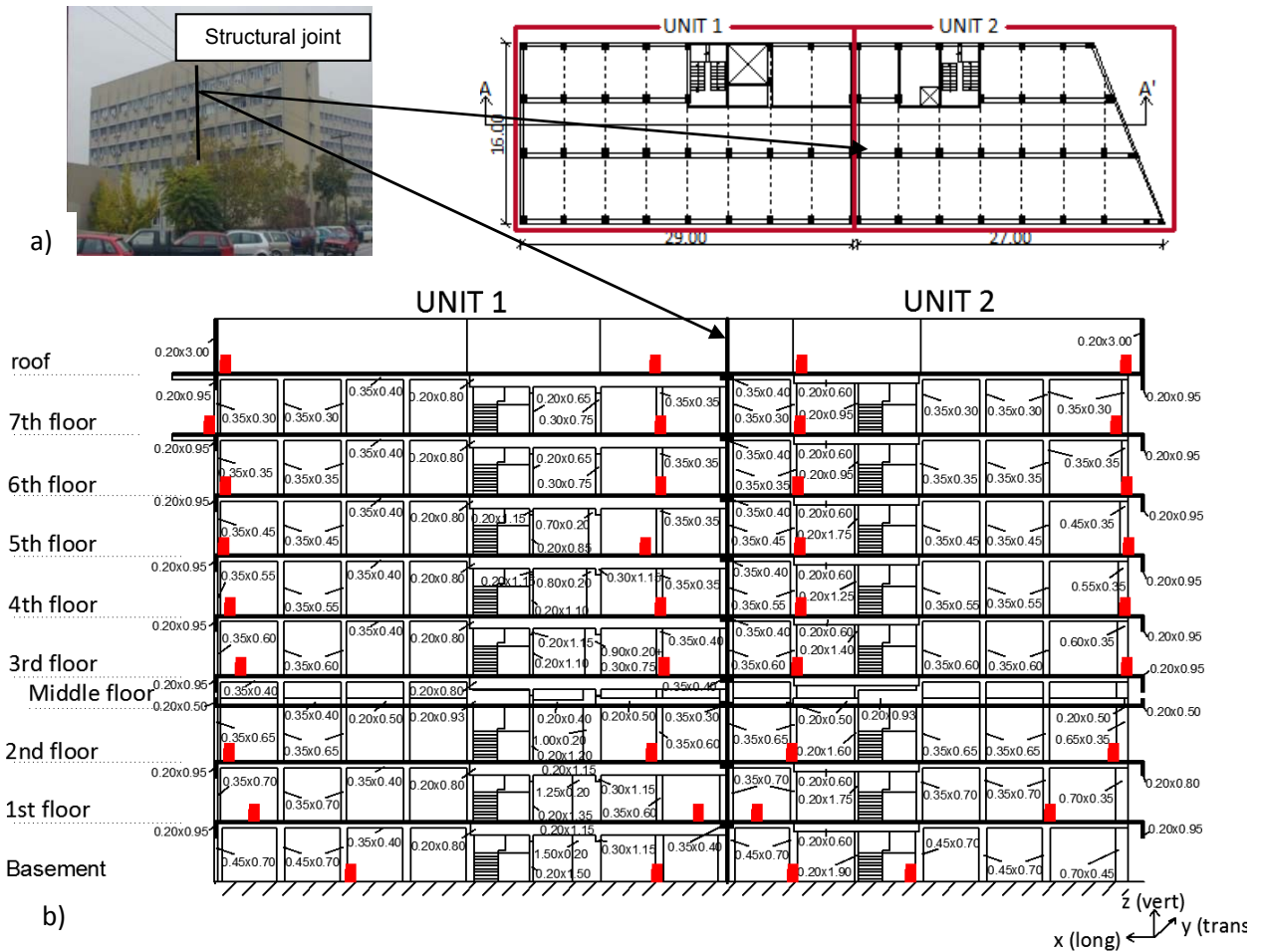
RC building	Total mass (t)	$f_c$ (MPa)	$f_y$ (MPa)
UNIT 1	3804.0	14.0	220.0 and 500.0
UNIT 2	3144.0	14.0	220.0 and 500.0

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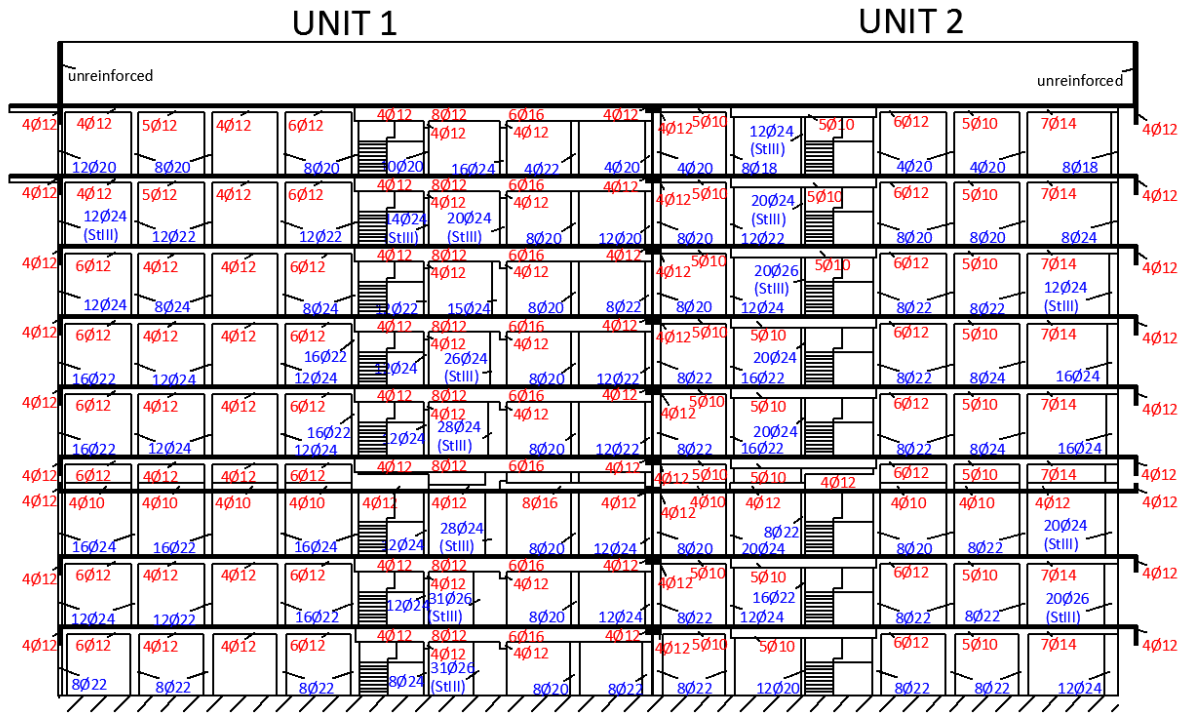
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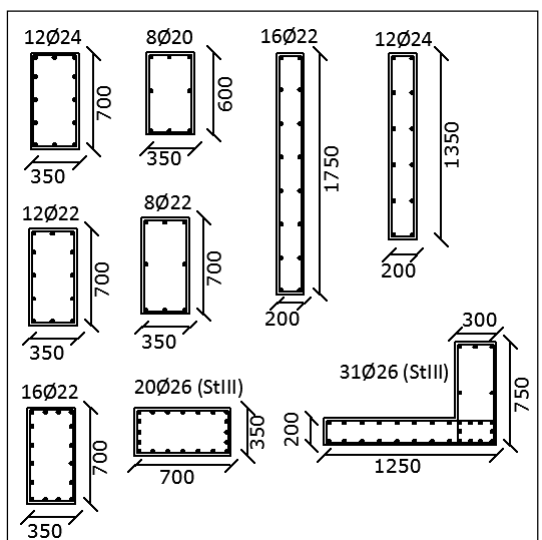


**Fig.1.** a) AHEPA hospital building and typical floor plan with the structural joint. b) Section A-A' along the longitudinal direction of the hospital building with the temporary instrumentation (red squares).

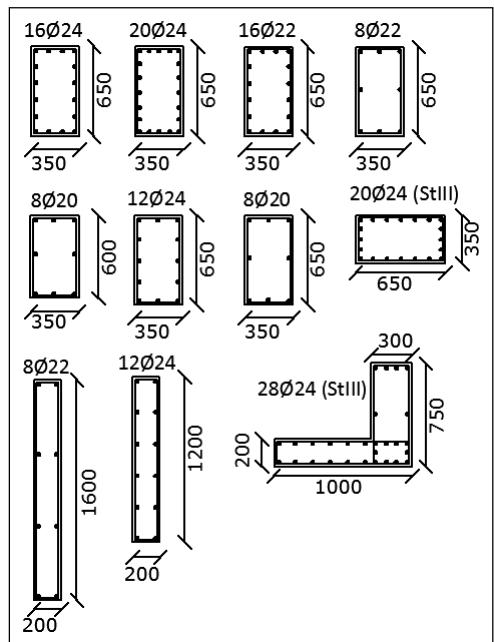


transverse reinforcement of beams: Ø8/20

a)



b)



c)

**Fig.2.** a). Reinforcement layout of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2: red and blue correspond to the beam and column reinforcement respectively. b). Diameters and position of the column reinforced bars of the 1<sup>st</sup> and c) 2<sup>nd</sup> floors respectively (diameters and dimensions in mm),

252

253

254 **3."TIME-BUILDING SPECIFIC" VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT OF THE HOSPITAL**  
255 **BUILDING UNITS USING MONITORING DATA**

