

STATIC BEHAVIOUR OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF R.C BEAM-COLUMN CONNECTIONS AS AFFECTED BY BOTH VALUE OF ACTING AXIAL NORMAL FORCE AND GRADE OF USED CONCRETE (THEORETICAL STUDY)

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ABSTRACT

This paper describes a theoretical study of the effect of both acting axial loads and grade of concrete on the static behaviour of (32) thirty two Reinforced Concrete (RC) Beam-column joints. ABAQUS\CAE version 6.7, a nonlinear finite element analysis software package, was developed specifically for the analysis of reinforced concrete structures under plane stress conditions. Variable axial loads were applied and increased gradually with constant lateral load, which was applied maintaining at the top of the column at internal and external beam-column joint only the ultimate and cracking axial loads were recorded as well as the corresponding versus vertical displacement, the maximum joint shear stresses, axial, stresses strains, and absorbed energy, mode of failure using different grades of concrete C250, C400, C600 and C1200 were evaluated and recorded.

Keywords: Column axial load, RC beam column connection, energy absorption, ABAQUS\ CAE, concrete compressive strength, shear stress, ultimate, cracking load and energy absorption.

1. Introduction

Chris P. et al., (2002); suggests limiting experimental evidence that increasing the column axial load tends to reduce the total lateral drift at yield (Kurose 1987). Although some researchers reported that increasing column axial load results in increasing shear strength of joints without reinforcement, the data do not show a significant trend (Beres et al., 1992). Because of the binding of the profile steel and stirrups, the axial pressure makes the concrete of the core area in the three dimensions, stress state which inhibits the cracking of concrete. Also, after the cracking of concrete, the axial pressure makes the larger mechanical friction formed between the concrete blocks, so that a moderate axial compression ratio can enhance the shear strength of the joints. However, if the axial pressure exceeds the critical value, the concrete will be crushed, and the shear strength will be reduced (Xiaoli Yang 2009). Bing Li, et al., (2003), have already investigated the influence of axial loading on the seismic behavior of beam- wide column joints, it can be seen that when axial load increased from 0 to $0.2 f'_c A_g$ the number of cycles increased correspondingly so the joints without transverse reinforcement are easily overloaded and failed at an earlier ductility level stage.

The ultimate load obtained and suggested by BS8110 for interior joint is given by following Equation:

$$N_u = 0.45 f_{cu} A_c + 0.95 f'_y A_{st} \quad (1)$$

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Kumar et. al., (2002) found that both the joint rotation and the axial load in the column increase the ductility and energy dissipation capacity and reduced the joint region damage (**Xiaoli Yang 2009**). Changing cross section of columns, the eccentric axial force forms, which will cause the stress of the joint area to superimpose. The stiffness, ductility and the energy dissipation performance of the overall joint will be decreased with the increase of eccentric bending moment.

More recently (**S. R. Uma 2006**), have shown the effect of axial load on nominal shear stress. In recent research publications (**Hakuto et al., 2000**) the significance of representing joint capacity in terms of principal stresses has been discussed, which recognizes the axial load acting on the column. A critical situation where the axial load on the column is very large, diagonal compression failure of strut occurring before the first diagonal tensile cracking in the joint has been cautioned. Therefore, it is very essential to account for the axial load effect in limiting the joint nominal shear stress. **Paul S. et al., (2000)** study; the effect of the column load on ultimate capacity, with the axial load shown as an approximate equivalent concrete stress by simply dividing by the area of the column. For all arrangements increasing the column load, up to a value of approximately 20 MPa, increases the ultimate capacity of the joint. At column loads above 20 MPa ($1/3f_{cu}$), the combined stresses reduce the ultimate capacity of the joint.

Increasing the column load stiffens of the joint and improves the effectiveness of the anchorage transfer along the initial part of the reinforcing bar by pinching the bar. The increase in the ultimate capacity of the joint is due to the higher stiffness compares the code provisions for nominal shear stress for varying axial load ratios for both interior and exterior joints. It can be seen that **ACI318M-(2002)** code allows higher nominal shear stress and **NZS 3101 (1995)** code limits to a lesser value, and both are not affected by axial loads. On the other hand, limiting value of nominal shear stress as per **EN3101 (1995)** code decreases as the axial load increases, especially for exterior joints, where the variation of axial loads acting on the column could be high during seismic event.

To investigate and compare the behaviors of joint specimens with the proposed detail on 32 joints, the normal-strength and high-strength test specimens are both representative of an interior, and exterior joint specimens with constant lateral load ,variable compressive axial load at the top of the column were applied until it failed for the purposed of studying cracking, ultimate axial load, the maximum joint shear stresses and total absorbed energy for different grades of concrete C250, C400, C600, and C1200.

2. Details of RC joints

Table 1 includes the data of the connection between the main beam, column, and slab. Thirty two (32) Joints were taken into account. Beam size for all joints of ($b_b \times d_b$) mm is (250 mm wide by 300 mm deep) mm as well as column size of ($b_c \times d_c$) mm is (300×300 mm)were kept constant.

The total height of the columns above and below the joint was the same for both specimens at $H=2.0$ m, length of beam right and left the joint $L=3.0$ m, which gave $L/2=1.5$ m. The floor slabs for both specimens were of equal sizes, with a thickness t_s of 120 mm.

The boundary conditions, beam ends were supported by horizontal rollers, while the bottom of the column was supported by a mechanical hinge constant too, All the joints were chosen to have concrete of specified characteristic cube strength (f_c'), of 250–400–600–1200 kg/cm², and yield stress for reinforcing bar (f_y) 2400–2800–3600–4000 kg/cm² respectively.

The reinforcement details of all the specimens were identical as shown in Fig. 1.a for interior joint, and Figure 1.b for exterior joint ,where the beam was equally reinforced at the top and bottom by four high-yield deformed bars of 16 mm diameter A_{bs} (i.e. 4 Φ 16, 4 Φ 16).

Stirrups (ρ_w) from 6 mm-diameter mild steel, bars with specified characteristic yield strength of 2400 kg/cm² were provided at 80 mm spacing (i.e. Φ 6@80 stirrups). The column contained (A_{cs}) 12 Φ 16 longitudinal reinforcing bars distributed around the perimeter. The transverse reinforcement in the column comprised Φ 6 square hoops and Φ 6 cross ties in two perpendicular directions at 80 mm spacing, as shown in Table 1 and Fig.1.

3. Mesh arrangement:

The mesh module allows to generate meshes at Fig.2 on assemblies created with ABAQUS\CAE various levels of automation and control are available so that you can create a mesh that meets the needs of your analysis. Mesh refinement is required. When severely nonlinear material Models are used, however, increasing the number of element can increasing constrains within the model. This reduces hear deformation that can lead to an overlay stiff load deflection response (Abaqus. 2000).

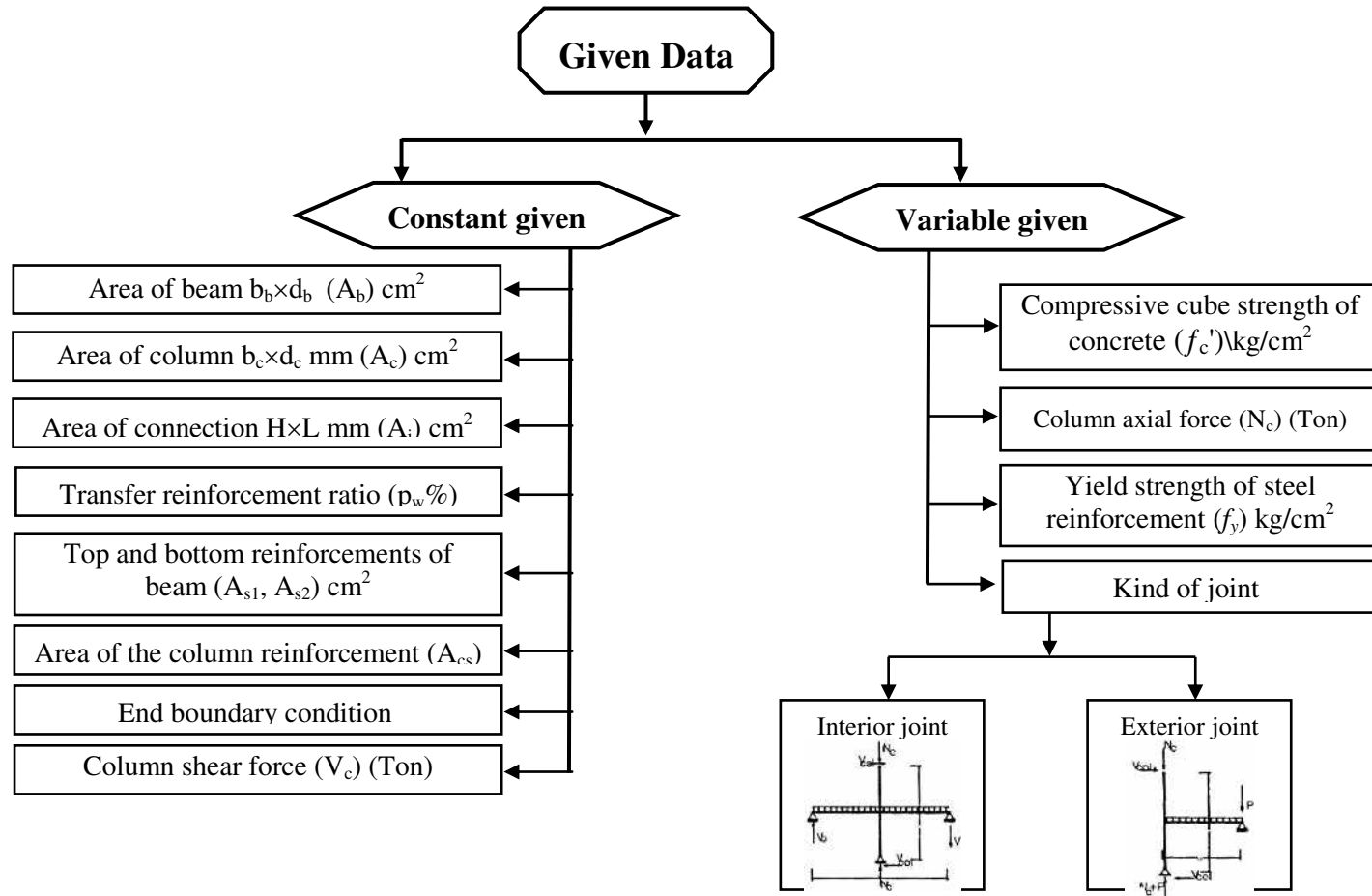
4. Boundary conditions and applied loadings:

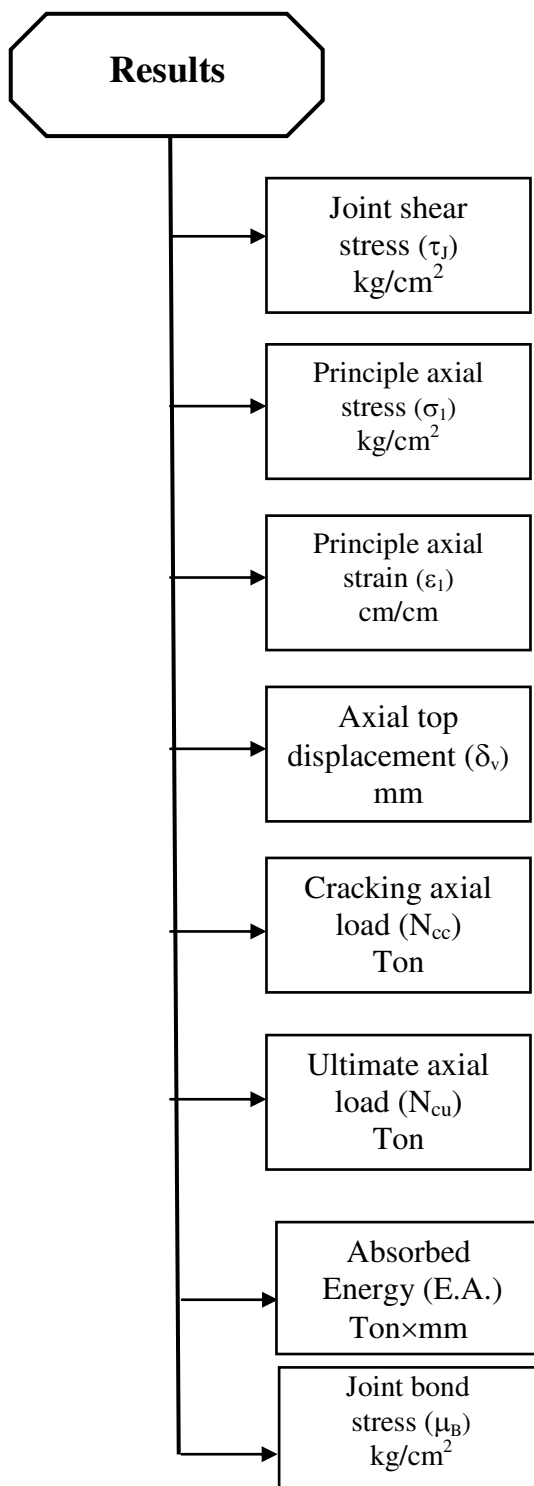
The loadings set up are shown in Figures 3.a, 3.b, for interior and exterior joint. The specimens were supported in vertical position. Statically cyclic lateral load was applied maintaining variable axial load at the top of the column for interior and exterior joint only so as knee joint has no axial load. The top of the column was loaded by two actuators in vertical and horizontal directions. The beam ends were supported by horizontal rollers, while the bottom of the column was supported by a mechanical hinge. The distances between two loading points for beams and columns are shown in Fig. 3.

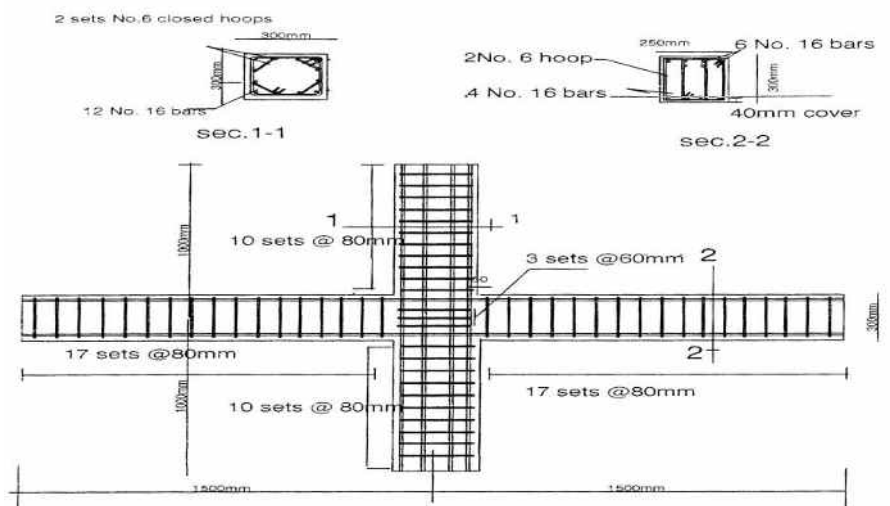
Table 1
Properties of joints.

