

# Concrete-Bonded FRP and Steel Plate Anchorage Strength Models

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**ABSTRACT:** Since the 1960s, weak reinforced-concrete structures have been reinforced via external bonding of steel plates. Due to their superior qualities, fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) plates have replaced steel plates in recent years. The end anchorage strength is a crucial consideration in the design of a successful retrofitting solution using externally joined plates. This study initially reviews the available anchorage strength models for shear-bonded junctions between FRP and concrete as well as steel and concrete. The shortcomings of all current models are then revealed once these models are evaluated using experimental data gathered from the literature. Ultimately, a fresh, straightforward, and logical model is put out in light of recent fracture mechanics research and experimental findings. This novel model accurately predicts the effective bond length and closely fits experimental measurements of bond strength. The new model is thus suited for actual use in the design of bonded joints between FRP and concrete as well as steel and concrete.

## INTRODUCTION

Since the 1960s, weak reinforced-concrete (RC) structures have been reinforced via external bonding of steel plates. Due to their superior qualities, fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) plates have been employed to replace steel plates more and more recently. The end anchorage strength is a crucial factor in the design of an efficient retrofitting solution employing externally bonded plates, and extensive study has been done on this problem. This study looks at anchorage failure caused by cracks that spread parallel to bonded plates near or along the adhesive/concrete interface, commencing from the critically stressed point and moving towards the anchored end of the plate. For plates or strips bonded to the sidewalls of beams for shear strengthening, this is the typical anchorage failure mode (Teng et al. 2000). It is also one of the potential failure modes in reinforced concrete slabs (RC) and beams strengthened with bonded soffit plates and strips when debonding originates at a significant crack that extends away from but towards the plate end (Teng et al. 2000; Smith et al. 2001). Due to the load concentration at the plate end, another significant anchorage failure mode for a beam with a bonded soffit plate begins there. The latter is not included in the current paper; for more information, refer to other sources of data (Zhang et al. 1997; Malek et al. 1998; Teng et al. 2000). It is important to emphasise the differences between these two failure modes; the failure mode discussed in this work is known as shear anchorage failure or shear debonding failure. Substantial experimental and theoretical work exists on shear anchorage strength. Experiments have been carried out using several setups, including single shear tests (Chajes et al. 1995, 1996; Bizindavyi and Neale 1997, 1999; Täljsten 1997), double shear tests (van Gemert 1980; Swamy et al. 1986; Ko-batake et al. 1993; FORCA 1994; Brosens and van Gemert 1997; Fukuzawa et al. 1997; Hiroyuki and Wu 1997; Maeda et al. 1997; Neubauer and Rostásy 1997), and modified beam tests (van Gemert 1980; Ziraba et al. 1995). Theoretical work has included both fracture mechanics analysis (Triantafillou and Plevris 1992; Holzenkämpfer 1994; Täljsten 1994; Yuan and Wu 1999; Yuan et al. 2001) and the development of empirical models based on regression of experimental data and/or simplistic assumptions (van Gemert 1980; Chaallal et al. 1998; Khalifa et al. 1998).

This paper first presents a review of anchorage behavior under single/double shear tests (Fig. 1) and available shear anchorage strength models in the literature. These models are then assessed with experimental data collected from the literature, revealing the deficiencies of all existing models. Finally, a new simple, rational, and accurate design model is proposed based on an existing fracture mechanics analysis and experimental observations.

## FAILURE MODES

For single or double shear tests, there are six possible distinct failure modes in theory for an FRP or steel plate bonded to concrete, although they may be mixed in an actual failure. These are listed below in the order of their likeliness, based on existing test data collected in Table 1.

1. Concrete failure
2. Plate tensile failure including FRP rupture or steel yielding
3. Adhesive failure
4. FRP delamination for FRP-to-concrete joints
5. Concrete-to-adhesive interfacial failure
6. Plate-to-adhesive interfacial failure

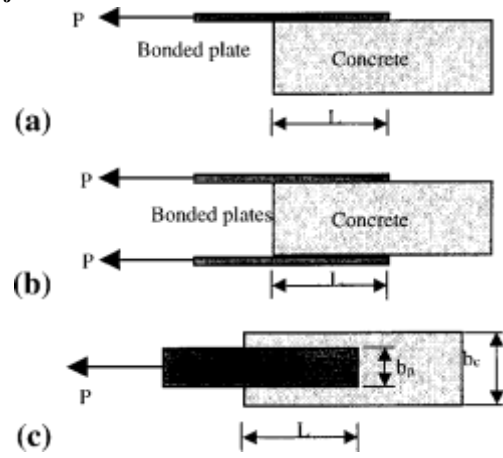


FIG. 1. Single and Double Shear Tests: (a) Single Shear Test; (b) Double Shear Test; (c) Plan

