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FLEXURAL BEHAVIOR OF FERRO-CEMENT SLABS SUPPORTED ON COLD FORMED STEEL JOISTS

By

Yassien Salah El Dien Mouhammed Sief El Dien Yassien

A Thesis Submitted to the
Faculty of Engineering at Cairo University
in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
MASTER OF SCIENCE
in
Structural Engineering

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, CAIRO UNIVERSITY
GIZA, EGYPT
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Under the Supervision of

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Key Words:

Ferro-cement slabs, Cold formed steel, Flexure

Summary:

This study focusing on flooring systems that comprise Ferro-cement panels rested over cold-formed steel joists. An experimental work and analytical parametric study was held up to determine the load carrying capacity of these systems and monitoring its loading steps or limits, like cracking, yielding, and ultimate limit, in addition to studying the effect of different parameters of the cold formed steel joist and the Ferro-cement panel on the structural behavior of this system. Finite element nonlinear models were established using general purpose finite element software ANSYS and finite element results have been verified with experimental and analytical results discussed in literature review. All models had a simply supported cold-formed steel joists and loaded by a uniform pressure load over the upper face of the Ferro-cement panel.

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Table of Contents

Acknowledgments	i
Table of Contents	ii
List of Tables	iv
List of Figures.....	v
Abstract.....	xi
Chapter 1: Introduction.....	1
1.1 General:.....	1
1.2 Problem Statement	2
1.3 Objectives of the research	2
1.4 Scope of the research	3
1.5 Organization of the thesis	3
Chapter 2: Literature Review.....	5
2.1 Introduction.....	5
2.2 Theoretical background.....	5
2.2.1 Cold Formed Steel Theoretical Background.....	5
2.2.2 Ferro-cement theoretical background	16
2.3 Research Work.....	20
2.3.1 Cold formed Steel flexural behavior	20
2.3.2 Ferro-cement behavior	33
2.3.3 Systems comprising cold formed beams and ferro-cement	37
Chapter 3: Experimental Work	39
3.1 Set up:	39
3.2 Material	42
3.3 Results.....	43
Chapter 4: Numerical model and numerical verification	45
4.1 General.....	45
4.2 Numerical model.....	45
4.2.1 Model geometry	47
4.2.2 Material properties	51
4.2.3 Boundary conditions	53
4.2.4 Loading	54

4.2.5	Numerical model verification	54
4.2.6	Mesh Sensitivity Study	59
4.2.7	Parametric Study	61
Chapter 5: Results and Discussion		62
5.1	Introduction	62
5.2	Load-deflection curves	64
5.2.1	Clod formed steel joists with 100mm depth	64
5.2.2	Clod formed steel joists with 120mm depth	72
5.2.3	Cold Formed Steel Joists with 140mm depth	81
5.3	Data Analysis	82
5.3.1	The effect of the ferro-cement slab's thickness.	82
5.3.2	The effect of the wire mesh expanded metal's thickness	89
5.3.3	The effect of the cold formed steel joist's material	96
5.3.4	The effect of the cold formed steel joist's thickness	106
5.3.5	The effect of the cold formed steel joist's depth	115
5.4	Regression Analysis	116
Chapter 6: Summary, Conclusions, and Future Works		119
6.1	Summary	119
6.2	Conclusion	119
6.2.1	The effect of the ferro-cement slab's thickness	119
6.2.2	The effect of the ferro-cement reinforcement's thickness	120
6.2.3	The effect of the cold formed steel joist's material	120
6.2.4	The effect of the cold formed steel joist's thickness	121
6.2.5	The effect of the cold formed steel joist's depth	121
6.3	Future works	122

List of Tables

Table 2-1: Capacity Comparison between ABAQUS and DSM Results.....	26
Table 2-2: Capacity Comparison between ABAQUS and EWM Results.....	26
Table 2-3: Dimensions for A-sections.....	29
Table 2-4: Dimensions for B-sections.....	30
Table 2-5: Dimensions for C-sections.....	30
Table 2-6: Results comparison for A-sections and B-sections.....	34
Table 2-7: Results comparison for C-sections	35
Table 2-8: Specimen designation.....	36
Table 2-9: Compression test results.....	37
Table 2-10: Test results.....	37
Table 2-11: Specimens description.....	41
Table 2-12: Test results.....	41
Table 4-1: Results' Comparison.....	52
Table 4-2: Results' Comparison.....	54
Table 4-3: Parametric study independent variables.....	56

