

# SEISMIC STUDY OF MODHERA SUN TEMPLE

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## Abstract

Monuments have been created for thousands of years, and they are often the most durable and famous symbols of ancient civilizations. They have witnessed many earthquakes with ominously less damage. The purpose of this project is to analyze the static and dynamic properties of ancient Indian monuments. For that purpose Modhera Sun Temple, Gujarat has been taken as the Monument. The 3D modelling and analysis is done by using Sap2000V.15 software. Seismic Co-efficient analysis, modal analysis and Time History analysis is performed on the model.

**Keywords:** Modhera Sun Temple, Monument, Time History, El Centro, Modal Analysis

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Monuments have been created for thousands of years, and they are often the most durable and famous symbols of ancient civilizations. India is one of the oldest country and many monuments are present in its soil. Majority of the monuments are located on seismically active region of intensity 2 and 3 for example north and west region of Indian Continent. Amongst them Gujarat has many important monuments which played important part in Indian history. The monument here chosen for study is Modhera sun temple which was constructed in 1026 A.D. It is situated in Mahesana district under seismic zone IV. It is oldest sun temple in the world. There are three parts of this sun temple Ramakunda, Nritya Mandapa and Sun temple. It has faced many historical earthquake events. 52% of the structure was damaged in the various foreign invasions but it was restored by Gujarat government in 1972 but the new restored part was damaged during the 2001 Bhuj Earthquake where as old construction remained safe. Aim of this work is to do comparative study of seismic behavior for normal structure and monument and hence for that, here sun temple has been taken as the monument. There are main three ways of doing seismic analysis of the structure, Linear Static Analysis, Response Spectrum and Time History Analysis. Modal analysis is been performed on the model of monument and regarding to that, data of frequency and time period variance with the change of modes is studied. Characteristics of El Centro time history are applied to the Sun Temple and its effect on monument is evaluated by response spectrum method and time history method.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

F.E.M. based software Sap2000 have been used for the modelling of the Modhera Sun Temple. Effect of the essential

parameter like deflection, pseudo acceleration, time period, frequency were studied by applying el-Centro time history, which is applied as ground motion and effects of different parameters are studied on dome and openings.

## 3. MODELLING

The model of Modhera sun temple is been prepared in the F.E.M. base software Sap2000V15. To reduce the complexity in the analysis elements are assumed perfectly bonded. For creating 3D model of Modhera sun temple solid block components have been taken and properties of sandstone material are assigned to them. Model is been prepared using structural data provided by Archaeological Survey of India

### 3.1 Model Dimensions

Model of sun temple is prepared as fix base model. In plan, shape of base of the structure looks like two lotuses. Two columns are located in the entrance. There are 18 different columns inside the structure. 8 main columns take the load of the dome and remaining 10 columns are connected with main columns via beams for transferring the load of dome to foundation. Due to carving columns are in hexagonal shape but to avoid complexity in modeling, columns are taken as square element by keeping equivalent area as hexagonal.

**Table1** Model Dimensions <sup>[8]</sup>

Element	Dimensions
Plinth	2.03 m
Length	22.4 m
Width	12.7 m

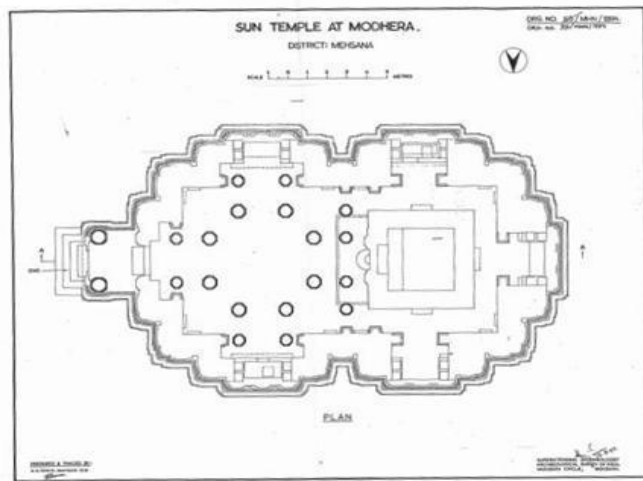
No. of Columns	18
Height of Column	6.3 m
Slab Thickness	1.02 m
Foundation Thickness	3 m
Height	8.8 m
Height of dome	1.5 m
Seal level	1 m
Size of Column	0.8m X 0.8 m