256 *3.1. Description of the methodological framework*

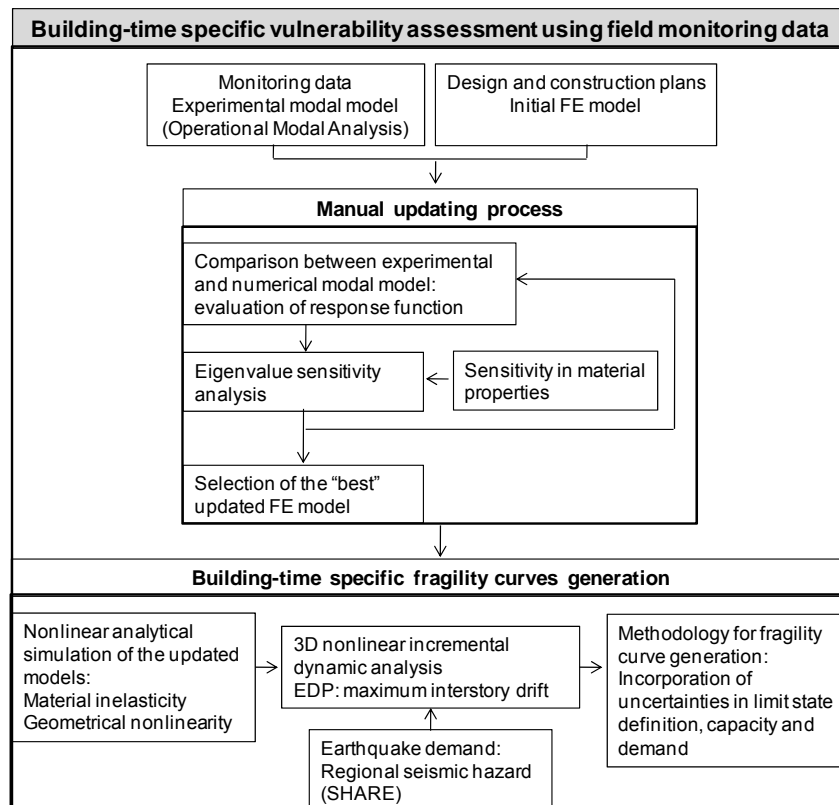
257 A schematic flowchart of the proposed methodological framework that has been adopted in  
258 the present study for the derivation of the "time-building specific" fragility curves of the  
259 hospital building units based on field monitoring data is presented in Fig. 3. Ambient noise  
260 measurements are used to derive the experimental modal model of the hospital building and  
261 identify its modal properties based on operational modal analysis (OMA). The modal  
262 identification results are used to update and better constrain the initial finite element model of  
263 the building, which is based on the design and construction documentation plans. In the  
264 absence of any structural geometry modification since 1971 when the building was  
265 constructed, only the variation in the material properties is taken into account in the present  
266 study. An eigenvalue sensitivity analysis of the elastic numerical modal models is performed  
267 to identify the most sensitive parameters influencing the structural modes of interest which  
268 are used in the manual updating process to define the optimal analytical models that reflect  
269 the experimental results. The selection of the best updated finite element (FE) model for the  
270 two building units is made by evaluating an appropriate response correlation function  
271 between experimental and numerical results. Three-dimensional incremental dynamic  
272 analyses (IDA) [40] of the nonlinear updated models are performed using real ground motion  
273 accelerograms that are selected based on the regional seismic hazard, to derive the "time-  
274 building specific" fragility curves that correspond to the actual state of the hospital building  
275 units.

276 *3.2 Operational modal analysis*

277 To evaluate the dynamic characteristics of the hospital building, namely the natural  
278 frequencies and mode shapes, system identification and operational modal analysis are  
279 performed using MACEC 3.2 software [41] for the two adjacent building units separately  
280 (UNIT 1 and UNIT 2) as well as for the entire hospital building, analyzed as one, taking into  
281 account the interaction of the two building units due to their connection with the structural  
282 joint (namely BUILDING).

283

284



**Fig.3.** Methodological framework adopted in the present study.

285 In Bindi et al. [33], the modal parameters (frequencies, mode shapes) of the analyzed  
 286 systems are extracted based on non-parametric identification techniques (Peak Picking-PP  
 287 and Frequency domain decomposition-FDD). In the present paper modal analysis of the  
 288 structural systems under study is conducted using parametric identification techniques,  
 289 namely the Stochastic Subspace Identification-SSI [42] to verify and enhance the reliability of  
 290 the non-parametric identification results.

291 Only the horizontal components (longitudinal and transverse) of the ambient noise  
 292 recorded at the EDL seismometers of the 2013 temporary network (Fig. 1b) are used to  
 293 perform system identification and operational modal analysis. The noise data are baseline  
 294 corrected, filtered between frequencies 0.8 and 20 Hz and synchronized between all stations.  
 295 A 10% cosine-taper is applied and the instrument response is removed from the records. A  
 296 total duration of 1800 sec (30min) is used for OMA as tests for stability of the results in terms  
 297 of modal parameter variation showed that 30 minutes are enough to get reliable results  
 298 validated by means of appropriate techniques [43]. The grid of the models is built so that the  
 299 defined nodes correspond to nodes that have been actually measured. The stations that are  
 300 used for the identification process are illustrated in Fig. 1b.

301 The SSI technique involves the selection of a mathematical space-state model where  
 302 the parameters are adjusted to the model so that it fits to the measured data. The goal of this  
 303 model calibration is to minimize the deviation between the predicted and measured system

304 response. The number of the parameters of the linear, time invariant state space model,  
305 plays a significant role in the identification process; for example when a too small number is  
306 defined, the modal parameters may be not modeled statistically correctly. On the other hand,  
307 if the number is too high, then the model becomes over-specified resulting in unnecessary  
308 high statistical uncertainties of the model parameters. In general the selection of the model  
309 order for the construction of the stabilization diagrams for the SSI method depends on the  
310 number of modes of interest as well as the number of sensors. For the construction of the  
311 stabilization diagrams a model order range from 2 to 150 in steps of 2 was selected for UNIT  
312 1 and UNIT 2, whereas for BUILDING the upper limit of the model order was increased to  
313 200. The increase of the model order for BUILDING was required due to the analysis of a  
314 much larger data set as, data from 36 stations were used for the identification analysis in  
315 contrast to UNIT 1 and UNIT 2 where data from only 18 sensors were used. The results of  
316 the SSI analyses, namely the stabilization diagrams, for the two adjacent building units  
317 analyzed separately (UNIT 1 and UNIT 2) and as one single building (BUILDING) are  
318 presented in Fig. 4. The aim is to use these diagrams to detect the columns of stable modes  
319 that satisfy the defined stabilization criteria and continuously select a representative mode  
320 from each column.

321 Table 2 summarizes the five eigenfrequencies computed with both parametric (Fig. 4)  
322 and non-parametric system identification methods [33]. It should be noted herein that  
323 potential effects of the non-structural components did not influence the identification results.  
324 The electricity elevator was not operating during the experiment while other non structural  
325 elements, such as elevators and medical devices, are operating in high frequencies ( $f > 10\text{Hz}$ )  
326 and are not affecting thus the frequency range of interest ( $f < 10\text{Hz}$ ). Comparing the results  
327 between the two techniques, it is observed that the estimated frequency values for the five  
328 well separated modes are very close to each other (practically the same for the first three  
329 modes) for the two identification methods applied as well as for the different system models  
330 identified.

331 Similar orders and shape types of the modes are estimated for the different system  
332 models (UNIT 1, UNIT2 and BUILDING) implying that the dynamic characteristics of the  
333 complex hospital building are possible to be captured by monitoring and analyzing the two  
334 adjacent building units separately. The mode shapes corresponding to the identified modes  
335 are presented in Fig. 5, 6 and 7. The building is exhibiting coupled sway and torsional modes  
336 in the frequency range of interest, which are expected in case of geometric and structural  
337 irregularities or eccentricities between the center of mass and center of rigidity. The highly  
338 coupled obtained mode shapes confirm the complex vibrational characteristics of the building  
339 especially for the first two identified frequencies. The resonant frequencies of the two  
340 adjacent units are very close which may be attributed to their similar mass and stiffness

341 properties. In order to gain insight of the modal behavior of the two units and to investigate  
342 the correlation between their mode shapes, the modal assurance criterion [44] for the  
343 identified modes is quantified as:

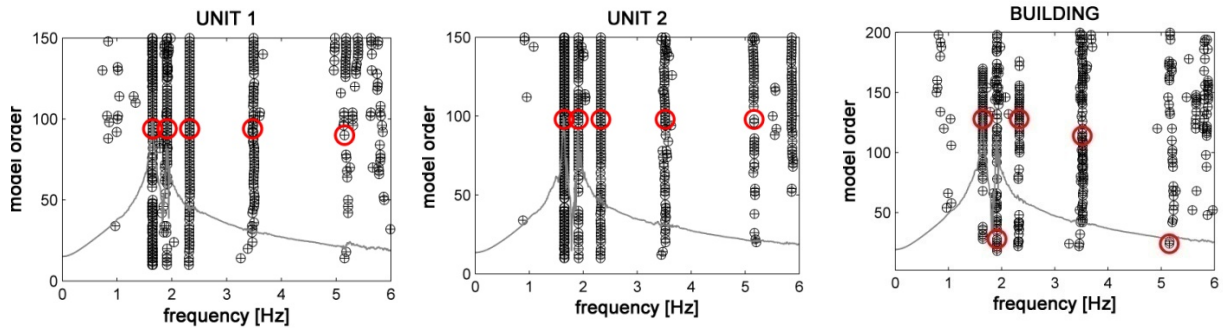
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$$345 \quad MAC_{ij} = \frac{(\varphi_j^T \varphi_{Ei})}{(\varphi_j^T \varphi_i)(\varphi_{Ej}^T \varphi_{Ei})} \quad (1)$$

346

347 where  $\varphi_j$  is the eigenvector  $j$  from the experimental modal model of UNIT 1 and  $\varphi_{Ei}$  the  
348 eigenvector  $i$  from the experimental modal model of UNIT 2. MAC values are calculated  
349 higher than 0.8 for the first, third and the fourth modes, approximately equal to 0.60 for the  
350 fifth mode while for the second mode MAC value is found to be lower than 0.60. Based on  
351 the MAC results, it is seen that mode shapes for the two building units are identical for the  
352 first, third and fourth modes. For the third and fifth modes which correspond to the same  
353 frequencies for both units, the mode shapes are not identical for the UNIT 1 and UNIT 2  
354 although being of similar type. This may be attributed to the different geometrical and  
355 structural configurations of the two units. An interesting aspect is also the fact that mode 3 is  
356 identified for both units as torsional, however the mode shapes for the two structures are out  
357 of phase. Based on the above considerations the two units can not be considered as an  
358 entire monolithic building neglecting the influence of the structural joint as they do not  
359 present a common modal behavior. In fact the identified mode shapes reveal a coupling of  
360 the two building units under low vibration (operational conditions). The first and second mode  
361 shapes are identified as coupled translational modes mainly in the transverse direction. The  
362 difference between the two first modes is the fact that for both units the torsional component  
363 in the second mode shape is much more pronounced in comparison to the first one. Under  
364 no interaction, the second mode shape would be expected to be a coupled translational  
365 mode mainly in the longitudinal direction. Under strong ground motion however, due to the  
366 strong nonlinearities which the systems are expected to experience and taking into account  
367 the fact that the two units do not have common foundation, the interaction between the two  
368 units may be completely different affecting consequently their seismic response. For the  
369 above reasons the seismic vulnerability assessment is performed considering the two units  
370 separately. The aim of the updating procedure presented continuously is to calibrate the  
371 numerical models in order to reflect the elastic modal behavior of the two separate structural  
372 units as identified through the analysis of the noise measurements. The damping values  
373 extracted from the SSI analysis and reported in Table 2, appear to be consistent with the  
374 level of vibration for the first and second modes. On the other hand high damping estimates  
375 are extracted for the third, fourth and sixth modes, ranging approximately between 3-6%,

376 indicating that biases may probably have affected the obtained estimates for the higher  
 377 modes as the latter do not reflect the ranges under operational conditions generally reported  
 378 in seismic design and wind engineering manuals ([45]; [46]; [47]; [48]). Finally it should be  
 379 noted that damping is not considered in the implemented updating formula.

