



The three simulated earthquakes were the 1940 El Centro, 1952 Taft and 1971 Pacoima Dam accelerograms.

Response was measured and recorded by means of a large number of transducers.

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Important findings

Typical single-story masonry houses are so rigid that they do not develop very complicated dynamic response mechanisms during an earthquake.

The motions of the test structures followed the shaking table motions very closely, with distortions generally being proportional to, and in-phase with the base accelerations.



For this reason, the frequency characteristics of the earthquake input are not a major factor in its tendency to induce damage in a masonry house.

The peak acceleration value of the ground motion is the dominant quantity controlling response to earthquakes.

The amplification factor at the top of the walls was in the range between 1.0 and 1.5.

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No cracking was observed in any major unreinforced wall unit for tests with peak accelerations less than 0.2g.

The lowest intensity shaking that caused cracking of non-bearing in plane wall occurred during tests with peak accelerations of 0.21g

the minimum intensity to cause cracking of an out of plane wall was 0.25g.

*Unreinforced out-of-plane walls continued to perform satisfactorily after cracking for several tests of increased intensity, but the displacements of these walls generally became excessive during tests with peak accelerations in excess of 0.4g.

The study concluded that for PGA of 0.1g, the minimum length of an unreinforced shear resisting element should be 6 ft;

whereas for PGA of 0.2g the minimum length of an unreinforced shear-resisting element should be 9ft or there may be two 6ft elements.

Shear resisting element which is a panel of a masonry wall must extend from floor to ceiling without any penetrations, openings, or discontinuities.

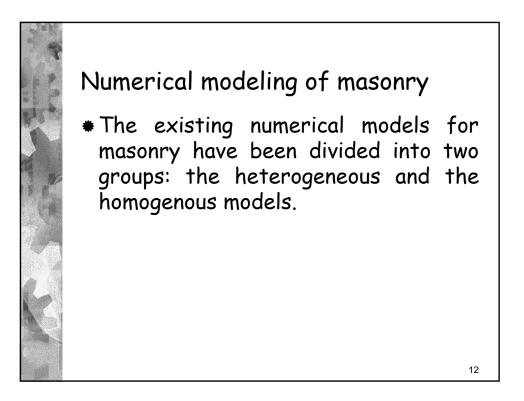
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Limitations

The study was carried out specifically on block masonry building system prevailing in a USA state. There can be drastic difference in the materials and field practice.

The roof of the models was a timber truss, which is significantly different from the rigid concrete slab. In the later case the roof acts as a rigid diaphragm and connects the walls to form a box type structure.



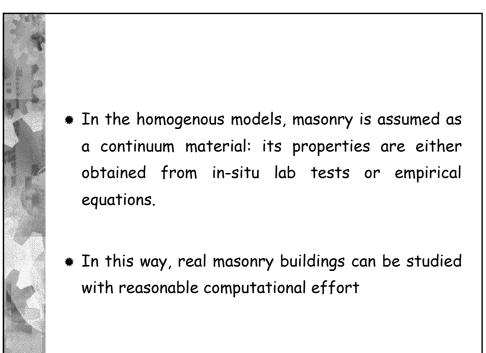


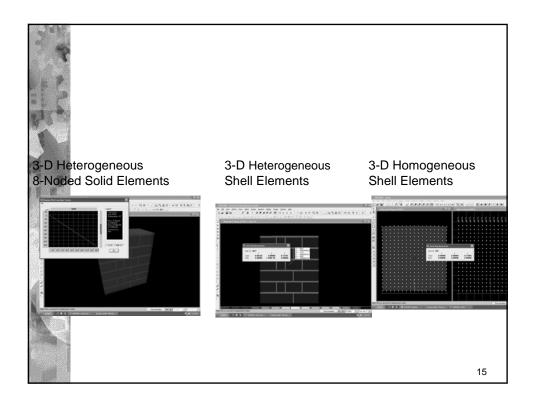
The heterogeneous models analyze the masonry walls discretizing bricks and mortar separately through finite element and/or interface elements.

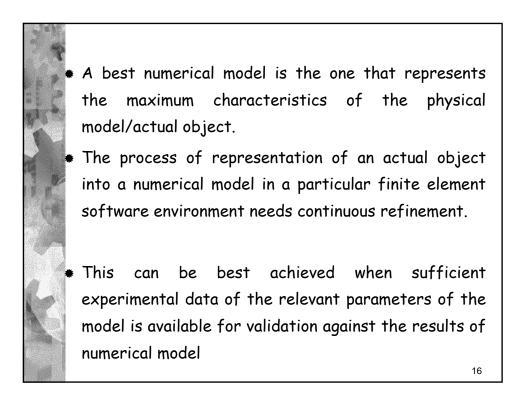
A suitable constitutive relationship is then assumed for each component. In this way it is possible to take into account, with particular accuracy, the characteristics of mortar joints, which play a very important role in the global behavior of masonry.

