

1 **IMPLICATIONS OF IMPORTANCE FACTOR ON SEISMIC DESIGN - FROM 2000 SAC-FEMA**  
2 **PERSPECTIVE**

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23 **IMPLICATIONS OF IMPORTANCE FACTOR ON SEISMIC DESIGN - FROM 2000 SAC-FEMA**  
24 **PERSPECTIVE**

25

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38

39 **ABSTRACT**

40 The seismic design of buildings uses global ductility factor and occupancy importance factor (*IF*) as two major  
41 fixed parameters in defining the safety of the structure. The study of performance variation of the structure with  
42 global ductility factor is available but, there is hardly any study that provides information regarding the increase  
43 in the level of safety achieved by increasing the *IF* values. Being a building categorical dependent parameter,  
44 *IF* is used by the international seismic design codes for increasing the design loads of the structure. The change  
45 in the level of safety achieved through the variation in the value of the *IFs* for reinforced concrete (RC) framed  
46 buildings will perhaps be an important useful representation of the stakeholders for the approximate damage  
47 cost estimation. This article performs the structural safety assessment against seismic load using a standard  
48 structural reliability method with second-order hazard approximation to evaluate the effect of the *IF* on the level  
49 of safety and the cost associated with the building. Results show that, an overall reduction of 50-60% in the

50 damage index of the selected buildings can be achieved by increasing the *IF* from a value of 1.0 to 2.0 with a  
51 consequent increase in the cost of the building.

52  
53 **Keywords:** Importance Factor, Fragility curve, Reliability index, Cost index

54  
55 **INTRODUCTION**

56 In seismic design, occupancy importance factor (*IF*) is a multiplier to increase or decrease the design base shear,  
57 according to different occupancy category or importance class of a building. In order to obtain an acceptable  
58 performance and affordable cost, international seismic design codes have suggested different values of *IFs*. The  
59 higher the value of *IF* of the building, the higher is the expected seismic performance at the expense of higher  
60 cost. The value of *IF* recommended by major international codes (Table 1) is based on the functional use of the  
61 buildings, the nature of the hazardous consequences of a severe event, post-earthquake functional needs, and  
62 historical value or economic importance. All the above factors were considered by the building design codes  
63 through engineering justification and experience as there are no detailed experimental or analytical studies on  
64 the occupancy importance factor available in published literature. The building lots are mainly divided into two  
65 or three broad categories by the design codes as shown in Table 1. The higher occupancy category corresponds  
66 to critical and lifeline buildings. The moderate occupancy category corresponds to business continuity type  
67 buildings. All other buildings are included as a lower occupancy category. Table 1 presents the values of *IF*  
68 recommended in the major international design codes. It can be seen from this table that in higher occupancy  
69 category buildings, *IFs* increase the design horizontal seismic base shear up to a range of 50-100%.

70 The selection of the seismic design load level takes the safety and the economic aspects into account which  
71 balance the benefit and the cost for the structural lifecycle. The research on the optimum seismic design level  
72 for buildings is not new and has been reported by various studies (Rosenblueth 1976, 1987; Kanda and  
73 Ellingwood 1991; Rosenblueth and Jara 1991; Ang and De Leon 1997; Rackwitz 2000; Kang and Wen 2000;  
74 Ellingwood 2001, Esteva *et al.* 2002, 2012; Ellingwood and Wen 2005; Goda and Hong 2006). Ang and De  
75 Leon (1997) proposed a systematic approach for formulating risk-based, cost-effective criteria for the design of  
76 structures. Target reliabilities (or acceptable risks) for damage control and life safety performance levels are  
77 determined on the basis of minimum expected life-cycle cost, and which develops the risk-consistent criteria

78 for the structural design. Hong *et al.* (2006) suggested an optimum design approach for buried pipelines which  
79 can maintain a balance between the cost and benefits. Several studies (Rosenblueth 1976; Ellingwood and Wen  
80 2005; Garcia-Perez *et al.* 2005; Pozoz-Estrada *et al.* 2016) have investigated the economic efficiency of a class  
81 of structures on increasing the level of safety and concluded that, the design codes use an *IF* to cope with the  
82 extraordinary economic loss or a loss of irreplaceable buildings.

83 Previous literature (Zahid *et al.* 2013; Ergun *et al.* 2015; Allahvirdizadeh *et al.* 2017; Bojorquez *et al.* 2017;  
84 Mosleh *et al.* 2017; Loulelis 2017) have employed deterministic approaches for the performance evaluation of  
85 buildings subjected to seismic excitations. But a probabilistic approach for the better estimate of the performance  
86 is always profound because the deterministic approach does not take account of the uncertainties associated  
87 with earthquake load and structural capacity. The seismic performance of the buildings cannot be estimated  
88 accurately by ignoring the associated uncertainties, and sometimes it also cannot be guaranteed that considering  
89 such uncertainties will improve the performance of the buildings as a decrease in damage index may not  
90 correspond to the decrease in the exceedance probability and the estimated loss. So considering the uncertainties  
91 of sensitive random variables, fragility assessment can be a reliable solution to evaluate the efficiency of *IF* in  
92 the seismic design. Many studies (Hwang *et al.* 1990; Barron *et al.* 2001; Ellingwood 2001; Cornell *et al.* 2002;  
93 Ramamoorthy *et al.* 2006; Rajeev and Tesfamariam 2012; Bakhshi and Ashadi 2013) have employed fragility  
94 curves for the evaluation of seismic excitations of buildings using random parameters and, among these random  
95 parameters *IF* plays a major role in controlling the damage index of the building.

96

## 97 **RESEARCH SIGNIFICANCE**

98 Studies on the variation of the performance of the structure with major design parameter like global ductility  
99 factor are available in the literature. However, the information on seismic performance of the structure with the  
100 change in the design parameter such as *IF* is very limited. The present study focuses on the change in the level  
101 of safety and the associated cost of the building with the change in *IF*. The seismic performance of the buildings  
102 with the variations of *IF* values are evaluated in terms of seismic fragility curves and mean annual probability  
103 of collapse.

104

## 105 SAFETY ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

106 A joint venture research committee, which was formed by four agencies namely the Structural Engineers  
107 Association of California (SEAOC), the Applied Technology Council (ATC), the Consortium of Universities  
108 for Research in Earthquake Engineering (CUREE), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),  
109 is combinedly abbreviated as the SAC-FEMA and proposed the popularly known SAC-FEMA method (Cornell  
110 *et al.* 2002). It is used in the present study for the probabilistic seismic safety assessment that characterizes the  
111 randomness and uncertainty both in seismic demand and capacity of the building. The SAC-FEMA method is  
112 formulated as a closed-form expression to analytically estimate the value of the risk integral convolving seismic  
113 hazard and structural response. This method is widely used by several researchers (Cornell *et al.* 2002;  
114 Ramamoorthy *et al.* 2006; Ellingwood *et al.* 2007; Wu *et al.* 2009; Celik and Ellingwood 2009, 2010; Davis *et*  
115 *al.* 2010; Rajeev and Tesfamariam, 2012, Haran *et al.* 2015, 2016; Bhosale *et al.* 2017, 2018; Dhir *et al.* 2018;  
116 Sahu *et al.* 2019) for the evaluation of seismic risks. An incremental dynamic analysis (*IDA*) framework  
117 introduced by previous researchers (Vamvatsikos and Cornell 2002; Dolšek 2009; Vamvatsikos and Fragiadakis  
118 2010; Ferracuti *et al.* 2009; Azarbakht and Dolšek 2011; Brunesi *et al.* 2015; Kiani and Khanmohammadi 2015)  
119 is adopted in this study to develop the probabilistic seismic demand models (PSDMs) and fragility curves. *IDA*  
120 involves subjecting a building model to one or more ground motion records, of which each scaled to multiple  
121 levels of intensity, and plotting a response parameter as a function of intensity level.

122

### 123 PSDM and Fragility Curves

124 A fragility function represents the probability of exceedance of the seismic demand (*D*) for a selected  
125 performance level (*C*) at a specific intensity measure, characterized here by the level of peak ground acceleration  
126 (*PGA*). This can be obtained for each of the damage state and can be expressed in a closed-form equation (Celik  
127 and Ellingwood 2010) as follows:

$$128 \quad f(PGA) = P(C-D \leq 0|PGA) = \Phi \left( \frac{\ln\left(\frac{\hat{D}}{\hat{C}}\right)}{\sqrt{\beta_{D|PGA}^2 + \beta_c^2 + \beta_m^2}} \right) \quad (1)$$

129 Where  $\phi$  is the standardized Gaussian distribution function,  $\hat{D}$  is the median drift demand,  $\hat{C}$  is the median drift  
 130 limit state defining the capacity of the structure at selected performance levels,  $\beta_{D|PGA}$  is the dispersion in drift  
 131 demand at a given  $PGA$  level,  $\beta_c$  is the dispersion in capacity, and  $\beta_m$  is the dispersion in modelling. A series  
 132 of nonlinear time history analysis is carried out to obtain the probabilistic representation of demand parameter.  
 133 An analytical approximation of this representation is considered (Cornell *et al.* 2002) that says, at a given level  
 134 of the  $PGA$ , the predicted median drift demand ( $\hat{D}$ ) can be represented approximately by the form:

$$135 \quad \hat{D} = a(PGA)^b \quad (2)$$

136 Where  $a$  and  $b$  are the constant coefficients. The drift demands ( $D$ ) are assumed to be distributed log-normally  
 137 about the median (Shome and Cornell 1999) with a standard deviation  $\beta_{D|PGA}$  (the dispersion of the drift,  $D$   
 138 considers the natural logarithm at a given  $PGA$  level) for the considered frame. The three parameters,  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  
 139  $\beta_{D|PGA}$  are obtained by performing a regression analysis of nonlinear building response. The power-law  
 140 relationship presented in Eq. (2) represents the PSDM for the corresponding frame. Eq. (1) can be re-written  
 141 using this PSDM as follows:

$$142 \quad f(PGA) = P(C-D \leq 0|PGA) = 1 - \phi \left( \frac{\ln(\hat{C}) - \ln(a.(PGA)^b)}{\sqrt{\beta_{D|PGA}^2 + \beta_c^2 + \beta_m^2}} \right) \quad (3)$$

143 The median inter-storey drift limit states ( $\hat{C}$ ) for RC moment-resisting frame suggested by Haran *et al.* (2015,  
 144 2016) for various performance levels as 1%, 2% and 4% for immediate occupancy (IO), life safety (LS), and  
 145 collapse prevention (CP) performance level respectively are considered in this present study. The value of  $\beta_c$   
 146 depends on the building type and construction quality, and it has been assumed as 0.25, according to ATC 58  
 147 (ATC 2012) in the present study.