TABLE 1. Single and Double Shear Test Data Collected from Literature<sup>a</sup>

| Specimen reference number <sup>b,c</sup> | Adhesive $E_a$ (MPa) | Concrete         |                      |                                   |                             |                                 | Plate |                      |                  |                      |                             | Measured failure load $P_u$ (N) | Failure mode <sup>d</sup> |                                  |
|--|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  |                      | Width $b_c$ (mm) | Thickness $t_c$ (mm) | Compressive strength $f'_c$ (MPa) | Young's modulus $E_c$ (MPa) | Tensile strength $f_{ct}$ (MPa) | Type  | Thickness $t_p$ (mm) | Width $B_p$ (mm) | Bond length $L$ (mm) | Young's modulus $E_p$ (MPa) |                                 |                           | Ultimate strength $f_{up}$ (MPa) |
| BN1                                      | 3,304                | 150              | 150                  | 42.5                              | 33,500                      | 3.50                            | GFRP  | 1                    | 25.4             | 180                  | 29,200                      | 472                             | 11,410                    | FR                               |
| BN2                                      | 3,304                | 150              | 150                  | 42.5                              | 33,500                      | 3.50                            | GFRP  | 2                    | 25.4             | 320                  | 29,200                      | 472                             | 21,400                    | FR                               |
| BN3                                      | 3,257                | 150              | 150                  | 42.5                              | 33,500                      | 3.50                            | CFRP  | 0.33                 | 25.4             | 160                  | 75,700                      | 1,014                           | 8,500                     | FR                               |
| BN4                                      | 3,257                | 150              | 150                  | 42.5                              | 33,500                      | 3.50                            | CFRP  | 0.66                 | 25.4             | 320                  | 75,700                      | 1,014                           | 15,100                    | FR                               |
| C1                                       | 5,172                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 36.1                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 8,462                     | CF                               |
| C2                                       | 5,172                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 47.1                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 9,931                     | CF                               |
| C3                                       | 5,172                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 47.1                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 10,638                    | CF                               |
| C4                                       | 5,172                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 47.1                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 10,638                    | CF                               |
| C5                                       | 2,207                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 43.6                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 10,531                    | CF                               |
| C6                                       | 234                  | 228.6            | 152.4                | 43.6                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 8,956                     | AF                               |
| C7                                       | 234                  | 228.6            | 152.4                | 43.6                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 9,610                     | CF                               |
| C8                                       | 1,584                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 43.6                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 10,518                    | CF                               |
| C9                                       | 1,584                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 43.6                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 11,199                    | CF                               |
| C10                                      | 1,584                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 24.0                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 9,869                     | CF                               |
| C11                                      | 1,584                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 28.9                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 9,343                     | CF                               |
| C12                                      | 1,584                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 43.7                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 76.2                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 11,204                    | CF                               |
| C13                                      | 1,584                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 36.4                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 50.8                 | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 8,094                     | CF                               |
| C14                                      | 1,584                | 228.6            | 152.4                | 36.4                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 101.6                | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 12,811                    | CF                               |
| C15                                      | 1,584                | 152.4            | 152.4                | 36.4                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 152.4                | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 11,917                    | CF                               |
| C16                                      | 1,584                | 152.4            | 152.4                | 36.4                              | —                           | —                               | GFRP  | 1.016                | 25.4             | 203.2                | 108,478                     | 1,655                           | 11,570                    | CF                               |
| M1                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 40.8                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.11                 | 50               | 75                   | 230,000                     | 3,500                           | 5,800                     | FD                               |
| M2                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 40.8                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.11                 | 50               | 150                  | 230,000                     | 3,500                           | 9,200                     | FD                               |
| M3                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 43.3                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.11                 | 50               | 300                  | 230,000                     | 3,500                           | 11,950                    | FD                               |
| M4                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 42.4                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.165                | 50               | 75                   | 380,000                     | 3,000                           | 10,000                    | CF                               |
| M5                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 42.4                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.165                | 50               | 150                  | 380,000                     | 3,000                           | 7,300                     | FR                               |
| M6                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 42.7                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.22                 | 50               | 65                   | 230,000                     | 3,500                           | 9,550                     | CF                               |
| M7                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 42.7                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.22                 | 50               | 150                  | 230,000                     | 3,500                           | 16,250                    | FD                               |