Type of beam-column joints	Interior joint	Exterior joint
(a) Beam ($b_b \times d_b$) mm	(250×300)	(250×300)
Top bars	4 Φ 16	4 Φ 16
a_t mm ²	804	804
ρ_t %	1.18	1.18
Bot. bars	4 Φ 16	4 Φ 16
a_t mm ²	804	804
ρ_t %	1.18	1.18
Stirrups	2 Φ 6	2 Φ 6
@ (mm)	80	80
ρ_w %	0.64	0.64
(b) column ($b_c \times d_c$) mm	(300×300)	(300×300)
Total Bars	12 Φ 16	12 Φ 16
a_g mm ²	2412	2412
ρ_g %	2.62	2.62
Hoops	2 Φ 6	2 Φ 6
@ (mm)	80	80
ρ_w %	0.27	0.27
(c) connection H×L mm	(2000×3000)	(2000×1500)
Hoops	2 Φ 6	2 Φ 6
Sets	3 @ 60	3 @ 60
a_w mm ²	192	192
ρ_w %	0.38	0.38
Shape	Closed	Closed
(d) Slabs thick	12	12
Longitudinal Dir	24 Φ 8	24 Φ 8
@ (mm)	100	100
Stirrups ratio %	0.38	0.38
Transverse Dir.	24 Φ 8	24 Φ 8
@ (mm)	200	200
Stirrups ratio %	0.27	0.27

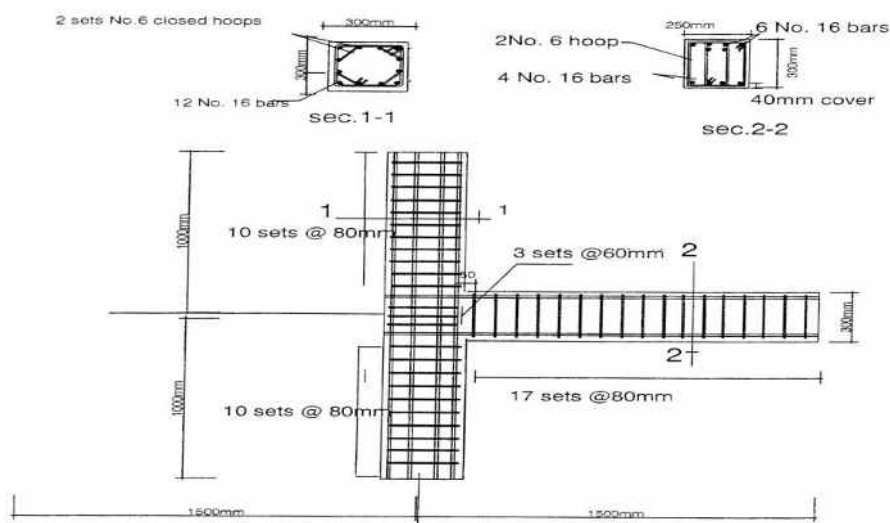
Note: a_t : total area of tensile reinforcement, ρ_t : tensile reinforcement ratio, a_g : total area of longitudinal reinforcement, ρ_g : gross reinforcement ratio, a_w : total area of web reinforcement placed between top and bottom beam bars, ρ_w : web reinforcement ratio, $E_c = 14000 \sqrt{f'_c}$ kg/cm², $E_s = 2.2 \times 10^6$ kg/cm², f_y : yield strength, f'_c : concrete compressive strength, f_t : concrete tensile strength.





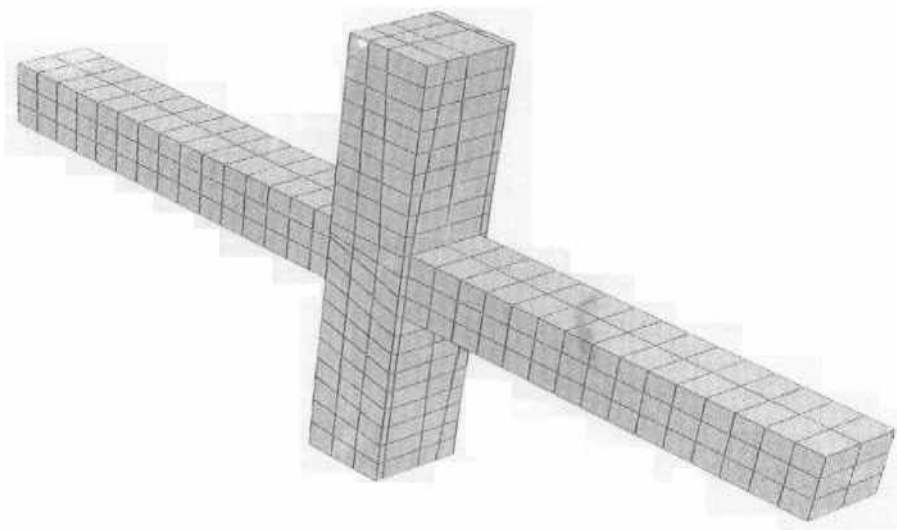


a) Reinforcement details of interior beam-column joint specimens

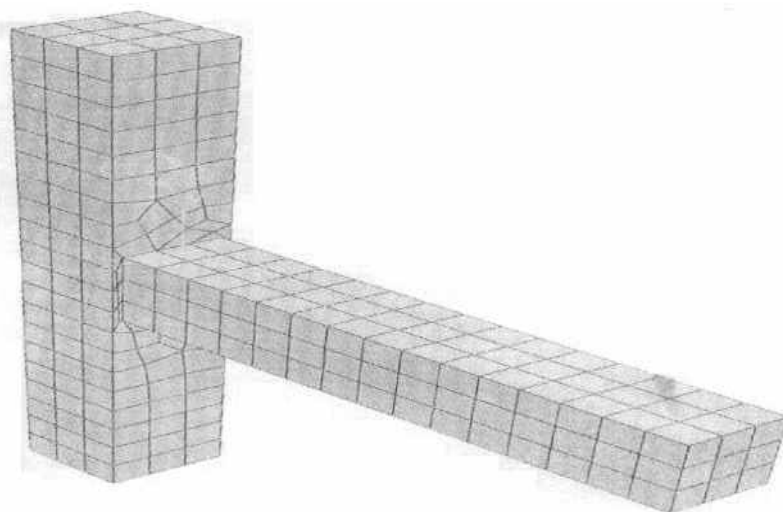


b) Reinforcement details of exterior beam-column joint specimens

Fig. 1. The reinforcement details of all the specimens

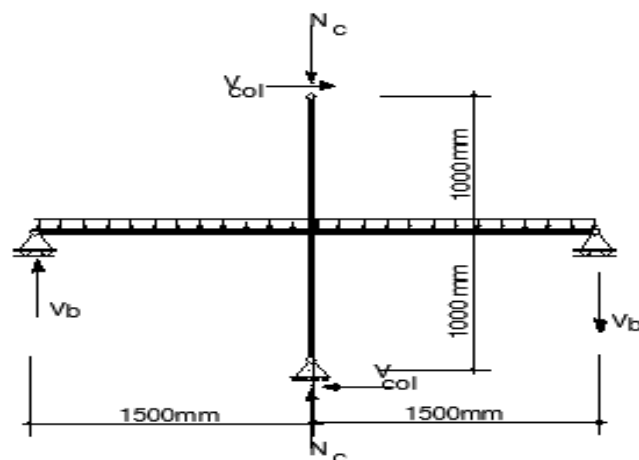


a) 3D view of meshed interior joint

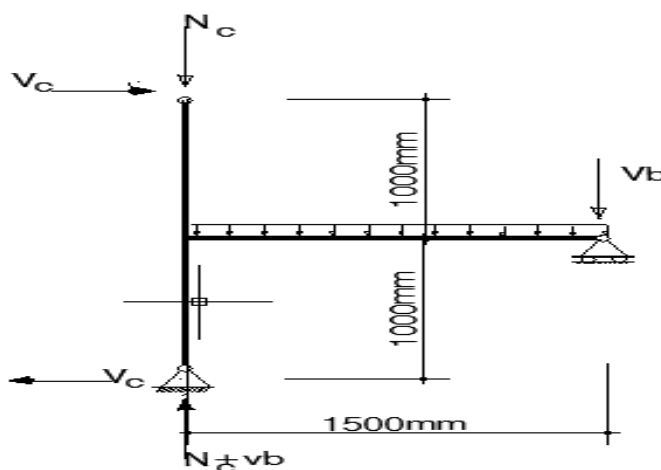


b) 3D view of meshed exterior joint

Fig. 2. 3 D view of meshed joint



a) interior joint



b) exterior joint

Fig. 3. The loading set up and Boundary condition of joints

The modifications were based on nonlinearity analytically model carried out by (**Sam Lee 2008**) The degradation factors for compression (dc) and tension (dt) are dependent on the plastic strain (ABAQUS, V6.5).

The nonlinearity of the structure includes geometry nonlinearity, material nonlinearity and a combination of both.

5. Geometry nonlinearity:

Geometry nonlinearity can be modeled accurately by use of the Green strain formula. The P- Δ effects and large deflection effects are automatically taken into account. Most general finite element analysis packages have this built-in function available.

6. Material nonlinearity:

Steel and concrete are the basic materials used in the structural elements. To model the cyclic characteristics of the earthquake load, a nonlinear material model with specific cyclic features should be used for each.

Steel

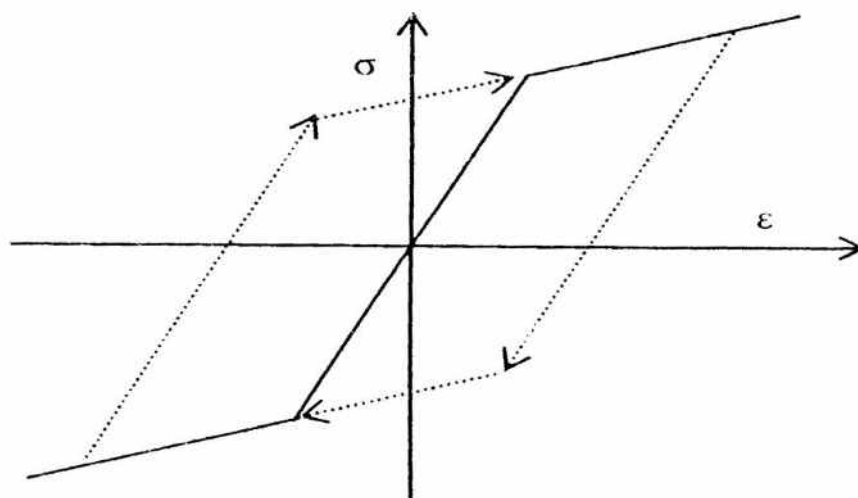


Fig. 4. Steel constitute law

In this article, an isotropic kinematics hardening model is used for steel material. As shown in Figure 4, the blushing effect has been taken into account, and there is no stiffness degradation during the cycling. It is acceptable for the skyscraper structure as the maximum steel strain should be less than 2.5%.

Concrete:

The plastic-damage model (J. Lee, 1998) is used to model the concrete material. The model is a continuum, plasticity-based, damage model for concrete. It assumes that the main two failure mechanisms are tensile cracking and compressive crushing of the concrete material. It captures the three major characteristics of the concrete in the

buildings: (1) the strength of compression is larger than that of tension; (2) the stiffness degrades when it goes into plastic range; (3) the stiffness recovers when it reverses from tension to compression.

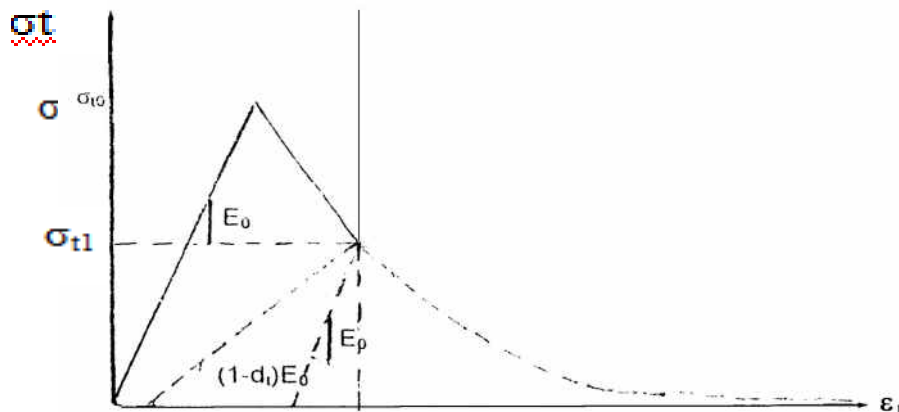


Fig. 5. Concrete in tension (Sam Lee 2008)

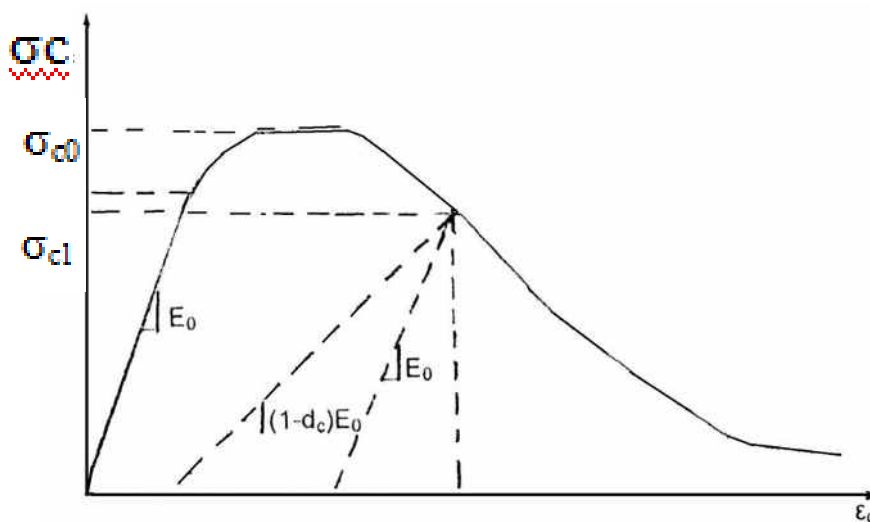


Fig. 6. Concrete in compression (Sam Lee 2008)

Figure 5 and Figure 6 show the concrete material's stress-strain curve, the stiffness of the concrete degrades when it unloads from the plastic range. The degradation factors for compression (d_c) and tension (d_t) are dependent on the plastic strain (ABAQUS, V6.5). Figure 7 shows the hysteric curve of the concrete, it can be seen that the stiffness recovers when the material stress status reverses from tension to compression.

