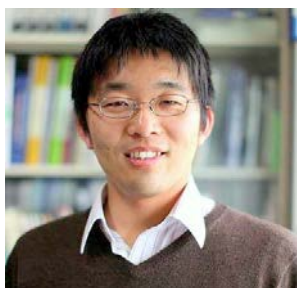


Method for Calculating the Design Shear Capacity of Reinforced Concrete Beams to  
Ensure Continuity to the Shear-Span-to-Effective-Depth Ratio



Yuki NAKATA  
(Railway Technical Research Institute)



Ken WATANABE  
(Railway Technical Research Institute)



Tadatomo WATANABE  
(Hokubu Consultant Co., Ltd.)



Yukihiro TANIMURA  
(Railway Technical Research Institute)

The safety of reinforced concrete (RC) structures subjected to shear force is verified by confirming that shear forces do not reach the design shear capacities in the standard specifications established by the Japan Society of Civil Engineers [1]. The design shear capacities are calculated using the following equations.

$$V_{yd} = V_{cd} + V_{sd} \quad (1a)$$

$$V_{cd} = \beta_d \cdot \beta_p \cdot f_{vcd} \cdot b_w \cdot d / \gamma_{bc} \quad (1b)$$

$$V_{sd} = \{ A_w \cdot f_{wyd} \cdot (\sin \alpha_s + \cos \alpha_s) / s_s \} \cdot z / \gamma_{bs} \quad (1c)$$

$$f_{vcd} = 0.20 \sqrt[3]{f'_{cd}} \leq 0.72 \text{ (N/mm}^2\text{)} \quad (1d)$$

$$\beta_d = \sqrt[4]{1000/d} \leq 1.5 \quad (1e)$$

$$\beta_p = \sqrt[3]{100 \cdot p_v} \leq 1.5 \quad (1f)$$

$$p_v = A_s / (b_w \cdot d) \quad (1g)$$

$$V_{dd} = (\beta_d + \beta_w) \beta_p \cdot \beta_a \cdot f_{dd} \cdot b_w \cdot d / \gamma_{bd} \quad (2a)$$

$$f_{dd} = 0.19 \sqrt{f'_{cd}} \quad (2b)$$

$$\beta_p = (1 + \sqrt{100 p_v}) / 2 \leq 1.5 \quad (2c)$$

$$\beta_a = 5 / \{1 + (a_v / d)^2\} \quad (2d)$$

$$\beta_w = 4.2 \sqrt[3]{100 p_w} (a_v / d - 0.75) / \sqrt{f'_{cd}} \geq 0 \quad (2e)$$

$$p_w = A_w / (b_w \cdot s_s) \quad (2f)$$

When shear reinforcement ratio  $p_w < 0.002$ ,  $p_w$  is taken as 0.

The basic experimental equations behind the design equations for calculating the shear capacities are shown below.

$$V_y = V_c + V_s \quad (3a)$$

$$V_c = 0.20 \cdot (p_v \cdot f'_c)^{1/3} \cdot (d/1000)^{-1/4} \cdot \{0.75 + 1.4 / (a/d)\} \cdot b_w \cdot d \quad (3b)$$

$$V_s = \{ A_w \cdot f_{wy} \cdot (\sin \alpha_s + \cos \alpha_s) / s_s \} \cdot z \quad (3c)$$

$$V_d = \frac{0.24 \cdot k \cdot f'_c{}^{2/3} \cdot (1 + \sqrt{100 p_v}) \cdot (1 + 3.33r/d)}{1 + (a/d)^2} b_w \cdot d \quad (4a)$$

$$k = 1 + 7.4 \sqrt[3]{100 p_w} \cdot (a/d - 0.75) / f'_c{}^{2/3} \quad (4b)$$

When shear reinforcement ratio  $p_w < 0.002$ ,  $p_w$  is taken as 0.

The notations are explained in the standard specifications [1].

The experimental and design equations express the average values and the lower limit of the experimental results, respectively. Figures 1 and 2 show comparisons of  $V_{yd}$  and  $V_{dd}$  with experimental results  $V_{uexp}$  for rectangular cross-sectioned reinforced concrete beams with simple supports. Although  $V_{yd}$  and  $V_{dd}$  correspond to diagonal tension failure and shear compression failure, respectively,  $V_{yd}$  and  $V_{dd}$  express the lower limits of  $V_{uexp}$ . However, the experimental scopes of  $p_w$  are 0~0.72% for diagonal tension failure and 0~2.58% for shear compression failure.

