



# [Seismic Performance of the Inerter](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fbuil.2021.773622/full) [and Negative Stiffness](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fbuil.2021.773622/full)–[Based](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fbuil.2021.773622/full) [Dampers for Vibration Control of](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fbuil.2021.773622/full) **[Structures](https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fbuil.2021.773622/full)**

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Passive energy dissipation devices or supplemental damping devices have been successfully implemented into structures for controlling the excessive vibrations under wind and seismic excitation. Recent developments in the form of negative stiffness dampers (NSDs) and inerter-based vibration absorbers (IVAs) as potential energy dissipation devices are of considerable interest to researchers. The present study evaluates the performance of the combined NSD and IVA as a possible alternative to the traditional energy dissipation devices such as viscous dampers (VDs) and viscoelastic dampers (VEDs). The mathematical formulation and optimal design of the combined NSD and IVA mechanism are presented. A 20-storey benchmark building is modeled as a multidegree-of-freedom (MDOF) shear building. The dynamic equations for the MDOF building are written in the state-space form, and a simple optimization approach based on effective modal damping is prescribed. Comparative performance between traditionally applied and novel IVA and NSD is investigated. The design considerations to analyze structures employing combined NSDs and IVAs are developed. It is demonstrated that NSDs and IVA-based passive energy dissipation devices are the most efficient devices in reducing inter-storey drifts and floor accelerations compared with VDs and VEDs using the same damping coefficient.

Keywords: energy dissipation devices, inerters, negative stiffness dampers, seismic design, vibration control, benchmark structure

## INTRODUCTION

Vibrations induced to a structure due to different kinds of dynamic loading such as winds, earthquakes, or vibrating machinery need special design steps for mitigating the adverse effects. Traditional strength-based or ductility-based design methods have limitations of higher construction cost and permanent damage to the structures. Due to these limitations, researchers have developed intelligent structure systems or structural control systems [\(Cheng et al., 2008](#page-11-0); [Saaed et al., 2015\)](#page-12-0). A "structural control device" or "control system" is a mechanical system that operates specifically to alter the structural response. This modification of system response is based on design consideration, and hence, the output is desirable in other structures without any control device. Based on the operation style, control devices are classified into four main categories: passive control devices/ system, semi-active control devices/systems, active control devices/systems, and hybrid control devices/systems ([Housner et al., 1997](#page-11-1); [Constantinou et al., 1998;](#page-11-2) [Spencer and Nagarajaiah, 2003;](#page-12-1)

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[Symans et al., 2008;](#page-12-2) [Saaed et al., 2015\)](#page-12-0). An active structural control system can automatically supply force into the structure based on the present state to counter the undesirable dynamic vibrations. Passive control systems invoke mechanical properties of materials for vibration control. Semi-active systems use adaptive systems to increase the efficiency of the otherwise passive damper. The hybrid control system is the combination of passive control, semi-active control, and active control families. Various studies [\(Spencer and Nagarajaiah, 2003](#page-12-1); [Symans et al.,](#page-12-2) [2008](#page-12-2); [Basu et al., 2014;](#page-11-3) [Saaed et al., 2015\)](#page-12-0) provide detailed reviews and novel advances in structural control research and applications to civil engineering.

Passive control systems are considered very robust and less complex. Passive control systems include passive energy dissipation devices and seismic isolation devices ([Saaed et al.,](#page-12-0) [2015](#page-12-0)). Seismic isolation devices provide a buffer between the vibration source and structure ([Kelly, 1986](#page-11-4); [Buckle and Mayes,](#page-11-5) [1990](#page-11-5); [Buckle, 2000](#page-11-6); [Connor and La](#page-11-7)flamme, 2014; [Balaji and](#page-11-8) [Karthik SelvaKumar, 2021](#page-11-8)). Passive energy dissipating devices are usually introduced between the main structure and bracing system to absorb input vibrational energy. This tends to reduce the energy dissipation demand in the main structure. Examples of energy dissipating devices include hysteretic devices, fluid viscous dampers (FVDs), or simple viscous dampers (VDs), viscoelastic dampers (VEDs), dynamic vibration absorbers (DVAs) etc. The VEDs and VDs have been successfully used as passive energy dissipation devices for seismic protection of structures. These devices dissipate energy in a rate-dependent manner, i.e., the damping force developed depends on relative displacement and velocity across the devices [\(Housner et al., 1997](#page-11-1); [Spencer and](#page-12-1) [Nagarajaiah, 2003](#page-12-1); [Cheng et al., 2008;](#page-11-0) [Symans et al., 2008;](#page-12-2) [Saaed](#page-12-0) [et al., 2015](#page-12-0); [Losanno et al., 2018\)](#page-12-3). VEDs dissipate energy by shear deformation of a polymeric material, while VDs dissipate energy by the principle of flow through orifice ([Movaffaghi and Friberg,](#page-12-4) [2006](#page-12-4); [Saaed et al., 2015\)](#page-12-0). To design passive energy dissipation systems, optimum size and placement of dampers in a structure need due considerations for the best possible control [\(Zhang and](#page-13-0) [Soong, 1992\)](#page-13-0). A variety of optimization procedures have been proposed in the literature for optimal location and sizing of VEDs and VDs. [Gürgöze and Müller \(1992\)](#page-11-9) investigated the best location of VDs based on an energy criterion for linear multidegree-of-freedom (MDOF) systems. [Zhang and Soong \(1992\)](#page-13-0) presented a sequential optimization strategy based on the degree of controllability for the optimal placement of passive devices. Using the solution for the linear quadratic regulator (LQR) problem, [Gluck et al. \(1996\)](#page-11-10) derived storey-wise optimum damping distributions. Furthermore, [Loh et al. \(2000\)](#page-12-5) have also presented two control theory-based design methods: one is derived from the LQR, while the other is derived from the modal control theory. By minimizing a norm of the response transfer function evaluated at the structure's undamped first mode frequency, a gradient-based strategy for optimal damper placement was applied by [Takewaki \(1997\)](#page-12-6). The optimal design of linear damping devices, such as VDs and VEDs, is addressed using a gradient-based approach. The performance metric to be minimized is a function of the system's response, which is calculated using a stochastic description of the input ([Singh](#page-12-7)

