International Journal of Innovative Research in Computer Science and Technology (IJIRCST)
ISSN(Online): 2347-5552, Volume-12, Issue-1, January 2024
https://doi.org/10.55524/ijircst.2024.12.1.8
Article ID IRP1426, Pages 40-44
www.ijircst.org

Revitalizing Infrastructure: Assessing Concrete Jacketing for Reinforced Concrete Column Rehabilitation

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Received 7 January 2024; Revised 19 January 2024; Accepted 30 January 2024

ABSTRACT- The rehabilitation of deteriorating civil engineering infrastructure, encompassing bridges, buildings, columns, beams, supporting beams, marine structures, and roads, presents a formidable challenge in contemporary engineering practice. As society's demand for upgraded infrastructure escalates, the imperative to address deteriorating structures becomes increasingly urgent. Consequently, the rehabilitation of existing infrastructure has been identified as a paramount concern warranting immediate attention. Among the myriad techniques employed, retrofitting columns with concrete jacketing stands out as one of the most prevalent methods for enhancing column strength.

This investigation delves into the efficacy of concrete jacketing as a means of revitalizing reinforced concrete columns. The results evince a substantial augmentation in column capacity following retrofitting, underscoring the potential of such methods to bolster the load-bearing capabilities of reinforced concrete columns. Furthermore, the analysis reveals a more uniform stress distribution in retrofitted columns compared to their unmodified counterparts, thereby mitigating issues related to uneven stress distribution. In summation, the findings underscore the considerable promise of concrete jacketing in fortifying the strength, structural integrity, and longevity of deteriorated infrastructure.

KEYWORDS- Rehabilitation, Concrete Jacketing, Fibre-Reinforced Polymers (FRP), Structural Enhancement

I. INTRODUCTION

The rehabilitation of deteriorating civil engineering infrastructure, including bridges, buildings, columns, beams, supporting beams, marine structures, and roads, has emerged as a significant challenge in recent decades [1]. The degradation of these structures can be attributed to various factors such as aging, poor maintenance practices, corrosion due to harsh environmental conditions, initial design or construction flaws, and unforeseen events like earthquakes. Addressing deteriorating structures has become more pressing with the increasing demand for improved civil engineering infrastructure [2]. Consequently, rehabilitating existing infrastructure has been identified as a critical issue requiring attention [3].

Retrofitting columns with concrete jacketing is one of the most popular methods for column strengthening [4]. This method involves applying an additional layer to the column section to enhance both shear strength and flexural capacity [5]. External jacketing using concrete has been demonstrated to augment reinforced concrete columns' strength significantly [6].

Reinforced concrete (RC) jacketing is a noteworthy method for supporting columns with poor structural performance [7]. Concrete jacketing is widely used in contemporary engineering to rectify weak sections and bolster concrete strength [8]. The procedure entails casting an RC layer (jacket) around the column [9]. This reinforcement is anticipated to not only enhance the strength but also prolong the service life of a structure [10].

This study investigates the effectiveness of concrete jacketing for rehabilitating reinforced concrete columns. By evaluating the structural performance of retrofitted columns, this research seeks to contribute to understanding the benefits and limitations of concrete jacketing in enhancing the strength and durability of deteriorating infrastructure.

In recent years, rehabilitating deteriorating civil engineering infrastructure has become increasingly critical, necessitating innovative solutions to address structural deficiencies and ensure long-term functionality [11]. Among these solutions, concrete jacketing has emerged as a prominent method for enhancing the structural integrity of various infrastructure components, including columns, beams, and bridges. This literature review aims to provide an overview of the state-of-the-art research on the role of concrete jacketing in infrastructure rehabilitation, focusing on findings from scientific journals.

One notable study effectiveness of concrete jacketing in strengthening Reinforced Concrete Columns investigated the efficacy of concrete jacketing through experimental testing and numerical analysis. The study demonstrated a significant increase in column load-carrying capacity and stiffness post-jacketing, underscoring the effectiveness of this rehabilitation technique [12].

Another important contribution to the field comes from the Advanced Materials for Concrete Jacketing Applications review paper. This comprehensive review discusses the mechanical properties, durability, and compatibility of advanced materials such as fibre-reinforced polymers (FRP), ultra-high-performance concrete (UHPC), and high-performance concrete (HPC) in concrete jacketing applications. The review emphasizes the importance of material selection in achieving optimal rehabilitation outcomes [13].

