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Torsional Resistance of High Strength Concrete Filled Steel Tube Beams Stiffened Internally with Steel Bars

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Keywords: Cross-Rod (CR); Steel tube.

Highlights:

- Impact of different interior extended surface area of digesters on AD performance.
- CD was used as a substrate in digesters under mesophilic conditions.
- Digester D has a favored performance due to high extended surface area.

A R T I C L E I N F O

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Abstract: The torsional behavior of twelve concrete-filled steel tube (CFST) specimens was experimentally investigated. CFST specimens were reinforced by internal cross-rods with different spacing (0, 50, 100, 150, 200, and 250) mm, different thicknesses of the steel tube (1.5 and 2) mm, and a compressive strength of 65 MPa (high strength concrete). Each sample was tested, and the results were examined. According to the results, the infill concrete prevented buckling failure in CFST specimens. The steel tube and concrete worked together since cutting steel tubes caused diagonal cracks in the infill concrete of CFST specimens. The results also showed that the CFST's torsional moment capacity increased due to the concrete infill, further aiding the steel tubes' performance. Internal stiffening in the steel tubes and concrete infill improved the failure mode, mechanical properties, and CFST specimens' behavior under torsion.

مقاومة عزم االلتواء لألنابيب الفوالذية المملوءة بالخرسانة عالية المقاومة المقواه داخليا بقضبان التسليح

سفيان اسماعيل مطلك ، عاصم محمد لطيف قسم الهندسة المدنية/ كلية الهندسة / جامعة تكريت /تكريت – العراق.

الخالصة

السلوك الالتوائي لـ 1۲ عينة من الأنابيب الفولاذية المملوءة بالخرسانة (CFST) والمقواة بقضبان متقاطعة داخلية بمسافات متفاوتة (٠، ٥٠، ،100 ،150 ،200 250(ملم، وسمك متفاوت لألنبوب الفوالذي)،1.5 2(ملم ذات مقاومة انضغاط للخرسانة 65 ميجا باسكال)الخرسانة عالية القوة) تم دراستها تجريبيا. تم إخضاع كل عينة للاختبار الكامل، وتم فحص النتائج. ووفقا للنتائج، فإن وجود الخرسانة المملوءة يمنع فشل الانبعاج في عينات(CFST) . أن الأنابيب الفولاذية والخرسانة تعملان معًا لأن قطع الأنابيب الفولاذية يؤدي إلى حدوث شقوق قطرية في الخرسانة المملوءة لعينات(CFST) . تظهر هذه النتائج أيضًا أن قدرة عزم الالتواء لـ CFST قد زادت بسبب المليء بالخرسانة، مما يساعد بشكل أكبر على أداء الأنابيب الفولاذية. أدى استخدام التقوية الداخلية في الأنابيب الفولاذية المملوءة بالخرسانة إلى تحسين وضع الفشل والخواص الميكانيكية وسلوك عينات CFST تحت االلتواء.

الكلمات الدالة: التواء نقي، تعزيز داخلي، خرسانة عالية المقاومة ، قضيب متقاطع)CR)، أنبوب فوالذي .

1.INTRODUCTION *1.1.High Strength Concrete*

High-strength concrete, defined as having a compressive strength of 41 MPa or above according to ACI 363R-92 $\lceil 1 \rceil$, is often designed with the qualities of cement and sand and the water-to-cement ratio in mind. High-strength concrete can only be achieved using as little water cementitious material ratio as possible, which always affects the mixture's workability and necessitates the well-compacted concrete mixture using vibration during implementation. Ordinary vibration techniques can be used to compress the concrete mixture to achieve the desired compressive strength of up to 60 MPa at an age of 28 days, provided the components fit together properly. Concrete mix design aims to produce concrete that meets the minimum specified strength, needed process, and durability requirements as cheaply (in terms of engineering value) as possible. When designing high-strength concrete, it may be difficult to determine how much of each ingredient, i.e., cement, sand, and aggregate, to use, as well as how much of each chemical and mineral additive is required. The newest generation of high-range water mixers makes it possible to make concrete of exceptional strength. Highstrength concrete's greater load-bearing capability and the ability to lower column diameters and beams have made high-rise buildings (often above 30 stories) possible. In addition to lowering the loads associated with foundation design, a building with low dead loads benefits the end user monetarily because columns take up more rentable space and less wasted space.

