Nonlinear Finite Element Analysis of RCMD Beams with Large Circular Opening Strengthened with CFRP Material

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents the non-linear finite element method to study the behavior of four reinforced rectangular concrete MD beams with web circular openings tested under two-point load. The numerical finite elements methods have been used in a much more practical way to achieve approximate solutions for more complex problems. The ABAQUS /CAE is chosen to explore the behavior of MD beams. This paper also studies, the effect of both size and shape of the circular apertures of MD beams. The strengthening technique that used in this paper is externally strengthening using CFRP around the opening in MD beams. The numerical results were compared to the experimental results in terms of ultimate load failure and displacement. The FE results showed a good agreement with experimental results.

Keywords: Concrete beams, circle opening, strengthening, finite element method.
1. INTRODUCTION
The RCMD become important in the building materials and widely used in engineering structures. There are many practical problems in the RC have to be solved by modern analytical methods, either highly difficult or impossible. Problems related to the representation of the boundary conditions and load or some of the constitutive relationships of stress-strain, the method roughly approximates the unknown domain function. The broad structure is subdivided into smaller, simpler sections called FE. The equations used to model these FE put together in system have a larger equation that used to model all problems. In this research, the efforts of many researchers who studied the behavior of beams with opening strengthened with CFRP material. Mansur et al. (Mansur 2006) study RC T-beams with small opening strengthening with FRP plates. K. Senthil (K. Senthil 2018) study the behavior of six concrete deep beam that opening subjected to static monotonic loading by using finite element program ABAQUS/CAE in addition to that, seventeen beams were simulated under static loading with different shape, size and location opening of deep beam and the result show that the deep beam which having a circle opening undergo lesser the deflection. Abdalla et al. (Abdalla 2003) study the behavior of RC beams with rectangular opening with shear strengthening using FRP sheets. Ali Hussein (Ahmed, 2016) investigate the behavior of reinforced concrete RC deep beams strengthened with CFRP strips. Maaddawy and Sherif (Sherif Jun. 2009) investigated the use of FRP sheets for shear strengthening of deep concrete beams with square openings.

2. MATERIALS PROPERTIES
Ordinary Portland cement (type I) was utilized for all the mixes and It was produced by The United Cement Company (Tasluja-Bazian) in Al-Sulaymaniyyah / Iraq (IQ.S.No40, 1984). Fine aggregate (zone 2) and coarse aggregate (maximum size 19 mm) were used according to (IQ.S. No45, 1980) as showing in Figs. 1. The fine and coarse aggregate has specific gravity 2.65 and 2.63, respectively. Four sizes of steel reinforcing bars were used in the tested beams, deformed bars of size (Ø16) mm and (Ø10) mm were used as longitudinal reinforcement, and deformed steel bars of size (Ø 8) mm were used as closed stirrups and bar size (Ø12) mm for diagonal reinforcement. The superplasticizer was Supaflow (PC200) High-performance and super plasticization admixture of poly-carboxylic polymers ether with long chains was used as plasticizing agent add to concrete mixes. (PC200), 2014). For externally strengthening use carbon fiber CFRP fabric known as Sika Wrap-900c in this study as showing in Figs. 2 (CFRP, 2017).
b. coarse aggregate

**Figure 1.** Specification limits of aggregate.

**Figure 2.** (CFRP) Sika wrap-900c.

3. **CONCRETE MIX DESIGN**

The concrete mixture was designed using (ACI) method to obtain the concrete mix constituents that achieve strength of 30 MPa. The concrete mix is designed depending on the strength of concrete according to the requirements of the ACI code (ACI 318, 2014) was adopted to get a suitable concrete mix permitting to the test result of sand and gravel. The final mix used is shown in **Table 1**.

| For 1 m$^3$ of concrete | Cement (Kg) | Sand (Kg) | Gravel (Kg) | Water (L) | Superplasticizer (L) |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|
|                          | 380         | 850       | 1005        | 165       | 5                   |

