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Shear Behavior of Post-Tensioned Spliced Girders

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by

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Dissertation

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Dedication

To my wife Zoe

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Abstract

Shear Behavior of Spliced Post-Tensioned Girders

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By its nature a spliced girder must contain a number of post tensioning tendons throughout its length. The focus of the experimental program described in this dissertation is the evaluation of the strength and serviceability of post-tensioned girders loaded in shear, and, more specifically, how a post-tensioning duct located in the web of a girder affects the shear transfer mechanism of a bulb-tee cross-section.

Due to the limited number of tests in the literature conducted on full-scale posttensioned girders, eleven shear tests were performed on seven prestressed concrete bulbtee girder specimens. Of these tests, ten were conducted on specimens that contained a post-tensioning duct within their web and additional pretensioning reinforcement in their bottom and top flanges. The remaining shear test was conducted on a control specimen that did not have a post-tensioning tendon but contained the same pretensioning reinforcement as the post-tensioned girder specimens. The behavioral characteristics of these eleven test specimens at service level shear forces and at their ultimate shear strengths were evaluated in regards to five primary experimental variables: (i) the presence of a post-tensioning duct, (ii) post-tensioning duct material (plastic or steel), (iii) web-width, (iv) duct diameter, and (v) the transverse reinforcement ratio.

The findings of this experimental study are described in detail within this dissertation, but can be summarized by the following two points. (i) No differences were observed in the ultimate or service level shear behavior in girders containing plastic grouted ducts when compared to those containing steel grouted ducts and (ii) The current procedure of reducing the effective web width to account for the presence of a posttensioning duct is ineffective because it addresses the incorrect shear transfer mechanism. A method that correctly addresses the reduction in shear strength due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct was developed and verified using the tests performed during this experimental program and tests reported in the literature.

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction

1.1 OVERVIEW

Recent technological advances have allowed prestressed concrete girder bridges to span long distances at a much lower cost than is possible with a steel girder bridge. Until recently most of these medium- to long-span prestressed girder bridges have been segmentally constructed, but the development of large bulb-tee sections has facilitated even more economical alternatives to steel girders in mid-length span applications ranging from approximately 200 to 300 feet. The purpose of this dissertation is to evaluate the strength of these post-tensioned spliced girder bridges, and, more specifically, to evaluate the effect of the presence of a post-tensioning duct in the web of a girder on the overall shear capacity.

1.1.1 Brief Overview of Spliced Girder Technology

Spliced girder bridges were among the first prestressed girder bridges in use in the United States. One of the first was constructed in Klickitat County, Washington in 1954 and was fabricated in three segments before being transported to the job-site where it was spliced and post-tensioned together to form a 90-foot long single-span girder (Castrodale & White, 2004). This early, simple-span application of spliced girder bridges, shown in [Figure 1-1\(](#page-19-1)A), is still used in current practice when transportation restrictions prevent the delivery of longer prestressed cross-sections. However, modern spliced girder bridges are increasingly used in multi-span continuous structures, shown in [Figure 1-1](#page-19-1) (B). A multispan, continuous configuration allows for longer span lengths than is possible with simple-span bridges and provides a cost effective alternative to steel girders and segmental construction in medium-span length applications.

Figure 1-1: Simple and Multi-span Continuous Spliced Girder Construction

1.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The focus of the experimental program described in this dissertation is the evaluation of the strength and serviceability of post-tensioned girders loaded in shear, and, more specifically, how a post-tensioning duct located in the web of a girder affects the shear transfer mechanism within a bulb-tee cross-section. A review of past literature on shear behavior revealed a limited number of test results from post-tensioned girders with ducts in their webs and a large number of test results from small-scale panels with post-tensioning ducts tested in uniform compression. These panel tests were intended to replicate behavior of the compressive stress field within a girder web and have been used to calibrate all shear design provisions in which the potential reduction in shear strength resulting from the presence of a post-tensioning duct is addressed.

Due to the limited number of tests in the literature conducted on full-scale posttensioned girders, eleven shear tests were performed on seven prestressed concrete bulbtee girders. Of these, ten tests were conducted on specimens that contained a posttensioning duct within their web and additional pretensioning reinforcement in their bottom and top flanges. The remaining shear test was conducted on a control specimen that did not have a post-tensioning duct but contained the same pretensioning reinforcement as the post-tensioned girder specimens. The behavioral characteristics of these eleven test specimens at service level shear forces and at their ultimate were evaluated in regards to five primary experimental variables:

- (i) Presence of a post-tensioning duct
- (ii) Post-tensioning duct material (plastic or steel)
- (iii) Web width
- (iv) Duct diameter
- (v) Transverse Reinforcement Ratio

The ten tests performed on post-tensioned specimens were added to the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders. These ten test specimens make up 23 percent of the total evaluation database, which contains a total of 44 tests. Tests in this study represent the largest such tests performed on internally post-tensioned girders todate. Moreover, four of these ten tests represent the only such tests performed on girders that contain grouted plastic post-tensioning ducts. Results from the analysis of the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders, along with the eleven tests performed in the current study, collectively comprise a unique database of measurements that provides valuable insight into the shear behavior of post-tensioned girders and facilitates important new insights on the topic.

1.3 ORGANIZATION

Shear strength calculation methods and research relevant to post-tensioned shear behavior are provided in Chapter 2. The collection and filtering of past research to generate the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders is also discussed in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 provides an overview of the experimental study conducted to investigate the five primary variables of interest to this research program: (i) duct presence, (ii) duct material, (iii) web width, (iv) duct diameter, and (v) the transverse reinforcement ratio. In Chapter 4, the results of the experimental study are discussed in regard to the five primary experimental variables. Chapter 5 utilizes the tests conducted as a part of the current study along with those test results collected from the literature to provide recommendations for modifications to the current shear design specifications of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications (2013). Finally, all of the findings and conclusions of this research program are summarized in Chapter 6.

CHAPTER 2

Background and Literature Review

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The focus of this experimental study is the evaluation of strength and serviceability for prestressed girders loaded in shear, and specifically the effect of posttensioning ducts on the shear transfer mechanism within Tx-Girders (shown in [Figure](#page-22-2) [2-1\)](#page-22-2). An important part of this study is a comprehensive review of the past research regarding the shear performance of pre- and post-tensioned girders. The technical literature, in this regard, includes a limited number of test results from post-tensioned girders with ducts in their webs and a large number of test results from panels with posttensioning ducts tested in uniform compression. These panel tests were intended to replicate behavior of the diagonal strut within a girder web. In order to better understand the behavior of post-tensioned girders in shear, relevant panel and beam test results were collected and entered into two experimental databases. A summary of this literature is provided in this chapter, while the analysis of the database is presented in Chapter 5.

Figure 2-1: Tx-Girder Cross-Sections

2.2 PRESTRESSED CONCRETE SHEAR DESIGN PROCEDURES

In the United States the design of reinforced or prestressed concrete structures is governed by one of two codes depending on the type of structure: for bridge design the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications and for building design the American Concrete Institute Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete (ACI 318). The building design codes or specifications provided by these two entities often contain the same provisions with slight variations due to the type of structure under consideration. Such was the case with the prestressed concrete shear design provisions until 1994. In 1994 the new general shear design provisions, based on the Modified Compression Field Theory (MCFT) (developed by Vecchio and Collins (1986)), were introduced into the first Load Resistance Factored Design (LRFD) edition of the AASHTO Bridge Design Specification. Since 1994 there have been a few modifications to these shear design provisions, which are discussed in the following sections.

2.2.1 AASHTO General Procedure

The shear strength calculations discussed within this section follow the general shear provisions found in the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specification $6th$ Edition with the applicable 2013 interim revisions (hereafter referred to as AASHTO (2013)). AASHTO (2013) contains three sectional shear calculation methodologies relevant to prestressed concrete, but only the General Procedure of §5.8.3.4.2 and the Segmental Procedure of §5.8.6.5 are discussed within this dissertation.

The equations that make up the AASHTO (2013) general procedure for shear design (hereafter AASHTO General) were developed out of the relationships and equations proposed in the Modified Compression Field Theory (MCFT) first introduced by Vecchio and Collins (1986). This shear design methodology relies on the MCFT to provide an accurate model of the post shear-cracking behavior of concrete. Many assumptions have been made when incorporating MCFT into a simplified design procedure (Hawkins, et al., 2005). They are:

- Plane sections remain plane.
- Strain is assumed to be linearly distributed over the depth of the member. Therefore it is assumed the strain can be computed at the section's middepth as one-half of the strain at the centroid of the tensile zone.
- The direction of the compressive stress resultant (the compressive stress field of the web region) is constant over the depth of the member.
- The average crack spacing is taken as 12-inches for members containing minimum transverse reinforcement. Otherwise the crack spacing is calculated and is directly related to the depth of the member (which incorporates a size effect for members not containing the minimum amount of transverse steel).
- The stirrups yield prior to the concrete crushing. This is a common assumption in most design equations, which in this case is ensured by a limit on the maximum shear stress of a section (discussed in the last paragraph of this section.)

The AASHTO General procedure calculates the nominal shear strength of a member by separate estimates for the "concrete" contribution and "steel" contribution to the nominal shear strength (V_c and V_s respectively). Within the framework of the MCFT, the V_c contribution to shear strength is an estimation of the "residual tensile stresses" in the cracked concrete (Vecchio & Collins, 1986), while the V_s contribution is an

estimation of the ability of the transverse reinforcement (stirrups) to transmit load through the truss model originally developed by Ritter (1899). The derivation of these two contributions to the calculated shear strength is shown in [Figure 2-2](#page-25-0) and [Equation](#page-25-1) [2-1](#page-25-1) (Bentz, et al., 2006).

Figure 2-2: Equilibrium at Diagonal Shear Crack (Khaldoun & Collins, 1999)

$$
v_n = v_{ci} + \rho_v f_{szer} \cot \theta
$$
 Equation 2-1

where:

- *fz* = Clamping stress in vertical direction taken to be negligible in beam behavior. $(f_z = 0)$
- ρ_z = Transverse reinforcement ratio of girder. ($\rho_z = \rho_v = A_v/(b_v * s)$)

 $v =$ Average shear stress acting on the girder.

 θ = Angle of the principle diagonal compressive stress with respect to the longitudinal axis of the member.

$$
f_{szer}
$$
 = Localized stress in transverse reinforcement at crack. Taken equal to the yield stress of transverse reinforcement. $(f_{szer} = f_y)$

 v_{ci} = The shear stress along the crack (i.e., parallel to the principal diagonal compressive stress)

When [Equation 2-1](#page-25-1) is multiplied by the effective shear depth (d_v) and effective web width (b_v) it takes the more recognizable form shown in [Equation 2-2](#page-26-0) of the nominal shear strength of a member comprised of a concrete (V_c) and a transverse reinforcement (V_s) contribution to shear strength. The shear stress transmitted across a crack (V_{ci}) is estimated by the product of *β* and the square root of the concrete strength. The function *β* relates the concrete resistance to slip across a crack to the internal strain profile of the cross-section.

$$
V_n = v_{ci}b_v d_v + \frac{A_v f_y d_v}{s} \cot \theta
$$
 Equation 2-2

$$
v_{ci} = \beta \sqrt{f'_c}
$$
 Equation 2-3

When these design equations were first introduced the procedure for calculating the ultimate shear capacity of concrete sections was defined through an iterative procedure and not easily performed using hand calculations. Unfortunately, in the first edition these provisions were difficult to use due to the *θ* and *β* variables which needed to be read out of graphs published in the specifications (AASHTO, 1994). This issue was partially solved when the tables listing values for θ and β were adopted into the specifications in subsequent interim revisions. These revisions allowed for computer programming to be more readily developed which could interpolate between values of *β* using the strain at mid-depth and the value of θ , but still required an iterative calculation method.

The final simplification was introduced in the AASHTO LFRD 2008 Interim Specifications. In this edition, linear equations were given to calculate *β, εs,* and *θ*. These equations eliminated the need for interpolation between the values of β and θ , perhaps more importantly, eliminated the need for iterations to find the angle of the diagonal compressive field (θ) which could now be calculated directly. The equations for the three variables are shown in [Equation 2-4](#page-27-0) through [Equation 2-8.](#page-27-1)

For sections containing at least the minimum amount of shear reinforcement.

$$
\beta = \frac{4.8}{(1 + 750\varepsilon_{s})}
$$
 Equation 2-4

For sections containing less than the minimum amount of shear reinforcement.

$$
\beta = \frac{4.8}{(1 + 750\varepsilon_s)} \frac{51}{(39 + s_{xe})}
$$
 Equation 2-5

where:

$$
s_{xe} = 12in. \leq s_x \frac{1.38}{a_g + 0.63} \leq 80in.
$$
 Equation 2-6

For all cases:

$$
\theta = 29 + 3500 \varepsilon_{s}
$$
 Equation 2-7

where:

$$
\varepsilon_{s} = \frac{\left(\frac{|M_{u}|}{d_{v}} + 0.5N_{u} + |V_{u} - V_{p}| - A_{ps}f_{po}\right)}{E_{s}A_{s} + E_{p}A_{ps}}
$$
 Equation 2-8

where:

- *ε^s* = Estimated strain at mid-height of cross-section (*in/in*)
- s_{xe} = Equivalent value of s_e which accounts for the influence of aggregate size (*in.*)
- s_x = The lesser of either d_y or the maximum distance between layers of longitudinal crack control reinforcement, where the area of the reinforcement in each layer is not less than $0.003b_v s_x (in.)$
- *θ* = Angle of inclination of the compressive stresses (*degrees*)
- A_{ps} = Area of prestressing steel on the tension side of member (in^2)
- A_s = Area of mild steel on the flexural tension side of member (in^2)
- a_g = Maximum aggregate size in the web concrete (*in*.)

$$
f_{po} = \Delta \varepsilon_p * E_P (psi)
$$

- $\Delta \varepsilon_p$ = Strain differential between prestressing strand and concrete (*in./in.*)
- E_p = Modulus of elasticity of prestressing strand (*psi*)
- N_u = Factored axial force in member (taken as positive if tensile) (*lbs.*)
- V_u = Factored shear force in member (*lbs.*)
- M_u = Factored moment in member, but not to be taken as less than $(V_u - V_p)d_v$ (*lb.-in.*)

 V_p = Vertical component of the prestressing force resisting shear (*lbs.*)

The general equation for the shear strength of concrete members as provided in AASHTO General is found in [Equation 2-9.](#page-29-0) The concrete and steel contribution components in this equation are further detailed in [Equation 2-10](#page-29-1) and [Equation 2-11](#page-29-2) with the three variables calculated by [Equation 2-4](#page-27-0) through [Equation 2-8.](#page-27-1) The contribution of harped or draped prestressing strands to the shear strength (V_p) is taken as the vertical

component of the prestressing force in the shear span at the critical section. Note that all code equations have been converted to psi units for easier cross-comparison to the ACI 318 shear strength equations.