[and Moreschi, 2001\)](#page-12-7). The optimum damping of a VD to provide the minimized response under harmonic excitation and the smallest mean square responses under stationary white-noise random excitation are determined using closedform formulas ([Bhaskararao and Jangid, 2007](#page-11-11)). Genetic algorithms for optimum passive damper problems have also been employed for effective control [\(Singh and Moreschi,](#page-12-8) [2002](#page-12-8); [Wongprasert and Symans, 2004;](#page-13-1) [Movaffaghi and](#page-12-4) [Friberg, 2006](#page-12-4); [Lavan and Dargush, 2009\)](#page-11-12). [Murakami et al.](#page-12-9) [\(2013\)](#page-12-9) and [Cetin et al. \(2017\)](#page-12-10) studied the optimization of simultaneous use of multiple passive dampers of various kinds. High-level computer-aided damper placement optimization for complex 3D structures is presented by [Wang and Mahin \(2018\).](#page-13-2) [Aydin et al. \(2019\)](#page-11-13) presented damper optimization based on minimizing the sum of damping coefficients of various dampers. Several articles have looked into the use of VDs and VEDs in building structures ([Silvestri and Trombetti, 2007](#page-12-11); [Silvestri et al.,](#page-12-12) [2011](#page-12-12); [Takewaki et al., 2011;](#page-12-13) [Whittle et al., 2012](#page-13-3); [Patel and Jangid,](#page-12-14) [2014](#page-12-14)).

Inerter vibration absorbers (IVAs) are a novel form of passive vibration reduction device that has gained a lot of attention in control engineering. The force created by an inerter is proportional to the relative acceleration between its two terminals, similar to the force developed by an electrical capacitor ([Smith, 2002;](#page-12-15) [Chen et al., 2009;](#page-11-14) [Takewaki et al.,](#page-12-16) [2012](#page-12-16); [Lazar et al., 2014](#page-11-15)). The constant of proportionality is called inertance with units of the kilogram. Initially, inerters were used in Formula One suspension systems ([Chen et al., 2009\)](#page-11-14) under the name of J-dampers. However, now the use of inerter systems as control devices has been extended to civil engineering structures [\(Baker, 2007](#page-11-16); [Takewaki et al., 2012](#page-12-16); [Marian and](#page-12-17) [Giaralis, 2014;](#page-12-17) [Brzeski et al., 2015](#page-11-17); [Hu et al., 2015](#page-11-18); [Chen et al.,](#page-11-19) [2021](#page-11-19)). The feasibility of fabricating an inerter device whose inertance (apparent mass) scales up practically independent of its weight has been proven by studying mechanisms that convert the translational motion of the device terminals into rotational motion of a flywheel through gearing ([Smith, 2002](#page-12-15), [2020;](#page-12-18) [Chen](#page-11-20) [and Hu, 2019](#page-11-20)). This unique characteristic is advantageous in vibration control. IVAs can be grouped into inerter-based energy dissipators (EDs), inerter-based dynamic vibration absorbers (DVAs), and inerter-based vibration isolators [\(Ma et al.,](#page-12-19) [2021](#page-12-19)). Inertial mass dampers (IMDs) are inerter-springdamper setups that are used instead of standard springdamper arrangements in inerter-based EDs. It has a higher energy dissipation efficiency than the precise spring-damper arrangement, which is known as the damping enhancement effect [\(Zhang et al., 2020\)](#page-13-4). IMDs have been developed in a variety of configurations ([Luo et al., 2016;](#page-12-20) [Basili et al., 2017\)](#page-11-21). Inerter-based DVAs are used to upgrade conventional DVAs by exploiting the mass amplification property. Inerter-based DVAs include tuned mass damper inerter (query) (TMDI) ([Marian and](#page-12-17) [Giaralis, 2014\)](#page-12-17), tuned inerter-damper (TID) ([Baker, 2007\)](#page-11-16), tuned liquid inerter system (TLIS) ([Zhao et al., 2019\)](#page-13-5), and shape memory alloy-tuned mass damper system (SMA-TMDI) [\(Tiwari et al., 2021\)](#page-12-21). The effectiveness of inerter-based isolators can be attributed to the fact inerters introduce a negative stiffness effect [\(Takewaki et al., 2012\)](#page-12-16). Inerter-based

