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## **Lateral Torsional and Distortional Buckling of Coped Beams with Different End Conditions**

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A Thesis

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### **ABSTRACT**

Elastic lateral torsional buckling was investigated by a number of researchers. They proposed a set of interaction equations to evaluate the elastic lateral torsional buckling capacity of coped steel beams based upon the interaction of lateral torsional buckling of coped "T-section" and un-coped region. However, very little theoretical data are available for inelastic lateral torsional buckling of coped I-beams. This research discusses both elastic and inelastic lateral torsional buckling of coped built-up steel I-beams.

A brief introduction and literature review of the previous work in the field of lateral buckling of coped beams is presented. As well, different types of reinforcing to increase the buckling capacity of coped region are presented.

A total of six full-scale tests were conducted to investigate the inelastic lateral torsional capacity of coped beams. The main test parameters included in the experimental program are the aspect ratio of cope depth and cope length.

Verification of numerical models versus problems chosen from previous experimental work is performed and presented. The finite element program used to solve the current problem is ANSYS V.11. The accuracy of the adopted analytical model is studied. A comparison between the experimental and finite element models is presented.

A parametric analysis to study the effect of coping on the buckling capacity of beams was conducted. Different numerical –analytical models are presented to study the effect of coping. A proposed method in case of inelastic lateral torsional buckling has been introduced. A comparison between the modified equation for coped specimen and the experimental results is presented

Different methods of retrofitting and strengthening of coped beams region are presented, like adding horizontal stiffeners or vertical stiffeners or both. A parametric study is performed to discuss the effect of stiffening on the buckling capacity of coped beams, and a simplified mathematical model is also introduced for the strengthened beam capacity.

Finally, a summary of the work carried out in this thesis, along with the general conclusions obtained from this study and recommendations for future research in this field are presented.

**To Our Generous Prophet and His  
Gracious Family (Ahl-Elbayt)**

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## **STATEMENT**

This dissertation is submitted to Ain Shams University for the degree of doctor of philosophy in Structural Engineering.

The work included in this thesis has been carried out by the author in the Department of Structural Engineering, Ain Shams University, from September 2008 to 2013.

No part of this thesis has been submitted for a degree or a qualification at any other university or institution.

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A total of six full-scale tests were conducted to investigate the inelastic lateral torsional capacity of coped beams. The main test parameters included in the experimental program are the aspect ratio of cope depth and cope length.

Verification of numerical models versus problems chosen from previous experimental work is performed and presented. The finite element program used to solve the current problem is ANSYS V.11. The accuracy of the adopted analytical model is studied. A comparison between the experimental and finite element models is presented.

A parametric analysis to study the effect of coping using different end conditions on the buckling capacity of beams was conducted. Different models numerical – analytical are presented to study the effect of coping.

A proposed method in case of inelastic lateral torsional buckling has been introduced. A comparison between the modified equation for coped specimen and the experimental results is presented

Different methods of retrofitting and strengthening of coped beams region are presented, like adding horizontal stiffeners or vertical stiffeners or both. A parametric study is performed to discuss the effect of stiffening on the buckling capacity of coped beams, and a simplified mathematical model is also introduced for the strengthened beam capacity.

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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Examiners Committee.....	i
Statement.....	ii
Acknowledgements.....	iii
Abstract.....	iv
Table of Contents.....	vi
List of Tables.....	xii
List of Figures.....	xv
Notations.....	xxxiii
Abbreviations.....	xxxv

### **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Differences with other research projects.....	2
1.3 Effect of cope length and depth on the coped beams.....	2
1.4 Thesis outline.....	3

### **CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW**

2.1 Introduction .....	7
2.2 Previous research on behavior of coped beams .....	8
2.2.1 Ajaya K. Gupta (1984).....	8
2.2.2 Cheng and Yura (1988) .....	9
2.2.3 Cheng and Yura (1988).....	11
2.2.4 Michael and Lam (1997).....	12
2.2.5 Yamb and Chengc (2000).....	12
2.2.6 Franchuk, et. al. (2002-2004).....	14

2.2.7 Yam, et. al. (2003).....	15
2.2.8 Maljaars and Steenbergenb (2004).....	17
2.2.9 Maljaars et al., (2005).....	19
2.2.10 Michael et al, (2007).....	20
2.2.11 Michael et al., (2007).....	21
2.2.12 Cem Topkaya (2007).....	22
2.2.13 Michael and Lam (2007).....	23
2.2.14 Feng Weia, et al. (2010).....	24
2.2.15 Michael, et al., (2011).....	25
2.2.16 Michael and Chung, (2013).....	26
2.2.17 Michael, et al., (2014).....	27
2.3 Summary.....	28

### **CHAPTER 3: TEST PROGRAM AND RESULTS**

3.1 Introduction.....	42
3.2 Test program.....	43
3.2.1 Test specimens.....	43
3.2.2 Test setup.....	44
3.2.3 Instrumentation.....	45
3.2.4 Specimens preparations.....	45
3.2.5 General test procedure.....	46
3.3 Test results.....	47
3.4 Effect of cope length on lateral torsional buckling strength of beams.....	49
3.5 Effect of cope depth on lateral torsional buckling strength of beams.....	49
3.6 Summary and conclusions.....	50