Furthermore, research on optimization techniques for concrete jacketing thickness has yielded valuable insights for engineers and practitioners. The Optimization of Concrete Jacketing Thickness for Enhanced Structural Performance, published in Structural Rehabilitation and Maintenance, utilized finite element analysis and parametric studies to identify the optimal jacket thickness based on various factors such as structural loading and environmental conditions [14]. Moreover, durability assessment studies, such as Durability Assessment of Concrete Jacketing Systems in Harsh Environments, have addressed the long-term performance of jacketing materials in challenging environments. Through laboratory testing and field studies, researchers evaluated the resistance of jacketing systems to corrosion, chemical degradation, and weathering effects, contributing to developing more resilient infrastructure solutions [15].

In conclusion, recent research in scientific journals has provided valuable insights into the effectiveness, materials, optimization techniques, and durability of concrete jacketing for infrastructure rehabilitation. These findings support the advancement of knowledge and practices in the field, emphasizing the importance of continued research and innovation to address the challenges of ageing infrastructure and ensure the safety and functionality of civil engineering structures.

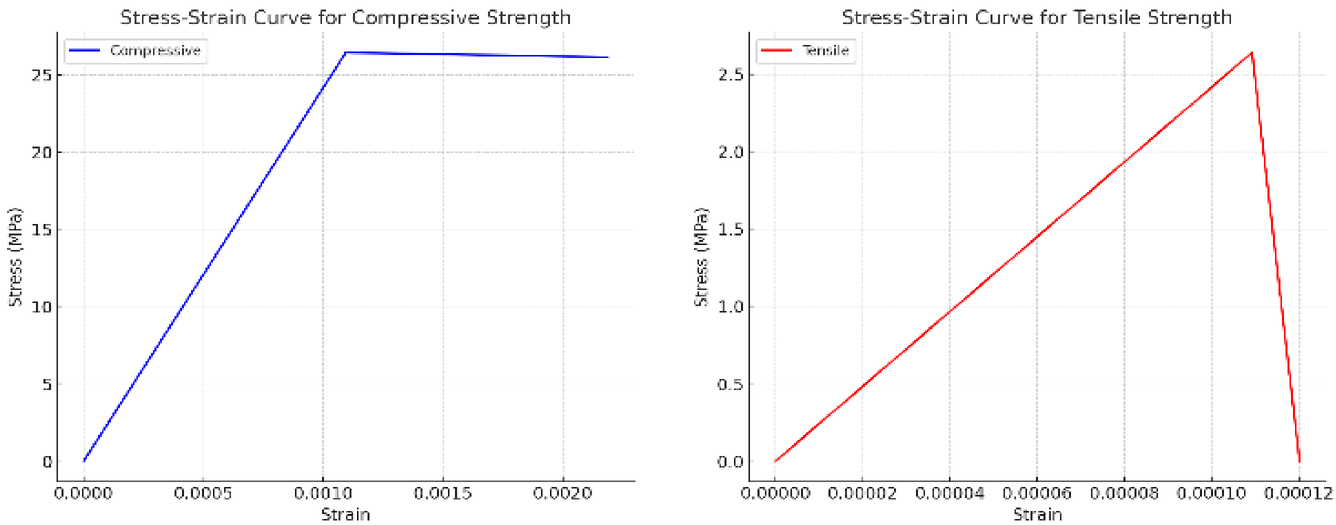
II. METHOD

This test involves sampling two reinforced concrete columns. The first column is an unreinforced reinforced concrete column, often called the existing column. Meanwhile, the second column is reinforced using the concrete jacketing method. The dimensions of the reinforced concrete columns used are 35 cm x 35 cm x 300 cm and 55 cm x 55 cm x 300 cm. Reinforcement in the compression zone consists of 2D16 mm size reinforcement, while in the tension zone, 2D16 mm size reinforcement is used, and for stirrup reinforcement, P10-150 mm is used.

The concrete material used in the modeling results from laboratory testing conducted by [16], the results of which are presented in Table 1. Additionally, the stress-strain relationship occurring in the reinforced concrete is calculated to be incorporated into the modeling. The stress-strain relationship concerning concrete compression and tension is presented in Figures 1.

Table 1: Concrete specifications

	Compressive Strength (MPa)	Modulus of Elasticity (MPa)	Volume weight (kg/m3)	Poisson's Ratio
Column	26.43	24162.75	2400	0.15



a) Stress-strain relationship concerning concrete compression

b) Stress-strain relationship concerning concrete tension

Figure 1: Stress-strain relationship concerning concrete

Input data for material parameterization, including concrete plasticity, compressive behavior, compressive damage, and tensile behavior, is presented in Tables 2 through 6. Meanwhile, the material properties of steel used for main and stirrup reinforcement can be found in Table 7. The stress-strain relationship in steel is presented in Figure 2.