isolators have a similar working mechanism to inerter-based automobile suspension ([Smith and Wang, 2004;](#page-12-22) [Wen et al.,](#page-13-6) [2017](#page-13-6)). For various kinds of inerter-based isolator systems, refer to studies by [Hu et al. \(2015\),](#page-11-18) [Luo et al. \(2016\),](#page-12-20) [Jiang](#page-11-22) [et al. \(2020\)](#page-11-22), and [Ma et al. \(2020\).](#page-12-23) Numerical modeling considering geometric and material nonlinearity of building structures equipped with IVAs has been evaluated by [Talley](#page-12-24) [et al. \(2021\).](#page-12-24) Experimental seismic analysis along with numerical modeling of nonlinear IVAs has been studied by [Pietrosanti et al. \(2021\).](#page-12-25) This result suggests that for optimal TMDI design, the standard assumption of modeling inerter devices with an ideal inerter element in tandem with a linear dashpot is sufficient. [Uemura et al. \(2021\)](#page-12-26) presented a global simultaneous optimization of oil, hysteretic, and inertial dampers with a real-valued genetic algorithm and local search. For other optimization studies of structures with IVAs, refer to studies by [Tsai and Lin \(1993\)](#page-12-27), [Marian and Giaralis \(2014\)](#page-12-17), [Domenico and](#page-11-23) [Ricciardi \(2018\)](#page-11-23), Tafl[anidis et al. \(2019\),](#page-12-28) [Jiang et al. \(2020\),](#page-11-22) [Gao](#page-11-24) [et al. \(2021\)](#page-11-24); [Jangid \(2021\)](#page-11-25), [Li et al. \(2021\),](#page-11-26) and [Nyangi and Ye](#page-12-29) [\(2021\)](#page-12-29).

Recently negative stiffness dampers (NSDs) have been widely studied as new passive energy dissipation devices. Geometrically, an NSD consists of a compressed spring (working on the force assisting motion, also referred to as true negative stiffness (TNS) and a conventional viscous damper (VD). The concept of a true negative stiffness device was introduced by [Nagarajaiah et al.](#page-12-30) [\(2010\)](#page-12-30); [Pasala et al. \(2013\)](#page-12-31), and the device was named an adaptive negative stiffness system (ANSS). The analytical study and experimental evaluation of ANSS as a control device have substantially reduced base displacement, base shear, floor acceleration, and inter-storey drifts [\(Sarlis et al., 2013](#page-12-32), [2016](#page-12-33); [Pasala et al., 2014\)](#page-12-34). ANSS devices have been supplemented to isolated bridge models as energy dissipation devices [\(Attary et al.,](#page-11-27) [2015b](#page-11-27); [2015a](#page-11-28)). Analytical studies for the optimal number and placement of ANSS devices in an MDOF system have been carried out by [Mathew and Jangid \(2018\).](#page-12-35) [Jadhav and Shaikh](#page-11-29) [\(2019\)](#page-11-29) presented an optimization study involving NSDs based on seismic response control. Another kind of passive NSD, called negative stiffness amplifying damper (NSAD) [\(Wang et al.,](#page-12-36) [2019b](#page-12-36); [2019a\)](#page-12-37), utilizes a combination of TNS and Maxwell damping element (MDE). It has been shown that NSAD achieves increased damping (called damping magnification) and is effective in seismic control under both FF- and NF-type excitations. The use of NSAD in an MDOF system and the modal optimization of NSAD parameters have also been examined ([Wang et al., 2019a\)](#page-12-37). Comparative performance of IVAs and NSDs is explored in a study by [Shi and Zhu \(2019\)](#page-12-38). A thorough evaluation of NSDs for vibration control may be found here ([Li](#page-11-30) [et al., 2020](#page-11-30)). According to the above review, there is a lot of interest in IVAs for structural vibration control.

As potential future passive control devices, NSDs and IVAs are currently undergoing extensive research. This study introduces the concurrent use of an inerter and NSD as a supplemental energy dissipation device or supplemental damper. The combination of an inerter and NSD is referred to as the negative stiffness inerter damper (NSID). The emphasis of this study is upon developing optimal parameters of the NSID applied

to the MDOF system. The present study evaluates the performance of NSID and NSD as possible alternatives to traditional energy dissipation devices such as viscous dampers (VDs) and viscoelastic dampers (VEDs). A comparative study between conventional dampers VD and VED, with NSD and NSID, is presented under near-fault (NF) and far-field (FF) ground motions. The NSID, NSD, VD, and VED are implemented as supplemental dampers to a simplified shear model of a 20-storey benchmark structure. The responses for evaluating the dampers' efficiency are inter-storey drift and floor acceleration.

