Interfacial Shear Stresses Calculation of RC Beams Strengthened with

FRP Plate under Mid-span Concentrated Loads

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Abstract. Interfacial debonding failure may occur at the plate ends due to interfacial stresses. So this study analyzes the interfacial shear stresses of RC beams strengthened with FRP plate under mid-span concentrated loads. The analytical model is established, and the differential equation of interfacial shear stresses of RC beams strengthened with FRP plate is established. The calculated formula of interfacial shear stresses is deduced under mid-span concentrated loads.

Introduction

The retrofitting and strengthening of reinforced concrete structures with FRP in the civil construction panorama have become a popular technique. The use of the FRP to strengthen the concrete is an effective solution to increase the overall strength of the concrete structures. The knowledge of the precise development of the bond stresses within the interface could be very important in the design of RC beams strengthened with FRP plate. In this strengthening method, the performance of the FRP-concrete interface in providing an effective stress transfer is of crucial importance. Previous studies have shown that interfacial debonding failure will occur at the plate ends due to interfacial stresses. The mechanical properties and failure mechanism of strengthened member are closely related to bond performance of FRP-concrete interface ^[1-9]. So the research about the interfacial shear stresses of the FRP-concrete interface is necessary. Under external loading, the relative slip occurred on the interface between FRP plate and concrete causes the redistribution of stress and then influences mechanical behavior of component. Therefore, this paper studies on the shear stresses of FRP-concrete interface. Based on the analytical model of the interface between FRP and concrete, the differential equation of interfacial shear stresses of RC beams strengthened with FRP plate is established. And the calculated formula of interfacial shear stresses is deduced under mid-span concentrated loads.

Analytical Model

Basic Assumptions

A differential section dx, can be cut out from the FRP strengthened RC beams. The concrete beam is made from three materials: RC concrete, adhesive layer and FRP plate. According to the characteristics and mechanical behavior of FRP strengthened RC beams, we make the following assumptions for simplicity of the problems before starting the derivations:

- 1. Adherends are homogeneous and linear elastic;
- 2. Deformations of FRP plate and concrete are due to bending moments, axial and shear forces;

3. The adhesive layer is assumed to be subject to stresses invariant across its thickness;

4. The curvatures of FRP plate and concrete beam are assumed to be the same.

Governing Differential Equation

Considering a typical infinitesimal unit body of the FRP strengthened RC beams as shown in Fig.1.

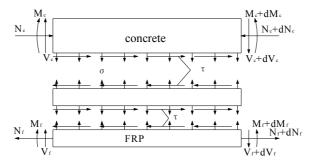


Fig.1 The force graph of unit body

Ignore the axial force, bending moment and shear force of adhesive layer, so the adhesive layer is exposed only to the interfacial shear and normal stresses. Adhesive layer is mainly transmitted shear force and shear deformation. u(x, y) and v(x, y) are the horizontal and vertical displacements respectively at any point in the adhesive layer as defined in Fig.1. The interfacial shear stresses are denoted by $\tau(x)$. The corresponding shear stress is given as follows.

$$\tau(x) = G_a \left(\frac{du(x, y)}{dy} + \frac{dv(x, y)}{dx} \right)$$
(1)

Where G_a is the shear modulus of the adhesive layer.

According to the basic assumptions, Eq. 2 can be rewritten as follow.

$$\frac{du(x,y)}{dy} = \frac{1}{t_a} \left(u_f(x) - u_c(x) \right)$$
⁽²⁾

Where $u_c(x)$ and $u_f(x)$ are the longitudinal displacements at the base of concrete beam and the top of FRP plate respectively, and t_a is the thickness of the adhesive layer.

Substitute Eq. 2 into Eq.1. Eq. 3 can be rewritten as follow.

$$\frac{d\tau(x)}{dx} = G_a \left[\frac{1}{t_a} \left(\frac{du_f(x)}{dx} - \frac{du_c(x)}{dx} \right) + \frac{d^2 v(x, y)}{dx^2} \right]$$
(3)

The formula of $\frac{d^2v(x, y)}{dx^2}$ in Eq.3 is very small and thus is ignored in the following derivation. Eq. 4 can be rewritten as follow.

$$\frac{d\tau(x)}{dx} = \frac{G_a}{t_a} \Big(\varepsilon_f(x) - \varepsilon_c(x) \Big)$$
(4)

Where $\varepsilon_f(x)$, $\varepsilon_c(x)$ are the strain at the bottom of concrete beam and the top of FRP plate respectively.