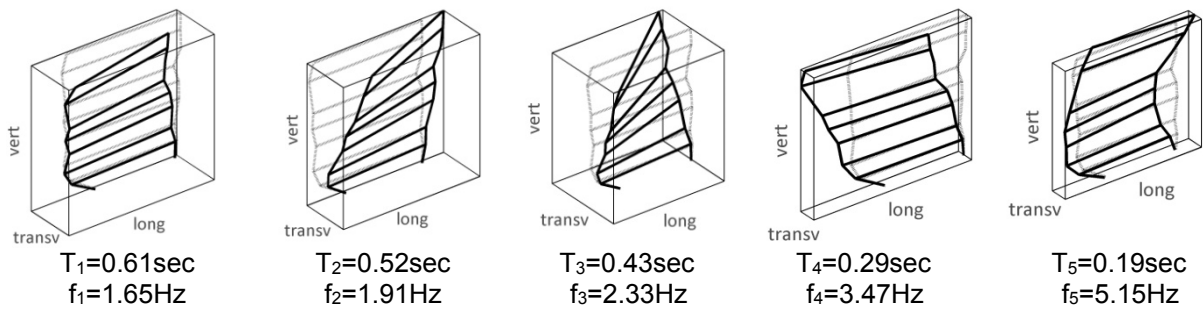


**Fig.4.** Modal identification using the Stochastic Subspace Identification (SSI) method using ambient noise measurements.

380 **Table 2.** Modal identification results for UNIT 1, UNIT 2 and BUILDING estimated using non-  
 381 parametric FDD [25] and parametric SSI (present study) identification techniques.

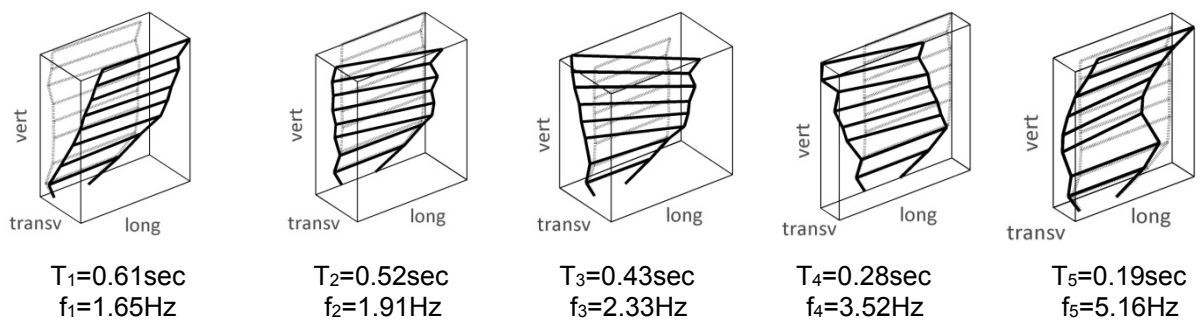
Mode	Mode type	UNIT 1			UNIT 2			BUILDING		
		FDD (Hz)	SSI (Hz, $\xi$ %)		FDD (Hz)	SSI (Hz, $\xi$ %)		FDD (Hz)	SSI (Hz, $\xi$ %)	
1	Coupled translational	1.65	1.65	0.8	1.65	1.65	0.9	1.65	1.65	0.8
2	Coupled translational	1.90	1.91	1.3	1.91	1.91	1.1	1.91	1.91	0.8
3	Torsional	2.33	2.33	3.6	2.35	2.33	3.5	2.35	2.33	3.2
4	1 <sup>st</sup> longitudinal	3.50	3.47	5.4	3.58	3.52	5.8	3.58	3.51	6.4
5	2 <sup>nd</sup> longitudinal	5.20	5.15	3.0	5.22	5.16	1.1	5.20	5.15	2.1

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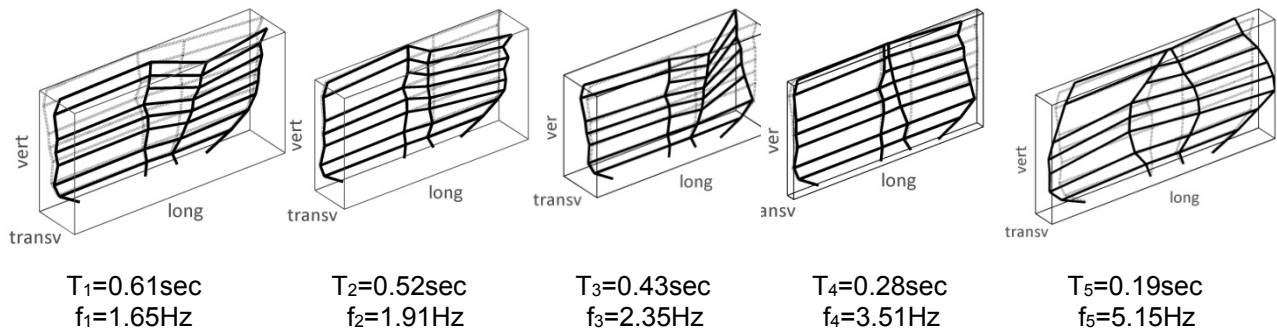


**Fig.5.** Mode shapes corresponding to the five first identified frequencies for UNIT 1.

383



**Fig. 6.** Mode shapes corresponding to the five first identified frequencies for UNIT 2.



**Fig. 7.** Mode shapes corresponding to the five first identified frequencies for BUILDING.

385

### 386 3.3 Finite element model updating

387 Model updating aims at the “correction” or “update” of the initial finite element model based  
 388 on data processing, obtained from measurements conducted on the test structure [49]. The  
 389 main purpose is to modify iteratively updating parameters to result in structural models that  
 390 better reflect the measured data than the initial ones. One of the key issues during the  
 391 updating process is the selection of the appropriate updating parameter. In general, if not  
 392 serious geometrical modifications are identified, as in the present test case, structural  
 393 features, such as material or mass properties, are likely to be selected as updating  
 394 parameters in order to increase the correlation between the observed dynamic response of  
 395 the structure and the predicted from the numerical modal model [50]. Other parameters such  
 396 as soil-structure interaction, condition and aging of the foundations after a strong earthquake,  
 397 the connection between structural elements which influence the modal properties, may  
 398 contribute in the updating process, however include high uncertainty levels and additional  
 399 tests may be required for their determination (e.g. non-destructive tests). For the AHEPA  
 400 case study, soil-structure interaction effects are not expected to be pronounced as the soil is  
 401 characterized as stiff clay with an average shear wave velocity over the upper 30-35m equal  
 402 to 450m/s [33]. Besides, for the extracted modes (particularly for the three first modes) that  
 403 are used in the updating procedure, the modal displacements extracted from the ambient  
 404 vibration measurements corresponding to the basement nodes are much smaller in  
 405 comparison to the top floor nodes for both buildings allowing the fixed base assumption. On  
 406 the other hand the evaluation of the condition and aging of the foundations after the  
 407 Thessaloniki earthquake or the quality of the connections between structural elements is not  
 408 indicated as limited information is provided by the blueprints and data from non-destructive  
 409 tests are not available. The aim of the updating procedure in the present study is to conduct  
 410 an extensive parametric study of the hospital buildings considering the variation in structural  
 411 parameters (e.g. modulus of elasticity), in order to investigate the sensitivity of the model to



412 material properties, and how the latter may affect the overall stiffness of the structure. A  
413 manual updating scheme is applied considering only a limited number of parameters, which  
414 however allows a good observation of the process in order to gain complete insight on the  
415 effects of the sensitivity parameters on the structural behavior. The initial numerical modal  
416 model of the buildings under study is based on the design and construction documentation  
417 plans. The numerical modeling is conducted for the two adjacent units separately using  
418 OpenSees finite element platform [51]. Elastic beam-column and truss elements are  
419 employed to model the linear RC elements (beams and columns) and masonry infills  
420 respectively. For the linear modeling of the masonry infills a double strut model is adopted to  
421 represent the in-plane behavior of the infill panel. Fixed base conditions are assumed for  
422 both structural models.

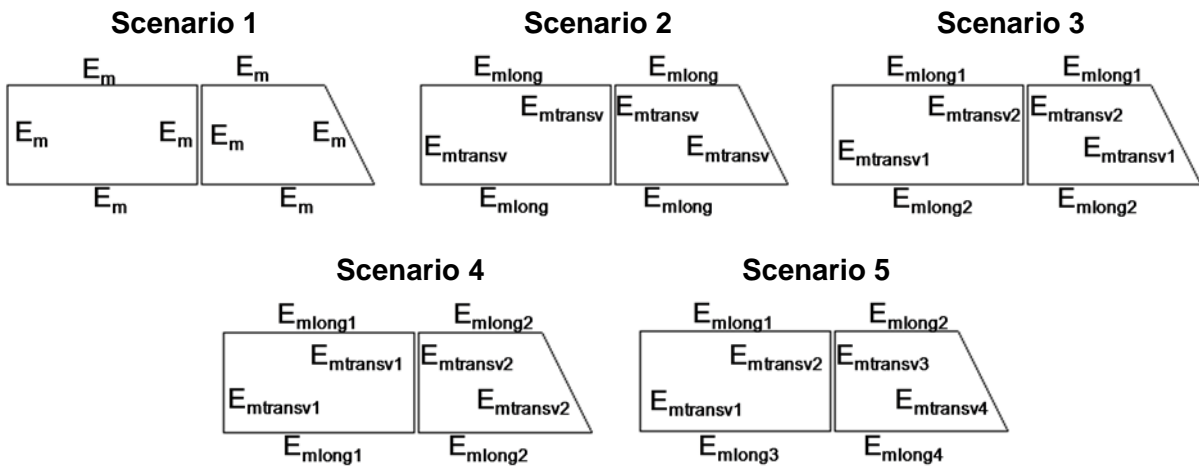
423 The updating procedure is performed not only to improve the frequencies of the  
424 considered modes of the initial numerical model presented in Tables 3 and 4, but also to  
425 calibrate the numerical mode shapes in order to fit the experimental data. Only the third  
426 mode of the numerical modal model was identical to the respective experimental one for both  
427 units. On the other hand the mode shapes of the first and second modes needed to be  
428 updated in order to capture the coupled sway modes reflecting thus the experimental results  
429 preserving at the same time the torsional mode shape of the third mode. As sensitivity  
430 parameter for the updating procedure, the compressive strength of the masonry infill,  $f_m$ , is  
431 selected to take into account the uncertainties of the material behavior as well as the  
432 possible heterogeneity between the material properties of the different infill parts. Besides  
433 the masonry strength of the infills, also the sensitivity in the concrete strength was  
434 investigated as well as the combination of both parameters. The updating procedure using  
435 the concrete strength showed that frequencies and mode shapes are not affected  
436 significantly. Thus only one sensitivity parameter is used, namely the compressive strength  
437 of the infill panels, in order to avoid complicated updating schemes and allow a better  
438 observation of the updating procedure. A suite of numerical modal models is generated  
439 assuming a normal distribution for  $f_m$  and defining possible scenarios adopting different infill  
440 masonry compressive strength values and configurations [50]. The random properties of the  
441 masonry compressive strength, namely the mean value  $\mu=3\text{MPa}$  and its covariance  
442  $\text{COV}=20\%$  are defined according to Mosalam et al. [52]. For the initial finite element model  
443 the compressive masonry strength is considered equal to the mean value  $\mu=3\text{MPa}$ . The  
444 different values of compressive strength for the considered updating scenarios are  
445 subsequently computed based on the mean and standard deviation  $\sigma$  according to the  
446 adopted normal distribution considering a limit range for the mean value of  $\mu-3\sigma \leq f_m \leq \mu+3\sigma$ .  
447 Then the elastic modulus in compression,  $E_m$ , which is used as input parameter to simulate

448 the masonry infills, is estimated based on the adopted mean value for the compressive  
 449 strength according to the relation  $E_m = 1000f_m$  [53].