148

### 149 **Mean Annual Probability of Exceedance**

150 In order to study the actual effect of the  $IF$  on the seismic safety of a building, it is important to consider the  
 151 hazard data on that particular selected site. Seismic hazard function,  $H(PGA)$ , which, gives the annual  
 152 probability of occurrence of the earthquake at any given site and the probabilities of the buildings exceeding

153 any performance level is achieved by combining the probabilistic representations of the three elements in two  
 154 steps. The first step couples the hazard function  $H(PGA)$  and drift demand function in terms of PSDM to  
 155 produce a drift hazard curve  $H_D(d)$  and  $H_D(d)$  provides the annual probability that the drift demand ( $D$ ) exceeds  
 156 any specified drift value ( $d$ ). The second step combines this curve with the drift capacity ( $C$ ) to produce  $P_{PL}$   
 157 which is defined as the annual probability of the performance level not being met.

158 Using the total probability theorem (Benjamin and Cornell 2014)  $H_D(d)$  can be written as:

$$159 \quad H_D(d) = \int P[D \geq d | PGA = x_i] |dH(x)| \quad (4)$$

160 Where  $dH(x)$  can be obtained from a standard hazard curve,  $H(PGA)$ . The hazard curve is assumed to be a  
 161 second-order polynomial in log-space in the region of interest (Vamvatsikos 2013) as follows:

$$162 \quad H(PGA) = k_0 \exp[-k_2 \ln^2(PGA) - k_1 \ln(PGA)] \quad (5)$$

163 Where  $k_0$ ,  $k_1$ , and  $k_2$  are the constant coefficients. Using Eq. (2) and the log normality assumption of drift  
 164 demand, the first factor of Eq. (4) can be written as:

$$165 \quad P[D \geq d | PGA = x_i] = 1 - \Phi\left(\ln\left[\frac{d}{ax^b}\right] / \beta_{D|PGA}\right) \quad (6)$$

166 Using Eq. (5) and Eq. (6), Eq. (4) for the drift hazard curve can be written in a simplified form as

$$167 \quad H_D(d) = \sqrt{q} k_0^{1-q} \left[ H(PGA^d) \right]^q \exp\left[\frac{k_1^2}{4k_2}(1-q)\right] \quad (7a)$$

$$168 \quad q = \frac{1}{1 + 2k_2 \beta_{d/IM}^2 / b^2} \quad (7b)$$

169  $PGA^d$  is the peak ground acceleration corresponding to the drift demand level,  $d$  i.e.

$$170 \quad PGA^d = \left(\frac{d}{a}\right)^{\frac{1}{b}} \quad (8)$$

171 Where 'a' and 'b' are the regression coefficients of the corresponding PSDM. The detailed derivation of Eq. (7)  
 172 is available in Vamvatsikos (2013). Using the total probability theorem, the annual probability of unacceptable  
 173 performance ( $P_{PL}$ ) can be defined as:

174 
$$P_{PL} = P[C \leq D] = \sum_{all d_i} P[C \leq D | D = d_i] P[D = d_i] \quad (9)$$

175 The second factor, in the above equation, represents the likelihood of a given drift demand level  $P[D = d]$  which  
 176 can be determined from the drift hazard curve derived in Eq. (4). Now, Eq. (9) can be represented in a continuous  
 177 form as follows:

178 
$$P_{PL} = \int P[C \leq d] | dH_D(d) \quad (10)$$

179 In order to facilitate an analytical treatment of the rather highly complicated problem of considering  
 180 uncertainties in the capacity and seismic demand of an RC structure, SAC-FEMA method has introduced various  
 181 simplifications. The first approximation is the power-law formulation of the PSDM where the engineering  
 182 damage parameter is approximated to have a linear relation to the seismic intensity measure in log space (Eq. 2).  
 183 In addition, the engineering demand parameter is assumed to be log-normally distributed about the median.  
 184 However, the previous literature (Dhir *et al.* 2018) has reported that power-law assumption and log normality  
 185 assumption of drift demand in RC framed building is in agreement with the results of Monte Carlo simulation.  
 186 The other important approximation in the original SAC-FEMA method is the first- order power- law fit of the  
 187 hazard curve, which has later been replaced with second-order hazard approximation (Eq. 5) by Vamvatsikos  
 188 (2013).

189

190 **FRAMES CONSIDERED**

191 Typical RC regular bare frames of two, four, six and eight-storied buildings with a uniform storey height of  
 192 3.2 m and uniform bay width of 5 m are selected for the present study (Fig. 1). These buildings are assumed  
 193 to be located in Guwahati (India) lying in the seismic zone V (PGA of 0.36 g) as per IS 1893 (BIS 2016b)  
 194 and detailed as per IS 13920 (BIS 2016a), considering medium soil conditions (N-value in the range 10-30).  
 195 The characteristic strength of concrete and steel is taken as 25 MPa and 415 MPa respectively. The buildings  
 196 are assumed to be symmetric in plan and elevation. The dead load of the slab, including floor finishes, is  
 197 taken as 3.75 kN/m<sup>2</sup> and live load as 3 kN/m<sup>2</sup>. The self-weight of the partition walls (230 mm) is applied  
 198 separately as the uniformly distributed load on the respective beams. As the focus of the present study is to  
 199 evaluate the influence of *IF* on the fragility of the structures, a wide range of *IFs* has been studied for four  
 200 different frame geometries. Selected building frames are designed as per relevant Indian Standards that

201 satisfy the requirement of both ultimate and serviceability limit states. However, the design is found to be  
202 governed by the criteria of the ultimate limit state. The design details of the building frames of two storey,  
203 four storey, six storey and eight storey are shown in Table 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively. The notations used  
204  $nSmB-p$  to represent a frame with  $n$  storeys and  $m$  bays, designed considering an  $IF$  value of  $p$ . For example,  
205 2S2B-1 represents a 2-storey, 2-bay frame designed with  $IF$  value of 1.0. The design base shear ( $V_b$ )  
206 calculated as per equivalent static method (BIS 2016b) is presented in Table 6.

207

## 208 **STRUCTURAL MODELLING AND ANALYSIS**

209 Selected buildings frames are modelled, and nonlinear time history analysis was performed during the seismic  
210 risk assessment. The Open System for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (OpenSEES) Laboratory tool  
211 developed by McKenna *et al.* (2014) was used for the present analysis. A force-based nonlinear beam-column  
212 fiber element (Lee and Mosalam 2004) that considers the spread plasticity approach along the element was  
213 adopted for modelling the beams and columns. Five integration points are considered for fiber elements as per  
214 Kunnath (2007). Core and cover concrete are modelled as confined and unconfined concrete respectively as per  
215 Kent and Park (1971). Giuffre-Menegotto-Pinto steel material model (Filippou *et al.* 1983) has been used for  
216 the modelling of steel reinforcing bars.

217 In the current study, a lumped mass approach is taken into consideration, in which all the permanent weights  
218 that move with the structure is lumped at the suitable nodes. It comprises of all the dead loads and a part of the  
219 live load (25%) which are expected to be present in the structure during the ground shaking. The in-plane  
220 stiffness of the floor is modelled using rigid diaphragm constraint. Mass and stiffness proportional Raleigh  
221 damping model is used for dynamic analysis as per Filippou *et al.* (1992). As the number of available earthquake  
222 records in the Indian region is limited, a suite of 44 ground motions (22 pairs) from other regions collected from  
223 Haselton *et al.* (2012) are used in the present study for representing the uncertainty in the earthquake loading.  
224 These ground motions are converted to match with the design spectrum of Indian Standard IS 1893 (BIS 2016b),  
225 using a computer program (Mukherjee and Gupta 2002). These modified spectrum consistent ground motion  
226 records are used for the nonlinear dynamic analyses (NLDA). Uncertainties associated with the structural  
227 capacity are considered through concrete compressive strength and the yield strength of reinforcing steel. The  
228 uncertainty, in the global damping ratio, is additionally considered in the analysis. Table 7 presents the details

229 of the uncorrelated random variables which have been explored in the present study. Further details of the  
230 computational modelling can be available in Dhir *et al.* (2018).

231

### 232 **PROBABILISTIC SEISMIC DEMAND MODEL (PSDM)**

233 The earthquake ground motions are linearly scaled from 0.1 g to 1.0 g and each computational model (44) is  
234 analysed for a randomly selected earthquake. The maximum inter-storey drift (*ISD*) is plotted with the  
235 corresponding *PGA* on a logarithmic graph for two storey, four storey, six storey and eight storey frames in  
236 Fig. 2, 3, 4, and 5 respectively. Using regression analysis, a power law (refer to Eq. 2) relationship is fitted  
237 for each frame which represents the PSDM for the corresponding frames. The higher is the value of inter-  
238 storey drifts, the higher will be the vulnerability of the building. The regression coefficients, *a* and *b*, of the  
239 PSDMs found in each frame are reported in Table 8.

240 As observed in all the PSDM plots, for a given *PGA*, the maximum *ISD* demand decreases with the increase  
241 in *IF*. This can be attributed to the improved structural capacity of the building frames in terms of stiffness  
242 due to the increase in *IF*. The percentage decrease in the maximum *ISD* demand of building frames with *IF*  
243 values of 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.8 and 2.0 with respect to the frame with *IF* = 1 is calculated at a typical *PGA*  
244 of 0.3 g and presented in Fig. 6. This figure shows that, in general, the reduction in *ISD* demand is higher for  
245 the higher *IF*. The reduction can be due to the increase in the cross-section of the members and the change  
246 in design.

247

### 248 **COMPARISON OF FRAGILITY CURVES**

249 Fragility curves were developed for all the selected building frames and the effect of *IFs* on the fragility  
250 function was studied at three performance limit states (*IO*, *LS*, and *CP*) as presented in Figs. 7, 8, 9 and 10.  
251 The values of the constants *a* and *b*, and the dispersions of *ISD* demand,  $\beta_{D/IM}$  are calculated from the  
252 corresponding PSDM. The probability of exceedance is found to decrease with the increase in *IF*. It can be  
253 seen from the figures that, the building frames designed with *IF* = 2 have the least probability of exceeding  
254 the limit state among all the selected frames. The probability of exceedance for the building frames designed  
255 with *IF* of 1.2, 1.4, 1.6, 1.8, and 2.0 normalized to that of building frame with *IF* = 1 for a typical *PGA* of

256 0.3 g is presented in Table 9. It can be seen from the table that the normalised probability of exceedance  
257 reduces with the increase of  $IF$ . This trend is similar to all the four selected categories of buildings.