The nominal shear capacity of a concrete member shall be taken as:

$$
V_n = V_c + V_s + V_p \le 0.25 f'_c b_v d_v + V_p
$$

See note in the following paragraphs on the "0.25f'_c shear stress limit"

Where the concrete contribution to the shear strength of the member shall be taken as:

$$
V_c = \beta \sqrt{f'_c} b_v d_v
$$
 Equation 2-10

Where the steel contribution to the shear strength of the member shall be taken as:

$$
V_s = \frac{A_v f_y d_v (\cot \theta + \cot \alpha) \sin \alpha}{s}
$$
 Equation 2-11

where:

 β = Variable relating the concrete's resistance to slip across a crack

 f'_c = 28-day compressive strength of concrete (*psi*)

- b_v = Minimum web width inside depth of d_v reduced to account for the post-tensioning ducts in accordance with §5.8.2.9 (*inches*) **Discussed in more detail in Section [2.2.1.1](#page-30-0)*
- d_v = Effective shear depth measured perpendicular to the neutral axis between the compressive and tensile resultants due to flexure, but not to be taken as less than the greater of 0.9*(transformed steel area's depth) or 0.72*h* (*inches*)
- A_v = Area of shear reinforcement within a distance *s* (*in*²)
- *fy* = Yield strength of transverse steel (*psi*)
- *θ* = Angle of inclination of diagonal compressive stresses (*degrees*)
- α = Angle of inclination of transverse reinforcement to the longitudinal axis (*degrees*)
- *s* = Transverse reinforcement longitudinal spacing (*inches*)

2.2.1.1 Effective Web Width Reduction in the AASHTO General Procedure

The potential reduction in shear strength due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct is taken into account by AASHTO General in the form of an effective web width. This effective web width is calculated by reducing the web width by either 25 or 50 percent of the duct thickness for grouted and empty ducts respectively, as shown in [Equation 2-12.](#page-30-1) The passage which describes the effective web width calculation of the General Shear provisions is given in §5.8.2.9 of AASHTO (2013):

"In determining the web width at a particular level, one-half the diameters of ungrouted ducts or one-quarter the diameter of grouted ducts at that level shall be subtracted from the web width."

$$
b_v = b_w - k \cdot \phi_{duct} \qquad \qquad \text{Equation 2-12}
$$

where:

- b_v = Effective web width available to resist shear accounting for presence of ducts (*inches*)
- *bw* = Gross web width available to resist shear (*inches*)
- *k* = Web width reduction factor (*unitless*)
	- $k = 0.25$ for grouted ducts
	- $k = 0.50$ for ungrouted/empty ducts
- $\mathscr{D}_{\text{duct}}$ = The duct diameter present in the girder web. (*inches*)

2.2.1.2 Shear Stress Limitation in the AASHTO General Procedure

§5.8.3.4.2 of AASHTO (2013) utilizes a shear stress limit of one quarter of the concrete compressive strength of concrete in an effort to prevent undesirable failure mechanisms. This limit takes the form of an overall shear capacity limit (originally shown in [Equation 2-9\)](#page-29-0) of $0.25f'_{c}$ b_v d_v. The purpose of this limit is to restrict the calculated shear capacity of the member and therefore prevent the scenario in which the stirrups will not yield before the web concrete crushes. During the development of the code it was shown that for shear stresses in excess of 0.25*f'*^c the stirrup strain may be less than the 2000 micro-strains assumed for yielding of stirrups.

This limit has a restriction that it must only be used for members which are built integrally with the supports. For members in which the ends are free to rotate (such as simply supported members as well as other members not built integrally with the supports) the allowable shear stress was reduced to 0.18*f'c*, unless the end region is designed using strut-and-tie modeling. This provision is an attempt to account for the funneling action at the support, which causes a force discontinuity in the bottom flange and can lead to premature failures due to either horizontal shear or strand anchorage failure. This maximum stress reduction (to 0.18*f'c*) is recommended in NCHRP Report 579 (Hawkins & Kuchma, 2007), but subsequent reports have shown that implementing the 0.18*f'*^c limit is ineffective in preventing horizontal shear failure (Hovell, et al., 2013). Due to this consideration and the fact that ignoring this restriction provides a worst case, but realistic, scenario for design the 0.18*f'*^c was not used in any calculations within this dissertation except where explicitly noted to illustrate the effect of this limit on the calculated strength.

2.2.2 AASHTO (2013) Shear Design Provisions for Segmental Bridges

Specifications governing the design of segmental bridges were incorporated into the Third Edition of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specification published in 2004 (AASHTO (2004)). These design provisions contain specific design equations for calculating the shear capacity of segmental bridges based on a report by Ramirez and Breen (1991). The equations are based on a Modified Truss Model using a Mohr's circle derivation, which takes the ultimate strength of concrete as the cracking strength. With their inclusion in AASHTO (2004) an alternative was provided to use the general shear provisions of §5.8.3.4.2 AASHTO (2013) in their place.

The Segmental Procedure of AASHTO (2013) (hereafter AASHTO Segmental) has the distinction of being the only shear design provision currently in use in the United States which does not include the vertical component of the prestressing force within the equation for the shear resistance of the member. Instead AASHTO Segmental addresses the prestressing force contribution to shear on the load side of the equation by multiplying it by a load factor of 1.0 and subtracting that force from the applied load (*Vu*). The equations for the shear capacity of members as presented in AASHTO (2013) are included below. They have been modified from their published kip units to pounds for easier comparison to the ACI 318 code, but are otherwise shown as they appear in AASHTO (2013). In Chapter 5 the effect of the prestressing force on the shear strength of the member will be taken into account by listing the calculated capacity as $V_n + V_p$ when comparing the calculated strength to tested shear capacity.

$$
V_n = V_s + V_c \le 12 \sqrt{f'_{c}} b_v d_v
$$
 Equation 2-13 Equation 2-14

$$
V_c = 2K\sqrt{f'_{c}}b_v d_v
$$
 Equation 2-14

where:

$$
K = \sqrt{1 + \frac{f_{pc}}{2\sqrt{f'_c}}} \le 2.0
$$
 Equation 2-15

But: $K = 1.0$ in those sections where extreme tensile fiber stress exceeds $6\sqrt{f'}_c$

$$
V_s = \frac{A_v f_y d_v}{s}
$$
 Equation 2-16

where:

 $K =$ Variable relating to the state of stress in the concrete

 f'_c ′ = 28-day compressive strength of concrete (*psi*)

- b_v = Minimum web width reduced to account for the post-tensioning ducts in accordance with §5.8.6.1 (*inches*) (*See Section [2.2.2.1](#page-34-0)*)
- d_v = Effective shear depth taken as the greater of 0.8*h* or the distance from the extreme compression fiber to the centroid of the prestressing reinforcement (*inches*)
- f_{pc} = The unfactored compressive stress in the concrete after prestress losses have occurred either at the centroid of the cross-section resisting live loads or at the web-to-flange interface when the centroid lies in the flange (*psi*)
- A_v = Area of shear reinforcement within a distance *s* (*in*²)

fy = Yield strength of transverse steel (*psi*)

^s = Transverse reinforcement longitudinal spacing. (*inches*)

The bounds for the term *K* used in the calculation of V_c are 1.0 to 2.0. The lower limit $(K = 1.0)$ is used in instances in which the stress in the extreme tension fiber exceeds the modulus of rupture for the concrete section under consideration (or $6\sqrt{f'}_c$ in psi). This restriction is an effort to reduce the capacity of members experiencing large amounts of flexural cracking, and therefore an increased likelihood of flexure-shear failure. The validity of this limit for members experiencing large tensile stresses was examined in Avendaño and Bayrak (2008) and found to cause an unnecessary increase in conservativeness. In spite of this recommendation the restrictions on *K* remain in the current code provisions.

Although the specifications call for these shear equations to be used only in posttensioned concrete box girder bridges the original equations were designed to be used for both prestressed and reinforced concrete members (Ramirez & Breen, 1991). In addition, these design provisions were calibrated to be used with a variable angle truss model to estimate the transverse steel's contribution to shear strength. For this model the variable angle in prestressed concrete members ranged from 25 to 65-degrees (with a range of 30 to 65-degrees for reinforced concrete members). The exclusion of this design methodology, in addition to the limits on the *K* factor discussed previously, in favor of the simplified 45-degree truss model render these design equations as overlyconservative.

2.2.2.1 Effective Web Width Reduction in AASHTO (2013) Segmental

The effective web width used in the Segmental Shear provisions of the AASHTO (2013) maintains the same format as that provided within the General Shear provisions, but provides different "diameter correction" (*k*) factors. The passage that describes the web width reduction to account for the presence of a post-tensioning duct is provided within §5.8.6.1 of AASHTO (2013) while the equation form of the effective web width factor is shown in Equation 2-17.

"The effects of any openings or ducts in members shall be considered. In determining the effective web or flange thickness, b_y, the diameters of ungrouted ducts or *one-half the diameters of grouted ducts shall be subtracted from the web or flange thickness at the location of these ducts."*

$$
b_v = b_w - k \cdot \phi_{duct} \qquad \qquad \text{Equation 2-17}
$$

where:

 b_v = Effective web width available to resist shear accounting for presence of ducts (*inches*)

bw = Gross web width available to resist shear (*inches*)

k = Web width reduction factor (*unitless*)

 $k = 0.5$ for grouted ducts

 $k = 1.0$ for ungrouted/empty ducts

 \mathscr{D}_{duct} = The duct diameter present in the girder web. (*inches*)

2.2.3 AASHTO (2013): Maximum Duct Diameter to Web Width Ratio

In addition to reducing the effective web width of a girder containing a posttensioning duct, AASHTO (2013) also limits the maximum duct diameter to 40 percent of the gross web thickness at that location. This limit on the duct diameter is provided separately from any shear design equation and therefore can be assumed to apply to all construction types and design methods. The article which restricts this maximum duct diameter is found in §5.4.6.2 of the AASHTO (2013):
"The size of ducts shall not exceed 0.4 times the least gross concrete thickness at the duct"

2.2.4 ACI 318-11 Simplified Method for Concrete Contribution to Shear Strength

The current ACI 318-11 simplified equation (hereafter ACI Simple) for calculating the concrete contribution to the shear resistance of a prestressed concrete member is based on the design code proposed by MacGregor and Hanson (1969).

$$
V_C = \left(0.6\sqrt{f'_c} + 700\frac{V_u d_p}{M_u}\right) b_w d
$$
 Equation 2-18

But not less than 2 $\sqrt{f_c'b_w}$ d nor greater than 5 $\sqrt{f_c'b_w}$ d.

This method allows a designer to have a simple, conservative estimate of the shear strength (Avendaño & Bayrak, 2008). It uses an empirical equation to describe concrete contribution and a 45-degree truss model originally developed by Ritter and Mörsch at the turn of the nineteenth century for the steel contribution (Collins $\&$ Mitchell, 1997). In spite of the conservativeness of this equation, it frequently draws criticism for the large experimental scatter that can be tied to its empirical basis, and its limitation for use in members with an effective prestressing force greater than 40 percent of the flexural reinforcement.

2.2.5 ACI 318-11 Detailed Method for Concrete Contribution

The traditional approach to shear design of prestressed concrete members, typically referred to as the detailed ACI design provisions for shear design (hereafter ACI detailed), was developed as a prediction of concrete strength considering two different mechanisms that initiate shear cracking. This method has its basis in the mechanics of an

uncracked section, but these theories lack the ability to describe the post-cracking behavior of concrete and therefore draw criticism. Despite this lack of explanation on the post-cracking behavior, the equation V_{cw} has been shown to have great consistency in predicting the shear cracking load for a member, thus allowing the designer to consider serviceability along with ultimate strength. The equation for V_{cw} as found in §11.3.3.1 of ACI318-11 is shown below:

$$
V_{cw} = (3.5\sqrt{f_c'} + 0.3f_{pc})b_w d_p + V_p
$$
 Equation 2-19

Despite the fact that these equations do not have any mechanistic basis for concrete after first cracking they have been shown to provide sufficient accuracy and relatively low scatter for ultimate strength calculations when evaluated using the UTPSDB (Nakamura, et al., 2013). In order to find the maximum concrete contribution to the ultimate shear capacity of the member, the lesser of V_{cw} and V_{ci} is taken as the concrete shear capacity and used in conjunction with V_s . The equation for calculating V_{ci} , which is aimed at estimating the load required to turn a flexure crack into a shear crack, is given in [Equation 2-20](#page-37-0) and [Equation 2-21.](#page-37-1)

$$
V_{ci} = 0.6\sqrt{f'_c}b_w d_p + V_d + \frac{V_i M_{cre}}{M_{max}}
$$
\n
$$
M_{cre} = (I/y_t)(6\sqrt{f'_c} + f_{pe} - f_d)
$$
\nEquation 2-20\n
$$
Equation 2-21
$$

where:

$$
f_{pc}
$$
 = The unfactored compressive stress in the concrete after prestress losses have occurred either at the centroid of the cross-section resisting live loads for at the web-to-flange interface when the centroid lies in the flange *(psi)*

- *fpe =* Compressive stress in concrete due to effective prestress forces only (after losses) at extreme fiber of section where tensile stress is caused by externally applied loads (*psi*)
- y_t = Distance from centroidal axis of gross section, neglecting reinforcement, to tension face (*in.*)
- f_d = Stress due to unfactored dead load, at extreme fiber of section where tensile stress is caused by externally applied loads (*psi*)

2.2.6 ACI 318-11 Steel Contribution to Shear Strength

The ACI 318-11 equation for the transverse steel (stirrup) contribution to shear strength is based on a 45-degree truss analogy. Therefore the principle diagonal shear crack is assumed to cross the stirrups from the bottom of the beam to the top at a 45 degree angle. This equation is shown below:

$$
V_s = \frac{A_v f_{yt} d}{s}
$$
 Equation 2-22

The transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength (V_s) is limited to $8\sqrt{f'_c}b_wd$ in an effort to prevent diagonal compression failure in the web. This type of failure would reduce the steel contribution to the overall shear strength of the member by preventing it from yielding and reaching the design stress of *fyt*.

2.3 WEB WIDTH REDUCTION FACTORS

Due to the high cost associated with the testing of full-scale post-tensioned girders, the shear behavior of the post-tensioned girders has been frequently investigated using small-scale panel testing. Results from these panel tests have been used to calibrate the web width reduction factors currently in use in the AASHTO (2013). Within this section, the panel testing research programs will be discussed and used to introduce the web width reduction factors.