450 To take into account the heterogeneity of the masonry mechanical properties as well  
 451 as the possible variation between the material properties and the modulus of elasticity of the  
 452 different parts, several updating scenarios are investigated. In particular five different  
 453 scenarios are defined based on the variation in  $f_m$  (or  $E_m$ ) and the considered configurations  
 454 of the masonry infills for the selection of the best model as illustrated in Fig. 8.

- 455 - Scenario 1: single value of elastic modulus for all the perimeter of the two buildings  $E_m$
- 456 - Scenario 2: different values of elastic modulus for (a) the longitudinal  $E_{m\text{long}}$  and (b) the  
 457 transverse  $E_{m\text{transv}}$  infills
- 458 - Scenario 3: different values of elastic modulus for (a) the longitudinal infills depending their  
 459 location  $E_{m\text{long}1}$  and  $E_{m\text{long}2}$ , (b) the transverse infills far from the joint  $E_{m\text{transv}1}$  and (c) the  
 460 transverse infills close to the joint  $E_{m\text{transv}2}$
- 461 - Scenario 4: different values of elastic modulus for (a) the longitudinal and (b) the transverse  
 462 infills building by building (UNIT1:  $E_{m\text{long}1}$ ,  $E_{m\text{transv}1}$  / UNIT2:  $E_{m\text{long}2}$ ,  $E_{m\text{transv}2}$ ).
- 463 - Scenario 5: different values of elastic modulus for all infills along the perimeter regardless  
 464 their location ( $E_{m\text{long}1}$ ,  $E_{m\text{long}2}$ ,  $E_{m\text{long}3}$ ,  $E_{m\text{long}4}$ ,  $E_{m\text{transv}1}$ ,  $E_{m\text{transv}2}$ ,  $E_{m\text{transv}3}$ ,  $E_{m\text{transv}4}$ ).

465



**Fig.8.** The different updating scenarios adopted within this study.

466

467 Modal analyses for all the derived numerical modal models are performed in OpenSees for  
 468 the three dimensional elastic linear finite element models of the two adjacent buildings  
 469 separately (UNIT 1 and UNIT 2). Only one among them is considered as the best model  
 470 representing the measured dynamic response. The selection of the best model is based on  
 471 the evaluation of the Modal Assurance Criterion-MAC [44] defined according to Equation 1  
 472 where  $\varphi_j$  is the eigenvector  $j$  from numerical modal model and  $\varphi_{Ei}$  the eigenvector  $i$  from field  
 473 monitoring test. The computation of the MAC values and the correlation of the responses

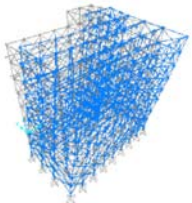
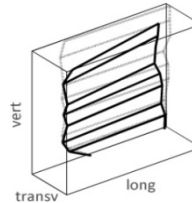
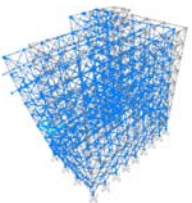
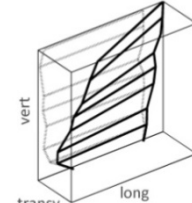
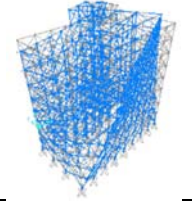
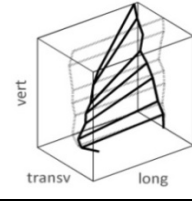
474 between the experimental and numerical modal models are made at 18 nodes for each  
475 building unit (2 nodes per floor at each unit corresponding to the sensor locations). A good  
476 correlation between the two tested modes is considered to be achieved for MAC values  
477 greater than 0.8. The scenario that represents most accurately the experimental results for  
478 the modes under investigation is found to be the one corresponding to the updating scenario  
479 3. The elastic moduli in compression of masonry infills adopted for this scenario were the  
480 following:  $E_{m\text{long}1}=3\text{GPa}$  ( $f_m=\mu=3\text{MPa}$ ),  $E_{m\text{long}2}=1.8\text{GPa}$  ( $f_m=\mu-2\sigma=1.8\text{MPa}$ ),  $E_{m\text{transv}1}=3\text{GPa}$   
481 ( $f_m=\mu=3\text{MPa}$ ) and  $E_{m\text{transv}2}=4.8\text{GPa}$  ( $f_m=\mu+3\sigma=4.8\text{MPa}$ ).

482 Due to the complexity of the structure under study only the first three modes are  
483 considered in the updating process, which represent the fundamental deformation modes of  
484 the structure and activate approximately 80% of the total mass of the building units. In Tables  
485 3 and 4 the results of the updating methodology for UNIT 1 and UNIT 2 are presented  
486 respectively. The eigenfrequencies and mode shapes of the updated finite element models  
487 are compared to the initial ones as well as to the experimental results. It is seen that for UNIT  
488 1, the updated finite element model correlates well with the experimental results for all the  
489 modes under investigation ( $\text{MAC}>0.8$ ). For UNIT 2 on the other hand, MAC values are high  
490 for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> mode, indicating the satisfactory correlation between analytically and  
491 experimentally calculated modal parameters, whereas for the 2<sup>nd</sup> mode it was not possible to  
492 achieve MAC values greater than 0.8. This may be attributed to the fact that the structural  
493 configuration of UNIT 2 (trapezoidal plan section) did not allow to capture the 2<sup>nd</sup> mode  
494 shape and probably another sensitivity parameter related not only to the structural stiffness  
495 (such as the masonry compressive strength) but also to the storey mass or a combination of  
496 several parameters related to both stiffness and mass, would be more appropriate. Given  
497 however the difficulties in proper asserting the mass properties of the complex hospital  
498 building (e.g. distribution of mass along height and floor), this parameter is not used in the  
499 updating procedure as the associated uncertainties may reduce the accuracy of the results.

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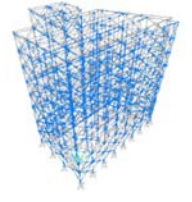
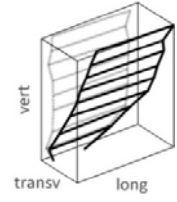
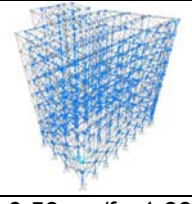
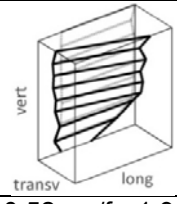
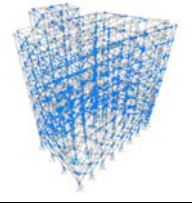
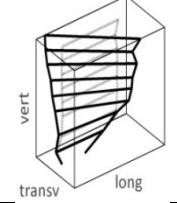
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**Table 3.** Comparison of the updated finite element model of UNIT 1 with the initial model and the experimental results (T: period, f: frequency).

Initial FEM T (sec)/f(Hz)	Mode shape of updated FEM T (sec)/f(Hz)	Mode shape of experimental model T(sec)/f(Hz)	MAC
Coupled translational $T_1=0.69\text{sec}/f_1=1.46\text{Hz}$			0.96
	$T_1=0.64\text{sec}/f_1=1.56\text{Hz}$	$T_1=0.61\text{sec}/f_1=1.65\text{Hz}$	
Coupled translational $T_2=0.48\text{sec}/f_2=2.06\text{Hz}$			0.94
	$T_2=0.53\text{sec}/f_2=1.89\text{Hz}$	$T_2=0.52\text{sec}/f_2=1.91\text{Hz}$	
Torsional $T_3=0.37\text{sec}/f_3=2.70\text{Hz}$			0.97
	$T_3=0.37\text{sec}/f_3=2.70\text{Hz}$	$T_3=0.43\text{sec}/f_3=2.33\text{Hz}$	

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**Table 4.** Comparison of the updated finite element model of UNIT 2 with the initial model and the experimental results.

Initial FEM T (sec)/f(Hz)	Mode shape of updated FEM T (sec)/f(Hz)	Mode shape of experimental model T(sec)/f(Hz)	MAC
Coupled translational $T_1=0.67\text{sec}/f_1=1.50\text{Hz}$			0.98
	$T_1=0.65\text{sec}/f_1=1.54\text{Hz}$	$T_1=0.61\text{sec}/f_1=1.65\text{Hz}$	
Coupled translational $T_2=0.49\text{sec}/f_2=2.05\text{Hz}$			0.45
	$T_2=0.53\text{sec}/f_2=1.89\text{Hz}$	$T_2=0.52\text{sec}/f_2=1.91\text{Hz}$	
Torsional $T_3=0.36\text{sec}/f_3=2.77\text{Hz}$			0.94
	$T_3=0.35\text{sec}/f_3=2.86\text{Hz}$	$T_3=0.43\text{sec}/f_3=2.33\text{Hz}$	

515

### 516 3.4 Nonlinear finite element modeling

517 The nonlinear numerical modeling of the structure is conducted using OpenSees finite  
518 element platform [51]. Inelastic force-based formulations are employed for the simulation of  
519 the nonlinear three-dimensional, with six degrees of freedom, beam-column frame elements.  
520 The applied formulations allow both geometric and material nonlinearities to be captured.  
521 Distributed material plasticity along the element length is considered based on the fiber  
522 approach to represent the cross-sectional behavior. Each fiber is associated with a uniaxial  
523 stress-strain relationship; the sectional stress-strain state of the beam-column elements is  
524 obtained through the integration of the nonlinear uniaxial stress-strain response of the  
525 individual fibers in which the section is subdivided. For both initial and updated units, the  
526 material strength properties for concrete and steel summarized in Table 1 are used for the  
527 definition of the stress-strain relationship. The Popovics [54] concrete model is used to define  
528 the behavior of the concrete fibers. Due to the fact that the building units were designed  
529 according to low seismic code provisions with non sufficient transverse reinforcement, the  
530 element sections are considered to be unconfined. The uniaxial 'Concrete04' material is used  
531 to construct a uniaxial Popovics concrete material object with degraded linear  
532 unloading/reloading stiffness according to the work of Karsan and Jirsa [55] with zero tensile  
533 strength. The steel reinforcement is modeled using the uniaxial 'Steel01' material to  
534 represent a uniaxial bilinear steel material with kinematic hardening described by a nonlinear  
535 evolution equation. For the nonlinear modeling of the masonry infills inelastic struts are used  
536 to represent infill walls as they provide sufficient accuracy to capture key characteristics of  
537 the force-displacement response. The nonlinear behavior of the infill panels is reflected by  
538 assigned axial load hinges on the diagonal struts whose characteristics are determined as  
539 given in FEMA-356 [56]. Each strut is assigned an elasto-plastic force displacement  
540 relationship representing initial stiffness and peak strength behavior of the masonry. The infill  
541 material strength for the initial models is taken equal to the mean value adopted for the  
542 updating procedure ( $\mu=3$  MPa) while for the updated models the masonry strength is defined  
543 based on the selected updated scenario described in Section 3.3. The structural models do  
544 not include any contribution from non-structural components or from gravity-load resisting  
545 structural elements that are not part of the lateral resisting system. Since non-destructive  
546 tests were not possible to be conducted and details for the formation of the beam-column  
547 joints were not available from the blueprints, rigid connection is considered for the modeling  
548 of the joints between beam and column. To take into account the rigidity against the in-plane  
549 deformation of the floor slabs, diaphragm constraint is employed. For both structural models  
550 fixed base conditions are assumed.

