Study of Confinement Index of High-Strength Concrete Columns Reinforced with High-Strength Steel Bars

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Abstract— Nowadays, the need of mega structures such high-rise buildings and long-span bridges due to the rapid growth of population is becoming increasingly urgent. The bigger the structures the higher the load should be carried by their structural members. To resist higher load, it normally requires larger size members. In reinforced concrete members, the capacity enhancement can be attained by either increasing the element size, the grade of materials used (concrete and steel bars), or the number or size of the steel bars used. However, higher-strength materials such as concrete and steel typically have more brittle properties. To improve the ductility of the concrete, it can be achieved by providing confining steel through transverse reinforcement. For higher-strength steel bars, a chemical based research has been conducted in recent years to come up with the high strength yet ductile steel material. This paper focuses on the analysis of various strengths of concrete columns 30 MPa and to 60 MPa reinforced and confined with high-strength reinforcing steel bars 550 MPa (Grade 80) with variety cross section of columns. From the study, it can be concluded that the confinement index decreases significantly with the increase of concrete strength. The use of higher-strength transverse steel increases the confinement index. The greater strengths of concrete used, the confinement ratio will be smaller at the same spacing.

Keywords—concrete columns, confinement index, high strength concrete, high strength steel, transverse steel.

I. INTRODUCTION

The need of mega structures such as high-rise buildings and long-span bridges due to the rapid growth of population is urgent. This is due to economic needs, limited land and higher land prices. In Indonesia until 2017 the high level building is Gama Tower with a height of 285.5 meters. In the year 2022 high buildings in Indonesia is planned signature Tower Jakarta with a height of 638 meters. The world's tallest building is located in Dubai, United Arab Emirates with a height of 828 meters (CTBUH). Based on data from CTBUH, the percentage of use of construction materials used in the world's top 100 high-rise buildings is based on two different years [1], shown in Figure 1.

From Figure 1, it shows that the use of concrete and material composites is increasing. The needs of high-level buildings required materials with high strength. Materials commonly used for high-rise buildings are reinforced concrete. Concrete strong receives compressive forces and steel receives tensile strength, so this material is a suitable combination as a composite material. To improve the performance of reinforced concrete is given confinement.

The most important design consideration for ductility in plastic hinge regions of reinforced concrete columns is the provision of sufficient transverse reinforcement in the form of spirals or circular hoops or of rectangular arrangements of steel, in order to confine the compressed concrete, to prevent buckling of the longitudinal bars, and to prevent shear failure. Tests have shown that the confinement of concrete by suitable arrangements of transverse reinforcement results in a significant increase in both the strength and the ductility of compressed concrete [2].

II. BEHAVIOR OF COLUMNS

Columns are defined as member that carry loads chiefly in compression. The behavior of reinforced concrete compression members is dominated by concrete which tends to be brittle unless confined by properly designed transverse reinforcement. In seismic resistant columns, where inelastic response is expected, sufficient ductility must be ensured through the confinement of core concrete. This can be achieved by using spiral
reinforcement or closely spaced hoops, overlapping hoops, and crossties. The increased inelastic deformability is assumed to be met if the column core is confined sufficiently to maintain column concentric load capacity beyond the spalling of cover concrete. Concrete is strong in compression but brittle in nature.

The stress–strain relationship of concrete is that the stress is initially parabolic and reduces linearly to zero. Typical stress-strain relationship of concrete is shown in Figure 2. The strain corresponding to the maximum stress is about 0.002. Slope of the descending branch depends on the cylinder strength of concrete and become steeper when concrete strength increases.

**Figure 2.** Typical stress-strain relationship of concrete [3]

### A. Capacity of reinforced concrete column

The collapse behavior of structural elements of reinforced concrete columns depends on the eccentricity of the working axial load. In axial centric loading the column only experiences a compressive force. While the axial load conditions occur eccentricity then the column has axial style and also bending. This causes the model of collapse of reinforced concrete depending on the condition of the dominant force of force or tensile force. The model of reinforced concrete collapse illustrated by the strain distribution relationship, shown in Figure 3.

**Figure 3.** Relationship of strain distribution on the interaction diagram [4]

In general, the higher the axial compressive load on the column, the greater the amount of confining reinforcement necessary to achieve ductile performance. This is because a high axial load means a large neutral axis depth, which in turn means that the flexural capacity of the column is more dependent on the contribution of the concrete compressive stress distribution.