## **CHAPTER 4: NONLINEAR FINITE ELEMENT MODELING TECHNIQUE AND VALIDATION**

4.1 Finite element model and verification.....	78
4.1.1 Introduction.....	78
4.1.2 Finite element modeling.....	78
4.1.3 Boundary conditions and loading.....	79
4.1.4 Material properties .....	79
4.1.5 Analysis procedure.....	79
4.1.5.1 Force control.....	80
4.1.5.2 Displacement control.....	80
4.1.5.3 Arc-Length control.....	80
4.1.6 Verification of experimental models.....	81
4.1.6.1 Verification of specimens tested by Cheng et. al. (1984).....	81
4.1.6.2 Verification of specimens tested by J. Maljaars, et. al. (2004- 2005).....	83
4.1.6.3 Verification of specimens tested by Ajaya K. Gupta (1984).....	85
4.1.6.4 Verification of specimens tested by M. Lam, M.Yam, V.P. Iu, Cheng, (2000).....	86
4.2 Finite element model of test specimens (current experimental study .....	87
4.3 Comparison between finite element and test results.....	88
4.4 Summary and conclusions.....	89

## **CHAPTER 5: PARAMETRIC STUDY**

5.1 Introduction.....	116
-----------------------	-----

5.2 Finite element modeling .....	116
5.3 Finite element meshing.....	117
5.4 Boundary conditions and loading.....	117
5.5 Material Properties.....	118
5.6 Influence of support conditions on lateral torsional buckling...	118
5.6.1 Description of the numerical models.....	120
5.6.2 Studying the influence of end conditions for different cope parameters .....	121
5.6.2.1 Reduction of the critical in-elastic buckling loads for un coped beams with different end conditions.....	122
5.6.2.2 Reduction of the critical in-elastic buckling loads for coped beams with different end conditions.....	122
5.6.2.3 Reduction of the critical in-elastic buckling loads of coped beams due to change in cope lengths with different end conditions.....	123
5.7 Analysis results for parametric study of clip angle connection.	124
5.7.1 Effect of the coped length .....	126
5.7.2 Effect of the coped depth.....	127
5.8 Variation of Load location (applied on bottom flange).....	129
5.8.1 Effect of cope length when the load is applied at the bottom flange .....	130
5.8.2 Effect of cope length when the load is applied at the bottom flange .....	130
5.9 Summary .....	131

## **CHAPTER 6: PROPOSED EQUATIONS FOR INELASTIC LATERAL TORSIONAL BUCKLING STRENGTH**

6.1 Introduction.....	176
6.2 Design and behavior of coped beam by Cheng et al. <sup>[23]</sup> .....	176
6.3 AISC code : Inelastic lateral torsional buckling .....	178
6.4 Proposed analytical method to evaluate LTB of coped beams .....	179
6.4.1 Column Analogy Model with one central elastic lateral spring .....	180
6.4.2 Column Analogy Model with two central elastic lateral springs .....	181
6.5 Effect of flange stiffness to lateral spring stiffness"n" on lateral torsional buckling capacity.....	183
6.5.1 Effect of cope depth "d <sub>c</sub> " on factor" n" .....	183
6.5.2 Effect of beam length "L <sub>b</sub> " on factor" n" .....	183
6.6 Comparison between parametric analysis results and proposed method.....	184
6.7 Modification of Cheng et al <sup>[23]</sup> equation.....	184
6.8 Comparison between the design method and the experimental results.....	186
6.9 Comparison between design method and the finite element result for the experimental models.....	187
6.10 Effect of cope length.....	188
6.11 Effect of cope depth.....	188
6.12 Summary.....	189

## **CHAPTER 7: INELASTIC LATERAL TORSIONAL BUCKLING STRENGTH OF STIFFENED COPED BEAMS**

7.1 Introduction.....	208
7.2 Finite element modeling.....	208
7.3 Boundary conditions and loading.....	208
7.4 Material properties .....	209
7.5 Strengthening and stiffening technique of coped I-beams.....	209
7.6 Finite element modeling of stiffened test specimens .....	210
7.6.1 Effect of horizontal stiffeners on test specimens...	211
7.6.2 Effect of adjoining horizontal and vertical stiffeners on test specimens .....	212
7.7 Parametric study for strengthened models.....	213
7.7.1 Effect of horizontal stiffeners only.....	213
7.7.2 Effect of adding horizontal stiffeners extended beyond the copes.....	214
7.7.3 Effect of adding vertical stiffener only.....	215
7.7.4 Effect of providing horizontal and vertical stiffener.....	216
7.8 Interaction equation developed for stiffened coped beams..	218
7.9 Summary.....	219

## **CHAPTER 8: SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS And**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 Summary.....	244
8.2 Conclusions.....	246
8.3 Recommendations for future work.....	248

<b><u>APPENDICES</u></b> .....	249
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<b><u>REFERENCES</u></b> .....	290
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## **LIST OF TABLES**

### **CHAPTER 2:**

2.1 Cross-Section Dimensions of Section and Cope Details tested by Jung-June R. Cheng and Joseph A. Yura in (1988).....	28
2.2 The dimensions and cope details for the coped I-beams tested by C. C. Lam and J. J. R. Chen in (2000).....	28
2.3 Cross-Section Dimensions of Section and Cope Details tested by Michael C. H. Yam and J. J. R. Cheng in (2003).....	28
2.4 The specimen dimensions tested by J. Maljaarsa, H.M.G.M. Steenburgen, R. Abspoelcin (2005).....	29
2.5 The specimen dimensions and copes details tested by Michael C.H. Yama,Y.C. Zhongb in (2007).....	29
2.6 Dimensions of test specimens tested by Michael C.H. Yam and K. F. Chung in (2007).....	30
2.7 Cross-sectional dimensions of the test specimens tested by Feng Weia, Michael C.H. Yamb, (2010).....	31

### **CHAPTER 3:**

3.1 Copes details of specimens (dimensions are in mms).....	51
3.2 Test results of specimens and comparison with uncoped results.....	51
3.3 ) Corresponding stress at coping corner.....	51

### **CHAPTER 4:**

4.1 Dimensions of coped beam specimens tested by Cheng et.al. (1984).....	90
4.2 Comparison between ultimate loads for present work and	