2.3.1 Code Approach to Web Width Reduction

The shear strength reduction in thin-webbed members is similarly addressed in the major structural design codes. The reduction in strength generally takes the form of an effective web width that idealizes the behavior as a loss of web cross-section at the location of the duct. This effective web width reduction has been calibrated through the use of panel tests, which have demonstrated the following three primary variables: the duct diameter-to-web width ratio, whether the tendon is grouted, and (in some codes) the duct material. Although the precise terminology within each code may vary, the effective web width concept can be summarized by [Equation 2-23](#page-39-0) through [Equation 2-25.](#page-39-1)

$$
b_v = b_w \cdot \eta_D
$$

\n
$$
\eta_D = 1 - k \cdot (\phi_{duct}/b_w)
$$

\n
$$
b_v = b_w - k \cdot \phi_{duct}
$$

\nEquation 2-24
\nEquation 2-25
\nEquation 2-25

where:

$$
b_v
$$
 = The effective web width available to resist shear accounting for presence of post-tensioning ducts (*inches*)

bw = The gross web width available to resist shear (*inches*)

ηD = The web width reduction factor (*unitless*)

k = The diameter correction factor (*unitless*)

∅ *=* Post-tensioning duct diameter (*inches*)

The diameter correction factor, *k*, is dependent on the code being considered and has been calibrated using past panel test data. These *k*-values were calibrated by testing panels with post-tensioning ducts and comparing the failure strength to a control specimen without a duct [\(Figure 2-3\)](#page-40-0).

Figure 2-3: Description of η_D *Calibration Calculations*

The percentage of the duct diameter to be removed from the actual web width is given by the *k*-factor. Depending on the structural design code, the *k*-factor can be defined as a function of the duct type and whether the duct is grouted or ungrouted. The *k*-factors for the four codes considered in this dissertation are shown in [Table 2-1.](#page-41-0)

Code Provision	Code	Empty	Grouted	Empty	Grouted	
	Reference	Steel	Steel	Plastic	Plastic	
ACI 318-11	not addressed					
AASHTO General Shear	\$5.8.2.9	0.25	0.5	0.25	0.5	
AASHTO Segmental Shear	\$5.8.6.1	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.5	
EuroCode2 2004*	$§6.2.3-5$	1.2	0.5	1.2	1.2	

Table 2-1: Diameter Correction Factors (k) for Codes Considered

**EuroCode2 does not reduce effective web widths at Duct Diameter to Thickness values <0.125*

In addition to the effective web width reduction factors shown above, §5.4.6.2 of AASHTO (2013) limits the maximum duct diameter to less than or equal to 40 percent of the gross web thickness. In practice this limit is ignored by many state departments of transportation as was found by an industry survey conducted as part of this experimental study and reported by Williams, et al. (2013). Therefore this limit is ignored within this document with the exception of those cases in which it is discussed directly.

2.3.2 Panel Test Research

Historically, research into the effect of post-tensioning ducts on shear strength has been addressed by small-scale panel tests. These panel tests are meant to be representative of the inclined compressive strut formed during shear loading. As shown in [Figure 2-4,](#page-42-0) the compressive stresses flow around or through the post-tensioning duct the deviation of the deviation of the compressive stress flow results in the development of tensile stresses near the duct. These tensile stresses may cause a reduction in shear strength compared to a cross-section without a post-tensioning duct within the web of a girder. Panel testing assumes that the compressive strength of a panel with duct could be compared to the compressive strength of a solid ("control") panel. This relative reduction

in strength is what has formed the basis of the strength reduction factors ("web width reduction factors" discussed in Section [2.3.1\)](#page-39-2) found in all current code provisions.

Figure 2-4: Compressive Strut - Panel Strength Analogy (Adapted from Muttoni 2006)

Although panel testing allows for a large number of tests, due to its economic scale, it neglects many factors which influence shear behaviors in post-tensioned concrete beams; most notably the effects of transverse tension and horizontal shearing stresses on the web of a girder that contains a post-tensioning duct. Because of these concerns, and inconsistencies between panel and beam behavior, only full-scale beam shear testing can confirm the accuracy of the current code web width reduction factors.

2.3.2.1 Recent Panels Tests: Muttoni, Burdet, & Hars (2006)

Muttoni, Burdet, and Hars (2006) published the results from a study which is one of the first panel testing programs that included panels with plastic (high density polyethylene) ducts. The results of this study showed that the use of grouted plastic ducts resulted in as much as a 40 percent reduction in strength compared to similar panels containing grouted steel ducts. Since this study was conducted at École Polytechnique

Fédérale de Lausanne in Switzerland it had the most direct impact on the local building code, Eurocode2. The changes made to Eurocode2 are more thoroughly illustrated in the following section in which comparisons to other codes of practice are made. The main difference between codes was a drastic increase in the conservativeness of the code equations for grouted plastic post-tensioning ducts and for empty ducts (ungrouted). This result may not be justified as the small-scale panel tests were never verified with fullscale post-tensioned beam tests on girders with plastic post-tensioning ducts. The effect of duct material type on the shear strength of full-scale girders will be addressed within Chapter 4.

2.3.2.2 Panel Test Research Conducted at FSEL

Prior to the beginning of the experimental testing of full-scale girders, 100 panels were tested in compression with many different variables including: duct material, ductto-web-width ratio, duct material bond characteristics, grouting, grout strength, and through thickness reinforcement (Muttoni, et al., 2006). A more detailed account of the panel testing program conducted at FSEL can be found in Wald (2012), and the results and relevant data from each panel test can be found in Appendix A of this dissertation.

This experimental panel test study found that the η_D value (calculated as described in [Figure 2-3\)](#page-40-0) decreased significantly as the panel thickness increased. This is a result of the differences between splitting failure mechanism seen in the panels that contained ungrouted (empty) or plastic grouted ducts and the crushing mechanism of the panels that contained steel grouted ducts and the control (solid) panels, as illustrated in [Figure 2-5.](#page-44-0)

(A) Panel with Plastic Grouted Duct (B) Panel with Steel Grouted Duct

Figure 2-5: Splitting and Crushing Failure Mechansims of Panel Specimens (C) Panel with Ungrouted Duct (D) Control Panel without Duct

The presence of this splitting failure mechanism is problematic, because the strengths of panels with post-tensioning ducts is normalized by the strength of a panel without a post-tensioning duct which fails in compression. The decrease in the *ηD* value seen in panels with increasing web width can be explained by the fact that as the thickness of the panel is increased the cross-sectional area in compression is increased while the area experiencing tensile forces remains constant (splitting through the thickness of the panel) remains constant, as illustrated in [Figure 2-6.](#page-45-0)

Splitting Failure Mechanism

Figure 2-6: Cross-Sectional Area Experiencing Compression and Tension

The current calibration method where η_D is normalized by the failure strength of the control panel is invalid due to the differences between the splitting failure mechanism of a panel with a post-tensioning duct and the crushing failure mechanism of a control panel without a duct. Therefore, uniaxial panel test data cannot be relied upon to predict the reduction in shear strength resulting from the presence of a post-tensioning duct in the web of a beam specimen.

2.3.3 Panel Test Database Evaluation of Code Effective Web Width Equations

The *k*-factors shown in [Table 2-1](#page-41-0) were calibrated by using data from past panel tests described in the literature. Therefore, it is valuable to investigate the level of conservatism associated with the existing code equations. Wald (2012) built a database of one hundred thirty panel test results from thirteen references available in the literature.

The results of this database in relation to the web width reduction factors are shown in [Figure 2-7](#page-46-0) and [Figure 2-8.](#page-47-0)

In [Figure 2-7,](#page-46-0) η_D (from [Equation 2-24\)](#page-39-3) is plotted versus the duct diameter-toweb-width ratio for all tests with grouted ducts (steel or plastic). In [Figure 2-8,](#page-47-0) the same relationship is plotted for tests with empty (i.e., ungrouted) ducts. The plotted lines in each figure represent the variation of the web width reduction factor for each of the structural design codes. In interpreting [Figure 2-7](#page-46-0) and [Figure 2-8](#page-47-0) it is important to appreciate the fact that the code expressions conservatively estimate the measured web width reduction factor (η_D) if the test data lie above the code estimate of η_D (i.e. the lines shown in these figures).

Figure 2-7: Tested η^D Values for Ungrouted/Empty Ducts (Wald, 2012)

Figure 2-8: Tested η^D Values for Grouted Ducts (Wald, 2012)

As can be observed in [Figure 2-7](#page-46-0) and [Figure 2-8,](#page-47-0) use of the AASHTO General web width reduction factors result in unconservative estimates for 97 percent and 88 percent of the tests performed on panels with empty and grouted ducts, respectively. Evaluation of more than half of all grouted specimens, and all but two ungrouted specimens, generated unconservative results with respect to AASHTO General. In general, the *k*-factors defined for grouted steel ducts ($k = 0.5$) within Eurocode2 and the AASHTO Segmental more closely represent the average value of η_D for grouted panels rather than a conservative lower bound. This assessment suggests that the shear strength of post-tensioned beams could be unconservatively estimated in approximately half of all cases. However, it is important to appreciate the fact that data from full-scale beam tests are needed to establish the relevance of panel test data to the shear design of posttensioned beams.

Although, the Eurocode2 *k*-factors were the most conservative with respect to panel test results; the use of Eurocode2 provisions for grouted plastic ducts $(k = 1.2)$ resulted in conservative estimates for the web width reduction factors (η_D) for only 50 percent of tests performed on panels containing grouted plastic ducts.

2.3.4 Other Approaches to Shear Strength Reduction (Kuchma, 2013)

In an important but unpublished document, Kuchma (2013) is the first to assert that the presence of a post-tensioning duct within a thin-web may result in a reduction in the shear contribution of the transverse reinforcement term (V_s) rather than a reduction in the concrete contribution (V_c) . Kuchma employs the equilibrium and constitutive relationships of the Modified Compression Field Theory (MCFT) (Vecchio & Collins, 1986) to derive a formula for the maximum allowable duct diameter to web width ratio as a function of the factored shear stress (v_u) , the concrete compressive strength (f_c) , and the effective web width factors proposed by Muttoni et al. (2006). Because this work is unpublished, the derivation is reproduced within this section, while the accuracy of Kuchma's (2013) limit is discussed within Chapter 5 of this dissertation.

$$
f_2 = v(\tan \theta + \cot \theta) - f_1
$$
 Equation 2-26

where:

- *f2* = The average principle (diagonal) compressive stress. (*psi*)
- f_1 = The average principle tensile stress acting across diagonal cracks. (*psi*)
- $v =$ The shear stress resisted by the combination of the average principle compressive and tensile stresses. (*psi*)
- θ = The angle that the principal compressive stresses and strains make

with the longitudinal axis of the beam.

$$
f_{2_{max}} = \left(\frac{f_c'}{0.8 - 170\varepsilon_1}\right) \le 0.85 f_c'
$$
 Equation 2-27

where:

- $f_{2 \text{ max}} =$ The maximum attainable concrete stress of the principle compressive stress (*psi*)
	- ε_1 = The average principle tensile strain of the concrete acting perpendicular to the diagonal tensile stress. (*in/in*)

$$
\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_x + \varepsilon_t - \varepsilon_2
$$
 Equation 2-28

where:

- ε _{*x*} = The average longitudinal strain acting on the member. (*in/in*)
- ε _{*t*} = The strain in the transverse reinforcement. (*in/in*)
- ε_2 = The average principle compressive strain of the concrete in the direction of the principle diagonal compressive stress. (*in/in*)

assuming:

- f_1 = 0.05 f'_c (The principle tensile stress is assumed to be 0.05 f'_c which is *approximately half of the cracking strength of concrete.*)
- *θ* = 30 *degrees* (*The minimum angle that can be calculated with the AASHTO (2013) General Shear provisions is 29 degrees. A reasonable worst case assumption for this angle can be 30 degrees.*)
- ϵ_{x} = 0.001 (*The longitudinal strain at the ultimate shear strength is taken to be the yield strength of the mild reinforcement (0.002). For the purposes of this derivation the duct location is taken to be at the midheight of the girder and therefore the longitudinal strain is taken as*

0.002/2.)

- ε ^{*t*} = 0.002 (negative taken as compression) (*The transverse reinforcement strain at the ultimate shear strength is taken to be the yield strength of the mild reinforcement (0.002)*)
- *ε²* = 0.002 (*The maximum concrete compressive strain can be taken as 0.002* (Bentz, et al., 2006, p. 616).)

The equation presented in [Equation 2-29](#page-50-0) is a result of the previous assumptions, and Kuchma (2013) asserts that it provides a maximum duct diameter which will ensure that the transverse reinforcement of a girder will yield prior to the crushing of the web concrete. The application of [Equation 2-29](#page-50-0) is presented in Chapter 5.

$$
\frac{\phi_{duct}}{b_w} \le \frac{1}{k_d} \left(1.092 - \left(\frac{4.27 v_u}{f'_c} \right) \right)
$$
 Equation 2-29

where:

 $\mathscr{D}_{\text{duct}}$ = The duct diameter present in the girder web. (*inches*) *bw* = The gross web thickness at the location of the duct. (*inches*) v_u = The factored ultimate shear stress resisted by the girder. (*psi*) k_d = The web width reduction factor given by Muttoni et al. (2006) k_d = 0.40 for grouted steel ducts k_d = 0.80 for grouted plastic ducts k_d = 1.20 for empty ducts

2.4 UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS PRESTRESSED CONCRETE SHEAR DATABASE

The beam test database developed during this literature review expanded upon the existing University of Texas Prestressed Concrete Shear Database (UTPCSDB). The UTPCSDB was originally published in 2008 by The University of Texas at Austin (Avendaño & Bayrak, 2008) and was subsequently updated in 2011 (Nakamura, et al., 2013) to include a large number of tests of Japanese origin. The development of this database is covered extensively in the previous two references and will therefore not be repeated here, but the characteristics of the database are outlined in [Figure 2-9](#page-51-0) for the reader's convenience. The 2011 version of the database contained 1,696 tests. An additional five references containing a total of thirty-four shear tests on post-tensioned beams were uncovered during the course of this study; the addition of those tests brought the number of shear test results in the database to 1,730. As shown in [Figure 2-9,](#page-51-0) only 37 percent of the database contains tests performed on girders with internal post-tensioning ducts, and 78 percent of tests were performed on girders with composite heights less than 2 ft. By comparison the overall height of the Tx62 girders tested within this experimental program is 70-in. (62-in. girder and 8-in. deck), which lies within the top 2 percent of all test results found in the collection database. The test specimens of the current research study are the largest internally post-tensioned girder specimens found in the database.

Figure 2-9: UT Prestressed Concrete Shear Collection Database Characteristics

2.4.1 Evaluation Database Development

Initial filtering of the UTPCSDB was completed in accordance with the guidelines established by Nakamura et al. (2013). Additional filtering criteria were applied to the remaining tests to ensure that they are directly applicable to spliced posttensioned bridges. Specifically, specimens in the final database contained post-tensioning ducts within the shear span of the girder. The filtering criteria are described in [Figure](#page-52-0) $2 - 10$.

