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OPTIMIZING PERFORMANCE: STEEL PLATE RETROFITTING OF RCC BEAM-COLUMN CONNECTIONS

Dr. Ganesh B. Kawale [1], Dr. Rajendra S. Narkhede [2]

[1.] Associate Professor, MET's Institute of Technology-Polytechnic, Nashik

[2.] Professor, MET's Institute of Technology-Polytechnic, Nashik

Abstract: In order to improve the seismic resistance and load-bearing ability of existing frameworks, steel plate upgrading in RCC beam-column relationships is an essential engineering endeavor that is the subject of this research. Using a deductive methodology and an interpretative philosophy, the investigation methodically evaluates how anchorage techniques, plate configuration, along with thickness affect the effectiveness of retrofitting. A comprehensive literature review is utilized to gather secondary data within a manner that is descriptive. The results show that plate thickness has a major impact on upgrading performance, balancing constructability and increased capacity. The shape of the steel plate—U or L—addresses particular weaknesses, and the strength of the connection is determined by anchorage techniques like the welding process and mechanically fasteners. The significant advantages of retrofitting are confirmed by comparative analysis, which highlights improved shear resistance, toughness, and load bearing capacity. The suggestions for ideal retrofitting procedures, such as customized plate being chosen and anchorage knowledge, are provided in the study's conclusion.

Keywords: Retrofitting, Steel plate, RCC beam-column connections, Seismic resilience, Load-bearing capacity

I: INTRODUCTION

A. Research background

Enhancing the resistance to earthquakes and load-bearing strength of current structures is a crucial civil engineering work that involves upgrading RCC beam-column relationships with steel plates. Despite being extensively utilized, reinforced concrete buildings frequently show weaknesses in their ability to withstand tremors and changes in load [1]. This calls for the creation of efficient retrofitting methods to improve their functionality. In order to increase the durability and toughness of beam-column interactions, steel plate retrofitting entails attaching steel plates to the necessary locations. This technique enhances the compressive ability of concrete by utilizing the steel's superior tensile ductility as well as strength [2]. Many aspects of this modifying technique, such as plate thickness, arrangement, substance characteristics, and anchorage techniques, have been studied in numerous investigations. Nonetheless, an exhaustive evaluation of the best retrofitting tactics for varied loading scenarios and structure configurations is still required. By conducting a methodical investigation onto the functioning of RCC beam-column relationships retrofitted alongside steel plates, the study aims to add to the body of knowledge already in existence [3]. Ultimately, it seeks to provide engineers along with practitioners who are involved in the modifying of existing structures with useful guidelines.

B. Research aim and objectives

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About the authors：Dr. Ganesh B. Kawale

Corresponding author- Email:

Research Aim:

This study's main goal is to thoroughly assess how well steel plate upgrading improves the reliability of RCC beam-column interactions, with an emphasis on load-bearing ability and seismic adaptability.

Objectives:

- To evaluate the impact of steel plate its thickness on both the shear along with flexural properties exhibited by the RCC beam-column relationships that have been retrofitted.
- To inquire into how various steel plate configurations—such as L- and U-shaped—affect the overall elasticity and structure response.
- to evaluate how different anchorage techniques affect the ability of the steel plates to adhere to the concrete substrates.
- To measure the improvement in strength, the comparison between non-retrofitted along with retrofitted the RC beam-column relationships under simulated earthquake loading conditions will be carried out.

C. Research Rationale

The need to address the present solid concrete structures' susceptibility to shaking and shifting loads is the driving force behind this research. These kinds of structures make up a large part of the construction industry, and there is a serious risk to people and property due to their poor performance in harsh environments. Retrofitting steel plates has become a viable method for strengthening these constructions [4]. But there is still a lack of a thorough understanding of its ideal application. By undertaking a methodical examination, this study aims to close this knowledge deficit and provide essential insights and useful recommendations for designers and other stakeholders engaged in retrofitting projects.

