



DESIGN OF BOLTED CONNECTIONS SUBJECT TO TORSION AND SHEAR IN THE ULTIMATE LIMIT STRESS STATE

Mohamed S. Abu-yosef¹, Ezzeldin Sayed-Ahmed², and Emam Soliman³

¹Structural Engineering department, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

²Department of Construction Engineering, The American University in Cairo, Cairo, Egypt

³Structural Engineering department, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

المخلص

تعددت الأبحاث الخاصة بدراسة وصلات المسامير التي تنقل عزوم إنحناء أو إلتواء بالإضافة إلى القوى المحورية وقوى القص. وتعتبر أغلب الوصلات المستخدمة في جميع المنشآت الحديدية محملة لامركزيا أي معرضة لعزوم إنحناء وعزوم إلتواء بالإضافة لقوى القص والقوى المحورية وكأتمثلة لها الوصلات الجاسئة الخاصة بربط الأعمدة والكمرات والوصلات التراكيبية للكميرات.

لذلك فقد أصبح دراسة تصميم هذه الوصلات من أهم النقاط البحثية في مجال المنشآت الحديدية حيث يجب الأخذ في الاعتبار الأجهادات الناتجة عن عزوم الانحناء أو الإلتواء بالإضافة إلى تلك الناتجة عن قوى القص والقوى المحورية. وبالرغم من أن هناك العديد من الأبحاث التي تم إعدادها في مجال تصميم وصلات المسامير المركزية واللامركزية المعرضة لعزوم إنحناء وإلتواء وقوى قص، فإن سلوك وتصميم تلك الوصلات في مدى حدود الأجهادات القصوى يعتبر من الموضوعات التي تحتاج إلى مزيد من الأبحاث والدراسات.

وجدير بالذكر هنا أن معظم أكواد التصميم (كالكواد المصري 205 والكواد الأوربي 1993) تطبق نظريات الحدود المرنة عند تصميم هذه الوصلات في مجال الحدود القصوى للأجهادات مع وجود بعض الاستثناءات كالكواد الكندي CSA-SA-16 والذي يستخدم معادلة تعتمد على نتائج معملية في تصميم تلك الوصلات في مدى حدود الأجهادات القصوى. وقد تم التحقق من هذه المعادلة بالتطبيق على مسامير قطرها 3/4 بوصة ورتبتها A325 وألواح معدنية رتبتها A36 ولم يتم التحقق من تعميمها في حال استخدام أقطار مختلفة للمسامير أو رتب مختلفة للألواح المعدنية. وبناء على ماتقدم تم في هذا البحث إجراء دراسة تحليلية عددية لدراسة سلوك وطرق وأشكال إنهار وصلات المسامير اللامركزية المعرضة لقوى قص وعزوم التواء وذلك عن طريق إجراء تجارب معملية على 12 عينة و معرفة القوة التي تنهار عليها ومقارنتها بالمعادلات المتاحة.

و يحتوي هذا البحث أيضا على إجراء دراسة تحليلية عددية لدراسة سلوك وطرق وأشكال إنهار المسامير المعرضة لقوى قص وذلك عن طريق إجراء تجارب على المسامير و معرفة القوة التي تنهار عليها و عمل منحنيات تربط بين قوة القص والمسافة التي يتحركها المسمار حتي الانهيار.

ABSTRACT

Steel connections transferring axial and shear forces in addition to bending moment and/or torsional moment are widely used in steel structures. Thus, design of such eccentric connections has become the focal point of any researches. Nonetheless, behavior of eccentric connections subjected to shear forces and torsion in the ultimate limit state is still ambiguous. Most design codes of practice still conservatively use the common elastic analysis for design of the said connections even in the ultimate limit states.

Yet, there are some exceptions such as the design method proposed by CAN/CSA-S16-14 which gives tabulated design aid for the ultimate limit state design of these connections based on an empirical equation that is derived for 3/4 inch diameter A325 bearing type bolts and A36 steel plates. It was argued that results can also be used with a margin of error for other grade bolts of different sizes and steel of other grades. As such, in this paper, the performance of bolted connection subject to shear and torsion is experimentally investigated. The behavior, failure modes and factors affecting both are scrutinized.

Twelve connections subject to shear and torsion with different bolts configurations and diameters are experimentally tested to failure. The accuracy of the currently available design equations proposed is compared to the outcomes of these tests.

Keywords: Bolts, Eccentric connection, Shear center, Instantaneous center, Shear failure, Steel structures.

INTRODUCTION

The majority of steel connections are eccentrically loaded. Thus, design of these eccentric connections has become the focal point of many research: for such connections, the moment-induced stresses must be taken into considerations besides the stresses induced due to normal and/or shear force.