| M8                                       | 5,000                | 100              | 100                  | 44.7                              | —                           | —                               | CFS   | 0.11                 | 50               | 700                  | 230,000                     | 3,500                           | 10,000                    | FD                               |
| C100 50A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 3.90                            | CFRP  | 1.25                 | 50               | 100                  | 170,000                     | 2,497                           | 17,300                    | CF                               |
| C200 50A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.10                            | CFRP  | 1.25                 | 50               | 200                  | 170,000                     | 2,497                           | 27,500                    | CF                               |
| C300 50A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.30                            | CFRP  | 1.25                 | 50               | 300                  | 170,000                     | 2,497                           | 35,100                    | CF                               |
| C400 50A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.30                            | CFRP  | 1.25                 | 50               | 400                  | 170,000                     | 2,497                           | 26,900                    | CF                               |
| S100 40A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.20                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 40               | 100                  | 205,000                     | 399                             | 21,100                    | CF                               |
| S200 40A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 3.90                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 40               | 200                  | 205,000                     | 399                             | 39,500                    | CF                               |
| S400 40A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.30                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 40               | 400                  | 205,000                     | 399                             | 41,100                    | CF                               |
| S50 60A                                  | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.20                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 60               | 50                   | 205,000                     | 403                             | 12,700                    | CF                               |
| S100 60A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.10                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 60               | 100                  | 205,000                     | 399                             | 20,000                    | CF                               |
| S150 60A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.30                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 60               | 150                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 46,300                    | CF                               |
| S200 60B                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.10                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 60               | 200                  | 205,000                     | 399                             | 48,800                    | CF                               |
| S400 60A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.30                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 60               | 400                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 58,400                    | CF                               |
| S400 60B                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.10                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 60               | 400                  | 205,000                     | 399                             | 53,000                    | CF                               |
| S100 80C                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.40                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 80               | 100                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 39,600                    | CF                               |
| S150 80A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 3.90                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 80               | 150                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 50,900                    | CF                               |
| S200 80A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.30                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 80               | 200                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 67,300                    | CF                               |
| S300 80C                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.10                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 80               | 300                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 68,000                    | CF                               |
| S500 80C                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.40                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 80               | 500                  | 205,000                     | 399                             | 67,300                    | CF                               |
| S600 80B                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.10                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 80               | 600                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 71,400                    | CF                               |
| S800 80A                                 | 6,700                | 200              | 200                  | —                                 | 35,000                      | 4.10                            | Steel | 2.9                  | 80               | 800                  | 205,000                     | 403                             | 61,600                    | CF                               |
| S1                                       | 430–2,000            | 60               | 60                   | 19.8                              | —                           | —                               | Steel | 3                    | 60               | 150                  | 200,000                     | 365–400                         | 19,530                    | CF                               |
| S2                                       | 430–2,000            | 60               | 60                   | 35.5                              | —                           | —                               | Steel | 3                    | 60               | 150                  | 200,000                     | 365–400                         | 22,680                    | CF                               |
| S3                                       | 430–2,000            | 60               | 60                   | 47.6                              | —                           | —                               | Steel | 3                    | 60               | 150                  | 200,000                     | 365–400                         | 24,930                    | CF                               |
| S4                                       | 430–2,000            | 60               | 60                   | 56.3                              | —                           | —                               | Steel | 3                    | 60               | 150                  | 200,000                     | 365–400                         | 29,970                    | CF                               |
| S5                                       | 430–2,000            | 60               | 60                   | 35.6                              | —                           | —                               | Steel | 3                    | 60               | 150                  | 200,000                     | 365–400                         | 21,780                    | CF                               |
| S6                                       | 430–2,000            | 60               | 60                   | 35.6                              | —                           | —                               | Steel | 3                    | 60               | 150                  | 200,000                     | 365–400                         | 21,420                    | CF                               |
| S7                                       | 430–2,000            | 60               | 60                   | 35.6                              | —                           | —                               | Steel | 3                    | 60               | 150                  | 200,000                     | 365–400                         | 25,470                    | CF                               |

