

University of Stuttgart & University of Liège



Robustness – Robust structures by joint ductility

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Prague, 30th & 31st of March 2007

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ONGOING RFCS PROJECT

- Title: Robust Structures by Joint Ductility
- 2004-2007
- Partners: Stuttgart University (Germany) Liège University (Belgium) Trento University (Italy)
 PSP Technologien (Germany) Arcelor Mittal





OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

The objective is to derive robustness requirements for various potential exceptional events

 \rightarrow recommendations for good practice









WAYS AND MEANS

- Some exceptional situations identified:
 - loss of a column in an office or residential building frame
 - loss of a beam in an office or residential building frame
 - loss of a column in an industrial portal frame
 - loss of a bracing in an industrial portal frame
 - loss of a bracing in a car park
 - unexpected earthquake
 - unexpected fire





STRATEGY FOLLOWED WITHIN THE PROJECT

Experimental tests on a substructure, on joints and on joint components

Validation of the numerical tools

Parametrical numerical studies

Development of simplified analytical methods

Derivation of **design guidelines** for practitioners



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STRATEGY FOLLOWED WITHIN THE PROJECT





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TEST COMPAIGN

• Unique chain for the experimental tests



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MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBSTRUCTURE TEST

Loss of a column due to an impact





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ISOLATION OF THE TESTED SUBSTRUCTURE





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• Reinforcement and beam-to-slab connection layouts





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• Key parameter in the development of the catenary action





• Lateral restraint simulated by horizontal jacks



• Lateral restraint simulated by horizontal hydraulic jacks





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TESTED SPECIMEN





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LOAD – DEFLECTION CURVE AT MID-SPAN



BEHAVIOUR OF THE JOINTS



VERT. AND HOR. MAXIMUM DEFLECTION



- Maximum deflection at the middle: 77 cm for a vertical load of 100kN
- Maximum lateral displacement: 4,5cm for an horizontal load of 170kN





EXTERNAL COMPOSITE JOINT





Horizontal jack

Renr

Column B Column A



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INTERNAL COMPOSITE JOINT









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INTERNAL COMPOSITE JOINT





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TEST COMPAIGN

• Unique chain for the experimental tests



COMPOSITE JOINT CONFIGURATION

• Same configuration as the composite joints in the substructure







OBJECTIVE OF THE JOINT TESTS

- The objective is to follow the M-N resistant interaction curve of the composite joint
 - Under hogging moment (3 tests)
 - Under sagging moment (2 tests)







N

N_{Rd}



• First, a vertical load is applied and the horizontal jack is locked



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• Secondly, the vertical jack is locked and a horizontal tensile load is applied

• Under hogging moment

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• Under hogging moment

• Under sagging moment

• Under sagging moment

CONCLUSIONS

- The results obtained through the substructure test and and the joint tests are comparable (the same collapse modes were observed)
- The performed tests showed the ability of the joints to undergo ulletlarge rotations (190 mRad in the substructure test)
- At the end of the test, the joints are no more composite ones but steel ones (due to the collapse of the components coming from the concrete slab) which allowed further increase of the rotation
- With the obtained results, the validation of the numerical tools is under progress

Thank you for your attention...

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