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**SHEAR CAPACITY OF FIBER REINFORCED POLYMER  
STRENGTHENED REINFORCED CONCRETE BEAMS**

A DISSERTATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF  
CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE  
FOR THE DEGREE OF  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

By

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January 10, 2007

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## ABSTRACT

Plating using Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) is one of the latest ways of retrofitting. Two of the most popular types of plating available are Externally Bonded (EB) and Near Surface Mounted (NSM) plating. EB plating (pultruded or wet lay up) is easy to apply but it debonds at low strain which limits the ductility, however, NSM plating, although slightly more difficult to apply debonds at higher strains. Both of these FRP plating systems are included in this research.

The major contribution of this thesis is towards the shear capacity and shear failure mechanism of reinforced concrete beams with adhesively bonded transverse NSM FRP plates. In shear strengthening, there are two forms of plate debonding that interact with each other consisting of Intermediate Crack (IC) debonding that is governed by the axial forces in the plates, and Critical Diagonal Crack plate debonding, where axial forces in the plate are induced by shear deformations. This research considers both forms of debonding and in particular their interaction.

Thirty eight pull tests with different types of plates, plate orientations and plate numbers were carried out on concrete prism and along with results from other researchers used in deriving a generic equation that can be used to predict the Intermediate Crack (IC) debonding resistance in plated beams. Furthermore, 8 beams tests were also carried out on simply supported beams strengthen with NSM plating to identify the plating contributions towards the shear capacity.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>LIST OF PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>TABLE OF FIGURES</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>TABLE OF TABLES</b>	<b>xx</b>
<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background	2
1.2 Forms of Adhesive Plating	2
1.3 Debonding Mechanisms	3
1.3.1 Intermediate Crack (IC) Debonding	3
1.3.2 Critical Diagonal Crack (CDC) Debonding	4
1.4 Scope and Objectives	4
1.5 Thesis Outline	5
1.6 References	6
<b>2 SHEAR CAPACITY ANALYSIS</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1 Introduction	8
2.2 Literature Review	8
2.2.1 Shear Capacity of beams without internal stirrups	8
2.2.2 Shear Capacity of beams with internal stirrups	16
2.2.3 Passive Prestress approach	18
2.3 Shear Strengthening of Reinforced Concrete Beams	19
2.4 Externally Bonded FRP	20
2.4.1 Debonding mechanisms of longitudinal EB plates	20
2.4.2 Debonding mechanism of transverse external bonded plates	21
2.4.3 Shear Failure Controlled by FRP Rupture (FRP wrapping)	24
2.4.4 Shear Failure Controlled by FRP Debonding (U jackets and side bonded)	25
2.5 Near Surface Mounted FRP	28
2.5.1 Debonding mechanism in NSM plates.	28
2.6 Analysis of the contribution of Concrete, Internal Shear Reinforcement and FRP to the Shear Capacity	29
2.6.1 Concrete Shear Capacity ( $V_c$ )	30
2.6.2 Transverse FRP plates shear capacity ( $V_{frp}$ )	33

---

2.6.3	Internal Stirrups Shear Capacity ( $V_s$ )	34
<b>2.7</b>	<b>Analysis using Passive prestress approach</b>	<b>37</b>
2.7.1	Passive Prestress Approach with Eurocode2	37
2.7.2	Passive Prestressed Approach with CDC Analysis	39
<b>2.8</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>2.9</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>2.10</b>	<b>Notation</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>EXPERIMENTS ON SINGLE NSM PLATES</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Specimen</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Test Setup</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Instrumentation</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Material Properties</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>3.6</b>	<b>Test Results</b>	<b>62</b>
3.6.1	Shear Stress-Slip Graph	62
3.6.2	Mild Steel 12mm x 12mm Pull Test	62
3.6.3	Aluminium 12mm x 12mm Pull Test	64
3.6.4	CFRP 12mm x 12mm Pull Test	65
3.6.5	CFRP 12mm x 3mm Pull Test	67
3.6.6	CFRP 12mm x 4mm Pull Test	69
3.6.7	CFRP 12mm x 6mm Pull Test	71
3.6.8	CFRP 24mm x 4mm Pull Test	73
3.6.9	CFRP 30mm x 7mm Pull Test	75
3.6.10	Mild Steel 12mm x 5mm Pull Test	77
3.6.11	CFRP 26mm x 20mm Pull Test	78
3.6.12	CFRP 12mm x 30mm Pull Test	80
3.6.13	CFRP 12mm x 50mm Pull Test	82
3.6.14	CFRP 12mm x 60mm Pull Test	84
3.6.15	CFRP 12mm x 70mm Pull Test	86
3.6.16	CFRP 12mm x 80mm Pull Test	88
3.6.17	CFRP 12mm x 100mm Pull Test	90
<b>3.7</b>	<b>Young's Modulus (<math>E_p</math>)</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>3.8</b>	<b>Discussion of Test Results</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>3.9</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>94</b>

