

# Damage-control steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links subjected to near-field earthquake motions: A spectral energy factor model

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**Abstract:** To achieve a delicate balance between self-centring behaviour and energy dissipation, it was proposed to develop the damage-control steel frame equipped with shape memory alloy (SMA) connections and ductile links showing the partially self-centring behaviour. This paper examined the inelastic seismic demand of the novel structure, and the emphasis was given to the spectral energy factor of the system subjected to near-field earthquake motions. Based on single-degree-of-freedom (SDF) systems representing the novel structure and a near-field earthquake database, nonlinear spectral analyses were performed considering a wide range of structural period and hysteretic parameters, and more than 25 million energy factors were obtained. The probabilistic characteristics of the energy factors were examined in detail. The analysis database confirmed that the energy factors were sensitive to structural period and hysteretic parameters. In addition, a right-skewed distribution feature of the energy factors was observed. Thus, a spectral energy factor model for damage-control steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links was developed using the lognormal distribution model. Nonlinear regression analyses were conducted to develop a series of prediction equations. The good agreement between the histograms of the energy factor and predictions by the regression equations confirmed the adequacy of the proposed model. The proposed model was eventually applied to evaluating the damage-control behaviour of a prototype structure under near-field earthquake motions, and the sufficiency of the model for assessing the structural damage-control behaviour from a statistic perspective was confirmed.

**Keywords:** Shape memory alloy; damage-control; partially self-centring; energy factor; hysteretic model

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## 1. Introduction

Steel moment resisting frames (MRFs) are widely used in building structures and have long been reckoned as effective seismic resistant systems. In particular, the conventional ductility-based seismic design methodology for steel MRFs generally aims to produce plastic hinges at the beam ends and column bases to dissipate seismic energy and achieve ductile behaviour. Consequently, excessive exploitation of the inelastic energy dissipation capacity of structural members and connections in a steel MRF might lead to significant structural damages and post-earthquake residual deformations, as demonstrated by recent earthquake events and seismic loss estimations [1, 2]. Recent research findings [2] indicated that a steel MRF designed to follow the ductility-based design philosophy may have a high possibility of suffering a total economic loss even in the event of a design-level earthquake. This is because the post-earthquake residual deformation generally leads to a long period of occupancy suspension to enable repair work or may even result in complete demolition of the structure. The lessons from recent earthquake attacks signal the demand of more sustainable steel frames with a higher level of seismic resistance, and novel structures with improved cyclic behaviour and controllable post-earthquake performance is actively pursued by the research community.

Hopefully, recent explorations of the “self-centring” technology produced steel frames with reduced post-earthquake residual deformations. In parallel with the structural-based self-centring technology that enables recentring behaviour with post-tensioned devices [3-5], research works also indicate that the self-centring performance may be realised using Shape Memory Alloys (SMAs) [6-11]. Because the superelasticity of SMAs enables the material to

restore the deformed shapes upon unloading, novel self-centring beam-to-column connections equipped with SMAs have emerged as compelling candidates for steel frame structures. For example, Ocel et al. [12] modified the conventional welded flange-bolted web connection and replaced the welded connection in the flange area by SMA bars. Yam and co-workers [13, 14] explored the seismic performance of stiffened extended end-plate (SEE) connections equipped with SMA bolts considering varied connection configurations. Wang et al. [15] studied the behaviour of a novel column base equipped with SMA bars. To examine the influence of SMA connections on the behaviour of structural systems, DesRoches et al. [16] studied seismic responses of steel frames equipped with SMA connections numerically, and the results showed that the structural seismic demand is affected by the SMA connections. Based on nonlinear dynamic analysis of an ensemble of prototype systems, Sultana and Youssef [17] further confirmed that the implementation of SMA connections in a steel MRFs could profoundly influence the structural seismic response and contributes to mitigated post-earthquake residual deformations. However, the research works mentioned above generally focused on the hysteretic behaviour of SMA connections and general seismic responses of structural systems equipped with SMAs, whereas optimised arrangement strategy of SMA connections in steel frames was not clearly examined, and quantitative methods for prescribing the inelastic seismic demand from a structural perspective were not emphasised.

In particular, although nonlinear response history analysis (NL-RHA) procedure based on the numerical model of a structure may be used to quantify the inelastic seismic demand of steel frames equipped with SMA connections rigorously, practitioners generally prefer to

use static procedures (e.g. direct design method or nonlinear static procedure) to conduct a preliminary design of a new structure or assessment of an existing system prior to performing NL-RHA. In this context, the essence of a successful design or evaluation is the reasonable prescription of the inelastic spectral demand indices of the structure subjected to earthquake motions. To shed insightful lights on the inelastic seismic demands of systems showing the self-centring behaviour, research works were carried out in recent decades. For example, Christopoulos et al. [18] quantified the ductility, acceleration and cumulative energy demand of self-centring structures based on spectral analyses of single-degree-of-freedom (SDF) oscillator with the bilinear flag-shaped hysteretic model. Zhang et al. [19] studied the inelastic displacement demand of bilinear flag-shaped self-centring SDOF systems on the stiff soil. Recognising the attractiveness of using the energy balance concept in seismic design, research interests have been directed to energy-based spectral model for quantifying the inelastic seismic demands of self-centring systems. For instance, based on the modified Housner equation [20-22], Ke et al. [23] developed the energy factor demand spectra of bilinear flag-shaped oscillators, which united the strength and deformation demand. Later, Qiu and Zhu. [24] developed a performance-based plastic design methodology for self-centring braced steel frame structures using the energy factor as the core demand index. Zhou et al. [25, 26] examined the input energy and hysteretic energy demand spectra of bilinear self-centring SDF systems. Nonetheless, the research mentioned above may only apply to self-centring steel frames exhibiting perfectly self-centring behaviour (i.e. flag-shaped hysteretic responses). In addition, the statistic demand index (e.g. the mean value) was generally emphasised in

the previous studies for practical simplicity, whereas probabilistic characteristics of the demand indices were not clearly examined. In this context, more research efforts are needed to bridge the knowledge gap towards rational quantifications of novel steel frames equipped with SMA connections which exhibit varied hysteretic behaviour, and a practical seismic demand model which can be used to characterise inelastic seismic demands of novel self-centring steel frames equipped with SMA connections is also required.

In light of the above, the primary objective of the present study was to quantify the inelastic seismic demand of a novel steel frame equipped with SMAs, i.e. damage-control steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile energy dissipation links showing the partially self-centring behaviour, and the focus was given to a spectral energy factor model which may be used to prescribe the strength demand and the deformation demand concurrently. Specifically, it was proposed that superelastic SMA connections and ductile links arranged in the “hybrid energy dissipation bays” to be the primary source of inelastic energy dissipation under an earthquake motion. A wise combination of superelastic SMA connections and ductile links may contribute to a delicate balance between the recentring ability and the energy dissipation capacity, and the damage-control behaviour of a steel frame may be ensured as inelasticity was restricted in the SMA connections and ductile links for a reasonable deformation spectrum. Based on the hysteretic model of the system and a database of near-field earthquake motions, the inelastic demand of a steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links was quantified by developing the energy factor spectra of equivalent single-degree-of-freedom (SDF) systems representing the novel structure. The influence of the hysteretic parameters on the energy factor spectra was

carefully examined, and the probabilistic features of the demand spectra were characterised. Based on the analysis database composed of more than 25 million data points, a spectral energy factor model for quantifying the seismic demand of steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links showing the partially self-centring behaviour was developed for engineering applications. To confirm the adequacy of the proposed model, a prototype structure was developed, and the accuracy of the numerical modelling techniques was justified by the available laboratory test data. The proposed energy factor model was applied to evaluating the damage-control behaviour of the prototype structure under an ensemble of near-field earthquake motions. The hysteretic model, damage-control behaviour of the prototype system in a reasonable deformation range and the effectiveness of the system for mitigating the post-earthquake residual deformations was confirmed by cyclic pushover analysis and NL-RHAs.

## **2. Notion and hysteretic behaviour of partially self-centring steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links**

### *2.1. Design concept*

The notion of a damage-control steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links is schematically shown in Fig. 1a. To achieve a reasonable balance between the recentring ability and the energy dissipation capacity, it is proposed that a “hybrid energy dissipation bay” is composed of superelastic SMA connections and ductile energy dissipation links. The excellent self-centring performance of the SMA connections can reduce the seismic loss caused by the post-earthquake residual deformation [27, 28]. As

shown in Fig. 1a, the SMA connection developed by Yam and colleagues [14] is equipped with external SMA bolts in steel washers, which contribute to moment resistance and self-centring restoring force. Note that the steel washer is playing a significant role in applying pre-tension on the SMA bolts, which contributes to enhanced self-centring behaviour and connectional stiffness [14]. In addition, high strength (HS) bolts equipped with SMA Belleville washers are incorporated in the internal bolt row, providing shear resistance. Note that the SMA Belleville washers also allow the HS bolts to release the tension force when the endplate rotates, and the permanent elongation of HS bolts may be minimised. The effectiveness of adding HS bolt with SMA Belleville washers in the connection for enhancing the behaviour of the connection has been verified by Fang et al. [14]. The deformed pattern of the novel SMA connection subjected to hogging action and the test evidence provided by Yam and co-workers [14] are reproduced in Fig. 1b. In general, it is expected that the hybrid energy dissipation bays offer inelastic energy dissipation for a wide deformation range under earthquake motions. In the meantime, the SMA connections and the main frame members (Fig. 1a) provide the recovery force in the damage-control stage, which contributes to pulling the structure close to the upright position and mitigates the post-earthquake deformations.

## 2.2. Hysteretic model and representative oscillator

The hysteretic behaviour of the novel damage-control steel frame may be quantified by a combination of the classical bilinear kinematic model [29] and bilinear flag-shaped model [18]. From the perspective of inelastic energy dissipation, it is proposed to trigger

the inelasticity inception of the SMA connections and ductile links simultaneously in the current study. Thus, a single-degree-of-freedom (SDF) oscillator governed by the bilinear partially self-centring hysteretic model with significant post-yielding stiffness ratio may be used to feature the hysteretic behaviour of a low-to-medium rise steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links in the hybrid energy dissipation bays deforming in the damage-control stage. The hysteretic law is illustrated in Fig. 2. In particular, the bilinear force-displacement response can be used to characterise the skeleton response of the system, given by:

$$F = \begin{cases} K\delta & 0 \leq \delta \leq \delta_y \\ \alpha K\delta + (1-\alpha)K\delta_y & \delta > \delta_y \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $K$  = initial stiffness of the representative SDF oscillator;  $F$  = force quantity of the representative oscillator;  $\delta$  = displacement quantity of the representative oscillator;  $\delta_y$  = yield displacement of the representative oscillator characterising inelasticity inception of the SMA connection and ductile links and  $\alpha$  = post-yielding stiffness ratio of the oscillator owing to the elastic main frame. In the hysteretic model, the parameter  $\beta$  defined as the energy ratio (Fig. 2) controls the unloading path. Note that in cases where  $\beta \leq 0.5$ , it comes down to the conventional bilinear flag-shaped hysteretic law [18]. In the scenario with  $\beta = 1$ , the oscillator turns to be a bilinear kinematic system [29]. It is worth noting that the hysteretic model is applicable for a structure deforming in the damage-control stage where the main frame members remain generally elastic. The adequacy of the hysteretic model for characterising the cyclic responses of a damage-control steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links will be justified in later sections. In practical



engineering, an iterative procedure can be adopted in the design phase to ensure the expected yielding sequence of SMA connections and ductile links in the energy dissipation bays, and the yield drift of the SMA connections can be estimated based on research findings in [14].

### 3. Construction of energy factor spectra

#### 3.1. Governing equation and energy factor of the representative SDF system

The normalised governing equation of the representative partially self-centring SDF oscillator related to the corresponding elastic system is given by

$$\ddot{\mu}_s + 2\xi\omega\dot{\mu}_s + \omega^2\bar{F}(\mu_s, \alpha, \beta) = -\omega^2 \frac{F_e}{F_y} \frac{\ddot{\delta}_g}{S_a} \quad (2)$$

where  $\mu_s$  = normalised displacement quantity ( $\delta / \delta_y$ ), which is defined as the ductility;  $\dot{\mu}_s$  = normalised velocity of the representative SDF oscillator ( $\dot{\delta} / \delta_y$ );  $\ddot{\delta}$  = acceleration of the earthquake motion;  $\ddot{\mu}_s$  = normalised acceleration ( $\ddot{\delta} / \delta_y$ );  $\bar{F}(\mu_s, \alpha, \beta)$  = normalised restoring force of the representative SDF oscillator, which is governed by the hysteretic model mentioned in Section 2;  $\xi$  = damping ratio;  $\omega$  = frequency of the associated elastic SDF oscillator;  $F_e$  = peak force of the associated elastic SDF oscillator under the earthquake motion and  $S_a$  = pseudo acceleration coefficient.

The energy factor of the SDF oscillator representing a steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links is defined as the ratio of the covered area of the bilinear skeleton pushover response to that of the associated elastic SDF system upon the expected peak deformation (i.e.  $\mu_s = \mu$ , where  $\mu$  is the expected ductility factor), as shown in Fig. 3.

The expression of the energy factor of a bilinear partially self-centring SDF oscillator is

215 given by

$$216 \quad \gamma = 2\chi\mu - \chi + \alpha\chi(\mu-1)^2 \quad (3)$$

$$217 \quad \chi(T; \mu; \alpha; \beta; \xi) = \left[ \frac{F_y(T; \mu; \alpha; \beta; \xi)}{F_e(T; \xi)} \right]^2 \quad (4)$$

218 where  $T$  = vibration period of the representative SDF oscillator and  $F_y(T; \mu; \alpha; \beta; \xi) =$   
219 yield force of the representative oscillator characterising inelasticity inception of the SMA  
220 connection and ductile links. Note that the energy factor of a SDF oscillator may be obtained  
221 using a constant-ductility-based method [30]. As the emphasis of the current study is given  
222 to the novel steel frames showing the partially self-centring behaviour, the boundary  
223 condition  $0.5 < \beta < 1.0$  is considered.