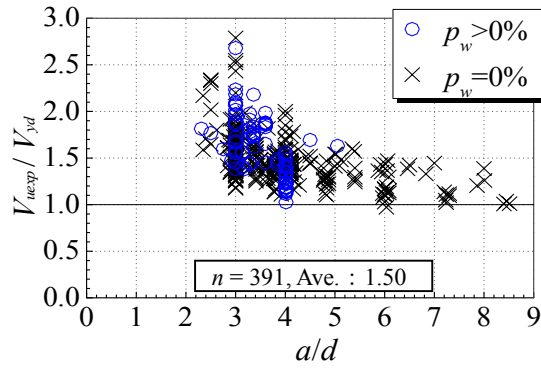


Figure 1. Comparison of  $V_{yd}$  and  $V_{uexp}$

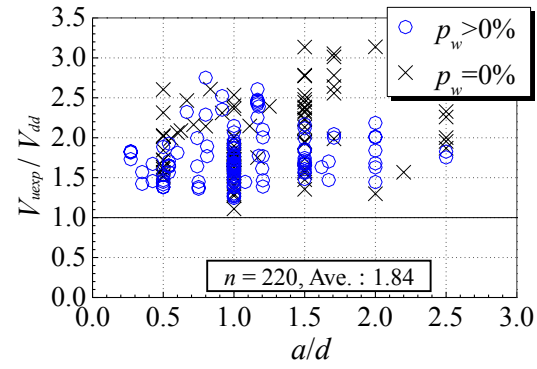


Figure 2. Comparison of  $V_{dd}$  and  $V_{uexp}$

Figure 3 shows the relationships of the shear capacities and  $a/d$  for a specified section (such as the transverse beams of railway viaducts). Though the equations are expressed as a function of the shear span to the effective depth ratio ( $a/d$ ),  $V_{yd}$  is used in  $a/d \geq 2.0$  and  $V_{dd}$  is used in  $a/d < 2.0$  [1].  $V_{yd}$  and  $V_{dd}$  at  $a/d = 2.0$  show a significant difference ( $V_{yd}/V_{dd} = 2.5$ ), and  $V_{yd}$  is larger than  $V_{dd}$  at any  $a/d$ . This difference means that  $V_{yd}$  overestimates and/or  $V_{dd}$  underestimates the actual shear capacities if these have the continuity to  $a/d$ . The calculations show that the significant differences between  $V_{yd}$  ( $V_y$ ) and  $V_{dd}$  ( $V_d$ ) at  $a/d = 2.0$  occur when  $p_w$  and/or yield strength of shear reinforcement  $f_{wyd}$  is large.

In addition, the differences between  $V_{yd}$  and  $V_y$  are not the same as those between  $V_{dd}$  and  $V_d$  from Figure 3. The differences between the design equations and the experimental equations at the same  $a/d$  depend on the degree of reliability of the experimental equations. This is because the design equations  $V_{yd}$  and  $V_{dd}$  express the lower limits of  $V_{uexp}$ .

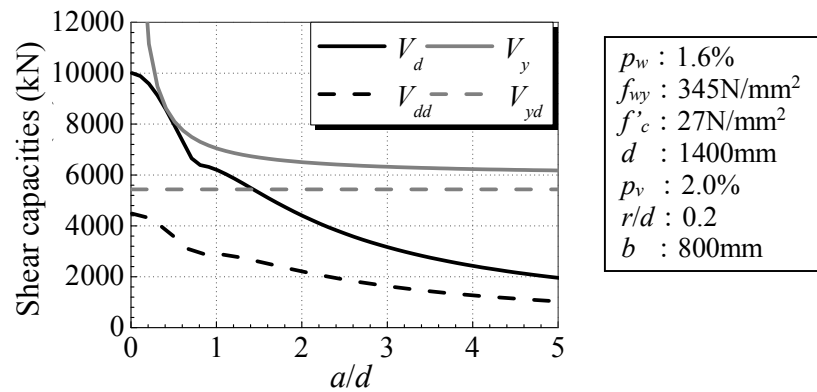


Figure 3. Continuity of calculated values for shear capacity to  $a/d$

Research to date has used nonlinear finite element analysis to estimate the shear capacities for RC beams with large shear reinforcement. This research shows that the shear capacities of RC beams with vertical shear reinforcement are properly calculated using the upper limit of  $V_s$  from equation 5.

$$p_w \cdot f_{wyd} / f'_{cd} \leq 0.1 \quad (5)$$

Figure 4 shows comparisons of  $V_{uexp}$  and  $V_{yd}$  ( $=V_{cd} + V_{sd}$ ) when equation 5 is considered. Moreover, according to research to date, the upper limit of  $f_{wyd}$  has been  $25 f'_{cd}$  ( $f'_{cd}$ : design compressive strength of concrete). It is confirmed that  $V_{yd}$  contains all  $V_{uexp}$  when equation 5 is considered.