551

552 **3.5 Selection of the input motion**

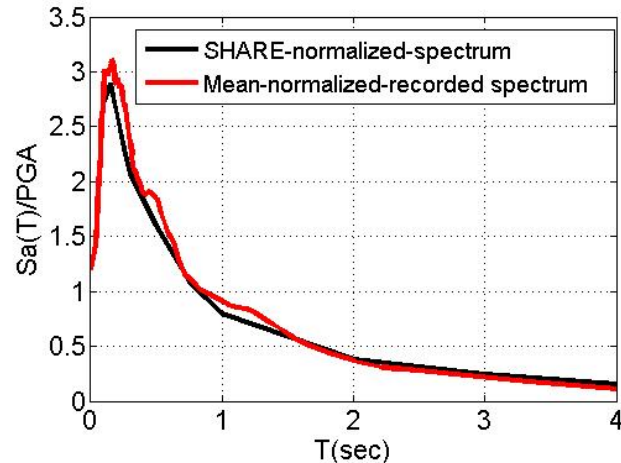
553 A representative set of accelerograms is selected to perform the non-linear incremental  
 554 dynamic analysis. The selected earthquake scenario consists of a set of 15 real ground  
 555 motion records (Table 5) obtained from the European Strong-Motion Database  
 556 (<http://www.isesd.hi.is>). They are all referring to stiff soil conditions classified as soil type B  
 557 according to EC8 [57] with moment magnitude ( $M_w$ ) and epicentral distance (R) that range  
 558 between  $5.8 < M_w < 7.2$  and  $0 < R < 45\text{km}$  respectively. Soil type B is the soil category of the  
 559 foundation soil according to a detailed geotechnical survey performed in the site [58]. In  
 560 order to eliminate potential source of bias in structural response, the selection of pulse-like  
 561 records is avoided. The primary selection criterion was the average acceleration spectra of  
 562 the set to be of minimal “epsilon” [59] at the period range of  $0 < T < 2\text{sec}$  with respect to the  
 563 regional acceleration spectrum adopted from SHARE for a 475 year return period  
 564 (<http://portal.share-eu.org:8080/jetspeed/portal/>). The optimization procedure was performed  
 565 making use of the REXEL software [60]. The mean normalized elastic response spectrum of  
 566 the records is illustrated in Fig. 9 in comparison with the corresponding reference spectrum  
 567 adopted from SHARE. A good fit between the two spectra is achieved.

568 **Table 5.** List of records used for the IDA.

Earthquake Name	Station ID	Date	$M_w$	R [km]	PGA_X [m/s <sup>2</sup> ]	PGA_Y [m/s <sup>2</sup> ]	Waveform ID
Friuli (aftershock)	ST28	15/9/1976	6.0	14	1.3841	2.3189	000147
Izmit (aftershock)	ST3265	13/9/1999	5.8	23	1.8983	1.2837	006959
Montenegro (aftershock)	ST76	24/5/1979	6.2	21	1.6273	1.3034	000231
South Iceland	ST2488	17/6/2000	6.5	17	3.9202	2.3852	004676
Kalamata	ST164	13/9/1986	5.9	10	2.1082	2.9095	000413
Izmir	ST162	6/11/1992	6.0	41	0.6527	0.8007	000549
Potenza	ST99	3/2/1998	5.8	36	0.7848	0.8544	000944
Ano Liosia	ST1101	7/9/1999	6.0	17	1.171	1.0661	001314
Tithorea	ST166	18/11/1992	5.9	25	0.3709	0.2744	000550
Ano Liosia	ST1258	7/9/1999	6.0	14	2.3842	2.1588	001714
South Aegean	ST1310	23/5/1994	6.1	45	0.5976	0.4023	001881
Ano Liosia	ST1255	7/9/1999	6.0	20	0.8549	0.7604	001711
Valnerina	ST83	19/9/1979	5.8	39	0.3855	0.2303	000244
Friuli (aftershock)	ST35	15/9/1976	6.0	21	4.6466	4.9562	000126
Duzce 1	ST3134	12/11/1999	7.2	11	1.0914	0.7137	006494

569

570



**Fig.9.** Normalized average elastic acceleration response spectrum of the input motions compared with the corresponding reference spectrum adopted from SHARE for a 475 year return period (<http://portal.share-eu.org:8080/jetspeed/portal/>).

571

### 572 3.6 Incremental Dynamic Analysis

573 The IDA procedure [40] is used to determine the seismic performance and assess the  
 574 seismic vulnerability of the initial and updated finite element models of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2.  
 575 Within this study the damage measure is expressed in terms of maximum inter-storey drift  
 576 ratio, which is generally used as engineering demand parameter in assessment studies of  
 577 frame buildings as it relates well to dynamic instability and structural damage [61]. More  
 578 specifically, the maximum peak SRSS drift, maxISD (i.e. the maximum over all stories of the  
 579 peak of the square-root-sum-of-squares of each storey's drift) in the two principal directions  
 580 is selected [62]. The seismic intensity is described using peak ground acceleration (PGA)  
 581 recorded on soil type B according to EC8 [57]. PGA is selected as intensity measure due to  
 582 the fact that the derived curves are incorporated in an operational tool for Early Earthquake  
 583 Warning and rapid post-event damage assessment that will be used by the civil protection  
 584 authority of the hospital. In this context, PGA is considered appropriate due to its simple  
 585 computation in real-time and its efficient use by the authorities.

586 IDA is conducted for the structural models by applying the 15 progressively scaled  
 587 records of Table 5. In particular, a PGA-stepping tracing algorithm is applied for each record  
 588 with an initial step of 0.1g, a step increment of 0.1g and a first elastic run at 0.05g. For  
 589 certain records it was necessary to reduce the step size of the algorithm to increase the  
 590 accuracy close to the flatline of the IDA curve. The minimum number of converging runs is  
 591 allowed to vary from 10 to 15 per record depending on the characteristics of the structure  
 592 and the record itself.

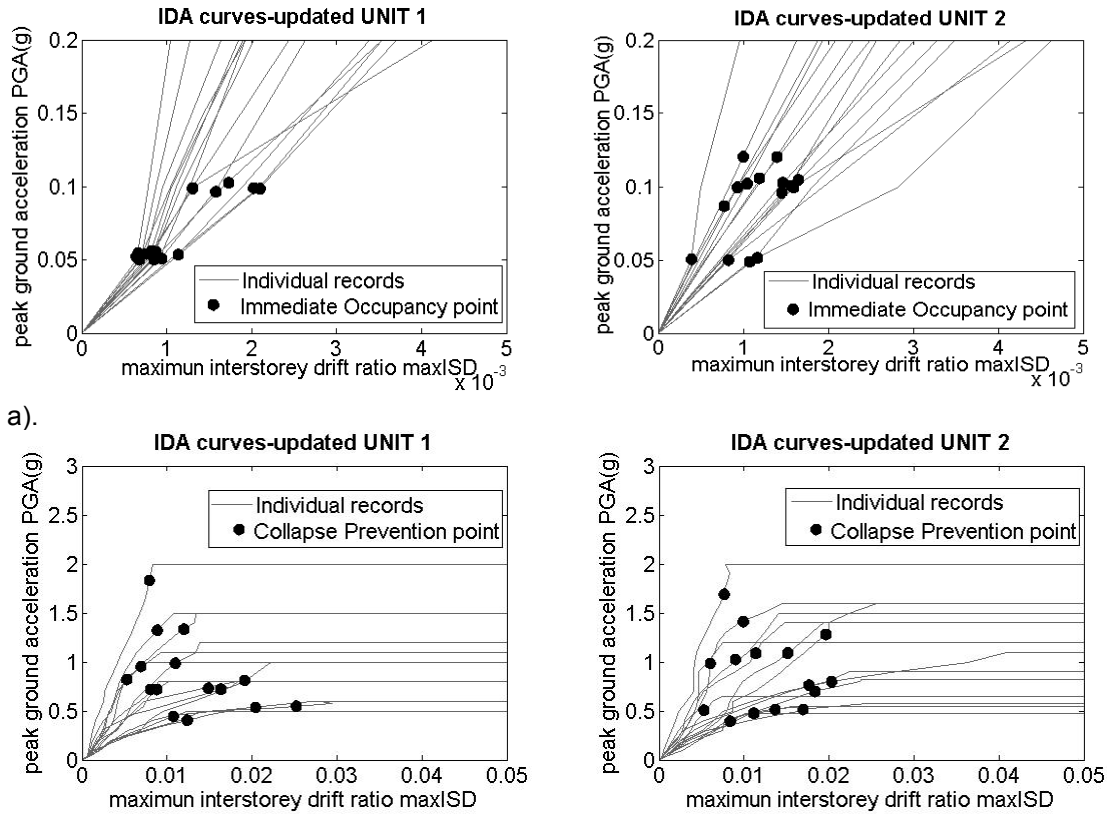
593 The fiber based approach that has been adopted for the nonlinear modeling of the  
 594 structures simulates sideways collapse associated with strength and stiffness degradation

595 along the total length of beams and columns. The section and reinforcement details  
596 presented in Fig.2 reveal stronger columns – weaker beam formations. The analysis model  
597 does not directly capture column shear failure as the columns in this study are expected to  
598 yield first in flexure rather than experiencing direct shear failure, as in the case of squat non-  
599 ductile RC columns. It should be noted herein that results may change depending on the role  
600 of brittle failures. For the hospital building case however attention is focused only to a single  
601 aspect of the structural behavior since collapse modes for the particular building units are  
602 related to column flexural failures in the lower storeys ([63]) which are defined for each  
603 ground motion based on the intensity (peak ground acceleration) of the input ground motion  
604 that results in structural collapse, identified in the analysis by excessive interstorey drifts.