II: LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Seismic Vulnerability of RCC Structures

Because of their inherent characteristics of the material while construction techniques, reinforced concrete (RCC) frameworks, which are widely used in construction, are vulnerable to seismic hazards. The main cause for concern is that under dynamic loads, the fragile nature of concrete within tension can result in cracks and disappointment [5]. Vulnerability can also be increased by subpar construction methods and inadequate positive reinforcement describing. Seismic risks are further increased by structural mathematics deviations such as rotational irregularities as well as soft stories. Furthermore, the tensile strength of RCC elements may be jeopardized by the aging and worsening of building over time.

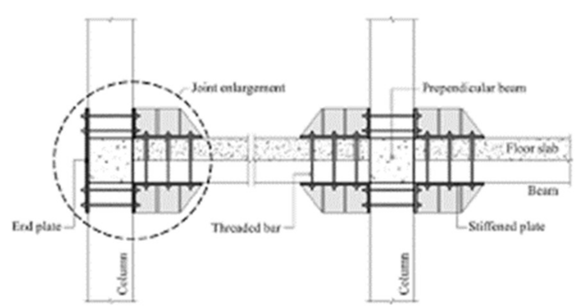

Fig. 2.1: Steel Plate Retrofitting of RCC Beam-Column

Previous major earthquakes have highlighted how urgently these vulnerabilities must be addressed because they have the potential to have disastrous effects, including substantial damages to property and fatalities. It is critical to comprehend the unique failure processes and vulnerabilities present in RCC structures beneath seismic loads in order to develop efficient retrofitting strategies that reduce risks and improve structural resilience overall [6]. This information serves as the foundation for assessing how well steel plate retrofitting supports the earthquake resistance of RCC beam-column relationships.

B. Retrofitting Techniques for Enhancing Structural Performance

Retrofitting techniques are a broad category of tactics used to strengthen and modernize existing structures to withstand a variety of loading scenarios, including seismic activity. Adding extra components or materials to improve an initial construction's durability is one well-known technique. Among the retrofitting methods frequently used in civil engineering have been fiber reinforcement, outdoors post-tensioning, along with the use of FRP (Fiber-Reinforced Polymers) [7]. Moreover, dampers and relying isolators can be added to a structure to lessen the effect of ground actions. Dampers take in and discharge energy to lessen structural distortion, while relying isolators function as flexible bearings that permit controlled lateral movements.

Fig. 2.2: Retrofitting Techniques for Enhancing Structural Performance

Furthermore, adding shear walls or different lateral strengthening systems can greatly increase a structure's ability to withstand lateral loads. The selection of these techniques is contingent upon the particular vulnerabilities and requirements of the current structure, underscoring the significance of conducting a comprehensive structural assessment prior to retrofitting [8]. Engineers can ensure that buildings meet modern security and efficiency standards by implementing these techniques to improve the overall building structure and endurance of buildings.

C. Steel Plate Retrofitting in Civil Engineering

One common method used in civil engineering to improve the load-bearing capacity along with structural integrity present-day reinforced concrete (RCC) things is steel plate conversion. Using this technique, steel plates are fastened to crucial structural elements—usually beam-column junctions—to increase their malleability and strength. Steel has an additive impact with cement's compressive strength because of its high tensile durability and strength [9]. To find the best location, size, along with configuration for steel plates, a comprehensive structural analysis and evaluation are required. Different anchorage techniques are used to make sure that the structural steel and the current concrete are firmly bonded together, including welding along with mechanical motion connections.

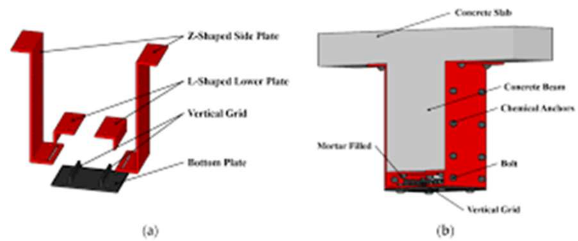

Fig. 2.3: Steel Plate Retrofitting in Civil Engineering

The seismic endurance of structures is enhanced by this retrofitting method, which gives them the capacity to tolerate dynamic loads along with ground motions [10]. A significant development within civil engineering, steel beam retrofitting provides a workable and long-term way to reinforce deteriorating infrastructure and guarantee its continuous safe and dependable operation.