**3.2 Material Modelling**

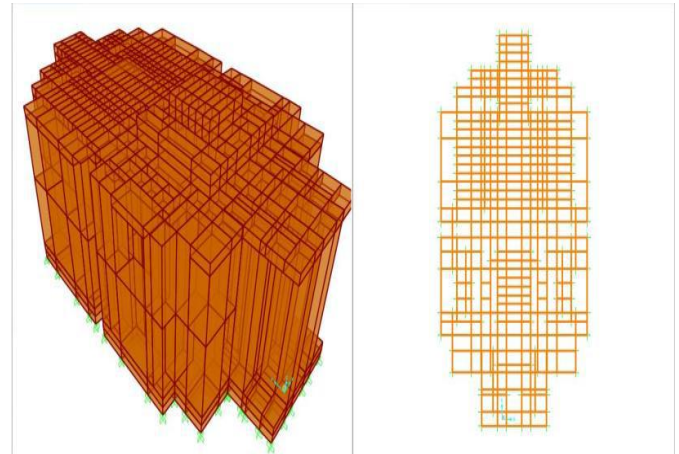
Material used in Modhera sun temple is sandstone found near Kadi, Mahesana district and various properties of the sandstone is enlisted as below

**Table2.** Material Characteristics of Sand Stone [9]

Term	Value
Modulus of Elasticity	9700Mpa
Poisson’s Ratio	0.3
Self-Weight	21.57 kN/m <sup>3</sup>



**Fig1.** Plan of modhera sun temple



**Fig2.** 3D model and Plan of Modhera Sun Temple in Sap2000V15

**4. SCOPE OF THE WORK**

To determine effect of earthquake on monument seismic study has been carried out. The main parameter here considered is the effect of El-Centro time-history on the dome and openings in Modhera sun temple. Three types of analysis Linear Static, Modal Analysis and Time-History are carried out and based on output, variance in time period and frequency with the change in different modes are studied as well as graphs are prepared of deflection v/s time-period and pseudo-acceleration v/s time-period.

**5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**5.1 Seismic Co-efficient Method**

Being most primitive and mostly used in India seismic co-efficient method was used to analyze on the model. To study the inertia force generated on the foundation of Modhera Sun Temple considering all the factors as mentioned in IS 1893:2002 base shear was calculated. The base shear value is considerably very high in compare to normal residential structure of same dimension. The reason of high base shear is due less time period, high Importance factor, high zone factor as well as high self-weight.

**Table3.** Base Shear and Moment Values

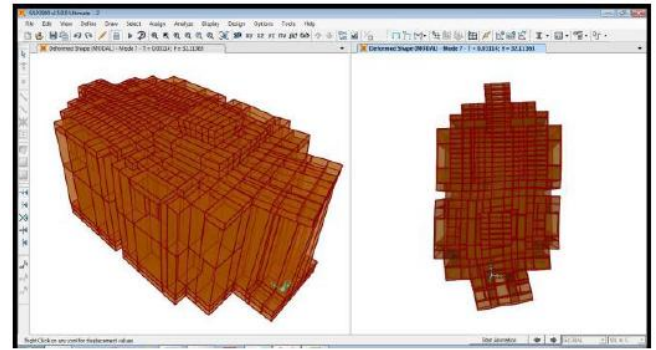
	Force in X Direction	Force in Y Direction	Force in Z Direction
Max	5139.753 kN	4086.583 kN	2359.744 kN
Min	-5660.51 kN	-4684.86 kN	-2444.12 kN

**5.2 Model Analysis**

To study the frequency and time variance of sun temple under different mode shapes Modal Analysis has been carried out. Total 10 different mode shapes were studied. It can be seen that there is increase in frequency as the mode shape changes. Increase in frequency can be understood as mode shape changes, stiffness changes of structure which leads to stiffer structure and as joints are well defined with each other structure behaves like one unit due to which structure tends to be more flexible which results into high frequency.

