

# Failure Risk for Frame Buildings by Certification Results: Probability Assessment

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**Abstract** In many situations, the level of safety is established by following the guidelines set forth in rules or regulations. Engineers are accountable for giving quantitative estimates for different factors, particularly failure cost, when extra information is available, such as the owner's needs. By order of the Akimat of the city of Almaty, within 2017-2018, for the first time, a full certification of the housing stock of apartment buildings was carried out. 1847 multi-story frame buildings of various stories entered into the database. Based on the certification results, for the first time, quantitative estimates of the values of the probability of failure and reliability were obtained for frame buildings of various types. The recurrence of earthquakes is taken into account by the current "Seismic zoning map of the Republic of Kazakhstan." The results of assessments of the values of reliability and failure are used for practical recommendations on reducing the risk and expected losses in case of possible earthquakes. A total reinforcement of frame buildings with a first flexible floor (59 buildings) is proposed. The method of amplification should be determined by special research.

**Keywords** Certification, Risk, Frame Building, Frame-Brick Building, Reliability, Repeatability

large earthquakes that wreaked havoc in densely populated areas. These are often changed depending on new information obtained from previous earthquakes and study discoveries, and as a result, they are always changing. Seismic codes are used all around the world. Most codes have similar fundamental approaches on how to design structures for earthquake impacts at their core, but they will differ in technical requirements and include language addressing local geology circumstances, common construction types, historical difficulties, etc. Simply put, seismic zones are areas on a map where earthquakes have historically occurred in clusters. Seismologists commonly use the phrase seismic zone to refer to locations where seismicity is believed to be caused by the same source [Sippl et al., 2019]. Seismic zones are defined as areas on a map with a similar areal rate of seismicity for the purposes of computing probabilistic ground movements for seismic hazard assessment [Florez & Prieto, 2019; Sil et al., 2013]. The megapolis area of the city of Almaty is the most highly seismic zone in Central Asia. The city is home to over 2 million people, with the prospect of population growth to 5 million by 2035. Over the past 140 years, there have been three strong earthquakes with magnitudes 7-8 - Vernenskoe in 1887, Chilikskoe in 1889, and Kebinskoe (Keminskoe) in 1911. In these conditions, the seismic safety of the population must be ensured.

The use of frame buildings in seismic areas is due to their good resistance to seismic effects during earthquakes. It was found that if frame buildings are designed in

## **1. Introduction**

Seismic codes were devised and refined as a result of

compliance with the principles of earthquake-resistant construction, then the earthquake resistance of such buildings is beyond doubt [Akbari & Ayubirad, 2017; Ayubi Rad & Ayubirad, 2017; Chen et al., 2019; Hinarejos et al., 2018; Karmenova et al., 2020; Ontiveros-Perez et al., 2019]. The CBF (centrically braced frame) is a typical and effective seismic force-resisting technology used in low-rise buildings. Steel braces are used in this sort of structural structure to give the rigidity and strength needed to disperse seismic energy. Various bracing arrangements have been recommended in various building regulations throughout the world. These rules include specific design criteria for structural elements and connections but no advice on how to choose the optimum bracing arrangement for the project [Mitasov et al., 2019; Nemchinov, 2008; Silacheva et al., 2020; Tulaganov, 2021].

In the city of Almaty, there is a fairly large number of frame buildings that have been erected in the last 30-35 years. These are five-story frame residential buildings of the standard series 70s, VT, VP-1, as well as nine-story frame residential buildings, erected according to the standard series SZhKU-9.

In almost all frame buildings, prefabricated floors of reinforced concrete slabs with voids and monolithic reinforced concrete straps were used [Babiy et al., 2018; Butska et al., 2019; Dovzhenko & Pohribnyi, 2019; Mailyan & Del Socorro, 2020; Mukhametrakhimov et al., 2021]. Brick was mainly used as enclosing structures in buildings with a height of up to five floors and hinged prefabricated lightweight aggregate concrete panels with a height of more than five floors [Osuská & Hela, 2020; Rahman & Uddin, 2018]. The height of residential frame buildings varies from 4 to 9 floors.

