## Architectural Forms and Structural Design

Sean Sadler



### **Carbon Emissions**

- Cement production makes up nearly 9% of global carbon emission
- Ways to reduce emissions
  - Use material efficient
  - The use of OPC clinker
  - Improve kiln efficiency
  - Improve fuel mixtures
  - Improve energy use
  - Carbon Capture and Storage



## **02.** Construction techniques





### **Research Goals**

- Define a new architectural language for concrete structures that will introduce the use of a coefficient of stiffness for concrete formwork. This will include the design and development of the new formwork system
- Explore the use of advanced cementitious materials that will minimize the use of reinforcement without sacrificing structural integrity; and
- Evaluate new design strategies and computational tools that seamlessly integrate architectural forms with structural needs.



### **Cross Section**

Where xs, ys are coordinates along the curve, I is the fabric perimeter length.

 $F(\theta,k)$  is the incomplete elliptical of the first kind, K(k) is the corresponding complete elliptic integral of the first kind

((k) = F( $\pi/2$ ,k)). E( $\theta$ ,k) is the incomplete elliptic integral of the second kind.

Equilibrium considerations (I); and cross section predictions (r) (after losilevski, 2010).







Formwork Design





### Casting





### Concrete

Cylinder Diameter = 3"

#### <u>Control</u>

P = 61140 lbs | Peak Stress = 8649.64 psi

#### Cylinder 1

P = 60120 lbs | Peak Stress = 8505.24 psi

#### Cylinder 2

P = 57150 lbs | Peak Stress = 8085.07 psi





### Testing





### Steel Type 1

- Welded Wire Mesh Sections
- Pros
  - High maximum strength
  - Easy to bend
  - Easy to acquire in bulk
- Cons
  - High brittleness
  - Weak points at the welds
  - Small cross section





### Steel Type 2

- #2 smooth bar (Pencil rod)
- Pros
  - Far less brittle
  - Consistent material
  - No weld points
  - Larger cross section
- Cons
  - Lower maximum strength
  - Difficult to bend
  - Lacks lugs and deformations



### Beam Performance

- Fabric beam does not reach same maximum strength as prismatic
- Conclusions
  - Improper reinforcement is causing failure in the reinforcement before the concrete
  - While not being as strong it uses 40% less concrete by volume
  - Adjustment to the beam form to reduce stress concentration points



### How to Reach Same Performance?







### Next Steps

- Develop and fabricate a new formwork that will allow for better control of the tension on the fabric.
  - More control over the cross-section
  - Control over the depth
  - Consistent bearing surfaces
  - Beam symmetry
  - Fabric re-use

Investigate the use of post-tension reinforcement within the beam

![](_page_14_Picture_8.jpeg)

# Questions?