258

### 259 **MEAN ANNUAL PROBABILITY OF EXCEEDANCE**

260 The selected building frames are designed for the limit state of collapse against design basis earthquake  
261 (approximately 10% probability of occurrence in 50 years) for a site located in the seismic zone V (Guwahati)  
262 as per IS 1893 (BIS 2016b). The hazard curve of Guwahati (Fig. 11) prepared using data collected from the  
263 published literature (Iyengar *et al.* 2010) is considered to calculate the seismic performance of the building  
264 frames in terms of mean annual probability of exceedance (using Eq. 10). Table 10 presents the values of the  
265 annual probability of the collapse ( $P_{PL}$ ) of all the selected frames at each performance limit state. It can be  
266 seen that the annual probability of collapse decreases as the  $IF$  increases. This implies that the frames  
267 designed with a higher  $IF$  have greater seismic safety.

268

### 269 **EFFECT OF $IF$ ON DAMAGE AND COST INDICES**

270 It is clear from the previous discussion that, on the one hand, the building performances can be significantly  
271 improved by a higher value of  $IF$  in the design. On the other hand, a higher value of  $IF$  in the design leads to  
272 the increased cost of the building. This section investigates the effect of  $IF$  on the structural performance and  
273 the associated costs of the building. A parameter called Damage Index ( $DI$ ) is introduced and defined as  
274 follows:

$$275 \quad DI = \frac{P_{PL,IF}}{P_{PL,IF=1}} \quad (11)$$

276

277 Where,  $P_{PL,IF=1}$  is the mean annual probability of exceedance of building designed with  $IF = 1$  and  $P_{PL,IF}$  is  
278 the mean annual probability of exceedance of a building designed with  $IF$  greater than unity.  $DI$  is expected  
279 to be less than unity for buildings designed with  $IF$  greater than one. Similarly, another parameter, Cost Index  
280 ( $CI$ ) can be expressed as follows:

$$281 \quad CI = \frac{Cost_{IF}}{Cost_{IF=1}} \quad (12)$$

282 Where,  $Cost_{IF}$  and  $Cost_{IF=1}$  are the cost of construction for the building under consideration (with an  $IF$  greater  
283 than unity) and a similar building designed with  $IF = 1$ , respectively. However, it is to be noted that the cost  
284 index as defined in Eq. (12) does not consider the damage-cost and the risk aversion.

285 Fig. 12 and Fig. 13 present the cost index and damage index of the selected building as a function of  $IF$   
286 respectively. It can be seen from these figures that  $IF$  has a linear relationship between the damage and cost  
287 index. The higher the value of  $IF$ , the higher is the cost of the building, but the lower will be the expected  
288 damage.

289

## 290 **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

291 The international codes and standards have recommended different values of occupancy importance factors for  
292 the seismic design of buildings considering an acceptable performance and affordable cost. This study  
293 investigates the effect of the importance factor in the seismic performance of buildings in a probabilistic  
294 framework. The SAC-FEMA method of structural safety assessment with second-order hazard approximation  
295 (Vamvatsikos 2013) is used to evaluate the influence of the importance factor on the probabilistic demand  
296 model, fragility function and the annual probability of collapse. The performance of the building, in general, is  
297 found to be improving with the increase in the importance factor. The importance factor is also found to have a  
298 proportional linear relationship with the cost index and an inversely proportional linear relationship with the  
299 damage index of the buildings. Salient conclusions of this study are listed as follows.

- 300 • When the  $IF$  increases from 1.0 to 1.5, the damage index decreases by 25-50% and increase in the  $IF$   
301 from 1.5 to 2.0 the damage index further decreases by 25-35%. An overall decrease in damage index by  
302 increasing the  $IF$  from 1.0 to 2.0 is around 50-60%.
- 303 • As the importance factor increases, the failure probability decreases, and cost increases. Design codes may  
304 also introduce an indicator of the percentage increase in cost and the percentage decrease in failure  
305 probability (increase in reliability) for the respective importance factor values for each class of buildings.

306

## 307 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

308 Some data, models, or code generated or used during the study are available from the corresponding author by  
309 request (OpenSEES modelling files and generated outputs)

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**Table 1:** *IF* suggested by various international codes

Seismic Code	Occupancy Category		
	Higher	Moderate	Lower
IS 1893- Part1 (2016)	1.5	1.2	1.0
Canadian Building code Act, 1992	1.5	-	1.0
BS EN 1998-1:2004	1.5	-	0.8
SEI/ASCE 7-16	1.5	1.25	1.0
NZS 1170 Part 5: 2004	1.3	-	0.6
NBC 105 : 1994	2.0	1.5	1.0
EAK 2000	1.3	-	0.85
Iranian Standard 2800 (2007)	1.2/1.4	1.0	0.8

**Table 2:** Design details of two storey frames

Frame ID	Member	Floor/ Storey No.	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Longitudinal Reinforcement		Transverse reinforcement
					Top	Bottom	
2S2B-1	Beam	1	300	300	6-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2	300	300	5-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-2	380	380	8-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @220 c/c
2S2B-1.2	Beam	1	300	300	5-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2	300	300	6-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-2	400	400	8-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @220 c/c
2S2B-1.4	Beam	1	300	300	5-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2	300	300	4-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-2	450	450	10-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @200 c/c
2S2B-1.5	Beam	1	300	300	7-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2	300	300	6-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-2	450	450	10-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @200 c/c
2S2B-1.6	Beam	1	330	330	8-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2	330	330	7-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-2	450	450	10-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @200 c/c
2S2B-1.8	Beam	1	330	330	9-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2	330	330	8-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-2	500	500	14-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @185 c/c
2S2B-2	Beam	1	350	350	9-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2	350	350	9-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-2	550	550	16-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @160 c/c

**Table 3:** Design details of four storey frames

Frame	Member	Floor/ Storey No.	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Longitudinal Reinforcement		Transverse reinforcement
					Top	Bottom	
4S2B-1	Beam	1	300	300	10-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2-4	300	300	7-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-4	400	400	10-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @180 c/c
4S2B-1.2	Beam	1	400	400	8-20 $\phi$	5-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2-4	400	400	5-20 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-4	500	500	14-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @150 c/c
4S2B-1.4	Beam	1	400	400	9-20 $\phi$	5-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @120 c/c
	Beam	2-4	400	400	6-20 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @120 c/c
	Column	1-4	500	500	16-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @110 c/c
4S2B-1.5	Beam	1	450	450	10-20 $\phi$	6-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2-4	450	450	5-20 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-4	500	500	18-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @200 c/c
4S2B-1.6	Beam	1	450	450	12-20 $\phi$	7-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2-4	450	450	7-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-4	550	550	18-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @200 c/c
4S2B-1.8	Beam	1	450	450	13-20 $\phi$	8-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2-4	450	450	8-20 $\phi$	5-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-4	600	600	24-16 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @180 c/c
4S2B-2	Beam	1	500	500	5-20 $\phi$	9-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Beam	2-4	500	500	9-20 $\phi$	5-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @100 c/c
	Column	1-4	600	600	26-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @160 c/c

**Table 4:** Design details of six storey frames

Frame	Member	Floor/ Storey No.	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Longitudinal Reinforcement		Transverse reinforcement
					Top	Bottom	
6S2B-1	Beam	1	400	400	11-20 $\phi$	7-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-6	400	400	5-20 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-6	500	500	18-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @ 160 c/c
6S2B-1.2	Beam	1	400	400	12-20 $\phi$	8-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-6	400	400	6-20 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-6	550	550	20-20 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @ 110 c/c
6S2B-1.4	Beam	1	400	400	15-20 $\phi$	10-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-6	400	400	7-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-6	550	550	20-20 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 130 c/c
6S2B-1.5	Beam	1	450	450	11-25 $\phi$	7-20 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-6	450	450	7-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-6	550	550	22-20 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 150 c/c
6S2B-1.6	Beam	1	450	450	12-25 $\phi$	6-20 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-4	450	450	9-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-4	550	550	16-25 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 130 c/c
6S2B-1.8	Beam	1	450	450	14-25 $\phi$	9-20 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-6	450	450	5-25 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-6	600	600	24-25 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 150 c/c
6S2B-2	Beam	1	500	500	15-25 $\phi$	10-20 $\phi$	12 $\phi$ @ 110 c/c
	Beam	2-4	500	500	6-25 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	12 $\phi$ @ 110 c/c
	Column	1-4	600	600	24-25 $\phi$		12 $\phi$ @ 160 c/c

**Table 5:** Design details of eight storey frames

Frame	Member	Floor/ Storey No.	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Longitudinal Reinforcement		Transverse reinforcement
					Top	Bottom	
8S4B-1	Beam	1	400	400	11-12 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-8	400	400	4-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	8 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-8	600	600	24-32 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @ 160 c/c
8S4B-1.2	Beam	1	450	450	7-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-8	450	450	4-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-8	600	600	28-32 $\phi$		8 $\phi$ @ 110 c/c
8S4B-1.4	Beam	1	500	500	11-16 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-8	500	500	5-16 $\phi$	3-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-8	800	800	32-32 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 130 c/c
8S4B-1.5	Beam	1	500	500	8-20 $\phi$	5-16 $\phi$	12 $\phi$ @ 110 c/c
	Beam	2-8	500	500	6-20 $\phi$	2-20 $\phi$	12 $\phi$ @ 110 c/c
	Column	1-8	850	850	40-32 $\phi$		12 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
8S4B-1.6	Beam	1	500	500	11-20 $\phi$	6-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-8	500	500	4-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-8	900	900	42-32 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 150 c/c
8S4B-1.8	Beam	1	550	550	11-20 $\phi$	6-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 150 c/c
	Beam	2-8	550	550	4-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 150 c/c
	Column	1-8	900	900	24-25 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
8S4B-2	Beam	1	550	550	12-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Beam	2-8	550	550	5-20 $\phi$	4-16 $\phi$	10 $\phi$ @ 100 c/c
	Column	1-8	900	900	48-32 $\phi$		10 $\phi$ @ 180 c/c

**Table 6:** Design base shear (kN) for different *IF*

Building Frame (fundamental period)	Importance Factor						
	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.0
2S2B (0.301s)	76	92	109	127	143	180	229
4S2B (0.507s)	187	236	316	367	429	529	631
6S2B (0.688s)	295	416	503	594	651	682	1017
8S4B (0.854s)	301	411	532	595	659	810	1056

**Table 7:** Details of random variables used

Random variables	Mean	COV (%)	Probability Distribution	Source
Concrete compressive strength	33.66 MPa	21.0	Normal	Ranganathan (1999)
Steel yield strength	483.47 MPa	10.0	Normal	Ranganathan (1999)
Global damping ratio	5 %	76.0	Lognormal	Celik and Ellingwood (2009)

