Seismic Behavior of Coupling Beams with Double-Hook Steel Fiber Reinforced Concrete

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COUPLING BEAMS

- Concrete walls are usually pierced with openings to accommodate doors and windows, resulting in short, deep elements referred to as *coupling beams*
- Coupled shear wall systems are preferred over single cantilever walls for their increased lateral strength and stiffness due to the coupling action provided by coupling beams





FIBER REINFORCED CONCRETE

- Concrete reinforced with discontinuous fibers
- Commonly used steel fibers have deformations to improve bond with surrounding concrete
- Single-hook steel fibers are expected to pullout without yielding, while double-hook steel fibers are expected to yield without pulling out







HIGH-PERFORMANCE FRC (HPFRC)

Fiber reinforced concrete with tensile strain-hardening behavior and compression behavior similar to that of well-confined concrete



3.5

2.5

ACI 318-19 COUPLING BEAM PROVISIONS

- Coupling beams with $2 \le L_n/h \le 4$ and shear stress greater than $4\sqrt{f_c}$ (psi) must be designed with either diagonal reinforcement or as beams of special moment frames. However, most designers use diagonal reinforcement because of higher shear stress limit and increased deformation capacity
- Maximum shear stress in diagonally-reinforced coupling beams $= 10\sqrt{f_c}$ (psi)
- Column-type special confinement reinforcement required either around diagonal bars or confining entire coupling beam



CURRENT COUPLING BEAM DESIGN PRACTICE



Courtesy of Remy Lequesne



MOTIVATION

- Diagonal and transverse reinforcement requirements for coupling beams lead to severe reinforcement congestion, with associated increase in labor, construction time, and costs
- Use of a material with large tension deformation capacity and confined concrete-like behavior should allow for substantial simplification in transverse confinement reinforcement without compromising seismic behavior



PREVIOUS WORK

- Three types of single-hook steel fibers
- Fiber volume content between 1.0% and 1.5%
- Test results showed diagonal reinforcement can be eliminated in SFRC coupling beams with L_n/h ≥ 2.0
- Several high-rise structures have been constructed with SFRC coupling beams in state of Washington





EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM

- Twelve coupling beam specimens tested under large displacement reversals
- Aspect ratio (L_n/h) between 2.0 and 3.0
- Target peak average shear stress: 6 to $10\sqrt{f'_c}$ (psi)
- Target concrete compressive strength: 8 ksi
- Two types of double-hook steel fibers evaluated in two dosages. Three SFRC mixtures evaluated



DOUBLE-HOOK STEEL FIBERS

Two types of double-hook steel fibers evaluated:

- 5D 65/60 at fiber volume fraction (V_f) of 1.0% and 1.25%
- 4D 80/60 used at $V_f = 1.25\%$



5D 65/60 @ V_f =1.25%





TEST SPECIMENS

*Designed with 30% of required diagonal reinforcement

** Designed in accordance with ACI 318-14

⁺ Without U-Shaped dowels

THE WORLD'S GATHI

	Specimen	L _n /h	Fiber Type	V _f	Target v _u
d	CB3	2.0	5D 65/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
G	CB4*	2.0	5D 65/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB5	2.0	5D 65/60	1.25%	$6\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB1	2.25	5D 65/60	1.0%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
h	CB2**	2.25	N/A	N/A	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB8	2.25	4D 80/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB12 [†]	2.25	5D 65/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB6	3.0	5D 65/60	1.0%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB7	3.0	4D 80/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB9	3.0	5D 65/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB10	3.0	5D 65/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB11 [†]	3.0	5D 65/60	1.25%	$10\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
CB12 ⁺ 2.25 5D 65/60 CB6 3.0 5D 65/60 CB7 3.0 4D 80/60 CB9 3.0 5D 65/60 CB10 3.0 5D 65/60 CB11 ⁺ 3.0 5D 65/60				CONVEN	

COUPLING BEAM DETAILS



Coupling beam details with Ushaped dowels



Coupling beam details without Ushaped dowels

CONCRETE

CONVENTIO

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COUPLING BEAMS W/ AND W/O U DOWELS

	Specimen	U dowels?	Fiber Type	V_{f}	Target v _u
$L_n/h = 2.25$	CB1	Yes	5D 65/60	1.0%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB12	No	5D 65/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
$L_{n}/h = 3.0$	CB9	Yes	5D 65/60	1.25%	$8\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$
	CB11	No	5D 65/60	1.25%	$10\sqrt{f_c}(psi)$



PRECAST COUPLING BEAM











TEST SETUP





LOADING PROTOCOL



Specimens CB1 through CB10

Specimens CB11 and CB12



SFRC MATERIAL TESTS – DIRECT TENSION



SFRC MATERIAL TESTS – BENDING

ASTM C1609 four-point bending tests





COUPLING BEAM BEHAVIOR

 $L_n/h = 2.25$

Specimen CB12 was constructed without U dowels



COUPLING BEAM BEHAVIOR

 $L_n/h = 3.0$

Specimen CB11 was constructed without U dowels



TEST RESULTS

- Coupling beams with no diagonal reinforcement exhibited a stable hysteresis response
- Maximum shear stress achieved ranged between 7.1 and $10.8 \sqrt{f'_c}$ (psi)
- Peak axial force measured was, on average, $0.1f'_c A_g$
- Coupling beams maintained at least 80% of their peak strength at 5.0% drift ratio
- Behavior of coupling beams was dominated by flexural rotations at the beam ends
- Lateral strength and stiffness decay was directly related to initiation of sliding displacements



DAMAGE PROGRESS

• $L_n/h = 3.0$; 5D 65/60 fibers at 1.25% volume content

0.5% drift 1.0% drift





2.0% drift



4.0% drift





EFFECTIVE FLEXURAL STIFFNESS AT YIELD

• On average, estimated EI_{eff} at yield was 65% of the flexural stiffness recommended by the ACI 318-19

Specimen	L _n /h	El _{eff} /El _g	<i>El_{eff}/El_g</i> (318-19 Table A.8.4)
CB1	2.25	0.09	0.16
CB12	2.25	0.11	0.16
CB9	3.0	0.13	0.21
CB11	3.0	0.21	0.21

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ENERGY DISSIPATION

 All SFRC coupling beams exhibited energy dissipation capacity comparable to that of welldetailed diagonallyreinforced concrete coupling beams

 For same shear stress level, removal of dowels did not affect energy dissipation capacity





TRANSVERSE REINFORECEMENT STRAIN

 Transverse reinforcement in the mid-span and the confined regions remained elastic



CONCLUSIONS

- Strain-hardening SFRC coupling beams with L_n/h ≥ 2.0 exhibited stable, flexurally-dominated behavior while undergoing shear stress reversals ranging from 8 to 10√f'_c (psi)
- Drift capacity in test specimens was at least 5%
- Column-type confinement reinforcement only required at beam ends
- Shear stress contribution by the SFRC greater than $4\sqrt{f'_c}$ (psi)
- Coupling beams constructed without U-shaped dowels showed similar behavior to those constructed with U-shaped dowels



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