<sup>a</sup>Young's modulus  $E_c$ , splitting tensile strength  $f_{ct}$  and cylinder compressive strength  $f'_c$  for concrete, and shear modulus  $G_a$  for adhesive were evaluated using the following relationships if they were not given in the original literature:  $E_c = 4,730\sqrt{f'_c}$  MPa (ACI 318-89);  $f_{ct} = 0.53\sqrt{f'_c}$  MPa (ACI 318-89);  $f'_c = 0.79f_c$  (BSI 8110, 1985);  $G_a = E_a/2(1 + \nu_a)$ ,  $E_a = 5$  GPa,  $\nu_a = 0.3$ , and  $t_a = 1$  mm are assumed if they were not given in the original literature.

<sup>b</sup>Some of the specimen reference numbers are assigned by the current writers because they were not available in the original paper.

<sup>c</sup>Specimens BN1–BN4 are from Bizindavyi and Neale (1999). Specimens A1–A5 and B1–B5 are from Brosens and van Gemert (1997). Specimens C1–C16 are from Chajes et al. (1996). Specimens M1–M8 are from Maeda et al. (1997). Specimens C100–C400 and S100–S800 are from Täljsten (1997). Specimens S1–S7 are from Swamy et al. (1986).

<sup>d</sup>Failure mode: FR = FRP rupture, CF = concrete fracture, FD = FRP delamination, AF = cohesive failure through adhesive.

The single and double shear test data shown in Table 1 have been collected from the existing literature based on an extensive literature survey; tests that were not sufficiently well documented for analysis and interpretation have been excluded here. These data show that most experimental joints failed in the concrete a few millimeters beneath the concrete/adhesive interface (van Gemert 1980; Maeda et al. 1997). Interfacial failure, between either the adhesive and the concrete or the adhesive and the plate, is not found in Table 1. This is a consequence of the availability of strong adhesives that bond well to steel, FRP, and concrete. For the same reason, adhesive failure is rare, as only one such case is seen in Table 1. A

small number of specimens failed by FRP rupture and an equal number of specimens failed by FRP delamination. This paper is primarily concerned with concrete failure beneath the plate-to-concrete interface. Neubauer and Rostásy (1997) showed that the same energy release rate model is applicable to both the concrete fracture failure mode and the FRP delamination failure mode. This is because, even in the FRP delamination failure mode, concrete failure usually occurs in the first 20–50% of the bond length, which is the key failure process and predominates the fracture energy release rate. Cracking then extends into the FRP matrix, leading to FRP delamination. Therefore, the new bond strength model developed in this pa-

per may also be applicable to FRP delamination failures. Plate tensile failure and pure adhesive-to-concrete interfacial failure are not included in this paper, as the former is governed by the properties of the bonded plate rather than the bonded joint, while the latter can be avoided by careful surface preparation.

## EFFECTIVE BOND LENGTH

The tension in the plate is transferred to the concrete mainly via shear stresses in the adhesive in a short length nearest to the applied load. Van Gemert (1980) examined the stresses in steel plates bonded to a rectangular plain concrete prism in a double shear test. The tensile force in the steel plate was found to decay exponentially toward the anchored end of the plate. At higher loads, the distribution of the tensile force became more and more even in the initial bond zone. This means that practically no force was transferred from the plate to the concrete in this zone, because the cracking of the concrete near the applied load shifted the active bond zone to new areas farther away from the loading point. This phenomenon has been confirmed by many other studies on steel-to-concrete bonded joints (Täljsten 1997) and FRP-to-concrete bonded joints (Maeda et al. 1997).

The shift of the active bond zone means that at any one time, only part of the bond is effective. That is, as cracking in the concrete propagates, bond resistance is gradually lost in the zone near the load, but in the meantime it is activated farther away from the load. The implication is, then, that the anchorage strength cannot always increase with an increase in the bond length, and that the ultimate tensile strength of a plate may never be reached, however long the bond length is. This leads to the important concept of effective bond length, beyond which any increase in the bond length cannot increase the anchorage strength, as confirmed by many experimental studies (Chajes et al. 1996; Maeda et al. 1997; Täljsten 1997) and fracture mechanics analyses (Holzenkämpfer 1994; Yuan and Wu 1999; Yuan et al. 2001). However, a longer bond length may improve the ductility of the failure process.

This phenomenon is believed to be the primary reason for the observed low stresses in bonded plates at anchorage failure (Fig. 2). The ultimate stress in FRP at failure  $\sigma_{fu}$  has an average value of 28% of the ultimate tensile strength  $f_{tu}$ , with a coefficient of variation (COV) of 40% (Fig. 2). This ratio is substantially higher for steel-to-concrete joints, with an average value of  $\sigma_{su} / f_{su} = 58\%$ , but the degree of scatter is similar (COV = 37%). The corresponding ratio to steel yielding stress is  $\sigma_{su} / f_{sy} = 71\%$ . This phenomenon is substantially different from the bond behavior of internal reinforcement, for which a