224

### 225 3.2. Earthquake motions and parameter spectrum

226 In this work, an earthquake motion database was developed as input excitations.  
227 Recognising that near-field earthquake motions with pulse-like characteristics may import  
228 massive energy into a structure instantly, exposing a steel frame to much higher risks of  
229 failure, the research focus of the present study was given to near-field earthquake motions.  
230 To develop a ground motion database with generality, 320 realistic near-field earthquake  
231 motion records with evident velocity pulses recorded worldwide were selected from PEER  
232 database [31]. Note that these ground motions had a magnitude ranging from 5.5 to 7.9,  
233 and all the records were captured at stations close to the fault-rupture (with a distance  
234 below or equal to 30.5 km). The peak ground acceleration (PGA) of the earthquake  
235 motions ranged from 0.09 g to 1.74 g. Note that these ground motion records have been  
236 also used in the literature [32, 33] to feature the characteristics of near-field earthquake

237 motions and quantify inelastic seismic demands of structures. The acceleration spectra of  
238 these earthquake motions (damping ratio of 5%) plotted against logarithmic coordinates  
239 are shown in Fig. 4. More detailed information about the earthquake motions is included in  
240 the supplemental material package.

241 To offer in-depth insights into the influence of the hysteretic parameters on the energy  
242 factor of the SDF oscillator representing damage-control steel frames equipped with SMA  
243 connections and ductile links, inelastic spectral analyses of partially self-centring SDF  
244 systems with varied hysteretic parameters were performed. In the current study, nine levels  
245 of the post-yielding stiffness ratio ( $\alpha$ ) increased from 0 to 0.5 (i.e.  $\alpha = 0, 0.01, 0.02, 0.03,$   
246  $0.04, 0.05, 0.1, 0.3$  and  $0.5$ ) were included in the parameter matrix. Note that this factor  
247 may characterise the relative stiffness of the main frame and the hybrid energy dissipation  
248 bays. The energy ratio ( $\beta$ ) ranged from 0.6 to 0.9 was considered to examine the influence  
249 of combination strategies of SMA connections and ductile links. The ductility was varied  
250 from 1.25 to 10 with an increment of 0.25. It is worth noting that a damping ratio varied  
251 from 2% to 5% was reckoned appropriate for steel structures, and a relatively significant  
252 damping ratio may be used to feature the effect of non-structural elements and facades  
253 when the system was subjected to strong earthquake motions. Therefore, the damping ratio  
254 ( $\xi$ ) of 5% was assumed in all the analyses, and the rationale was confirmed in the literature  
255 [34]. For comparison, the energy factors of perfectly self-centring systems ( $\beta = 0.1$ ) were  
256 also included in the analysis database. In summary,  $9 \times 5 \times 36 \times 50 \times 320 = 25,920,000$  energy  
257 factors of the representative SDF oscillators were obtained.

## 4. Results database and discussions

### 4.1. Overview and influences of hysteretic parameters on the mean energy factor

Representative mean energy factor spectra of the SDF oscillators are plotted against the vibration period ( $T$ ), and results with  $T \leq 0.4$  s and  $T > 0.4$  s are shown in Fig. 5a and Fig. 5b, respectively. The general trend of the energy factor of the partially self-centring SDF oscillators ( $\beta > 0.5$ ) was similar to those of perfectly self-centring counterparts ( $\beta = 0.1$ ). It can be seen that the mean energy factor generally decreases with an increasing period, and this trend was more evident in cases with a significant ductility factor. According to Fig. 5a, it is evident that an increasing post-yielding stiffness ratio generally leads to a decreasing energy factor (generally  $\gamma > 1$ ) for the system in the short-period region ( $T \leq 0.4$  s). For SDF systems in the longer period region, as shown in Fig. 5b, the reversed trend (generally  $\gamma < 1$ ) can be characterised. For instance, according to the case of  $\beta = 0.6$  and  $\mu = 6$  in Fig. 5a, it is evident that an increasing post-yielding stiffness ratio from 0.05 to 0.5 leads to a decreasing mean energy factor for the system in the short-period region ( $T \leq 0.4$  s). For SDF systems in the period region equal to or above 0.5 s as shown in Fig. 5b (i.e. the case of  $\beta = 0.6$  and  $\mu = 6$ ), the mean energy factor increases with the post-yielding stiffness ratio. Realising that the fundamental period of a steel frame generally falls within the period region with  $T > 0.4$  s [35], special caution may need to be exercised when designing the post-yielding stiffness ratio of a steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links due to the rising seismic demand. As for the influence of the target ductility factor ( $\mu$ ), it can be confirmed from Fig. 5a that an increasing target ductility factor may trigger drastic increase of the energy factor for short-period systems, whereas

the opposite trend was seen in cases with a longer period, as shown by Fig. 5b. The figure also shows that the influence of the energy ratio ( $\beta$ ) on the mean energy factor of short-period systems with an insignificant ductility is not evident. Comparatively, an increasing energy ratio results in a decrease of the mean energy factor of systems in the longer period region, which is more pronounced for cases with significant ductility factors, as can be seen from Fig. 5b. In general, it can be seen that the influence of the post-yielding stiffness ratio and the ductility on the energy factor of partially self-centring SDF systems is in line with the bilinear kinematic SDF systems [36]. The reasons for the observed phenomena have also been discussed in [37]. The influence of the energy ratio on the energy factor is also echoed by research works conducted by Christopoulos et al. [18]. Again, recalling that the fundamental vibration period of a multi-storey steel frame generally falls in the relatively long-period spectrum, we may confirm the effectiveness of partially self-centring steel frames compared with perfectly self-centring counterparts for mitigating the structural seismic demands from an energy balance perspective. Therefore, the concept of the hybrid energy dissipation bay equipped with SMA connections and ductile links puts forth an engineering solution to realising various energy ratios in practice, and the structural energy balance may be explicitly modulated.

To clearly demonstrate the influence of the hysteretic parameters on the mean energy factor of partially self-centring SDF oscillators, the mean energy factor spectra of partially self-centring SDF oscillators and perfectly self-centring counterparts with  $T = 0.1$  s,  $0.5$  s,  $1.0$  s,  $1.5$  s,  $2.0$  s and  $2.5$  s are extracted from the analysis database, as shown in Fig. 6. Thus, the dependency of the energy factor on hysteretic parameters is affirmed. According

to Fig. 6, it can be seen that an increasing energy ratio leads to substantial reduction of the mean energy factor regardless of the hysteretic parameters, particularly for SDF systems in the long period region. Hence, the beneficial effect of introducing the partially self-centring behaviour into a steel frame is confirmed.

#### 4.2. Probabilistic properties of energy factor spectra

For a representative SDF oscillator with specified hysteretic parameters (i.e. post-yielding stiffness ratio, ductility factor and energy ratio), the probability distribution of 320 energy factor can be obtained. For each combination of hysteretic parameters, fifty probability histograms of the energy factor may be determined considering fifty vibration periods. Representative illustrations are shown in Fig. 7. It is evident that an increasing post-yielding stiffness ratio leads to a decreasing dispersion of the energy factor (Fig. 7a), whereas an increasing target ductility factor increases the dispersion of the index (Fig. 7b). This phenomenon is in line with energy factor spectra of bilinear kinematic SDF systems according to a previous study [36]. In addition, it is seen that an increasing energy ratio also appreciably influences the probability distribution of the energy factor, as shown in Fig. 7c. It is worth noting that the statistic distribution of the energy factors exhibits an evident asymmetry according to Fig. 7, and the skewness of the energy factor distribution varies for a SDF system with varied vibration period and hysteretic parameters. For instance, the skewness of the energy factor becomes more pronounced in cases with a more significant target ductility factor. Comparatively, an increasing post-yielding stiffness ratio mitigates this phenomenon. Thus, to reasonably characterise the energy

factor distribution of the SDF system representing damage-control steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile energy dissipation links exhibiting partially self-centring behaviour, an applicable spectral model accounting for the probabilistic characteristics of the energy factor may be desirable.

## 5. Spectral energy factor model

Compared with using the mean energy factor spectra [36, 37] for quantification of energy factor demands, spectral models considering the probabilistic characteristics of the energy factor may be more desirable as the statistic distribution of the index can be captured, and the attractiveness of quantifying structural inelastic seismic demand based on probabilistic models was echoed by recent research [38-40]. For the purpose of demonstration, histograms of energy factors with the vibration period ranging from 0.2 s to 3.0 s (i.e.  $T = 0.2$  s, 0.4 s, 0.6 s, 0.8 s, 1.0 s, 1.5 s, 2.0 s, 2.5 s and 3.0 s) and a fixed hysteretic parameter combination (i.e.  $\alpha = 0.5$ ,  $\mu = 3$  and  $\beta = 0.8$ ) are shown in Fig. 8. Note that the similar observation can be characterised for systems with other vibration periods and hysteretic parameters.

Because the lognormal distribution is generally applicable in describing the probabilistic features of inelastic seismic demands [38, 39], it was utilised as the basis for developing a spectral model for quantifying the seismic demand of damage-control steel frames equipped with SMA connection and ductile links. Specifically, the probability density function (PDF) of the energy factor with specified matrix of the vibration period and hysteretic parameters dominated by a lognormal distribution is given by

$$PDF(\Omega) = \frac{1}{\Omega} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} (\ln \gamma)_{s.dev}} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{[\ln \Omega - (\ln \gamma)_{ave}]^2}{2[(\ln \gamma)_{s.dev}]^2} \right\} \quad (5)$$

where  $\Omega$  = a possible value of the energy factor;  $(\ln \gamma)_{ave}$  = the mean value of  $\ln \gamma$  and  $(\ln \gamma)_{s.dev}$  = standard deviation of  $\ln \gamma$ . To justify the sufficiency of the lognormal distribution model for featuring the probabilistic properties of the energy factor, probability density curves produced by Eq. (5) (i.e. red solid curves) are compared with the histograms of the energy factors shown in Fig. 8. Thus, the reasonable agreement between the energy factor distribution and predictions by the lognormal distribution model is seen.

From a practical application point of view, the spectral model of the energy factor based on the lognormal distribution assumption may be developed by confirming prediction equations of  $(\ln \gamma)_{ave}$  and  $(\ln \gamma)_{s.dev}$  according to Eq. (5). Recalling that both energy factor and the deviation are appreciably affected by the vibration period and hysteretic parameters, we may develop a spectral energy factor model by taking all influential parameters into account. In the current study, the nonlinear regression package Tablecurve 3D was utilised to perform a multi-step nonlinear regression analysis.

To initiate the nonlinear regression analyses, the relationship between  $(\ln \gamma)_{ave}$  and the vibration period ( $T$ ) for each combination of hysteretic parameters (i.e.  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\mu$ ) was first determined based on the energy factor database, and the following equation was finalised based on a trial-and-error procedure, given by:

$$(\ln \gamma)_{ave} = OT^P + Q \quad (6)$$

where  $O$ ,  $P$  and  $Q$  are coefficients to be regressed. Similarly, the correlation between  $(\ln \gamma)_{s.dev}$  and the vibration period ( $T$ ) was developed, given by



$$(\ln \gamma)_{s.dev} = RT^2 + ST + U \quad (7)$$

where  $R$ ,  $S$  and  $U$  are the regressed coefficients. It is worth noting that the two equations were selected from more than 450 million built-in formulas in the programme. Both computational accuracy and practical simplicity were taken into account when choosing the format of the equations. Representative  $(\ln \gamma)_{ave}-T$  relationship and  $(\ln \gamma)_{s.dev}-T$  relationship are compared with predictions by the equations, as shown in Fig. 9 and Fig. 10, respectively, and the satisfactory accuracy of the equation for capturing the general trend of  $(\ln \gamma)_{ave}$  and  $(\ln \gamma)_{s.dev}$  is seen.