Figure 2-10: Filtered Evaluation Database Filtering Criteria

2.4.2 Evaluation Database Characteristics

The collection of the 34 tests is referred to as the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders (hereafter the PT Evaluation Database). An overview of the characteristics and primary experimental variables of these 34 tests are shown in the following seven sections.

2.4.2.1 Concrete Compressive Strengths, f'c

The PT Evaluation Database was restricted to a minimum concrete compressive strength of 4 ksi and contains tests on girders whose concrete compressive strength is between 4.1 and 12.3 ksi. The majority of tests in the database (71 percent) are made up of girders with compressive strengths below 8 ksi, as shown in Figure 2-10.

Due to the current widespread use of high strength concrete (in excess of 10 ksi compressive strength) there is a great need to expand the database to include specimens made with higher strength concretes. In this context, it is important to note that of the eleven tests performed during this research program all were above 10.5 ksi, and 27 percent of the tested girders reached strengths in excess of 13.0 ksi.

2.4.2.2 Overall Member Height, h

The member height of the specimens in the PT Evaluation Database (as reported in [Figure 2-12\)](#page-54-0) is taken as the either the total height of the girder tested or the composite height of the girder plus the deck when applicable. The height of girders within the evaluation database is restricted to a minimum of 12 inches. The minimum height of the test specimens included within the database was 16 inches and the maximum was 53.4 inches. Thirty-eight percent of tests were performed on girders under 2 feet in height.

The importance of full-scale testing cannot be overstated. The complexities associated with post-tensioned girder design and construction requires full-scale girders to accurately assess the capacity of these girders and compare them to those in use in bridges and roadways. Therefore, the tests performed during this experimental program consisted of 62-inch deep girders with an 8-inch topping slab for a composite height of 70 inches. It is important to observe that in [Figure 2-12](#page-54-0) there are no test specimens in this range.

2.4.2.3 Use of Composite Cross-Section (Decked Girders)

As shown in [Figure 2-13,](#page-55-0) 82 percent of tests in the PT Evaluation Database were performed on girders without a cast-in-place deck. Although adding a concrete deck to a test specimen is resource-intensive, it is the most realistic way to model the behavior of a bridge girders which will almost always be topped with a cast-in-place slab before use. This slab increases the moment capacity of the girder, but more importantly it changes the state of strain in the web of the girder by shifting the compression region upward. Therefore all girders tested during this program were decked with an 8-inch-thick concrete slab, which was cast after the girder had been post-tensioned and grouted.

Figure 2-13: Distribution of Composite Girders in PT Evaluation Database

2.4.2.4 Shear Span to Depth Ratio, a/d

The shear span-to-depth ratio (a/d) is often used in the literature to demonstrate that the shear test under consideration is exhibiting sectional rather than deep beam behavior characteristics. The shear span-to-depth ratio was limited to a minimum of 2.0

for all tests included in the PT Evaluation Database to prevent deep beam behavior from being included in the database. Of the tests in the evaluation database 41 percent were performed on specimens with shear span-to-depth ratios under 3.0 with a minimum spanto-depth ratio of 2.19 as shown in [Figure 2-14.](#page-56-0)

Figure 2-14: Distribution of Shear Span to Depth Ratios in PT Evaluation Database

For non-prestressed girders, the shear span-to-depth ratio at which the behavior transitions from sectional shear to deep beam behavior is generally accepted as 2.0. When prestressing steel is introduced into the beam, this transition point can increase slightly to approximately 2.5 (Nakamura, et al., 2013). Because the transition point for prestressed girders is more subjective, to be consistent with the AASHTO (2013) definition of beam shear, the 2.0 limit was chosen as the criterion. Specimens with a shear span-to-depth ratio between 2.0 and 2.5 are further analyzed in Chapter 5 to evaluate the transitional behavior of these specimens. The girders tested in the experimental program were tested at shear span-to-depth ratios of 3.0 to ensure sectional shear failure.

2.4.2.5 Shear Reinforcement Index, ρv fy

The PT Evaluation Database is restricted to girders containing at least the minimum shear reinforcement required by AASHTO (2013). The minimum normalized shear reinforcement index is 0.05 ksi and the maximum is 1.73 ksi. Of the tests in the PT Evaluation Database 65 percent were performed on girders with normalized shear reinforcement indexes less than 0.5 ksi.

Figure 2-15: Distribution of Normalized Transverse Reinforcement Index in the PT Evaluation Database

2.4.2.6 Ratio of Duct Diameter to Minimum Web Thickness, ØD / bw

50 percent of the tests in the PT Evaluation Database consist of girders having duct diameters greater than forty percent of the web width (the limit stated in §5.4.6.2 of AASHTO (2013)). The maximum duct diameter-to-web-thickness ratio was 0.51 and the minimum was 0.25 as is shown [Figure 2-16.](#page-58-0)

Figure 2-16: Distribution of the Post-Tensioning Duct Diameter to the Web Width of Girders in the PT Evaluation Database

Exactly one half of test girders exceeded the " $\mathcal{O}_D/b_w = 0.4$ " limit stated in AAHSTO (2013). Many state departments of transportation ignore this limit and routinely design girders with ratios of 0.51 (Williams, et al., 2013). In keeping with this trend, in the experimental program, nine of the post-tensioned girders tested maintained a duct diameter to thickness of 0.43 to 0.44, while the final test girder had a ratio of 0.33.

2.4.2.7 Post-Tensioning Duct Material

It is particularly important to note that, prior to the experimental program conducted as part of this research study, there have been no shear tests conducted on girders containing plastic post-tensioning ducts. This appears to be an especially concerning fact given that there was as much as a 40 percent decrease in the capacity of panels containing grouted plastic ducts compared to similar panels with grouted steel ducts (Muttoni, et al., 2006). Although there has been a documented drop in panel compressive strength, this phenomenon has never been studied in girder shear testing.

Many of the girder tests conducted during this research study provide direct comparisons between the shear strength of girders containing grouted plastic and steel ducts, and the current experimental study contributed a total of four tests on girders containing grouted plastic ducts to the PT Evaluation Database.

2.4.3 Significant Studies from Post-Tension Girder Evaluation Database

Of the additional five sources uncovered and added to the UTPSCSDB during this literature review, only three contained research conducted with the express purpose of evaluating the effects of post-tensioning ducts within the webs of girders. These three research programs are discussed in the following three sections, while the resulting experimental data was included in the Post-Tension Girder Evaluation Database.

2.4.3.1 Chitnuyanondh (1976)

Chitnuyanondh (1976) published the first paper that utilized beam shear tests in an effort to explore the effect of a post-tensioning duct on the shear strength of a thinwebbed member. These tests were performed on 16-inch tall girders with relatively low concrete compressive strengths and relatively large transverse reinforcement ratios (compared to contemporary post-tensioned bridge girders). These beam tests were supplemented by panel tests, which were designed to represent the web sections of the Ibeams, which contributed to the panel test database mentioned in Section [2.3.](#page-38-0) There are three factors that should be considered prior to implementing the results from this research study: (1) the relatively small size of the post-tensioned girders, (2) the relatively low concrete compressive strength of the girders $(3.5 \leq f'_{c} \leq 6.4 \text{ ksi})$, and (3) the large transverse reinforcement ratios ($0.87 \le \rho_v f_v \le 1.73$ ksi) of the test girders. This large amount of transverse reinforcement, in conjunction with the low concrete strength caused

them to be well in excess of the maximum nominal shear stress allowed by AASHTO (2013) of 0.25*f'c.*.

2.4.3.2 Ruiz & Muttoni (2008)

Ruiz and Muttoni (2008) performed shear tests on five I-girder specimens extracted from a bridge replaced after decades of service. This bridge was built in 1967, before the modern design code requirements for concrete cover were established. Therefore the duct diameter to web width ratio of 0.48 found in these bridge girders was large in comparison to the current limit of 0.4, although similar to current design practice in the US (Williams, et al., 2013). These 43.3 -in. deep girders were removed from the roadway with their 9-in.-thick-deck intact. They contained two draped post-tensioning tendons along their length formed with galvanized steel ducts similar to those galvanized ducts used current structures. In addition to the post-tensioning, the girders were pretensioned along their length, with the exception of at the mid-span where they had been spliced together. The original construction of the girders (circa 1967) is shown in [Figure 2-17](#page-61-0) (A), the extracted girders are shown in [Figure 2-17](#page-61-0) (B), and finally the frame used to test the shear strength of the girder is shown in [Figure 2-17](#page-61-0) (C).

Figure 2-17: Testing by Ruiz & Muttoni (2008) (A) Construction of Girders in 1967, (B) Extraction of Girders in 2003, & (C) Testing of Extracted Girders (Muttoni, 2014)

One of the most notable findings of this testing program was that the girders all failed by web crushing and concrete spalling along trajectory of the duct (example shown in [Figure 2-18\)](#page-62-0). Ruiz and Muttoni commented that vertical strains measured along the web of the girder were greatest at the location of the duct and that the strains indicated that significant yielding of transverse reinforcement had occurred at that location. Ruiz and Muttoni indicated that the spalling observed along the tendon was a result of these large tensile strains and that the web crushing along the duct was a separate phenomenon brought on by the weakening of the web as a result of the presence of the duct within the cross-section. It should be noted that during these tests damage to the web was only seen above the location of the post-tensioning duct.

Figure 2-18: Local Crushing Along the Trajectory of the Duct (Ruiz & Muttoni, 2008)

2.4.3.3 Rupf, Ruiz, & Muttoni (2013)

Rupf, Ruiz, and Muttoni (2013) conducted shear research into the behavior of $\frac{3}{8}$ scale girders meant to model segmental box girders. During design, box girders are commonly assumed to have the same shear strength as an equivalent I-girder with a web thickness equal to the sum of that of the box girder. Therefore, although the cross-section tested by Rupf et al. (2013) was modeled after a box girder the girder tested was an Igirder with relatively wide bottom and top flanges in similar proportions to what is seen in box girder bridges. The dimensions of the girders tested are shown in [Figure 2-19.](#page-63-0)

Figure 2-19: Cross-Sections of Girders Tested Under Rupf, Ruiz, & Muttoni (2013)

The primary test variables of the research program were the amount of transverse reinforcement, the anchorage detailing of that reinforcement, the post-tensioning force, and the cross-sectional shape (a rectangular or a flanged shape). These test girders are the only ones within the PT Evaluation Database that were conducted on shear spans which included a negative moment region. These girders were loaded to produce an inflection point at the center of the shear span. This was accomplished by two point load applications as shown in [Figure 2-20](#page-64-0) and [Figure 2-21.](#page-64-1)

Figure 2-20: Test Setup of Rupf, Ruiz, & Muttoni (2013) (Muttoni, 2014)

Figure 2-21: Loading Configuration, Moment, and Shear Diagrams of Girders Tested by Rupf et al. (2013) (Muttoni, 2014)

Rupf et al. found that the presence of flanges contributed greatly to the shear behavior of beam shear. The large flanges used in the I-girders of the testing program tended to redistribute loads throughout the web of the girder, which resulted in a less brittle failure, and a slightly higher shear capacity than those tests conducted on rectangular girders. Additionally, they found that when the controlling (observed) failure mechanism was localized crushing at the tendon the maximum compressive strain at the level of the tendon was close to 2 percent, which is consistent with the maximum compressive strain of a diagonal strut assumed in the development of the AASHTO General equations described in Section [2.2.1](#page-23-0) (Bentz, et al., 2006, p. 616).

2.5 SUMMARY

A primary concern of post-tensioned girder design is how to account for a reduction in shear strength that may occur due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct in the web of a girder. The high cost of large scale research endeavors has resulted in a limited number of tests being performed on full-scale post-tensioned girders. Instead, the current procedure for reducing the strength of a post-tensioning girder to account for the presence of a duct is based on small-scale panel compression tests. These panel tests showed conclusively that panels containing grouted plastic ducts failed at significantly lower loads than panels that contained grouted steel ducts (Muttoni, et al., 2006), (Wald, 2012). This finding was incorporated into the Eurocode2 as a web width reduction factor (η_D) that accounted for the duct material as well as its diameter and the presence of grout. It is important to understand that no full-scale shear tests have ever been conducted on girders containing plastic ducts, and therefore, the importance of duct material on girder shear behavior has never been fully studied. Chapters 3 and 4 describe an experimental study which includes the first full-scale shear tests on girders containing plastic posttensioning ducts and direct comparisons between the strengths of girders containing grouted plastic and steel post-tensioning ducts.

CHAPTER 3

Experimental Program

3.1 OVERVIEW

The experimental study detailed within this chapter was conducted in an effort to better understand the shear behavior of post-tensioned concrete girders and more specifically to investigate the impact of post-tensioning ducts on the shear behavior of full-scale test specimens. Eleven shear tests were performed on six full-scale posttensioned concrete bridge girders and one full-scale control girder that did not contain post-tensioning. These tests provided valuable insight into the shear behavior of posttensioned girders as well as a direct comparison between the behaviors of girders containing grouted plastic and steel ducts. The design, construction, and testing of these full-scale test specimens are described within this chapter.

3.1.1 Primary Variables of Experimental Program

To better understand the behavior of post-tensioned girders, the influence of the variables shown in [Table 3-1](#page-68-0) was investigated. The variables are:

- (i) Presence of a post-tensioning duct
- (ii) Post-tensioning duct material (plastic or steel)
- (iii) Web-width
- (iv) Duct Diameter
- (v) Transverse Reinforcement Ratio

Test Specimen	Duct Material	Duct Diameter $\mathcal{O}_{\mathit{duct}}$ (inches)	Web Width b_w (inches)	$\mathcal{O}_{\mathit{duct}}/b_w$	$\rho_v f_{\rm vv}$ (ksi)
$Tx62-I(S)$	Plastic			0.43	0.638
$Tx62-2(S)$	Steel	3			0.650
$Tx62-2(N)$	Steel				0.650
$Tx62-3(S)$	No Duct		$\overline{7}$		0.642
$Tx62-4(S)$	Steel			0.43	0.950
$Tx62-4(N)$	Plastic	3			0.950
$Tx62-5(S)$	Plastic				0.214
$Tx62-5(N)$	Steel				0.214
$Tx62-6(S)$	Plastic		9	0.44	0.854
$Tx62-6(N)$	Steel	$\overline{4}$			0.854
$Tx62-7(S)$	Steel	3		0.33	0.862

Table 3-1: Primary Variables of Experimental Program

3.2 TEST SPECIMEN DESIGN

The tests specimens used in this experimental program were 50-feet-long Tx62 girders with 7.5-foot long thickened end-blocks built to accommodate the post-tensioning anchorages. These test girders did not have a splice region. Instead they were designed to model the behavior of spliced bulb-tee girders in regions away from the splice. The dimensions of these girders are detailed in Figure 3-1.