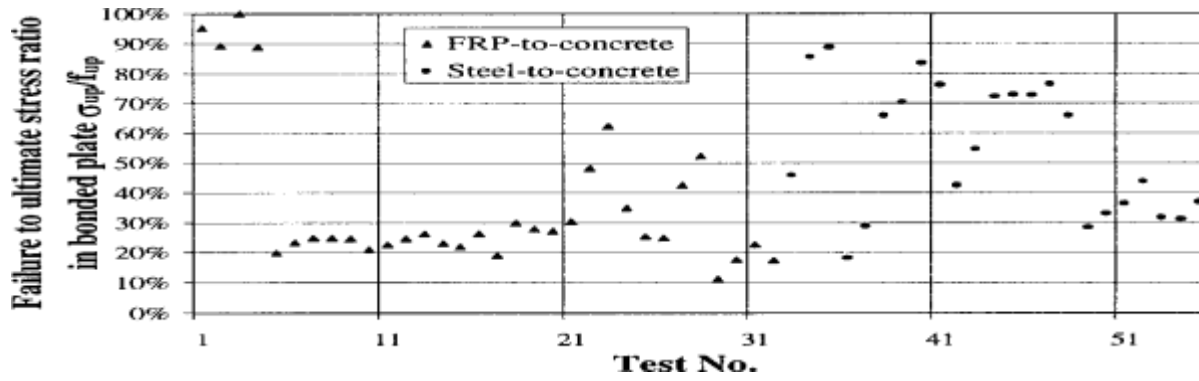


FIG. 2. Maximum Plate Stress at Bond Failure

$$r_u = 5.88L^{-0.669} \text{ (MPa)} \quad (1)$$

Tanaka (1996) presented another simple expression (Sato et al. 1996)

$$r_u = 6.13 - \ln L \text{ (MPa)} \quad (2)$$

where  $L$  is in millimeters. The ultimate bond strength of the joint  $P_u$  is given by multiplying  $r_u$  by the width  $b_p$  and length  $L$  of the bond area in the above two models.

Maeda et al. (1997) developed a more robust model that considers the effective bond length

$$r_u = 110.2 \times 10^{-6} E_p t_p \text{ (MPa)} \quad (3a)$$

where  $t_p$  (mm) and  $E_p$  (MPa) = thickness and Young's modulus of the bonded plate, respectively.

The ultimate bond strength  $P_u$  is obtained by multiplying  $r_u$  by the effective bond area  $L_e b_p$ . Here, the effective bond length  $L_e$  is given by

$$L_e = e^{6.13 - 0.580 \ln E_p t_p} \text{ (mm)} \quad (3b)$$

Note that  $E_p$  is in gigapascals and  $t_p$  is in millimeters in (3b). This model is obviously invalid if  $L < L_e$ .

### Fracture Mechanics Based Models

Holzenkämpfer (1994) investigated the bond strength between a steel plate and concrete using nonlinear fracture mechanics (NLFM). The modified form by Niedermeier (1996; Blaschko et al. 1996) calculates the bond strength by using

bond length can always be designed for its full tensile strength if there is sufficient concrete cover. This key aspect must be accounted for in the development of shear anchorage strength

Both FRP and Steel-To-Concrete

| Source                          | Average | SD   | COV | Average | SD   | COV | Average | SD   | COV |
|---------------------------------|---------|------|-----|---------|------|-----|---------|------|-----|
| Hiroyuki and Wu (1997) (1)      | 2.87    | 0.95 | 33% | 3.85    | 1.18 | 31% | 3.24    | 1.09 | 34% |
| Tanaka (1996) (2)               | 2.92    | 1.65 | 56% | 5.51    | 5.30 | 96% | 4.02    | 3.96 | 99% |
| van Gemert (1980) (10)          | 2.19    | 1.12 | 51% | 1.64    | 0.57 | 35% | 1.91    | 0.96 | 50% |
| Chaallal et al. (1998) (11)     | 1.81    | 0.89 | 49% | 1.68    | 0.70 | 42% | 1.71    | 0.79 | 46% |
| Khalifa et al. (1998) (12)      | 1.07    | 0.24 | 23% | 0.76    | 0.26 | 34% | 0.93    | 0.29 | 31% |
| Neubauer and Rostásy (1997) (9) | 0.82    | 0.15 | 18% | 0.65    | 0.09 | 13% | 0.74    | 0.15 | 20% |
| (16)                            | 1.05    | 0.18 | 17% | 0.94    | 0.11 | 12% | 1.00    | 0.16 | 16% |

Note: SD = standard deviation; COV = coefficient of variation.

the FRP plate. Because (11b) was based on limited experimental data and does not relate to the strength of concrete, its applicability is seriously limited. Another drawback of this proposal is that the effective bond length is not considered.