1.2.Concrete Filled Steel Tube

Concrete-filled steel tubular (CFST) buildings have many advantages over other types of construction due to their robustness, ductility, and ability to absorb force. Additionally, concrete-restrained steel tubes with high steel tube rigidity prevent concrete from being crushed (steel tube benefit) [2-5]. Shuttering is not required for concrete construction, reducing time and money spent. Because of

these benefits, concrete-filled tubular structures are commonly used in civil engineering projects. Concrete-filled steel tubular constructions have been extensively used and studied in China. Recent years have witnessed a proliferation of books released into the public domain [6-11]. Local requirements and rules of practice were also produced to aid in the design process. Focusing on recent advancements in China, the present paper surveys the current state of the art for concretefilled steel tube constructions. The current methods of design in various countries are briefly discussed. The present work studied the development of concrete structures and searched for projects using concrete-filled steel tube (CFST) techniques.

1.3.Component Behavior

Figure 1 displays three typical column crosssections: a circular hollow section (CHS), a square hollow section (SHS), and a rectangular hollow section (RHS). The dimensions of the steel tube, denoted as D, B, and t, respectively, indicate the outer, inner, and wall dimensions. Square and rectangular cross-sections are more prone to local buckling than circular ones, offering the most effective concrete core confinement. The extensive use of concretefilled steel tubes with SHS and RHS in construction is driven by their aesthetic value, strong cross-sectional bending stiffness, and the convenience they provide in beam-tocolumn connection design. It is well known that concrete has a substantially higher compressive strength than tensile strength. Compressive strength is improved further when subjected to bi-axial or tri-axial stress. While structural steel has a lot of strength when stretched, its shape can be changed when compressed. Steel and concrete are used in concrete-filled steel tube members, which make the most of both materials' inherent strengths. With the steel tube providing confinement and the concrete core providing support, local buckling of the steel tube is reduced.

Fig. 1 Typical Concrete-Filled Steel Tubular Cross Sections.

1.4.Materials for Concrete-Filled Steel Tubes

1.4.1.Steel

Steels, such as high-performance, fireresistant, weathering, ordinary carbon, highstrength, and "mild" steel, are among the many options for the steel used to make concretefilled tubular members. National standards [12] outline common sections in China, including their dimensions and dimensional restrictions. In terms of mechanical properties, structural steel can be found in standards, such as GB/T 700 $[13]$ for carbon steel and GB/T 1591 $[14]$ for high-strength low-alloy steel. A set of rules for the design of structural steel in China, GB 50017 $\overline{[15]}$. The concert wall thickness should be higher than the specified thickness to last the steel tube structure. According to the DBJ/T 13-51 standard, steel tubes must have an outside diameter of 100 mm or more $[16]$. It is recommended that the concrete-filled steel section have a larger diameter-to-wall thickness ratio than the hollow section due to the enhanced local buckling capability caused by the concrete. Chinese design standard GB 50010 [17] specifies that if the diameter-to-wall thickness ratio (D/t) is outside the allowed range, extra stiffeners must be made and supplied.