In addition to these structural types, the construction of the city of Almaty also includes frame buildings with a first flexible floor, diaphragms and stiffening cores, and various kinds of girderless systems. In modern multi-story structures, a soft first story is a common characteristic. Despite the fact that multi-story structures with soft story floors are inherently prone to earthquake collapse, they are nevertheless common in developing countries. The functional and social necessity for ground-level vehicle parking and open-story workplaces at various levels of the structure significantly outweighs the technical community's warnings against such structures [Dolšek & Fajfar, 2001; Halde & Deshmukh, 2015; Khandve, 2012; Ko & Lee, 2006].

Buildings with a first flexible floor are highly vulnerable to earthquakes. The main reason for the destruction of such buildings is the loss of stability of the struts due to large displacements during strong seismic events.

In 2017-2018, in the city of Almaty, a total certification of the multi-apartment housing stock was carried out, as a result of which electronic passports of the surveyed

buildings were created. Below are the assessments of the reliability and risk of such buildings using the results of certification. Quantitative data on assessments of failure and reliability of frame buildings for the city of Almaty were obtained for the first time.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Multi Apartment 5-Story Frame-Brick Residential Buildings of the 70s Series

Residential buildings of the 70c series, according to the structural system, refer to buildings with a precast-monolithic reinforced concrete frame-braced frame. The cross-sectional dimensions of the columns are 50 x 30 cm. The cross-sectional dimensions of the longitudinal girders are 40 x 50 (h) cm. The cross-sectional dimensions of the transverse girders are 50 x 22 (h) cm. The concrete class of monolithic reinforced concrete columns and girders is B25.

Stiffening diaphragms in the basement level - precast reinforced concrete 160 mm thick. Concrete class of stiffness diaphragms B20. Stiffness diaphragms at the level of the 1st to 5th floors are prefabricated expanded clay concrete with a thickness of 160 mm. Concrete class of stiffness diaphragms B20. There are no crossbars and stiffening diaphragms at the technical floor level. Stiffening diaphragms are connected to columns and girders using monolithic reinforced concrete infills.

Basement and floor slabs are prefabricated from prestressed panels with round voids. The covering is precast from prestressed ribbed panels. Floor panels and coverings are laid on the crossbars of the longitudinal frames.

The outer walls are made of brick, self-supporting, 51 cm thick, lined along the inner facade with cement-sand slabs and shell rock slabs along the outer facade. Partitions - precast from large-sized rolled gypsum concrete panels and brick.

The roof is soft combined with an internal drain.

Foundations: for columns - monolithic reinforced concrete, free-standing columnar, for stiffening diaphragms - monolithic reinforced concrete tape. Foundation concrete class B20.

### 2.2. Multi Apartment 5-Story Frame-Brick Residential Buildings of the VP-1 And VT Series

According to the structural system, residential buildings of the VP-1 and VT series belong to buildings with a precast-monolithic reinforced concrete frame carcass (a grid of columns 3.5x5.4 m and 4.0x6.0 m, respectively). Frame columns in these series are made of monolithic reinforced concrete, and crossbars are made of precast concrete. All connections of frame elements are made by

brazing of reinforcement outlets in the nodes, followed by their concreting.

The carried-out studies have shown that in real conditions, the quality of the brazing and the strength of the concrete for embedding the units do not always meet the requirements of the project, and some buildings of this type (having an unsatisfactory construction quality) cannot be considered as earthquake resistant. At the same time, in general, the frame buildings of these series can be classified as seismic safety since they can withstand seismic effects without damage and destruction, which pose a direct threat to the safety of people.

### 2.3. Multi-Apartment 9-Story Frame Residential Buildings of the SZhKU-9 Series

Residential buildings of the SZhKU-9 series, according to the structural system, refer to buildings with a prefabricated reinforced concrete frame space carcass. Frame structures of the carcass are located in the longitudinal and transverse directions of the building. The load-bearing structures are transverse frames made of prefabricated reinforced concrete enlarged Zh-shaped half-frames with tier cutting of columns in the areas of least effort from horizontal seismic forces; the girder joints in the middle span are made by welding metal plates ("fish") to metal girder heads.