Then, the influence of the hysteretic parameters governing the skeleton response was considered, and the regressed coefficients (i.e.  $O$ ,  $P$ ,  $Q$ ,  $R$ ,  $S$  and  $U$ ) were rearranged and expressed by

$$O = F_O(\alpha, \mu) = \exp \left( O_1 + O_2 \alpha + \frac{O_3}{\mu} \right) \quad (8)$$

$$P = F_P(\alpha, \mu) = P_1 + P_2 \alpha^{0.5} + \frac{P_3}{\mu^{0.5}} \quad (9)$$

$$Q = F_Q(\alpha, \mu) = \frac{1}{Q_1 + Q_2 \alpha^{1.5} + \frac{Q_3}{\ln(\mu)}} \quad (10)$$

$$R = F_R(\alpha, \mu) = \frac{1}{R_1 + R_2 \alpha^3 + \frac{R_3}{\ln(\mu)}} \quad (11)$$

$$S = F_S(\alpha, \mu) = \frac{1}{S_1 + S_2 \alpha^3 + \frac{S_3}{\ln(\mu)}} \quad (12)$$

$$U = F_U(\alpha, \mu) = \frac{1}{U_1 + U_2 \alpha + \frac{U_3}{\ln(\mu)}} \quad (13)$$

where  $O_i$ ,  $P_i$ ,  $Q_i$ ,  $R_i$ ,  $S_i$  and  $U_i$  were further correlated with the energy ratio ( $\beta$ ) controlling

the partially self-centring behaviour, and given by

$$O_1 = -0.450\beta^2 + 0.067\beta + 1.446 \quad (14)$$

$$O_2 = -1.375\beta^2 + 1.669\beta - 3.358 \quad (15)$$

$$O_3 = 6.075\beta^2 - 6.935\beta - 6.465 \quad (16)$$

$$P_1 = -0.125\beta^2 + 0.455\beta - 0.079 \quad (17)$$

$$P_2 = -0.650\beta^2 + 0.475\beta - 0.278 \quad (18)$$

$$P_3 = 1.450\beta^2 - 2.837\beta - 0.374 \quad (19)$$

$$Q_1 = 0.825\beta^2 - 1.662\beta + 1.130 \quad (20)$$

$$Q_2 = 0.550\beta^2 + 0.283\beta - 3.463 \quad (21)$$

$$Q_3 = -1.900\beta^2 + 3.722\beta - 3.414 \quad (22)$$

$$R_1 = 110.300\beta^2 - 127.200\beta + 52.900 \quad (23)$$

$$R_2 = -244.500\beta^2 + 914.400\beta - 993.000 \quad (24)$$

$$R_3 = -264.100\beta^2 + 263.300\beta - 154.000 \quad (25)$$

$$S_1 = -7.150\beta^2 - 1.405\beta - 2.706 \quad (26)$$

$$S_2 = 109.200\beta^2 - 289.700\beta + 260.700 \quad (27)$$

$$S_3 = 25.720\beta^2 + 8.930\beta + 12.340 \quad (28)$$

$$U_1 = 0.275\beta^2 - 0.238\beta + 0.488 \quad (29)$$

$$U_2 = -2.000\beta^2 + 2.774\beta + 0.564 \quad (30)$$

$$U_3 = 0.700\beta^2 - 1.460\beta + 2.189 \quad (31)$$

During the regression procedure, the convergence of the iterations was governed by the least square principle. To demonstrate the accuracy of the spectral energy factor model, the PDFs based on the proposed equations were also shown in Fig. 8 (Dash lines), and the

accuracy of the model for capturing the probabilistic characteristics of the energy factor can be confirmed.

In this context, the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of the energy factor could be obtained, given by

$$\text{CDF}(\Omega) = \Phi \left[ \frac{\ln \Omega - (\ln \gamma)_{\text{ave}}}{(\ln \gamma)_{\text{s.dev}}} \right] = \Phi \left[ \frac{\ln \Omega - (OT^P + Q)}{RT^2 + ST + U} \right] \quad (32)$$

where  $\Phi$  = CDF of the standard normal distribution. Hence, based on the seismic energy factor of the system, the damage-control behaviour of steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links considering probabilistic characteristics can be evaluated, which will be discussed in the later section.

## **6. Application of the spectral energy factor model in damage-control evaluation of steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links**

### *6.1. Stepwise damage-control evaluation procedure based on the spectral energy factor model*

Based on the spectral model, a stepwise damage-control evaluation procedure for the novel structure dominated by the fundamental vibration mode was proposed and given as follows:

**Step 1:** Conduct frequency analysis and compute the elastic vibration characteristics of a structure including the vibration period ( $T$ ), the effective mass ( $M^*$ ), and the modal vector ( $\phi_1$ ).

**Step 2:** Perform cyclic pushover analysis considering the fundamental mode and confirm the hysteretic parameters along with the damage-control threshold (e.g. roof drift

threshold). It was worth noting that data fitting approach may be used to quantify the hysteretic parameters by multilinear simplification.

**Step 3:** Idealise the structure as an equivalent SDF system considering the fundamental mode, and develop the “energy-based pushover response curve” as well as the “nominal energy capacity response curve” for the SDF system. In particular, the nominal energy capacity response may be produced based on the skeleton pushover responses, and it quantifies the absorbed energy of the system under the pushover loads. According to the energy equilibrium, the nominal energy capacity curve can be generated by calculating the work done by the lateral pushover loads. The detailed information about the method motivated by an incremental approach was proposed by Hernandez-Montes et al. [41].

**Step 4:** Set the performance target and generate the probabilistic energy demand curves. In particular, based on the preselected pseudo spectral acceleration demand ( $S_a$ ) under which the structural damage-control behaviour should be achieved, the nominal energy demand curve may be determined by the following:

$$E_d = \frac{M^* g^2 T^2}{8\pi^2} \bar{\gamma}(\alpha, \mu, \beta) S_a^2 \quad (33)$$

$$CDF(\bar{\gamma}) = \Phi \left[ \frac{\ln \bar{\gamma} - (OT^P + Q)}{RT^2 + ST + U} \right] > \Theta \quad (34)$$

where  $g$  = gravity acceleration,  $\bar{\gamma}(\alpha, \mu, \beta)$  = energy factor threshold and  $\Theta$  = predefined performance target.

**Step 5:** Arrange the probabilistic energy demand curves and the nominal energy capacity curve in one diagram. The probabilistic performance point may be determined by the intersection point of the probabilistic energy demand curve and the corresponding

energy capacity curve. In this context, the damage-control evaluation can be conducted by comparing the predefined damage-control threshold and the intersection point.

## *6.2. Information about prototype structure*

A prototype system designated as office building was developed to examine the effectiveness of the spectral energy factor model for quantifying the structural damage-control behaviour. Fig. 11a and Fig. 11b present the layout and elevation of the three-storey office building, respectively, and the emphasis of this study is given to a 2-D frame as indicated in Fig. 11a. For the prototype system, the dead load and live load were assumed as 5 kN/m<sup>2</sup> and 2.5 kN/m<sup>2</sup>, respectively, which was in line with the Chinese load code for design of building structures (GB50009-2012) [42]. The seismic weight and gravity load of the 2-D frame were determined by the tributary area indicated in Fig. 11a. The elastic seismic design was conducted according to Chinese design provisions GB50011-2010 (2016) [43].

To realise the expected damage-control behaviour by limiting inelastic actions in the SMA connections and ductile links, the main frame was composed Q460 high strength steel members with nominal yield strength of 460 MPa (Fig. 11b). Two “hybrid energy dissipation bays” equipped with SMA connections and ductile links were placed at the external bays of the frame, as schematically shown in Fig. 11b. In particular, the H-shaped Q235 mild carbon steel links and self-centring links with the SMA connections were installed in the hybrid energy dissipation bays. The detailed configuration of the SMA connections is shown in Fig. 12. For all SMA connections, HS bolts with four SMA

washers were implemented. The detail of the HS bolts with SMA washers was consistent with the “W8” configurations in the previous experimental study done by Yam and colleagues [14]. To enlarge the elastic deformation range of the main frame, pin connections were utilised to connect the high strength steel beams with the “hybrid energy dissipation bays” (Fig. 11b). By employing pinned connections in the main frame, the rotation of the beam at one end of the beam can be released, and hence the deformation pattern of the beam in the main frame can be changed. Consequently, the yield drift of the main frame can be enlarged. In addition, to trigger simultaneous inelasticity inception of the SMA connections and ductile links, nonlinear pushover analysis was used in the design phase to optimise the structural design, and an iterative procedure was adopted. The length of the SMA bars ( $L$ ) was set as 300 mm and 250 mm for the first two floors and the roof floor, respectively. The distance of the SMA bars ( $S$ ) was set as 550 mm, 600 mm and 450 mm considering the first floor, the second floor and the roof floor, respectively. The modelling detail will be discussed and verified in the next subsection.

### *6.3. Modelling techniques and verifications*

The finite element (FE) package ABAQUS [44] was adopted to develop the analysis model of the prototype system. Linear beam elements (i.e. B31 elements) were used to model columns and the beams in the frame structure. The general mesh size for regions away from the inelastic action region was set as 250 mm, and the sizes of the mesh for the “plastic region” was refined. The bilinear kinematic model governed by the von Mises yield criterion was used for Q460 high strength steel members and ductile links. The adequacy of

the modelling techniques for simulating the hysteretic behaviour of Q460 high strength steel members and ductile links was justified in recent research works [36, 45]. The test data of a steel frame composed of Q460 high strength steel members and ductile links made from Q235 steel are compared with predictions by the FE models, as shown in **Appendix A**.

As for the SMA connection, a simplified numerical model was developed, as schematically shown in **Fig. 13a**. Specifically, nonlinear truss element assigned with the Auricchio's hysteretic material model [46] were utilised to reproduce the behaviour of the superelastic SMA bolts, and rigid elements were used to simulate the effect of the "Steel washer". Thus, the length of the truss elements was identical to the gauge length of the bolt in the connection. Because the connection was able to offer sufficient shear rigidity, as was confirmed in the previous test programme [14], the shear flexibility of the connection was neglected. This was realised by connecting the column and the endplate with a rigid shear spring element. Likewise, the effect of SMA Belleville washers was simulated by a nonlinear truss element. The essential material parameters of the superelastic SMA including the forward transformation start stress ( $\sigma^{MS}$ ), the forward transformation end stress ( $\sigma^{Mf}$ ), the reverse transformation start stress ( $\sigma^{AS}$ ), the reverse transformation end stress ( $\sigma^{Af}$ ), austenite elasticity ( $E^A$ ), martensite elasticity ( $E^M$ ), maximum transformation strain ( $\epsilon^L$ ), and Poisson ratios ( $\nu^A$  and  $\nu^M$ ) are summarised in **Table 1**. These material properties were determined based on the coupon tests results reported by Yam's group [14]. The material model of the SMA based on Fang et al. [14] is reproduced in **Fig. 13b**. The FE modelling techniques of the SMA connection were applied to model test connections examined by Yam and colleagues (i.e. specimen D8L240 and D8L290W8) [14], and the FE predictions

are plotted against test responses, as shown in Fig. 14. The reasonable agreement between the test results and the FE predictions confirmed the sufficiency of the simplified connection model for reproducing the hysteretic behaviour of the SMA connection. In this paper, the SMA connection (D8L290W8), which had higher connection resistance and stiffness compared with the counterpart without HS bolts and SMA washers, was introduced to enhance the seismic performance of the prototype structure. In this context, the modelling techniques were utilised to develop the prototype structure. The elastic dynamic properties of the prototype structure are extracted and shown in Table 2.

#### 6.4. Validation of the structural hysteretic model

To examine the feasibility of the structural hysteretic model for characterising the cyclic response of the novel structure, nonlinear cyclic pushover analysis was performed. The invariant lateral pushover load pattern being consistent with the fundamental vibration mode was applied on the prototype structure. The results in terms of the base shear versus roof drift responses were extracted from the analysis database and correlated with the simplification by the partially self-centring hysteretic model (Fig. 2), as shown in Fig. 15. The solid blue line is the hysteretic model path representing the partially self-centring system. A good agreement between the analysis results and the model simplification was characterised, and the adequacy of using the hysteretic model for quantifying the energy factor of damage-control steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links can be confirmed.

#### 6.5. Validation of the spectral energy factor model for damage-control evaluations



To demonstrate the effectiveness of the energy factor model for quantifying the damage-control behaviour of a steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links showing the partially self-centring behaviour, a validation study was carried out. According to the pushover analysis database, the column in the main frame began to yield when the roof drift reached 3%. Thus, the roof drift of 3% was set as the damage-control threshold. As a case study,  $S_a(T_1) = 0.6$  g was randomly selected as a predefined seismic intensity level. Based on the equivalent SDF system of the prototype structure (i.e. the inelastic SDF system with the effective mass and the period corresponding to the fundamental vibration mode), the predicted energy factor curves with varied performance targets (i.e.  $\Theta$ ) are shown in Fig. 16a. In the figure, the probabilistic energy factor corresponding to the CDF of 99%, 85%, 75%, 50% are plotted against the ductility factor. The probability distribution of the energy factor of the representative SDF system under 320 earthquake motions are also demonstrated in Fig. 16a. It is interesting but important to note that the correlation between the energy factor and the ductility factor was dependent on the performance target. In cases with  $\Theta = 50\%$ , 75% and 85%, the energy factor generally decreases with an increasing ductility factor. When  $\Theta$  was set as 99%, the energy factor increases with increasing ductility factor. The energy demand curves corresponding to various performance targets  $\Theta$  were computed based on Eqs. (33) and (34), and they are correlated with the energy capacity curves, as shown in Fig. 16b. It is seen that the intersections between all energy demand curves and the energy capacity curves can be achieved before the deformation going beyond the predefined threshold in case of  $S_a = 0.6$  g. Therefore, it may be expected that the prototype structure can achieve the

damage-control behaviour rigorously with  $S_a=0.6$  g.

To examine the robustness of the proposed model, nonlinear response history analyses were performed using thirty near-field earthquake records. The thirty additional earthquake motions were downloaded from PEER [31] or extracted from the SAC earthquake database [47], and they were not in the earthquake database examined in Section 3. The detailed information about the additional thirty earthquakes is shown in Table 3. Thus, the earthquake motions were scaled to a spectral acceleration  $S_a = 0.6$  g at the period of 0.83 s (i.e. the fundamental period of the prototype structure). In the analyses, the Rayleigh damping assumption was used, and the damping ratio of 5% for the first two vibration modes was used to develop the damping matrix. The maximum interstorey drift responses of the prototype structure subjected to earthquake motions were shown in Fig. 17a, and the interstorey drift corresponding to the predefined resilience threshold (roof drift = 3%) is also indicated in the figure. Therefore, it can be confirmed that the prototype system deformed in the damage-control stage under the thirty earthquake motions, and the adequacy of the energy factor model was justified. The post-earthquake residual drift was also extracted and shown in Fig. 17b, and additional 100 s were considered in the analysis to allow for vibration decaying. As can be seen, the post-residual drift was insignificant, which was much lower than 0.5% reckoned as the resilience threshold of a structure [2]. Therefore, the great potential of steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links as a seismic resilient structure is apparent.