Figure 3-1: Tx62 Test Specimens Showing Dimensions of 7 and 9-inch-thick Web Girders

3.2.1 Pretensioning Strand Layout

All girders, with the exception of the control (Tx62-3), contained both pretensioning and post-tensioning. The pretensioning strands for all girders consisted of 0.5-inch diameter seven wire low-relaxation prestressing strands (ASTM-A416). For all girders with consistent cross-sections the strand patterns were also consistent; Tx62-1 through 5 (7-inch web girders) contained seventy fully stressed strands. Of these strands, four were located within the top flange and sixteen were debonded for 4.5 feet from the end of the girder, as shown in [Figure 3-2,](#page-71-0) to control stresses at prestress transfer. This debonding length was chosen so that at the end of the end-block transition all strands were fully bonded and the length of the bonded portion of the strands within the endblock exceeded the strand's transfer length.

The final two girder cross-sections were two inches wider than the first five. These girders contained 80 fully stressed strands. Of these strands, six were located within the top flange and fourteen were debonded for 4.5 feet (for the reasons stated previously), as shown in [Figure 3-2.](#page-71-0)

Figure 3-2: Pretensioning Strand Layout and Debonding Indicates Debonded Strand*(all debonding terminates 4.5-ft. from girder end)*

3.2.2 Prestress Transfer Stress Calculations

Top and bottom fiber stresses at prestress transfer were calculated by the use of gross section properties, shown in [Table 3-2.](#page-72-0) The minimum concrete compressive strength at release (*f 'ci*) of pretensioning force was calculated in accordance with §5.9.4 of AASHTO (2013), and was controlled by the compressive stress at the bottom of all girders cast during this research program. The calculated release tensile and compressive stresses, the required compressive release strength, and the actual compressive strength at the time of release are shown in [Table 3-2.](#page-72-0)
Girder	I_{girder} (in^4)	A_{girder} (in^2)	Max. Top $Stress^{\dagger}$	Max Bottom $Stress^{\dagger}$	f'_{ci} †	Release Strength [Release Factor ^{††}]
$Tx62-I$						7.90 ksi $[0.60f'_{ci}]$
$Tx62-2$					controls	9.64 ksi $[0.50f']_{ci}$
$Tx62-3$	463,070 in ⁴	910 in ⁴	0.47 ksi tension	4.78 ksi compression	ksi	7.80 ksi $[0.61f']_{ci}$
$Tx62-4$					stress 7.50 σ ssiv compe	8.19 ksi $[0.58f']_{ci}$
$Tx62-5$						9.12 ksi [0.51 f'_{ci}]
$Tx62-6$	502,790 in ⁴	1034 in^2	0.33 ksi tension	4.74 ksi compression		9.00 ksi $[0.53f']_{ci}$
$Tx62-7$						7.79 ksi $[0.61f']_{ci}$

Table 3-2: Release Strengths and Stress Properties

† *Stresses and release strengths are calculated (not measured)values.*

††*Release Factor equals the ratio of the strength at release to the maximum bottom stress.*

3.2.3 Concrete Materials

All test specimens were cast at a single precast concrete fabrication yard and were fabricated with the standard prestressed Tx-Girder mixture design used at this fabrication plant. The girder concrete was a self-consolidating concrete (SCC) mix with 0.5-inch river gravel as the course aggregate. The fabrication plant had been using SCC exclusively for over two years at the time the first test girder was cast, and no problems with consolidation or honey combing were experienced during the casting of any of the test girders. The concrete mixture designs of both the girders and the deck are shown in [Table 3-3](#page-73-0) and [Table 3-4](#page-73-1) respectively.

Material	Detail	Amount	Unit
<i>Cementitous</i>	Type III Cement	663	
<i>Material</i>	Class F Fly Ash	271	
Fine Aggregate	Sand $(F.M. = 2.7)$	1,222	
Coarse Aggregate	Pea Gravel $(\frac{1}{2}$ " nom. max.)	1,555	lb. / yd 3 concrete
	Water	269	
Water	w/cm Ratio	0.310	
	Viscocrete 2110 (super plasticizer)	5.50	
Admixtures	Plastiment (retarder)	2.50	per
<i>(produced by Sika)</i>	CNI (corrosion inhibiter)	41.15	hundredweight
	Stabilizer VMA (viscosity modifier)	2.78	

Table 3-3: Girder Concrete Mixture Design

Table 3-4: Deck Concrete Mixture Design

Material	Detail	Amount	Unit
Cementitous	Type I Cement	658	
<i>Material</i>	Class C Fly Ash	231	
Fine Aggregate	Sand	1,410	
Crushed Dolomite $\binom{3}{8}$ " nom. max.) Coarse Aggregate		1,690	lb. / yd 3 concrete
	Water	240	
Water	w/cm Ratio	0.27	
Admixtures	Sikaplast 500 (water reducer)	21.6	hundredweight nz. per
<i>(produced by Sika)</i>	Plastiment (retarder)	2.0	

3.2.4 Post-Tensioning Anchorage and Tendon Layout

Each test specimen contained one post-tensioning tendon comprised of 12 - 0.6 inch diameter low-relaxation prestressing strands. This tendon had a straight profile throughout the length of the girder and was located at the mid-height of the web (at 35.25-inches from the bottom of the girder), as shown in [Figure 3-3.](#page-74-0) Each end of the tendon was anchored by a multi-plane cast steel anchor-head provided by BBR Network (model: CONA-CMI 1206), as shown in [Figure 3-4](#page-75-0) (A) and (B). The tendons were housed in post-tensioning ducts that varied both in diameter and material (either plastic or steel) depending on the test variable under consideration.

Figure 3-3: Post-Tensioning Tendon Profile at 35.25-inches from Bottom of Girder

Figure 3-4: Post-Tensioning Anchorage

3.2.5 End-Block Geometry

Standard pretensioned Tx62 girders have a constant cross-section throughout their length (i.e. they do not have thickened end-blocks or other changes of cross-section throughout their length). All Tx62 test specimens constructed during this experimental study were modified to include a thickened end-block to accommodate the posttensioning anchorages necessary in post-tensioned construction.

To aid in the design of the end-block, cross-sections and end-block lengths from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) were reviewed and evaluated for their advantages and disadvantages. The three potential Tx62 end-block geometries based on these designs (shown in [Figure 3-5\)](#page-76-0) were discussed with the members of the Project Advisory Panel (Khaleghi, et al., 2011). The final design selected for construction most closely follows that of WSDOT, as shown in [Figure 3-5\(](#page-76-0)B)). The dimensions of the Tx62 end-blocks used during this experimental study are shown in detail in [Figure 3-1.](#page-69-0)

Figure 3-5: Possible End-Block Geometries Explored During Design

3.2.6 End-Block Reinforcement Design

Although the overall geometry of the end-block was inspired by WSDOT standards, the end-block reinforcement was designed specifically to provide adequate resistance to the bursting and splitting forces which may be introduced during this research program. The end-block reinforcement design procedures fall into one of two categories: local zone reinforcement or general zone reinforcement. The local zone reinforcement is provided at the anchorage and is described in Section [3.2.6.2](#page-81-0) while the calculations for the general zone reinforcement are described in Section [3.2.6.3.](#page-81-1) The endblock reinforcement details are described in the following section for clarity of the bar type being designed.

3.2.6.1 End-Block Reinforcement Details

The end-block reinforcement was designed to accommodate up to three posttensioning tendons in anticipation of a future experimental study, but for all test specimens fabricated during this experimental program only one post-tensioning tendon was used. Full drawings of each test specimen are provided in Appendix B, but a rendering of the end-block reinforcement is shown in [Figure 3-6](#page-78-0) through [Figure 3-7.](#page-79-0) All end-block reinforcement calculations can be found in Sections [3.2.6.1](#page-77-0) and [3.2.6.3.](#page-81-1)

Figure 3-6: Rendering of End-Block Reinforcement (Part 1 of 3)

Figure 3-7: Rendering of End-Block Reinforcement (Part 2 of 3)

Figure 3-8: Rendering of End-Block Reinforcement (Part 3 of 3)

3.2.6.2 Local Zone Reinforcement

As explained in §5.10.9.7.3 of AASHTO (2013), it is required that the posttensioning anchorage manufacturer specify the local zone reinforcement to be used with a specific anchorage device. For the anchorages used in this study, BBR Network specifies spiral reinforcement made of No.5 rebar (10.25-inch diameter, 2-inch pitch, and 10-inch long) and 12-inch square stirrups to enclose their CONA-CMI 1206 anchorage, this reinforcement is shown in [Figure 3-6\(](#page-78-0)D) in place surrounding the anchorage.

Figure 3-9: Local Zone Reinforcement Provided at Post-Tensioning Anchorage

3.2.6.3 General Zone Reinforcement Calculations

This general zone reinforcement was provided in two orthogonal directions as transverse and "through-thickness" reinforcement, as shown in [Figure 3-10.](#page-82-0) The reinforcing bar types (D, DS, RE, and RC-bars) are illustrated in [Figure 3-6](#page-78-0) through [Figure 3-8](#page-80-0) of Section [3.2.6.1.](#page-77-0)

Figure 3-10: Bursting & Splitting Reinforcement Provided in Orthogonal Directions

The general zone reinforcement was designed to resist the stresses developed during prestress release (pretensioning) and during the stressing of the post-tensioning anchorages. The worst case for the design of the end-block reinforcement assumes the presence of three post-tensioning anchorages and seventy 0.5-inch diameter pretensioning strands. All prestressed reinforcement was assumed to be stressed to 0.75fpu or (202.5 ksi). The post-tensioning bursting reinforcement was designed using the strut-and-tie provisions for post-tensioned anchorages of AASHTO (2013) (§5.10.9.4) while the pretensioning splitting reinforcement was provided in accordance with the "four-percent" method of AASHTO (2013) (§5.10.10.1). These calculations are shown in detail in [Figure 3-11](#page-83-0) through [Figure 3-13.](#page-85-0)

Figure 3-11: Calculations for Transverse Post-tensioning Bursting Reinforcement

Figure 3-12: Calculations for Through-Thickness Reinforcement (D & DS-bars)

Pretensioning Splitting Reinforcement: §5.10.10.1 of AASHTO (2013)

Assuming 80 – 0.5-inch diameter prestressing strands:

 $P_r = f_s A_{s_{ps}} \geq 0.04$ (pretesnioning force)

$$
P_r = 20 \text{ ks}i * A_{S_{PS}}^{req} \ge 0.04 * 70 \text{ strands} \left(\frac{0.153 \text{ in}^2}{\text{strand}}\right) 0.75 * 270 \text{ ks}i
$$

 $A_{S_{PS}}^{req} = 4.3\ in^{2}$ within a distance of h/4 from the end of the member

 $A_{S_{PS}}^{provided} = 4.8\ in^2$ within a distance of 15.5-in. from the end of the member

No. 5 RE and RC - bars Spaced at 4-inches provide 4.8-in.2 within first 15.5-in. of beam.

 $\overline{\text{PT Bursting Reinforcement:}} \quad A^{req}_{spT} = 10.6 \; in^2$

Provide reinforcement over a distance h beginning at 0.2h from end of beam (Bergmeister, et al.,1993)

Provide 10.6 in.2 Reinforcement between 12-in. and 74-in. from beam end *No. 5 RE and RC bars Spaced at 4-inches provide 14.8-in2 of transverse reinforcement between 12-in. and 74-in. from beam end*

 $A_{S_{PT}}^{req} = 10.6$ in $^2 \le A_{S_{PT}}^{provided} = 14.8$ in 2

Figure 3-13: Reinforcement Provided by RE and RC-bars (Bergmeister, et al., 1993)

3.3 TEST SPECIMEN FABRICATION

Although pretensioned girder construction is common in the state of Texas, posttensioned construction is more specialized and the difficulties of constructing a posttensioned end-block cannot be overlooked. This complex construction necessitated that the fabrication of the test girders be done offsite by a precast prestressed beam fabrication plant. The procedure followed during the fabrication of the pretensioned beam specimens (prior to the release of pretensioning force) is discussed in detail in this section. More

specifically this section includes detailed descriptions of: (i) stressing of pretensioning strands, (ii) tying mild reinforcement, (iii) assembly of post-tensioning hardware, and (iv) concrete placement.

(i) Pretensioning strand stressing:

Prior to tying the reinforcement cage the pretensioning strands were strung the length of the prestressing bed (550 feet), and the strands were individually stressed to $0.75f_{pu}$ (202.5 ksi) to a tolerance of \pm 5 percent, as shown in Figure [3-14.](#page-86-0)

Figure 3-14: Individual Stressing of the Pretensioning Strands at Fabrication Plant

(ii) Assembly of reinforcement and post-tensioning hardware:

With the strands fully stressed, the multi-plane anchor head was bolted to the steel end-forms and sealed with silicone to prevent cement paste from leaking into the anchor head during concrete placement (shown in [Figure 3-15](#page-87-0) (A)). After the anchor head was secured, the end-block reinforcing cage was tied around the anchor head beginning with the local zone reinforcement (shown in [Figure 3-15](#page-87-0) (B)) and the transverse reinforcement was put in place along the length of the beam. Then, with most of the reinforcement in place, the post-tensioning duct was threaded through the reinforcement cage, coupled together as necessary, and supported at a minimum of 2-foot intervals along the length of the girder to prevent any movement during casting (as shown in [Figure 3-15](#page-87-0) (C)). Finally, the reinforcement for the top flange was tied, which completed the reinforcement assembly for the test girder (fully tied rebar cage of Tx62-7 shown in [Figure](#page-88-0) $3-16$).

Figure 3-15: (A) Mounting and Sealing Post-Tensioned Anchorage, (B) Local Zone Reinforcement & (C) Duct Supports Spaced at 2 feet

Figure 3-16: End-block reinforcing cage of Tx62-7

(iii) Concrete Placement:

The precast beam fabrication plant chosen for constructing the test specimens had extensive experience with self-consolidating concrete (SCC). The experience of this fabrication plant with SCC was a result of increasing use of this material in the state of Texas. As a result a SCC was used in constructing all of the test specimens. Typically this fabrication plant only uses internal "stinger" type vibrators to consolidate SCC, neglecting the external vibrators required to properly consolidate conventional concrete mixtures. Due to the tight clearances present in the web at the height of the duct and the congestion within the endblock, both external and internal vibrators were used in fabricating test specimens. The internal "stinger" type vibrators were used in the end-blocks (shown in [Figure](#page-89-0) [3-17](#page-89-0) (A)), but could not pass the duct level. Proper consolidation around the duct and into the bottom flange was achieved by taking advantage of the low viscosity

of the SCC mixture and external vibrators (shown in [Figure 3-17](#page-89-0) (B) and (C)). This proper consolidation was confirmed upon cutting of the beams after testing in which consistent aggregate distribution was seen throughout the depth of the test specimens.