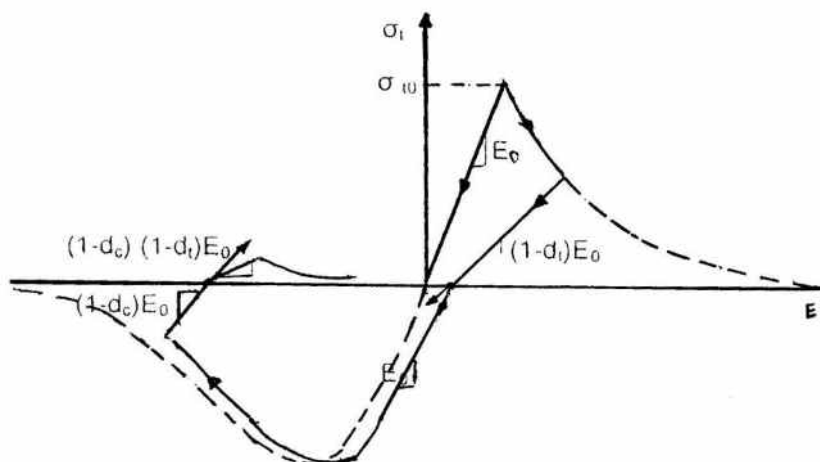


Fig. 7. Concrete hysteric curve (Sam Lee 2008)

In the fixed crack model, the crack direction is determined and fixed at the time of crack initiation. In the rotating crack model .The crack direction is identical with a principal strain direction and rotates if the strain direction changes. The main difference in these crack models is the absence of shear stresses on the crack plane in the rotating crack model due coincidence of principal strain directions with the crack orientation, which makes the rotating crack model more simple. In the fixed crack model the shear resistance of the cracks is modeled by means of the variable shear retention factor, which reflects the aggregate interlock effect of cracked concrete. Concrete in plane stress condition can be well described by a damage model such as the one used in the ABAQUS, see Fig. 8. It is based on the “equivalent uniaxial law”, which covers the complete range of the plane stress behaviour in tension and compression. The effect of biaxial stress state on the concrete strength is captured by the failure function due to (Kupfer et al., 2011). For the tensile response (cracking) the crack band method described above is applied. Similar method is applied for the compressive softening. Thus complete softening behaviour is based on an objective and mesh independent approach.

7. Data given and obtained results

The loading set up, specimens statically cyclic lateral load was applied maintaining variable axial load at the top of the column for interior and exterior joint only so as knee joint has no axial load were supported in vertical position. To investigate the influence of concrete compressive strength on the seismic behavior of interior, exterior beam column joints under different axial loading levels were analyzed by the FEM software ABAQUS\CAE and corresponding story shear force versus horizontal displacement.

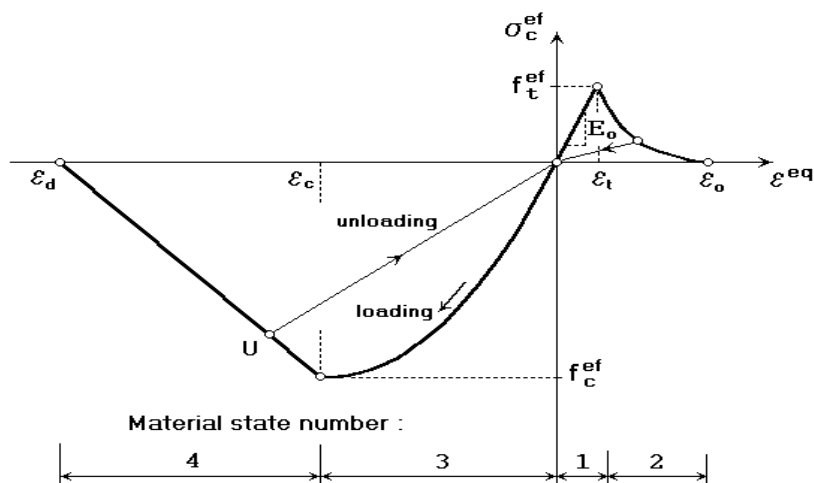
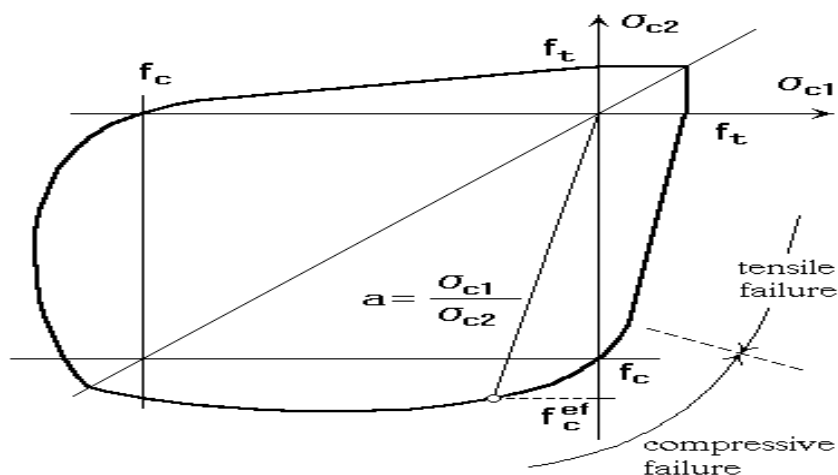


Fig. 8. Equivalent uniaxial law



Bi-axial failure function by Kupfer 2011

With different applied axial loads at which ultimate and cracking axial load was accrued, the maximum joint shear stresses observed, absorbed energy, failure mode several linear variable displacement transducers were mounted on the test specimens to measure the net story drift, joint rotation, gap openings, and shear deformations, the net column top displacement (Δh) was calculated by subtracting the column base lateral displacement from the lateral displacement measurement at the column top.

Figure 9 shows modeling connections with loading and boundary condition and deflection shapes studying by ABAQUS\CAE 6.7 software for interior, exterior joints. The

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studied joints are listed in Tables 2 and 3 they are 32 interior and exterior beam-to-column joint sub assemblages.

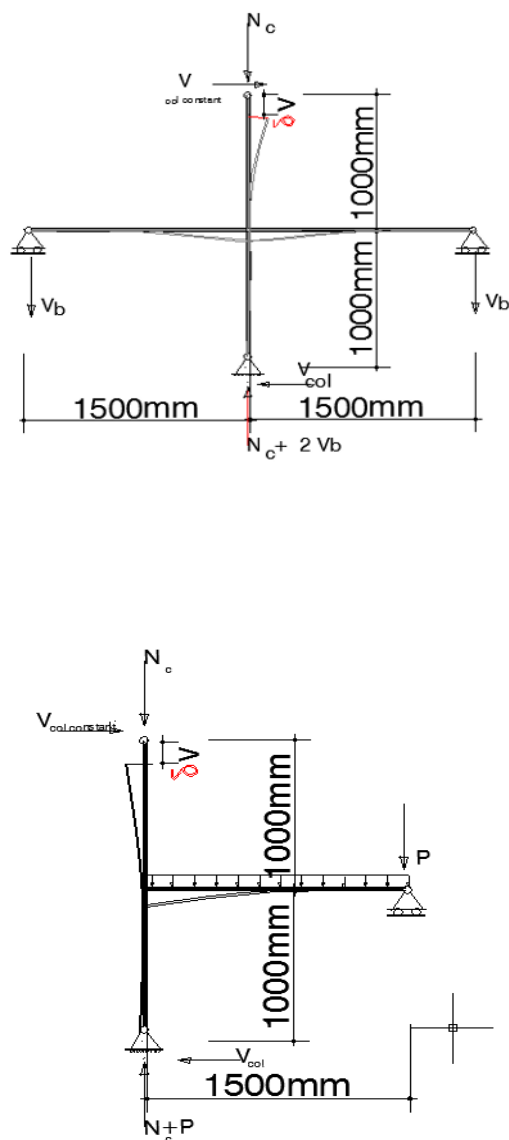


Fig. 9. Loads and deflection shapes at definition boundary condition

The obtained theoretically evaluated values of various stresses and displacements for both interior and exterior joints for the case study are tabulated and given in Tables (2) and (3).

Table 2

Obtained theoretical results for studied interior beam-column joints.

Joint No.	Compressive concrete (f_c)(kg/cm ²)	Yield strength (f_y)(kg/cm ²)	Lateral load (ton) (V_c)	Axial load (ton) (N_c)	$N_c / (f_c) A_c$	Top Axial Displacement mm(δv)	Max. principle stress (kg/cm ²) (σ_1)	Joint shear stress (kg/cm ²) (τ_j)	Max. principle strain cm/cm ($\epsilon_1 \times 10^{-4}$)	Energy Absorption E.A (Ton×mm)
J (1)	250	2400	0	0	0	0	0	62.23	0	0
J (2)	250	2400	50	65	0.28	12	97.60	80.04	2.36	1382
J (3)	250	2400	50	115	0.52	20.23	96.38	79.44	2.33	2300
J (4)	250	2400	50	131	0.58	24.50	95.16	78.55	2.85	2764
J (5)	400	2800	0	0	0	0	0	80.4	0	0
J (6)	400	2800	50	100	0.27	20.80	123.75	99.31	3.05	2150
J (7)	400	2800	50	177	0.49	34.50	122	98.86	2.96	3978
J (8)	400	2800	50	187	0.52	40.22	120	96.50	3.66	4730
J (9)	600	3600	0	0	0	0	0	100.55	0	0
J (10)	600	3600	50	120	0.22	25.20	168	129.12	4.10	2886
J (11)	600	3600	50	218	0.41	37.20	166	128.76	4.05	3930
J (12)	600	3600	50	254	0.47	44.08	164	128.30	4.70	5080
J (13)	1200	4000	0	0	0	0	0	142.90	0	0
J (14)	1200	4000	50	200	0.18	40.00	218	162	5.87	6000
J (15)	1200	4000	50	398	0.36	58.20	215	161.63	5.70	8701
J (16)	1200	4000	50	452	0.42	65	211	161.42	6.10	9752

Table 3

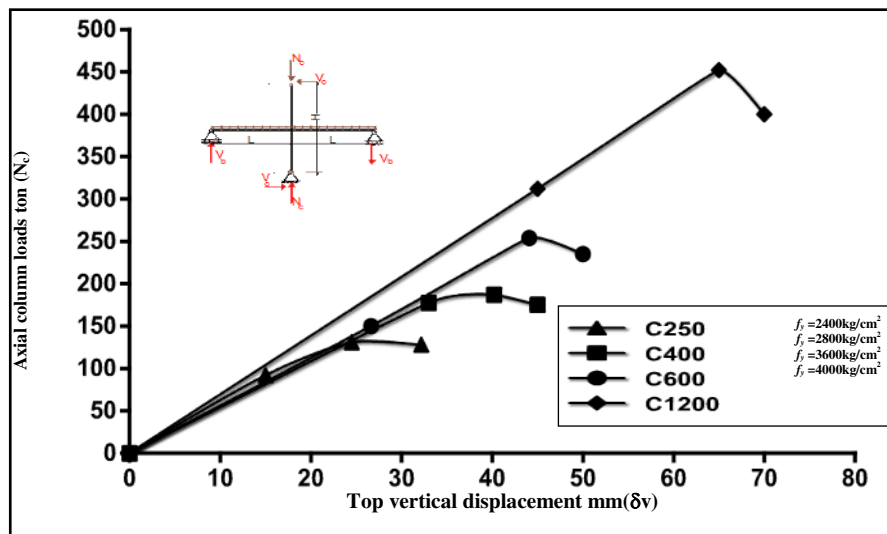
Obtained theoretical results for studied exterior beam-cColumn joints.

Joint No.	Compressive concrete (f_c) (kg/cm ²)	Yield strength (f_y) (kg/cm ²)	Lateral load (ton) (V_c)	Axial load (ton) (N_c)	$N_c / (f_c) A_c$	Top Axial Displacement mm (δv)	Max. principle stress (kg/cm ²) (σ_1)	Joint shear stress (kg/cm ²) (τ_j)	Max. principle strain cm/cm ($\epsilon_1 \times 10^{-4}$)	Energy Absorption E.A (Ton×mm)
J (17)	250	2400	0	0	0	0	0	45.40	0	0
J (18)	250	2400	50	35	0.16	5.20	75.4	58.06	1.08	310
J (19)	250	2400	50	70	0.20	10.75	71.20	57.14	1.03	665
J (20)	250	2400	50	120	0.53	18.80	67.95	56.63	1.55	1179
J (21)	400	2800	0	0	0	0	0	60.80	0	0
J (22)	400	2800	50	30	0.10	7.870	92.49	74.20	1.86	627
J (23)	400	2800	50	95	0.26	20.48	90.87	73.50	1.80	1567
J (24)	400	2800	50	152	0.42	32.63	89.05	72.42	2.06	2508
J (25)	600	3600	0	0	0	0	0	80.08	0	0
J (26)	600	3600	50	50	0.10	10.43	128.7	99.54	3.79	930
J (27)	600	3600	50	129	0.23	24.35	126.7	98.14	2.85	2232
J (28)	600	3600	50	186	0.34	36.25	124.12	96.27	4.20	3348
J (29)	1200	4000	0	0	0	0	0	110.77	0	0
J (30)	1200	4000	50	100	0.10	18.82	178.6	132.84	4.36	2200
J (31)	1200	4000	50	181	0.17	31.07	176	130.1	4.18	3790
J (32)	1200	4000	50	320	0.29	53.50	173	128.25	5.805	6480