605 By interpolating the derived pairs of PGA and maxISD for each individual record 15  
606 continuous IDA curves for each structural model are derived. Fig. 10b illustrates  
607 representative IDA curves for each record in terms of PGA for the updated finite element  
608 models of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2. For the purpose of the present study, two limit states are  
609 defined in terms of inter-storey drift ratio based on the IDA results, representing the  
610 immediate occupancy (IO) and collapse or near collapse prevention (CP) performance  
611 levels. The first limit state, namely the Immediate Occupancy corresponds to the yielding  
612 point where the elastic branch gives place to the post-elastic branch. The second limit state  
613 is assigned at a point where the IDA curve is softening towards the flat line, but at low  
614 enough values of maxISD so that we still trust the structural model [64]. Thus different IO and  
615 CP limit state values are chosen on the IDA curves for the same structure depending on the  
616 reference finite element model (initial or updated) and the individual record. For both initial  
617 and updated models of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2 the median of the first limit state is found equal to  
618 0.1%, which is in line also with the proposed limit value of HAZUS for moment resisting  
619 infilled frame buildings. The median of the defined CP limit states in terms of SRSS inter-  
620 storey drift (maxISD) is used to define the CP limit state of the structure, which for both  
621 structures is found to be equal to 1.4% and 1.1% for the initial and updated models  
622 respectively. The assignments of the IO and CP limit state points on the IDA curves of the  
623 updated units are presented in Fig. 10a, 10b. The dispersion that is observed in the definition  
624 of the collapse prevention limit value may be attributed on one hand to the record-to-record  
625 variability in terms of frequency content and duration and on the other hand to the fact that  
626 PGA is used as intensity measure as in this case the seismic response and vulnerability  
627 depends on the input ground motion sets [65].

628





b).  
**Fig.10.** Assignments of the immediate occupancy a): (IO) and b): collapse prevention (CP) limit damage state points on the IDA curves for the updated units.

629 **3.7 Derivation of fragility curves**

630 A fragility curve represents a graphical relationship of the probability of exceeding a  
 631 predefined level of damage (e.g. IO, CP) under a seismic excitation of a given intensity. The  
 632 results of the IDA (PGA - maxISD values) are used to derive the fragility curves for both  
 633 analyzed buildings, expressed as a two-parameter lognormal distribution functions. Equation  
 634 2 represents the cumulative probability of exceeding a damage state *DS* conditioned on a  
 635 measure of the seismic intensity *IM*.

636

$$P[DS / IM] = \Phi \left( \frac{\ln(IM) - \ln(\overline{IM})}{\beta} \right) \quad (2)$$

637 where  $\Phi$  is the standard normal cumulative distribution function, *IM* is the intensity measure  
 638 of the earthquake expressed in terms of PGA (in units of *g*),  $\overline{IM}$  and  $\beta$  are the median values  
 639 (in units of *g*) and log-standard deviations respectively of the building fragilities and *DS* is the  
 640 damage state. The median values of PGA corresponding to the prescribed performance  
 641 levels are determined based on a regression analysis of the nonlinear IDA results (PGA-  
 642 maxISD pairs) for both building units. More specifically a linear regression fit of the

643 logarithms of the PGA- maxISD data which minimizes the regression residuals is adopted in  
644 the analysis cases. Fig. 11 presents the PGA - maxISD relationships for the updated models  
645 of both UNIT 1 and UNIT 2, where it is noticed that the results show similar distribution and  
646 curve fitting.

647 Three primary sources of uncertainties are generally taken into account for the  
648 estimation of the total variability associated to each damage state for conventionally derived  
649 fragility curves, namely the variability associated with the definition of the damage states, the  
650 capacity of the structure and the seismic demand. Demand uncertainties are associated to  
651 the effects of ground motion record-to-record variability on building response. Capacity  
652 uncertainty reflects the variability of structural properties as well as the fact that the modeling  
653 procedures are not perfect. Damage state definition uncertainties are due to the fact that the  
654 thresholds of the damage indices or parameters used to define damage states are not known  
655 [66]. In the present study the uncertainty associated with the demand is taken into  
656 consideration by calculating the dispersion of the logarithms of PGA - maxISD simulated data  
657 with respect to the regression fit. The log-standard deviation value in the capacity is assumed  
658 to be 0.3 for the low code structures following the HAZUS prescriptions [67]. Uncertainties in  
659 how well the nonlinear simulation model represents the behavior of the real building as well  
660 as the highly nonlinear structural behavior near collapse are incorporated in the collapse  
661 assessment and are reflected in the fragility curves through the consideration of the capacity  
662 uncertainty. As far as the uncertainty in the definition of the damage states is concerned, the  
663 damage limit values are defined on the IDA curves and since they are considered building  
664 specific, the additional uncertainty related to the definition of the damage states is not taken  
665 into consideration. Based on the above considerations, the definition of the limit state values  
666 is implicitly related to the material properties and structural modeling and is therefore  
667 incorporated in the uncertainty associated with the capacity. As discussed in [6] and [68] in-  
668 situ tests and vibration measurements may improve the knowledge of the building's response  
669 and its seismic behavior reducing thus the epistemic uncertainties associated with the  
670 capacity. In the present study the use of ambient noise measurements to improve the  
671 knowledge regarding the elastic behavior of the structure may reduce the epistemic  
672 uncertainties for the IO limit state, however for the definition of the CP state, there are  
673 significant underlying uncertainties which cannot be neglected as nonlinear behavior of  
674 structures under strong motion introduces variations of the modal parameters and influences  
675 their seismic response. Therefore the uncertainty in the capacity is not further reduced.  
676 Under the assumption that the log-standard deviation components of demand and capacity  
677 are statistically independent, the total log-standard deviation is estimated as the root of the  
678 sum of the squares of the component dispersions. The herein computed log-standard

679 deviation  $\beta$  values of the curves vary from 0.6 to 0.68 for the considered finite element  
680 models of the adjacent building units.

681 Fragility curves are derived for the initial and updated finite element models of UNIT 1  
682 and UNIT 2. The initial as built numerical models are based on the available design plans  
683 and correspond to the initial state of the structures (“building specific”), whereas the updated  
684 models reflect the measured responses and therefore represent their actual state (“time-  
685 building specific”).

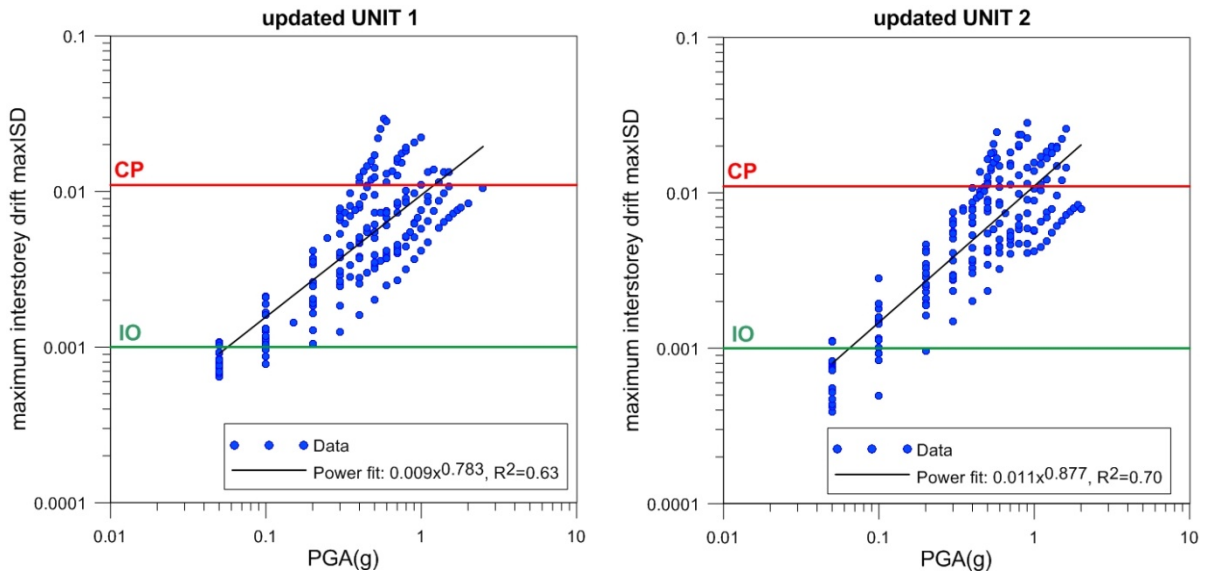
686 The calculated “building-specific” fragility curves of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2 that  
687 correspond to their initial state are evaluated through their comparison with conventional  
688 curves from the literature [3] that are derived for representative models of the same typology  
689 (high-rise, regularly infilled, moment resisting frame structures designed with low seismic  
690 provisions). More specifically, in Fig. 12 the derived curves are compared with the generic  
691 curves proposed by Kappos et al. ([69] & [70]) for the specific typology. It is noted that most  
692 of the work presented in Kappos et al. [70] was carried out by the same authors within the  
693 framework of the RISK-UE project [69]. The differences between the results (given in terms  
694 of fragility functions) of Kappos et al. [69] and [70] are probably due to slight geometric  
695 differences adopted for the studied RC building typologies. A good match between the  
696 curves is observed for the IO limit state as both generic curve sets are very close to the  
697 calculated ones. However for the CP state it is seen that the “building-specific” curves  
698 corresponding to the as-built state of the hospital case study are comparable only with the  
699 curves of Kappos et al. [69] and differ significantly from the respective curves of Kappos et  
700 al. [70], which is indicative of the non negligible variability that may be observed between  
701 generic fragility curves.

702 The initial fragility curves are further validated through the computation of the  
703 expected damage probability of the hospital building for the 1978 destructive earthquake in  
704 Thessaloniki [71] as they are considered to better reflect the state of the structure at the time  
705 of the event which occurred quite soon after their construction (in 1971). For a representative  
706 intensity value for the specific seismic event equal to 0.3g the probabilities of slight damage  
707 (IO state) and collapse (CP state) according to Fig. 12 are approximately estimated to 95-  
708 98% and 2-3% respectively. These probabilities are consistent with the actual reports of that  
709 time that no considerable earthquake damage was observed for the specific building.

710 In Fig. 13 the updated numerical models are compared with the initial ones for both  
711 building units. The updated curves present a shift to the left in comparison to the initial ones,  
712 indicating an increase in the structures’ vulnerability which is more noticeable for the CP limit  
713 state and for higher intensities. Since this difference in the fragility between the initial and  
714 updated models is not attributed to geometrical modifications but to the variation and  
715 distribution of material properties, it could be assumed that the increase in the building’s

716 fragility is in fact an evidence of potential degradation of the structure over time. As no  
 717 significant damages have been reported for the specific building during past earthquake  
 718 events, the structural deterioration may be related to aging effects, which are further  
 719 analyzed in the following section.

