Analysis and experimental usage of CFRP wrap type on flexural strength of concrete beam

Johannes Tarigan1*, Andrew Pakpahan2*, Medis Surbakti1, Nursyamsi Nursyamsi1

1Department of Civil Engineering, Universitas Sumatera Utara, 20155 Medan, Indonesia

Abstract. Today, reinforced concrete structures are commonly used in buildings because the price cheaper than steel structures. However, many concrete structures are damaged. There are several ways to overcome this problem, and one of them is by strengthening the structure using Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP). This study discussed the flexural strength of reinforced concrete beams using Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP). In this case, the researchers used Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer (CFRP) Wrap Type as the external reinforcement. The beam’s dimension was 15 x 25 cm with a length of 320 cm. Based on the analysis results, the beam using CFRP Wrap type can increase the load 3.12 % times. Furthermore, the experimental results show that the beam with the CFRP type Wrap increases the load by 2.5 times. In conclusion, beams strengthened with CFRP Wrap type can inhibit initial cracks and hold the tensile and flexural strength greater than un-strengthened beams.

1 Introduction

Nowadays, concrete is being used more frequently in many buildings as a construction technology than steel or wood. Having several advantages, it is not surprising if concrete is being used as the material for building construction. However, many old concrete buildings have been damaged now. Based on an economic standpoint, rebuilding or redesigning old damaged buildings is not feasible. Thus, in this kind of situation, one of the possible ways is that the concrete should be strengthened or repaired. The strengthening process can be applied on concrete buildings to increase its load capacity.

It has been found that there are many ways that can be used to strengthen a structure like column or beam. Several common ways are including putting a casing on the concrete construction or known as “jacketing” using concrete or Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) materials in the column. To strengthen a beam can be install steel plates or FRP under the beam. In this research will focus on strengthening of beam with FRP material.

There are many kinds of Fiber Reinforced, such as CFRP (Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer), GFRP (Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer), Aramid Fiber, Basalt Fiber. All four materials have similar function with a thin steel plate as the strengthening of the reinforced concrete beams that is to strengthen the tensile part of the reinforced concrete beams.

FRP has a greater tensile strength than steel, and it also has a relatively high stiffness. Furthermore, FRP has a lighter weight than other reinforcement, and it is also resistant to corrosion. As FRP is more practical, the installation process is easier. Despite its relatively expensive price, FRP provides the most economical solution of dealing with reinforcement because it can dramatically reduce labor costs.

The aims of this research were to conduct an experiment on the flexural strength of beam without CFRP wrap and with CFRP wrap. Then the results of this study will be compared with previous research conducted at USU using steel plate reinforcement, CFRP type plate and GFRP type wrap.

2 Literature studies

2.1 The previous study results

Many studies related to structure maintenance using FRP have been done before. Pangestuti and Handayani discussed the use of CFRP as an external strengthening on reinforced concrete beam structure. The beam’s dimension was 150 x 250 mm with a length of 2 m and two treatments. The first beam (control beam) was strengthened using a steel reinforcement while the second beam was not strengthened using a steel reinforcement but coated with CFRP. According to this research, the placement of CFRP on the tensile part of the beam inhibited the initial crack and increased its flexural strength by 50%.

Another study by Ireneus Petrico compared the flexural strength of a reinforced concrete beam using...
CFRP and GFRP. The results of the analysis and experiment using CFRP and GFRP showed a significant increase in the flexural strength of the concrete. CFRP increased the flexural strength by 65.934% whereas GFRP only increased the flexural strength by 43.956%. When comparing both strengthening materials, CFRP was stronger than GFRP in increasing the flexural strength.

Anadher Ali and colleagues on their research investigated reinforced concrete beams with and without CFRP using experimental methods with 16 reinforced concrete cast with SCC (Self Consolidating Concrete) concrete design. The beam’s dimension was 240 x 120 x 1840 mm. The compressive strength used was 44.6 MPa, and its tensile strength was 4.27 MPa. The tensile strength for D 8 mm was 618 MPa whereas the tensile strength for D 10 mm was 621 MPa. The procedure was performed by loading at one point using INSTRON 8806 Universal Testing Machine (UTM) tool with a capacity of 2500 kN. The research results showed that there was an increase in the flexural strength of the reinforced concrete beams by 7.4% if compared with the flexural strength of the reinforced concrete without CFRP.