List of Figures

Figure 1-1: Figure illustrates a system comprising cold formed steel and ferro-cement units in the digital library-Faculty of Engineering-Cairo university.....	1
Figure 2-1: Plate buckling for stiffened and unstiffened elements, [2].....	6
Figure 2-2 : Buckling of plate under uniform uniaxial compression stresses, [3].	6
Figure 2-3 : Buckling modes of long plates under uniform uni-axial compression stresses, [3].	7
Figure 2-4: Square plate model for post-buckling action. [3].	9
Figure 2-5: Stress redistribution in post-buckling phenomenon. [3].	9
Figure 2-6: Effective width of stiffened compression element. [3].	10
Figure 2-7: Values of k for Determining Critical Buckling Stress. [3].	12
Figure 2-8: some pictures showing ferro-cement boards and its components.	17
Figure 2-9: Expanded Metal used as a ferro-cement reinforcement.	18
Figure 2-10: Chicken wire mesh used as a ferro-cement reinforcement.....	18
Figure 2-11: Tests at failure, (a) Local buckling. (b) Distortional buckling. [4].	21
Figure 2-12: Models at failure, (a) Local buckling. (b) Distortional buckling. [4].	21
Figure 2-13: Global buckling mode, (a) Finite element model. (b) Test. [5].	22
Figure 2-14: Distortional buckling mode, (a) Finite element model. (b) Test. [5].	23
Figure 2-15: CFS beams with (a) curved flanges and (b) folded flanges. [7].	24
Figure 2-16: Effective cross-sections and buckled shapes of the folded-flange beams.	24
Figure 2-17: Studied cross sections, (a) A-section. (b) B-section. (c) C-section. . [9].	26
Figure 2-18: Test configuration. [9].	28
Figure 2-19: T-shaped aluminum blocks' setting. (a) A-section. (b) B-section. (c) C-section. [9].	28
Figure 2-20: Specimen Labelling [9].	29
Figure 2-21 : Wire mesh reinforcement.[13]	36
Figure 2-22: Test configuration. [15].	37
Figure 2-23: The specimen details, (a) shear connectors positioning, (b) wire mesh details. [15].	38
Figure 3-1: Test setup	39
Figure 3-2: Specimen geometry, (a) slab geometry, (b) CFS cross section, (c) CFS geometry	40
Figure 3-3: Expanded metal geometry	41
Figure 3-4: A gauge used to measure the deflection.....	41
Figure 3-5: Stress strain curve for concrete $f_{cu}=30 \text{ N/mm}^2$	42
Figure 3-6: Stress strain curve for DIN 17100 steel (37-2)	42
Figure 3-7: Failure patterns and cracks.....	43
Figure 3-8: Load deflection curve for the three tested specimens.	44
Figure 4-1: Representation for the four-node shell element 181. [14].	46
Figure 4-2 : Representation for solid element 65.[14]	46
Figure 4-3: Representation for link element 180. [14].	47
Figure 4-4: Expanded Metal Wire mesh Dimensions in mm.....	48
Figure 4-5: Expanded Metal's orientation with respect to supporting joists.	48
Figure 4-6: Expanded Metal's shape modification. (a) Old mesh shape, (b) Modified mesh shape.	49
Figure 4-7: Finite element shape modification. (a) Old element shape, (b) Modified element shape, Dimensions in mm.	50
Figure 4-8: Ferro-cement slab dimensions in mm.	50
Figure 4-9: : CFS joist dimensions in mm.	50