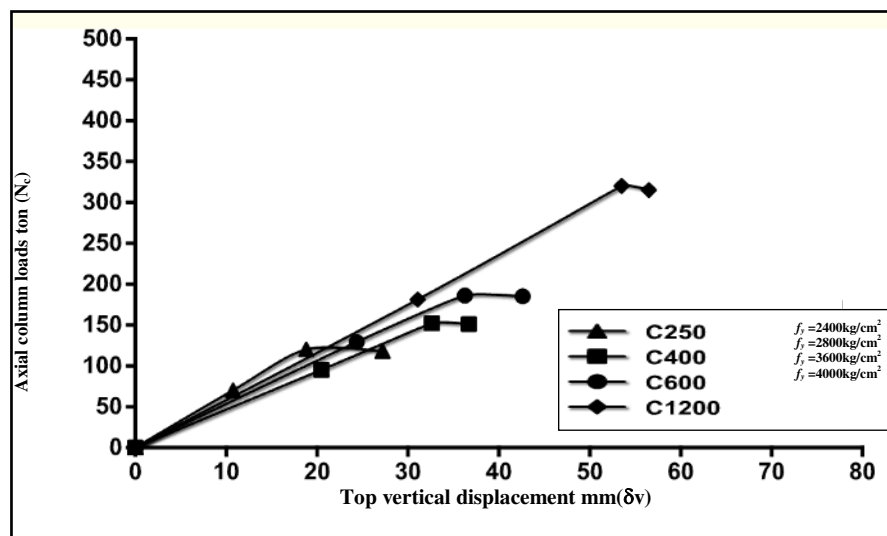
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The effects of the most of parameters, which may influence the behavior of beam-column joint are evaluated and can be represented by the following relationships:

1. Relation of axial column loads (N_c) versus axial displacement (δ_v).



a) Relation of Axial column loads (N_c) – Axial displacement (δ_v) at Interior joint

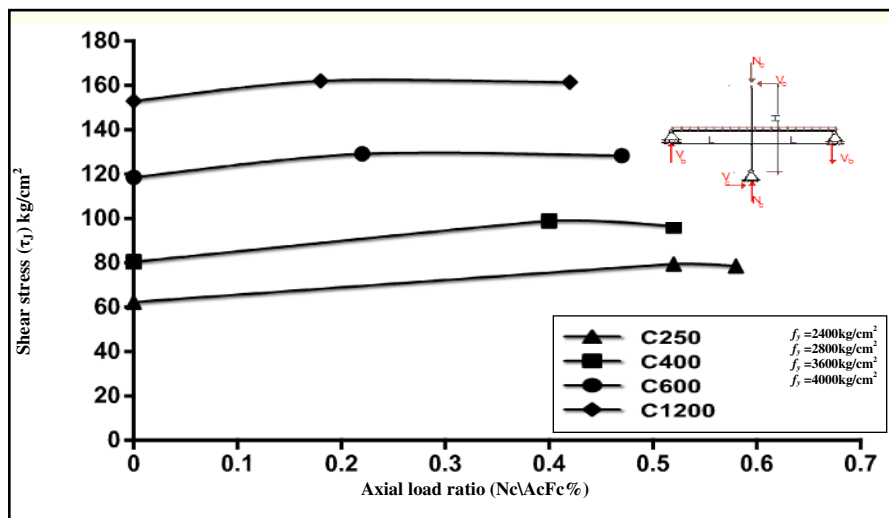


b) Relation of axial column loads (N_c) – axial displacement (δ_v) at exterior joint

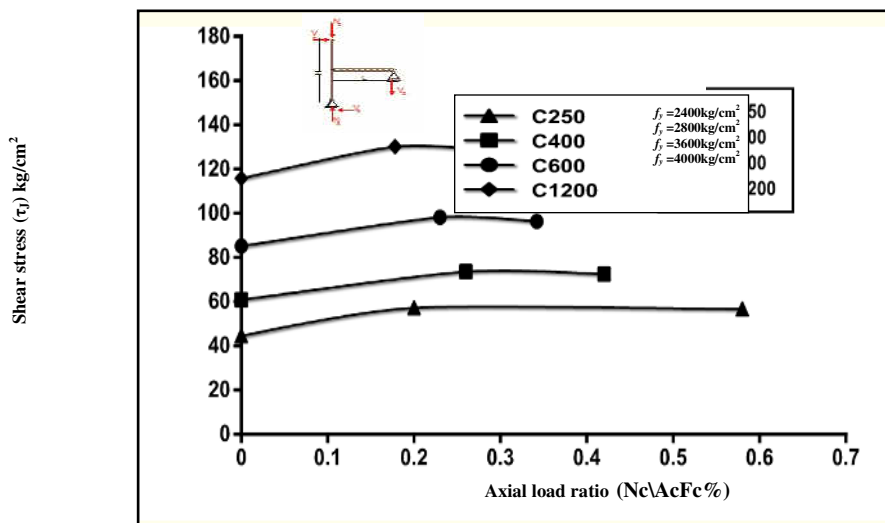
Fig. 10. Relation of axial column loads (N_c) – axial displacement (δ_v)

Fig.10 illustrates that in general as the axial load (N_c) increases the corresponding axial top vertical displacement (δ_v) increases.

2. Relation of shear stress (τ_j) versus axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c f'_c \%$).



a) Relation of shear stress (τ_j)– axial column loads ratio ($N_c/A_c f'_c \%$) at interior joint

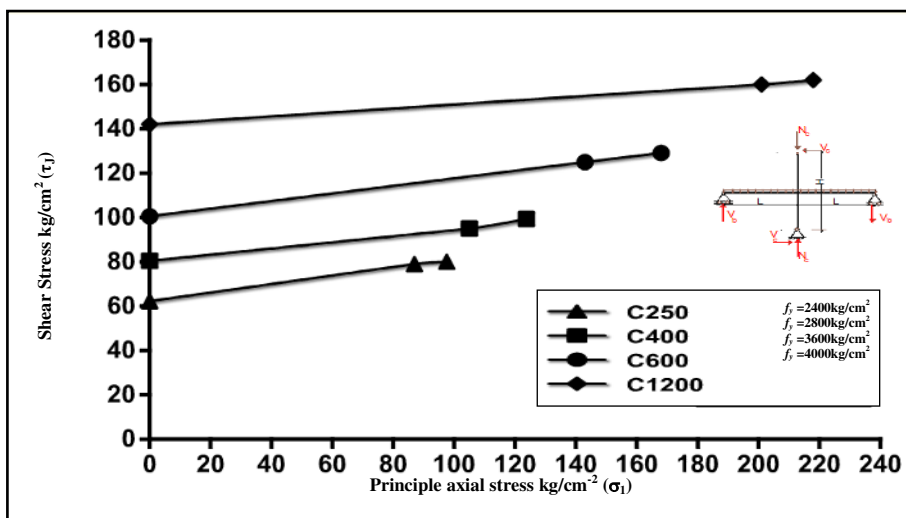


b) Relation of Shear Stress (τ_j)– Axial column loads ratio ($N_c/A_c f'_c \%$) at Exterior joint

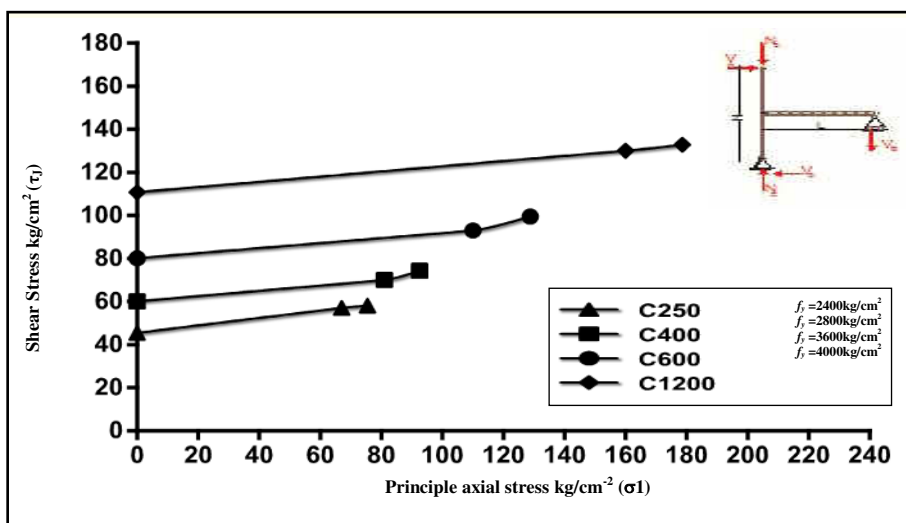
Fig. 11. Relation of shear stress (τ_j) and axial column loads ratio ($N_c/A_c f'_c \%$)

Fig.11 shows that the joint shear stress (τ_j) increases with increasing the axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c f'_c \%$), for both studied joints.

3. Relation of shear stress (τ_j) kg/cm^2 –principle axial Stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2 Fig. (12)



a) Relation of shear Stress (τ_j)–a principle axial stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2 for Interior Joint

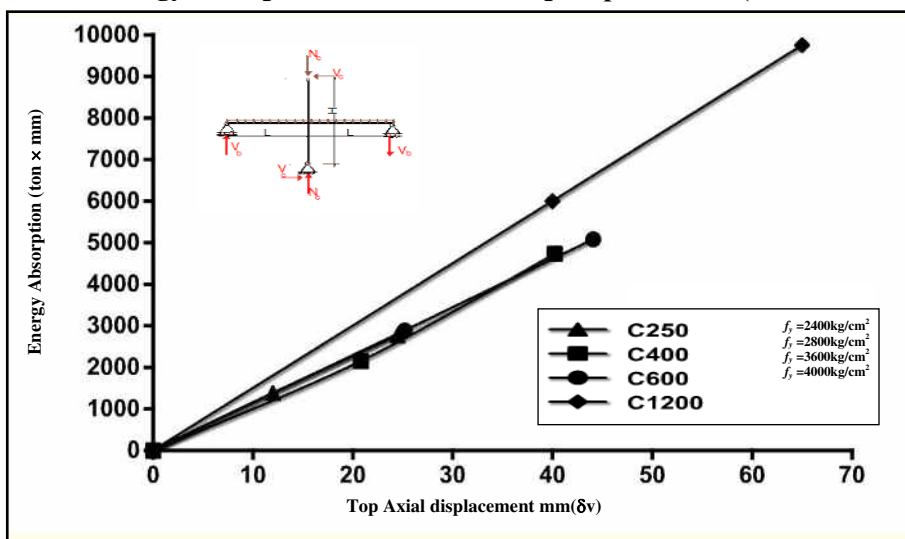


b) Relation of shear Stress (τ_j)–a Principle axial stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2 at exterior joint

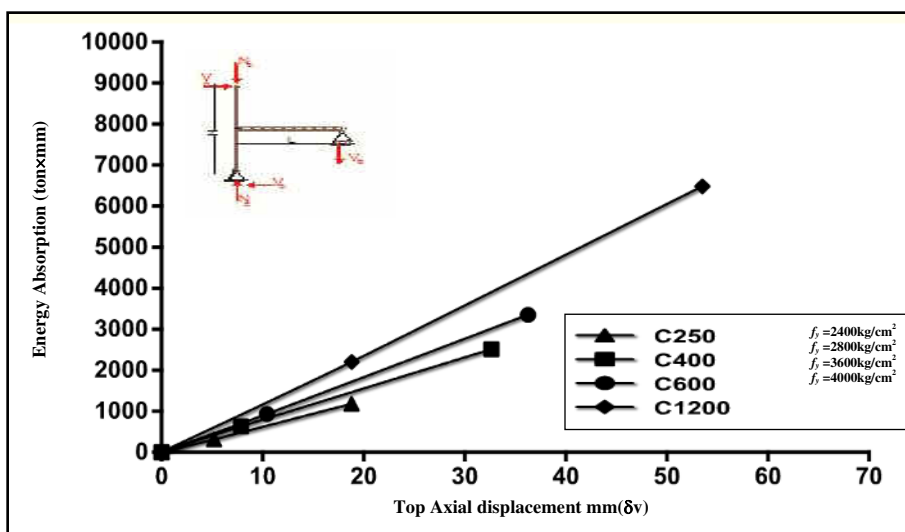
Fig. 12. Relation of shear stress (τ_j) and a principle axial stress (σ_1)

Fig.12 illustrates that in general as the axial stress (σ_1) increases the corresponding shear stress (τ_j) also increases approximately in linear relationship of constant rate disregarding the grade of concrete.

4. Relation of energy absorption (E.A)–vertical top displacement (δ_v)



a) Relation of energy absorption (E.A)–vertical top displacement (δ_v) for interior joint

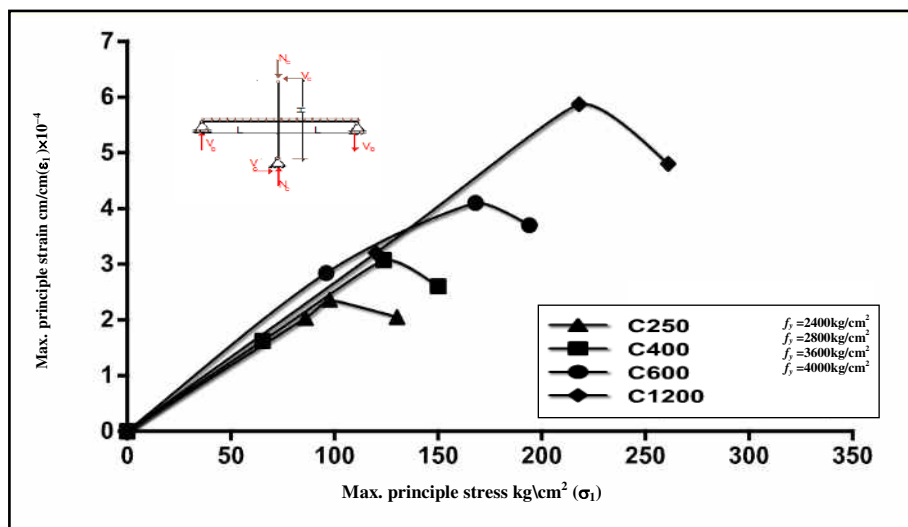


b) Relation of energy absorption (E.A)–vertical top displacement (δ_v) at exterior joint

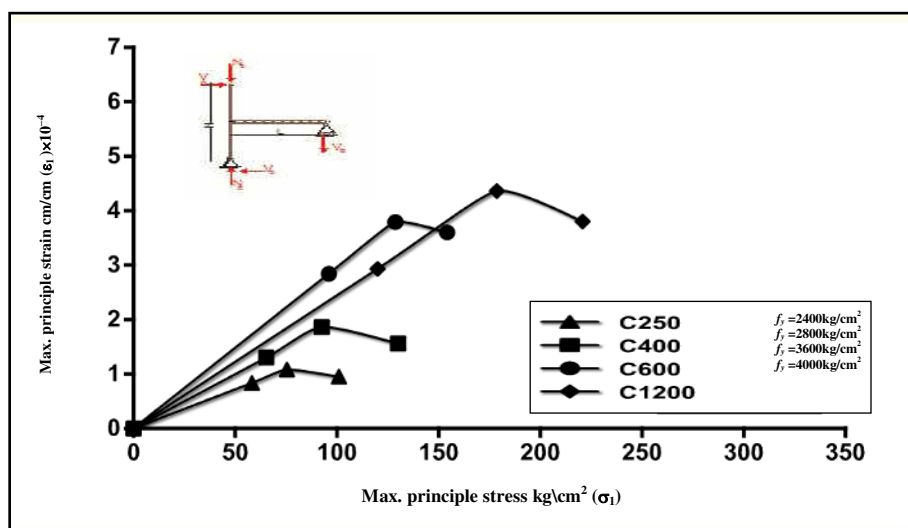
Fig. 13. Relation of energy absorption (E.A) versus vertical top displacement (δ_v)

Fig.13 illustrates that in general as vertical top displacement (δ_v) increases the energy absorption increases too, a nearly linear relationship with respect to the vertical top displacement for various levels energy absorption.