**Table 8:** Regression output from NLDA analysis for considered frame

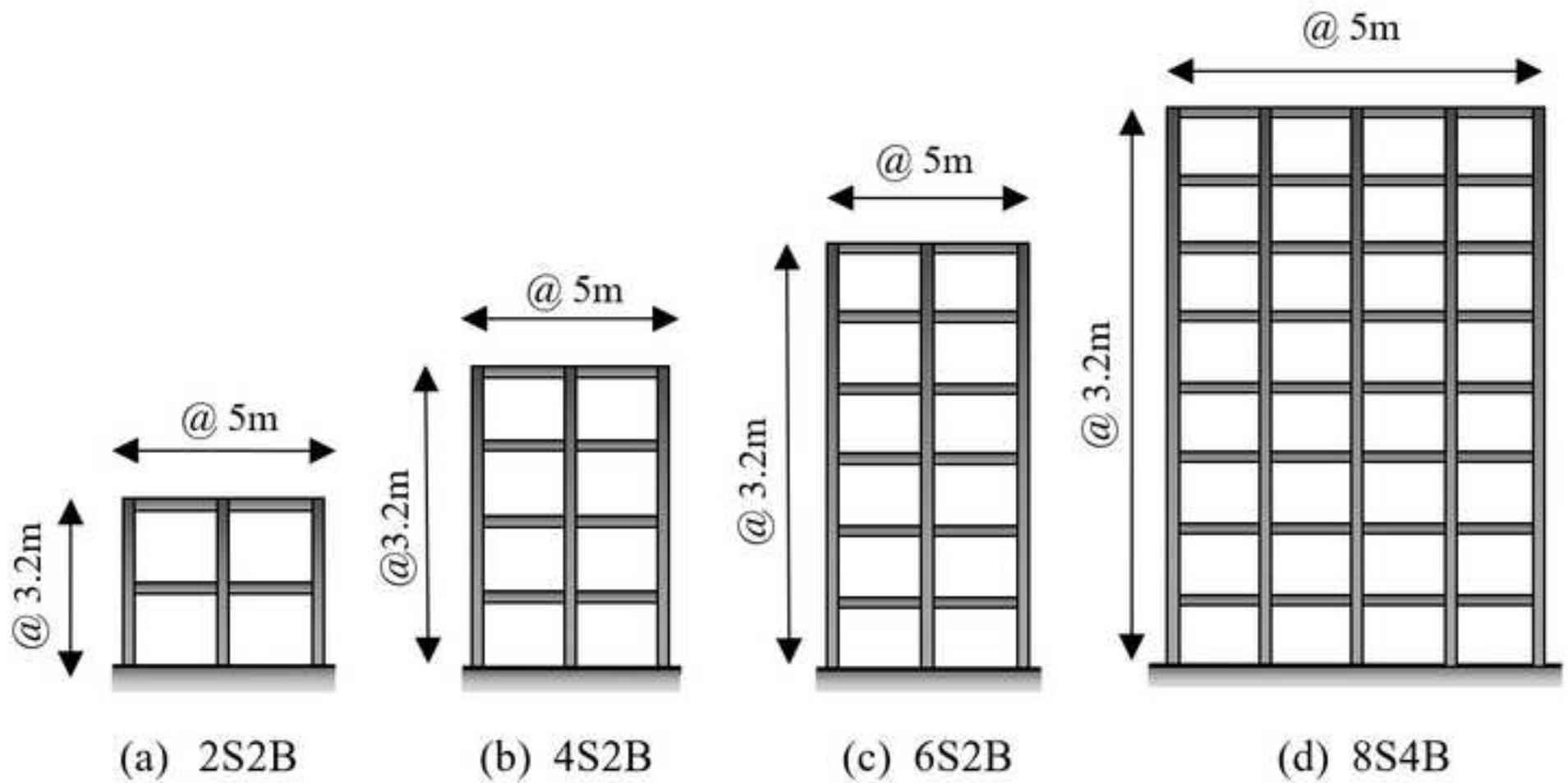
Frame	PSDM	$R^2$	$\beta_{D/PGA}$
2S2B-1.0	3.215 (PGA) <sup>0.9206</sup>	0.8454	0.226
2S2B-1.2	3.259 (PGA) <sup>0.9397</sup>	0.8839	0.206
2S2B-1.4	2.795 (PGA) <sup>0.9575</sup>	0.8899	0.211
2S2B-1.5	2.616 (PGA) <sup>0.9282</sup>	0.8503	0.244
2S2B-1.6	2.184 (PGA) <sup>0.9295</sup>	0.8412	0.253
2S2B-1.8	1.850 (PGA) <sup>0.9644</sup>	0.8460	0.258
2S2B-2.0	1.843 (PGA) <sup>0.9583</sup>	0.8364	0.260
4S2B-1.0	3.306 (PGA) <sup>0.7567</sup>	0.7766	0.254
4S2B-1.2	2.352 (PGA) <sup>0.7421</sup>	0.7150	0.230
4S2B-1.4	2.338 (PGA) <sup>0.7457</sup>	0.7962	0.236
4S2B-1.5	2.236 (PGA) <sup>0.7396</sup>	0.8113	0.223
4S2B-1.6	1.939 (PGA) <sup>0.8128</sup>	0.8533	0.211
4S2B-1.8	1.700 (PGA) <sup>0.7627</sup>	0.8798	0.176
4S2B-2.0	1.512 (PGA) <sup>0.8128</sup>	0.7608	0.241
6S2B-1.0	2.567 (PGA) <sup>0.8109</sup>	0.8267	0.232
6S2B-1.2	2.284 (PGA) <sup>0.8129</sup>	0.8442	0.219
6S2B-1.4	2.221 (PGA) <sup>0.7999</sup>	0.8196	0.235
6S2B-1.5	2.217 (PGA) <sup>0.7877</sup>	0.8304	0.223
6S2B-1.6	2.381 (PGA) <sup>0.7786</sup>	0.8242	0.225
6S2B-1.8	2.327 (PGA) <sup>0.7778</sup>	0.8386	0.214
6S2B-2.0	1.442 (PGA) <sup>0.7565</sup>	0.8460	0.205
8S4B-1.0	3.869 (PGA) <sup>0.8113</sup>	0.8003	0.254
8S4B-1.2	3.169 (PGA) <sup>0.8240</sup>	0.8686	0.201
8S4B-1.4	3.022 (PGA) <sup>0.8803</sup>	0.8855	0.198
8S4B-1.5	2.864 (PGA) <sup>0.8614</sup>	0.8450	0.231
8S4B-1.6	2.351 (PGA) <sup>0.8267</sup>	0.8811	0.190
8S4B-1.8	2.348 (PGA) <sup>0.8720</sup>	0.8764	0.205
8S4B-2.0	2.240 (PGA) <sup>0.8447</sup>	0.8820	0.193

**Table 9:** Normalized probability of exceedance of selected frames at typical *PGA* of 0.3g

<i>IF</i>	2S2B	4S2B	6S2B	8S4B
1	1	1	1	1
1.2	0.80	0.66	0.58	0.80
1.4	0.71	0.65	0.49	0.35
1.5	0.46	0.62	0.35	0.34
1.6	0.20	0.36	0.11	0.33
1.8	0.08	0.29	0.09	0.17
2	0.02	0.15	0.07	0.09

**Table 10:** Annual probability of collapse ( $P_{PL}$ ) for selected buildings

Frame	Annual probability of collapse ( $\times 10^{-2}$ )		
	IO	LS	CP
2S2B-1.0	0.924	0.224	0.041
2S2B-1.2	0.918	0.17	0.044
2S2B-1.4	0.666	0.16	0.035
2S2B-1.5	0.609	0.138	0.024
2S2B-1.6	0.422	0.089	0.015
2S2B-1.8	0.286	0.06	0.01
2S2B-2.0	0.285	0.059	0.01
4S2B-1.0	1.433	0.282	0.037
4S2B-1.2	0.711	0.112	0.012
4S2B-1.4	0.692	0.109	0.011
4S2B-1.5	0.636	0.096	0.01
4S2B-1.6	0.396	0.065	0.008
4S2B-1.8	0.315	0.043	0.004
4S2B-2.0	0.212	0.031	0.003
6S2B-1.0	0.743	0.139	0.019
6S2B-1.2	0.576	0.102	0.013
6S2B-1.4	0.549	0.094	0.011
6S2B-1.5	0.464	0.087	0.009
6S2B-1.6	0.276	0.075	0.007
6S2B-1.8	0.247	0.061	0.004
6S2B-2.0	0.201	0.025	0.002
8S4B-1.0	1.677	0.386	0.063
8S4B-1.2	1.135	0.241	0.037
8S4B-1.4	0.907	0.203	0.034
8S4B-1.5	0.837	0.179	0.028
8S4B-1.6	0.606	0.112	0.015
8S4B-1.8	0.551	0.11	0.016
8S4B-2.0	0.526	0.098	0.013