In the longitudinal direction, the transverse frames are connected by crossbars of the longitudinal frames. The joints of the columns and crossbars of the longitudinal frames are made by welding overlays ("fish") welded to the metalheads of the consoles of the columns and crossbars.

## 3. Results

### 3.1. The Results of Certification

Table 1 shows the results of certification for the group of frame buildings. Frame-brick buildings with a first flexible floor are not earthquake resistant here. This is 4% of the total number of frame buildings. Therefore, the group of frame buildings as a whole complies with the norms of earthquake-resistant construction and seems to be safe enough for living.

It should be noted that four frame-brick buildings are seismically isolated using a seismic isolation system using kinematic foundations.

**Table 1.** Multi-apartment frame residential buildings by series.

№	Series of frame buildings	Number of buildings	Earthquake resistant buildings	Non-earthquake resistant buildings - buildings with a first flexible floor.
1	VP	575	562	13
2	BT	235	224	11
3	70S	18	18	-
4	IPcar	1006	974	32
5	SZhKU-9	13	10	3
	Total	1847	1788	59



**Figure 1.** Furmanova, st., house 229, 70 series



**Figure 2.** Baizakova, st., house 263, 70 series



Figure 3. Md. Mamyр-7, building 11, VP



Figure 5. Rozybakiyeva, St., house 140, SZhKU-9



Figure 4. Emtsova, st., house 8/2, IPcar



Figure 6. Furmanova, st., house 57



**Figure 7.** Destruction of a building with a flexible first floor during the earthquake in Boumerdes (Algeria, 2003) [Nemchinov, 2008]

### 3.2. Experimental Data On Dynamic Characteristics

JSC "KazNIISA" has a network of engineering and seismometric stations on buildings located on frame buildings in Almaty. Table 2 shows the dynamic characteristics of frame buildings (periods of vibration in the transverse and longitudinal axes).

The dynamic characteristics of these buildings were determined from instrumental records of earthquakes. The oscillation period values can be used to determine seismic loads or to designate a method for strengthening buildings

after an earthquake.

## 4. Discussion

The name of the approach is since phenomenology considers a specific experience and tries to describe it, as much as possible, with minimal distortions or interpretations.

As a hypothesis, we will consider the results above to be true and obtained when the following failure criterion is implemented. Failure  $Q$  here is an event consisting of the fact that during an earthquake with an intensity of 9 points, the degree of damage to the object will be such that its further functioning will be excluded. The assignment of a building to the class of non-earthquake resistance is carried out by a group of experts who assign it to the specified class based on previous experience and objective information.

Let us assume that the conditional probabilities of failures at the indicated acceleration values are the same, i.e., earthquake-resistant buildings are the same at acceleration values specified in regulatory documents. A scheme or an earthquake is realized with a repeatability of 1 time in 475 years or 1 time in 2475 years. The building service life is assumed to be 50 years. The last row of Table 3 shows the total failure probabilities for all frame buildings  $Q_{475}=0,03485$  and  $Q_{2475}=0,00671$ .

**Table 2.** Dynamic characteristics of frame buildings according to the data of engineering and seismometric stations (sec).

№	Station number and name	Earthquake 03/25/1978	Earthquake, 05/31/2012
1	Station 1 "INSTITUTE", 4-story precast reinforced concrete frame	0,5;0,42	0,46;0,51
2	Station 3 "SCHOOL", 4-story precast reinforced concrete frame with prefabricated reinforced concrete floors with external expanded clay concrete panels	0,48;0,55	0,39;0,44
3	Station 7 "TULEBAEVA", 8-story frame building, SZhKU-9	0,6;0,64	-
4	Station 24 "TRAINING CENTER," 3-story frame building	-	0,35;0,36

**Table 3.** Characteristics of the probability of failure  $Q$  for frame buildings.

№	Constructive solution	Failure rate by type of frame buildings	Failure values with repeatability of 475 years	The failure rate with repeatability of 2475 years
1	VP	0,0226	0,00237	0,00046
2	VT	0,0468	0,00491	0,00095
3	70s	0	0	0
4	IPcar	0,0319	0,00334	0,00064
5	SZhKU-9	0,2308	0,02423	0,00466
	All types		0,03485	0,00671

Then the total value is  $Q_{car}=Q_9 P_{475}+ Q_9 P_{2475}$ .