4. **ANALYSIS COMPUTER SOFTWARE (ABAQUS)**

4.1 **Constitutive Model of Reinforcing Bar Steel**

The steel deformation causes only elastic stresses before reaching the yield point, which is recovered at all with the removal of the applied load. However, when the steel pressure exceeds the yield stress, plastic deformation occurs. In the post-production region, both elastic and plastic stresses accumulate as the metal deforms as shown in (Table 2), when the material yields the stiffness of the steel decreases. For subsequent loadings, the plastic deformation of the steel material's raises its yield stress. The material properties of the plate steel and the supporting gigue is shown in (Table 3), and identical values are considered to those for longitudinal bars.
### Table 2. Elastic and plastic input data for rebar.

| Elastic | Young’s modulus of elasticity | 200000 MPa |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Density | Poisson’s ratio $\nu$       | 0.3        |

| Plastic | Ø | Young’s modulus of elasticity | 200000 MPa |
|---------|---|-------------------------------|------------|
| Ø       | Ø | Poisson’s ratio $\nu$       | 0.3        |
| Ø       | Ø | Density                       | Mass Density | 7.85*10^9 |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0          |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0.153      |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0          |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0.117      |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0          |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0.157      |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0          |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0.117      |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0          |
| Ø       | Ø | Ø                             | 0.153      |

### Table 3. Elastic input data for steel plate.

| Elastic | Young’s modulus of elasticity | 400000 MPa |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Density | Poisson’s ratio $\nu$       | 0.3        |

| Plastic | Ø | Yield Stress | Plastic Strain |
|---------|---|--------------|----------------|
| Ø       | Ø | 392.52       | 0              |
| Ø       | Ø | 589.97       | 0.153          |
| Ø       | Ø | 600.25       | 0              |
| Ø       | Ø | 693.25       | 0.117          |
| Ø       | Ø | 578.91       | 0              |
| Ø       | Ø | 686.48       | 0.157          |
| Ø       | Ø | 576.68       | 0              |
| Ø       | Ø | 673.22       | 0.153          |

### 4.1 Constitutive Model of Concrete

In this research, the linear used for elastic and the nonlinear used for damaged plasticity model because both states show low deformability in concrete. The elastic stiffness induced by the plastic straining both in tension and compression in the material constitutive model as show in Table 4.

| Elastic | Young’s modulus of elasticity | 200000 MPa |
|---------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Density | Poisson’s ratio $\nu$       | 0.3        |

### Table 4. Input data for concrete.

| Elastic | Young’s modulus of elasticity | 26000 MPa |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Density | Poisson’s ratio $\nu$       | 0.18     |

| Elastic | Young’s modulus of elasticity | 26000 MPa |
|---------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Density | Poisson’s ratio $\nu$       | 0.18     |

| Density | Mass Density | 2.5*10^9 |
|---------|--------------|----------|
| Density | Mass Density | 2.5*10^9 |

### 4.2 Concrete Damaged Plasticity Model

In the concrete damaged plasticity model, the total strain tensor $\varepsilon$ was comprised of the elastic part $\varepsilon^{el}$ and the plastic part $\varepsilon^{pl}$ (Hejazi, 05 June 2017).

\[
\varepsilon = \varepsilon^{el} + \varepsilon^{pl} \tag{1}
\]

\[
\sigma = D^{el} : (\varepsilon - \varepsilon^{pl}) \tag{2}
\]

\[
\dot{\sigma} = D_0^{el} : (\varepsilon - \varepsilon^{pl}) \tag{3}
\]
The nominal stress with the elastic tensor degraded from (4) could be rewritten as follows:

\[ \sigma = (1 - d) D_0^{el} : (\varepsilon - \varepsilon^{pl}) \]  

(5)

The constitutive damage plasticity model was based on the following stress – strain relationship:

\[ \sigma = (1 - d) \tilde{\sigma} \rightarrow (1 - d_t) \tilde{\sigma}_t + (1 - d_c) \tilde{\sigma}_c \]  

(6)

Where \( d_t \) and \( d_c \) were two variables of scalar damage, ranging from 0 (undamaged) to 1 (well damaged). The harm model used for concrete was based on plasticity and called the tensile cracking and compressive crushing process failure. At first the stress-strain relationship under uniaxial tension is linearly elastic until the value of the failure stress is reached. Failure stresses are modified in the concrete block to remove micro-cracks within it. Beyond the tension of failure in concrete terms, Response to stress-strain is built with softening properties Figs. 3b. Under uniaxial compression the response is linear until the initial yield value is reached. After the ultimate tension in the plastic zone has been achieved, concrete reaction is defined by stress hardening accompanied by strain-softening Figs. 3a.