**Table4.** Modal Analysis Results

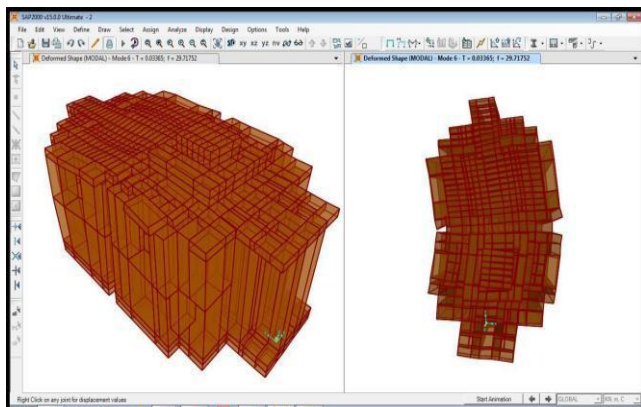
Step Num	Period (second)	Frequency (Cyc/sec)	Circular Frequency (rad/sec)	Modal Stiffness (kN-m)
1	0.072723	13.751	86.399	7464.74903
2	0.058337	17.142	107.71	11600.50526
3	0.049239	20.309	127.6	16282.99826
4	0.038611	25.9	162.73	26481.62496
5	0.035584	28.102	176.57	31178.01686
6	0.03365	29.718	186.72	34864.62243
7	0.031139	32.114	201.78	40713.51022
8	0.028872	34.636	217.62	47360.00247
9	0.026815	37.292	234.31	54902.50674
10	0.026696	37.459	235.36	55395.48211



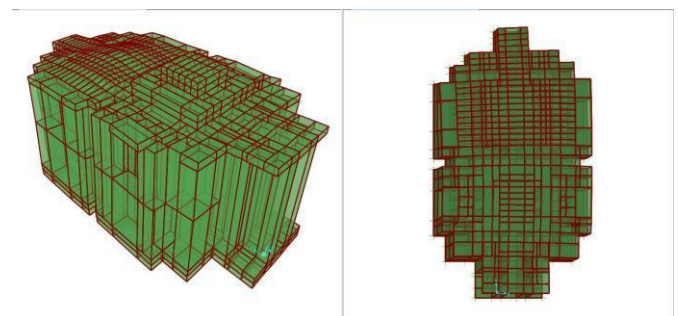
**Fig4.** 2<sup>nd</sup> Mode Shape of Modhera Sun Temple

**5.3 Time-History Analysis**

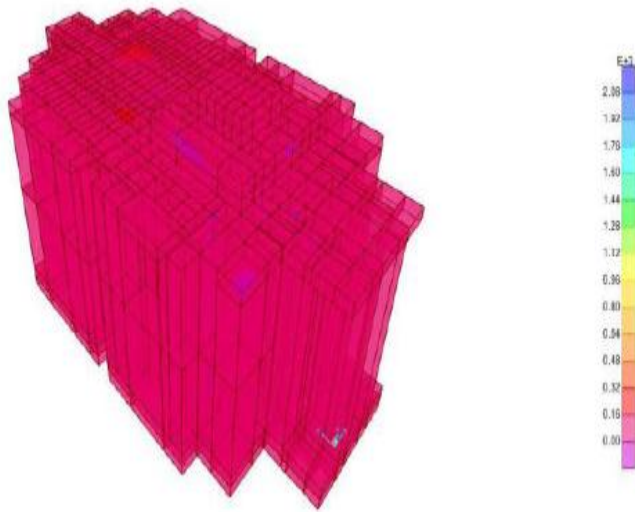
To study the behavior of monument under the earthquake, el-Centro time-history is applied to the monument and deflection, development of stresses and behavior of structure is studied. These parameters are studied on dome and on openings as they are most vulnerable in shear loading. After the application of the time-history, stress distribution diagram was plotted in which it can be seen that stress distribution on whole temple is almost equal except dome portion (Fig 6) so further parametric study was carried out on dome. It can be seen that maximum pseudo acceleration on the dome was almost equal to 0.3g (Fig 7) where as maximum deflection was almost 0.6mm (Fig 8). Reason of such earthquake resistant behavior of monument is due to well defined joint of columns with the slab, high number of columns to transfer load to the ground as well as the lower stiffness of structure which makes structure flexible and leads to less deflection but high frequency. In monument no adhesive or mortar is provided to join two sandstones, instead of mortar, similar to curved shape butt joint is provided and wooden stick of sag tree is used as joint as shown in fig 9. In addition Connections between main columns are shown in Fig 10.