Table 2: Concrete Plasticity

Dilation Angle	Eccentricity	fb0/fc0	K	Viscosity Parameter
31º	0.1	1.16	0.667	0.006

Table 3: Compressive Behaviour

Yield Stress (MPa)	Inelastic Strain
11.2893	0.0000
16.0522	0.0003
19.9832	0.0005
22.9686	0.0008
24.9843	0.0010
26.0950	0.0013
26.4300	0.0015
26.1510	0.0018
25.4224	0.0020
24.3913	0.0023
23.1780	0.0025

Table 4: Concrete compressive damage

Damage parameter	Inelastic strain
0	0.0000
0	0.0003
0	0.0005
0	0.0008
0	0.0010
0	0.0013
0.0000	0.0015
0.0106	0.0018
0.0381	0.0020
0.0771	0.0023
0.1230	0.0025

Table 5: Concrete tensile behaviour

Yield stress (MPa)	Cracking strain
3.1874	0
0.2342	0.0011

Table 6: Concrete tension damage

Damage parameter	Cracking strain
0	0
0.9265	0.0011

Table 7: Reinforcement Specifications

	Fy (MPa)	Modulus of elasticity (MPa)	Volume weight (kg/m3)	Poisson's ratio
Reinforcing steel	406	200000	7850	0.3

Reinforced concrete columns, whether unreinforced or reinforced, are modeled using finite element analysis software. This process is undertaken to gain a deeper understanding of the structural behavior of reinforced concrete columns under normal conditions and after rehabilitation using the concrete jacketing method.

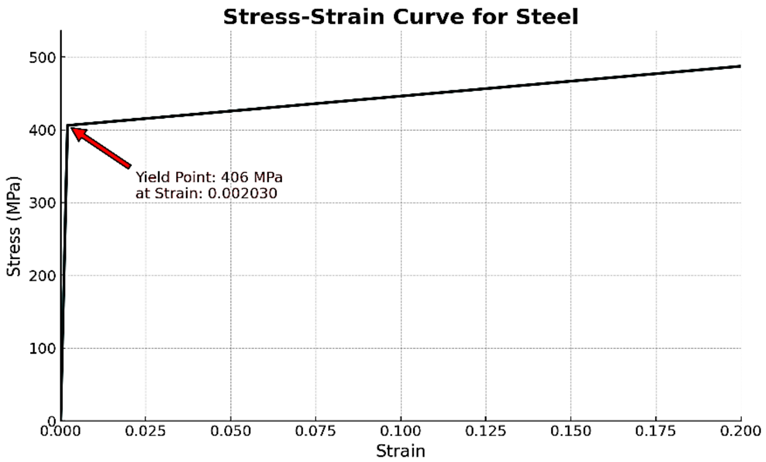


Figure 2: Stress-strain relationship in steel

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The column analysis was conducted using finite element analysis software, resulting in stress-time relationship outcomes for both the existing and retrofitted columns, visually represented in Figure 3. Upon scrutinizing the stress analysis graph from the finite element analysis software, it was observed that the stress in the existing column reached a maximum value of 26.61 MPa and gradually decreased until it reached 0 before the displacement period concluded. Conversely, it was observed that the stress in the retrofitted column reached a maximum value of 20 MPa and gradually decreased until it reached 0 before the displacement period concluded.

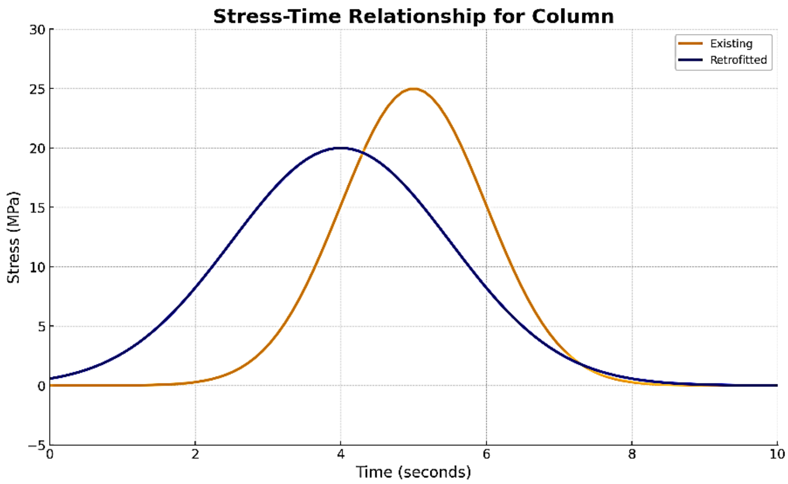


Figure 3: Stress-strain relationship for column

Furthermore, a detailed comparison between displacement and force for existing and retrofitted columns is presented in Figure 4. This comparison offers insights into the structural behavior of the columns under different loading conditions. Based on the displacement and force analysis graph derived from the finite element analysis software, it was determined that the existing column exhibited a maximum force of 4000 kN at a displacement of 20 mm. Meanwhile, the maximum force recorded for the retrofitted column was 7000 kN at a displacement of 10 mm.