**Fig. 1:** RC frames considered in the study

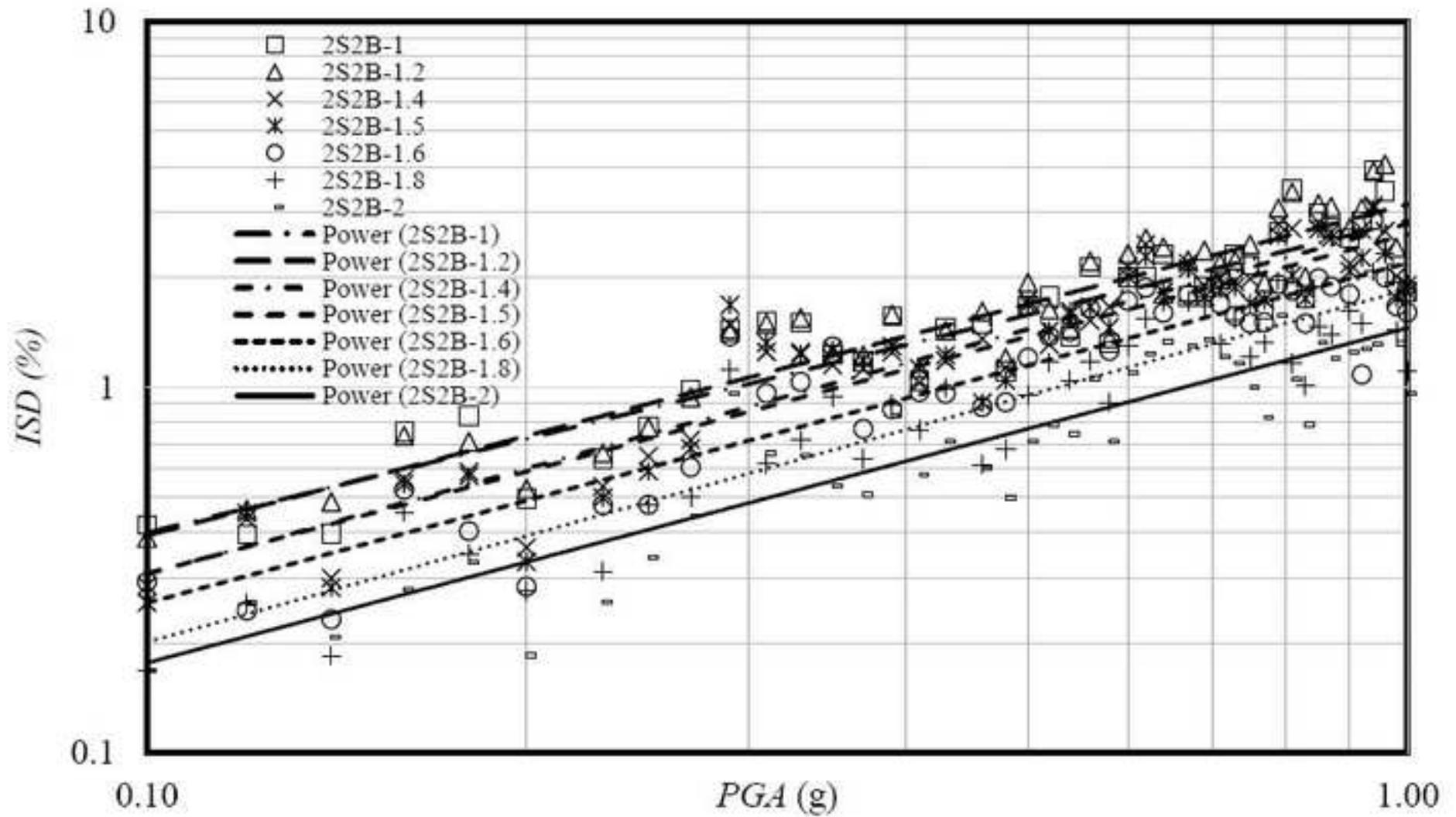
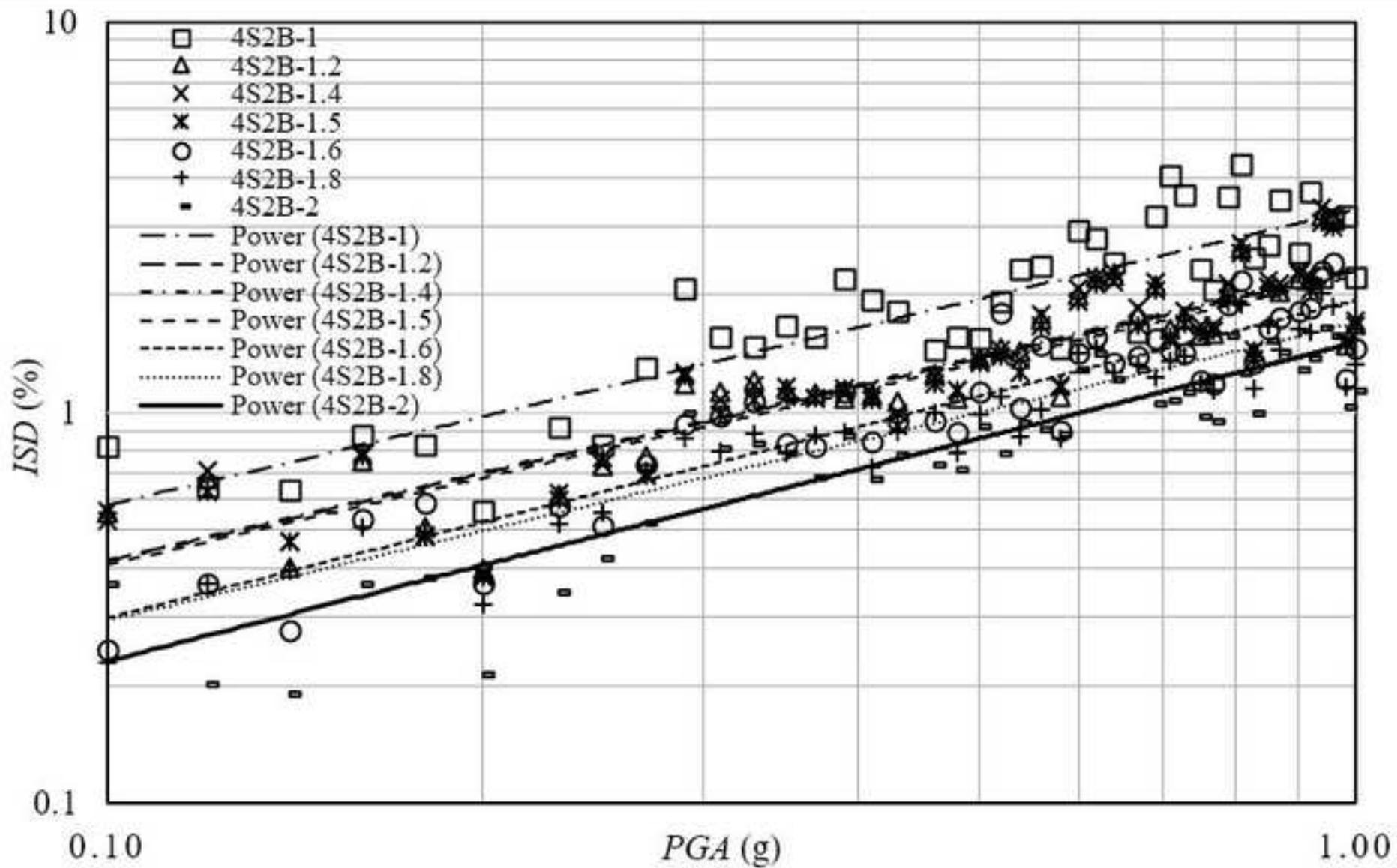