1.4.2.Concrete

The filled concrete in CFST buildings can be either regular or high-strength concrete. Since the enclosed tube will not allow surplus water to escape, the concrete's ratio, i.e., water to cement, must be carefully managed. Highstrength concrete cannot have a water-tocement ratio higher than 0.3. Ductility and energy dissipation were very high in experimental concrete-filled steel tubular beams using HSC, and the load-carrying capacities were comparable to those of beams with standard concrete $\lceil 9, 18 \rceil$. Better structural performance can be achieved by appropriately

matching the steel and concrete strengths [7, 17]. Steel with higher strength should be used with similarly strong concrete, and steel with lower strength should be used with similarly weak concrete. For instance, a concrete compressive strength of 55-65 N/mm² would be suitable if the steel tube's yield strength falls between 235 and 345 N/mm² . When the steel tube's yield strength exceeds 345 N/mm² , the concrete's compressive strength should be at least 60 N/mm^2 [18].

1.5.Static Performance

When a steel tube filled with concrete is subjected to torsion, the inner concrete undergoes compression, while the steel tube experiences tensile force along the diagonal. The core concrete prevents the steel tube from buckling, and the resulting "truss action" creates more open space. As shown in Fig. 2, when torsion is applied, the hollow steel tube clearly demonstrates shear buckling [19]. Experiments on long CFST members under sophisticated load procedures by Perea et al. [20] were conducted regarding the narrow CFST sections. According to the findings, the CFST columns conducted were more effective, according to the American specification. Bridges and large-span buildings are just two examples of the composite concrete-filled steel tube members applications. Han et al. [21] studied the effects of several tube shapes, beginning curvature, tubular lattice members made of concrete and filled with steel have their nominal slenderness ratios, cross-sectional patterns, and brace patterns calculated. Experimental results demonstrated that filling chord tubes with concrete greatly improved the load-bearing capacity, initial stiffness, and curved latticed elements' ductility. The specimen of the hollow tube had 30%-40% less axial compressive strength than its concretefilled counterpart $[21]$. The experimental results also revealed an increase in the ratio of initial curvature to nominal slenderness. The curved concrete lattice specimen's ultimate strength and stiffness were diminished. Throughout its useful life, concrete will experience creep and shrinkage, affecting the CFST members $[7, 22, 23]$. Steel tube columns filled with concrete under prolonged loads have had their time-dependent behavior studied, and a theoretical model to account for shrinkage and creep effects has been proposed [23]. The core concrete's shrinkage and hydration heat become noticeable when the concrete-filled steel tube's cross-sectional profile increases. Concrete-filled steel tubes were subjected to experimental analysis of their hydration heat and shrinkage [24, 25].

 Steel Tube Concrete Filled Steel Tube Fig. 2 Schematic Failure Modes of Steel Tube, Concrete, and CFST under Torsion.

2.AIM OF THE STUDY

Combining multiple ways to strengthen the beams from the inside is unusual because torsion strengthening of reinforced concretefilled steel tube beams is typically done externally. The primary objectives of this study are conducting an experimental analysis of the effect of interior cross-rod steel reinforcement on (CFST), and estimating the potential increase in torsion strength as a function of tube thickness and the number of cross-rods (CR).

3.EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM *3.1.Specimen's Details*

An experimental program was conducted in the Civil Engineering Lab at Tikrit University. Twelve Tests were conducted on cast specimens of beams. For this research, one served as a reference beam and was denoted by (NST1-C1 and NST2-C2) for two thicknesses, and four beam specimens used variable spacing between internal cross-rebar (CR) to increase their strength. These beams were denoted by (HSTxy), i.e., (x) is the thickness of the tube, and (y) is the spacing. Each specimen's breadth, depth,
and length (in millimeters) were and length (in millimeters) were 100×100×2000, and they were cast out of regular concrete. Each beam specimen's cross rod was reinforced with (8 mm) bars, with the number of cross-rods inside the beam as one of the crucial adopted factors, i.e., 50mm, 100mm, 150mm, 200mm, and 250mm. The first beam specimen was a reference beam (R-B) without an internal cross-rebar. The names, measurements, and other details about the tested beams are listed in Table 1, Table 2, and Figs. 3 - 5.

3.2.Supply Items

3.2.1.Cement

Tables 3 and 4 display the physical and chemical parameters of Ordinary Portland Cement (Type1), which complies with Iraqi regulations (I.O.S.No.5.1984).