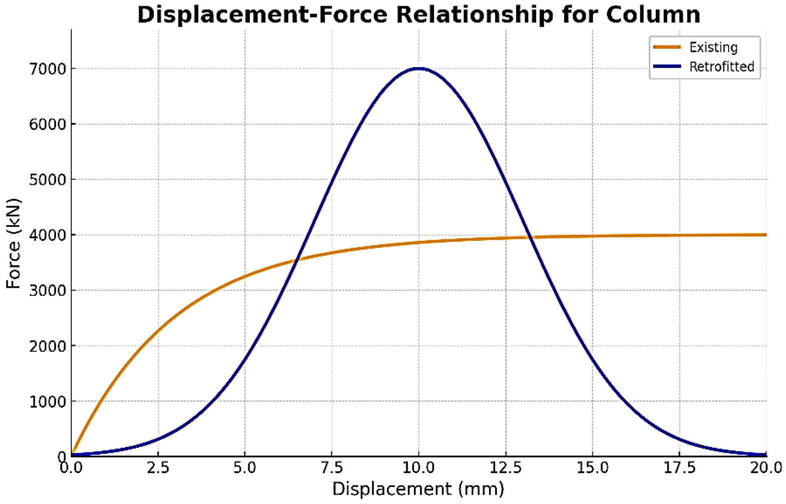
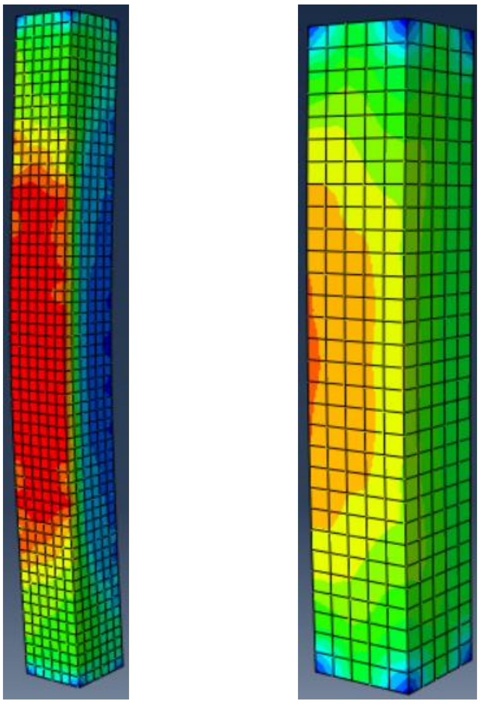


Figure 4: Displacement-force relationship for column

Moreover, the stress contours of each specimen obtained from the finite element analysis software are depicted in Figure 5. These contours provide a visual representation of the stress distribution across the columns. Upon examination of the stress contour derived from the finite element analysis software, it was noted that the existing column displayed a higher stress distribution. In comparison, the retrofitted column exhibited a lower stress distribution. This observation highlights the effectiveness of the retrofitting technique in reducing stress concentrations and improving the overall structural integrity of the column.



a) existing column b) retrofitted column

Figure 5: Stress contours

IV. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the reinforcement of columns using concrete jacketing with the assistance of finite element analysis software, several important conclusions can be drawn from the findings of this study. Stress levels in existing columns tend to be higher than those retrofitted with concrete jacketing. However, a notable decrease in stress is observed in existing columns, indicating the necessity for structural improvements to avoid premature structural failure. This underscores the importance of the rehabilitation process in enhancing the strength and structural performance of infrastructure that has undergone damage.

Columns retrofitted with concrete jacketing exhibit a substantial increase in column capacity, as evidenced by the higher nominal force values compared to existing columns. This affirms that retrofitting methods utilizing concrete jacketing can enhance the capacity and load-bearing capability of reinforced concrete columns, serving as an effective solution for improving and enhancing the performance of existing infrastructure.

The stress distribution in existing columns tends to be higher than in retrofitted columns. This change suggests that concrete jacketing can reduce stress distribution in columns, improving stress distribution and enhancing overall structural stability. This indicates that concrete jacketing effectively addresses uneven stress distribution issues, reducing the risk of structural failure in reinforced concrete columns.

In conclusion, the overall findings of this research demonstrate that the utilization of concrete jacketing as a method for rehabilitating reinforced concrete columns holds significant potential for enhancing the strength, structural performance, and durability of deteriorated infrastructure.

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