D. Previous Studies on Steel Plate Retrofitting of RCC Beam-Column Connections

The knowledge and development of this vital structural improvement method have greatly benefited from earlier research on steel plate modifying of RCC beam-column interactions. These studies have covered a wide range of parameters, such as anchorage techniques, configuration, material qualities, and surface thickness [11]. The impact of these variables on the ductility, load-carrying capability, and structural functioning of retrofitted relationships has been thoroughly examined by researchers. The efficiency of steel plate modifying has also been greatly improved by comparison studies between modified and non-retrofitted relationships under various putting scenarios, which involves seismic along with static settings.

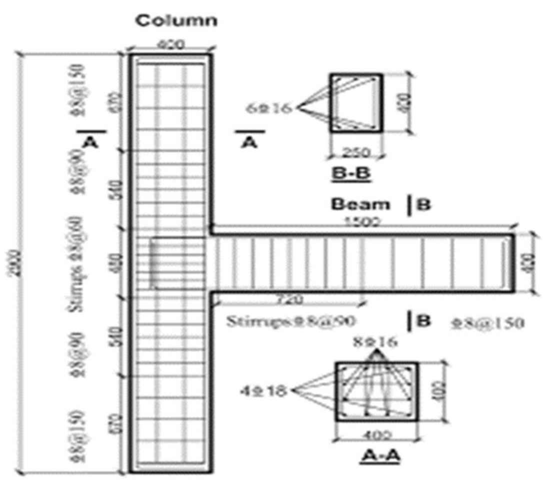

Fig. 2.4: RCC Beam-Column Connections

Furthermore, to verify and improve retrofitting techniques, these studies frequently include finite element analysis and testing by experiment [12]. Furthermore, earlier studies have examined the durability along with long-term efficiency aspects of metal plate retrofitting, guaranteeing the retrofit's continued efficacy for the duration of the structure.

E. Literature Gap

The scientific literature on steel sheet upgrading in RCC structures is largely lacking in information about the best possible plate thickness, arrangement, and anchorage techniques for different structural arrangements, despite a great deal of research on the subject. Furthermore, not much research has been done on how well-performing and long-lasting modified connections are in actual use. In order to give engineers and those who practice extensive guidelines, these deficiencies require additional research.

III: METHODOLOGY

This study takes an interpretivist stance, acknowledging that retrofitting procedures are complex and context-specific. It aims to comprehend the individualized points of view of engineers and professionals engaged in steel plate modifications. A deductive method is utilized, in which pre-existing theories and models pertaining to steel sheets retrofitting serve as the foundation for the development of speculation and the direction of data gathering [13]. Using a design that is descriptive, the study aims to give a thorough explanation of the retrofitting procedure, including plate thickness, arrangement, and anchorage techniques. This design makes it possible to analyze the retrofitting method in great detail. A thorough examination of academic papers, scientific papers, design codes, alongside case studies related to steel structure retrofitting is used to gather secondary data [14]. Obtaining technical specs, experimental findings, and case-specific information from practical applications is prioritized. Keywords like "steel sheets retrofitting," "RCC beam-column connections," "plate thickness," "anchorage methods," along with "seismic retrofit" are routinely utilized to search public databases like Engineering and Technology Village, Google Scholar, among other popular and credible engineering newspapers. Key parameters such as plate the thickness, arrangement, anchorage techniques, structural designs, and efficiency measurements (e.g., load-carrying capability, ductility enhancement) are used to extract and organize pertinent data [15]. Retrieved data is cross-checked with several sources to guarantee accuracy and dependability, and any inconsistencies are addressed by professional consultation and careful inspection of the original research publications. Statistical analysis is used to identify trends in numerical information such as load testing outcomes and retrofitting efficiency metrics. Thematic analysis is used to obtain insights into real-world applications and challenges from qualitative data, which includes opinions from professionals and case study narratives. Because this methodology only takes into account previously published works, it may restrict access to private or unpublished data. Furthermore, site conditions that cannot always be accurately reported in other data sources may affect the efficacy of retrofitting strategies [16]. This study seeks to integrate existing experience and offer helpful technical suggestions for engineers working on steel plate remodeling of RCC beam-column associations by using this extensive methodology.