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<b>3.10</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>3.11</b>	<b>Notation</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>EXPERIMENTS ANALYSIS ON SHEAR SLIP RELATIONSHIP</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Partial Interaction Debonding Model</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>4.3</b>	<b>Calibration of Fracture Energy (<math>\tau_f \delta_f</math>) and Failure Plane (<math>L_{per}</math>)</b>	<b>101</b>
4.3.1	Development of Mathematical Debonding Model	102
<b>4.4</b>	<b>Peak Shear Stress Capacity (<math>\tau_f</math>)</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>4.5</b>	<b>Slip Capacity <math>\tau_f</math></b>	<b>123</b>
<b>4.6</b>	<b>Comparison with publish method.</b>	<b>124</b>
4.6.1	Chen and Teng's Approach	125
<b>4.7</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>127</b>
<b>4.8</b>	<b>Notation</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>4.9</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>PULL TEST – UNDERSTANDING PLATE AND COVER INTERACTION</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>132</b>
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Specimen Geometries</b>	<b>132</b>
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Test Setup</b>	<b>135</b>
<b>5.4</b>	<b>Instrumentation</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>5.5</b>	<b>Material Properties</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>5.6</b>	<b>Test Results</b>	<b>150</b>
5.6.1	Pull Test G0NSM	151
5.6.2	Pull Test G30NSM	153
5.6.3	Pull Test G40NSM	155
5.6.4	Pull Test G50NSM	157
5.6.5	Pull Test G70NSM	159
5.6.6	Pull Test G0EB	161
5.6.7	Pull Test G30EBu (Unrestrained)	163
5.6.8	Pull Test G30EBr (Restrained)	164
5.6.9	Pull Test G40EB	166
5.6.10	Pull Test G50EB	168
5.6.11	Pull Test G60EB	170
5.6.12	Pull Test C150NSMa (G0NSM)	172
5.6.13	Pull Test C10NSMa	172

---

---

5.6.14	Pull Test C20NSMa	174
5.6.15	Pull Test C30NSMa	175
5.6.16	Pull Test C40NSMa	176
5.6.17	Pull Test C60NSMa	177
5.6.18	Pull Test C85NSMa	178
5.6.19	Pull Test C150NSMb	179
5.6.20	Pull Test C50NSMb	180
5.6.21	Pull Test C75NSMb	181
5.6.22	Pull Test C100NSM	182
<b>5.7</b>	<b>Discussion of Test Results</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>5.8</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>188</b>
<b>5.9</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>190</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>ANALYSIS OF PULL TEST – PLATE INTERACTION</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Test Results</b>	<b>192</b>
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Analysis of Results</b>	<b>193</b>
6.3.1	Analysis of pull test G30NSM	193
6.3.2	Analysis of pull test G40NSM	194
6.3.3	Analysis of pull test G50NSM	195
6.3.4	Analysis of beam test NB_F2	196
6.3.5	Analysis of beam test NB_F3	196
6.3.6	Analysis of slab test NS_F1	197
<b>6.4</b>	<b>Analysis of all test results</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>6.5</b>	<b>Parametric study</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>6.6</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>6.7</b>	<b>Notation</b>	<b>204</b>
<b>6.8</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>BEAM TEST – TRANSVERSE NSM PLATED BEAM TESTS</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>7.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>7.2</b>	<b>Specimen Geometries</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>7.3</b>	<b>Test Setup</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>7.4</b>	<b>Instrumentation</b>	<b>211</b>
<b>7.5</b>	<b>Material Properties</b>	<b>215</b>
<b>7.6</b>	<b>Test Results</b>	<b>217</b>

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7.6.1	Test Control S	217
7.6.2	Test Control NS	220
7.6.3	Test NSM 3LP NS	221
7.6.4	Test NSM 3LP S	225
7.6.5	Test NSM 5IP NS	230
7.6.6	Test NSM 5IP S	234
7.6.7	Test NSM 4VP NS	241
7.6.8	Test NSM 4VP S	246
<b>7.7</b>	<b>Discussion of Test Results</b>	<b>253</b>
<b>7.8</b>	<b>Test Results Summaries</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>7.9</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>7.10</b>	<b>Notation</b>	<b>261</b>
<b>7.11</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>262</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>	<b>263</b>
<b>8.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>264</b>
<b>8.2</b>	<b>Shear Capacity of Transversely Plated Beams</b>	<b>264</b>
<b>8.3</b>	<b>Generic IC debonding resistance</b>	<b>264</b>
<b>8.4</b>	<b>Pull tests – Understanding plate and cover interaction</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>8.5</b>	<b>Plate interaction</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>8.6</b>	<b>Transverse NSM Plated beam tests</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>8.7</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>266</b>