Fig. 2: PSDM for 2S2B frame



**Fig. 3:** PSDM for 4S2B frame

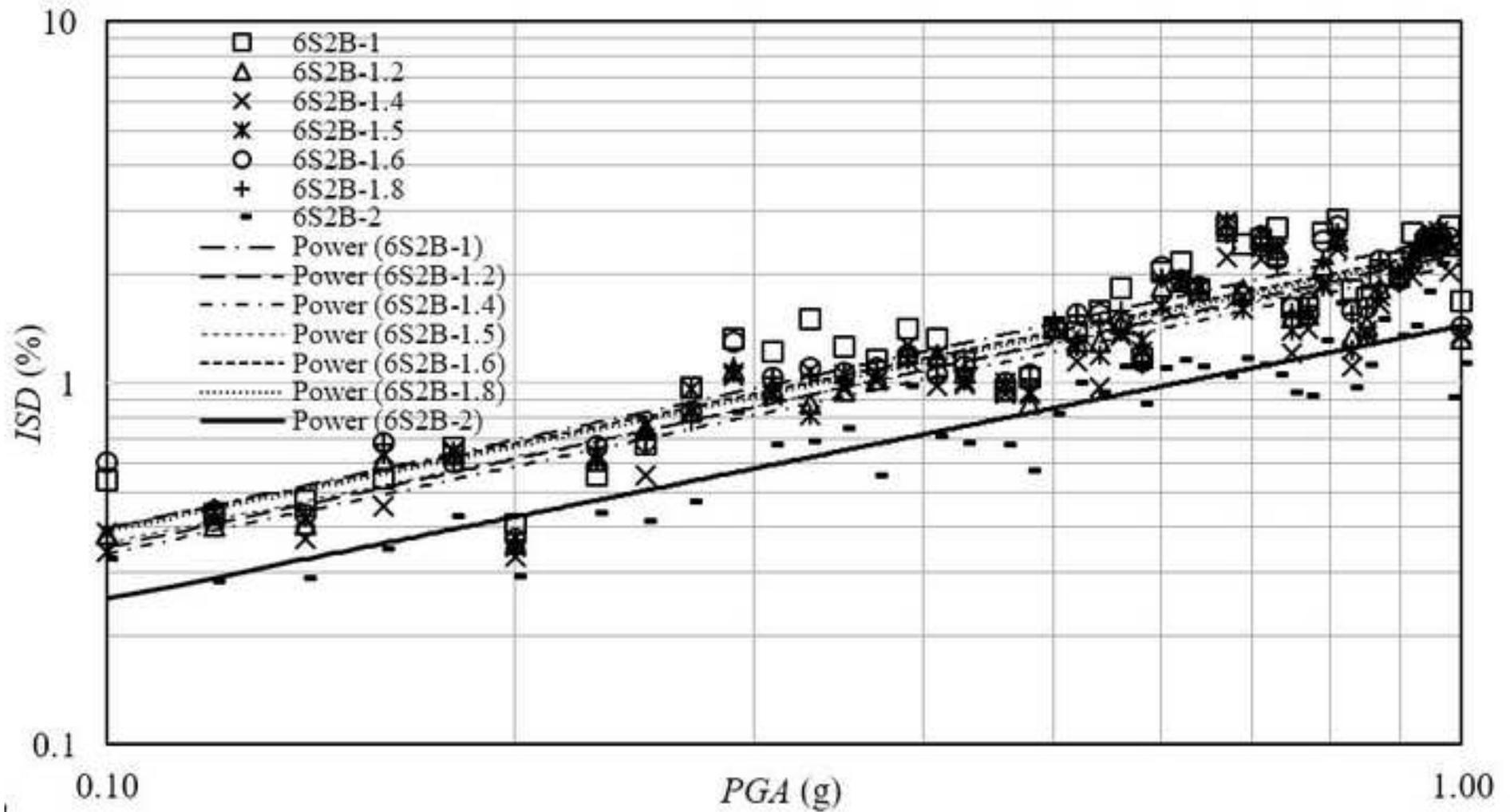


Fig. 4: PSDM for 6S2B frame

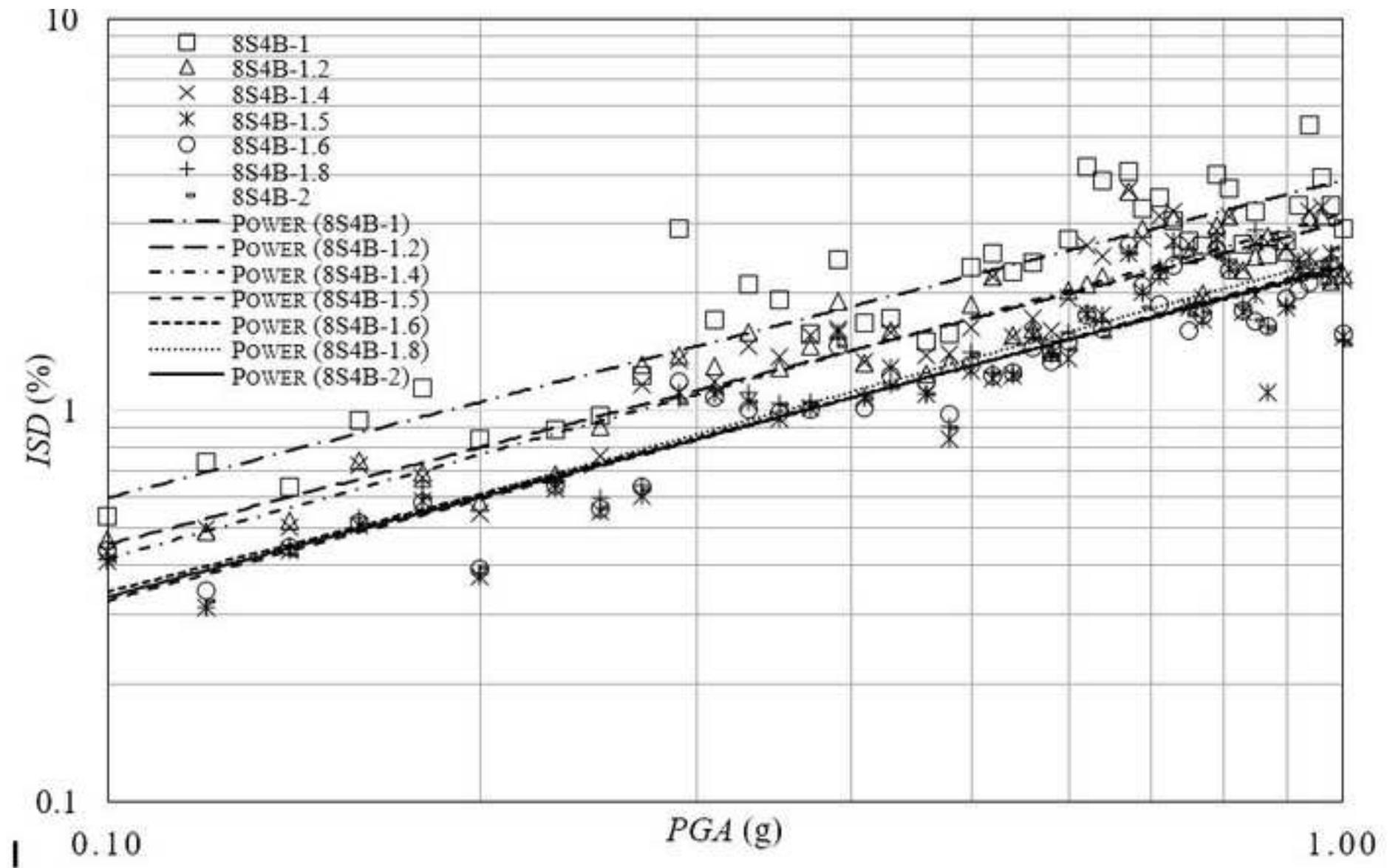
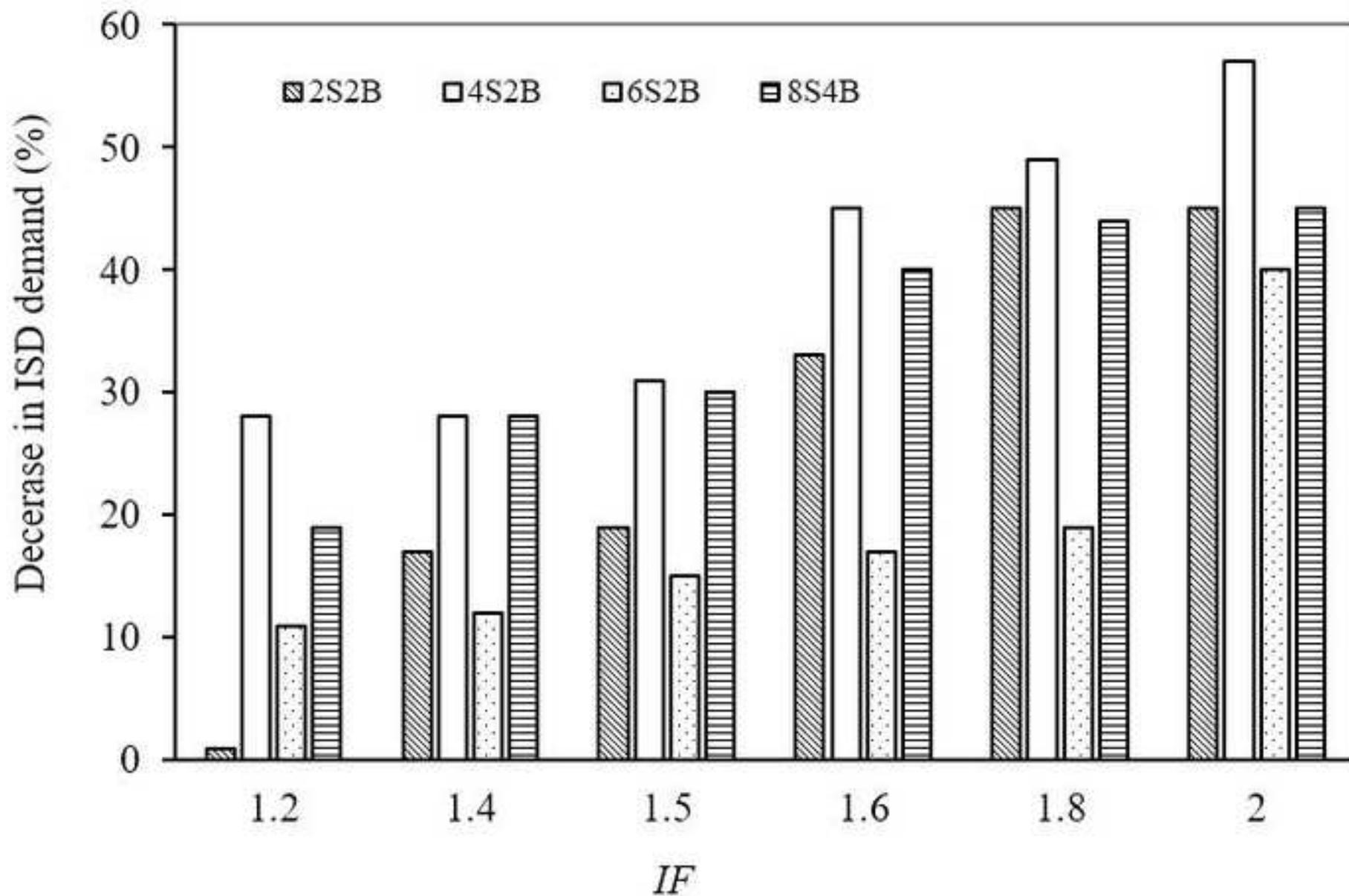
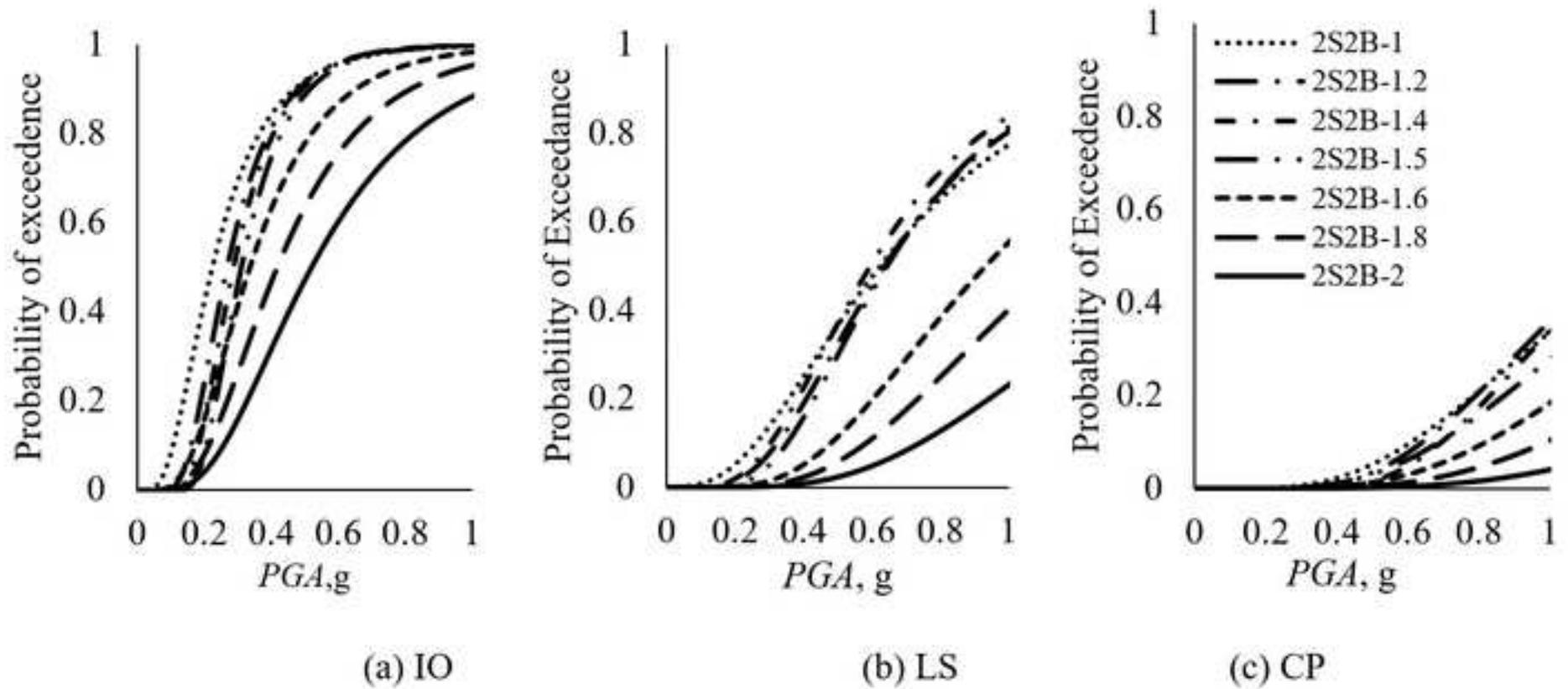