## MDOF STRUCTURE WITH SUPPLEMENTAL DAMPERS

The mechanical schematic model of supplemental dampers selected for the study is given in [Figure 1](#page-3-0). In this study, the NSD is based on the working principles of the NSAD [\(Wang](#page-12-37) [et al., 2019a;](#page-12-37) [2019b\)](#page-12-36), and the schematic representation of NSDs is given in [Figure 1A](#page-3-0). Geometrically, an NSD consists of a negative stiffness (NS) spring  $(k_{ns})$  in parallel combination with a VD  $(c_d)$ , series connected with a positive stiffness spring  $(k_p)$ . Previous studies have shown NSDs can generate sufficient TNS for civil engineering structures ([Pasala et al., 2013](#page-12-31); [Mathew and Jangid, 2018](#page-12-35)). For the current study, NS is considered linear. The schematic representation of a novel NSID is given in [Figure 1B](#page-3-0). Geometrically, the NSID is a series combination of two groups of elements. One parallel group of positive spring  $(k_p)$  and VD  $(c_d)$  and another parallel group of inerter  $(b)$ and NS  $(k_{ns})$ . In this study, an inerter device develops acceleration-dependent force with constant inertance (b), i.e., an ideal linear inerter system. VD and VED dampers are selected for comparative analysis, and the respective schematic representation is given in [Figures 1C,D](#page-3-0).

The supplemental dampers represented in [Figure 1](#page-3-0) are implemented to  $n$ -degree of freedom (DOF) structure  $(n)$ denotes the number of the storey). The schematic representation of the n-DOF system with supplemental dampers is given in **[Figure 2](#page-3-1).** For any  $i^{\text{th}}$  storey subjected to ground motion  $\ddot{x}$  the equation of motion can be given as ground motion  $\ddot{x}_g$ , the equation of motion can be given as follows:

$$
m_i\ddot{x}_i + c_i\dot{x}_i + k_i x_i + f_i - c_{i-1}\dot{x}_{i-1} - k_{i-1}x_{i-1} - f_{i-1} = -m_i\ddot{x}_g, \quad (1)
$$

where  $m_i$ ,  $c_i$ , and  $k_i$  are the  $i^{\text{th}}$  storey mass, inherent damping coefficient, and inter-storey stiffness, respectively;  $x_i$  is the relative displacement of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  storey; and  $f_i$  is the damping force due to supplemental devices at the  $i<sup>th</sup>$  storey.

The damping force for different damping devices has the following expressions:

For NSD, we have

$$
f_i = k_{ns,i} y_i + c_{d,i} \dot{y}_i = k_{p,i} (x_i - x_{i-1} - y_i),
$$
 (2)

where  $y_i$  is the relative displacement across nodes 3-2 of NSD at the i<sup>th</sup> storey, and  $k_{ns,i}$  and  $k_{p,i}$  are the negative stiffness and



<span id="page-3-0"></span>FIGURE 1 | Mechanical model of supplemental dampers (A) NSD (B) NSID (C) VD (D) VED.



<span id="page-3-1"></span>positive stiffness values of the  $i^{th}$  damper located at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  storey, respectively.

For NSID, we have

$$
f_i = k_{ns,i}(x_i - x_{i-1} - y_i) + c_{d,i}(\dot{x}_i - \dot{x}_{i-1} - \dot{y}_i) = k_{p,i}y_i + b_i\ddot{y}_i, \quad (3)
$$

where  $y_i$  is the relative displacement across nodes 3-2 of the NSID at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  storey, and  $b_i$  is the inertance value of the linear inerter element of the  $i<sup>th</sup>$  damper located at the  $i<sup>th</sup>$  storey.

For a VD, we have

$$
f_i = c_{d,i} (\dot{x}_i - \dot{x}_{i-1}). \tag{4}
$$

For a VED, we have

$$
f_i = c_{d,i} (\dot{x}_i - \dot{x}_{i-1}) + k_{p,i} (x_i - x_{i-1}).
$$
 (5)

When introducing  $n_d$  number of damping devices into the n-DOF structure, the equations of motion can be expressed into the compact matrix form:

$$
M\ddot{X} + C\dot{X} + KX + \lambda F = -M_d r \ddot{x}_g, \qquad (6)
$$

where  $M$ ,  $C$ , and  $K$  are the structural mass matrix, damping matrix, and stiffness matrix, respectively;  $X = [x_1 \ x_2 \ \cdots]^T$  is the  $n$ -dimensional relative displacement vector ( $T$  represents transpose);  $F = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 & f_2 & \cdots & f_{nd} \end{bmatrix}^T$  is  $n_d$  dimensional vector whose elements are damping forces of the supplemental device at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  storey;  $r$  is the *n*-dimensional position vector of earthquake force; and  $\lambda$  is the  $n \times n_d$  implementation matrix for supplementary damping devices.

For instance, a 4-DOF system with four supplemental dampers at each storey level,  $\lambda$  is defined as

$$
\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}
$$
 (7)

When NSIDs are used as supplemental devices, the equation of motion is modified, and the structural mass matrix, damping matrix, and stiffness matrix are rewritten in the following format:

$$
M_d = \begin{bmatrix} M & \lambda \tau \\ \mathbf{0}_{nd \times n} & \tau \end{bmatrix}, \tag{8}
$$

$$
C_d = \begin{bmatrix} C & \mathbf{0}_{n \times nd} \\ -(\lambda \boldsymbol{\sigma})^T & \boldsymbol{\sigma} \end{bmatrix}, \tag{9}
$$

$$
K_d = \begin{bmatrix} K & \lambda \rho \\ -(\lambda \pi)^T & \rho + \Phi \end{bmatrix}, \qquad (10)
$$

where  $\tau$  is an  $n_d \times n_d$  diagonal matrix with the *i*<sup>th</sup> diagonal element  $b_i$ ,  $\sigma$  is an  $n_d \times n_d$  diagonal matrix with the *i*<sup>th</sup> diagonal element  $c_{d,i}$ ,  $\rho$  is an  $n_d \times n_d$  diagonal matrix with the *i*<sup>th</sup> diagonal element  $k_{ns,i}$ , and  $\Phi$  is also an  $n_d \times n_d$  diagonal matrix with the  $i^{\text{th}}$ diagonal element  $k_{p,i}$ .