## 6.6. Further analyses and discussions

For the partially self-centring steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links, the enhanced energy dissipation capacity is realised at the expense of the recentring ability. To examine the influence of this factor, further comparative analyses of the partially self-centring SDF systems representing the proposed prototype structure and that of perfectly flag-shaped SDF systems representing conventional self-centring steel frames were performed. To further confirm the rationality that a low-to-medium rise steel frame can be idealised by an equivalent SDF system for seismic response estimation [22], the roof displacement history responses of the proposed prototype structure and that derived from the equivalent SDF system considering the fundamental vibration mode of the structure [22] under a ground motion randomly selected from the earthquake database (N11 in Table 3) were compared, as shown in Fig. 18a. The good agreement between the roof displacement history responses of the proposed prototype structure and that of the equivalent SDF system is seen. Therefore, the yield strength and elastic vibration properties corresponding to the fundamental vibration mode of the proposed prototype structure were assigned to inelastic SDF systems, whilst the hysteretic parameters (i.e. post-yielding stiffness ratio and energy ratio) were varied to shed lights on the “trade-off” between the energy dissipation capacity and the recentring ability.

The mean residual displacement of the representative SDF system considering a spectrum of hysteretic parameters under 320 earthquake motions is shown in Fig. 18b. As expected, the post-yielding stiffness ratio ( $\alpha$ ) and the energy ratio ( $\beta$ ) appreciably affect the mean residual displacement of the SDF systems. For partially self-centring SDF systems ( $\beta > 0.5$ ), the residual displacement increases with increasing  $\beta$ . Nonetheless, the mean residual

displacement is still insignificant in cases where  $0.5 < \beta \leq 0.7$ . In cases where  $\beta$  goes beyond 0.7, a drastic increase of the mean residual displacement of partially self-centring SDF systems was seen, whereas an increasing post-yielding stiffness ratio contributes to suppressing this trend. Recalling that a significant post-yielding stiffness ratio can be achieved by the elastic behaviour of high strength steel (HSS) frame members (Fig. 15) in the main frame, the optimal seismic performance of the proposed partially self-centring steel frame can be achieved by adjusting hysteretic parameters, and a reasonable balance between the recentring ability and the energy dissipation capacity can be realised. The advantages of increasing energy dissipation in a self-centring system and making the trade-off between the recentring ability and the energy dissipation capacity of the structure are also echoed by research findings in the literature [18, 48, 49].

## **7. Summary and conclusions**

Recognising the limitations of conventional steel frames under seismic loading scenarios, this research proposed the notion of damage-control steel frames equipped with shape memory alloy (SMA) connections and ductile links showing the partially self-centring behaviour. To shed insightful lights on the inelastic seismic demand of the novel structure subjected to near-field earthquake motions, this paper explored a spectral energy factor model which may be used to prescribe the structural peak inelastic seismic demands. It is worth noting that the hysteretic model is applicable for a structure deforming in the damage-control stage where the main frame members remain generally elastic. In addition, the feasibility of the prototype structure was confirmed, whereas the

optimization of SMA connection and structure needs further examination.

In general, the hysteretic behaviour of steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links deforming in the damage-control stage can be characterised by a bilinear partially self-centring hysteretic model, and the post-yielding stiffness ratio, ductility factor and the energy ratio all appreciably affect the energy factor demand of the systems. Utilising the single-degree-of-freedom (SDF) analogy, constant-ductility-based spectral analyses were performed, and more than 25 million energy factors were gathered based on an earthquake database with 320 near-field earthquake motions and a parameter matrix covering a wide spectrum of parameters. According to the result database, it was confirmed that an increasing post-yielding stiffness ratio may lead to a decreasing mean energy factor for short-period partially self-centring SDF systems ( $T < 0.5$  s), but the opposite correlation between the energy factor and the post-yielding stiffness ratio was characterised for systems falling in the longer period region. In contrast, the results showed that an increasing ductility factor leads to an increasing mean energy factor for short-period SDF systems, whereas the reversed trend was seen for systems with longer period. The results also showed that an increasing energy ratio may lead to reduction of the energy factor, which was more evident for long-period systems. Therefore, the rationale of developing the partially self-centring steel frames to resist attacks of near-field earthquake motions was confirmed.

By examining the probabilistic characteristics of the energy factors, we observed that the energy factor of the partially self-centring steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links follows a right-skewed distribution. Thus, the lognormal

distribution model was used to replicate the statistic characteristics of the energy factors. The good agreement between the energy factor data and the probability density function curves based on the lognormal distribution model confirmed the adequacy of the presumption. Therefore, a probabilistic spectral energy factor model for quantifying the energy factor of a partially self-centring steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links deforming in the damage-control stage was developed using nonlinear regression analyses, and the damage-control behaviour evaluation of the structure may be conducted from a statistic perspective. The sufficiency of the energy factor model was justified by using a prototype structure. In summary, the spectral energy factor model blazed a path for damage-control evaluation considering varied performance targets, and practitioners could conduct the design or evaluation of the novel steel frames efficiently with the assistance of the model. In addition, the seismic responses of equivalent SDF systems were further analysed, and the rationality of developing the partially self-centring steel frames was confirmed.

It is worth noting that the focus of the current study was given to the spectral energy factor, and the estimated seismic demand was conditional based on a predefined pseudo-acceleration. A full-fledged probabilistic seismic demand model for partially self-centring steel frames equipped with SMA connections and ductile links may be developed based on a seismic hazard model quantifying the probabilistic characteristics of seismic intensities (i.e.  $S_a$ ), which is currently being conducted by the authors. In addition, the proposed model may be limited to low-to-medium rise structures dominated by the fundamental mode. In addition, steel frames equipped with shape memory alloy (SMA)

connections and ductile links deforming in the damage-control stage were emphasised, whereas the behaviour of the system in the post-damage-control stage with inelasticity spreading to the main frame needs further efforts.

## Appendix A

The comparison between the moment responses of Q460 high strength steel members and Q235 ductile links from a recent test programme [45] and FE predictions based on the modelling techniques is reproduced in Fig. A1.

### Figure captions

**Fig. 1** Damage-control steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links in hybrid energy dissipation bays: (a) structural concept and (b) deformed pattern of the SMA connection under hogging action [14].

**Fig. 2** Hysteretic model.

**Fig. 3** Definition of the energy factor.

**Fig. 4** 320 earthquake motions.

**Fig. 5** Representative mean energy factor spectra.

**Fig. 6** Influence of hysteretic parameters on the mean energy factor.

**Fig. 7** Influence of hysteretic parameters on the dispersion of the energy factor.

**Fig. 8** Representative histograms and the corresponding probability density function curves of the energy factor.

**Fig. 9** Representative  $(\ln \gamma)_{\text{ave}} - T$  spectra.

Fig. 10 Representative  $(\ln \gamma)_{s,dev} - T$  spectra.

Fig. 11 Information on the prototype structure.

Fig. 12 Configuration of the SMA connections.

Fig. 13 Simplified SMA connection model and material characteristics: (a) simplified model and (b) material model.

Fig. 14 Verification of the simplified connection model.

Fig. 15 Verification of the structural hysteretic model.

Fig. 16 Probabilistic energy demand curves and capacity curves: (a) probabilistic energy factor spectra and (b) damage-control evaluation diagram.

Fig. 17 Analysis results by NL-RHA: (a) Peak interstorey drift and (b) residual interstorey drift.

Fig. 18 Seismic responses of the equivalent SDF system: (a) the roof displacement history responses and (b) the mean residual displacement responses.

Fig. A1 Validation of the modelling techniques of main frame members and ductile links.

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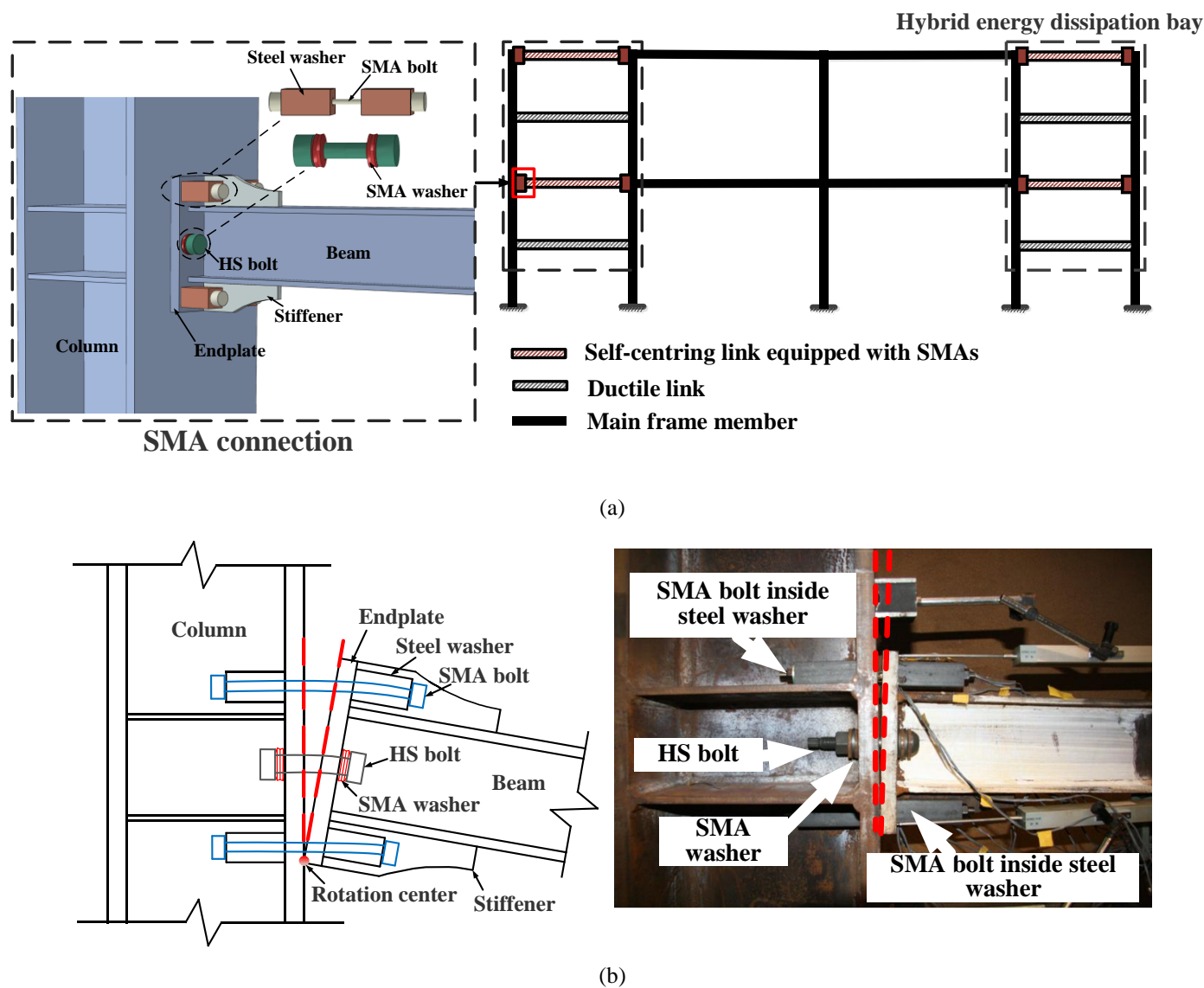


Fig. 1 Damage-control steel frame equipped with SMA connections and ductile links in hybrid energy dissipation bays: (a) structural concept and (b) deformed pattern of the SMA connection under hogging action [14].

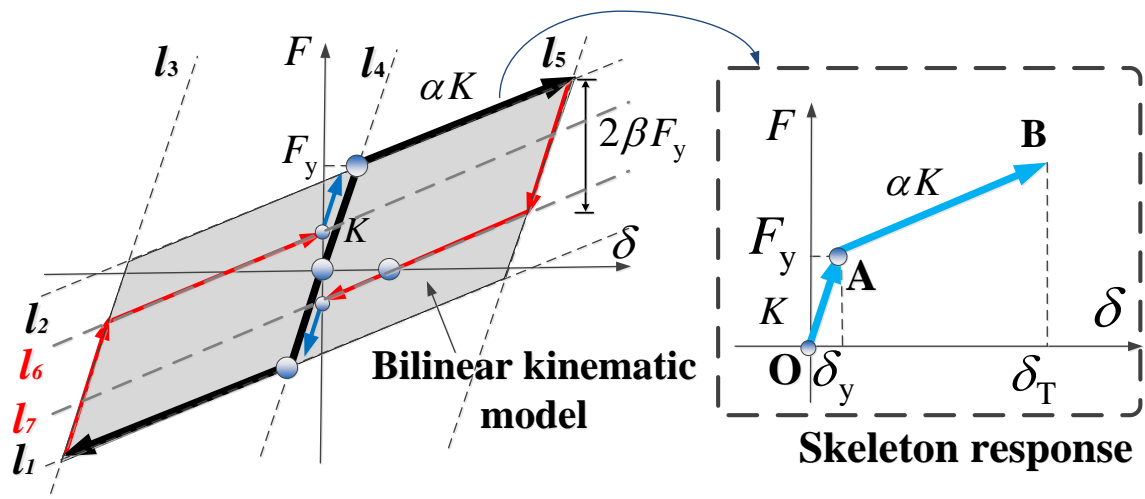


Fig. 2 Hysteretic model.

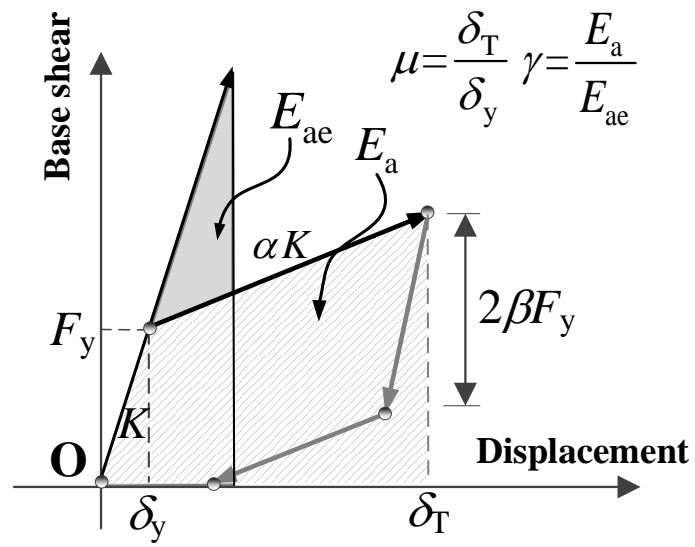


Fig. 3 Definition of the energy factor.