Figs. 3 Stated that the compressive uniaxial and tensile concrete response are assumed to be impaired by damaged plasticity; and that assumption forms the model's basis. The tensile reactions and uniaxial compressive of concrete were provided in relation to the plasticity model of concrete damage subjected to tension and compression load gave:

\[ \sigma_t = (1 - d_t) E_0 (\varepsilon_t - \varepsilon_{t,pl}^{h}) \]  

(7)

\[ \sigma_c = (1 - d_c) E_0 (\varepsilon_c - \varepsilon_{c,pl}^{h}) \]  

(8)

Given the nominal uniaxial stress, the effective uniaxial stress \( \tilde{\sigma}_t \) and \( \tilde{\sigma}_c \) were derived as follows:

\[ \tilde{\sigma}_t = \frac{\sigma_t}{(1 - d_t)} = E_0 (\varepsilon_t - \varepsilon_{t,pl}^{h}) \]  

(9)

\[ \tilde{\sigma}_c = \frac{\sigma_c}{(1 - d_c)} = E_0 (\varepsilon_c - \varepsilon_{c,pl}^{h}) \]  

(10)

where compressive strain \( \varepsilon_c \) equaled \( \varepsilon_{c,pl}^{h} + \varepsilon_{c,el} \), and tensile strain \( \varepsilon_t \) equalled \( \varepsilon_{t,pl}^{h} + \varepsilon_{t,el} \).

(a). Compression  
(b). Tension

**Figure 3.** Response of concrete to a uniaxial loading condition.
4.3 Plasticity parameters
The model of concrete passes through two steps. The first one is an elastic model in which the Poisson’s ratio was defined and the second one the damage plasticity model was adopted to define the nonlinear portion of the stress-strain curve of the concrete. The plasticity has a five parameters must be defined to solve the plastic flow and yield function see Table 5. (*Abaqus*2017-2016).

**Table 5.** The parameters plastic properties used in tested beam.

| Plasticity parameters    |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Dilation angle           | 30  |
| Eccentricity             | 0.1 |
| $f_{u0}/f_{c0}$          | 1.16|
| Viscosity parameter      | 0.667|
| $k_c$ parameters         | 0.0001|

4.4 Carbon fiber reinforced polymer (CFRP)
Carbon fiber reinforced polymer (CFRP) has been used as an excellent material in strengthening or retrofitting existing structures such as beams, columns, and slabs. This use has become popular worldwide due to superior properties of CFRP materials. the thickness of this type of CFRP is 0.478 used in this search. The values shown in (Table 6) for CFRP were obtained from the CFRP Properties sheet (*CFRP, 2017*).

**Table 6.** CFRP input data for lamina.

| density              | 1810 |
|----------------------|------|
| elastic              |      |
| Yong modulus         | 242000 GPa or MPa |
| Passion ratio        | 0.3  |
| E1                   | 117333|
| E2                   | 10544 |
| Nu12                 | 0.3  |
| G13                  | 5582  |
| G12                  | 5582  |
| G23                  | 3538.2|

4.5 Hashin damage for fiber
The Hashin damage model expects anisotropic damage to fragile-elastic materials. It is designed mainly for use of fiber-reinforced composite materials and takes into consideration four different modes of failure: matrix compression, fiber tension, matrix strain, and fiber compression. Which are criteria for integrating failure, where more than one stress factor was used to test the various failure types

5. SPECIMENS
For all test MD beams, four reinforced concrete beams with 8 mm stirrups and spaced at 50 (mm) from the end of each beam and a concrete cover of 15 (mm) were used. The longitudinal flexural tensile reinforcement is (4 Ø 16) deformed steel bars, the longitudinal compression reinforcement is (2 Ø 10) deformed steel bars. While the vertical shear reinforcement (stirrups) is design with (Ø8 @ 140 (mm) as showing in Table 7. (*ACI318, 2014*). While, Support plates used to cover beams
have measurements of 250 x 100 x 30 (mm). The type of opening is circular with a diameter of 110, 160, and 225 (mm) (Maryam Abdul Jabbar Hassan, 5, 2019) and these openings were placed in different location of shear span and in numbers two, four and eight respectively. The detailing of beams shows in Figs.(4 to 7). The beams strengthened by one layer of CFRP strips with a constant width 30, 40, and 50(mm) for top chord, bottom chord and for vertical column respectively were chosen carefully based on the failure mode of the reference beams (Shammari, 23 October 2015).