5. Relation of max. principle stress (σ_1) – maximum principle strain (ϵ_1)



a) Relation of max. principle stress (σ_1)- max. principle strain (ϵ_1) for interior joint



b) Relation of max. principle stress (σ_1)- max. principle strain (ϵ_1) exterior joint

Fig. 14. Relation of Maximum Principle Stress (σ_1)- Maximum Principle Strain (ϵ_1)

Fig.14 illustrates that axial strain increases corresponding to an axial stress increase up to the maximum stress and beyond this limit a descending branch for the diagram is noticed up to failure.

6. Relation of concrete compressive strength (f'_c) kg/cm² - axial cracking column loads (N_{cc}) and ultimate column loads (N_{cu}):

Table 4 and Figure 15.

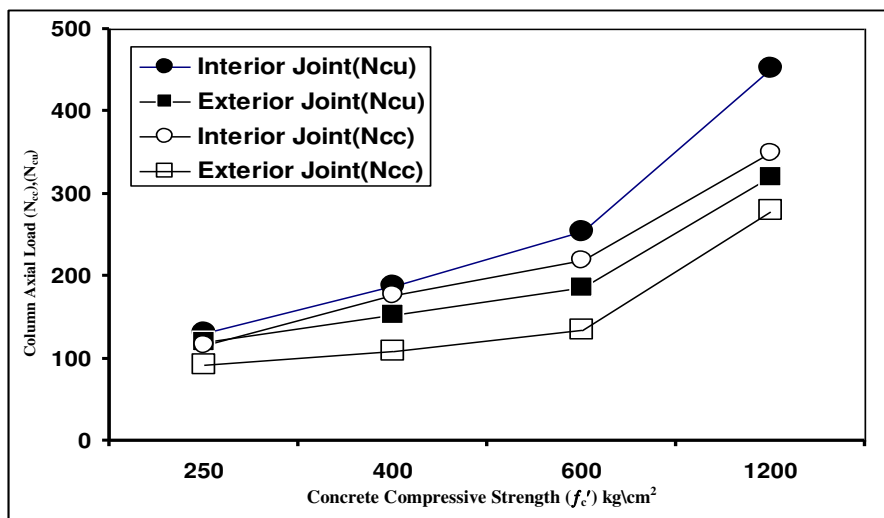


Fig. 15. The Relation of Concrete Compressive Strength (f'_c) kg/cm² Axial Column Loads (N_c) (N_{cu})

Fig.15 illustrates that in general as the concrete compressive strength (f'_c) increases the corresponding axial applied column loads also increases, and the axial column loads (N_{cc}) and (N_{cu}) for interior joint is usually bigger than that for exterior joint.

Table 4

Cracking, failure loads for joint specimens:

	Concrete compressive strength kg/cm ² (f'_c)	Ultimate load (N_{cu})	Cracking axial load (N_{cc})
Interior joint	J4 C250	131	115
	J8 C400	187	177
	J12 C600	254	218
	J16 C1200	452	350
Exterior joint	J20 C250	120	92
	J24 C400	152	109
	J28 C600	186	134
	J32 C1200	320	280

8. Analysis and discussions of the obtained results

Variable axial load was applied gradually and constant applied lateral load was maintained at the top of the column for studied different R.C (32) joints, internal and external beam-column joints except corner (knee) joint did not have variable axial column load. The ultimate and cracking axial load was recorded as well as the maximum joint shear, axial stresses and strains were evaluated.

8.1. W.R.T strength and stresses points of view:

8.1.1. Effect of concrete compressive strength (f_c') on the load bearing capacity of column axial load (N_{cc}):

It is obvious on Table 4 and Figure 16, that the axial load ratio ($N_{cu}/A_f c'$) decreases with the increasing of compressive strength for both interior and exterior joint. Also, for interior joint the axial load ratio is bigger than that for exterior one. This reflects the fact that the interior joint is more effective in resisting axial load compared with that for exterior joint.

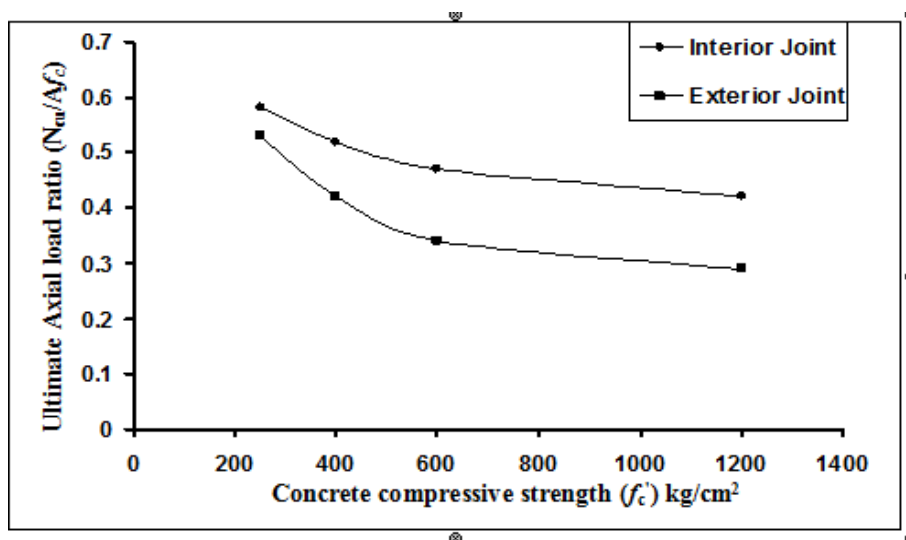


Fig.16. Relation of axial load ratio ($N_{cu}/A_f c'$) -concrete compressive strength (f_c')

8.1.2. Effect of concrete compressive strength (f_c') on joint shear stresses (τ_j):

It is shown on Table 5 and Figure 17 that a plot between the obtained joint shear stress (τ_j) for the two studied types of joints against the used concrete grade (f_c'). Also it is indicated that interior joint shear stresses (τ_j) is usually bigger than that for exterior one per 125%.

The (J) mode strength, defined by (τ_j/f_c'), for the studied joints was calculated and plotted against the corresponding compressive strength (f_c') as shown in Fig.18. This Figure declared that the (τ_j/f_c') mode strength decreases by increasing the grade of concrete. Higher values were corresponding interior joints rather than that for exterior joints. One of the findings of this study is that the joint strength coefficient (γ), changes with the variation of the column compressive axial load. Comparing the obtained results showed that the

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joint shear strength coefficient has an average value of $(\gamma) = 3.80$ for exterior joint, however it has as an average values of $(\gamma) = 5.00$ for interior joint.

The **FEMA 273 (BSSC 1997)** joint shear strength coefficient is given as $(\gamma) = 6$ for exterior joints without transverse beams. The **ACI 352 (1991)** joint shear strength coefficient for exterior joints is given as $(\gamma) = 12$.

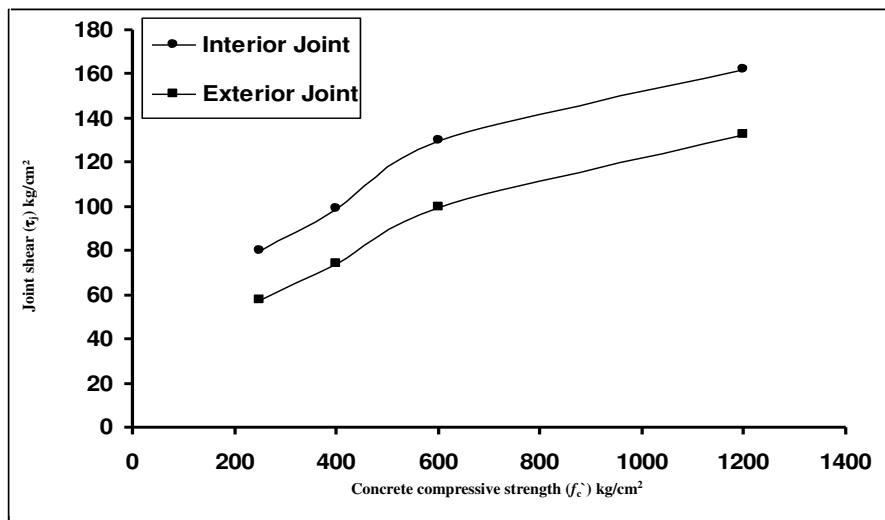


Fig.17. Relation of shear stress (τ_j)kg/cm² - concrete compressive strength (f_c)

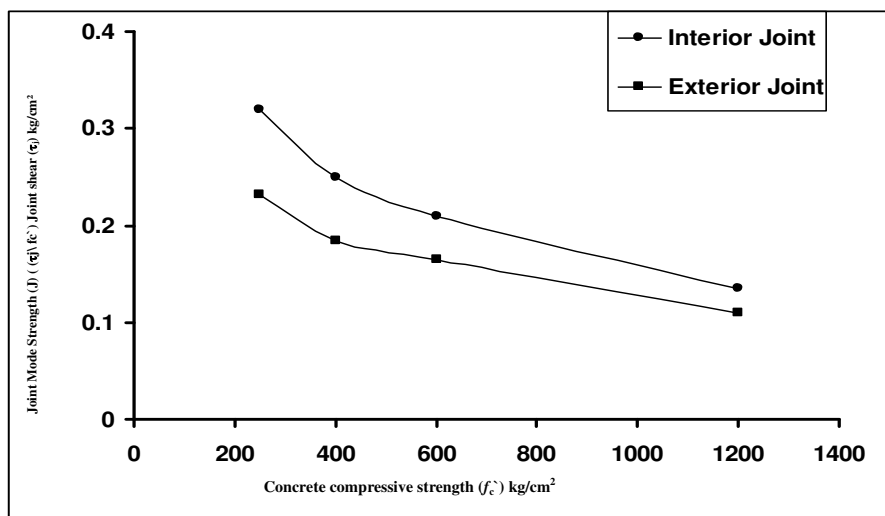


Fig.18. Relation of Concrete Compressive Strength (f_c) - Joint Mode Strength (J) ($\tau_j \setminus f_c$)

Table 5

Test results of beam column joint with axial load failure.

Joint test	Ultimate load (N_{cu})	Cracking axial load (N_{cc})	$(N_{cu}) / AcF_c$	Top Axial Displacement mm(δ_v)	Max. joint shear stress (τ_j) kg/cm ²	Max. principle strain cm/cm ($\epsilon_1 \times 10^{-4}$)	Joint strength coeff. $\gamma = \tau_j \sqrt{f_c'}$	Energy Absorbed ton×mm	joint shear stress\ compressive stress (J) = $(\tau_j \sqrt{f_c'})$	Max. principal stress(σ_1) kg/cm ²	Joint bond stress (kg\cm ²) (μ_b)	
Interior joint	C250	131	115	0.58	24.50	80.04	2.85	5.06	2764	0.32	24.11	12.00
	C400	187	177	0.52	40.22	99.31	3.66	4.97	4730	0.25	43.02	13.50
	C600	254	218	0.47	44.08	129.76	4.70	5.27	6080	0.21	67.87	19.45
	C1200	452	350	0.42	65.00	162	6.10	4.67	9752	0.13	190	24.20
exterior joint	C250	120	92	0.53	18.80	58.06	1.55	3.67	1179	0.23	69.22	8.20
	C400	152	109	0.42	32.63	74.20	2.86	3.704	2508	0.18	89	11.05
	C600	186	134	0.34	36.25	99.54	4.20	4.04	3348	0.16	120	14.85
	C1200	320	280	0.29	53.50	132.84	5.80	3.84	6480	0.11	166	18.20

8.1.3. Effect of column axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c F_c$)% on joint shear stresses (τ_j):

Figs. 19(a) and (b), and Tables 6 (a) and (b) show the relation between the axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c f_c$ %) on the induced shear stress (τ_j) for different grades of concrete for the studied joints. At Interior and Exterior joints higher nominal shear stress (τ_j) both are not affected by axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c f_c$ %) for C250,400,600 as given by **NZS 3101 (1995) Code** but for grade C1200 nominal shear stress (τ_j) slightly decreases as the axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c f_c$ %) increases as mentioned by **EN3101 (1995) Code**.