IV: RESULTS

A Theme: Plate Thickness Influence on Retrofitting Performance

A crucial factor in the metal plate retrofitting about RCC beam-column interconnections is the impact of the thickness of plates on retrofitting performance [17]. Greater compressive as well as tensile strength can be obtained from thicker plates, which improves the connection's total load-carrying capability. In areas where there is a large concentration about stress, like the junction between the metal plate and the cement surface, this impact is most noticeable. Additionally, bigger plates enhance ductility, which permits the connection to flex under severe loading circumstances without experiencing catastrophic collapse. In seismic occurrences where structures are repeatedly tested with shifting loads, this behavior is critical. It's crucial to find a balance, though, since an overly thick plate could make construction more difficult and result in inefficient use of materials [18]. Furthermore, the intricacy of anchorage techniques may also be impacted by thicker plates.

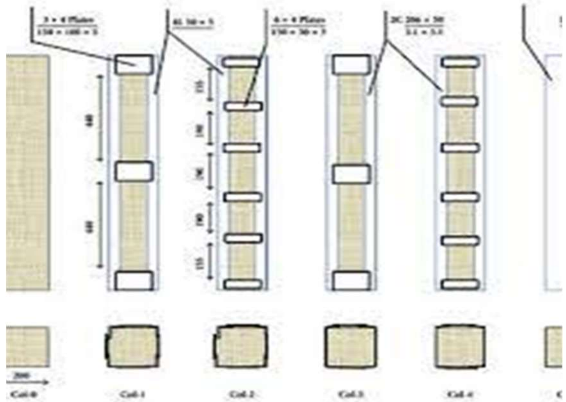

Fig. 4.1: Plate Thickness Influence on Retrofitting Performance

It becomes crucial to use proper welding techniques or a suitable embedment depth to guarantee a strong bond between the sheet of steel and the structure that already exists. This ensures that the weight transfer system operates as efficiently as possible while also improving its structural strength [19]. A well-informed choice of plate thickness, grounded in thorough structural evaluation and overall architectural judgment, is essential to attaining the intended improvement in overall mechanical resilience, elasticity, appropriate load-carrying capacity. Taking this into account is essential when creating useful instructions for engineers working on steel frame retrofit projects.

B Theme: Effect of Steel Plate Configuration on Structural Behavior

The way steel plates are arranged during retrofitting has a big impact on how RCC beam-column interconnections behave structurally. Distinctive plate layouts, including U- or L-shaped groupings, impact load distribution as well as stress transmission processes differently [20]. U-shaped plates work especially well to increase the connection's flexural strength. U-shaped plates improve the connection's resistance to bending moments by encircling a greater area of that the column and beam cross-sectional area This increases the moment of gravity. Additionally, this arrangement encourages homogeneous stress distribution down the length of the plate. L-shaped plates as well, on the opposing hand, mainly increase their strength against shear. L-shaped plates improve the structure's ability to withstand lateral forces when they are positioned along the connection's weak shear zones. This arrangement is particularly useful in areas that are prone to shaking because it efficiently reinforces network shear-critical sections of the connection [21]. Whether to choose an L- or U-shaped layout depends on the particular structural weaknesses that are found after careful investigation.

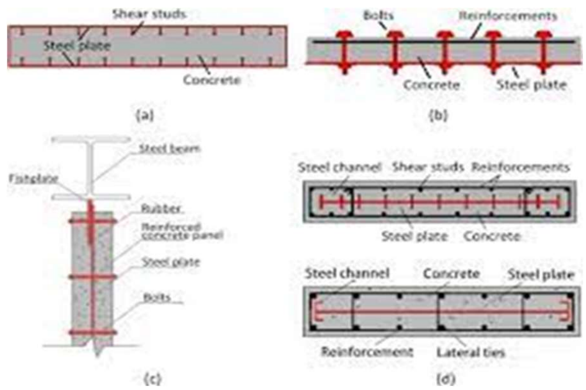

Fig. 4.2: Effect of Steel Plate Configuration on Structural Behavior

Furthermore, hybrid designs—which incorporate elements of both L and U shapes—can be used to handle several failure types [22]. Moreover, careful planning and placement of these slabs are essential factors. When installed and planned correctly, the selected configuration can greatly improve the general behavior of the structure, including its resilience to changeable loads, ductility, as well as load-carrying performance.