### Table 7. The steel reinforcement detail.

| Specimen symbols | Main Rebar details | Transverse Rebar details | stirrups   |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| C.B              | 4Q16               | 2Q10                     | Q8@140mm   |
| RCBCO,1          | 4Q16               | 3Q12                     | Q8@140mm   |
| RCBCO,2          | 4Q16               | 2Q10                     | Q8@160mm   |
| RCBCO,4          | 4Q16               | 2Q10                     | Q8@150mm   |

**Figure 4.** Detailing of Controlled Beam.

**Figure 5.** Detailing of beam with two circle opening strengthened with CFRP.

**Figure 6.** Detailing of beam with four circle opening strengthened with CFRP.
6. MODELING OF BEAMS IN FINITE ELEMENT

There are two integration rules that are used in ABAQUS, the first rule is the reduced Gauss-quadrature integration $8(2\times2\times2)$ and the second rule is the full Gauss-quadrature integration $27(3\times3\times3)$. (Abaqus, 2016-2017). For concrete, the three dimensional twenty-node linear brick element with reduced integration and hourglass control (C3D20R) (Ahmed, 2014). Which the C3D20 element is a general-purpose quadratic brick element (3x3x3 integration points). However, several types of three-dimensional elements are used. The node numbering follows the convention shown in Figs. (8a) and the integration scheme is given in Figs. (8b). Also, in this study, the reinforced bar has been modeled as a truss element liner (T3D2) as axial members (A 2-node linear 3D truss element) embedded within the concrete element, perfect bond occurs between the steel bars and the concrete as shown in Figs. 9 (Al-Ahmed, 2016). Simulation of the bearing plates at the bottom of the specimen using quadratic elements (full touch element with the complete connection between the bearing plates and the specimen) and for the CFRP is defined as Shell elements (S8R) were employed to represent, the S8R element has six degrees of freedom per node. This type of element was commonly used to model this kind of contact zone, see Figs. 10.

(a). 20-node brick element  
(b). 3x3x3 integration point scheme in hexahedral elements

Figure 7. Detailing of beam with eight circled opening strengthened with CFRP.

Figure 8. The C3D20 element of concrete.

Figure 9. Truss element AB embedded in (3-D) continuum element node A is constrained to edge 1-4 and node B is constrained to face 2-6-7-3 (Jassim, 2017).
7. MODELING METHODOLOGY
The load applied as displacement on the top of the bearing plate surface (250,100) mm The applied boundary support and loading conditions are shown in Figs. 11. And for the support Modeling borders properly in ABAQUS / Standard is considered one of the most complex aspects of the process (Abaqus, 2016-2017). The supporting condition has been modeled in the beams segments as Encastre \( u_x=uy=uz=UR1=UR2==UR30 \) support. The interaction between the steel plate which defined as rigid body and the load which need a coupling tie between the reference point and the plate to determine the load. The model is divided (meshed) into a number of small elements (Dr. Rafa'a Mahmood Abbas, March 2015), and after loading, stresses and strains are calculated at integration points of these small elements (S.C. Chin, 2012), Figs. (12). The 3D FE meshes were adopted for the specimens.

8. DYNAMIC AND QUASI-STATIC FAILURE CRITERIA FOR CONCRETE
The suggested method for modeling material damage and failure at ABAQUS is incremental damage and failure models described in The harm and failure of ductile metals These models are ideal for both quasi-static conditions and complex ones. ABAQUS Specific provides two additional types of system loss appropriate only for complex high strength issues. The action of concrete under quasi-static loads for uniaxial loading, friction and plane stress conditions is
observed. The loss conditions for concrete are discussed as well as the techniques for the definition of constitutive parameters. The emphasis is on an enthusiastic understanding of the defined failure criterion.