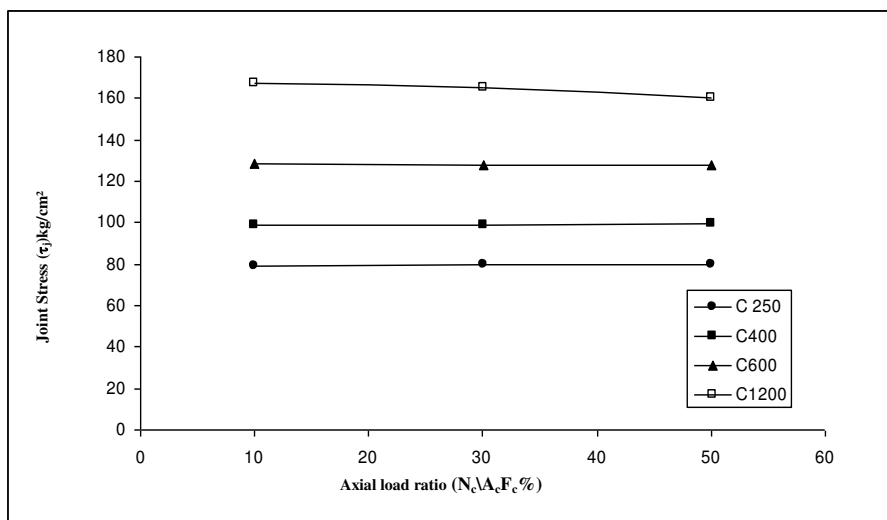


Fig.19.a. Relation of axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c F_c$ %) - joint shear stress (τ_j) kg\cm² for interior joints

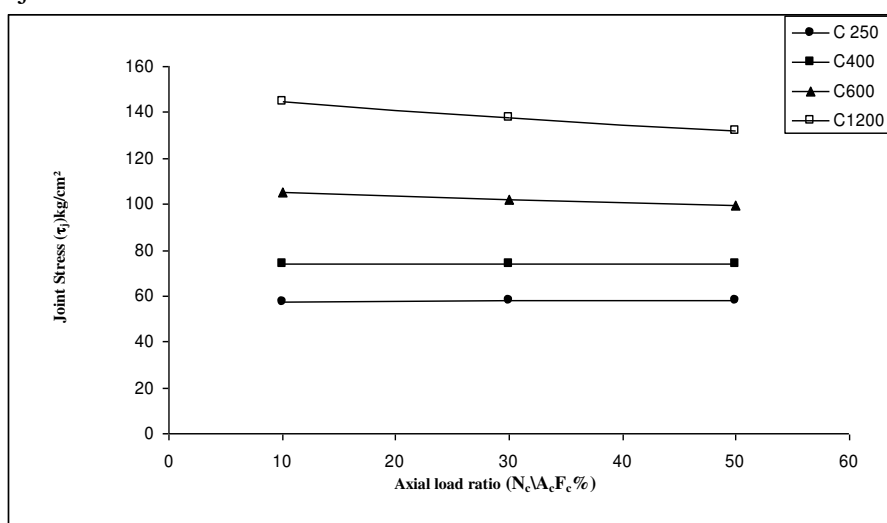


Fig.19.b. Relation of axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c F_c$ %) - joint shear stress (τ_j) kg\cm² for exterior joints

8.1.4. Effect of concrete compressive strength (f_c') on bond strength (μ_b) of beam reinforcement:

A maximum bond stress (u_b) of beam reinforcement over the column width was estimated by assuming simultaneous yielding of the beam reinforcement in tension and compression at the two faces of the joint. Table 5 and Figure 20 show the relation between concrete compressive strength (f_c') on bond strength (μ_b) for the studied joints. For both interior and exterior joints. The increase of concrete grade is usually accompanied by an increase in the induced bond strength (μ_b). Figure 21 indicates that the increase of concrete grade is usually accompanied by a constant ratio for induced ratio of joint shear stress/ bond strength (τ_j/μ_b) disregarding the type of joint. i.e. Interior and exterior joints usually possess the same values of the induced ratio of (τ_j/μ_b) for any grade of concrete.

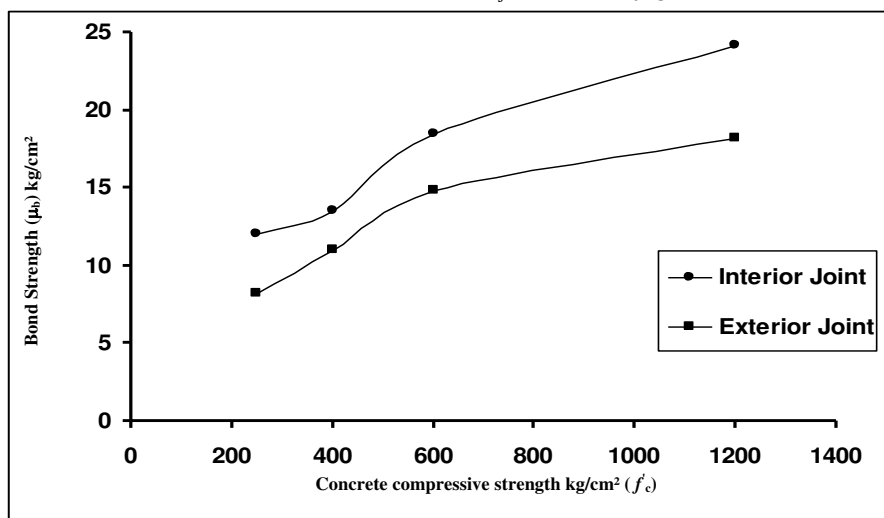


Fig. 20. Relation of concrete compressive strength (f_c') - bond strength (μ_b)

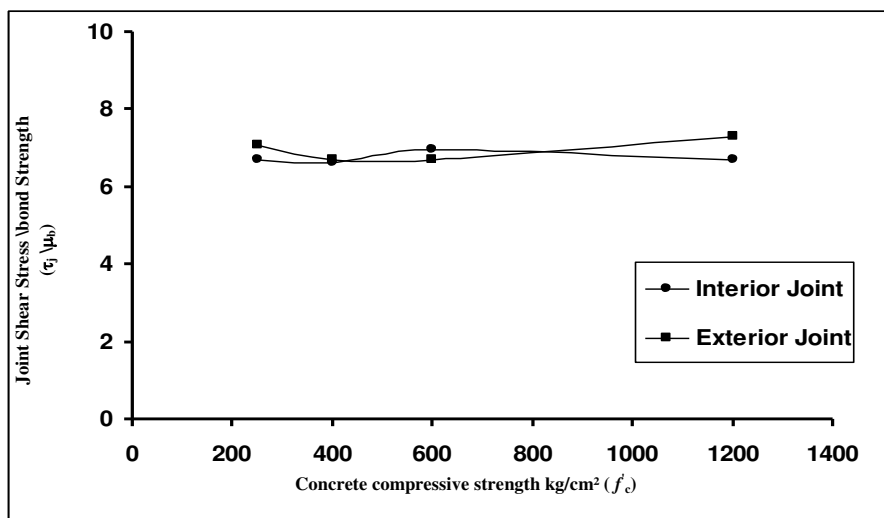


Fig. 21. Relation of concrete compressive strength (f_c') - joint shear stress / bond strength (τ_j/μ_b) for studied joints

8.1.5. Effect of concrete compressive strength (f_c') on axial principal stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2 :

Figure 22 and Table 7 show maximum principle stresses values of the joint concrete at the maximum strength for ultimate axial loading for both interior and exterior joint. The increase of concrete compressive strength is usually accompanied with an effective increase on the induced principle stresses for both types of joints.

Figure 23 and Table 7 indicate that the increase of concrete grade is usually accompanied by a decrease in the induced ratio of (σ_1/f_c') disregarding the type of joint. Also it is interesting to note that interior joint usually posses higher values of the induced ratio of (σ_1/f_c') for any grade of concrete. Also, Figure 23 indicates that the rate of decrease of the induced ratio of (σ_1/f_c') for (C250-C600) different rather than the induced ratio of (σ_1/f_c') for (C600-C1200) for all kinds of studied joints.

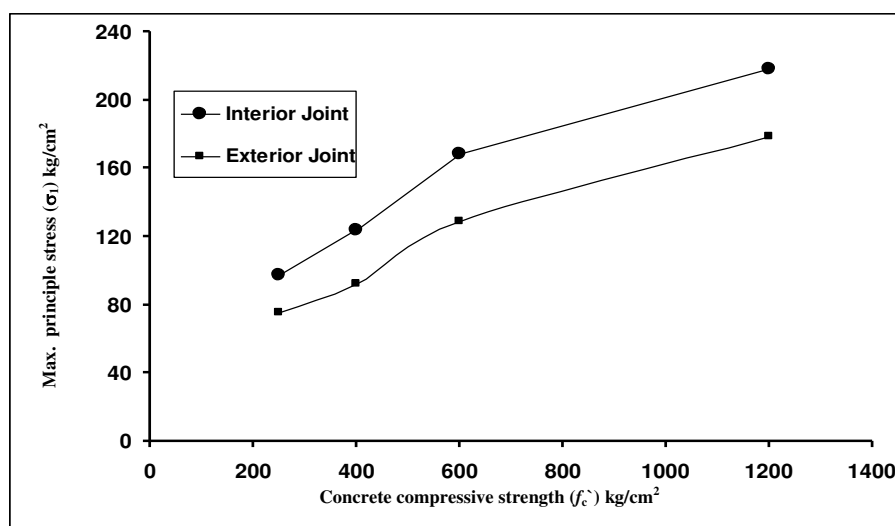


Fig. 22. Relation of concrete compressive strength (f_c') kg/cm axial principal stress (σ_1)

Figures 24.a, 24.b and Tables 6-a and 6-b illustrate the relation between the axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c f_c'$) on principle axial stress (σ_1) at different grades of concrete for the studied joints. For both interior and exterior joints the maximum induced principle axial stresses (σ_1) are not affected by the value of the acting axial load ratio, but significantly affected by both the type of joint and the grade of used concrete.

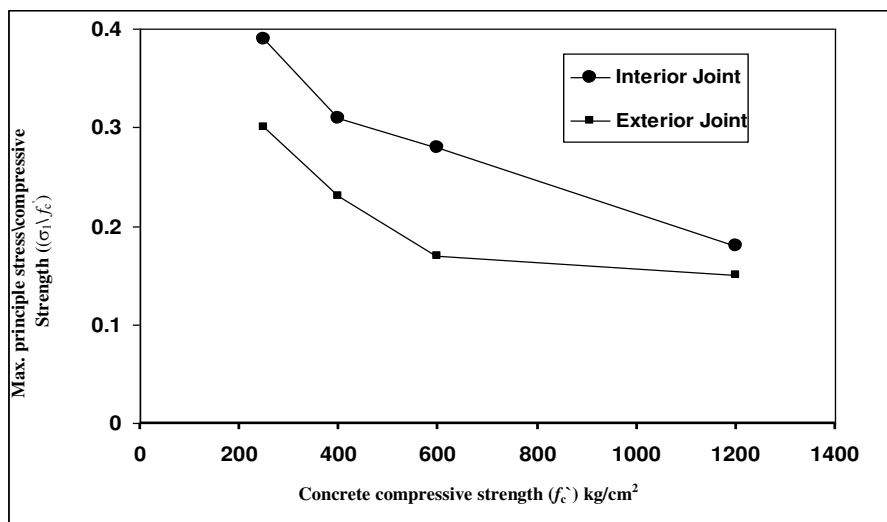


Fig. 23. Relation of concrete compressive strength (f'_c) - maximum principle stress/concrete compressive strength (σ_1/f'_c) for studied joints

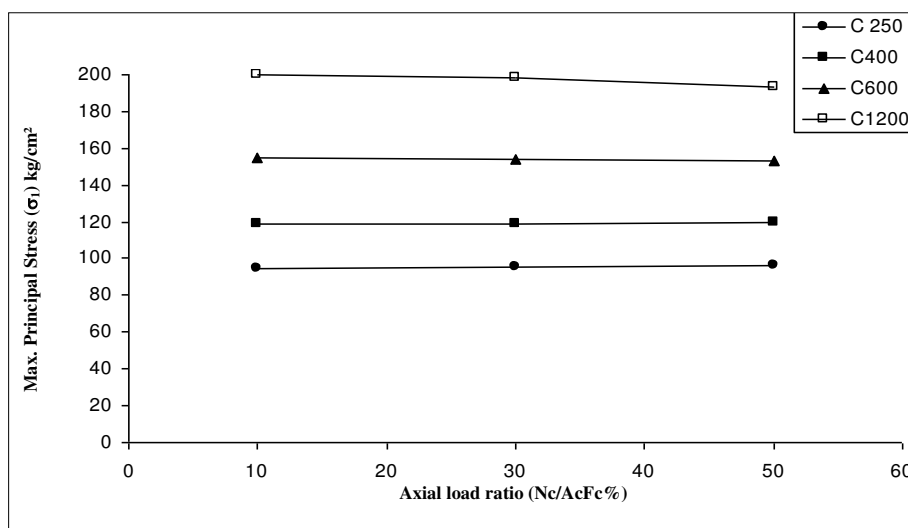


Fig. 24.a. Relation of axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c F_c$ %) – maximum principal axial stress (σ_1) kg/cm² for interior joints

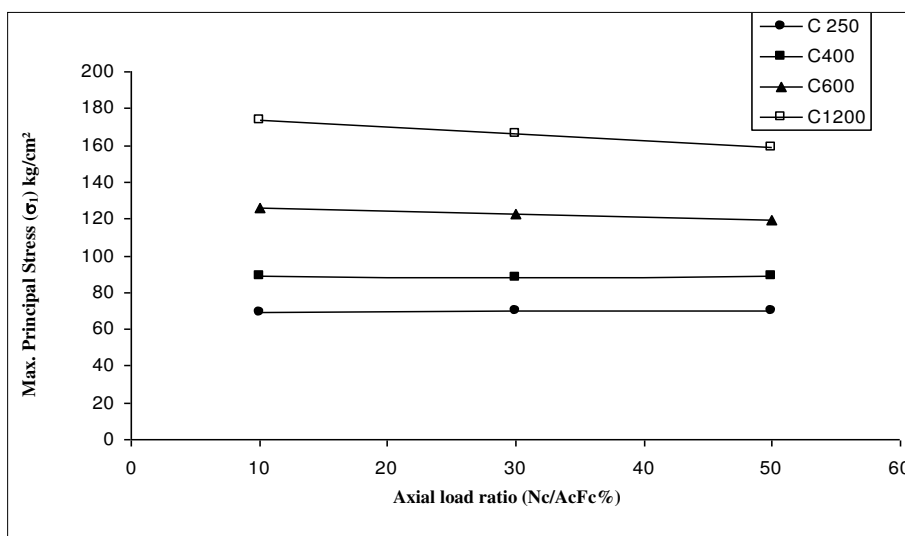


Fig. 24.b. Relation of axial load ratio ($N_c/A_cF_c\%$) – maximum principal axial stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2 for exterior joints

Table 6

Effect of column axial load ratio (N_c/A_cF_c) on shear and axial stresses (τ_j, σ_1):

Table (6-a)

Table (6-b)

Joint	Ultimate load (N_{cu})	N_c / A_cF_c	joint shear stress (τ_j) kg/cm^2	Max. principal stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2	
Interior joint	C250	43.00	0.19	79.00	94.80
	C250	85.50	0.38	79.58	95.50
	C250	120	0.53	79.82	96.05
	C400	58	0.16	98.78	118.50
	C400	119	0.33	99.00	119.10
	C400	187	0.52	99.31	119.87
	C600	54	0.10	128.78	154.50
	C600	135	0.25	128.02	153.60
	C600	183	0.34	127.76	153.25
	C1200	108	0.10	167	200
	C1200	270	0.25	165	198
	C1200	324	0.30	160	193