C Theme: Anchorage Methods and Their Impact on Retrofitting Efficacy

When it comes to evaluating the effectiveness of steel plate restoration in RCC beam-column interactions, anchorage techniques are crucial [23]. The durability and strength of the attachment among the plate of steel as well as the previous concrete surface are determined by the grounding method selected. One common anchorage method that offers an exceptionally strong connection is hammering. The aluminum plate is fused directly onto the pre-existing framework. By ensuring a strong bond, this technique transfers loads between both concrete and steel components in an efficient manner. Overheating, on the other hand, is to be avoided as it can damage the material's qualities. The steel plate is fastened to the concrete's outermost layer using mechanical fasteners that are utilized in mechanically anchorage techniques, which can include bolts or anchors [24]. This method allows for greater installation versatility as well as simpler plate replacement or adjustment as necessary. However, elements like material qualities, distance, and embedment depth affect the successful anchors made of metal are.

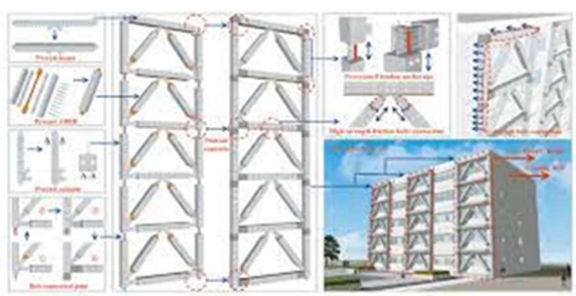

Fig. 4.3: Anchorage Methods and Their Impact on Retrofitting Efficacy

The effectiveness of retrofitting is affected by anchorage techniques in a number of ways, including durability over time, deformation capability, and load transmission efficiency. Possible rupture sites and concentrations of stress might result from improperly installed anchors. Ultimately, a comprehensive structural assessment that considers variables including constructability, material compatibility with a and load requirements should be used to inform the choice of grounding method [25]. For aluminum plate restoration within RCC beam-column connections to be effective as well as reliable, accurate detailing and grounding approach execution are essential.

D Theme: Comparative Analysis: Retrofitted vs. Non-Retrofitted Connections

The efficiency of metallic plate retrofitting in improving the functioning of RCC beam-column interconnections can be better understood by comparing the connections that have retrofitted versus non-retrofitted interconnections. Retrofitted interconnections perform better under a range of loading scenarios every time. They can sustain higher application force amounts before failing because of their enhanced load-carrying capability. This is explained by the steel plates' increased tensile as well as compressive force, which effectively reinforces the connection. Additionally, the connections that have been modified exhibit increased ductility, which permits them to experience large deformations without failing structurally [26]. This is especially important during earthquake events when structures are repeatedly loaded dynamically. Conversely, connections that have not been upgraded have a lower load carrying capability and less ductility. Devices are more prone to failing too soon, particularly in situations with excessive loads. The linkage relies exclusively on the inherent qualities of the concrete without any extra reinforcement offered by steel sheets, which may not be sufficient in high-stress circumstances.

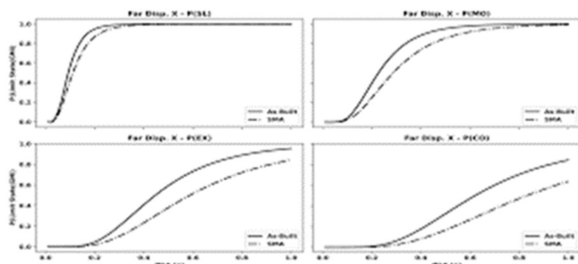

Fig. 4.4: Retrofitted vs. Non-Retrofitted Connections

The comparison analysis also demonstrates how well retrofitting reduces the risks connected to flexural and shear breakdowns. Connections that have been retrofitted show better resilience to shear pressures and more evenly distributed load. All things considered, the comparison study brings to light the clear advantages of metal plate upgrading in strengthening the skeletal integrity and robustness of RCC beam-column interconnections [27]. It emphasizes how crucial it is to use retrofitting techniques in restoration projects in order to guarantee both the durability and security of current structures.