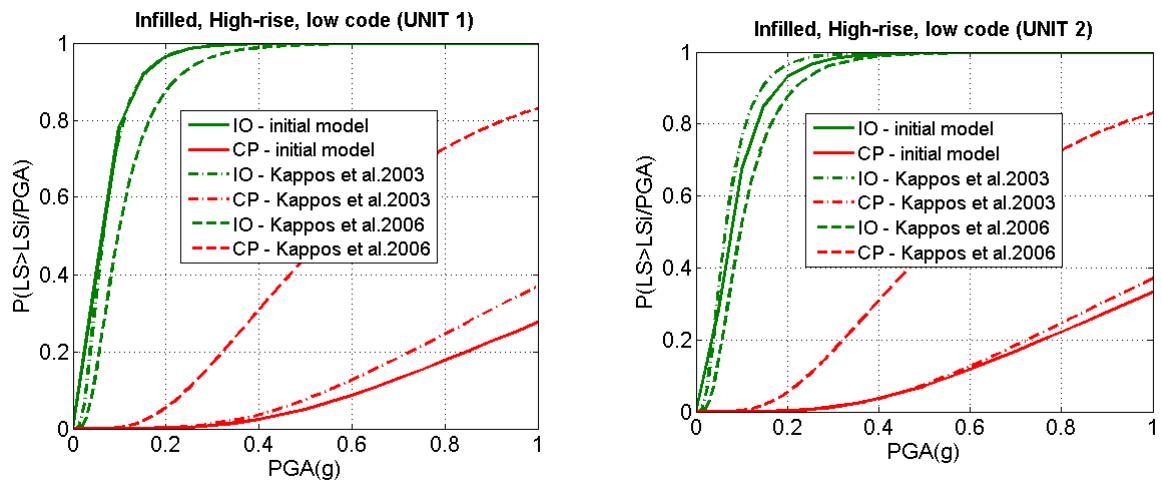
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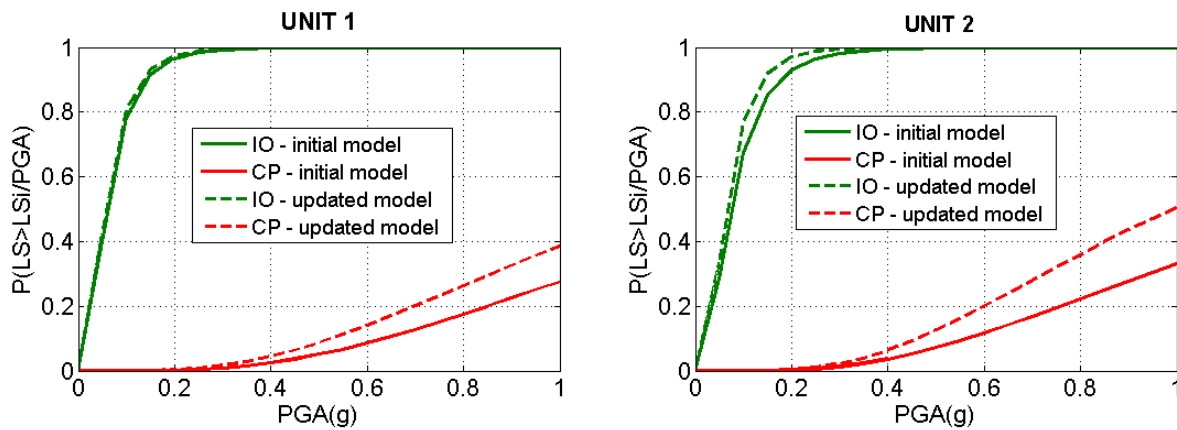
**Fig.11.** PGA-maxISD relationships for updated finite element models of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2.

721

722



**Fig.12.** Comparative plots of the initial fragility curves derived for the two adjacent building units with the corresponding fragility curves provided by Kappos et al. ([69] & [70]).



**Fig.13.** Comparative plot of the “building-specific” fragility curves derived for the initial and updated models of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2.

723

## 724 **4. Comparison with the time-dependent fragility curves of the hospital building** 725 **units**

### 726 *4.1 Deterioration modeling due to corrosion*

727 Time-dependent fragility curves are derived for both hospital units considering aging effects  
728 due to rebar corrosion following the analytical methodology presented in Pitilakis et al. [1].  
729 Corrosion may affect an RC structure in a variety of ways (e.g. cover spalling, loss of steel-  
730 concrete bond strength, loss of steel cross sectional area) resulting to loss of ductility,  
731 reduction of load bearing capacity and finally to more brittle failure mechanisms. The aim of  
732 the present application is twofold: to apply the proposed methodology on a real building case  
733 and to compare the “time-building specific” fragility curves derived in the previous section  
734 with the time-dependent curves increasing the reliability of the methodologies and results.

735 The probabilistic model proposed by FIB- CEB Task Group 5.6 [72] is adopted for the  
736 computation of the corrosion initiation time,  $T_{ini}$ , due to chloride ingress. The statistical  
737 characteristics of the parameters involved in the computation of  $T_{ini}$  (Table 6) that are  
738 adopted in Pitilakis et al. [1] for a relatively high corrosion scenario are considered  
739 appropriate also for the coastal city of Thessaloniki. For a cover depth equal to 20mm, the  
740 mean value of  $T_{ini}$  is estimated approximately equal to 7 years. A 45-year corrosion scenario,  
741 which is considered representative of the current age of the hospital building units, is  
742 adopted in the present study. The chloride induced corrosion effects that are taken into  
743 account, are the section area loss of reinforced bars [73] and the concrete cover strength  
744 reduction ([74], [75]). The effects of corrosion are assumed to be distributed uniformly around  
745 the perimeter and along the concrete members. Table 7 summarizes the mean percentages  
746 (%) of reinforcement area loss and cover concrete strength reduction due to corrosion for the  
747 different RC elements of the structures under study within the elapsed time ( $t-T_{ini}$ ). Results  
748 show that beams seem to be more affected regarding the steel area loss in comparison to

749 columns. On the other hand similar concrete cover reduction values are observed for both  
 750 beams and column elements.

751

752 **Table 6.** Statistical characteristics of parameters affecting the chloride induced corrosion of RC  
 753 elements adopted in the present study (after Pitilakis et al. [1]).

Parameter	Mean	Coefficient of variation (cov)	Distribution
Cover Depth (mm) $\alpha$	20	0.40/0.32	Lognormal
Environmental function $k_e$	0.67	0.17	Normal
Chloride migration Coefficient ( $D_{RCM,0}$ ) (m <sup>2</sup> /s)	1.58E-11	0.20	Normal
Aging exponent $n$	0.362	cov=0.677 , a=0.0, b=0.98	Beta
Critical Chloride Concentration ( $C_{crit}$ ) wt % cement	0.6	cov=0.25, a= 0.2, b=2.0	Beta
Surface Chloride Concentration ( $C_s$ ) wt % cement	1.283	0.20	Normal
Rate of Corrosion ( $i_{corr}$ ) mA/cm <sup>2</sup>	2	0.25	Normal

754

755 **Table 7.** Loss of reinforcement (%) and concrete cover strength reduction (%) for the considered  
 756 corrosion scenario (t=45 years).

	UNIT 1		UNIT 2	
	Steel area loss (%)	Concrete cover reduction (%)	Steel area loss (%)	Concrete cover reduction (%)
Beam	14	59	13	59
Column	8	59	8	56

757

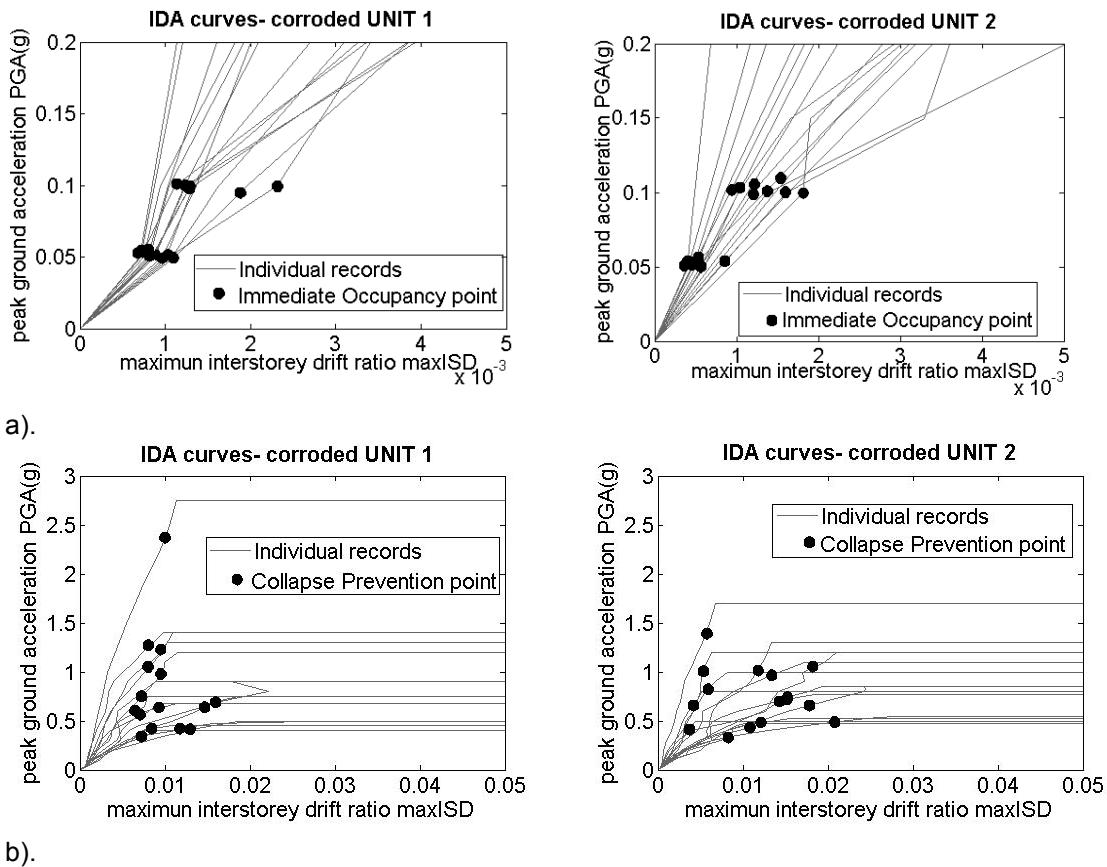
758 **4.2 Derivation of the time-dependent fragility curves and comparison with “time-building**  
 759 **specific” curves**

760 Using the seismic records of Table 5, IDA analysis is performed for the corroded building  
 761 units following the same procedure as described in section 3.5 for the initial and updated  
 762 models. The median IO limit value is defined based on the IDA results and is found equal to  
 763 0.1% for UNIT 1 and UNIT 2 respectively. The median of the defined CP values is estimated  
 764 equal to 1.0% for both corroded units, which is a slightly lower value compared to the 1.1%  
 765 estimated for the updated models. The assignments of the IO and CP limit states points on  
 766 the IDA curves of the corroded units are presented in Fig. 14. The median PGA values for  
 767 the two damage states are computed based on the regression analysis of Fig. 15 while the  
 768 standard deviation is calculated accounting for the variability associated with the capacity of  
 769 each structural type and the seismic demand.