Figure 3-17: Concrete Consolidation (A) "Stinger" Type Vibrators Used within End-Block & (B), (C) Self-Consolidating Concrete Flow

3.3.1 Prestress Transfer

After casting, the test specimens were allowed to cure with the side forms in place until the specified release strength (7.50 ksi for all girders) was reached. Once the actual compressive strength of concrete (f_{ci}) exceeded its design value (f_{ci}) the girder was be prepared for prestress transfer. This procedure is described below:

(i) Removal of formwork:

Prior to prestress transfer, both side forms were removed while end forms and soffit remained in place, as shown in [Figure 3-18.](#page-90-0) Then the girder ends were lifted and small Teflon shims were installed between the soffit of the beams and the steel forms to prevent any damage during the sliding that is routinely observed in this plant operation.

Figure 3-18: Removal of Side Forms Prior to Prestress Transfer

(ii) Removal of prestressing bulkhead spacer blocks:

Steel spacer blocks were used to hold the prestressing force during individual strand stressing and during the fabrication/casting process, as shown in [Figure](#page-91-0) [3-19\(](#page-91-0)A). Prior to prestress transfer, hydraulic rams were extended far enough to loosen these spacers such that they can be moved out of the way to allow the bulkhead to retract [\(Figure 3-19](#page-91-0) (B)).

Figure 3-19: Prestress Release: (A) Bulkhead with spacer blocks and rams in-place & (B) Gang release of prestressing strands by retracting rams

(iii) Prestress Transfer (Gang Release of Strands):

With the rams extended and the spacers removed all of the pretensioning force was transferred from the spacers to the rams. The hydraulic pressure was then slowly released from the rams and the gang stressing plate was permitted to slowly retract and transfer the pretensioning force (shown in [Figure 3-19](#page-91-0) (B)).

With all of the prestressing force transferred, the strands were flame cut so that the test specimens could be moved into storage prior to transporting to Phil M. Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory (FSEL).

3.3.2 Post-Tensioning Procedure

Upon arrival at FSEL, the girders were removed from the truck by a two crane lift system, shown in [Figure 3-20.](#page-92-0) After the girders had been placed in their final location for testing the girders were post-tensioned by following the procedure listed here and illustrated in [Figure 3-21.](#page-93-0)

Figure 3-20: Two Crane Lift System at FSEL

(i) Installation of strands:

For each test specimen, 12 - 0.6-inch diameter prestressing strands were manually installed in the duct, as shown [Figure 3-21\(](#page-93-0)A)).

Figure 3-21: Post-tensioning Procedure

(ii) Installation of stressing anchor heads:

The stressing anchor heads were then installed with their chucks as shown in [Figure 3-21](#page-93-0) (B) on both live and dead-end anchorages. The chucks were set by striking them with a metal pipe threaded onto the individual prestressing strand.

(iii) Installation of the post-tensioning button:

A stressing "button" was used to react against the post-tensioning anchor head during stressing, as shown in [Figure 3-21](#page-93-0) (C). The "button" benefitted from the automotive valve springs used to prevent excessive set losses at the completion of post-tensioning.

(iv) Installation of 1,300 kip center-hole ram:

A 1,300 kip center-hole ram was used to apply the post-tensioning force, as shown in [Figure 3-21](#page-93-0) (D). A system calibration was conducted on this ram coupled with a pressure transducer. Strain readings obtained from a vibrating wire gauge and strand elongation measurements were also used to double check the magnitude of the post-tensioning force

(v) Installation and seating of the outer, stressing anchor head:

An additional post-tensioning anchor head was used to stress the strands as shown in [Figure 3-21](#page-93-0) (E). After the strands were fully stressed the ram was retracted and the strands were cut between the ram and this second stressing anchor head.

(vi) Stressing post-tensioning tendon by 20 percent increments:

With all equipment in place, the tendon was slowly stressed to 105 percent of the jacking force (jacking force equal to $0.75f_{pu}$, 202.5 ksi, 44 kips per strand, or 527 kips total) in 20 percent increments. At each interval, elongation and vibrating wire gauge readings were taken, as shown in [Figure 3-21](#page-93-0) (F). These values were then compared to the expected values given the load applied by the ram to ensure both accuracy and safety of the operation.

(vii) Retracting ram and set loss calculations:

As previously stated, the post-tensioning tendon was over-stressed to 105 percent to account, in part, for the set losses of the chucks. Once this force level was reached vibrating wire gauge readings were taken, the hydraulic pressure on the ram was released allowing set losses to occur, and final vibrating wire gauge readings were taken. The readings of the vibrating wire gauges (in addition to the tested elastic modulus of the concrete) were then used as described in Section [3.3.4](#page-100-0) to calculate the losses and determine the final post-tensioning force.

3.3.3 Grouting Procedure

After the post-tensioning tendon was stressed, the tendon was grouted with BASF's Masterflow 1205 post-tensioning grout by following the procedure outlined within this section. Four grout vents were used in all post-tensioned girders. Two of these were mounted on grout caps, which were used to seal the exterior of the anchor head for grouting, as shown in [Figure 3-22](#page-96-0) (A). The remaining two grout vents originated from the top of each anchor head, as shown in [Figure 3-22](#page-96-0) (B), and extended through the top of the girder, shown in [Figure 3-22](#page-96-0) (C). To prepare the vents for grouting, brass shut-off valves were installed at all exits, and the grout vents extending through the top of the girder were supported to prevent the hose from kinking, as shown in [Figure 3-22](#page-96-0) (C). Finally, the vents extending through the top of the girder were connected to the grout plant by a series of two pressure gauges and an additional shut-off valve, as shown in [Figure 3-22](#page-96-0) (D).

Figure 3-22: Grout vent connections

Prior to mixing, grout and water were weighed out in the correct proportions specified by the grout manufacturer. Due to mechanical problems with the grout plant' mixing apparatus, the grout plant was used only for pumping and the grout mixing was performed in barrels with mixing heads attached to drills, as shown in [Figure 3-23.](#page-97-0) The grout was mixed in three 50 lb. bag batches and tested by the modified flow cone test method (ASTM C939-*modified*) to ensure the grout efflux time was within the 5 to 15 seconds (a 5-30 second range is recommended by the Post-Tensioning Institute (PTI (2012)) §4.4.5)). If the grout did not meet the recommended flow rate, water was added and the process was repeated (as illustrated in [Figure 3-23\)](#page-97-0) until the grout reached the correct viscosity.

Figure 3-23: Grout mixing procedure

Once the grout met the specified viscosity, equal samples from each batch were taken and used to cast 2-inch cubes for future compression testing (in accordance with

ASTM C109). Once the quality of the mixed grout was verified and compression samples were taken, the grouting of the tendon was performed by the procedure shown in [Figure](#page-98-0) [3-24](#page-98-0) and described in this section.

Figure 3-24: Grout Pumping Procedure

(i) Priming the pump and pumping grout:

Grout was manually poured into the grout hopper, as shown in [Figure 3-24](#page-98-0) (A), to prime the grout pump. Once the hopper had been filled, the pump was engaged and the hopper was monitored and refilled to ensure that fresh grout was always

present. During this time, all grout not currently being pumped was slowly agitated to ensure it did not set.

(ii) Shutting grout vents:

In accordance with the Post-Tensioning Institute "*Specification for Grouting of Post-tensioned Structures*" (PTI, 2012), all of the grout vent valves were open during initial grout pumping. The grout vents were closed in succession when 2 gallons of grout was expelled, as shown in [Figure 3-24](#page-98-0) (B).

(iii) Checking for Leaks:

Immediately after the final grout vent was closed, the grout inlet port was sealed and the pump was powered down. With this valve closed the pressure gauge (shown in [Figure 3-24](#page-98-0) (C)) was monitored for any loss of pressure, i.e. a leak in the system.

(iv) Sealing grout system for curing:

Once the system had been checked for leaks the final shut-off valve was closed and the grout plant was detached from the grout vent. The grout plant was then cleaned and the grouted duct left to cure (shown in [Figure 3-24](#page-98-0) (D)).

3.3.4 Deck Placement

After the test specimens had been grouted, an 8-inch-thick deck was placed to increase moment capacity and to provide test conditions that reflect field conditions more closely. This deck was two inches narrower than the top flange of the girder, as shown in [Figure 3-25,](#page-100-1) to ease formwork construction. The concrete used for the deck was sourced from a local ready-mix concrete supplier. The concrete material properties for the deck can be found in Section [3.2.3.](#page-72-0)

Figure 3-25: Deck Dimensions (consistent dimensions not shown)

3.3.4 Vibrating Wire Gauge Installation and Usage

Vibrating wire gauges (VWG) (shown in [Figure 3-26\)](#page-101-0) were the only internal instrumentation used during the testing program. This type of gauge has the advantage of not requiring continuous monitoring (as is common with many other strain gauges), as well as being able to monitor the internal temperature of the girder by the use of an internal thermocouple. These VWGs were used to monitor the pretensioning losses due to elastic shortening, creep, and shrinkage between the time of prestress transfer and the time of testing. They were also used to monitor the post-tensioning force applied to the girder, and, more importantly, to calculate the set-loss of the post-tensioning strands after the post-tensioning operation was completed. Because VWGs measure strains, they are

unable to capture relaxation losses; these losses are small in magnitude and can be accurately estimated using AASHTO (2013) prestress loss calculation methods.

Figure 3-26: Vibrating Wire Gauge Attached to Top Strands

Three gauges, located at mid-span and spaced vertically, were used for the prestressing loss measurements. A "zero" reading was taken immediately before the pretensioning strands were released, but after the side forms were removed. After the gang stressing plate was fully retracted and the strands were flame cut to remove any residual tension, additional readings were taken, which, when processed, revealed the immediate prestress losses. Readings were also taken both before and after the girder was post-tensioned to account for any prestress losses that occurred as a result of the elastic shortening during the post-tensioning process.

VWG data requires little post-processing to convert measured micro-strain output to prestress loss. A temperature correction is required to normalize strain readings for varying temperatures the girder experiences throughout a day (Gallardo, 2014). The corrected strains were then applied in the manner shown in [Figure 3-27](#page-102-0) to find the strain at the centroid of the prestressing steel in question. The stress at the centroid of the prestressing steel was then found by multiplying this strain by the elastic modulus of the prestressing strand and subtracting the initial "jacking" stress (measured by the precaster at approximately 202.5 ksi).

Figure 3-27: Explanation of VWG Calculation for Prestress Losses (Gallardo, 2014)

The primary difference between the calculations for determining the pretensioning losses and the calculations for determining the post-tensioning force applied to the girder is that the stress in the pretensioned strands are assumed to initially be 202.5 ksi (0.75*fpu*). In the case of the post-tensioning the applied force must be directly calculated as a result of the strains experienced by the three vibrating wire gauges located at the mid-span of the girder. In order to accurately calculate this value the elastic

modulus of the girder concrete must first be tested (in accordance to ASTM C469) and used in the equation as explained in [Figure 3-28.](#page-103-0)

Figure 3-28: Explanation of Calculation for Post-Tensioning Force (Gallardo, 2014)

3.4 SPECIMEN TESTING AND PROTOCOL

All girders were tested to failure in shear at the FSEL. The test specimens were designed to accommodate two shear tests per specimen, but in several cases the damage incurred during the first test proved too extensive to perform a subsequent test. Therefore, eleven shear tests were successfully performed on seven test specimens over the course of this experimental program. The dates the shear tests and spans tested for each girder are outlined in [Table 3-5.](#page-104-0) The layout, instrumentation, and loading procedures for the shear testing of these girders is described in the following sections.

$G \iota \nvert^{i}$	Test at North End	Test at South End
$Tx62-I$	August 17, 2012	damaged, not tested
$Tx62-2$	October 29, 2012	October 16, 2012
$Tx62-3$	damaged, not tested	December 10, 2012
$Tx62-4$	May 6, 2013	June 5, 2013
$Tx62-5$	February 20, 2013	February 11, 2013
$Tx62-6$	September 24, 2013	September 5, 2013
$Tx62-7$	damaged, not tested	December 6, 2013

Table 3-5: Tests Performed at FSEL

† girders named in order cast, not tested

3.4.1 Shear Span and Loading Configuration

All girder end-regions contained two 7.5-foot long thickened end-blocks. It was important that a significant portion of the shear span be outside of the thickened endblock region so that the capacity of the thinner (weaker) section of girder could be evaluated. The second major consideration was the weight of the girder. Once the deck was placed on the girder the weight of the girder (78-kips) was too great to be lifted with the two overhead cranes available at FSEL. Since two tests were expected out of every girder it was important that the specimen configuration was such that it did not require lifting between two successive tests. After all of these items were considered the final configuration decided on was a shear span of 14.25 feet and a back span of 20 feet, as shown in [Figure 3-30.](#page-106-0) The 14.25-foot shear span yields a shear span-to-depth ratio of 3.0 for all girders with the exception of the control specimen (Tx62-3) for which the shear

span-to-depth ratio was 2.7. In this context, it is important to appreciate that in testing the control specimen the same shear span used in testing other specimens was used but lack of post-tensing reinforcement changed the center of gravity of the strands by resulting in an increased d_p . After testing the first girder, this layout was modified slightly by increasing the back span to 22 feet but keeping the shear span at the original 14.25 feet. This configuration (shown in [Figure 3-29](#page-105-0) and [Figure 3-30\)](#page-106-0) was maintained throughout the remaining ten tests and allowed for the second test region to remain undamaged during the first test by overhanging it over the far support.

Figure 3-29: 2,000-kip Load Frame

Figure 3-30: Shear Test Span Layout

3.4.2 Shear Test Instrumentation

Several types of external instrumentation used during testing included: linear potentiometers, pressure transducers, and load cells in various configurations. The VWG were not monitored during shear testing, but a single reading was taken prior to the first test to determine the amount of prestressing force on the girder (as discussed in Section [3.3.4\)](#page-100-0).

Four 1,000-kip load cells were used to measure the load flowing through each support (as shown in [Figure 3-31\)](#page-107-0). To ensure accuracy, load readings were taken at the time a test specimen was lowered onto the support (dead load of the test specimen), when

the load frame (shown in [Figure 3-31\)](#page-107-0) was placed on the girder (dead load of load frame), and continuously during shear testing (applied load). Because these force measurements were being taken from the support by the load-cells it was possible to accurately determine the shear loads applied to each girder end, and therefore accurately determine the total shear force acting on the girder during testing. In addition to the load cell readings a pressure transducer was used to confirm the applied load during shear testing, as noted in [Figure 3-31.](#page-107-0)

Figure 3-31: Load Frame Instrumentation

2- and 4-inch linear potentiometers were used to measure the deflection of the girder at the supports and load point, as shown in [Figure 3-31.](#page-107-0) The load point deflection experienced by the test specimen was calculated by subtracting out the deflection of the
supports, due to compression of the elastomeric bearing pads, relative to the deflection of the beam at the load point.