By large, design of bolted concentric connection subject to bending moment has been extensively investigated. In contrast, behavior and design of eccentric connections subjected to shear forces and torsion in the ultimate limit state are still ambiguous. Most codes of practice (e.g. ECPSC 205-2008 and Euro Code EN 1993) still use elastic analysis for design of the said connections even in the ultimate limit states. Yet, there are some exceptions such as the design method proposed by CAN/CSA-S16-14 (2014) and AISC (2017) which give tabulated design aid for the ultimate limit state design of these connections based on an empirical equation that was derived for ¾ inch diameter Grade 4.8 bearing type bolts and A36 steel plates; it was argued that results can also be used with a margin of error for bolts of different sizes/grades and other type steel. As such, in this research, the performance of bolted connection subject to shear and torsion is experimentally investigated at the ultimate limit state. The behavior, failure modes and factors affecting connection capacity are scrutinized. The accuracy of the currently available method proposed for by CAN/CSA S-16-14 (2014) is investigated.

ELASTIC ANALYSIS

Figure 1 shows a schematic of a bolted connection subject to shear and torsion with bolts' shear areas and loads shown separately from the column and bracket plate. The eccentric load P can be replaced with the same load value acting at the bolts' centroid plus a couple $M = PL$, where L is the load eccentricity (Figure 1). As such, each bolt is assumed to resist an equal share of the load, which is given by $P_v = P/n$, where n is the number of bolts. Each bolt's force resulting from the couple M can also be assumed based on the distance between this bolt and the bolts' centroid. Based on this assumption, the forces acting on each bolt due to the couple M can be found from (Sayed-Ahmed and Elserwi 2017),

$$P_{mx} = \frac{M \cdot X_i}{\sum_1^n (X_i^2 + Y_i^2)} \quad \text{and} \quad P_{my} = \frac{M \cdot Y_i}{\sum_1^n (X_i^2 + Y_i^2)}$$

$$d_i = \sqrt{X_i^2 + Y_i^2} \quad (1)$$

where d is the distance from the centroid of the bolt to the bolts centroid. The total force acting on any bolt due to the shear force and the couple M is thus given by

$$P_i = \sqrt{(P_{mxi} + P_{vx})^2 + (P_{myi} + P_{vy})^2} \quad (2)$$

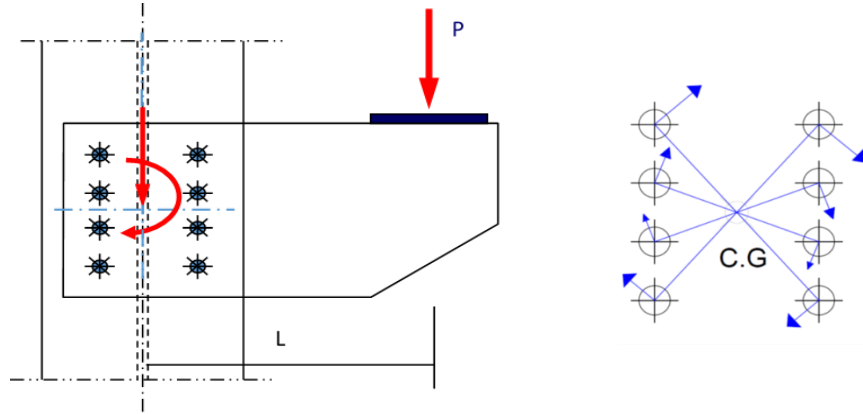


Figure 1. Parameters adopted in the elastic analysis of connections subject to shear and torsion.

THE EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM

Twelve specimens were designed to investigate behavior and failure mode of bolted connections subject to shear and torsion. Two and three rows of bolts (Grade 4.8) with 10 mm, 12 mm, and 16 mm bolt diameters were adopted in the tested connections. Test set-up and instrumentation are shown in Figure 3 while Table 1 shows details of the tested specimen with L and S symbols in the specimen names indicating long (80 mm) and short (60 mm) bolts, respectively.

The moving plates (brackets) were bolted directly to a bracket (fixed part) which was rigidly connected to the testing frame column (as a cantilever) using 27 mm diameter G8.8 bolts. Instrumentations were set, as shown in Figure 3 via 14 LVDTs and six strain gauges. The load was applied on a top plate connected the two brackets by an automatically controlled hydraulic jack, which was adjusted to maintain constant loading rate. All instrumentations and load cell were connected to an automatic data acquisition system which was connected to a computer to record all data acquired by the system software.

Table 1. Details and results of all the tested connections.