Figure 4-10: Stress – Strain curve for DIN 17100 steel 37-2.	51
Figure 4-11: Stress – Strain curve for DIN 17100 steel 52-2.	52
Figure 4-12: Stress – Strain curve for concrete ($F_{cu} = 25$ MPa).	52
Figure 4-13: Model Boundary conditions.....	53
Figure 4-14: The half model used to simulate the specimens.	54
Figure 4-15: Agreement between ANSYS and experiment results.....	55
Figure 4-16: Load-deflection curves for ANSYS and specimens.....	55
Figure 4-17: modeling simplification to avoid lateral torsional buckling, (a) Test configuration, (b) Verification model.	56
Figure 4-18: The dominant local buckling mode in specimens, (a) A-1.0-B4 section, (b) A-0.48-B4	57
Figure 4-19: Stress distribution for specimen E1(20mm thick).....	58
Figure 4-20: The test or model configuration.	58
Figure 4-21: The load-deflection curve agreement between theory and model.....	60
Figure 5-1: The typical pattern showing the three main stages of the load-deflection curve.	63
Figure 5-2: The Load-deflection curves for 100mm cfs joist depth, St37 material, 30mm ferro-thickness.	64
Figure 5-3: The Load-deflection curves for 100mm cfs joist depth, St37 material, 35mm ferro-thickness.	65
Figure 5-4: The Load-deflection curves for 100mm cfs joist depth, St37 material, 40mm ferro-thickness.	65
Figure 5-5: The Deformed shape, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1.5X240-30X1.5).....	66
Figure 5-6: The Stress distribution in ferro-cement slab, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1.5X240-30X1.5)	67
Figure 5-7: The Stress distribution in CFS joist, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1.5X240-30X1.5)	67
Figure 5-8: The deformed shape in reinforcement, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1.5X240-30X1.5)	68
Figure 5-9: The Load-deflection curves for 100mm cfs joist depth, St52 material, 30mm ferro-thickness.....	68
Figure 5-10: The Load-deflection curves for 100mm cfs joist depth, St52 material, 40mm ferro-thickness.	69
Figure 5-11: The Load-deflection curves for 100mm cfs joist depth, St52 material, 35mm ferro-thickness.	69
Figure 5-12: The Deformed shape, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1X360-30X1.5).....	70
Figure 5-13: The Stress distribution in ferro-cement slab, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1X360-30X1.5)	70
Figure 5-14: The Stress distribution in CFS joist, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1X360-30X1.5)	71
Figure 5-15: The deformed shape in reinforcement, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(100X1X360-30X1.5)	71
Figure 5-16: The Load-deflection curves for 120mm cfs joist depth, St37 material, 30mm ferro-thickness.	72
Figure 5-17: The Load-deflection curves for 120mm cfs joist depth, St37 material, 35mm ferro-thickness	73
Figure 5-18: The Load-deflection curves for 120mm cfs joist depth, St37 material, 40mm ferro-thickness	73
Figure 5-19: The Deformed shape, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1.5X240-30X1.5).....	74

Figure 5-20: The Stress distribution in ferro-cement slab, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1.5X240-30X1.5).....	74
Figure 5-21: The Stress distribution in CFS joist, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1.5X240-30X1.5)	75
Figure 5-22: The deformed shape in reinforcement, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1.5X240-30X1.5)	75
Figure 5-23: The Load-deflection curves for 120mm cfs joist depth, St52 material, 30mm ferro-thickness.	76
Figure 5-24: The Load-deflection curves for 120mm cfs joist depth, St52 material, 35mm ferro-thickness.	76
Figure 5-25: The Load-deflection curves for 120mm cfs joist depth, St52 material, 40mm ferro-thickness.	77
Figure 5-26: The Deformed shape, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X360-30X1.5).....	77
Figure 5-27: The Stress distribution in ferro-cement slab, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X360-30X1.5)	78
Figure 5-28: The Stress distribution in CFS joist, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X360-30X1.5)	78
Figure 5-29: The deformed shape in reinforcement, (a) S(120X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X360-30X1.5)	79
Figure 5-30: The Deformed shape, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X240-30X1.5).....	79
Figure 5-31: The Stress distribution in ferro-cement slab, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X240-30X1.5)	80
Figure 5-32: The Stress distribution in CFS joist, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X240-30X1.5)	80
Figure 5-33: Figure (4-33): The deformed shape in reinforcement, (a) S(100X1X240-30X1.5), (b) S(120X1X240-30X1.5).....	81
Figure 5-34: The Load-deflection curves for 140mm cfs joist depth, St37 material, 30mm ferro-thickness.	81
Figure 5-35: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	82
Figure 5-36: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	83
Figure 5-37: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	83
Figure 5-38: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	84
Figure 5-39: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	84
Figure 5-40: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	85
Figure 5-41: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	85
Figure 5-42: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	86
Figure 5-43: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	86