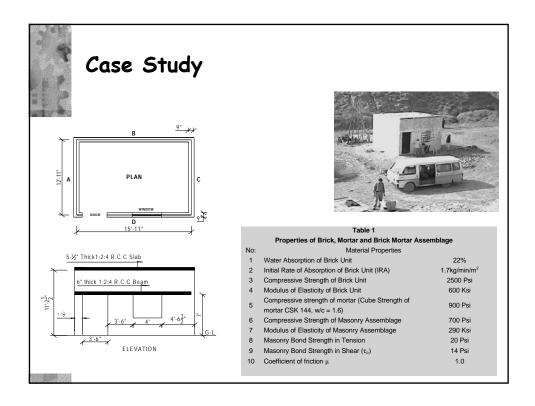
The principal limitation of these models consists of the high computational effort they require, especially when a real wall or building must be analyzed

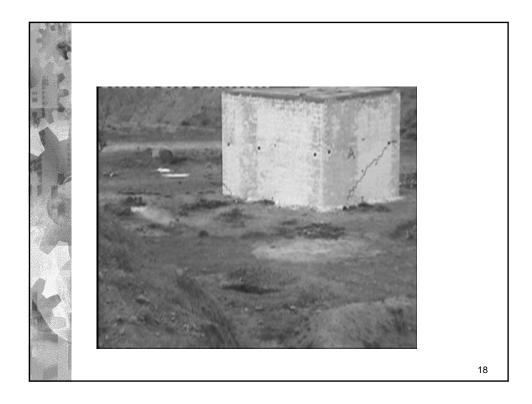
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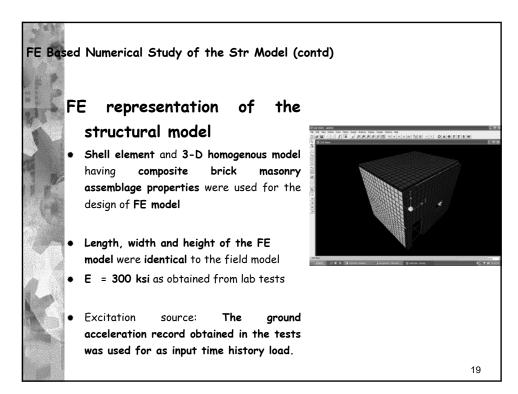




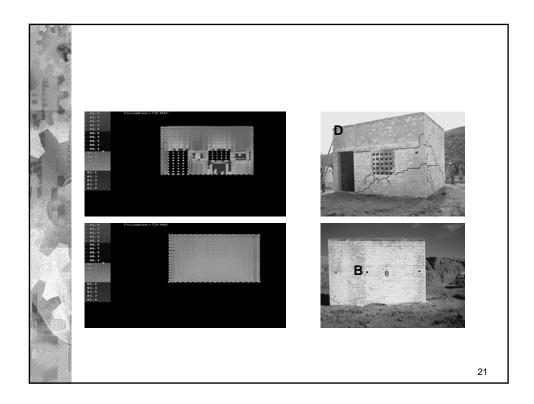


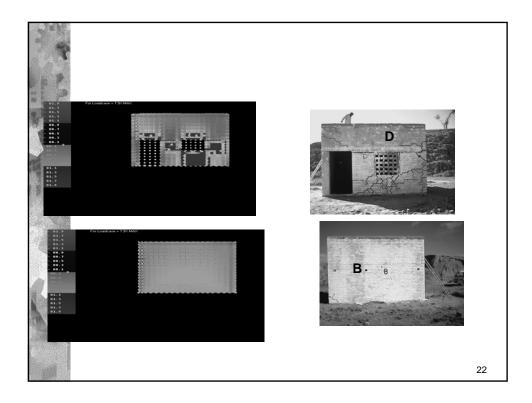






Comparison of experimental and numeric Period and model top accelerations	cal model result:	5
all.	TEST values	FE model
Period along longer direction	0.1 second	0.07 seconds
Period along shorter direction	0.1 second	.08seconds
Roof acceleration along longer wall TEST 1	0.24g	0.245g
Roof acceleration along shorter wall TEST 1	0.15	0.207
Roof acceleration along longer wall TEST 2	0.73g	0.6g
Roof acceleration along longer wall TEST 3	0.63g	0.104g
Roof acceleration along shorter wall TEST	1.097g	1.63g







Conclusions

Shake table test must represent the prototype as closely as possible. For example the brick and mortar type, roof etc. of the model shall be similar to the prototype; other wise results will not be reliable.

 FE technique using 3-D homogenous, linear elastic models can be used for studying the behavior of masonry. However using non-linear inelastic models would be more realistic.