Then the value of the overall reliability for the group of frame residential buildings is

$$W_{car}=1-0,03485-0,00671=0,95844 \quad (1)$$

The obtained value of the overall reliability  $W_{car}$  is an objective quantitative characteristic of the state of a group of frame multi-story residential buildings in Almaty, taking into account the recurrence of seismic impact. Further actions can change the indicated  $W_{car}$  value.

If we strengthen all buildings with the first flexible floor - 59 buildings, then in this case, for all types of frame buildings, the probability of failure is  $Q_9 = 0$ . Then the reliability for all groups of frame buildings is reliability  $W = 1$ .

It should be noted that the probability of failure can also be determined using other methods for determining the probability of failure and reliability [Ahmad et al., 2018; Bunea et al., 2017; Dolce et al., 2020; Dzhinchvelashvili et al., 2018; Fathi-Fazl et al., 2018; Ferrier & Haque, 2003; Hare, 2019; Leonard et al., 2014; Liu & Wang, 2018; Maio et al., 2020; Raizer, 2004; Takewaki et al., 2013], developed by domestic and foreign experts. In conclusion, it should be mentioned that in the city of Almaty, there are about four frame buildings on seismic-insulating kinematic foundations [Lapin et al., 2019]. In the future, you can use other seismic isolation systems [Ahmad et al., 2018; Bulat et al., 2018, 2019; Hare, 2019; Lapin et al., 2019].

## 5. Conclusions

With time, all buildings and materials deteriorate and are destroyed. The only thing that fluctuates is the rate at which the deterioration occurs. A sandcastle on the beach could last for a few hours, but it could take billions of years for a mountain to crumble. When it comes to building construction, it's critical that it's constructed to last the specified amount of time. The structure should have a high degree of safety during its expected lifetime to withstand the pressures and stresses it is subjected to, as well as the environment to which it is exposed. Many forces are at work to deteriorate and destroy building structures. These degrading variables are often classified into three groups: loads, environment, and use. Because use frequently includes loads, this divide is not entirely rational, but it has practical advantages in the context of constructing structures. The impact of the environment on the structure of a building is inescapable. Corrosion in steel is perhaps the most frequent environmental stress, although all materials deteriorate in the environment in which they function, even if their lives can be exceptionally long. Other environmental stresses include a variety of chemical reactions as well as wind and water erosion. Humans who utilize the buildings contribute to an "environmental load," which is another term for "usage."

A building is, after all, designed to be utilized, which implies that it is susceptible to wear and tear in addition to the different stresses listed. The activities that take place within the structures wreak havoc on the structure. Protective paint is scraped away, blows and impacts wear material away, and minor but repetitive stresses produce small cracks, reducing the structure's strength over time. Our planet is subjected to a wide variety of unique natural loads, both intentional and unintentional. Here are a couple such instances. Earthquakes are the most obvious, but nature also provides many unexpected shocks, including volcanic eruptions, typhoons, floods, and meteorites. The likelihood of estimating such an incident can occur determines whether and to what extent a building should be constructed to resist such loads. The building is designed to withstand earthquake loads in locations where earthquakes are known to occur. Maps are created that indicate the predicted probabilities and magnitudes of such loads and the potential for ground dislocations. After conducting a study about the condition of frame buildings, it turned out:

1. Frame buildings with "first flexible floors" do not meet the requirements of the current standards and are earthquake-prone. Buildings with the first flexible floors require a detailed survey with a computational and analytical assessment of the bearing capacity of structures and the development of recommendations on the method of reinforcement;
2. Probabilistic assessments of the reliability of frame buildings have been obtained based on the results of certification both with and without earthquake frequency.

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