Since an out-of-plane splitting failure mechanism was observed during panel testing at the location of the post-tensioning duct. A measurement system was devised to investigate if the same behavior was going to occur in the full-scale girder tests. These measurements were taken in three locations on each side of the beam with 2-inch linear potentiometers mounted in the frame shown in [Figure 3-32.](#page-108-0) The measurements taken from these six potentiometers were then used (as shown in [Figure 3-33\)](#page-109-0) to find the total expansion, within the web, at the duct level relative to the top and bottom potentiometer locations.

Figure 3-32: Web Expansion Measurement System

Figure 3-33: Web Expansion at Duct Level Calculation

3.4.3 Loading Procedure

During all tests the beam specimens were loaded until shear failure occurred. This load was applied using the 2,000-kip load frame, as shown in [Figure 3-34](#page-110-0) (A). Load was applied in 50-kip increments until first cracking was observed. For girders with a posttensioning duct, first cracking occurred in two stages: the first being a shear crack at the duct location, the second being a shear crack extending the full depth of the web. After first cracking was observed, the girders were loaded in 75-kip increments. Between each load increment the girder webs were visually inspected for crack growth and cracks were marked with felt-tipped permanent markers, as shown in [Figure 3-34](#page-110-0) (B).

Figure 3-34: Cracks Marked with Felt Tip Marker

3.5 TEST SPECIMEN DETAILS

A summary of the details of the experimental study described in this chapter are provided in [Table 3-6](#page-111-0) and [Table 3-7.](#page-112-0) The variables used in these tables are described as follows:

 $\varnothing_{\text{duct}}$ = The nominal diameter of the post-tensioning duct. (*inches*)

bw = The gross web width of the test specimen. (*inches*)

 ρ ^{*v*} = The transverse reinforcement ratio as calculated by: $(A_{vs}/b_w s)$

 f_{yy} = The measured yield strength of the transverse reinforcement. (*ksi*)

 f_c = The compressive strength of the concrete or grout at the time of testing. (*ksi*)

 f_t = The split-cylinder (tensile) strength of the specimen. (*ksi*)

Aps = The area of the prestressed reinforcement. (*inches*)

Stress = The stress in the prestressed reinforcement measured at the time of testing by VWGs as described in Section [3.3.4.](#page-100-0)

				Transverse Reinforcement		Girder				
Test Specimen	Duct Material	\varnothing_{duct} (in.)	b_w (in.)	ρ_v (%)	f_{yy} (ksi)	Size & Spacing	f_c^{\prime} (ksi)	f'_t (ksi)	Deck f'_c (ksi)	Grout f'_{c} (ksi)
$Tx62-I(S)$	Plastic	3	7	0.95	67.0	#4 ω 6"	10.58	0.94	7.27	5.15
$Tx62-2(S)$	Steel	$\overline{3}$	τ	0.95	68.3	#4 $@$ 6"	11.97	0.89	11.43	5.66
$Tx62-2(N)$	Steel	3	$\overline{7}$	0.95	68.3	#4 (a) 6"	11.97	0.89	9.39	4.28
$Tx62-3(S)$	No Duct	$\overline{3}$	τ	1.43	67.4	#4 $@$ 6"	11.69	1.07	9.61	
$Tx62-4(S)$	Steel	$\overline{3}$	τ	1.43	66.5	#4 ω 4"	13.92	1.15	12.7	9.92
$Tx62-4(N)$	Plastic	$\overline{3}$	τ	0.32	66.5	#4 (a) 4"	13.61	1.00	11.11	9.38
$Tx62-5(S)$	Plastic	$\overline{3}$	τ	0.32	67.4	#4 @ $18"$	12.45	0.90	7.59	6.33
$Tx62-5(N)$	Steel	3	τ	1.15	67.4	#4 @ $18"$	12.45	1.04	8.15	6.93
$Tx62-6(S)$	Plastic	$\overline{4}$	9	1.15	74.4	#5 ω 6"	12.35	0.94	8.16	7.92
$Tx62-6(N)$	Steel	$\overline{4}$	9	1.15	74.4	#5 $@$ 6"	13.16	1.01	9.77	8.43
$Tx62-7(S)$	Steel	3	9	0.95	75.1	#5 ω 6"	12.20	1.05	9.66	7.17

Table 3-6: Summary of Test Specimen Details (Part 1 of 2)

	Top Pretensioning					Pretensioning Reinforcement			Post-Tensioning Reinforcement				
	Reinforcement					in Tension Zone				in Tension Zone			
Test Specimen	Force (kips)	Stress (ksi)	A_{ps} (in^2)	y_p (in.)	Force (kips)	Stress (ksi)	A_{ps} (in^2)	y_p (in.)	Force (kips)	Stress (ksi)	A_{ps} (in^2)	y_p (in.)	
$Tx62-I(S)$	117	192	0.61	57.5	1663	165	10.1	6.44	318	122	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-2(S)$	118	193	0.61	57.5	1679	166	10.1	6.44	434	167	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-2(N)$	118	193	0.61	57.5	1679	166	10.1	6.44	434	167	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-3(S)$	122	199	0.61	57.5	1699	168	10.1	6.44	--		--		
$Tx62-4(S)$	120	195	0.61	57.5	1691	168	10.1	6.44	490	188	2.6.	35.25	
$Tx62-4(N)$	120	195	0.61	57.5	1691	168	10.1	6.44	490	188	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-5(S)$	119	195	0.61	57.5	1720	170	10.1	6.44	478	183	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-5(N)$	119	195	0.61	57.5	1720	170	10.1	6.44	478	183	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-6(S)$	176	192	0.92	56.5	1887	167	11.3	7.64	488	187	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-6(N)$	176	192	0.92	56.5	1887	167	11.3	7.64	488	187	2.6	35.25	
$Tx62-7(S)$	175	190	0.92	56.5	1856	164	11.3	7.64	490	188	2.6	35.25	

Table 3-7: Summary of Test Specimen Details (Part 2 of 2)

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3.6 SUMMARY

In order to meet the objective of this experimental study, seven full scale Tx62 bulb-tee test specimens were constructed at a fabrication plant, and eleven shear tests were performed on these specimens at FSEL. The primary variables under investigation were the transverse reinforcement ratio, the duct diameter-to-web width ratio, and the duct material. The information on their construction and their material properties has been provided within this chapter. The following chapters provide the results and conclusions that were reached as a result of the tests performed on these test specimens.

CHAPTER 4

Experimental Results & Observations

4.1 INTRODUCTION

During the course of this experimental program, eleven shear tests were performed on seven prestressed concrete girders. Of these, ten tests were conducted on specimens that contained a post-tensioning duct within their web and additional pretensioning reinforcement in their bottom and top flanges. The remaining shear test was conducted on a control specimen that did not have a post-tensioning duct but contained the same pretensioning reinforcement as many of the post-tensioned specimens. This chapter presents the behavioral characteristics of these eleven test specimens at service level loads and at their ultimate state as they relate to the five primary variables discussed in Chapter 3:

- (i) Presence of a post-tensioning duct
- (ii) Post-tensioning duct material (plastic or steel)
- (iii) Web-width
- (iv) Duct Diameter
- (v) Transverse Reinforcement Ratio

4.2 SUMMARY OF SERVICE LEVEL SHEAR BEHAVIOR

Service level shear behavior is defined in this dissertation as the early cracking behavior of a prestressed concrete specimen at shear forces of approximately 50 percent of the ultimate capacity of the specimen. This definition of service level shear force follows a similar approach to that given in Birrcher, et al. (2009) which relates the experimental ultimate shear capacity to the nominal capacity of a section as described in [Figure 4-1](#page-115-0)

Figure 4-1: Service Level Load as a Function of V_{test} (Birrcher, et al., 2009)

As shown in [Figure 4-1,](#page-115-0) the load factor design equation of AASHTO (2013) can be written such that the ratio of the shear resistance factor (ϕ) to the load factor (η) is equal to the ratio of the service level loads to the nominal shear capacity. This relationship, and the assumption listed in [Figure 4-1,](#page-115-0) can be used to calculate the ratio of the service level shear force to the experimental shear capacity $(V_{\text{service}}/V_{\text{test}})$ as approximately 0.5. It should be clear that several assumptions are necessary to calculate this value and that a change in any of these assumptions can alter this ratio. Therefore, this definition should be seen as a description of service level loads and not a limit of any kind. In this chapter the discussion of service level loads covers shear cracking behaviors occurring at loads of between 29 and 75 percent of ultimate in an effort to cover all relevant behavior prior to that at ultimate shear capacity.

Two types of service level cracks were observed during this experimental program. First, all post-tensioned girder specimens experienced diagonal hairline cracks located in the vicinity of the duct that occurred at a shear force of (V_{LC}) . The second set of service level shear cracks covered the full-depth of the web (full-depth cracking) and were consistent with the first cracking behavior of pretensioned girders loaded in shear (Avendaño & Bayrak, 2008). These full-depth cracks were seen in the post-tensioned specimens and in the pretensioned control specimen and occurred at a shear force of (V_{FD}) . These two distinct cracking patterns are illustrated in [Figure 4-2,](#page-117-0) and the shear forces corresponding to these two crack types are given in [Table 4-1](#page-118-0) for all test specimens. The effects of the primary experimental variables on the service level shear behavior are discussed within Sections [4.4](#page-136-0) through [4.7.](#page-152-0)

(A) Localized diagonal cracks along post-tensioning duct occur at shear force (V_{LC})

(B) Full-depth cracks occur at shear force (V_{FD})

Figure 4-2: Two Types of Service Level Shear Cracking Behavior (showing Tx62-4(S))

		Duct	Web				Localized Cracking at Duct (V_{LC})		Full-Depth Cracking (V_{FD})
Test Specimen	Duct Material	Diameter b_w (inches)	Width φ_{duct} (inches)	\emptyset_{duct} b_w	$\rho_v f_{yv}$ (ksi)	V_{LC} (kips)	V_{LC} V_{test}	V_{FD} (kips)	V_{FD} V_{test}
$Tx62-I(S)$	Plastic				0.638	196	0.29	371	0.54
$Tx62-2(S)$	Steel				0.650	272	0.33	478	0.59
$Tx62-2(N)$	Steel	3			0.650	286	0.38	476	0.64
$Tx62-3(S)$	No Duct		$\overline{7}$	0.43	0.642			404	0.41
$Tx62-4(S)$	Steel				0.950	364	0.44	546	0.66
$Tx62-4(N)$	Plastic				0.950	281	0.34	539	0.65
$Tx62-5(S)$	Plastic				0.214	272	0.39	469	0.67
$Tx62-5(N)$	Steel				0.214	331	0.45	452	0.61
$Tx62-6(S)$	Plastic				0.854	319	0.34	699	0.75
$Tx62-6(N)$	Steel	$\overline{4}$	9	0.44	0.854	315	0.29	669	0.61
$Tx62 - 7(S)$	Steel	3		0.33	0.862	411	0.35	600	0.51
$*V_{test}$ is the ultimate tested shear strength of the girder including the dead load as described in Section 4.3.3									

Table 4-1: Localized Cracks at Duct Documented at a Shear Force of V_{LC}

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4.3 SUMMARY OF STRENGTH DATA

All specimens fabricated during this experimental program were loaded in shear as described in Chapter 3 until they reached shear failure. This section summarizes the results of this experimental program in relation to the ultimate shear capacities of all test specimens.

4.3.1 Web Expansion Measurements

As discussed in Section 3.4.2, linear potentiometers were used to measure the outof-plane expansion of each test specimen web at the centroid of the post-tensioning duct. The localized out-of-plane expansion at the duct level was determined by subtracting expansion measurements taken six inches above and below the duct centroid. This localized expansion was measured as a means of detecting and monitoring a splitting failure of the concrete in the direct vicinity of the duct. This splitting mechanism has its basis in the small scale panel testing which is discussed in Chapter 2 and is covered in more detail in Appendix A. The splitting failure mechanism assumes that the webs of a test specimen will split out of the plane of the web as the compressive stresses flow out and around the post-tensioning duct. No splitting failure mechanism was explicitly witnessed during the girder testing program, but the web expansion measurements did prove useful in confirming the visual confirmations of service level cracking. The web expansion measurements of all test specimens are shown in [Figure 4-3](#page-120-0) through [Figure](#page-122-0) [4-5](#page-122-0) with the exception of the measurements from Tx62-1(S) which was tested before the web expansion measurement system was implemented. The service level cracking loads $(V_{\rm LC}$ and $V_{\rm FD}$) are denoted in each figure.

Figure 4-3: Web Expansion Measurements taken at mid-height of the web corresponding with the Location of the Post-Tensioning Duct where applicable (1 of 3)

(an explanation of the web expansion measurements is provided in section 3.4.2)

Figure 4-4: Web Expansion Measurements taken at mid-height of the web corresponding with the Location of the Post-Tensioning Duct where applicable (2 of 3) (an explanation of the web expansion measurements is provided in section 3.4.2)

Figure 4-5: Web Expansion Measurements taken at mid-height of the web corresponding with the Location of the Post-Tensioning Duct where applicable (3 of 3)

(an explanation of the web expansion measurements is provided in section 3.4.2)

4.3.2 Shear-Compression Failure Mechanism

The failure mechanism observed in all of the test specimens was characterized by shear-compression failure of the web concrete. For the ten tests performed on the posttensioned specimens this crushing occurred in the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct, while for the control specimen it occurred over the full-depth of the web. The differences between these failure mechanisms as it pertains to the first primary experimental variable (duct presence) are discussed in detail in Section [4.4.](#page-136-0)

After initial shear-compression failure occurred, the specimens could no longer sustain the ultimate load and, although additional displacement was applied, the girders never again reached the maximum shear force applied at the time of crushing. The failure cracks of all post-tensioned specimens are shown in [Figure 4-6](#page-124-0) through [Figure 4-8.](#page-126-0) The cracks which caused concrete spalling at the time that the ultimate shear force was applied are shown in red in [Figure 4-6](#page-124-0) through [Figure 4-8](#page-126-0) and referred to as the "primary failure cracks". The average angle for the primary failure cracks are denoted below each figure.