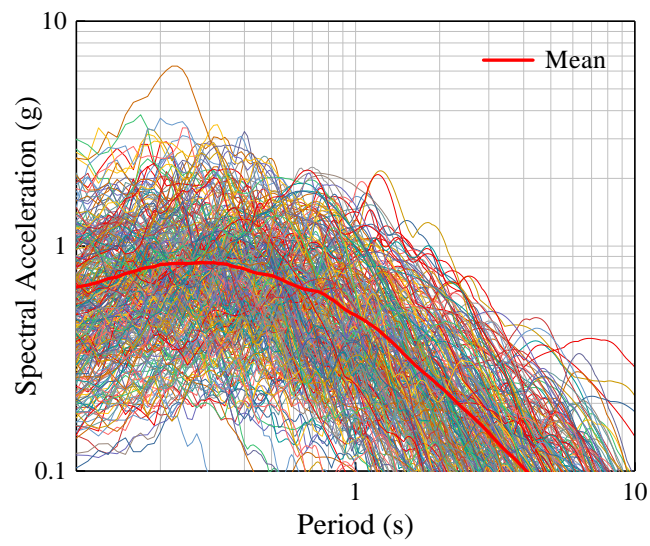
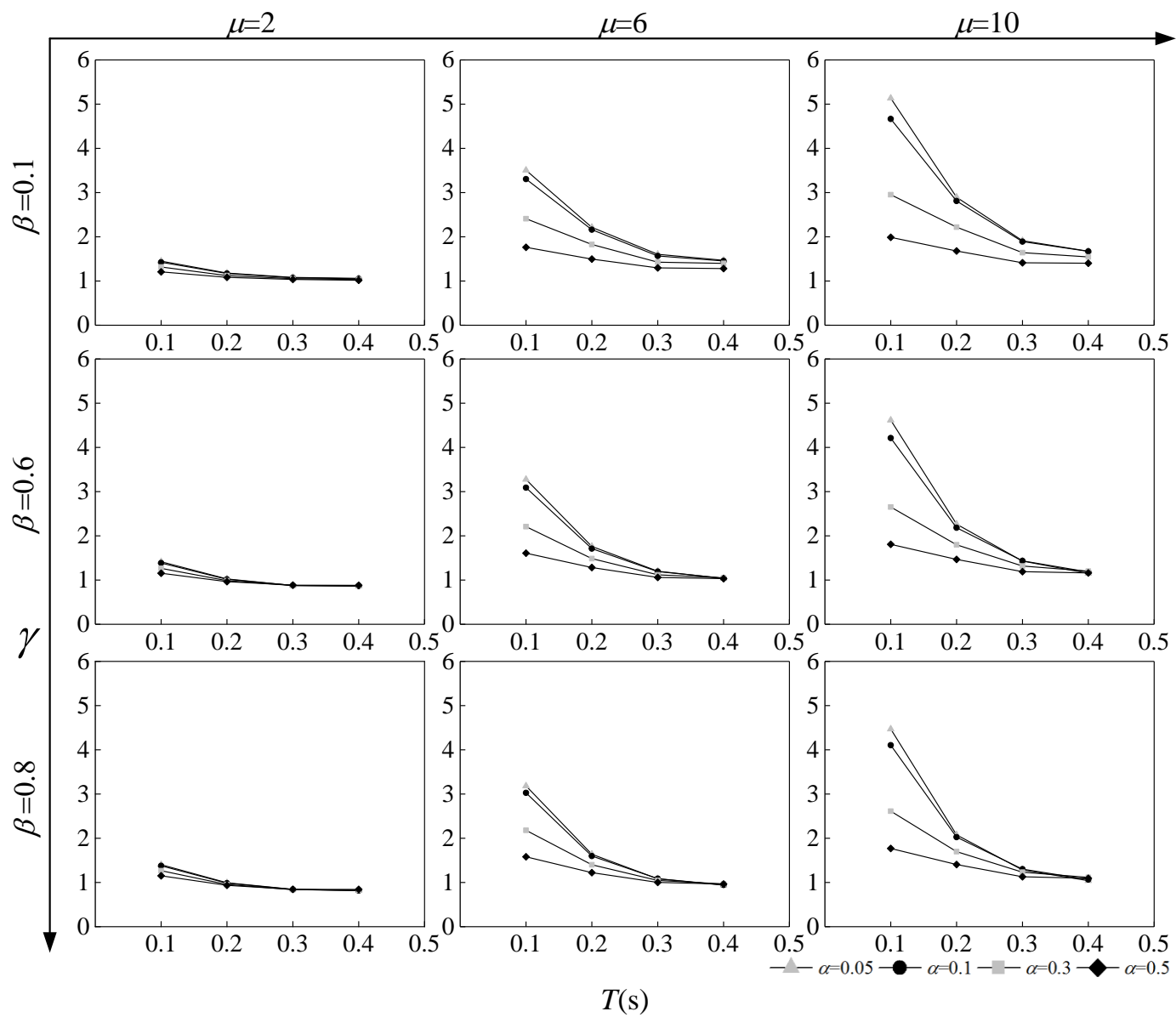
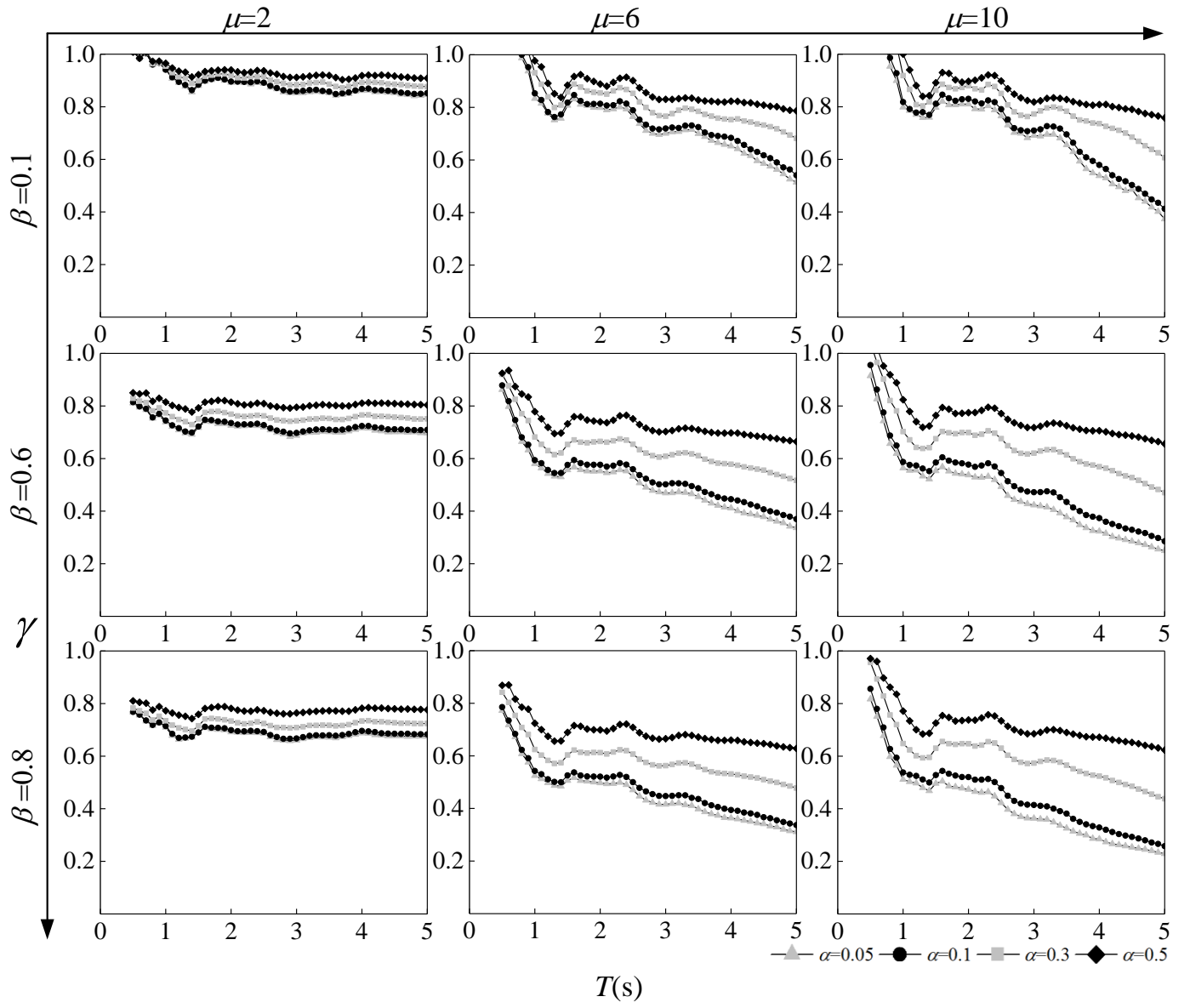


Fig. 4 320 earthquake motions.





(a)



(b)

Fig. 5 Representative mean energy factor spectra.

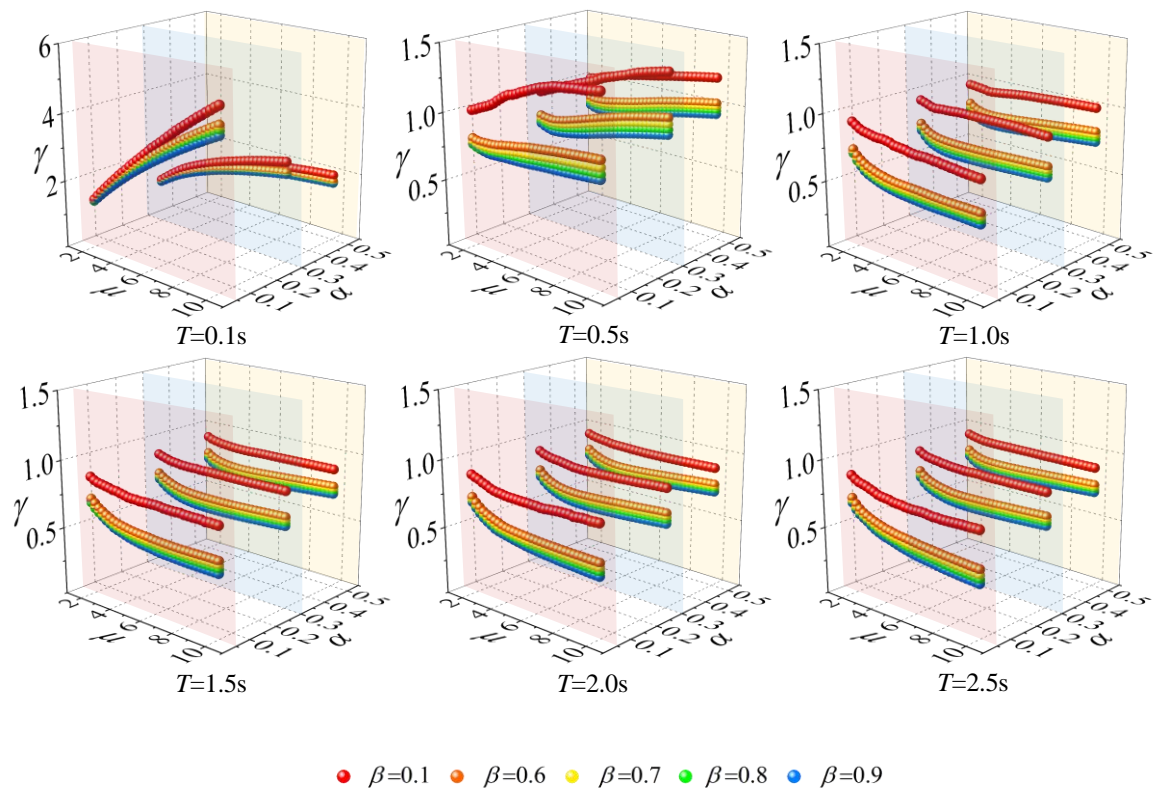
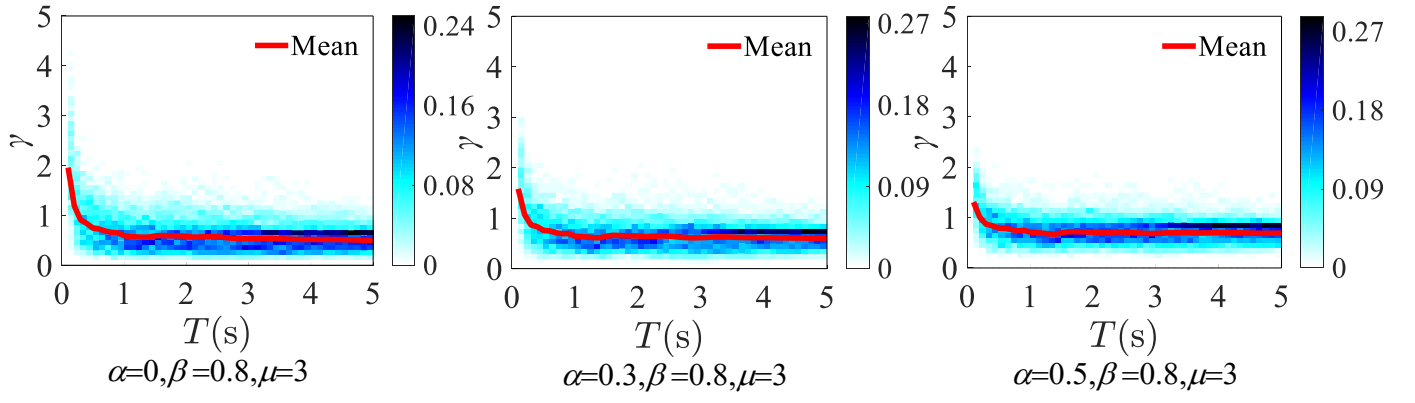
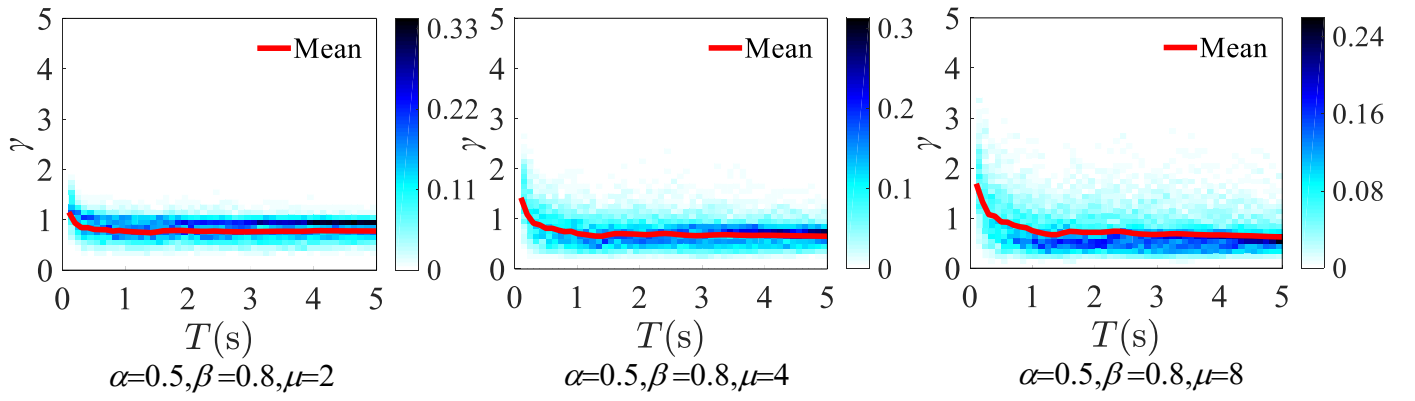