Specimen ID	Bolt Dia.(mm)	No of rows	Exp. failure load P_{Exp} (kN)	Elastic Load Eq. $2 P_{Eq,2}$ (kN)	$P_{Exp}/P_{Eq,2}$
M(10)-2R-e1-S	10	2	60	43	1.39
M(10)-2R-e1-L	10	2	62		1.43
M(10)-2R-e2-S	10	2	52	35	1.47
M(10)-2R-e2-L	10	2	53		1.50
M(12)-2R-S	12	2	60	43	1.40
M(12)-2R-L	12	2	60		1.40
M(12)-3R-S	12	3	90	61	1.47
M(12)-3R-L	12	3	83		1.36
M(16)-2R-S	16	2	95	65	1.46
M(16)-2R-L	16	2	100		1.53
M(16)-3R-S	16	3	132	95	1.39
M(16)-3R-L	16	3	130		1.37
Average \pm St. Dev.					1.4 \pm 0.05

TEST RESULTS

Table 1 provides a summary of the failure loads of all tested connections and compares these loads to elastic design approach are shown in Figure 4.

Table 1 reveals that the experimental failure load of the tested connections is about $140\% \pm 5\%$ of that predicted vial the elastic design approach (Equation 2). As such the elastic design tends to be very conservative and significantly underestimate the failure load of connections subjected to shear and torsion.

CONCLUSIONS

An experimental program was conducted on twelve steel bolted connections which are subjected to shear and torsion. The results of the experimental investigation were compared to the currently adopted elastic techniques.

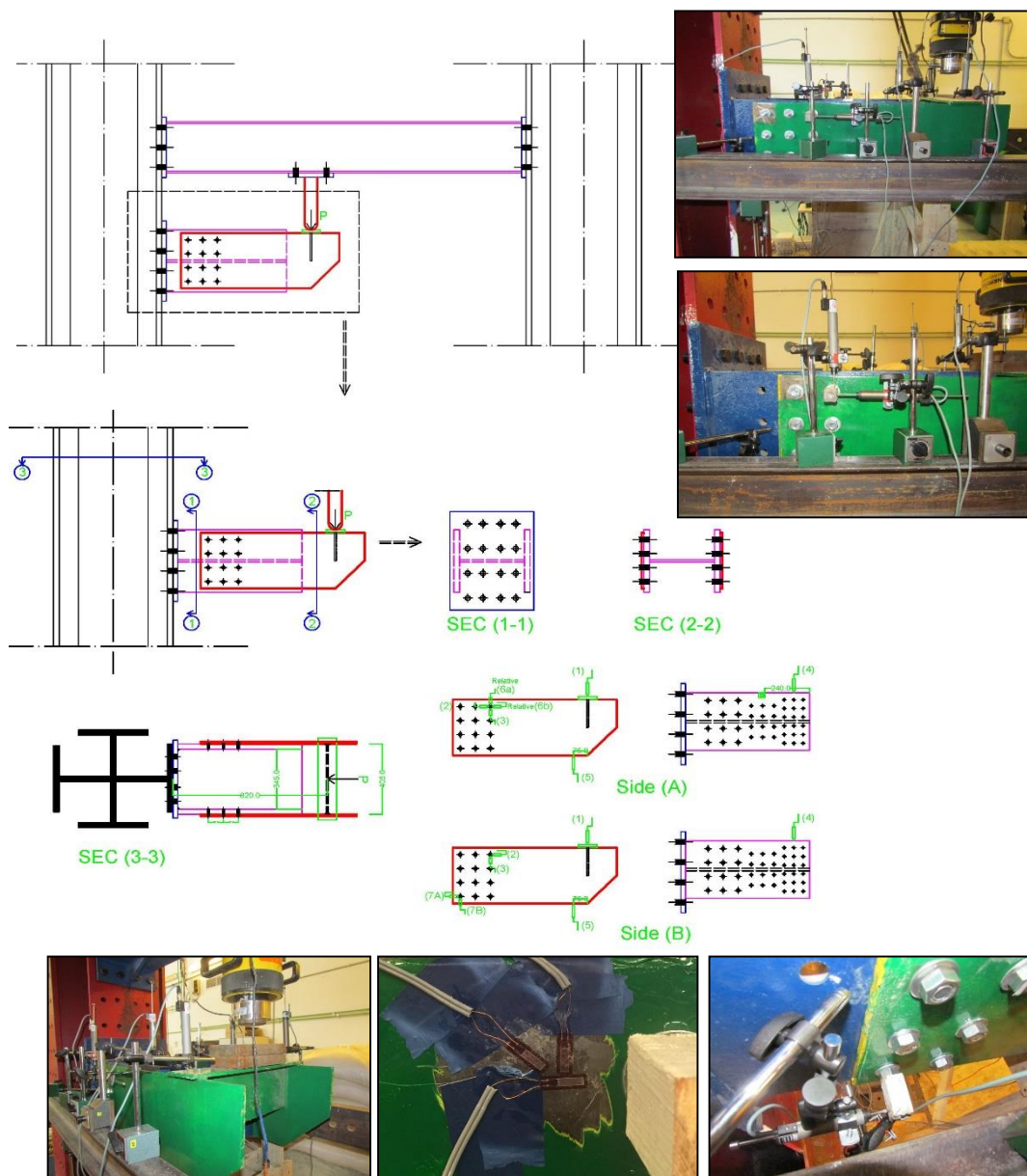


Figure 3. Test set-up and details of the tested connections.