Joint	Ultimate load (N_{cu})	N_c / A_cF_c	joint shear stress (τ_j) kg/cm^2	Max. principal stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2	
Exterior joint	C250	35.00	0.19	57.68	69.22
	C250	86	0.38	57.98	69.67
	C250	120	0.53	58.06	69.56
	C400	36	0.16	73.96	88.75
	C400	119	0.33	74.00	88.02
	C400	187	0.52	74.20	89.05
	C600	54	0.10	105.32	126
	C600	135	0.25	101.87	123
	C600	186	0.34	99.54	119.40
	C1200	108	0.10	145	174
	C1200	270	0.25	138.25	166
	C1200	320	0.30	132.84	159.30

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Table 7

Effect of Concrete Compressive Strength (f_c') on stresses (σ_1), (τ_i) and strains

	Joint	Ultimate load (N_{cu})	(N_{cu}) / AcF_c	Max. joint shear stress τ_j kg/cm^2	Max. principle strain cm/cm ($\epsilon_1 \times 10^{-4}$)	Max. principle stress (σ_1) kg/cm^2	Energy Absorbed (E.A) $ton \times m$	Max. principle stress \ Compressive stress (σ_1 / f_c')	Max. pr. stress \ Max. pr. strain ($\sigma_1 \epsilon_1 \times 10^4 kg/cm^2$)	shear stress \ bond stress (τ_j / μ_b)
Interior joint	C250	131	0.58	80.04	2.85	97.60	2764	0.39	34.24	6.70
	C400	187	0.52	99.31	3.66	123.75	4730	0.31	33.88	6.62
	C600	254	0.47	129.76	4.70	168	6080	0.28	35.74	6.97
	C1200	452	0.42	162	6.10	218	9752	0.18	35.74	6.69
exterior joint	C250	120	0.53	58.06	1.55	75.46	1179	0.30	48.68	7.07
	C400	152	0.42	74.20	2.86	92.49	2508	0.23	32.33	6.69
	C600	186	0.34	99.54	4.20	128.7	3348	0.17	30.64	6.70
	C1200	320	0.29	132.84	5.80	178.6	6480	0.15	30.79	7.29

8.2. W.R.T deformations and strains points of view:

8.2.1. Effect of concrete compressive strength (f_c') on (axial displacement mm(δv)):

Table 8 and Figure 25 illustrate that the vertical displacement increases with the decrease of concrete compressive strength. Finally vertical displacement is bigger for exterior joint than that for interior joint with 135%.

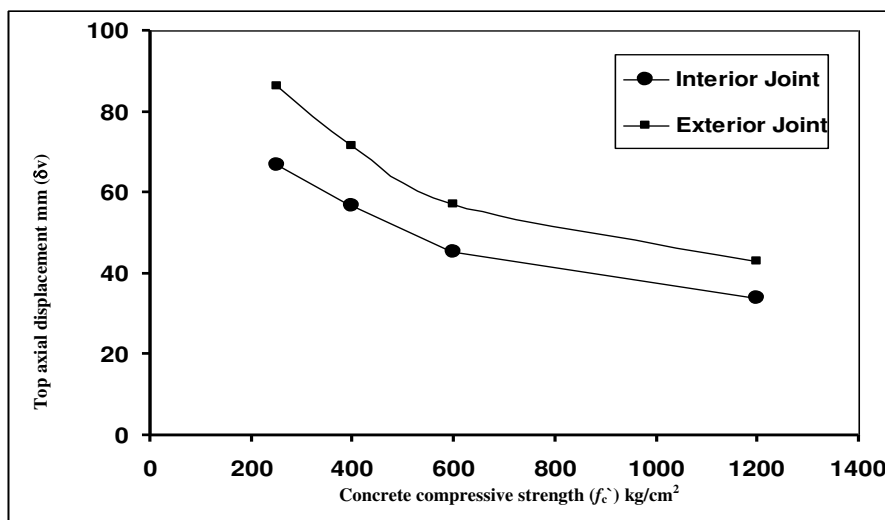


Fig. 25. Relation of top axial displacement mm(δv) - concrete compressive strength

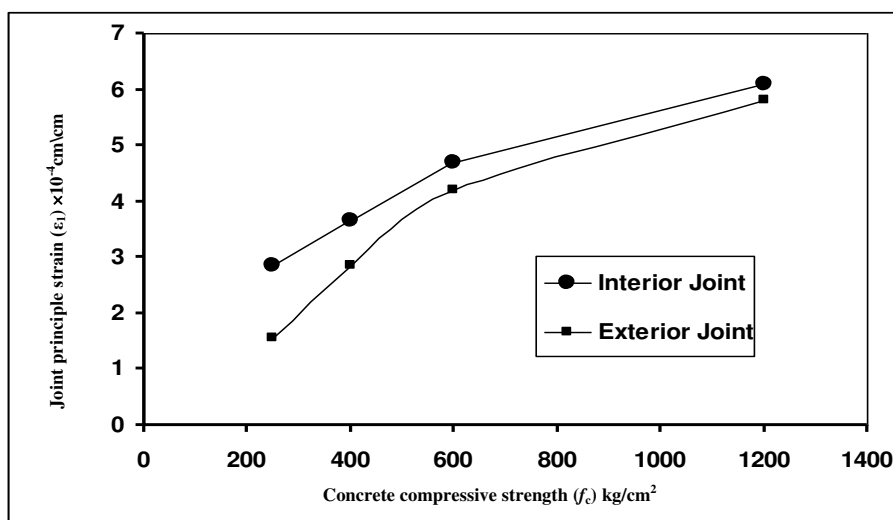


Fig.26. Relation joint principle strain (ϵ_1) - concrete compressive strength (f_c') kg/cm

8.2.2. Effect of concrete compressive strength (f_c') on axial strain (ϵ_1) cm/cm:

Figure 26 and Table 7 indicate that the increase of concrete grade is usually accompanied by an increase in the induced principle strains (ϵ_1) disregarding the type of joint. Also it is interesting to note that interior joint usually possesses higher values of maximum induced principle strain (ϵ_1) for any grade of concrete. Finally it is indicated that the rate of increase of maximum principle strain (ϵ_1) with respect to the increase of concrete grade is more or less equal for both two studied types of joints.

Figure 27 and Table 7 illustrate the relation between the concrete grade (f_c') and the corresponding induced ratio of maximum principle stress / maximum principle strain (σ_1/ϵ_1). Figure 27 indicates that the increase of concrete grade (f_c') is usually accompanied by more or less constant rate of (σ_1/ϵ_1) for interior joints, however concrete compressive strength (f_c') has a slight effect to decrease (σ_1/ϵ_1) for exterior joint. This means that both interior and exterior joint possess approximately the same value of induced ratio (σ_1/ϵ_1) against the corresponding values of concrete compressive strength.

Table 8

Effect of column axial load (N_c) on top axial displacement mm(δv) (Case B).

Joint test		Ultimate load (Nc)ton	$(N_{cu}) / A_c$ (f_c')	Top Axial Displacement mm(δv)
Interior joint	C250	100	0.58	66.83
	C400	100	0.52	56.82
	C600	100	0.47	45.44
	C1200	100	0.42	34.08
exterior joint	C250	100	0.53	86.35
	C400	100	0.42	71.38
	C600	100	0.34	57.10
	C1200	100	0.29	42.83

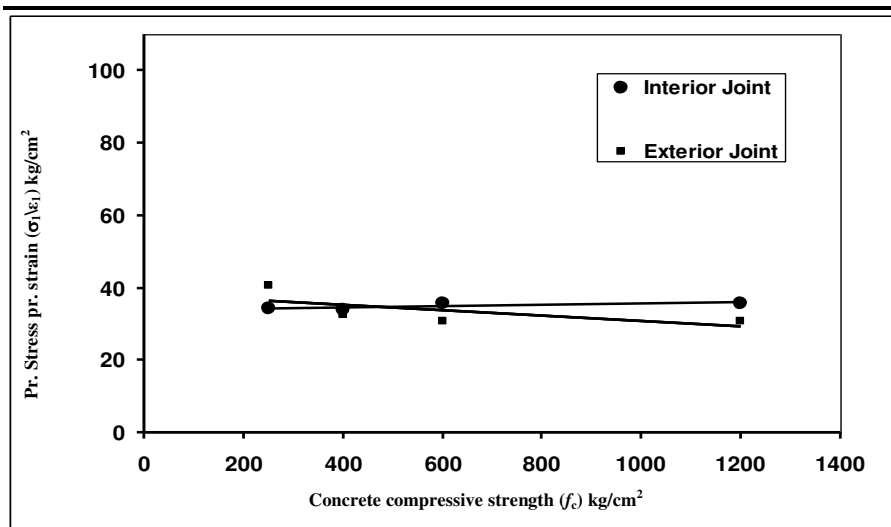


Fig.27. Relation of concrete compressive stress (f_c') – ratio of maximum principle stress / maximum principle strain (σ_1/ϵ_1) for studied joints

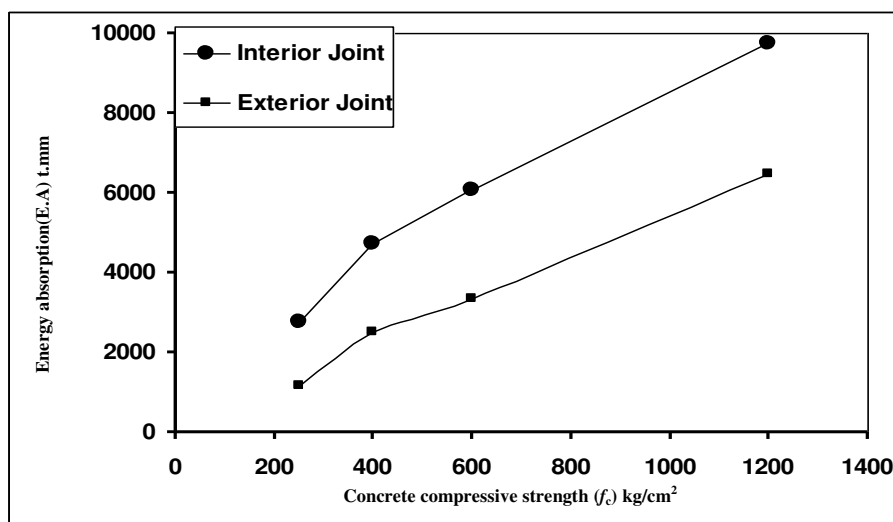


Fig.28. Relation of concrete compressive strength (f_c') – energy absorption (E.A) for joints

8.3. *W.R.T energy absorption (E.A) point of view:*

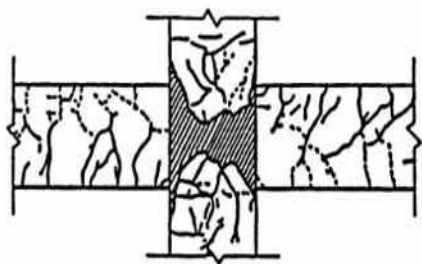
The energy absorption capability of a beam-to-column connection may be evaluated as the area under the lateral load-deflection curve. At this case of loading it is interesting to note that, on the light of Figure 28 and Table 7, it is obvious that, as the compressive strength of used concrete increases, the dissipated energy considerably increases disregarding the type of joint. Meanwhile for a given concrete grade, the dissipated energy is higher for interior joint rather than that for exterior joint.

8.4. *W.R.T observed failure modes point of view:*

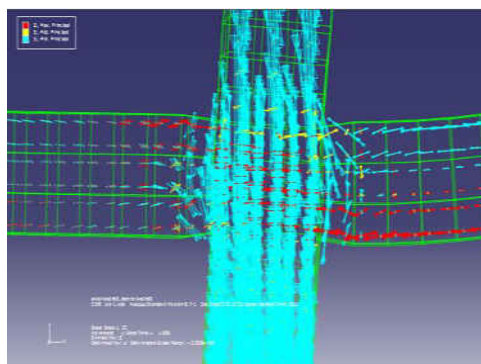
Failure Modes for Beam-Column Joints can be summarized as follows as shown in Figs.29 and 30:

(BF): Brittle failure: This occurs because of cracks that occur at the joint face, where the crack concrete burst when the load increased the compression, after the cracking of concrete, the axial pressure also makes the larger mechanical friction formed between the concrete blocks, if the axial pressure exceeds the critical value, the concrete will be crushed, and the shear strength will be reduced. **(BF)** mode of failure for interior and exterior joints were observed In J. (4, 9, 11) and J. (20, 25, 30) respectively.

(DF): Ductile failure :This failure occurs when the plastic hinges occurs at column either caused by compression force, in this case a lot of cracks can be seen in column failure. This condition can caused the frame to sway and hard to repair **(DF)** mode of failure for interior and exterior joints were observed in J. (5, 13, 16) and J. (27, 32) respectively.



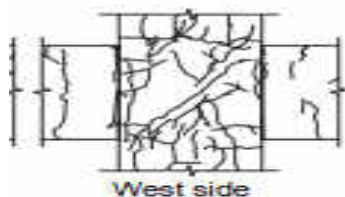
(DF)-mode (Kazuhiro K.Z.1991)



(DF)-mode Joint No.(16)-obtained results

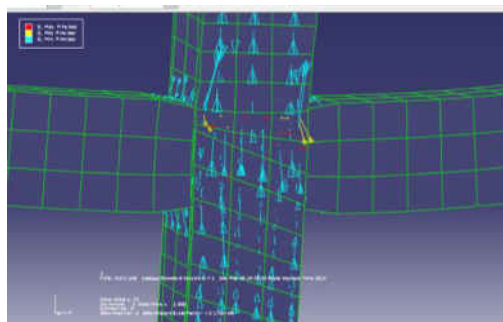
Fig.29.a Deformation mode

55S



55S

(BF)-mode (Fumio K.2004)



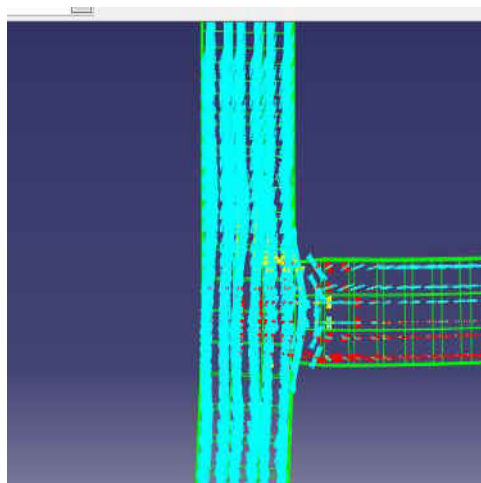
(BF)-mode Joint No.(4)-obtained results

Fig.29.b Deformation mode

Fig.29. Analytical crack patterns at final loading stage for interior beam-column joint

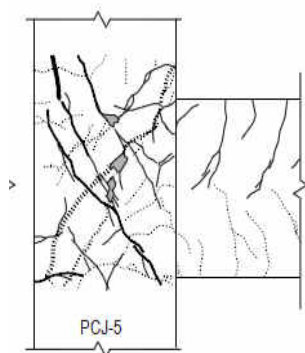


(DF)-mode (Xiaoli Yang 2009)

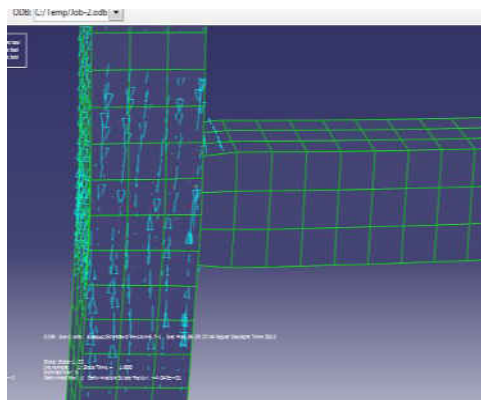


(DF)-mode Joint No.(32)-obtained results

Fig. 30.a Deformation mode



(BF)-mode (Hitoshi Sh. 2002)



(BF)-mode Joint No.(20)-obtained results.