Manna Haloho and Johannes Tarigan on their research discussed the strengthening of reinforced concrete beams using anchored steel plate. The beam’s dimension was 15 x 25 cm with a length of 320 cm. Based on the results, there was an increase in the beam strength by 2.44 times its initial strength. It can be concluded that the application of steel plate on the tensile area can increase its strength and decrease its deflection. On the other hand, the application of an anchor to paste the steel plate with the concrete can resolve the problem of falling plate from the concrete beam.

Another research by Ivandy Yoman and Johannes Tarigan compared the strength of reinforced concrete beams strengthened using steel plate and Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP). The type of Fiber Reinforced Polymer used was the Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer (CFRP) Plate type. The dimension of the beam was 15 x 25 cm with a length of 320 cm. Based on the analysis results, there was an increase in the beam’s strength by FRP by 1.991 times its initial strength, and there was also an increase in the beam strength with the steel plate by 1.64 times its initial strength. The test also showed that the beam’s strength with FRP increased by 1.44 times its initial strength while the beam strength with the steel plate increased by 1.056 times its initial strength. Based on the research, it can be concluded that using FRP on the tensile area can withstand more strength than the steel plate and can inhibit initial crack.

J. Tarigan, F. Muhammad and T. Sitorus also compared the strength of reinforced concrete beams strengthened using Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP). The type of FRP used in their research was Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer Wrap Type (GFRP). The beam’s dimension was 15 x 25 cm with a length of 320 cm. Based on the analysis results, the beam strength with GFRP increased by 1.877 times its initial strength whereas the beam strength with GFRP increased by 1.333 times its initial strength. Thus, it can be concluded that using GFRP on the tensile area can hold more strength than a common concrete beam and inhibit initial crack.

In Table 1 show mechanical properties of Steel Plate, CFRP Plate type, GFRP Wrap Type and CFRP Wrap Type.

| Products                  | Tensile Strength (Mpa) | E-modulus (Mpa) | Thickness (mm) |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Steel Plate               | 333.5                  | 200,000         | 5              |
| CFRP Plate Type           | 2800                   | 160,000         | 1.2            |
| GFRP Wrap Type            | 2350                   | 185,000         | 0.39           |
| CFRP Wrap Type            | 4800                   | 234,000         | 0.131          |

From Table 1 it can be seen that the carbon fiber CFRP wrap type has higher tensile strength and modulus of elasticity compared to Steel Plate, CFRP plate Type and GFRP wrap type.

### 2.2 Theory of FRP on Reinforced Concrete Beam

Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) is a kind of plate/thin sheet which has carbon fiber, glass, aramid, basalt and fiber inside. There are three principles of using FRP in strengthening they are as follows: to increase its moment capacity of flexure, to increase of shear, and to increase axial load on structures.

Specifically, fiber materials which are applied to strengthen and repair the reinforced concrete can be glass fiber, carbon, aramid and basalt. Each of them has a similarity between one and another. The selection of the fiber type for strengthening or repairing certain structure depends on some factors, such as the structure type, available budget, planned load, environmental condition, and others.

In this paper will be focus to strengthening of concrete beam using CFRP wrap type. Therefor in this section will be discuss theory of stress strain in concrete beam without CFRP and with CFRP. The reference can be found at ACI 440.

A strain-stress condition of the concrete cross section which is flexed can be seen in Figure 1. Cc is concrete compressive force of the concrete, Ts is steel reinforcement tensile strength and Jd is distance from Cc to Ts.

![Concrete stress-strain distribution](image.png)

**Fig. 1.** Concrete stress-strain distribution  
(a) Beam cross section  
(b) Actual stress diagram  
(c) Strain diagram  
(d) Square stress diagram  
(e) Equivalent rectangular stress block
\[ T_f = A_{sf} f_{yf} \]  
\[ C_c = T_s + T_f \]  
\[ 0.85 f_s c \cdot a \cdot b = A_{sf} f_{yf} + A_{sf} f_{yf} \]

Based on Figure 1, then:

\[ C_c = 0.85 f_s c \cdot a \cdot b \]  
\[ T_s = A_{sf} f_{yf} \]  
\[ \sum F_x = 0 \quad \text{then} \quad T_s = C_c \]

\[ A_{sf} f_{yf} = 0.85 f_s c \cdot a \cdot B \]

\[ a = \frac{A_{sf} f_{yf}}{0.85 f_s c \cdot b} \]