Khalifa et al. (1998) proposed a modification of Maeda et al.'s (1997) model [(3)] and included the effect of concrete strength, so that it could be used for design. They used the relationship that the bond strength between the FRP sheet and the concrete surface is a function of  $(f'_c)^{2/3}$  (Horiguchi and Saeki 1997). Because the concrete strength was 42 MPa in the experiments carried out by Maeda et al. (1997), the modified equation is thus

$$f_{cr} = 0.53 \sqrt{f'_c} \text{ (MPa)} \quad (13)$$

Table 2 shows that, on average, the experimental observation is 0.82 of that predicted by the model of Neubauer and Rostásy (1997) for FRPs [i.e., predictions are  $(1 - 0.82)/0.82 = 22\%$  higher than observations, on average]. For steel plates, the average test-to-predicted strength ratio is 0.74 (i.e., predictions are 55% higher than test observations). For the whole data set including both FRP and steel plates, the predictions of their model are 35% higher than experimental observations, on average. Another drawback of this model is the use of concrete surface tensile strength, which requires special tests, while concrete compressive strength is readily available in most cases.

## PRACTICAL ENGINEERING MODEL

The effective bond length is calculated using (3b).

Neubauer and Rostásy (1997) proposed to use 75% of the ultimate bond strength for design, i.e., to reduce the factor of 0.64 in (9a) to 0.5.

## Comparison with Experimental Observations

Table 2 compares the performance of some of the above models in predicting the experimental bond strengths given in Table 1 (27 FRP and 23 steel bond tests after excluding those failing by FRP rupture). Purely fracture mechanics based models are not included in this comparison because the fracture energy and the shear-slip parameters are not available.

## New Model

The shortcomings of the above models necessitate the development of a new model for practical design that is simple to use, rationally based, and capable of capturing the fundamental features of the bond behavior and predicting the bond strength and the effective bond length with good accuracy.

For FRP-to-concrete bonded joints, the typical slip values are  $\delta_1 = 0.02$  mm and  $\delta_f = 0.2$  mm; i.e.,  $\delta_1$  is small compared to  $\delta_f$ . Therefore, the linearly decreasing shear-slip model [Fig. 2(b)] may be used. The NLFM solution for this case is (Yuan and Wu 1999), experimental data statistically. They hugely underestimate the bond strength and, more important, lead to a very large scatter. The chief cause for the poor performance may be that the effective bond length is not considered in these models. The models by Khalifa et al. (1998) and Neubauer and Rostásy

(1997) from the regression of test data of FRP-to-concrete joints. As a result, it agrees reasonably well with experimental data for FRP-to-concrete joints, but not so well for steel-to-concrete joints. The chief drawback of this model is that it may greatly overestimate the shear stress at failure and underestimate the effective bond length. For example, (12) predicts an average shear stress at failure of about 60 MPa and (3b) predicts an effective bond length of about 11 mm for the set of steel-to-concrete joints reported by Täljsten (1997), compared with an observed effective bond length of about 300 mm. It thus cannot be used for safe practical design.

Concrete surface tensile strength  $f_{ctm}$  was used in the model proposed by Holzenkämpfer (1994) and that proposed by Neubauer and Rostásy (1997). Because this strength is not available for all of the data examined here (Table 1), the concrete splitting tensile strength  $f_{cr}$  is used instead here and it is estimated, if not given in the original source, from  $f'_c$  (MPa) using (MacGregor 1988)

The shear-slip properties in (14) may be expressed in terms of the concrete strength. The ultimate bond strength has been related to the concrete surface tensile strength [(4), (8), and (10)] and shear strength [(12)]. However, various experimental observations (Chajes et al. 1996) showed that the ultimate

bond strength is proportional to  $\sqrt{f'_c}$ , similar to the bond strength of internal steel (British 1985) and FRP (Ehsani et al. 1996) reinforcement. This is confirmed by a regression analysis of the test data in Table 1.

The coefficient  $\alpha_v$  in (14) [compared to (6)] appears to be very small for practical configurations compared to unity (varying from 0.001 to 0.034 for all of the tests in Table 1 except for the last seven specimens, which vary from 0.3 to 0.5). This term has arisen from the assumption that the stress distribution is uniform across the whole cross section of the concrete, as well as in the bonded plate. Because of localized bond behavior, this assumption is clearly invalid for the concrete. Instead, the width ratio of the bonded plate to the concrete member  $b_p/b_c$  is shown to have a significant effect on the ultimate bond strength, in a form similar to the coefficient proposed by Holzenkämpfer (1994) [compared to (4d)]. If the

where

$$P_u = 0.427 \beta_p \beta_L \sqrt{f'_c} b_p L_e$$

]

