

Diaphragm Performance in Steel Frame Structures

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- **Objectives**
- Diaphragm Modeling (Truss method)
- WSP Axial Strength
- **Diaphragm Stability**
- Conclusions

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Objectives



Diaphragm In-Plane Demands

- 1. Inertia forces
- 2. Transfer forces
- 3. Slab bearing forces
- 4. Compatibility forces
- 5. Interaction with other elements



Methods to Find Diaphragm Imposed Forces

- 1. Detailed NLTH
- 2. Equivalent Static Analysis (ESA)
- 3. pseudo Equivalent Static Analysis (pESA) [Bull 1997 and Gardiner 2011]
- 4. Parts & Components method (P&C)



(MacRae and Bull, 2015)



Diaphragm Analysis

- 1. Finite Element Method
- 2. Deep Beam
- 3. Strut and Tie
 - Truss method (automated strut-and-tie)

Design & Detailing

- 1. Diaphragm strength
- 2. Load path to VLFR system
- 3. Diaphragm stability

Objectives

- Develop reasonable method for diaphragm truss element modeling
- Investigate the load transfer mechanism from diaphragm to VLFR system
- Investigate diaphragm stability issue
- Provide recommendations for diaphragm design



Objectives

Diaphragm modeling (Truss method)

WSP axial strength

Diaphragm stability

Conclusions

Diaphragm Modeling (Truss method)

Hrennikoff (1941) states that the effective width of the diagonal struts to provide the appropriate stiffness

w = 0.53a

Hrennikoff's recommendations are based on many assumptions (e.g. v = 0.33, square blocks, and struts carry both tension and compression)
Diamond shape model



In steel frame structures, studs on the top of any beam can be represented by one effective stud at the center of the beam span (MacRae and Bull, 2015).



$$A_{\rm Orthogonal} = 0.75 at$$

$$A_{\rm Diagonal} = 0.53 \ at$$

Diaphragm Modeling (Truss method)

Truss Method Stiffness



Diagonal model:

- 3 elements \rightarrow 22% stiffness error Diamond model:
- 3 elements \rightarrow 11% stiffness error

Beam Axial Force



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1 - Gravity forces (shear force and beam-end rotation)

2 - Lateral Drift Effect



4 - Packing effect (NZS3404) 3mm packing allowed





3 - Beam lateral restraint







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Diaphragm Stability

Minimum floor diaphragm thickness may be governed by In-service vibration, Fire insulation, Acoustic insulation, and In-plane forces

Buckling modes

- 1. Inter-Rib Inter-rib buckling does not occur for conventional floor slabs.
- 2. Intra-Panel

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 \left(EI_s + EI_r \left(\frac{L_s}{L_2} \right)^3 \right)}{{L_s}^2}$$

3. Intra-bay





Mode 3, Intra-bay, Global buckling

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Summary and Conclusion

Truss element modelling

- Diamond truss method
- i. Provides more reasonable beam axial force compare to the diagonal model
- ii. Is less sensitive to the number of truss mesh units

WSP axial strength

- Parameters investigated include
- i. Gravity loads
- ii. Column lateral drift
- iii. Cope length
- iv. Packing effect
- v. Beam lateral restraint along the length
- ✤ A simple design method to assess axial strength of WSP connection is proposed.
 Diaphragm stability
- Three diaphragm buckling modes are investigated, include
- i. Inter-rib
- ii. Intra-panel
- iii. Intra-bay
- ✤ A method is developed to assess diaphragm buckling capacity.

Thank you