Based on the forces that work above, the nominal moment of the cross section is:

\[ \sum M = 0 \quad \text{then} \quad T_s \cdot jd = M_n \]

Because \( T_s = C_c \) then \( M_n \) can be:

\[ M_n = A_{sf} f_{yf} \cdot jd \]

\[ M_n = 0.85 f_s c \cdot a \cdot b \cdot \left( d - \frac{a}{2} \right) \]

\[ M_n = A_{sf} f_{yf} \cdot \left[ d - \frac{A_{sf} f_{yf}}{1.7 f_s c \cdot b} \right] \]

If the concrete beam that installed with FRP then the flexure strength that occur as in the Figure 2, whereas \( T_f \) is FRP tensile strength and \( jdf \) is the distance from \( C_c \) to \( T_f \).

**Fig. 2.** Concrete stress-strain distribution

a) Beam cross section  
b) Strain diagram  
c) Actual stress diagram  
d) Square stress diagram  
e) Equivalent rectangular stress block

Whereas:

\( T_f \) = FRP tensile strength (N)  
\( jdf \) = \( C_c \) distance to \( T_f \) (mm)  
\( f_{yf} \) = FRP tension (Mpa)  
\( A_{sf} \) = FRP cross-section (mm²)

Based on Figure 2, then:

\[ M_n = (1 - \delta) A_{sf} f_{yf} \left[ d - \frac{(1 - \delta) A_{sf} f_{yf}}{1.7 f_s c \cdot b} \right] + \delta A_{sf} f_{yf} \cdot (d - d') + \varphi A_{sf} f_{yf} \cdot jdf \]

Equation (5) is used for a reinforced concrete beam with single reinforcement while equation (13) is used for a reinforced concrete beam with double reinforcement. Based on both equation (9) and (14), there is an addition to the flexural capacity in the amount of \( (A_{sf} f_{yf} \cdot jdf) \). Therefore, it can be concluded that by adding FRP, the flexural capacity will increase.

### 3 Research Method

The method of this research was an experimental study conducted at the Structure Laboratory USU. The flowchart of the experiment shows in Figure 3.

**Fig. 3.** Flowchart of the experiment

Specimens used in the research consisted of two beam specimens had a dimension of width of 15 cm and high of 25 cm, span length of 320 cm, for the flexural test with a planned concrete quality of \( f_s c \) 20 MPa, see Figure 5 in which one reinforced concrete beam did not use strengthening (BK), and one reinforced concrete beam used CFRP Wrap type (BCw) reinforcement. The beams were placed above a static loading frame with joints-
rollers plotting, and the distance between the plots was 3000 mm. The load was conducted by a centralized load system with a distance between the load was 1000 mm to obtain a pure flexure.

There were 3 dial gauges installed on the low part of the beams to read its deflection on ¼ L point from the left, middle, and ¼ L from the right. Data of the load addition and deflection were recorded and were inserted into a table. The load was stopped after there was a crack and when the dial gauge reading did not increase. The flexural strength test of the concrete beam was conducted based on ASTM C-78

![Fig. 4. Beam testing Model Span L=210 cm](image)

In previous studies conducted by Manna Haloho and Johannes Tarigan⁴ where the maximum load was 29,460 N. With the above equation (4) and (5) the number of reinforcement is calculated 4 diameter 12 mm at the bottom and 2 diameter 8 at the top and stirrup diameter 6 -15 cm, see figure 6a. For the reinforcement φ12 gained the yield stress of 289 MPa and ultimate stress of 428 MPa.

After that with the same beam size, the addition of a CFRP Wrap under a concrete beam with a size as shown in Figure 6b with a thickness of 0.133 mm, see figure 6b. From equation (14) the capacity of moment will be increase. Thus the load to be carried by the beam will be larger and also the deflection becomes larger. In this experiment load and deflection are measured manually. CFRP is installed the bottom beam until the neutral line along the beam.

How to install CFRP are as follows: Clean the surface of the beam that will be installed CFRP. Then apply the adhesive to the surface of the beam that has been cleaned. After that install CFRP above of adhesive. The material of adhesive is epoxy.

CFRP used in this research was Sika Wrap 231 C that had a higher carbon content and the kind that was frequently used.