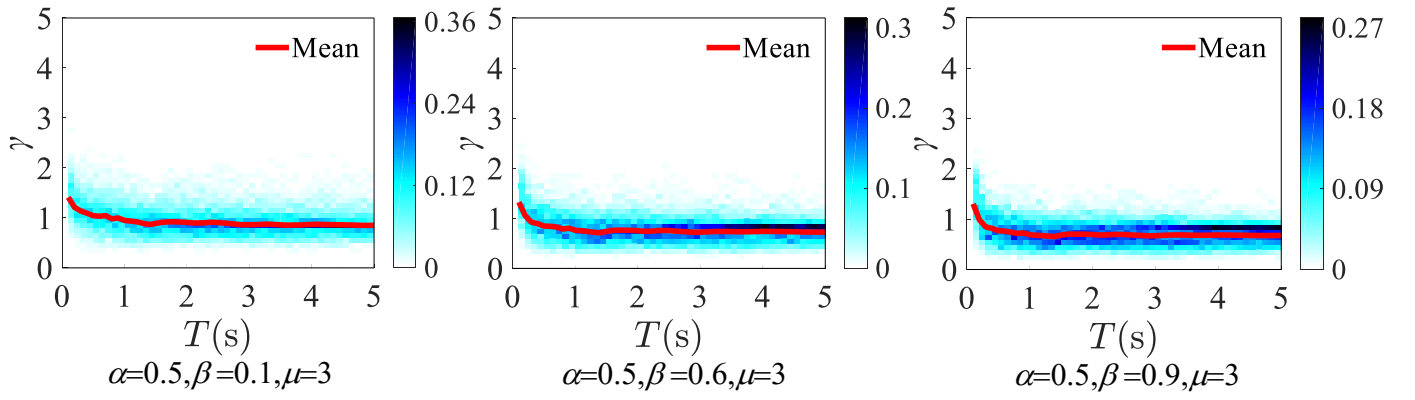
Fig. 6 Influence of hysteretic parameters on the mean energy factor.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 7 Influence of hysteretic parameters on the dispersion of the energy factor.

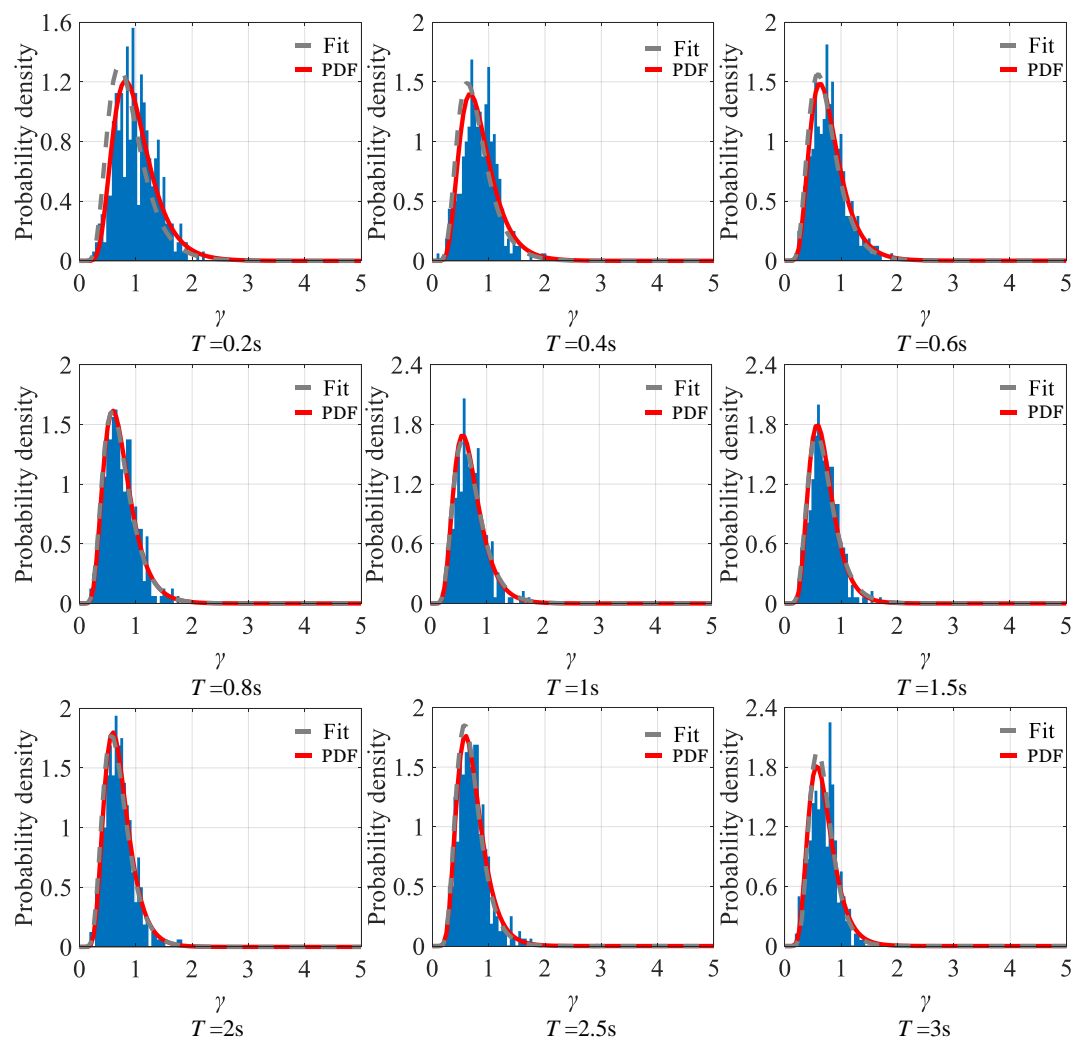


Fig. 8 Representative histograms and the corresponding probability density function curves of the energy factor.

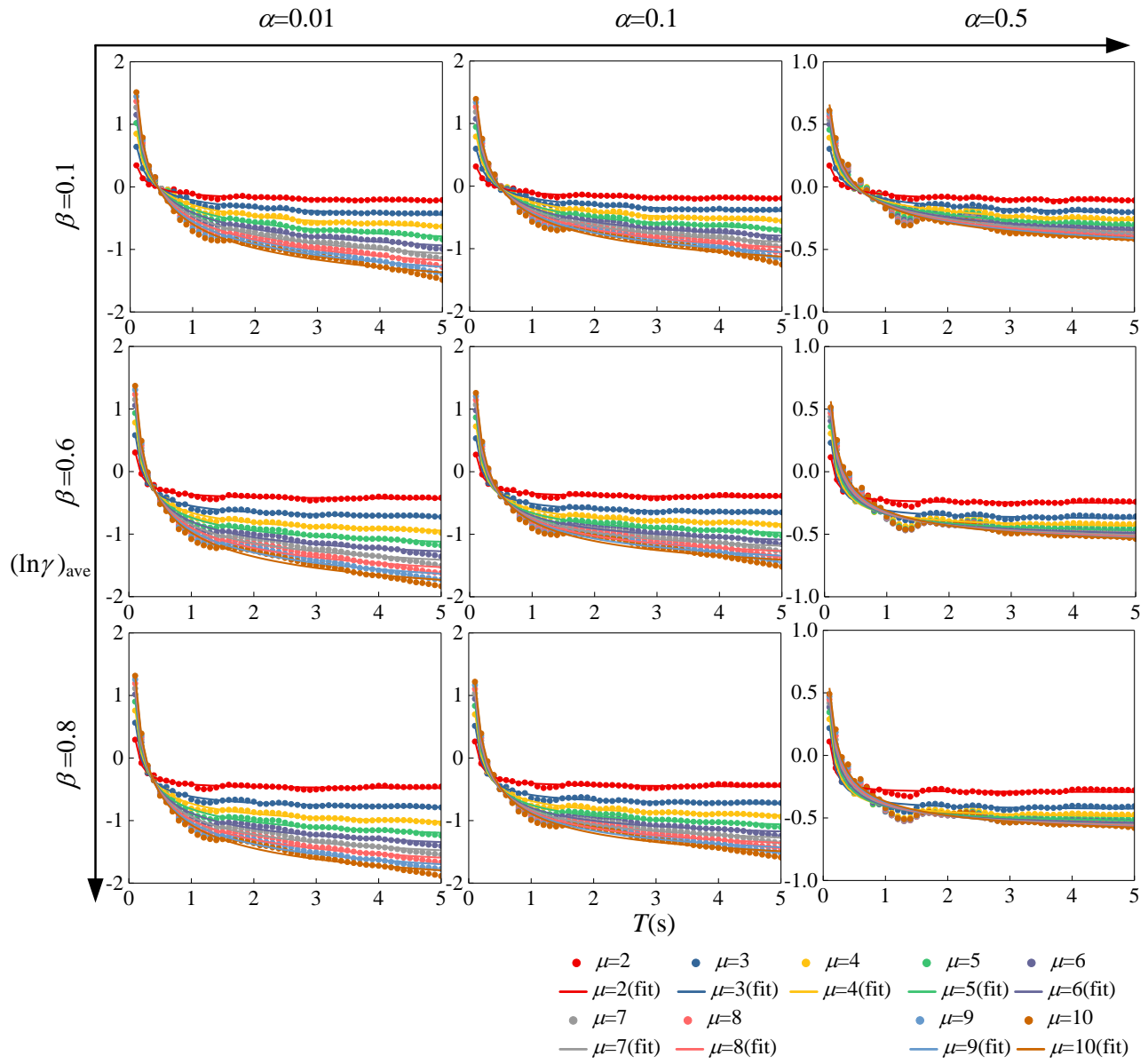


Fig. 9 Representative  $(\ln \gamma)_{\text{ave}} - T$  spectra.