Figure 5-44: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	87
Figure 5-45: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	87
Figure 5-46: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	88
Figure 5-47: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, ferro slab 30mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	89
Figure 5-48: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, ferro slab 30mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	90
Figure 5-49: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, ferro slab 35mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	90
Figure 5-50: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, ferro slab 35mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	91
Figure 5-51: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, ferro slab 40mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	91
Figure 5-52: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST37, ferro slab 40mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	92
Figure 5-53: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, ferro slab 30mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	92
Figure 5-54: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, ferro slab 30mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	93
Figure 5-55: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, ferro slab 35mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	93
Figure 5-56: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, ferro slab 35mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	94
Figure 5-57: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, ferro slab 40mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	94
Figure 5-58: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, ferro slab 40mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	95
Figure 5-59: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at Joist material ST52, ferro slab 40mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	96
Figure 5-60: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	97
Figure 5-61: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	97
Figure 5-62: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	98
Figure 5-63: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	98
Figure 5-64: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	99
Figure 5-65: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	99
Figure 5-66: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	100

Figure 5-67: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1.5 mm thick, joist 1 mm thick.	100
Figure 5-68: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1.5 mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	101
Figure 5-69: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1 mm thick.	101
Figure 5-70: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1.5 mm thick.	102
Figure 5-71: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	102
Figure 5-72: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	103
Figure 5-73: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	103
Figure 5-74: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	104
Figure 5-75: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1mm thick.	104
Figure 5-76: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, joist 1.5mm thick.	105
Figure 5-77: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, CFS material ST37.	106
Figure 5-78: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, CFS material ST52.	107
Figure 5-79: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, CFS material ST37.	107
Figure 5-80: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, CFS material ST52.	108
Figure 5-81: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, CFS material ST37.	108
Figure 5-82: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1mm thick, CFS material ST52.	109
Figure 5-83: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, CFS material ST37.	109
Figure 5-84: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, CFS material ST52.	110
Figure 5-85: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, CFS material ST37.	110
Figure 5-86: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, CFS material ST52.	111
Figure 5-87: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, CFS material ST37.	111
Figure 5-88: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 1.5mm thick, CFS material ST52.	112
Figure 5-89: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, CFS material ST37.	112

Figure 5-90: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 30mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, CFS material ST52.....	113
Figure 5-91: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, CFS material ST37.....	113
Figure 5-92: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 35mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, CFS material ST52.....	114
Figure 5-93: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, CFS material ST37.....	114
Figure 5-94: Loading limits against CFS joist depth at ferro slab 40mm thick, wire mesh 2mm thick, CFS material ST52.....	115
Figure 5-95: Verification for excel equation with ANSYS results for cracking limit.	116
Figure 5-96: Verification for excel equation with ANSYS results for yielding limit.	117
Figure 5-97: Verification for excel equation with ANSYS results for Ultimate limit.	118

Abstract

Safety, economy, and following the work time schedule are the three most important factors controlling the success of any construction project. About safety, it is the natural target of any construction project and would be considered in any design. The two remaining factors are always the factors that distinguish any project from the other. So, there have been a general trend towards the pre-fabricated structural elements like the structural elements covered in this study; cold formed steel beams and ferro-cement slabs. Later, appeared a new structural system depends on these two types of structural elements because of its light weight, high stiffness, and having a lower cost. One of these systems was the flooring system comprising ferro-cement slabs rested over cold formed steel joists.

An experimental work was conducted for three specimens consists of ferro-cement slabs rested on cold formed steel joists to determine the load carrying capacity of these systems, in addition a detailed parametric study was performed to investigate the effect of different parameters of the cold formed steel joist and the ferro-cement slab on the structural behavior of this system and its loading limits like cracking, yielding, and ultimate limit. Finite element nonlinear models were established using general purpose finite element software ANSYS and finite element results have been verified against the experimental work and the analytical results discussed in literature review. All models had a simply supported cold formed steel joists and loaded by a uniform pressure load over the upper face of the ferro-cement slab.

The studied parameters that affected the system were cold formed steel joist's depth, the cold formed steel joist's thickness, the cold formed steel joist's material, the ferro-cement slab's thickness, and the ferro-cement slab's reinforcement thickness. Some regression analysis were performed to determine the effect of each parameter. Accordingly, it was found that the parameters concerning the cold formed steel joist have affected the behavior and loading limits clearly, and it was found also that changing the ferro-cement's reinforcement thickness wasn't effective on the cracking limit, but it affected yielding and ultimate limit, in addition to controlling the crack width and slab deformations.