9. ULTIMATE LOADS AND MAXIMUM DEFLECTIONS
(Table 7) reports the ultimate loads and cumulative deflections for both experimentally evaluated MD beams and FEM. The final loads of the FEM are the last steps load applied before the solution starts to diverge due to several fractures and large deflections. Table 8, also show the difference between the FE and the experiment MD beams, these difference backs to the Micro-cracks reduce the stiffness of the beam and produce due to shrinkage of the concrete and the FE do not include these micro-cracks.

**Table 8. Comparisons of failure load and maximum deflection.**

| Beam     | EXP (kN) | F.E.M (kN) | Decreasing percentage (%) | Difference, (%) | FE/EXP |
|----------|----------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Solid beam | 350      | 369.226    | ……                        | 5.5             | 1.05   |
| RCBCO,2  | 180      | 198.36     | 48.57                     | 10.2            | 1.10   |
| RCBCO,4  | 270      | 281.49     | 22.8                      | 4.2             | 1.04   |
| RCBCO,8  | 250      | 260.282    | 28.5                      | 4.1             | 1.04   |

| Beam     | EXP (mm) | F.E.M (mm) | FE/EXP |
|----------|----------|------------|--------|
| Solid beam | 7.12     | 6.07       | 0.85   |
| RCBCO,2  | 5.11     | 3.8        | 0.74   |
| RCBCO,4  | 6.32     | 5          | 0.79   |
| RCBCO,8  | 5.32     | 4.5        | 0.84   |

10. LOAD-DEFLECTION CURVES
As the experimentally tested beams, deflections (Vertical displacements) were recorded at mid-span at the center of the bottom face of the FEM in y-direction (UY2) (Abaqus2017-2016 +). There is a reasonable agreement between FEA results and experimental results. Contour deflection plots for all beams subjected to static load at the last load stage are shown in Figs. 13. and the comparison of experimental of mid-span- load deflection with ABAQUS are shown in Figs. 14.

(a). solid MD beam

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(b). beams with externally strengthening MD beam opening RCBCO,2,4, and8

**Figure 13.** contour plots from ABAQUS analyses for MD beams.

(a). solid MD beam
(b). Two circle opening RCBCO,2

(b). Four circle opening RCBCO,4

(b). Eight circle opening RCBCO,8

**Figure 14.** Load-deflection curves of FE and experiment MD beam result.

11. **CONCLUSION**

1. The FEM using the ABAQUS program was used to simulate rectangular MD beams with web openings and the result of FEM showed a stiffer behavior than the experiments test data.

2. The presence of the circular openings in the center of the load path (shear zone) had a considerable influence on the behavior of MD beams. It is obvious that the reducing in load
carrying capacity of beam with openings was 48%, whereas the deflection at 198 kN is 5.11 mm.

3. The presence of eight and four openings give a high strength than the two circles opening in spite of the equivalent area of the opening because of the higher depth of the top and bottom chord member for the eight and four openings and also the CFRP stretched for long-distance on the surface of the beam.

4. The ultimate loads from the experimental results less than the final loads from the FE analyses with differences (4.1 to 10.2 %) these are acceptable.

5. The FE/EXP results indicate good agreement between the experimental and FE results of maximum deflection. The ratio of FE ultimate deflection to the experimental ultimate deflection ranges from 0.74 (beam RCBOC,2) to 0.85 for (solid MD beam).

6. The failure load and maximum deflection predicated by FEM are quite close the actual test load and deflection.

7. The FE/EXP results indicate good agreement between the experimental and FE results. the ratio of FE ultimate load to the experimental ultimate load ranges from 1.04 (beam RCBOC,4 AND 8), to 1.1 (beam RCBOC,2).

8. The maximum deflection and failure load that resulted from the FEM close to the actual load and deflection test and give a good agreement between them.

9. The presence of the openings in the shear influence on the behavior of FE for MD beam. It is obvious that the decreasing percentage of the ultimate load carrying capacity of MD beam with openings ranging from (22.8 to 48.57%).

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