Defining  $X_d = \begin{bmatrix} X & Y \end{bmatrix}^T$  as a vector where  $Y =$  $[y_1 \quad y_2 \quad \cdots \quad y_{nd}]$  is the  $n_d$  dimensional vector whose elements are  $y_i$ . Now, the equations of motion for an *n*-DOF system with  $n_d$  number of NSIDs can be written in a state-space form as follows:

$$
\dot{Z} = AZ + B,\tag{11}
$$

where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -M_d^{-1}C_d & -M_d^{-1}K_d \\ I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is the state matrix;  $B = \begin{bmatrix} -r \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is the input matrix; and  $Z = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{X}_d \\ X_d \end{bmatrix}$  is the state variable.

#### OPTIMIZATION OF NSID PARAMETERS

The goal of an optimal design is to reduce or maximize an objective or multiple objectives. For the optimization problems concerned with the supplemental damping, the objective is to minimize the maximum storey acceleration and inter-storey drifts. Thus, the control problem reduces to a minimax optimization problem. For the current study, the design variables are the various non-dimensional parameters of the NSID, which are defined as follows:

<span id="page-4-0"></span>
$$
\alpha_i = k_{ns,i} / k_{p,i} ; \beta_i = k_{p,i} / k_i ; \gamma_i = c_{d,i} / c_i ; \mu_i = b_i / m_i.
$$
 (12)

Here,  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\beta_i$ ,  $\gamma_i$ , and  $\mu_i$  are the negative stiffness ratio, positive stiffness ratio, damping parameter, and mass ratio of the  $i<sup>th</sup>$ storey, respectively. The variation in NSID parameters  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\beta_i$ ,  $\gamma_i$ , and  $\mu_i$  is neglected to simplify the analysis, i.e., all NSID parameters have the same value of  $\alpha = \alpha_i$ ,  $\beta = \beta_i$ ,  $\gamma = \gamma_i$ , and  $\mu =$  $\mu_i$  at different storey levels. Also, one NSID is employed in each storey of the structure. The optimization goal is to reduce the maximum response values (acceleration and drift) by evaluating the NSID parameters stated in [Eq. 12](#page-4-0). The NSID optimization problem can be described as follows:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\text{Find } \alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i, \mu_i \\
\text{To } \text{min } \text{imise } x_{\text{max}} = \text{max} \left| x_i (\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i, \mu_i, t) \right| \\
\text{To } \text{min } \text{imise } \ddot{x}_{\text{max}} = \text{max} \left| \ddot{x}_i (\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i, \mu_i, t) \right| \\
\text{Subject to } \alpha_i > -1/(1 + \beta_i) \\
\gamma_i > 0\n\end{cases} \tag{13}
$$

Here,  $x_i$  and  $\ddot{x}_i$  are the response values of relative drift and total acceleration at the *i*<sup>th</sup> storey.  $\alpha_i$  >  $-1/(1 + \beta_i)$  is based on the stability criteria. Furthermore, standard optimization approaches are computationally intensive and take a long time to simulate and reach a conclusion. To attain the goal of optimum control without going into extensive computations, simplified indirect optimization is offered. The modal features of a structure with supplemental NSIDs are used in this optimization procedure. NSID parameters are chosen to achieve objectives by introducing the maximum effective damping ratio without causing significant changes in vibrating frequencies. The influence of the NSID on the modal properties of the structure is first investigated, and then, optimal parameters are determined. The optimization study is based on the premise that maximum effective damping can be introduced into the system without using a higher dashpot coefficient.

## Effective Damping and Frequencies of MDOF Structure With the NSID

Mathematically, eigenvalues define the physical characteristics of a system. For a dynamic system, eigenvalues are the roots of the characteristic equation. When the governing equation of motion is written in the state-space form (as described in the previous section), the state matrix A defines system properties, i.e., eigenvalues of A will define vibrating properties of the dynamic system. These vibrating properties are modal frequencies  $(\omega_k)$  and modal damping ratios  $(\zeta_k)$ . Thus, by studying the system's eigenvalues, the influence of the NSID on the whole structure can be evaluated [\(Losanno et al., 2018\)](#page-12-3). The eigenvalues of the system matrix A as complex conjugate pairs are determined as follows:

$$
\Lambda_k = \eta_k \pm jv_k, \qquad (14)
$$

<span id="page-4-3"></span>where *j* represents  $\sqrt{-1}$ .