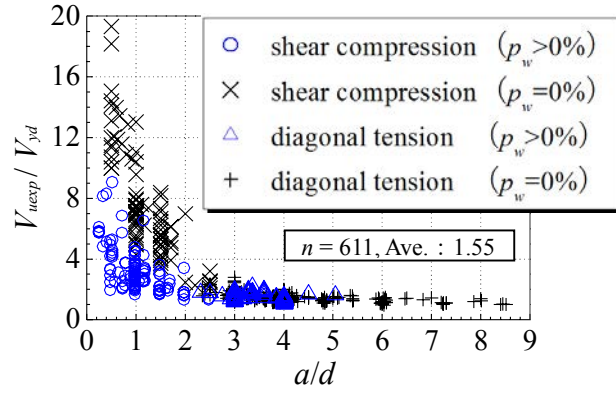


Figure 4. Comparison of  $V_{yd}$  (when equation 5 is considered) and  $V_{uexp}$

Next, a method for considering  $r$  ( $r$ : length of bearing plate along the longitudinal axis) for  $V_{dd}$  is reevaluated. This is difficult to set up when calculating the shear capacities of actual structures.  $V_{dd}$  of equation 2 is condensed from  $V_d$  to  $r/d=0.05$ . Figure 5 shows a comparison of  $V_{dd\_pw}$ , which is condensed to  $r/d=0.10$ , and  $V_{uexp}$  for RC beams with shear reinforcement. A comparison of the experimental results confirmed that  $V_{dd}$  contains all  $V_{uexp}$  for RC beams with shear reinforcement, even if  $r/d$  is 0.10.  $V_{dd\_pw}$  for RC beams with shear reinforcement is calculated using equation 6.

$$V_{dd\_pw} = (\beta_d + \beta_w) \beta_p \cdot \beta_a \cdot \beta_r \cdot f_{dd} \cdot b_w \cdot d / \gamma_{bd} \quad (6a)$$

$$\beta_r = (1 + 3.33 \times 0.10) / (1 + 3.33 \times 0.05) = 1.14 \quad (6b)$$

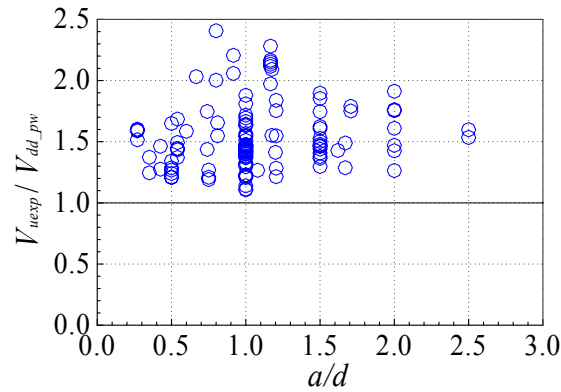


Figure 5. Comparison of  $V_{dd\_pw}$  ( $r/d=0.10$ ) and  $V_{uexp}$  ( $p_w > 0\%$ )

From the above results, the following equation is proposed as a method for calculating the design shear capacity to ensure continuity to  $a/d$ .

$$V_{design} = \begin{cases} \max(V_{yd}, V_{dd}) & \text{(without shear reinforcement)} \\ \max(V_{yd}, V_{dd\_pw}) & \text{(with shear reinforcement)} \end{cases} \quad (7a)$$

$V_{yd}$  is considered equation 5.

Figure 6 shows comparisons of  $V_{design}$  and  $V_{uexp}$ . It has been confirmed that  $V_{design}$  contain almost all of  $V_{uexp}$ . Figure 7 shows the relationships of the shear capacities and  $a/d$  for the same section in Figure 3. The proposed method can ensure continuity of the design shear capacity to  $a/d$ .

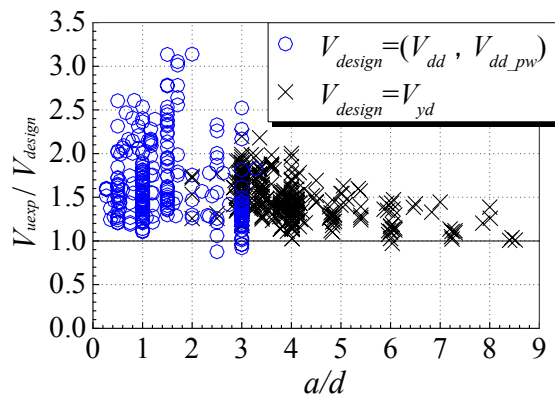


Figure 6. Comparison of  $V_{design}$  and  $V_{uexp}$

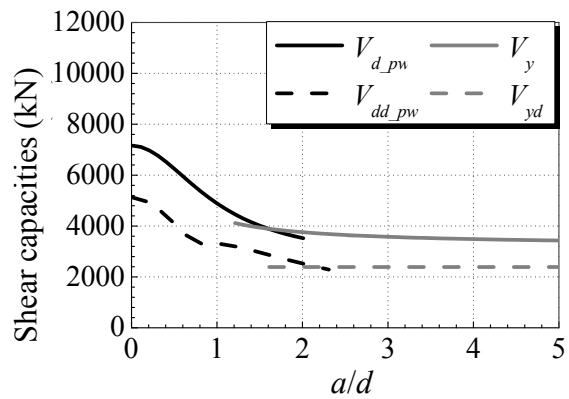


Figure 7. Continuity of calculated values of shear capacities to  $a/d$  using  $V_{design}$

#### Reference

- [1] Japan Society of Civil Engineers: Standard specifications for concrete structures - 2007 "Design," JSCE Guidelines for Concrete No. 15, 2010.12.