The capacity of short reinforced concrete columns due to axial loads employed can be determined by equation 1.

\[ P_u = 0.85 f'c (A_g - A_{st}) + f_y A_{st} \]  

(1)

The value of 0.85 $f'c (A_g - A_{st})$ is the contribution of the concrete in accepting the load and $f_y A_{st}$ is the contribution of the reinforcement in accepting the load.

The behavior of reinforced concrete compression members is dominated by concrete which tends to be brittle unless confined by properly designed transverse reinforcement. The increased inelastic deformability is assumed to be met if the column core is confined sufficiently to maintain column concentric load capacity beyond the spalling of cover concrete. This performance criterion results in the following minimum confinement reinforcement as stated in Sec. 18.7.5.4 of ACI318R-14. Transverse reinforcement for columns of special moment frames shows Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Penulangan Transversal</th>
<th>kondisi</th>
<th>penggunaan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$A_{sh}/sh_c$ for rectilinear hoop</td>
<td>$P_u &gt; 0.3 A_f f', or f' &gt; 70$ MPa</td>
<td>Greater of (a) and (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$P_u &gt; 0.3 A_f f', or f' &gt; 70$ MPa</td>
<td>Greater of (a), (b) and (c)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$P_u &gt; 0.3 A_f f', or f' &gt; 70$ MPa</td>
<td>Greater of (d) and (e)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$P_u &gt; 0.3 A_f f', or f' &gt; 70$ MPa</td>
<td>Greater of (d), (e) and (f)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B. Concrete confinement

Transverse reinforcement are specified in design codes for beams and columns to serve the following four functions: (a) to prevent buckling of longitudinal reinforcing bars, (b) to resist shear forces and to avoid shear failure, (c) to confine the concrete core to provide sufficient deformability (ductility), (d) to clamp together lap splices after splitting cracks form parallel to the splices, ties or spirals restrain slip between the spliced bars. Note that none of these functions are effective till spalling of cover concrete. This performance criterion results in the following minimum confinement reinforcement as stated in Sec. 18.7.5.4 of ACI318R-14. Transverse reinforcement for columns of special moment frames shows Table 1.
The transverse reinforcement is placed at relatively close spacing; (2) additional supplementary overlapping hoops or cross ties with several legs crossing the section are included; (3) the longitudinal bars are well distributed around the perimeter; (4) the volume of transverse reinforcement to the volume of the concrete core or the yield strength of the transverse reinforcement is increased; and (5) spirals or circular hoops are used instead of rectangular hoops and supplementary cross ties with several legs crossing the section [7-27].

An approach similar to the one used by Sheikh and Uzumeri (1980), is adopted to determine the effective lateral confining pressure on the concrete section[2]. The maximum transverse pressure from the confining steel can only be exerted effectively on that part of the concrete core where the confining stress has fully developed due to arching action. Figure 4 and 5 show the arching action that is assumed to occur between the levels of transverse circular and rectangular hoop reinforcement. Midway between the levels of the transverse reinforcement, the area of ineffectively confined concrete will be largest and the area of effectively confined concrete core $A_e$ will be smallest.

\[ A_e = \text{area of effectively confined concrete core} \]

\[ A_{cc} = A_e (1 - \rho_{cc}) \]

\[ \rho_{cc} = \text{ratio of area of longitudinal reinforcement to area of core of section} \]

\[ A_{cc} = \text{area of core of section enclosed by the center lines of the perimeter spiral or hoop} \]

In Fig. 3, the arching action is again assumed to act in the form of second-degree parabolas with an initial tangent slope of 45°. Arching occurs vertically between layers of transverse hoop bars and horizontally between longitudinal bars. For one parabola, the ineffectual area is \( \frac{(w_i')^2}{6} \). Thus the total plan area of ineffectually confined core concrete at the level of the hoops when there are \( n \) longitudinal bars is:

\[ A_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{(w_i')^2}{6} \right) \]

Incorporating the influence of the ineffective areas in the elevation (Fig. 4), the area of effectively confined concrete core at midway between the levels of transverse hoop reinforcement is:

\[ A_e = \left( b_c d_c - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{(w_i')^2}{6} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{s_i'}{2d_c} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{s_i'}{2d_c} \right) \right) \]

\[ K_e = \left( 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{(w_i')^2}{6c_xc_y} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{s_i'}{2c_x} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{s_i'}{2c_y} \right) \]

### III. METHOD

Used two variations of the quality of concrete that is 30 MPa and 60 MPa. The cross section of the specimen columns is square with dimensions of 150 mm up to 350 mm. The quality of reinforcement used is $f_{yh} = 550$ MPa for horizontal reinforcement and $f_{yl} = 550$ for longitudinal reinforcement. This analysis is aimed to determine the effect of concrete quality as well as the variation of rectangular cross-section dimension of reinforced concrete against confinement. The confinement spacing used is 50 mm until 150 mm.

### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the result of data analysis using variation of concrete quality, cross section and spacing of stirrup, hence can some result as follows:

#### A. The influence of spacing stirrup and column cross section
Based on the result analysis of spacing stirrup and column cross section analysis shown that the confinement ratio increases at the same cross-sectional dimension. The example is shown of 150 cm square cross section. The spacing of the stirrups is getting smaller from 150 cm to 50 cm, the confinement ratio is increasing from 1.2 to 2.68, shown in Table 2. The results of the confinement index of the analysis variation spacing stirrup and the cross-sectional dimension at The quality of 30 MPa concrete is shown in Table 2 and Figure 6.

### Table 2. Spacing stirrups and cross-sectional dimensions to the confinement ratio on the concrete strength 30 MPa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C</th>
<th>150</th>
<th>200</th>
<th>250</th>
<th>300</th>
<th>350</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>1.26</td>
<td>1.24</td>
<td>1.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>120</td>
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<td>1.41</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>1.30</td>
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<td>75</td>
<td>2.06</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>1.66</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>2.68</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td>2.01</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:  
C = Cross section (mm)  
S = spacing of stirrup (mm)

The value of the confinement ratio of 2.68 indicates a strength increase of 2.68 times from the initial strength of the planned concrete. So the smaller the spaced stirrup, the increased force due to the greater the confinement. The curve of the relation of the confinement ratio and the cross-sectional variation is shown in Figure 6.

![Figure 6](image)

**Figure 6.** Curve confinement ratio and dimension of cross section at strength concrete 30 MPa

The influence of spacing of stirrup and column cross section on concrete strength of 60 MPa shows the same trend with the concrete strength 30 MPa, that is, the smaller the spacing of the stirrup, the greater the confinement ratio at the same cross-sectional dimension. The example is shown on a 150 cm cross-section, wherein the cross-sectional range of 150 cm to 50, the value of the confinement ratio also increases, from 1.1 to 2.07, shown in Table 3. The curve of the confinement ratio and the cross-section of the 60 MPa concrete is shown in Figure 7.

### Table 3. Spacing stirrups and cross-sectional dimensions to the confinement ratio on the concrete strength 60 MPa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C</th>
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<th>200</th>
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<td>2.07</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.59</td>
<td>1.47</td>
<td>1.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note:  
C = Cross section (mm)  
S = spacing of stirrup (mm)

Figure 7 shown that the variation of square sectional in the same space of the stirrup, it shows that the larger the cross-sectional dimension smaller the confinement ratio. The example in the 50 cm spaced spacing, the cross-sectional dimension varied from 150 cm to 350 cm, the value of the confinement ratio decreased from 2.68 to 1.70 shown in Table 1, whereas in Table 2, the value of the confinement ratio of 2.07 to 1.39. This shows the square sectional variation affecting the confinement ratio on the same spaced line, shown in Figure 8. When viewed from the decline that occurs than for the spacing of the stirrups greater than 100 mm more gentle compared with the spaced stirrups less than 100 mm. This shows the effectiveness of confinement for spaces greater than 100 mm less effective.

### B. Effect of concrete strength

The relationship of spacing, the cross-sectional dimension of the concrete quality is shown in Figure 8. There are two lines of continuous lines and dashed lines. The continuous lines for concrete with a compressive strength of 60 MPa, while the dashed line represents the 30 MPa concrete quality. The confinement ratio is influenced by the quality of the concrete. The greater the quality of concrete used, the confinement ratio will be smaller at the same spacing.
V. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis by using dimensional cross-sectional variation, concrete quality and spacing stirrup, it can be drawn some conclusions:

1. The smaller the spacing of the stirrup, the greater the confinement ratio at the same cross-sectional dimension.
2. The confinement ratio is influenced by the quality of the concrete. The greater the quality of concrete used, the confinement ratio will be smaller at the same spacing.
3. The cross-sectional size affected the confinement ratio. The larger the cross-sectional dimension the confinement ratio will be small at the same spacing.

VI. REFERENCES