(16a) width of the bonded plate is smaller than that of the concrete member, the force transfer from the plate to the concrete leads to a nonuniform stress distribution across the width of the concrete member. A smaller  $b_p$  compared to  $b_c$  may result in a higher shear stress in the adhesive at failure, attributed to

the contribution from the concrete outside the bond area. The

regression of the test data of Table 1 (Fig. 4) shows that the  $f_c$  (16c)  
 cause it uses the cylinder concrete compressive strength  $f_c$ ,  
 which is available in most cases. To compare this new model

By taking into account the above considerations, a simple ultimate bond strength model may be proposed based on (14) and the regression of test data in Table 1

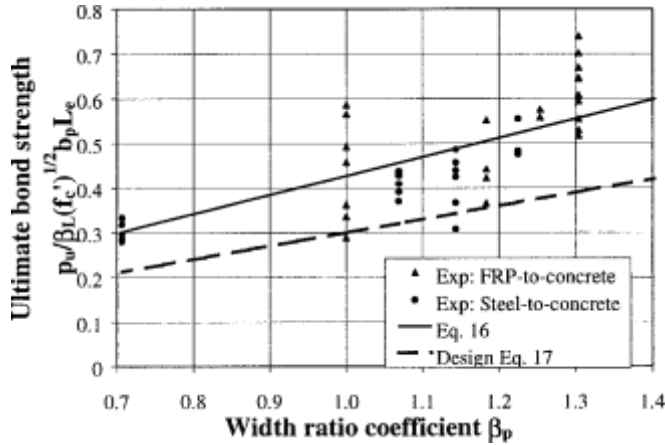


FIG. 4. Effect of Bonded Plate to Concrete Width Ratio on Ultimate Bond Strength

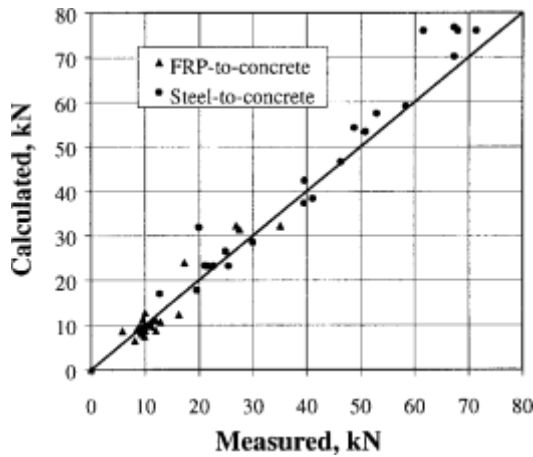


FIG. 5. Measured Values Via Calculated Bond Strength

with the experimental data in Table 1, the concrete split tensile strength  $f_{ct}$  for the set of data presented by Täljsten (1997) needs to be converted to  $f_c'$ . This was done by first calculating  $f_c'$  from  $f_{ct}$  for each specimen using (13) and then scaling the results by multiplying all of the  $f_c'$  values obtained from  $f_{ct}$  by a single factor so that the average Young's modulus  $E_c$  found by using the American Concrete Institute (1989) relationship  $E_c = 5,730\sqrt{f_c'}$  is 3.5 GPa, as given by Täljsten (1997). Both  $E_c$  and  $f_{ct}$  were used in this process in an attempt to find the actual  $f_c'$ , because both are affected by many other factors apart from  $f_c'$ .

Table 2 shows that (16) agrees well with the test data for both FRP-to-concrete and steel-to-concrete bonded joints. The ratio of the observed to the predicted ultimate bond strength for the two types of joints has an overall average value of 1.00 and a corresponding standard deviation of 0.159 (Fig. 5).

Eq. (16b) shows that  $L_e$  increases linearly with  $\sqrt{E_p t_p}$ . The predicted values by the proposed new model for the effective bond length are in a close agreement with the very limited experimental observations (Table 3). A comparison in Fig. 6 shows that the empirical model proposed by Maeda et al. (1997) predicted the wrong trend on the effect of  $E_p t_p$  on the effective bond length. Fig. 7 shows the effect of bond length on the ultimate bond strength. The experimental data are nicely