3.2.2.Fine Aggregate

Like all concrete combinations, this study employed natural sand. In accordance with Iraqi specification (I.O.S. No.45, 1984), the fine aggregate sieve analysis results are displayed in Table 5.

3.2.3.Coarse Aggregate

For the present research, crushed gravel that could not be larger than 12.5 mm was used. Iraqi specification (I.O.S. No. 45, 1984) limits and coarse aggregate grading, as shown in Table 6.

3.2.4.Water

Clean tap water was used in the present study. *3.2.5.Steel Reinforcement*

The steel diameter calculation method is outlined in ASTM A 615 [14]. Table 7 shows the mechanical properties of the steel bars.

3.3.Concrete Mixing

As shown in Fig. 3 (a), all specimens' concrete was made by mixing the necessary ingredients in a revolving mix. Several trial mixtures yielded the required strengths, and new varieties of concrete were developed to attain the required cubic strengths of 65 MPa at 28 days (high-strength concrete). Fig. 3 (b) displays the slumping test result prior to casting (150 mm). The molds were fully lubricated and placed vertically on a flat, stable ground. The casting process was conducted as shown in Fig. 3 (c) for reference beams and Fig.3 (d) for strengthened beams. Table 8 displays the specifications of the mixture.

Table 1 Details of Specimen's Beams (Group A).

Designation	Dimensions (mm)				Spacing between	Description		
of Beam		W	ш		Internal Cross-Rebars			
$HSCT1-C1$					Ω	Reference beam		
$HSCT1-25$					250 mm	Strengthening beam $@250$ mm		
HSCT1-20	100	100	2000	1.5	200 mm	Strengthening beam $@$ 200mm		
$HSCT1-15$					150 mm	Strengthening beam $@150$ mm		
$HSCT1-10$					100 mm	Strengthening beam @100mm		
$HSCT1-5$					50 mm	Strengthening beam $@50$ mm		

Fig. 3 Torsion Effects on the Unstrengthen and Cross-Rod-Strengthened Beams.

* The Civil Engineering Labs in Tikrit University conducted testing.

Table 5 Analysis of Fine Aggregate Using a Sieve *****.

 * The Civil Engineering Labs in Tikrit University conducted testing.

* The Civil Engineering Labs in Tikrit University conducted testing.

Table 8 The Requirements for the Mixture.

Table 9 Hardened Properties of High-Strength Concrete.

Fig. 5 Strengthening Beams with Welding and Concrete Mix and a Cast of Beams, then Slump Test.

3.4.Test Setup and Instrumentation

Figures $(6) - (9)$ depict the test setup in detail. The beam testing machine was built to apply a torsion moment to test specimens. Steel frames were securely fastened to the ends of beam examples to create the torsional arm. The distance from the axis of the steel shaft to the end edge was 250 millimeters. Using a hydraulic jack and an electric motor capable of producing a maximum load of 250 kN, all specimens were tested for their maximal twist

moment (torque) and crack resistance. Due to its design, i.e., held at two points by the bearings, the beam could freely rotate even when torque was applied. To release the sample from its restraint, the fixed support was inserted, and the support was moved beneath the bearing. A hydraulic jack generated the torque by putting a standard load along a steel shaft (dish serrated) connected to the torsional arm. It is important to remember that the gadget was created entirely by the authors.

Fig. 6 Beam Test.

Fig. 9 (a) Specimen After Testing.

HST2-20 HST2-25 **Fig. 9** (b) Specimen After Testing.

3.5.Twist Angle Measurements

Gradually applying the load allows for determining the maximum twisting angle and torsional capabilities. Data was recorded using a user-supplied data logger connected to an LVDT sensor and load cells to send information about loads and lateral displacements. Taking readings in the up and down directions allowed the sensors to calculate the beam's twist angle. By measuring the distances between the center of the beam and the LVDT sensor, the angular deviations can be determined by dividing the measured displacement by the LVDT readings, i.e., equivalent to 150 mm, and solving for the resulting twisted angle yields:

Trigonometrically, the twist angle equals tan-1 (LVDT sensor reading divided by 150). The

distance between the cross-center sections and the LVDT location was 150 mm. Figure 10 shows the twist angle (θ) measurement.

