# System response of coupled wall systems

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# Coupled wall system



Coupled wall:

- 1. Accommodate architectural/mechanical requirements.
- Provide a comparable lateral stiffness to that of a solid RC wall.
- 3. Has more ductility than solid RC wall.

# Coupled wall system



Coupling beams:

- 1. Transfer earthquake actions between the wall piers.
- 2. Reduce the moment demand on the wall.  $M_{u} = M_{wall,left} + M_{wall,right} + M_{beam}$   $M_{beam} = \sum V_{beam} \times L$
- 3. Integrate the coupled system and act as energy dissipation members.

#### Axial restraint influence



# Objectives

• Quality the axial restraint influence on seismic behavior of diagonally

reinforced coupling beams.

- Investigate the impact on the wall pier from the restrained coupling beams.
- Improve design guideline for coupled walls.

# Methodology

- Coupling beam database and modeling
- Numerical model of coupled wall and validation.
- Parametric study
- Design guidelines

# Coupling beam database

• 70 diagonally reinforced coupling beams (Aspect ratio from 1 to 4)



Design force.  $V_n = 2A_d f_{yd} \sin \alpha$ 

The tendency of restrained specimen is stepper than that of the unrestrained specimens.

#### Limited tests included axial restraint.

- Two identical specimens, one was fully restrained and the other one was
- unrestrained



- 1. The lateral strength was enhanced by 40%
- 2. The ductility was reduced to 66%.
- 3. Pinching effect was slightly improved.



# Coupled wall simulation

• Lehman et al. (2013) Mid-to high-rise coupled wall. (10-story)



#### The coupling axial force



- 1. The coupling beam shear force at the lower level was enhanced by 60% of design strength.
- 2. The accumulated axial force increased by 25%.

# Coupled wall simulation

• Cheng et al. (2015) Low-rise coupled wall. (4-story)



#### The coupling force



- 1. The restraint effect is not significant as that in mid-to high-rise coupled walls.
- 2. Due to the number of coupling beams, the accumulated axial force was increased by 14%.

#### Next works

• Conduct a coupling beam experiment with different magnitudes of axial restraint. (NTUST at NCREE)

$$0.33\sqrt{f_c'(MPa)}A_{cw} \le V_n = 2A_d f_{yd} \sin \alpha \le 0.83\sqrt{f_c'(MPa)}A_{cw}$$
  
Low shear demand  
High shear demand





#### Next works

- Parametric study
  - Story height effect
  - Coupling beam effect: aspect ratio



- Wall factor: the length ratio and thickness ratio between wall and coupling beams.
- Elastic-perfect and strain hardening of diagonal rebar, clarifying the material overstrength factor and restraint factor.
- Includes slab.

# Summaries and Conclusions

- Axial restraint effect affects the seismic behavior of coupling beams significantly.
- The magnitude of axial restraint varies along the building, this would be relevant to the lateral stiffness of the wall pier, story height.

#### Recommendation and future work

- Due to limited coupled wall test, more coupled wall or core coupled wall tests are needed.
- Having a core coupled wall in large-scale shake-table test.

# Expected benefits from the test.

• Investigate the influence of different design coupling beam under similar



• Investigate the dynamic response of a coupled wall and the coupling beams

# Expected benefits from the test.

• Investigate the influence of slab restraint effect.