<span id="page-4-2"></span><span id="page-4-1"></span>The circular modal frequencies  $(\omega_k)$  and corresponding modal damping ratios ( $\zeta_k$ ) for the  $k^{th}$  mode can be evaluated from the real and imaginary parts of eigenvalues as follows:

$$
\omega_k = |\Lambda_k|,\tag{15}
$$

$$
\zeta_k = -\frac{\eta_k}{|\Lambda_k|}.\tag{16}
$$

As an example, the 20-storey benchmark structure [\(Spencer](#page-12-39) [et al., 1998\)](#page-12-39) is used to show the influence of the NSID on  $\omega_k$  and  $\zeta_k$ . This benchmark model is simplified into a shear model [\(Wang](#page-13-7) [et al., 2009](#page-13-7)), and details are given in [Table 1](#page-5-0).

Consider the 20-storey benchmark shear model equipped with the NSID at each floor level. Using [Eqs 15](#page-4-1) and [16](#page-4-2) fundamental effective damping ratios ( $\zeta_1$ ) and frequencies ( $\omega_1$ ) are plotted given in [Figures 3](#page-5-1), [4](#page-5-2). [Figure 3A](#page-5-1) presents the effect of the negative stiffness ratio (α) on  $\zeta_1$ . The values of  $\gamma$  and α are varied, and the values of  $β$  and  $μ$  are constant at the value of 0.5. The relationship between the fundamental damping ratio  $\zeta_1$  and  $\gamma$  is a bell-shaped curve for any fixed value of  $\beta$  and  $\mu$ . As  $\gamma$  gets higher,  $\zeta_1$  increases up to a maximum achievable value. However, higher values of  $\gamma$ results in lowering of  $\zeta_1$  which can be attributed to the locking of the dashpot. Generally, the larger the magnitude of α, the larger is the magnitude of maximum achievable  $\zeta_1$ . Moreover, the bellshaped curve becomes slimmer, and the peak moves toward left indicating the lower value of  $\gamma$  is required for the maximum  $\zeta_1$ . However, there is an upper limit to the magnitude of  $\alpha$  as this can

<span id="page-5-0"></span>TABLE 1 | Parameters for the 20-storey benchmark shear building model.

Storey number	1–5	$6 - 11$	$12 - 14$	15-17	$18 - 19$	20		
Mass (106 kg)	.126	1.100	.100	1.100	.100	1.170		
Stiffness (10 <sup>6</sup> N/m)	826.07	554.17	453.51	291.23	256.46	171.70		
Damping	2% is assumed in the first two modes and the rest are calculated by Rayleigh Damping							



<span id="page-5-1"></span>result in instability of the structure due to lowering of lateral stiffness. The maximum achievable negative stiffness ratio ( $\alpha$ ) for a given value of  $\beta$  considering static stiffness of the system, is limited to  $\frac{-1}{(1+\beta)}$ . For the present study, the value of  $\alpha$  is taken as 95% of the maximum limit. [Figure 4A](#page-5-2) presents the effect of the positive stiffness ratio ( $\beta$ ) on  $\zeta_1$ . The variation is again a bellshaped curve, and the maximum achievable damping ratio increases with the increase in value of β. However, the required value of  $\gamma$  for maximum  $\zeta_1$  also increases. The introduction of the NSID into the structure lowers fundamental structure frequencies, as can be verified from [Figures 3B](#page-5-1), [4B](#page-5-2). This result is consistent with the previous studies ([Chen et al., 2014](#page-11-31)).

For the MDOF structure, the lower modes contribute a major part of the displacement response, while higher modes always influence the acceleration response of the system. Thus, it becomes imperative to study the effect of the NSID on the different modes of the benchmark shear building. [Figure 5](#page-6-0) presents the NSID influence on the first three modes of the benchmark model. The higher mode damping ratio curves are also bell-shaped. The damping parameter  $\gamma$  required for maximum achievable damping decreases for higher structural



<span id="page-5-2"></span>modes. Also, it can be seen that maximum achievable  $\zeta_1$  is less than the corresponding higher modes. [Figure 5](#page-6-0) presents two sets of modal damping curves  $(\zeta)$  for two different mass ratios, 0.1 and 0.35. The maximum achievable damping for each mode is sensitive to the mass ratio  $\mu$  for constant  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . The effective damping ratio for higher modes increases with an increase in  $\mu$ . From **[Figure 5](#page-6-0)**, it is clear that the damping parameter  $\gamma$  required for maximum achievable damping for the first structural mode  $(\zeta_1)$  is too large to apply sufficient effective damping for higher modes. This becomes more necessary where higher mode contributions are significant. Also, the  $\gamma$  required for maximum achievable damping for higher structural modes is too little to apply sufficient effective damping for lower modes. The objective of this study is to control acceleration and displacement responses simultaneously. Thus, for optimal  $\gamma$ , the contribution of both lower and higher modes should remain somewhat similar for effective seismic control.