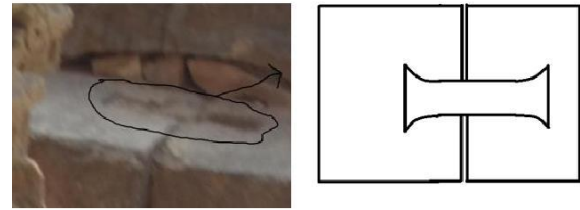
**Fig3.** 1<sup>st</sup> Mode Shape of Modhera Sun Temple



**Fig 5.** Deformed Shape of Modhera Sun Temple under El Centro Earthquake



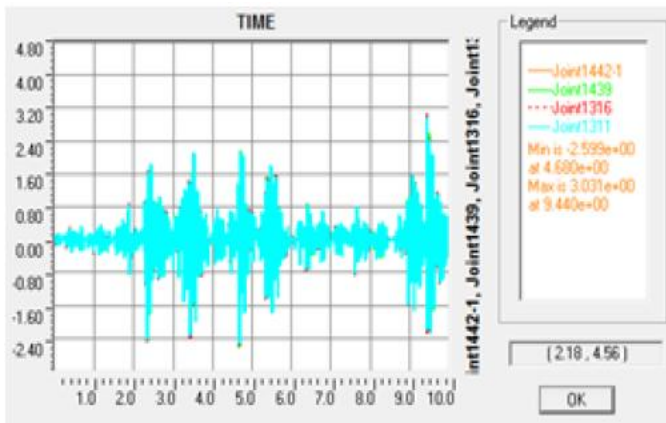
**Fig6.** Stress Distribution Diagram of Modhera Sun Temple under El Centro Earthquake



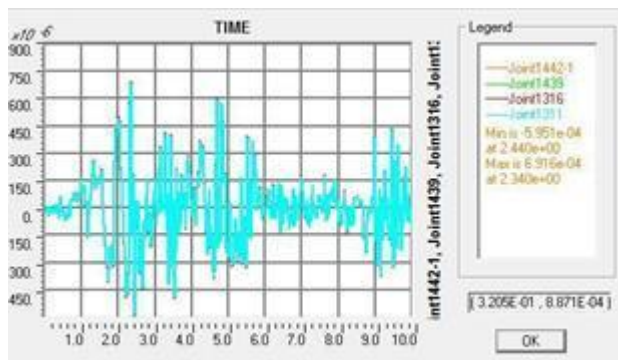
**Fig9.** Uses of wooden sticks as sandstone joint material



**Fig10.** Artistic earthquake resistant connections between two columns



**Fig7.**Time History curve for A Pseudo Acceleration in respect to time for dome of Modhera Sun Temple



**Fig8.** Time History curve for Acceleration in respect to time for dome of Modhera Sun Temple

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

Here 3D model of sun temple is been prepared in SAP2000 to find out different mode shapes and to do time history analysis. Time History of El Centro earthquake was applied to the monument. Though it has high Pseudo acceleration due to well defined joints between slab and column it registered negligible deflection

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