Distance between center of beam and LVDT senso **Fig. 10** Measurements of the Twisting Angle.

Fig. 11 Steel Tubular Specimens Filled-Concrete Test.

4.DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

4.1.The Ultimate and Cracking Loads Torsion tests had been performed on beam samples under a constant load. The length of the beam support at both ends was always the first place a crack appeared in any of the test specimens. Table 10 and Fig. 11 detail the data

for the cracked (Pcr), ultimate loads (Pu), crack tension (Tcr), and ultimate tension (Tu). When comparing the cracked torque value (Tcr) of the tested beams (HST1-25), (HST1-20), (HST1- 15), (HST1-10), and (HST1-5) to that of the reference beam (HST1-C1), it is found that the strengthened internal cross-rods increased the value by 2.997%, 4.09%, 5.72%, 29.59%, and 33.46%, respectively. Table 11 and Fig. 11 detail the results for the cracked (Pcr), ultimate (Pu) loads, crack tension (Tcr), and ultimate torsion (Tu). For a set of tested beams (HST2-25), (HST2-20), (HST2-15), (HST2-15), and (HST2- 5), the cracked torque value (Tcr) was higher by 10.15%, 14.1%, 25.8%, 35.12%, and 50.82%, respectively, than the reference beam (HST2- C2). This result suggests that the inner crossrod strengthening can withstand bigger strains and, thus, provide more torsion resistance. For tested beam specimens (HST1-25), (HST1-20), (HST1-15), (HST1-10), and (HST1-5) the ultimate torsion (Tu) was increased by 9.88%, 15.9%, 26.18%, 35.34%, and 51.28%, respectively, compared to the control beam (HST1-C1), and internally strengthened by 25, 20, 15,10, and 5 internal cross-rods. The ultimate torsion (Tu) of the test beams (HST2- 25), (HST2-20), (HST2-15), (HST2-10), and (HST2-5) was increased by (6.46%), (17.43%), (21.13%), and (27.97%), respectively, compared to the control beam (HST2-C2). As a result, the inner cross-rebar strengthening could withstand more stress and improve torsion strength. According to the data, there was no separation of the cross-rod from the concrete, and the tested beams exhibited the maximum torsional strength at 5 spacing (CR). Internal cross-rebars allowed for transmitting greater lateral forces inside the planes of torsional stresses, increasing the beam sections' efficiency and resilience against torsional stresses [26].

 $T = P \times arm \ (kN.m)$ (1)

Figure 2 shows that the cross bars are crucial in resisting torsion. When subjected to torsion,

the reference beam without reinforcement exhibits slips in the corners of the beam, whereas the beam with reinforcement exhibits no such creep because it contains cross bars. The beam's resistance to torsion is enhanced by the fact that one of them acts as a strut and tie. *4.2.Torque-Angle of Twist Behavior*

Figures 12 and 13 show the maximum torque relative to the twisting angle for a regulated and
strengthened beam. Beam deformation strengthened beam. capacity can be drastically modified using internal cross-rod strengthening. From the onset of the first cracks to the point of failure, the test data showed a steady increase in the twist angle of about 0.31 degrees. The strengthened beams had a smaller twist angle than the control beams at the same stress just before the first crack appeared. While some outliers were at the end of the torque-twist curves for strengthened beams, overall, their behavior was consistent with control beams. Cross-rods (CRs) prevent cracking by resisting the torque applied to the beams, resulting in uniformly sloping curves after the cracking phase. Compared to the control beam (HST1- C1), the ultimate twist angle of the strengthened specimens increased by 13.42, 15.44, 19.46, 23.49%, and 25.55 degrees, as shown in Tables 12 and 13, respectively, and a comparison to the control beam (HST2-C2) resulted in (25.52%), (35.41%), (19.79%), (16.667%), and (25%), respectively. A possible explanation for this behavior is that adding a transverse steel cross-rod inside the beam, which allowed for a greater amount of torque to be transferred, however, raised the beam's corresponding angle of twist.