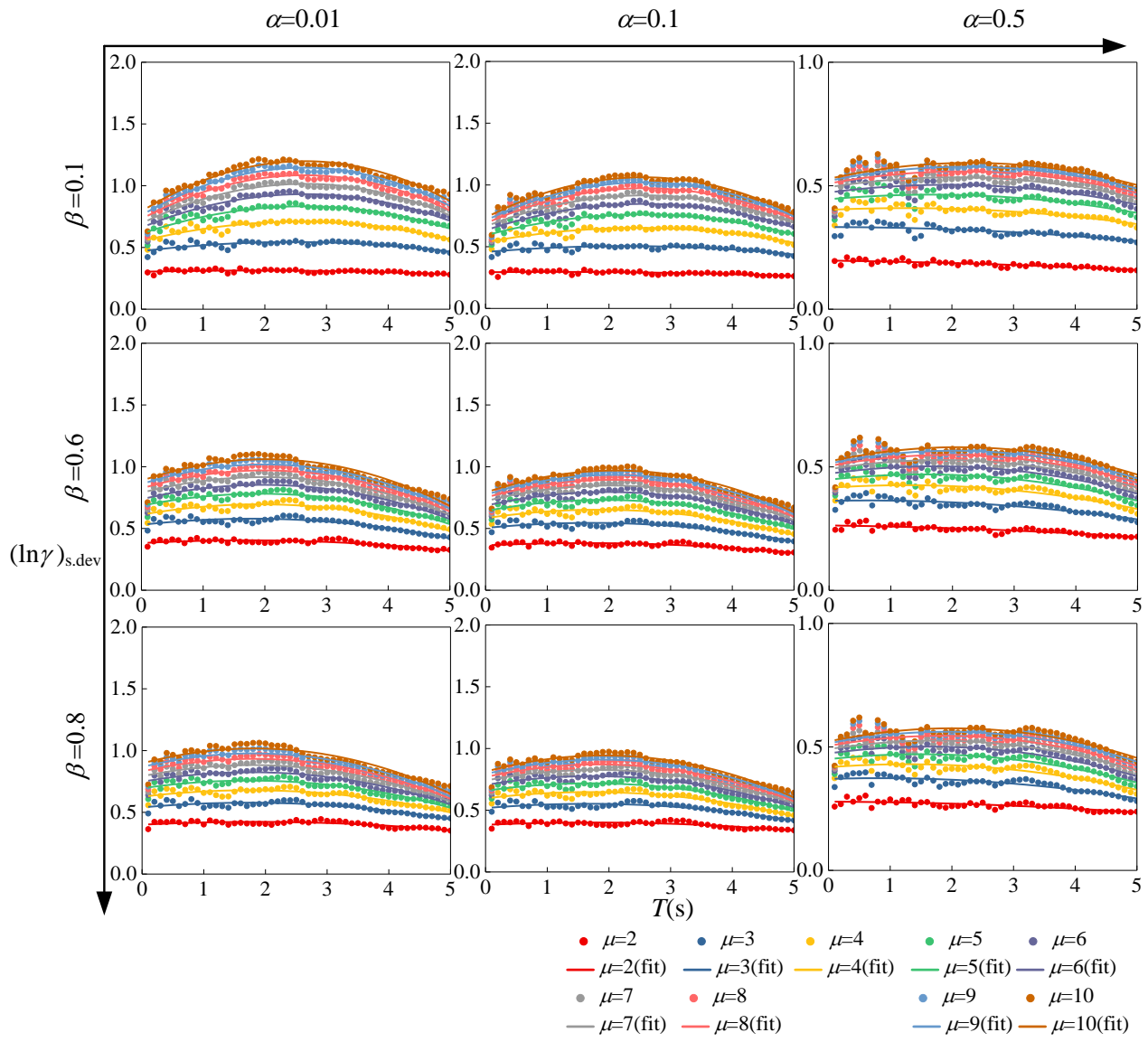


Fig. 10 Representative  $(\ln \gamma)_{s,dev} - T$  spectra.

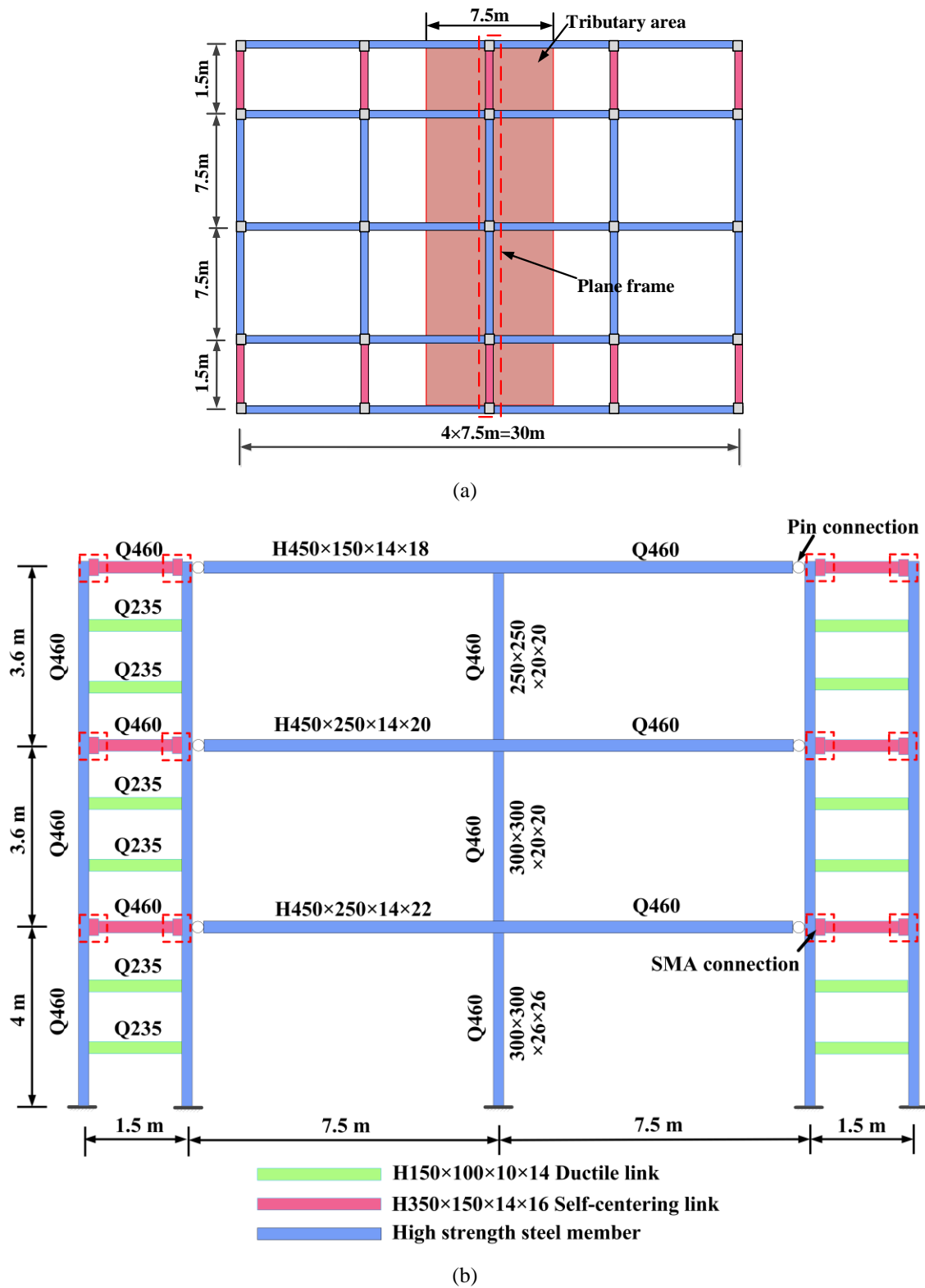


Fig. 11 Information on the prototype structure: (a) layout and (b) elevation.



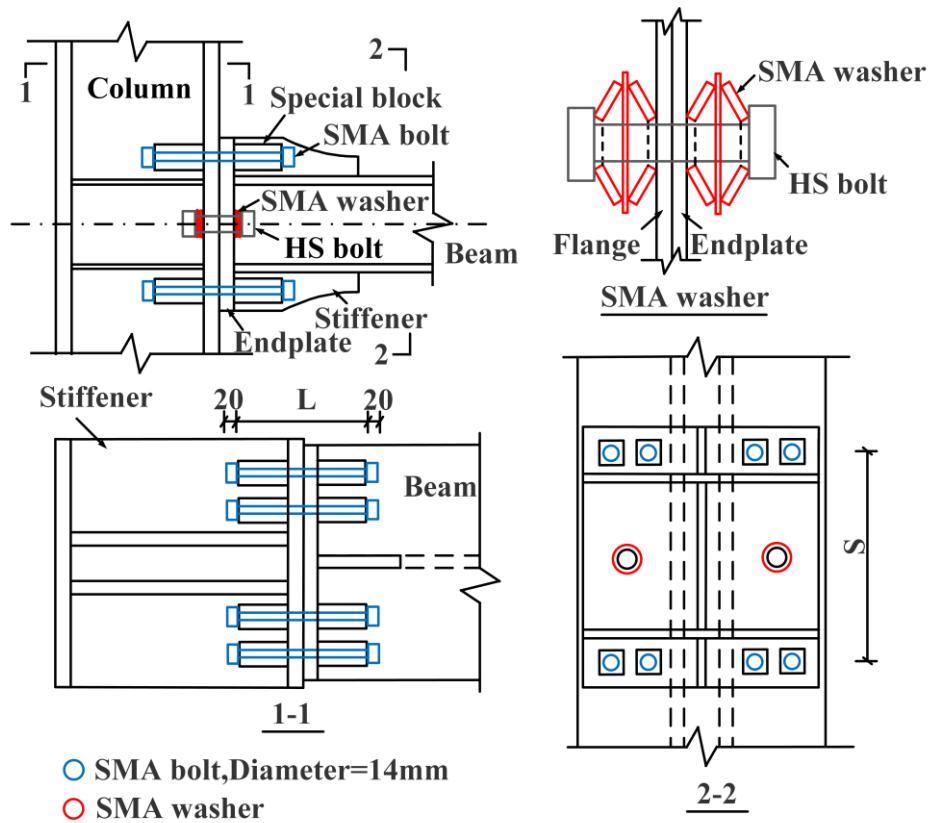


Fig. 12 Configuration of the SMA connections.

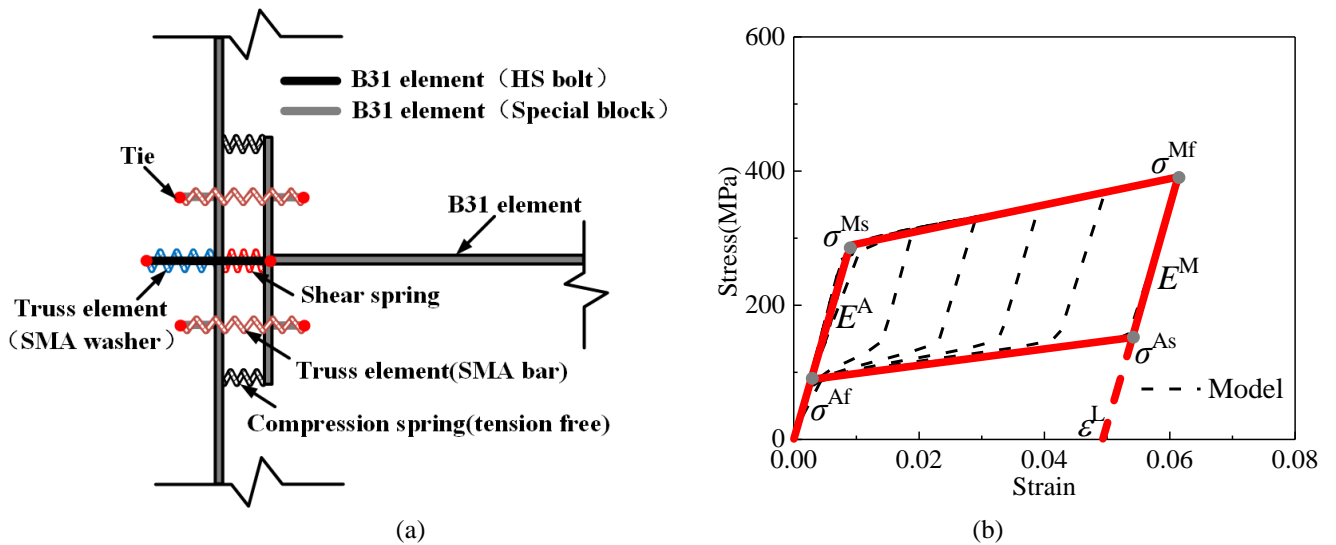


Fig. 13 Simplified SMA connection model and material characteristics: (a) simplified model and (b) material model.

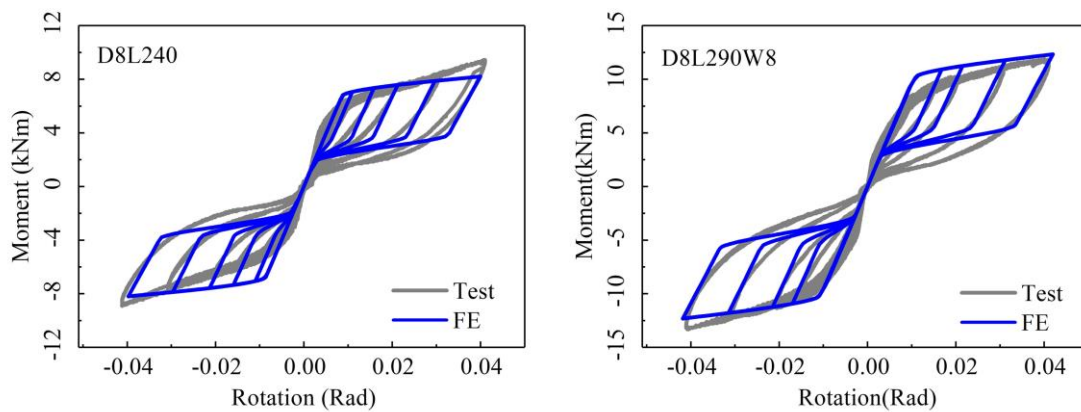


Fig. 14 Verification of the simplified connection model.

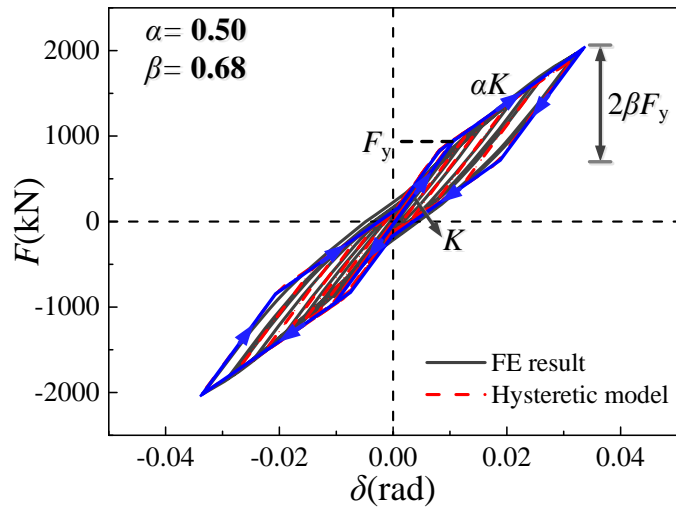


Fig. 15 Verification of the structural hysteretic model.