![Fig. 5. a) Beam without GFRP b) Beam with GFRP Wrap type](image)

In Figure 6 can be seen the experimental preparation

![Fig 6. The Process of the Beam Flexure Strength Test](image)

The beam that has been installed CFRP Wrap. Under the beam 3 deflection measuring devices gauges have been installed.

### 4 Research Results

After the analysis has been conducted on reinforced concrete beam based on ACI Committee 440⁵ then the analysis result of the beam theoretically as can be seen on Table 2. The Calculation of load at beam can be use equation (2) and (6).
Table 2. Deflection of Reinforced Concrete Beam

| Samples                     | Ultimate Load (N) | Maximum Deflection (mm) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Beam without Strengthening (BK) | 29,460            | 17                      |
| Beam with Steel Plate (BB)  | 77,050            | 14                      |
| Beam with CFRP Plate (BCp)  | 87,310            | 22                      |
| Beam with GFRP Wrap (BGw)   | 84,780            | 29                      |
| Beam with CFRP Wrap (BCw)   | 94,700            | 31                      |

As seen in Table 2, the beam with CFRP Wrap can hold the biggest deflection and a maximum load better than the others. According to the graph above based on theoretical analysis, the ultimate load of the beam without strengthening was 29,460 N, beam with steel plate was 77,050 N, beam with CFRP plate was 87,310 N, beam with GFRP wrap was 84,780 N and beam with CFRP wrap was 94,700 N. Based on Table 2, the increased load on the steel plate was 2.61 times, on CFRP plate was 2.96 times, on GFRP wrap was 2.67 times and on CFRP wrap was 3.12 times.

After the reinforced concrete beam examination has been conducted based on ASTM C78/C78M, the beam test result can be seen on Table 3.

Table 3. Deflection of Reinforced Concrete Beam

| Samples                     | Ultimate Load (N) | Maximum Deflection (mm) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Beam without Strengthening (BK) | 90,000            | 22.45                   |
| Beam with Steel Plate (BB)  | 195,000           | 26.80                   |
| Beam with CFRP Plate (BCp)  | 220,000           | 28.98                   |
| Beam with GFRP Wrap (BGw)   | 210,000           | 29.69                   |
| Beam with CFRP Wrap (BCw)   | 225,000           | 30.21                   |

From the Table 3 we can see that, on beam without strengthening (BK) the amount of ultimate load is 90,000 N, on beam with steel plate (BB) the amount of ultimate load is 195,000 N, on beam with CFRP Plate (BCp) the amount of ultimate load is 220,000 N, on beam with GFRP Wrap (BGw) the amount is 210,000 N and on beam with CFRP Wrap (BCw) in the amount of 225,000 kg. Based on Table 3 the increased load on steel plate was 2.16 times, while on CFRP Plate 2.44 times and GFRP Wrap as big as 2.33 times, and CFRP Wrap as big as 2.51 times.

6 Conclusion

The results from this test can be concluded as:

Based on theoretical analysis as well as a test result it is proven that by adding external strengthening whether CFRP Plate and Wrap, GFRP Wrap and Steel Plate can increase beam ability on carrying flexure much more better than its normal condition (without strengthening).

After being calculated analytically the result are as follows: beam without strengthening has ultimate load in the amount of 29,460 N, beam with Steel Plate in the amount of 77,050 N, beam with CFRP Plate in the amount of 87,310 N, beam with GFRP Wrap 84,780 N and beam with CFRP Wrap in the amount of 94,700 N. From this analysis obtained on Steel Plate there is an increase in load of 2.61 times, while on CFRP Plate is 2.96 times; on GFRP Wrap is 2.67 times, and on CFRP Wrap is 3.12 times.

According to experimental result, on beam without strengthening has ultimate load in amount of 90,000 N, on beam with Steel Plate in amount of 195,000 N, on beam with CFRP Plate in amount of 220,000 N, on beam with GFRP Wrap in the amount of 210,000 N, and on beam with CFRP Wrap in the amount of 225,000 N. From this experimental result, there is an increase in load of Steel Plate of 2.16 times, while on CFRP Plate is 2.44 times; GFRP Wrap is 2.33 times and CFRP Wrap is 2.51 times.

Among the four types of strengthening that has been tested, it can be concluded that strengthening with CFRP Wrap as the best solution to increase concrete beam ability on carrying flexure, followed by CFRP Plate, GFRP Wrap and Steel Plate.

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