The comparative investigation revealed that the elastic approach significantly underestimates the connection capacity and tends to be very conservative and uneconomic.

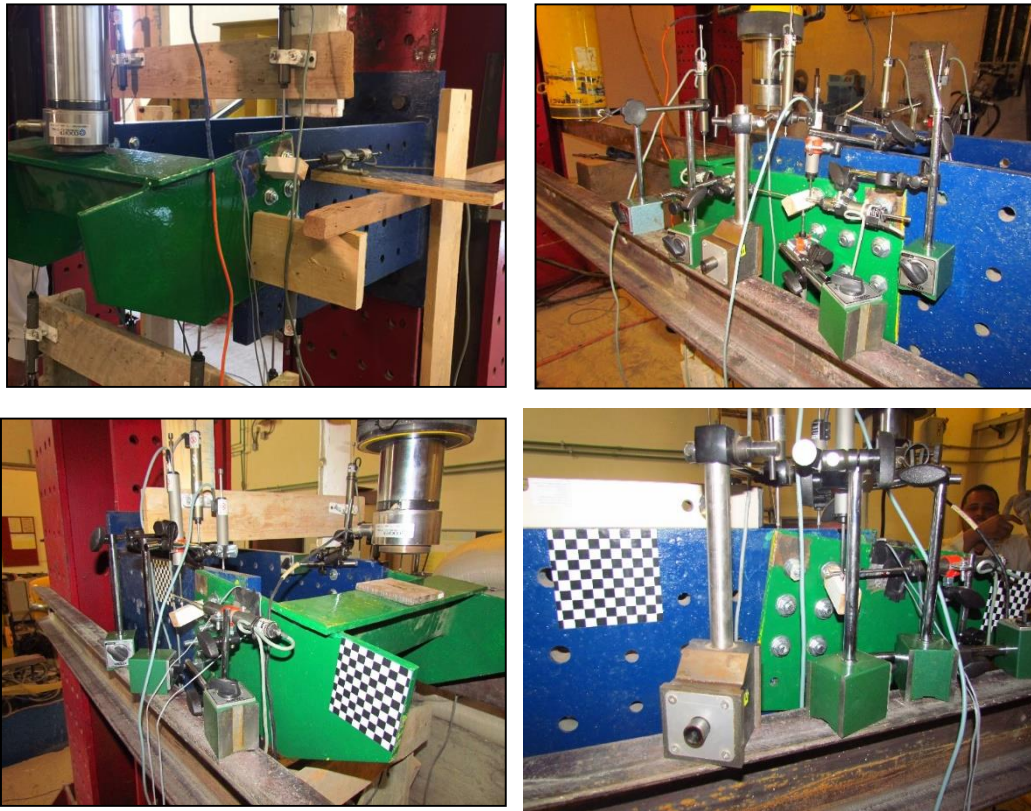


Figure 4. Test Failure

REFERENCES

1. American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC). Steel Construction Manual, 15th ed., Chicago, Illinois, USA, 2017.
2. Brandt, G., Rapid determination of ultimate strength of eccentrically loaded bolt groups, Engineering Journal 19.2: 94-100, 1982.
3. British Standards Institution BSI. 2005. BS EN 1993-1-1:2005, Eurocode 3: Design of steel structures, London, UK, 2006.
4. Canadian Standards Association. CAN/CSA-S16-14. 1-M89. Design of Steel Structures. Association canadienne normalisation, Toronto, Canada, 2014.
5. Crawford S.F., and Kulak G. L., Eccentrically loaded bolted connections. ASCE Journal of Structural Engineering, 97(ST3),738–65, 1971.
6. Egyptian Code of Practice for Steel Construction Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) ECP 205-2008, Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban development, Egypt. 2008.
7. Kulak, G.L., Fisher, J.W. and Struik, J.A. Guide to Design Criteria for Bolted and Riveted Joints, 2nd Edition, John Wiley, New York, USA. 1987
8. Kulak, G.L., and Gilmore, M.I. 2011. Limit States Design in Structural Steel, Canadian Institute of Steel Construction CISC, 9th edition.
9. Sayed-Ahmed, E.Y. and Elserwi, A.A., Limit States Design of Steel Structures, Lambert Academic Publishing (LAP), Germany, 2017.