#### Optimization Procedure for NSID

An NSID consists of four parameters:  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\mu$ , and  $\gamma$ . The selection of these parameters will determine the seismic response of the MDOF system. The effect of NSID parameters on the modal damping and frequencies is used to deduce an optimal design



<span id="page-6-0"></span>procedure. With a prescribed value of  $\beta$ , based on static stiffness and stability of the system, α is selected as 95% of the upper limit. Introducing the NSID into the structure results in lowering modal frequencies, resulting in an increased displacement response. The values of  $\mu$  and  $\gamma$  are selected such that the first three modal frequencies are nearly equal to the original frequencies of the uncontrolled system. The modal frequencies of the system with the NSID become comparable with the original frequencies of the uncontrolled system when the value of  $\beta$  is low and  $\mu$  is relatively large. This behavior of the modal frequencies of the system with the NSID is shown in **[Figure 6](#page-6-1)**, where  $β = 0.1$ . While increasing<br>the value of μ for chosen α and β, the modal frequencies approach the value of  $\mu$  for chosen  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , the modal frequencies approach the original frequencies of the uncontrolled system. For a small range of  $\gamma$ , modal frequencies of the second and third mode become marginally higher than frequencies of the uncontrolled system. The optimal value of  $\gamma$  is selected from that range. The optimization procedure can be summarized as follows:

- 1) Select a minimum possible value of  $\beta$ . (i.e., this will allow the minimum potential value of optimum  $\gamma$ ). Choose α based on the static stability criterion, and select  $\mu$  arbitrarily.
- 2) Determine the modified structural matrices  $M_d$ ,  $C_d$ , and  $K_d$ .
- 3) Run the eigenvalue analysis for the system matrix A and use [Eqs 14](#page-4-3)–[16](#page-4-2) to find effective damping values. Check for the proximity of three modal frequencies to original frequency values for a range of  $\gamma$ . If these values are close enough, stop and get the value of  $\gamma$  corresponding to the point where  $\omega_2$  is equal to the original second mode frequency.
- 4) If modal frequency values are largely separated, increase the value of  $\mu$ .
- 5) Repeat steps 2,3, and 4 till the modal frequency values are in a close range.

## SEISMIC RESPONSE EVALUATION OF THE 20-STOREY BENCHMARK BUILDING

This section presents the performance of the proposed NSID as a supplemental damping device (or energy dissipation



<span id="page-6-1"></span>**FIGURE 6 |** Effect of the NSID mass ratio (μ) on Modal Frequencies ( $\mu$  = 0.25 for dashed lines and 0.7 for solid lines).

<span id="page-6-2"></span>

S. No	Earthquake	<b>Station</b>	Year	Type
1	Imperial Valley 02	El Centro Array #9	1940	FF
2	Kocaeli Turkey	Arcelik	1999	FF
3	Imperial Valley-06	Delta	1979	FF
4	Kobe Japan	Shin-Osaka	1995	FF
5	Northridge-01	Beverly Hills-12,520 Mulhol	1994	FF
6	Northridge-01	Canyon Country - W Lost Cany	1994	FF
7	San Fernando	2,516 via Tejon PV	1971	FF
8	Tabas Iran	Ferdows	1978	FF
9	Gulf of California	Bonds Corner	2001	FF
10	Loma Prieta	Richmond City Hall	1989	FF
11	Imperial Valley-06	Coachella Canal #4	1979	FF

<span id="page-6-3"></span>TABLE 3 | A suite of NF real earthquake records.



device). The 20-storey benchmark building defined by [Spencer et al. \(1998\)](#page-12-39) and simplified as a shear model by [Wang et al. \(2009\)](#page-13-7) is used for performance evaluation. [Table 1](#page-5-0) describes the parameters of this benchmark model.

<span id="page-7-1"></span>



First three natural frequencies are 1.7898, 4.6498, and 7.728 rad/sec. The first two modal damping ratios are assumed to be 2%, and the rest are calculated using Rayleigh damping criteria. Two sets of real earthquake records, near-fault (NF) and far-field (FF) are selected to evaluate the effectiveness of the NSID as a potential supplemental damper to the benchmark building. Ground motions used in response history analysis are described in [Tables 2](#page-6-2), [3](#page-6-3). The control objective of this study is to suppress both drift and floor acceleration of the MDOF structure.

The positive stiffness of the NSID at each storey level is given by  $k_{p,i} = \beta k_i$ , where the value of  $\beta = 0.1$ . The value of  $\mu$ chosen for the study is 0.7. Following the optimization procedure value of the negative stiffness ratio,  $\alpha$  is  $-0.8636$ and the damping parameter  $\gamma$  is 1.8. The performance of the NSID is compared with three additional dampers NSD, VED, and VD. To obtain a fair comparative analysis, the damping of supplemental dampers is the same as that of the NSID. Moreover, the positive stiffness of NSID, NSD, and VED is kept the same.

Time history plots are given in [Figure 7](#page-7-0) under Imperial Valley-02El Centro (FF) and Northridge-01 Sylmar Olive (NF). [Figure 7](#page-7-0) demonstrates the first storey drift of the benchmark structure under various supplemental dampers. Peak values of the drift are indicated for each supplemental damper. The drift of the system under the NSID as a supplemental damper has been effectively reduced. Similarly, [Figure 8](#page-8-0) depicts the time history for the top storey acceleration of the benchmark structure. These graphs illustrate that top-storey acceleration is likewise well-controlled.