Fig. 30.b Deformation mode

Fig. 30. Analytical crack patterns at final loading stage for exterior beam-column joint

8.5. Conclusions and recommendations

The following conclusions are only valid for both interior and exterior joints where corner (knee) joint did not have variable axial column load.

8.6. W.R.T loads and stresses point of view:

8.6.1. Column axial load:

- The axial load ratio ($N_c/A_c f_c$) generally decreases with the increase of concrete compressive strength for the studied joints. Meanwhile, for a given grade of concrete, for interior joint the axial load ratio is bigger than that for exterior one by 131%. This reflects the fact that the interior joint is more effective in resisting axial load compared with that for exterior joint.

8.6.2. Joint shear stresses (τ_j):

- The joint shear stress (τ_j) for interior joint is higher than that for exterior with 125%. This means that the interior joint is considerably safe than the exterior joint.
- One of the findings of this study is that the joint strength coefficient, (γ) defined by ($\gamma = \tau_j / \sqrt{f_c}$), changes with the variation of the column compressive axial load and mainly depends on the type of joint where, from comparing the results joint shear strength coefficient is given as average $\gamma = 3.80$ for exterior joint of column axial load, and is given as average $\gamma = 5.00$ for interior joint of column axial load.
- It is declared that the (τ_j/f_c) mode strength decreases by increasing the grade of concrete (f_c). Higher values were corresponding interior joints rather than that for exterior joints.

8.6.3. Bond Stress (μ_b) kg/cm²:

- For both interior and exterior joints, the increase of concrete grade is usually accompanied by an increase in the induced bond Strength (μ_b).

$$\frac{u_b}{\sqrt{f_c}} = k = \text{cons tan } t$$

where (k) is a constant depends on both used grade of concrete and type of joint as well as case of loading.

- The increase of concrete grade is usually accompanied by a constant ratio for induced ratio of (τ_j / μ_b) disregarding the type of joint. Also, it is interesting to note that Interior joint usually possess the same values of the induced ratio of (τ_j / μ_b) for any grade of concrete.
- Suggested values of (k) for calculating average bond capacity of RC joints at the following Table.

Type of Joint	(k) values of (f'_c)	
	C250 and C400	C600 and C1200
Interior joint	0.72	0.74
Exterior joint	0.54	0.56

8.6.4. Axial principal stress (σ_1) kg/cm²:

- The increase of concrete compressive strength is effective to increase the principle stresses and hence the increase of concrete grade is usually accompanied with a decrease in the induced ratio of (σ_1/f'_c) disregarding the type of joint. Also, it is interesting to note that interior joint usually posses higher values of the induced ratio of (σ_1/f'_c) for any grade of concrete.

8.7. W.R.T deformations and strains:

8.7.1. Axial displacement mm(δ_v):

An axial displacement at different joint illustrated that vertical displacement increases with the decrease of compressive strength. Finally vertical displacement is bigger at exterior joint than of interior joint with 135%.

8.7.2. Axial strain (ϵ_1) cm/cm:

- Axial strain level is compared with the axial stress level for the various joints by concrete compressive strength for plane beam-column joints, where an increase of axial stress is usually followed by a corresponding increase of axial strain.
- It is also observed that Interior joint usually possess a higher values of maximum induced principle strains for any given grade of concrete.
- It is indicated that the increase of concrete grade (f'_c) is usually accompanied by constant rate of (σ_1/ϵ_1) for interior joints, however a slight effect to decrease (σ_1/ϵ_1) for exterior joint. Finally the both interior and exterior joints have the same value of induced ratio (σ_1/ϵ_1) against the corresponding values of concrete compressive strength.

8.8. W.R.T energy absorption (E.A):

- It is interesting to note that, for this case of loading as the compressive strength of used concrete increases the dissipated energy considerably increases disregarding the type of joint. Meanwhile for a given concrete grade the dissipated energy is higher for interior joint rather than that for exterior joint.

8.9. W.R.T observed failure mode:

In this case of loading there are two types of modes of failure are observed namely:

{**BF**} mode Brittle failure: In joints No. {J. (4, 9, 11)} for interior joints and as joints No. {J. (20, 25, 30)} for exterior joints.

{DF} mode Ductile failure: In joints No. {J. (5, 13, 16) } for interior joints, and as joint No. J. (27, 32) for exterior joints.

9. Recommendations

The following topics can be recommended as subjects for future research studies.

1. To modify the joint failure at this case of loading an additional reinforcement can significantly enhance the strength and toughness gains of the confined concrete. The smaller tie spacing can also be provided at both upper and lower ends of the column to prevent concrete bursting at that particular location during the test.
2. High strength concrete when it is used in columns connection, needs large quantities of confining reinforcement to ensure ductile behavior, which can be provided by high strength transverse reinforcement. The spacing recommendation for confinement reinforcement from **Comittee 352** appears to be valid for high-strength joints so that it is found that the high-strength concrete grades achieved higher levels of ductility, with better energy absorption and an increased initial stiffness in comparison to identically detailed normal strength for internal, external and knee specimens.
3. More experimental tests for RC beam-column connections are needed with specific conditions such as using headed bars or fiber reinforced concrete will be beneficial in the extension of understanding behavior of RC beam-column connections.
4. The suggested joint shear behavior model was constructed based on standard theoretical tests of RC beam-column connection subassemblies. Because the boundary conditions of RC beam-column connections are often different in real RC moment resisting frames (MRF), the effect of boundary conditions on joint shear behavior could be further investigated
5. Nonlinearity due to concrete spalling and reinforcement buckling has not been taken into account in the present analysis; hence it is needed further study.
6. More experimental tests are required to be taken into account the different section geometry of columns beams. It is suggested that circular columns may be designed in beam-column connections at the future investigation.

Nomenclature

A_b	Gross area of cross section of beam.
A_g, A_c	Gross area of cross section of column.
A_{cs}	Area of the column reinforcement.
A_j	Horizontal sectional area of joint core.
A_{s1}, A_{s2}	Top and bottom reinforcements of beam respectively.
A_{st}	The area of longitudinal reinforcement.
at	Total area of tensile reinforcement.
ag	Total area of longitudinal reinforcement.
aw	Total area of web reinforcement placed between top and bottom beam bars.
d_c, d_b	Effective depth of beam, effective depth of column .
E.A	Energy Absorption.
E_c	The concrete static modulus.
E_s	The steel elastic modulus.
E_0	The plastic strain.
f'_c	Compressive cylinder strength of concrete.
f_{cu}	The cube strength.
f'_t	Concrete tensile strength.
f_y	Yield strength of steel reinforcement.
H	The total height of the columns above and below the joint.
h_c, h_{col}	Depth of column.
h_j	Effective depth of joint.
L_b, L	Length of the beam right and left the joint.
L_c	The heights of the columns above and below the joint.
N_c	Axial column loads.
N_{cu}	The ultimate axial column load obtained.
N_{cc}	The cracking axial column load obtained.
V_c	Column shear force.
γ	The nominal strength coefficient.
δ_v	Axial top displacement.
ε_1	principal axial strains.
σ_1	principal axial stress.
τ_j	Joint shear stress.
ρ_w	Joint shear reinforcement.

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" السلوك الاستاتيكي للأنواع المختلفة من الوصلات الخرسانية المسلحة بين الكمرات والعمود تحت تأثير كلا من القوة الراسية المحورية والرتب الخرسانية المستخدمة " (دراسة نظرية)

ملخص:

تم في هذا البحث عمل دراسة نظرية لمجموعة نماذج مقترحة ثلاثية الأبعاد من مناطق إتصال الكمرات بالأعمدة الداخلية والخارجية باستخدام برنامج كمبيوتر للتحليل الإنشائي ABAQUS\CAE 6.7 لدراسة العوامل المؤثرة على السلوك الاستاتيكي لهذه الوصلات تحت تأثير القوة الراسية المحورية المتغيرة مع القوة العرضية ثابتة لرتب الخرسانية المتغيرة للوصلات. وذلك من خلال تأثيرهم على إجهادات القص والانهادات والانفعالات المحورية من خلال قيم احمال التشريح وأقصى حمل حدي والتشكلات الناتجة في منطقة إتصال الكمرات بالأعمدة بالإضافة الى كمية الطاقة الممتصة وحالة وطرز الانهيار. ولدراسة سلوك هذه الوصلات ومقارنة النتائج النظرية تم دراسة 32 حالة لمناطق اتصال الكمرات بالاعمده الخرسانية الداخلية والخارجية حيث تم تثبيت البيانات التالية:

مساحة مقطع الكمرات A_b (250×300) mm مساحة مقطع العمود A_c ($b_c \times d_c$) mm مساحة مقطع الكمرات A_{s1} , A_{s2} (4 Φ 16) ونسبة توزيع الكانات Φ 6 \ 80 مم (p_w) وكذلك حالة النهايات الطرفية لمنطقة الإتصال الكمرات ، والاعمة مع ثبوت سمك البلاطة $t_s = 120$ mm لجميع العينات كانت ثابتة مع استخدام رتب متغيرة للخرسانة المسلحة المختلفة. حيث تتراوح مقاومة الضغط للخرسانة المسلحة بين (f_c') of 250–400–600–1200 kg/cm² للمكعبات القياسية بعد 28 يوم وأيضاً رتب حديد التسليح الممكن استخدامه في أعمال الخرسانة المسلحة بحيث يتراوح اجهاد الخضوع بين 2400–2800–3600 (f_y) 4000 kg/cm² على التوالي لمناطق الإتصال الخرسانية المختلفة الداخلية والخارجية. تم التحمل عند قمة العمود بحمل رأسي محوري للعمود بنسبة متغيرة ($N_c/A_c F_c$ %) مصحوبة بقوة قص ثابتة أفقية (V_c) ثم تقييم كلا من الازاحات الرأسية المتغيرة الناتجة من التحميل وأقصى إجهادات وانفعالات محورية (σ_1) و (ϵ_1) وأقصى (τ_1) إجهادات القص ، بالإضافة إلى الطاقة الممتصة ($E.A$) وحالة الانهيار المتوقعة وذلك باستخدام برنامج للتحليل الاستاتيكي الغير خطي ABAQUS\CAE version 6.7 عن طريق استخدام نموذج تم التأكد منه بواسطة (Sam Lee 2008) حيث تم دراسة سمات حرجة متنوعة علي سلوك منطقة الإتصال بين (الأعمدة والكمرات) الخرسانية والتحليل المرن اللدن لجميع الهياكل الخرسانية المسلحة واختبار السعة القصية لاحمال الزلازل بالتحليل الغير خطي الديناميكي لبرنامج ABAQUS. تم عرض وتحليل للنتائج النظرية المتحصل عليها من وجهات النظر التالية: الاجهادات والمقاومات لمناطق اتصال الكمرات بالأعمدة الداخلية والخارجية ؛ التشكلات والانفعالات المختلفة لمناطق اتصالات الكمرات بالاعمدة الداخلية والخارجية ، الطاقة الكليية الممتصة لمناطق اتصال الكمرات و الاعمدة الداخلية والخارجية. الحمل الحدي المحوري (N_{cu}) وحمل التشريح (N_{cc}) و اخيراً حالات الانهيار المختلفة للوصلات الخرسانية (BF). (DF) .

التوصيات:

- 1- لزيادة قدرة وسعة تحمل الوصلات ولتطوير انهيار مناطق اتصال الكمرات بالأعمدة يلزم اضافة حديد لتحزيم الخرسانة وتقليل المسافة بين الحديد للتحزيم على وجه العمود العلوي والسفلي لمنع الخرسانة من التقشير خلال التحميل الراسي بالأعمدة.
- 2- استخدام خرسانة عالية المقاومة في الأعمدة في مناطق إتصال تحتاج الي حديد تحزيم للتأكد من لدونة السلوك الذي يمكن ان يتطور باستخدام حديد ثانوي عالي المقاومة مع مراعاة المسافة للحديد التحزيم

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لاعطاء لدونة عالية وزيادة في الطاقة الممتصة مع متانة عالية بالمقارنة باستخدام مقاومة عادية لمناطق الاتصال الداخلية والخارجية والركنية.

3- بعض الدراسات مطلوبة لمناطق إتصال الخرسانة المسلحة الكمرات بالأعمدة باستخدام حديد اضافي داخلي أو خرسانة مسلحة ذات الياف لدراسة سلوك مناطق الوصلات الخرسانية المسلحة.

4- سلوك الوصلات القصي يعتمد على الدراسات النظرية القياسية لمناطق الأتصال الكمرات بالأعمدة الخرسانية المسلحة بسبب النهايات الطرفية لمناطق الاتصال فيجب دراسة تأثير تغيير النهايات الطرفية لمناطق الاتصال.

5-الأخذ في الاعتبار التحليل الغير خطي عند تقشير الخرسانة وحدوث انحناء حيث ان ذلك غير مأخوذ في الحسابات الخاصة بالبحث.

6- بعض الدراسات الأخرى مع الاخذ في الاعتبار اختلاف شكل قطاعات الاعمدة عند الوصلات اي للقطاعات الدائرية للأعمدة يجب دراستها.