Aspect	Retrofitted Connections
Load-Carrying Capacity	Increased
Ductility	Enhanced
Shear Resistance	Improved
Flexural Capacity	Reinforced
Deformation Capacity	High
Vulnerability to Seismic	Reduces

Events	

V: EVALUATION AND CONCLUSION

A Critical Evaluation

When the research data are critically analyzed, various important conclusions and ideas for the subject of steel plate upgrading with RCC beam-column interconnections emerge. First, one important consideration is how plate thickness affects retrofitting effectiveness. There is an age of decreasing profits where high thickness may result in inefficiencies regarding material consumption and ability to be constructed, even while greater thicknesses improve load bearing capacity as well as ductility. Finding the ideal balance is crucial. Second, the significance of customized retrofitting techniques is highlighted by the impact of steel plate geometry on the structural structure. L-shaped panels are especially good at supporting shear-critical areas, but U-shaped sheets are excellent at increasing flexural capacity. Selecting one of these options has to be in line with the particular vulnerabilities found in the structural investigation. The effectiveness of retrofitting is greatly impacted by anchorage methods. Although welding creates a strong bond, it must be done carefully to preserve the material's qualities. Although mechanical anchorage solutions are flexible, they need to be precisely detailed in order to provide dependable weight transfer. Empirical data supporting the significant benefits of metallic plate retrofitting is provided by the comparison study between converted and non-retrofitted links. The enhanced load-carrying capability, toughness, and tolerance to shear pressures are regularly displayed by retrofitted couplings. It's important to recognize the study's limitations, though. The use of secondary data raises the possibility of bias, thus it's important to carefully assess how conclusions apply to certain real-world situations. To sum up, this critical examination highlights the complex factors and choices associated with roofing retrofitting. It highlights that in order to guarantee the best possible performance and security of currently in use RCC constructions, careful technical judgment and customized retrofitting techniques are required.

B Research recommendation

Several important suggestions are revealed as a result of the thorough examination of steel plate restoration with RCC beam-column interactions:

Optimal Plate Thickness Selection: To choose the ideal thickness of plates for renovation, engineers need carry out in-depth structural analyses. This ought to achieve a balance amongst construction and increased load carrying capability.

Tailored Plate Configuration: The unique weaknesses found in the structural study should be taken into consideration while deciding between shaped like a and L-shaped arrangements [28]. In order to handle various kinds of failure, combination plans might also be taken into consideration.

Anchorage Method Expertise: Both of these techniques require precise execution. For the sheet of steel to be securely fastened to the solid surface, engineers need to be very knowledgeable about these methods.

Long-Term Performance Monitoring: It is advised to put in place a routine monitoring procedure to evaluate the longevity and efficiency of retrofitted interconnections over time. This guarantees that the electrical retrofitting will continue to function well for the duration of the building.

Application to Specific Contexts: When implementing steel plate renovation, engineers should take into account the particular site characteristics, such as earthquakes and structure configurations [29]. In some situations, a one-size-fits-all strategy might not be appropriate.

Further Research on Hybrid Configurations: In order to leverage the advantages inherent to both U as well as L shapes, hybridization plate layouts may be investigated in future research, which could result in greater effectiveness of retrofitting techniques.

C Future work

In order to further enhance retrofitting tactics, future studies in the stainless steel retrofitted about RCC beam-column connectors should explore cutting-edge materials and novel approaches. Researching the application of advanced materials such as improved steel alloys as well as composites reinforced with fibers may result in even more efficient retrofit options. Large-scale experimental research and sophisticated computational modeling can also shed further light on how retrofitted connections behave under severe loading circumstances [30. Furthermore, evaluating and improving retrofitting techniques will need examining the long-term sustainability and longevity of modified structures in actual contexts. Finally, it will become more and more important for future study to take into account the ecological and sustainability consequences of retrofitting procedures.

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