770 The fragility curves of the initial, updated and corroded models of both UNIT 1 and  
 771 UNIT 2 are compared in Fig. 16, while the fragility parameters (median and log-standard  
 772 deviation) of the different cases are summarized in Table 8. As it can be seen the  
 773 vulnerability of the structures increases over time due to corrosion, as expected. This  
 774 increase is more noticeable for the CP limit state. Comparing the fragility between corroded  
 775 and updated models, it is seen that for the IO limit state, no significant difference between

776 the curves is observed. For the CP state however, the curves corresponding to the corroded  
 777 models present a greater shift to the left in comparison to the respective curves of the  
 778 updated models indicating that the analytical procedure considering aging effects results to  
 779 higher fragility. In particular the difference in the median PGA values corresponding to the  
 780 CP state for the corroded models in relation to the updated ones is in the order of 9-13% for  
 781 UNIT 1 and UNIT 2. The 1978 Thessaloniki event is used again for the evaluation of the  
 782 damage probabilities for the different cases that are investigated. For the IO state (slight  
 783 damage level), no significant differences are observed in comparison to the initial state of the  
 784 building as the probability is high for all cases (approximately 95%). For the CP state  
 785 however the probability of occurrence is increased compared to the as built state of the  
 786 structure from 2% to 4% and 6% respectively for the updated and corroded case.

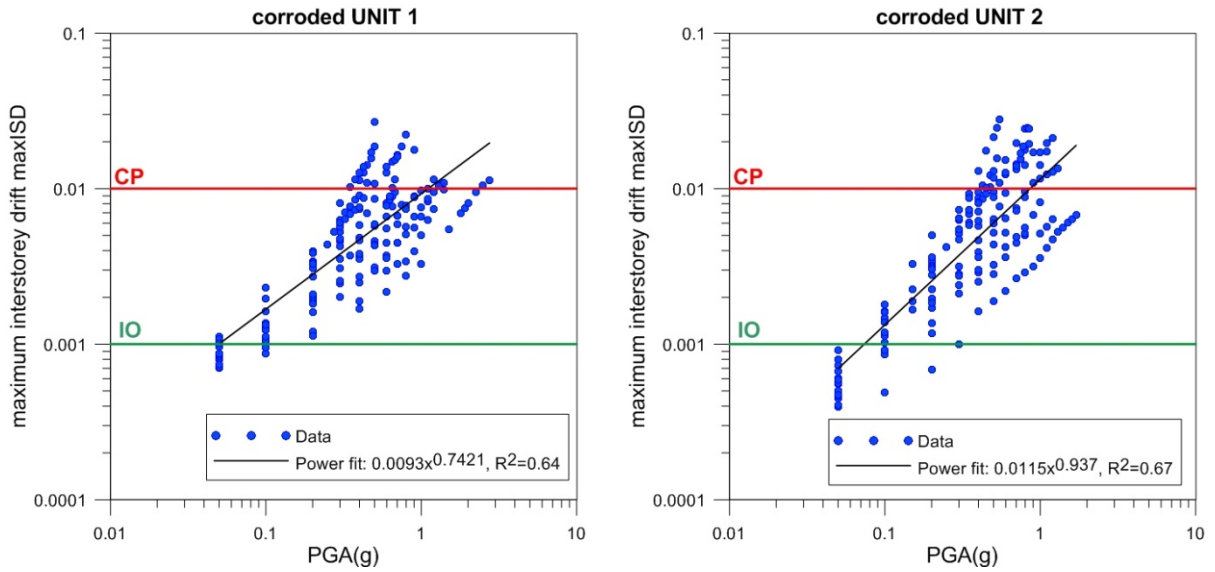
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**Fig.14.** Assignments of the a): IO and b): CP limit damage state points on the IDA curves for the corroded units.

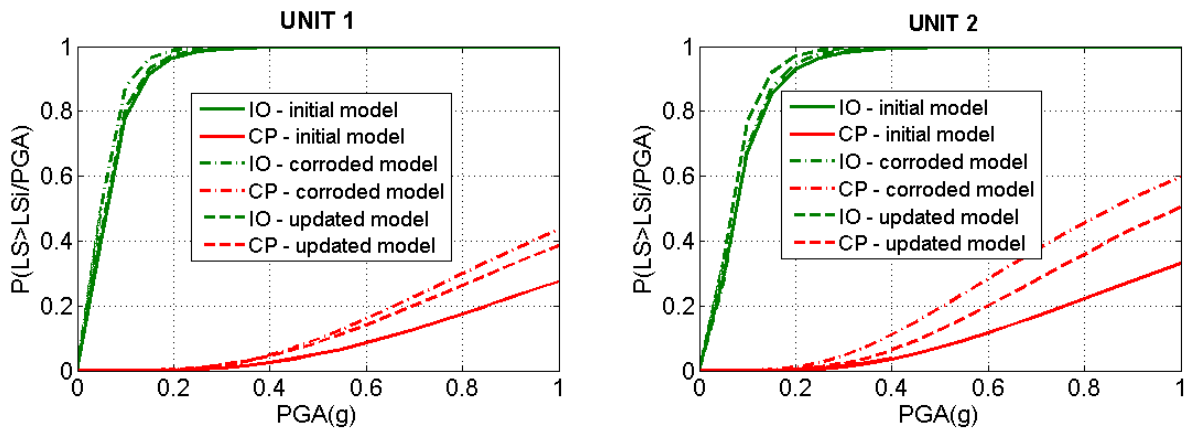
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**Fig.15.** PGA-maxISD relationships for the corroded ( $t=45$ years) hospital buildings UNIT 1 and UNIT 2.

790



**Fig.16.** Comparative plots of the fragility curves corresponding to the initial, updated and corroded models of UNIT 1 and UNIT 2.

791

792

**Table 8.** Parameters of the derived fragility curves for the initial and updated finite element models for UNIT 1 and UNIT 2.

RC building	Finite Element Model	Median PGA (g)		Dispersion
		IO	CP	
UNIT 1	Initial	0.059	1.49	0.67
	Updated	0.057	1.21	0.64
	Corroded	0.050	1.11	0.61
UNIT 2	Initial	0.074	1.35	0.68
	Updated	0.065	0.99	0.6
	Corroded	0.073	0.86	0.63

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797



## 798 5. DISCUSSION - CONCLUSIONS

799 The “time-building specific” or actual seismic vulnerability of one of the main buildings of the  
800 most important hospital in Thessaloniki (AHEPA) has been assessed based on ambient  
801 noise field monitoring data. The special feature of the target building is that it is composed of  
802 two adjacent tall units that are connected with a structural joint. Ambient noise  
803 measurements were used to derive the experimental modal model of the two adjacent  
804 buildings first separately, and then for the entire building analyzed as one, taking into  
805 account the interaction of the two building units and identify their modal properties based on  
806 system identification and OMA respectively. The identified modal parameters were found  
807 very close for the different identification methods (non-parametric and parametric) applied as  
808 well as for the different system models analyzed, implying that the dynamic characteristics of  
809 the hospital building analyzed as one are possible to be captured by monitoring and  
810 analyzing the two adjacent buildings separately.

811 The modal identification results were used to update and better constrain the initial  
812 finite element models of the two adjacent units, which were based on the design and  
813 construction documentation plans provided by the Technical Services of the hospital. A  
814 sensitivity parameter related to the structural stiffness was adopted for the updating  
815 procedure, namely the compressive masonry infill strength. In general a good correlation with  
816 the experimental results was achieved for both building units.

817 Incremental dynamic analysis was performed for the initial and updated structural  
818 models to evaluate the seismic performance of the buildings when their actual state is taken  
819 into account. The fragility functions were derived for the IO and CP limit states in terms of  
820 PGA for both units. It was shown that the use of conventional generic fragility curves,  
821 although appropriate for assessing fragility and losses in a regional/urban scale, may lead to  
822 inaccurate fragility and loss estimates in the case of individual building assessment, which  
823 constitute crucial components in the framework of decision making and risk mitigation  
824 strategies (e.g. seismic safety and rehabilitation costs). Moreover, an overall increase in  
825 structures fragility for the updated models is observed in comparison to the ones  
826 corresponding to their initial state, which is attributed to deterioration phenomena affecting  
827 progressively the building over time. In order to increase the reliability of the derived results,  
828 the updated “time-building specific” fragility curves are compared with the time-dependent  
829 curves where aging effects due to rebar corrosion are taken into account through the  
830 analytical simulation of steel area loss and concrete cover strength reduction for a 45-year  
831 corrosion scenario adopting the methodology by Pitilakis et al. [1]. Although the applied  
832 methodologies are quite different approaches for assessing the actual structural condition,  
833 both result to an increase of the seismic vulnerability in comparison to the initial, “as built”

834 state of the hospital building. In general, a good correlation between the “time-building  
835 specific” and time-dependent fragility curves is observed. The fact that for the CP state, the  
836 structures’ fragilities appear to be higher for the corroded case may be attributed to the  
837 relatively high rate of corrosion that was considered indicating that a moderate corrosion  
838 scenario would be probably more appropriate for the hospital building case. In any case,  
839 results indicate that potential degradation mechanisms that may affect the structural  
840 condition over time should not be ignored especially in the case of buildings with strategic  
841 interest (e.g. hospital) as this may lead to an underestimation of their real vulnerability

842 Overall this study provides further insight on the assessment of the “time-building  
843 specific” seismic vulnerability of typical RC buildings using ambient noise field monitoring  
844 data, presenting an integrated methodology where the actual state of the structure is taken  
845 into account (degradation due to time, possible pre-existing damages, changes in geometry  
846 and mass distribution, etc). Thus the presented methodology can be used to yield more  
847 reliable structural models with respect to their real conditions in terms of structural detailing,  
848 mass distribution and material properties. It should be noted herein that automated  
849 operational analysis can be used to extract the modal properties of the building but also to  
850 identify the role of environmental effects (e.g. degradation phenomena such as corrosion,  
851 effect of temperature variation etc.) on the global behavior by tracking changes in modal  
852 parameters with time ([76]; [77]; [78]). In order to quantify locally aging (corrosion) effects on  
853 the RC elements, also non-destructive tests are required in order to gain insight regarding  
854 the effects on a component level. Furthermore the proposed methodology should be  
855 extended for “real-time” risk assessment and post-seismic fragility updating. As an example,  
856 by exploiting the computing power of the strong motion sensing units installed in AHEPA, the  
857 “time-building specific” fragility curves derived in this study allow the implementation of  
858 building-customized alerting procedure suitable for performing an automatic building tagging  
859 ([79], [80]). In this context, the use of field monitoring data will contribute in reducing the  
860 uncertainties associated with the risk assessment procedure improving seismic safety and  
861 allowing the development of robust real time assessment tools and appropriate risk  
862 mitigation strategies.

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873

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