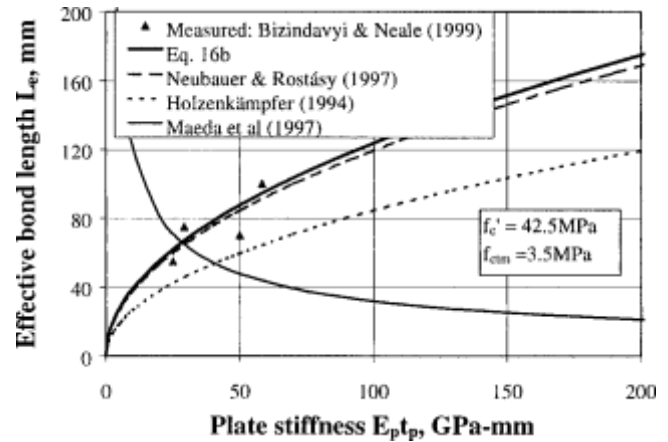


FIG. 6. Effect of Bonded Plate Stiffness on Effective Bond Length

TABLE 3. Effective Bond Length  $L_e$  (mm)

| Data source                 | Test specimen<br>(Table 1)   | Measured | Prediction               |                                |                 | Present/<br>Measured |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
|                             |                              |          | Khalifa et al.<br>(1998) | Neubauer and Rostásy<br>(1997) | Present<br>(16) |                      |
| Bizindavyi and Neale (1999) | BN1 (GFRP)                   | 75       | 65.1                     | 64.6                           | 66.9            | 0.89                 |
| Bizindavyi and Neale (1999) | BN2 (GFRP)                   | 100      | 43.6                     | 91.3                           | 94.6            | 0.95                 |
| Bizindavyi and Neale (1999) | BN3 (CFRP)                   | 55       | 71.3                     | 59.7                           | 61.9            | 1.13                 |
| Bizindavyi and Neale (1999) | BN4 (CFRP)                   | 70       | 47.7                     | 84.5                           | 87.5            | 1.25                 |
| Täljsten (1997)             | S100-40A to S800-80A (steel) | ~300     | 11.3                     | 260-280                        | 275-293         | 0.94                 |



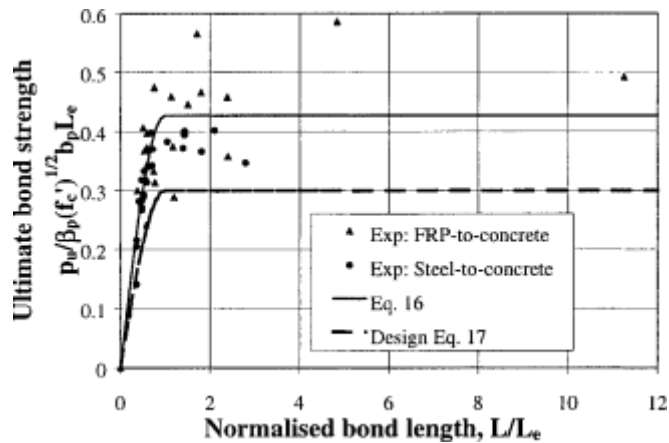


FIG. 7. Effect of Bond Length on Ultimate Bond Strength

scattered around the curve predicted by (16), statistically validating the important concept of the effective bond length.

### Anchorage Strength Design

The coefficient in (16) may be reduced to the 95th percentile characteristic value of  $0.427 \times (1 - 1.64 \times 0.159) = 0.315$ , so that it can be used for ultimate strength design to concrete. Existing test data suggest that the main failure mode is concrete failure under shear, occurring generally at a few millimeters from the concrete-to-adhesive surface. The bond strength, therefore, depends strongly on the concrete strength. In addition, the plate-to-concrete member width ratio has a significant effect. A very important aspect of bond behavior is that there exists an effective bond length beyond which an extension of the bond length cannot increase the bond strength. This is a fundamental difference between the anchorage design of an externally bonded plate and an internal reinforcement for which a sufficiently long anchorage length can always be found, so that the full tensile strength of the reinforcement can be achieved. Thin stiff plates (e.g., carbon plates) should be used to make the best use of the tensile strength of the bonded plate.

Existing bond strength models, including empirical models, fracture mechanics models, and simple design models, have been reviewed and assessed by comparison with experimental data gathered from the literature. This enabled the identification of the deficiencies of the existing models, generally due to the omission of one or more of the important aspects mentioned above, such as the effective bond length limit.

Finally, a new simple design model has been developed. This new model is modified from an existing fracture mechanics model with suitable simplifications, and captures all of the main features of anchorage behavior. Both the anchor-

$$P_u = 0.315 \beta_p \beta_L \sqrt{f_c} b_p L_e \text{ age strength and the effective bond length can be correctly}$$

Some studies (Swamy et al. 1986) showed that the cracking load at the loaded end is about 60% of the ultimate load. Therefore, the coefficient in (17) may be further reduced to

$$0.315 \times 0.6 \approx 0.2 \text{ for serviceability state design (without cracking)}$$

predicted using this new model.

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In practical design, generally a designer needs to know the stress rather than the load carried by the FRP plate. Substituting (16b) and  $\sigma_p = P_u / b_p t_p$  into (16a) gives the stress in the bonded plate at failure

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