Mean response envelopes for peak storey drifts and acceleration for the 20-storey benchmark building with different supplemental devices under FF and NF earthquakes are given in [Figures 9](#page-8-1), [10](#page-9-0). The introduction of the VD reduces the uncontrolled structure's peak storey drift and acceleration for both NF and FF excitations to some extent due to additional damping. In comparison with the VD, the application of the VED further reduces the peak interstorey drift. However, VEDs enhance structural stiffness, which elevates structural modal frequencies. As a result, the earthquake force increases. The advantage of the reduced inter-storey drift by VED's damping feature is lost because of increased acceleration values due to increased stiffness. Therefore, VED reduces acceleration to a less extent than VDs. In contrast with the VED and VD, the NSD reduces both the acceleration response and interstorey drift for both NF and FF motions. These results can be attributed to the noticeable damping magnification effect, which offsets the disadvantage of reducing stiffness. The performance of the NSD is highly improved by the NSID as a control device under both NF and FF motions, especially

<span id="page-7-0"></span>



<span id="page-8-1"></span><span id="page-8-0"></span>



<span id="page-9-0"></span>

<span id="page-9-1"></span>in controlling the acceleration response. NSID uses the combined negative stiffness effect of the inerter and negative spring to reduce stiffness and modal frequencies. Also, combining the VED to an inerter and negative stiffness assembly reduces the disadvantage of VEDs. This enhances the damping behavior, and hence, better response control is achieved. [Figures 9](#page-8-1), [10](#page-9-0) demonstrate that the NSID controls the acceleration response substantially, but lower storeys



<span id="page-10-0"></span>(1–5) show an average reduction in the drift. The efficiency of drift reduction increases from the 6th storey onwards. This observation is also noticed in time history plots. The possible reason is the lowering of lateral stiffness of the system.

## DISCUSSION OF RESULTS FOR PARTIALLY ARRANGED NSIDS

The previous section shows the effectiveness of the NSID as a potential supplemental damper. An optimal NSID controls both objective variables of storey acceleration and the inter-storey drift. Due to the various considerations, uniform damper placement throughout the building may not be the case. Therefore, the performance of partially arranged NSIDs throughout the benchmark structure is evaluated in this section. The case of uniform distribution of NSIDs is referred to as Design I. In addition, two partial distributions of NSIDs are considered as Design II (bottom to 10th storey) and Design III (11th to the top-level). [Table](#page-9-1) [4](#page-7-1) describes optimal parameters for three design cases. Figures 11, [12](#page-10-0) present the seismic response envelopes of the three above discussed design cases.

In terms of controlling both objective variables, Design I is ideal, followed by Design II. The influence of partially arranged NSIDs showcases an exciting feature. Partially placed NSIDs decrease the inter-storey drift marginally at the levels where NSIDs are implemented. However, an effective decrease in the drift of other storeys is achieved where no dampers are used. This feature is more pronounced in the storey shear distribution given in [Figure 12](#page-10-0). In particular, at the 10th storey level, a sudden decrease in the drift and corresponding shear is noticed for Design II. In other words, storeys, where NSID is introduced, concentrate the seismic deformation while other storeys are protected.

Therefore, the NSID is best introduced at storeys with relatively more minor inter-storey drift responses. In this way, the seismic-excited deformation will be concentrated mainly in these storeys. The performance of other storeys without NSIDs that have more significant drifts will be effectively improved. For the uncontrolled 20-storey benchmark structure, the maximum inter-storey drift occurs at the upper storeys (10th to 20th storeys shown in [Figure 11](#page-9-1)). Therefore, NSIDs, when implemented at lower levels, generally perform better than NSIDs placed at higher storeys, reducing the maximum inter-storey drift. This interstorey drift control is directly translated into storey shear control, as shown in [Figure 12](#page-10-0).

# **CONCLUSION**

This research aims to improve the energy dissipation capacity of VDs and VEDs by combining negative stiffness and an inerter damper. NSDs have demonstrated the ability to improve the seismic performance in both NF and FF motions. The simultaneous use of negative stiffness and inerter elements has been proposed as NSIDs to improve NSDs. A simple optimization procedure has been put forward that considers the effect on modal frequencies and modal damping. Significant findings of this study are summarized as follows:

- 1) Traditional supplemental dampers, such as VD and VEDs, have quite drawbacks. The structural stiffness and thus the earthquake forces are increased by using these types of dampers.
- 2) The NSD and NSID are used in place of the traditional dampers, and they prove to be superior alternatives. The energy dissipation capacity of VDs and VEDs is improved by the synergy of negative stiffness and inerter elements. As a result of using the dashpot's minimum damping co-efficient, a better seismic response can be obtained.
- 3) The inter-storey drifts and structural acceleration responses under FF and NF earthquakes are controlled by the proposed optimal design method for NSID as a supplemental damper.
- 4) NSID proposed in this study reduces the modal frequencies and introduces the negative stiffness in a wide frequency

range. This feature helps NSIDs to outperform NSDs in terms of storey acceleration control.

- 5) For the low value of the positive stiffness ratio β, it is possible to obtain the mass ratio μ where the modal frequencies of the supplemented system match the original frequencies of the uncontrolled system. This property can be utilized to improve drift control for a low value of the damping parameter  $\gamma$ .
- 6) For partially implemented NSIDs, it is recommended to introduce these at storeys with a relatively smaller drift. This will ensure drift control at the levels where no dampers are installed.

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## DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

The raw data supporting the conclusion of this article will be made available by the authors, without undue reservation.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors listed have made a substantial, direct, and intellectual contribution to the work and approved it for publication.

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