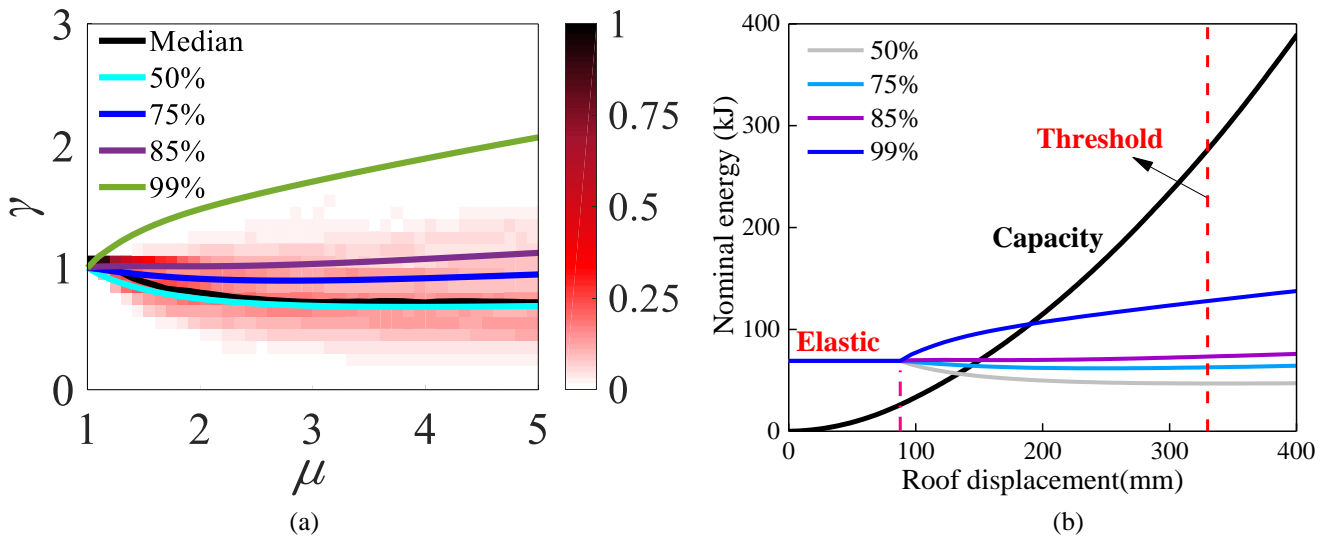


Fig. 16 Probabilistic energy demand curves and capacity curves: (a) probabilistic energy factor spectra and (b) damage-control evaluation diagram.

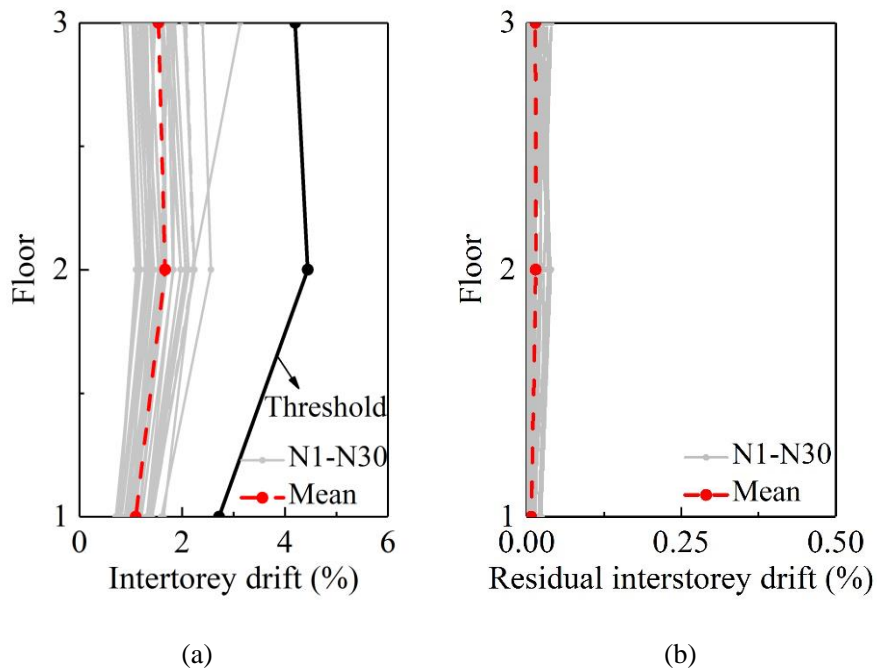


Fig. 17 Analysis results by NL-RHA: (a) Peak interstorey drift and (b) residual interstorey drift.

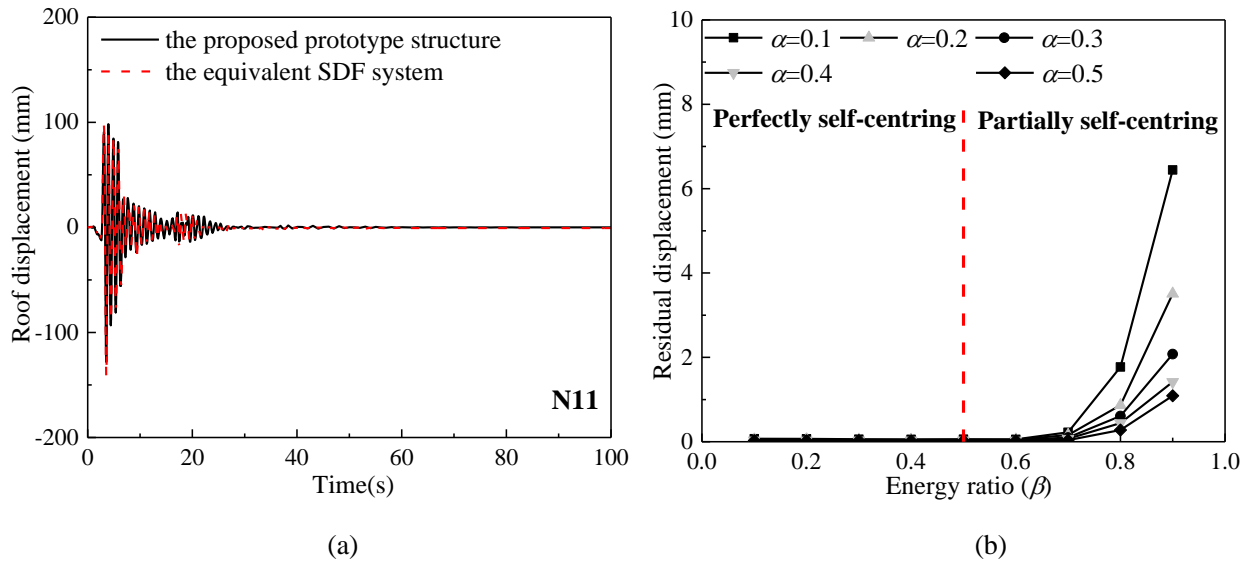


Fig. 18 Seismic responses of the equivalent SDF system: (a) the roof displacement history responses and (b) the mean residual displacement responses.

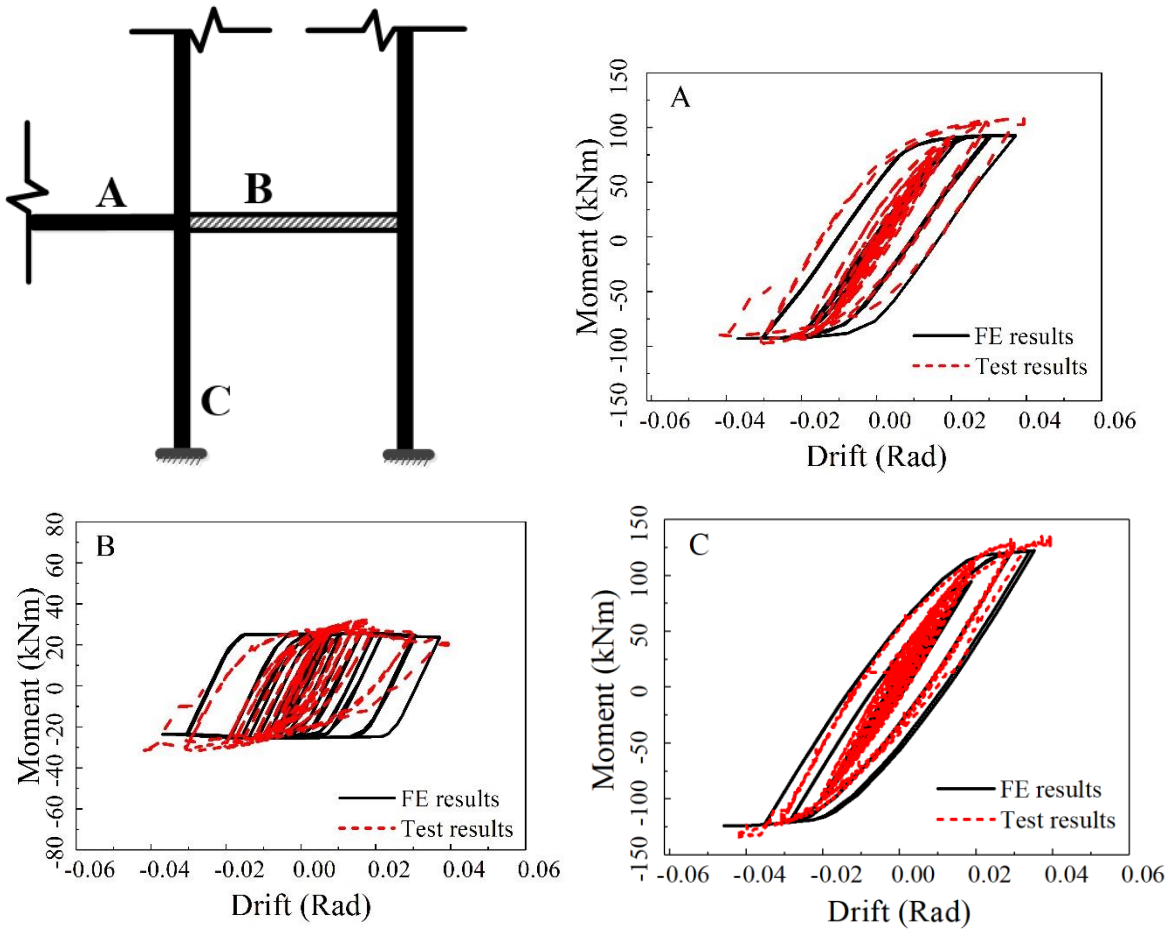


Fig. A1 Validation of the modelling techniques of main frame members and ductile links.

Table 1 SMA material properties used in the FE study [14]

Mechanical quantities	Values
Forward transformation start stress $\sigma^{MS}$	280 MPa
Forward transformation end stress $\sigma^{Mf}$	380 MPa
Reverse transformation start stress $\sigma^{AS}$	150 MPa
Reverse transformation end stress $\sigma^{Af}$	75 MPa
Austenite elasticity $E^A$	35 GPa
Martensite elasticity $E^M$	25 GPa
Maximum transformation strain $\varepsilon^L$	5%
Poisson's Ratio $\nu^A$	0.33
Poisson's Ratio $\nu^M$	0.33

Table 2 Dynamic properties of the prototype system

<i>Property</i> (unit)	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Mode</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Mode</i>
Period (s)	0.83	0.26
Modal effective mass (t)	228.83	28.19
Modal participation factor	1.28	0.36

Table 3 Near-field earthquake motions for structural analysis

No.	Record	$M$	Distance (km)	PGA (cm/s <sup>2</sup> )
N01	San Fernando, 1971, Pacoima Dam	6.61	1.81	1194.66
N02	San Fernando, 1971, Pacoima Dam	6.61	1.81	1213.55
N03	Coyote Lake, 1979, Gilroy Array #2	5.74	2.05	187.01
N04	Coyote Lake, 1979, Gilroy Array #2	5.74	2.05	250.44
N05	Coyote Lake, 1979, Gilroy Array #6	5.74	5.7	413.35
N06	Coyote Lake, 1979, Gilroy Array #6	5.74	5.7	312.46
N07	Irpinia_Italy-01, 1980, Bagnoli Irpinio	6.9	8.18	127.06
N08	Irpinia_Italy-01, 1980, Bagnoli Irpinio	6.9	8.18	185.95
N09	Irpinia_Italy-01, 1980, Sturno (STN)	6.9	10.84	222.13
N10	Irpinia_Italy-01, 1980, Sturno (STN)	6.9	10.84	314.11
N11	Mendocino, 1992, Petrolia	7.1	8.5	625.60
N12	C. Mendocino, 1992, Petrolia	7.1	8.5	642.24
N13	Erzincan, 1992	6.7	2	423.90
N14	Erzincan, 1992	6.7	2	448.29
N15	Landers, 1992	7.3	1.1	699.62
N16	Landers, 1992	7.3	1.1	783.89
N17	Nothridge, 1994, Olive View	6.7	6.4	718.16
N18	Nothridge, 1994, Olive View	6.7	6.4	583.79
N19	Kobe, 1995, Takatori	6.9	4.3	771.10
N20	Kobe, 1995, Takatori	6.9	4.3	416.11
N21	Elysian Park 1	6.9	17.5	842.50
N22	Elysian Park 1	6.9	17.5	875.07
N23	Elysian Park 2	7.1	10.7	1768.10
N24	Elysian Park 2	7.1	10.7	885.75
N25	Elysian Park 3	7.1	11.2	993.28
N26	Elysian Park 3	7.1	11.2	643.02
N27	Elysian Park 4	7.1	13.2	904.44
N28	Elysian Park 4	7.1	13.2	628.51
N29	Elysian Park 5	7.1	13.7	1139.20
N30	Elysian Park 5	7.1	13.7	499.29

**Conflict of Interest**

There is no financial/personal interest or belief that could affect our objectivity. There are no potential conflicts of interest either.

**Author statement**

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