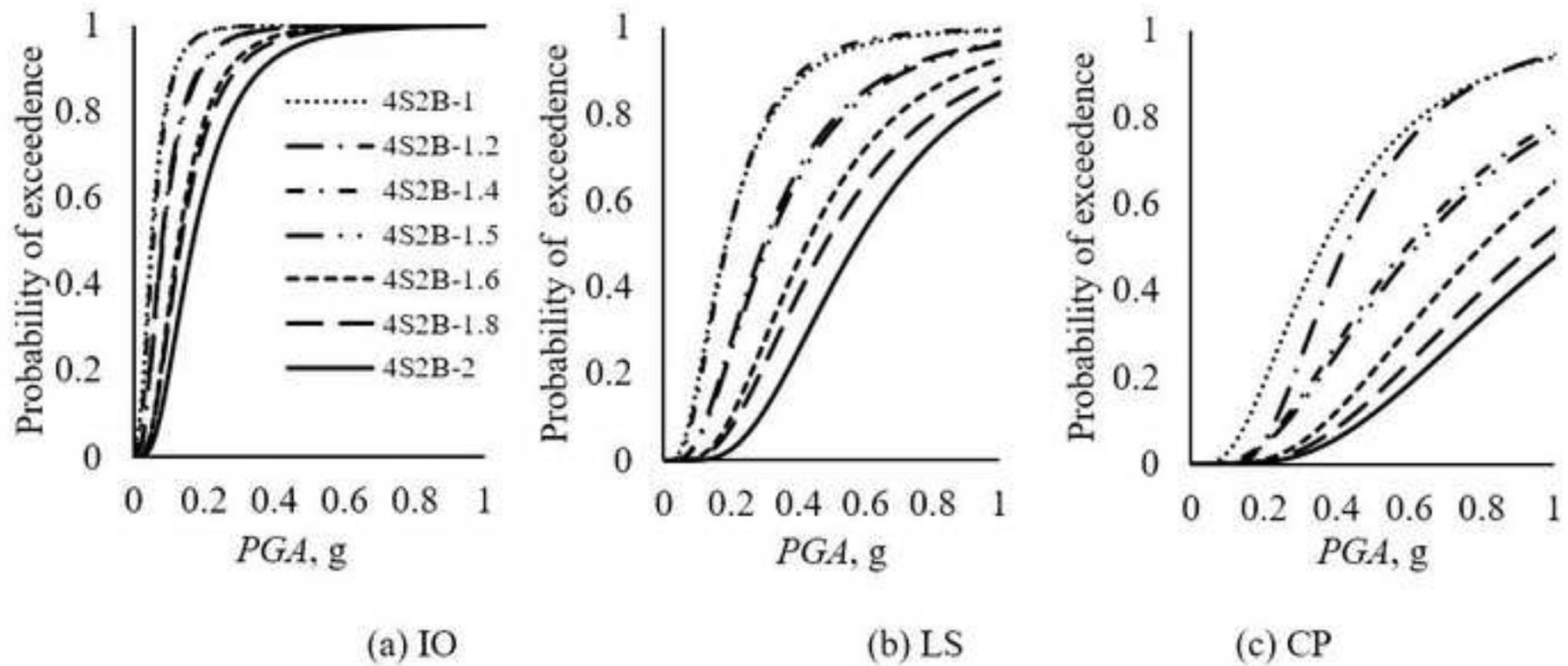
Fig. 5: PSDM for 8S4B frame

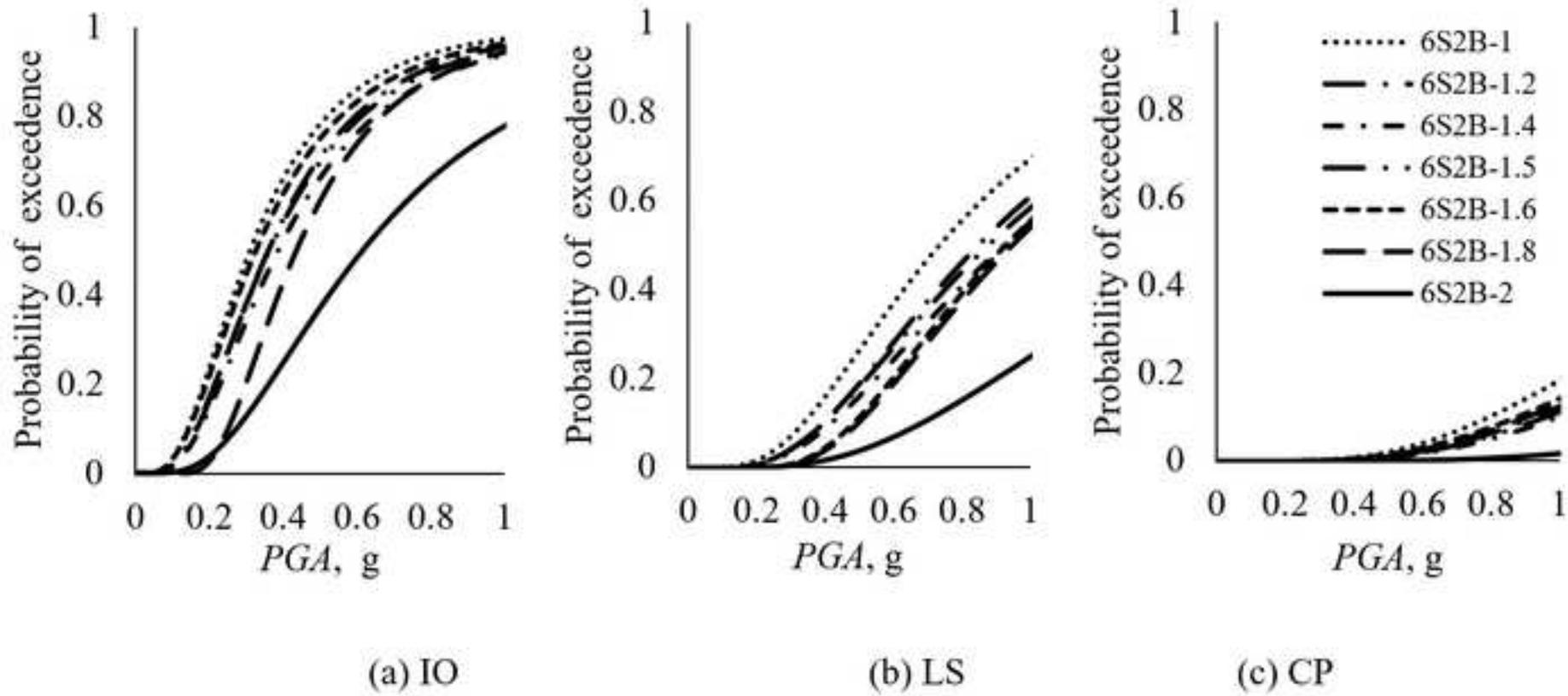


**Fig. 6:** Decrease in  $ISD$  as a function of  $IF$  at  $PGA = 0.3g$

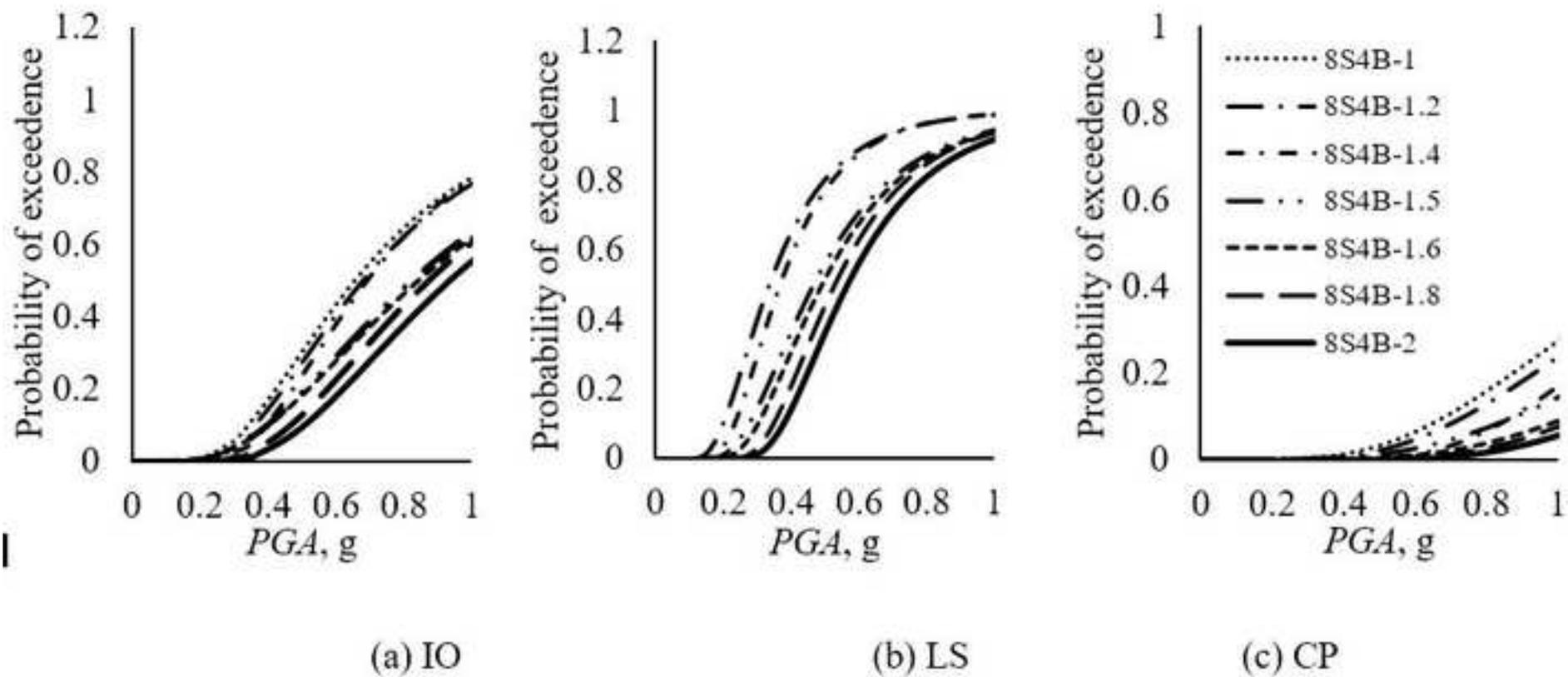


**Fig.7:** Fragility curve for 2S2B frame

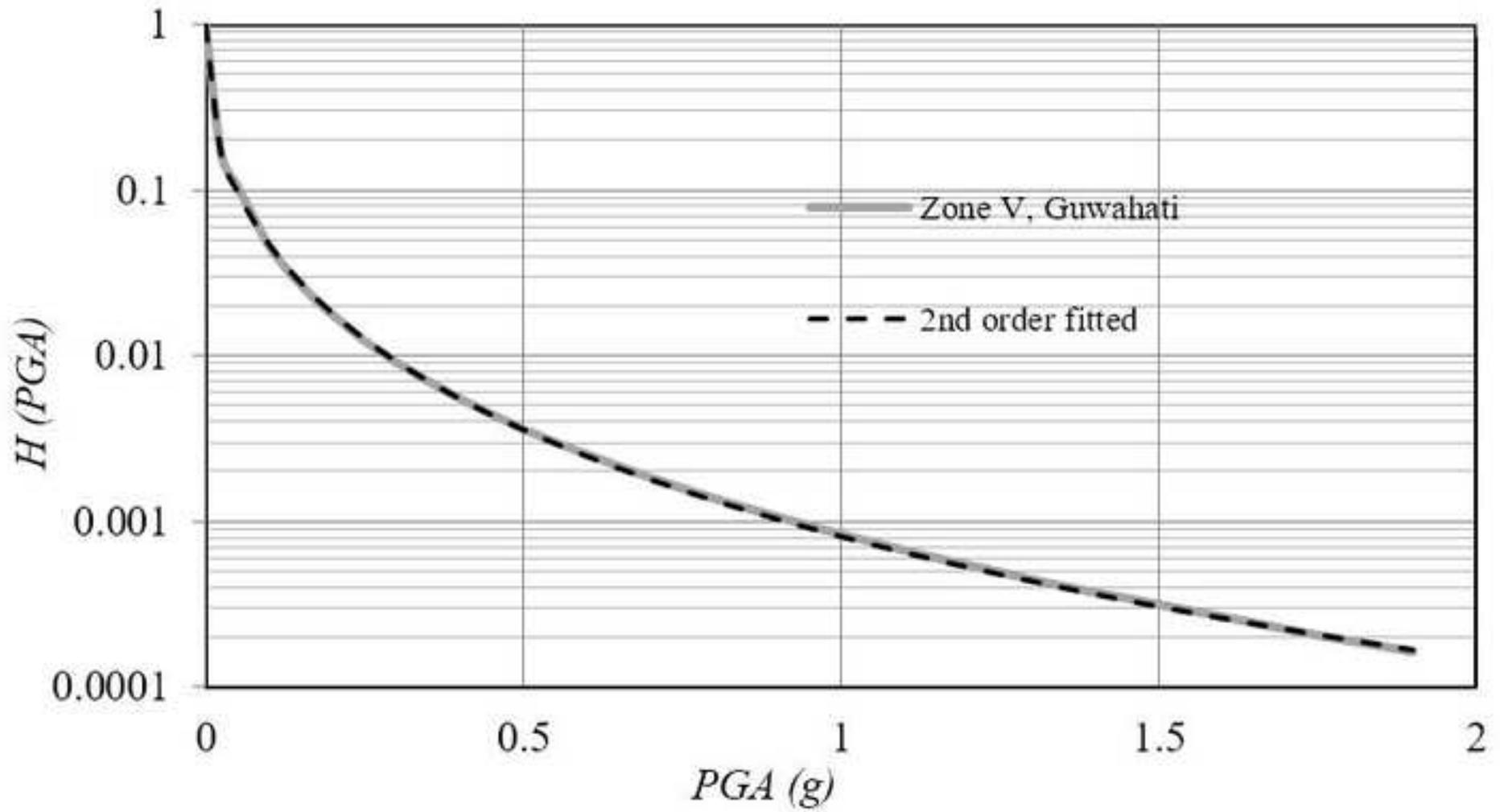
**Fig.8:** Fragility curve for 4S2B frame



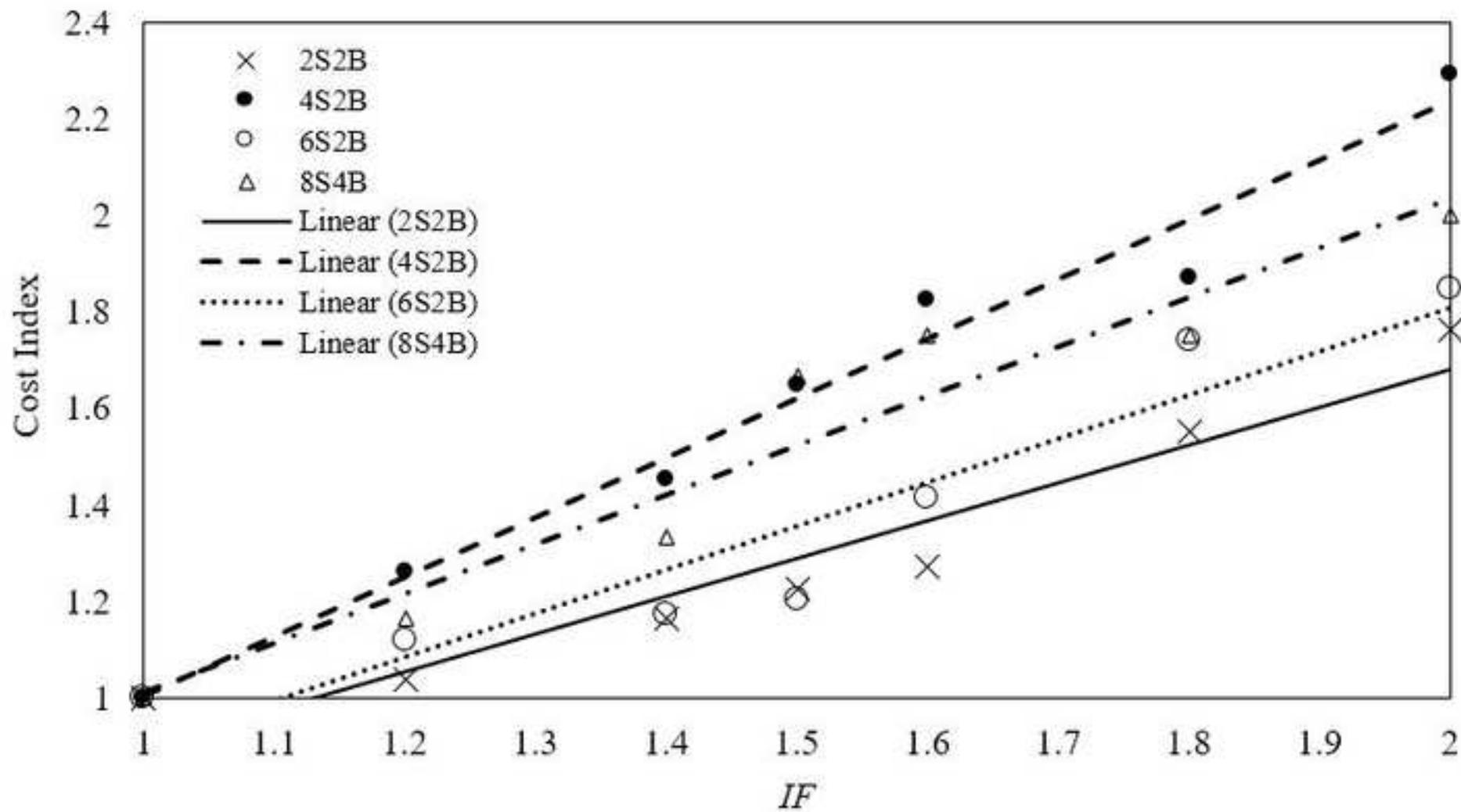
**Fig.9:** Fragility curve for 6S2B frame



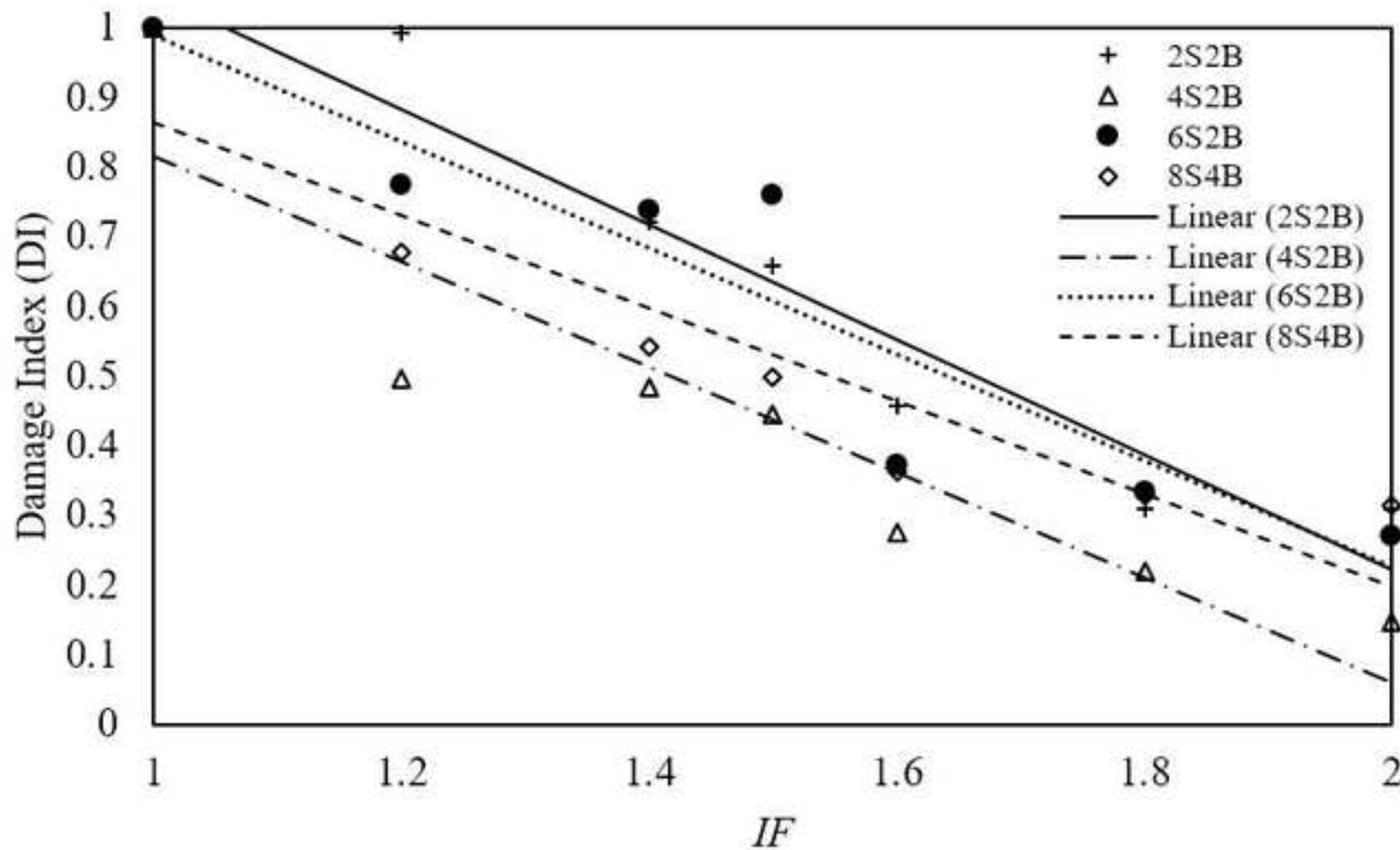
**Fig.10:** Fragility curve for 8S4B frame



**Fig. 11.** Selected seismic hazard curve for Guwahati



**Fig. 12:** Effect of  $IF$  on the cost index of the building



**Fig. 13:** Effect of  $IF$  on the damage index of the building for a typical performance objective

**Figure Caption List**

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**Fig. 3:** PSDM for 4S2B frame

**Fig. 4:** PSDM for 6S2B frame

**Fig. 5:** PSDM for 8S4B frame

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