Table 10 The Ultimate Torque Relates to the Cracking of Every Evaluation Beam Specimen (group A).

Beam	Thickness	Per(kN)	Pu (kN)	Arm	. . Ter (kN.m) Ter		Tu	\sim $\overline{}$ Tu
	t mm			(m)		N-Ren Beam	(kN,m)	N-Ren Beam
						measures an increase $(\%)$		measures an increase (%)
$HST2-C2$	$\overline{2}$	67.76	118.85		16.94		29.712	-
HST2-25	$\overline{2}$	74.64	126.52		18.66	10.15	31.63	6.46
HST2-20	$\mathbf{2}$	77.32	131.88 0.25 139.56		19.33	14.1	32.97	10.97
HST2-15	$\mathbf{2}$	85.24			21.31	25.8	34.89	17.43
HST2-10	$\mathbf{2}$	91.56	143.95		22.89	35.12	35.99	21.13
$HST2-5$	$\overline{2}$	102.2	151.88		25.55	50.82	37.97	27.79

Table 12 The Ultimate Torque Relates to the Cracking of Every Evaluation Beam Specimen (group A).

Table 13 The Ultimate Torque Relates to the Cracking of Every Evaluation Beam Specimen $(\sigma$ roup $R)$.

*Reference Beam

Fig. 13 The Tested Beams' Torque-to-Rotation-Angle Relationship (group B).

4.3.Mechanisms of Failure

Torsional moments were the cause of failure for all tested beams; in all cases, the crack began within the initial one-third of the available time and grew progressively longer. As the moment of torque grew, the cracks that began on the beam's vertical sides made their way inward along its axis. The principal cracks were angled at 30°–45° from the beam's longitudinal axes [27]. After the cracking had occurred, the load was increased. In addition, its tension-carrying capacity vanished when it was close to its failure stage. The quantity of cracks they generate and the manner in which they penetrate the beams were also variable. Figure 7 (a) and (b) depicts the failure mechanisms of the control beam (HTX-Y) and the strengthened beam (HSTX-Y) when subjected to pure torsion, increasing the amount of strengthening in the loaded beams, so too had the number of cracks. Increased tension led to more cracks in the strengthening beams than in the control beam (HTX-Y). Furthermore, it was found that the beam with the 5 cm internal stiffeners had an equal distribution of cracks as the number of internal cross-rods (ICR) increased.

5.CONCLUSIONS

In summary, the study focused on the effect of internal reinforcement of cross-rebars of steel tubular beams concrete filled, including the torsional behavior, cracking load, ultimate load, cracking torque, ultimate torque, towing angle, and beams' failure modes. The following can be deduced from the experimental results of the tested beams:

- **1-** Strengthening the section's torsion capacity using internal cross-rod steel reinforcement appears simple and effective.
- **2-** More steel cross-rod reinforcements inside the structure boosted its final torsion capacity.
- **3-** Increasing the number of internal crossrebars being increased (ICR) further enhanced beam characteristics when the angle of torsion (\emptyset) before failure was higher.
- **4-** When the top of a square SRCFST specimen was subjected to torsion, the failure was localized near the top. The failure mode of all specimens evaluated was invariant throughout a wide range of stress conditions and steel reinforcement cross-section types. In contrast to the types of steel reinforcement used in the crosssection, the loading directions slightly affected cracks in the concrete's core.
- **5-** The variation in the T-curve of specimens under different loading routes was essentially the same. A little variation in torsional rigidity appeared between crosssection varieties of steel reinforced using the same steel reinforcement ratio.

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