Considering axial and bending deformations, the formulas are given as below.

$$\varepsilon_c(x) = \frac{M_c(x)y_1}{E_c I_c} - \frac{N_c(x)}{E_c A_c}$$
(5)

$$\varepsilon_f(x) = -\frac{M_f(x)y_2}{E_f I_f} + \frac{N_f(x)}{E_f A_f}$$
(6)

Where t_f , b_f are the thickness and width of the FRP plate respectively; E_c , E_f , I_c , I_f are elastic modulus, inertia moments of RC beam and FRP plate respectively; A_c , A_f are cross-sectional areas of RC beam and FRP plate respectively; $M_c(x)$, $M_f(x)$, $N_c(x)$, $N_f(x)$, $V_c(x)$, $V_f(x)$ are the bending moment, axial and shear forces in each adherend while y_1 and y_2 are the distances from the bottom of RC beam and the top of FRP plate to their respective centroid. The following equilibrium equations are established as below.

$$\frac{dM_f(x)}{dx} = V_f - \tau b_f y_2 \tag{7}$$

$$\frac{dM_c(x)}{dx} = V_c - \tau b_f y_1 \tag{8}$$

$$\frac{dN_c(x)}{dx} = \frac{dN_f(x)}{dx} = \tau b_f \tag{9}$$

Moment equilibrium of the differential segment of the beam in Fig.1 gives

$$M(x) = M_f(x) + M_c(x) + N(x)(y_1 + y_2 + t_a)$$
(10)

Assuming equal curvature in the concrete beam and FRP plate, the relationship between the moments in the two adherends can be expressed as below.

$$\frac{M_f(\mathbf{x})}{E_f I_f} = \frac{M_c(\mathbf{x})}{E_c I_c} \tag{11}$$

Substituting Eq. 5-11 into Eq.4, and get derivative, then the differential equation refers with Eq.12.

$$\frac{d^2\tau(x)}{dx^2} = \alpha^2 \tau - \beta V(x) \tag{12}$$

Where
$$\alpha^2 = \frac{G_a}{t_a} b_f \left[\frac{1}{E_f A_f} + \frac{1}{E_c A_c} + \frac{(y_1 + y_2)^2}{EI} \right]$$
, $\beta = \frac{G_a (y_1 + y_2)}{EI t_a}$, $EI = E_f I_f + E_c I_c$ and $V(x) = V_f + V_c$.

Calculation formulas

The calculating diagram under mid-span concentrated loads is shown in Fig.2.

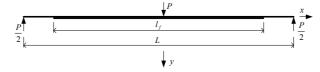


Fig.2. Mid-span concentrated loads

Under mid-span concentrated loads P (beam length is L, length of FRP plate is l_f), there is

$$V = -\frac{P}{2}$$
 ($0 \le x \le \frac{l_f}{2}$). Then the solution to differential equation of interfacial shear stresses refers

with Eq.13 and can be obtained by using the following boundary conditions.

$$\tau(x) = A_1 e^{\alpha x} + A_2 e^{-\alpha x} - \frac{\beta P}{2\alpha^2}$$
(13)

When x = 0, there is $\tau = 0$ and when $x = 0.5l_f$, there is $\frac{d\tau}{dx} = -\frac{G_a P(L - l_f)(y_1 + y_2)}{4EIt_a} = -\tau_b$. The

calculated formula of interfacial shear stresses under mid-span concentrated loads refers with Eq.14.

$$\tau(x) = \frac{\beta P \alpha e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}l_f} - 2\tau_b \alpha^2}{2\alpha^3 (e^{\frac{\alpha}{2}l_f} + e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}l_f})} e^{\alpha x} + \frac{\beta P \alpha e^{\frac{\alpha}{2}l_f} + 2\tau_b \alpha^2}{2\alpha^3 (e^{\frac{\alpha}{2}l_f} + e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2}l_f})} e^{-\alpha x} - \frac{\beta P}{2\alpha^2}$$
(14)

Conclusions

Based on the analytical model, the differential equation of interfacial shear stresses of RC beams strengthened with FRP plate is established. And the calculated formula of interfacial shear stresses is deduced under mid-span concentrated loads. The calculation formula of interfacial shear stresses is rational in theory, but the applicability of the calculation formula needs more experiments to verify.

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