Figure 4-6: Failure Mechanisms of Test Specimens Primary Failure Cracks in Red (Part 1 of 3)

Figure 4-7: Failure Mechanisms of Test Specimens Primary Failure Cracks in Red (Part 2 of 3)

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Figure 4-8: Failure Mechanisms of Test Specimens Primary Failure Cracks in Red (Part 3 of 3)

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4.3.3 Critical Section and Calculation of Shear Force at Ultimate State

The total shear force that the girder experienced during testing consisted of three components: girder self-weight, load frame self-weight, and applied load. As was discussed in Chapter 3, these forces were measured by load cells at each support. While the load readings at the support were measured, additional calculations were needed to determine the shear force at the critical section. Determination of the location of the critical section was made more complicated by the thickened end-block and the taper to the standard cross-section. The shear force diagram shown in [Figure 4-9](#page-128-0) was used to calculate the shear force at the critical section. The critical section was taken at the maximum of the location according to AASHTO (2013) or the termination of the endblock [\(Equation 4-1\)](#page-128-1). The location at the termination of the end-block controlled the critical section for all test specimens. This location is reasonably close to the location of the failure cracks shown in [Figure 4-6](#page-124-0) through [Figure 4-8.](#page-126-0)

The weight of the load frame and the applied load were both taken as point loads. In summary, the shear force at failure can be calculated as the sum of the shear force due to the self-weight of the girder at the critical section, the weight of the load frame transmitted through the "test-region" side support, and the *maximum* applied load transmitted to the support during testing.

Figure 4-9: Shear Force Diagram and Explanation of Critical Section (not to scale)

$$
x_{crit} = max \left\{ \frac{l_{bp}}{2} + max \left[\frac{0.5d_v \cot \theta}{d_v} \right] \right\}
$$
 Equation 4-1

where:

- *xcrit* = The distance from the center of the support to the critical section. (*inches*)
- *lbp* = The length of the bearing pad in the direction of the shear span. (*inches*)
- d_v = The effective shear depth of the girder taken in accordance with AASHTO (2013) (*inches*)
- θ = Angle of the principle diagonal compressive stress with respect to the longitudinal axis of the member taken in accordance with AASHTO (2013)

 x_{eb} = The distance from the center of the "test-region" side support to the termination of the end-block taper. (*inches*)

4.3.4 Load-Deflection Behavior

As shown in [Figure 4-10,](#page-129-0) many post-tensioned girders exhibited some level of residual strength after the peak load was reached. To ensure that two tests were possible for each girder, the first test was halted after the initial crushing of the concrete was visible at the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct and the ultimate applied load had dropped as a result of this crushing failure [\(Figure 4-10\(](#page-129-0)A)). When testing the second half of the girder (as described in Chapter 3), the beams were subjected to additional displacements until the residual strength [\(Figure 4-10\(](#page-129-0)B)) of the girder had been exhausted [\(Figure 4-10\(](#page-129-0)C)). The load-deflection plots of all specimens tested during this study are shown in [Figure 4-11](#page-130-0) and [Figure 4-12.](#page-131-0)

*Figure 4-10: Shear Force - Deflection Plot of Tx62-2N *shear force includes dead load at critical section see section [4.3.3](#page-127-0) for an explanation*

*Figure 4-11: Load – Deflection Plots of all Test Specimens (Part 1 of 2) *shear force includes dead load at critical section see section [4.3.3](#page-127-0) for an explanation*

 (K) Load – Deflection Plot of Tx62-7(S)

*Figure 4-12: Load – Deflection Plots of all Test Specimens (Part 2 of 2) *shear force includes dead load at critical section see section [4.3.3](#page-127-0) for an explanation*

4.3.5 Average Shear Stress at Ultimate

The average shear stress calculation used in this chapter is described by [Equation](#page-27-0) [2-8](#page-27-0) and [Figure 4-13.](#page-132-0) The approach taken in [Figure 4-13](#page-132-0) implies that the average shear stress at ultimate state is primarily carried by the web $(b_w d_v)$ and that the vertical component of post-tensioning force (V_p) contributes to the shear stress by reducing the applied shear force (*Vtest*). All specimens tested in this study, with the exception of the control specimen, had a post-tensioning tendon profile with a constant eccentricity and zero slope. Conversely, it is important to appreciate the fact that V_p was not zero for some specimens included in the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders.

Figure 4-13: Calculation of Ultimate (Tested) Shear Stress

$$
v_{test} = \frac{V_{test} - V_p}{b_w d_v}
$$
 Equation 4-2

where:

Vtest = The maximum shear force carried by specimen. (*kips*) V_p = The vertical component of the prestressing force. (*kips*) b_w = The gross web width of specimen(*inches*)

 d_v = Effective shear depth measured perpendicular to the neutral axis between the compressive and tensile resultants due to flexure, but not to be taken as less than the greater of 0.9*(transformed steel area's depth) or 0.72*h.*(*inches*)

It is beneficial to normalize the shear stress of these specimens by some function of the concrete strength before examining the effects of other variables. The two most common methods for normalizing the ultimate shear stress are by the concrete strength (typically done for shear-compression failures) or the square root of the compressive strength (typically for sectional-shear type failures) (Birrcher, et al., 2009). As AASHTO (2013) utilizes both values in various provisions of shear design, both could be considered relevant methods for normalizing the stress. Normalization by the concrete strength was chosen for use here because of the relevance to the 0.25*f'c* maximum shear stress limit on calculated shear stress imposed by §5.8.3.3 of AASHTO (2013) for the General Shear Procedure. The purpose of this limit is to prevent the web concrete from crushing before the transverse reinforcement can fully yield; therefore, the relationship of the tested shear stress capacity to this limit was deemed to be a relevant variable and more useful than normalizing by the square root of the concrete strength. It is also important to recognize that this decision is consistent with the principles on which the Modified Compression Field Theory is founded. The relationship of the normalized ultimate shear stress is shown in relation to the concrete compressive strength in [Figure](#page-134-0) [4-14.](#page-134-0)

Figure 4-14: Normalized Ultimate Shear Stress vs. Concrete Compressive Strength

4.3.6 Comparison of Tested Capacities to Shear Design Procedure Calculations

The tested shear capacities of the Tx62 test specimens are compared to four shear design procedures from ACI 318-11 and AASHTO (2013) in [Table 4-2.](#page-135-0) As shown in [Table 4-2,](#page-135-0) the General Procedure of §5.8.2.9 of AASHTO (2013) results in the lowest mean and standard deviation when the calculated capacity is compared to the tested capacity (V_{test}/V_n) . This topic is discussed in more detail in Chapter 5 with the analysis of the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders and the full calculations for the shear strengths of all test specimens are given in Appendix C.

							AASHTO(2013)		ACI 318-11	
Test	Duct	Duct Diameter	Web Width	\emptyset_{duct}	$\rho_v f_{yv}$	V_{test}	General \$5.8.2.9	Segmental \$5.8.6.5	Detailed \$11.3.3\$	Simplified \$11.3.2\$
Specimen	Material	(inches)	(inches)	b_w	(ksi)	(kips)		V_{test} / V_n		
$Tx62-I(S)$	Plastic			0.638 687 1.13 1.25 0.650 816 0.650 749 1.17 1.38 0.642 986 0.43 0.97 0.950 831 0.98 832 0.950 703 1.86 0.214 1.93 0.214 735				1.77	1.51	1.82
$Tx62-2(S)$	Steel							2.03	1.73	2.12
$Tx62-2(N)$	Steel	$\overline{3}$						1.87	1.59	1.95
$Tx62-3(S)$	No Duct		$\overline{7}$		2.06	2.21	2.29			
$Tx62-4(S)$	Steel							1.85	1.39	1.65
$Tx62-4(N)$	Plastic							1.88	1.41	1.66
$Tx62-5(S)$	Plastic							3.09	2.32	3.37
$Tx62-5(N)$	Steel							3.23	2.42	3.52
$Tx62-6(S)$	Plastic	$\overline{4}$		0.44	0.854	930	0.98	1.74	1.31	1.56
$Tx62-6(N)$	Steel		9		0.854	1099	1.14	2.00	1.54	1.84
$Tx62-7(S)$	Steel	$\overline{3}$		0.33	0.862	1166	1.20	2.05	1.64	1.95
Mean								2.14	1.73	2.16
Standard Deviation			0.32	0.49	0.38	0.64				

Table 4-2: Tx62 Test Result Summary and Shear Strength Calculations for AASHTO (2013) and ACI 318-11

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4.4 PRESENCE OF A POST-TENSIONING DUCT

The purpose of this test variable was to evaluate the differences in shear behavior seen between the tests performed on Tx62-3(S) which did not have a post-tensioning tendon (hereafter the "control specimen") and the ten post-tensioned specimens. These differences are explained within this section.

4.4.1 Service Level Shear Behavior

The location of the first diagonal shear cracks that appeared in the test specimens were dependent on the presence of a post-tensioning duct. For the control specimen the first diagonal cracks occurred in the upper half of the web and expanded to fill the remainder of the web as the load was increased. For this girder the initial service level cracking happened at a shear force of V_{FD} , these cracks are shown in [Figure 4-15\(](#page-137-0)A). All post-tensioned specimens exhibited first diagonal cracks in the vicinity of the posttensioning duct at a shear force of V_{LC} , as shown in [Figure 4-15\(](#page-137-0)B). The localized cracking in the vicinity of the duct occurred at approximately the same percentage of the ultimate shear strength that the full-depth cracking occurred in the control test specimen, as shown in [Table 4-3.](#page-137-1) The values for the service level cracking shears forces (V_{LC} and *V_{FD}*) can be found for all test specimens in [Table 4-1](#page-118-0) of Section [4.2.](#page-114-0)

(A) Tx62-3(S): Control Girder *First Cracking at V_{FD}*= 0.41V_{test}

(B) Tx62-4(S): Steel Duct *First Cracking at* $V_{LC} = 0.44V_{test}$

Figure 4-15: Differences Observed between Control Specimen and Post-Tensioned Specimens at Service Level Loads (V_{LC} and V_{FD})

	Control Specimen		Mean of all Post-Tensioned Specimens				
$n = 1$ test	V_{LC} ^v test	V_{FD} V _{test}	$n = 10$ tests	v_{LC} V_{test}	V_{FD} V_{test}		
$Tx62-3(S)$	--	0.41	Mean	0.36	0.63		

Table 4-3: Service Level Cracking for Post-Tensioned and Control Specimens

4.4.2 Shear Failure Mechanism

All specimens tested during this experimental program failed due to the crushing of the compression field in the web of the specimen, commonly referred to as a shearcompression failure mechanism. Although both the control and the post-tensioned specimens failed in this manner the following two sections highlight the differences between these two failure mechanisms in regard to the location of this crushing failure.

4.4.2.1 Shear-Compression Failure in Control Specimen

The control specimen (Tx62-3) was flexurally reinforced with 66 - 0.5-in. diameter pretensioned strands in the bottom flange and $4 - 0.5$ -in. diameter strands in the top flange (i.e. it did not have a post-tensioning duct). This girder was designed to provide a direct comparison between the shear behavior of a post-tensioned girder (with a duct in the web region) and that of a pretensioned girder. The failure mechanism of this girder was the crushing of the diagonal stress field through the full-depth of the web. The moment of failure was captured with a pair of high-definition video cameras, as shown in [Figure 4-16](#page-139-0) (the time lapse between photos (A) and (B) is approximately 0.1 second). The initial crushing of the web concrete at the base of the primary diagonal strut near the beginning of the end-block transition can be seen in Figure $4\n-16(A)$ while the moment of failure (as the entire web of the girder crushes) is shown in [Figure 4-16\(](#page-139-0)[B\). The girder is](#page-140-0) shown post-failure in Figure 4-17.

(A) Control Specimen (Tx62-3(S)): Immediately Prior to Shear-Compression Failure

(B) Control Specimen (Tx62-3(S)): Immediately After Shear-Compression Failure

Figure 4-16: High-Speed Footage of Failure of Control Specimen, time lapse between (A) & (B) approximately 0.1 sec.

Figure 4-17: Failure of Control Specimen, Tx62-3(S)

4.4.2.2 Shear-Compression Failure at Duct of Post-Tensioned Girders

The shear failures of post-tensioned test specimens were controlled by the crushing of web concrete in the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct; an example of this failure type is shown in [Figure 4-18.](#page-141-0) This failure occurred at distances ranging from 11 inches to 28-inches from the beginning of the end-block transition zone, and was always concentrated at the height of the duct. After initial shear-compression failure occurred, the specimens could no longer sustain the ultimate load and, although additional displacement was applied, the girders never again reached the maximum shear loads that were applied at the time of crushing.

Figure 4-18: Crushing at Post-Tensioning Duct at Ultimate Capacity

The residual capacity described by [Figure 4-10,](#page-129-0) was a result of the web concrete crushing and shearing along the plane of the post-tensioning duct, a mechanism typically referred to as horizontal shear. The differential displacement of the concrete above and below the duct (shown in [Figure 4-19\)](#page-141-1) was restrained by the thickened end-block. The residual strength of the girder was dependent on the structural integrity of the concrete at this interface between the end-block and the web. Once the end-block interface region was crushed all residual strength was lost, as shown in [Figure 4-20.](#page-142-0)

Figure 4-19: Horizontal Displacement between the Top and Bottom of the Duct

Figure 4-20: Failed Girder after Residual Strength has been Lost

4.4.3 Web Expansion Measurements

The web-expansion measurements were taken at the mid-height of the web. For the post-tensioned girders this corresponded to the location of the post-tensioning duct while for the control girder this location had no significance. The differences between the web expansion measurements of the control specimen and all post-tensioned specimens, are shown in [Figure 4-3](#page-120-0) through [Figure 4-5.](#page-122-0) Although no discernable splitting failure mechanism was witnessed during testing, all post-tensioned girders experienced expansion out of the plane of the web at the location of the post-tensioning duct. The control girder, shown in [Figure 4-21,](#page-143-0) experienced negative expansion which indicates that the web was expanding at a location other than the mid-height. As described in [Figure 4-22,](#page-143-1) the web was expanding at a height of 6-inches above the web mid-height relative to the middle and bottom deflection measurements taken as described in Section 3.4.2.

Figure 4-22: 6-inches above Mid-Height Web Expansion Measurement of Control Specimen (Tx62-3(S))
4.5 POST-TENSIONING DUCT MATERIAL (PLASTIC OR STEEL)

All codes that address a potential reduction in shear strength due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct do so by reducing the effective web width of a girder by a percentage of the duct diameter. Historically, this has been calibrated by small-scale panel testing programs. Panel testing assumes that the compressive strength of a panel with a duct could be compared to the compressive strength of a solid "control" panel. The ratio of the failure strengths of these two panel tests is referred to as "*ηD*".

Prior to the beginning of the experimental testing of full-scale Tx62 specimens, 100 panels were tested in compression to study many different variables including the duct material. The findings of this study confirmed those of Muttoni, et al. (2006) who showed that the compressive strength of a panel specimen with a grouted plastic posttensioning duct was significantly less than a comparable specimen with a grouted steel post-tensioning duct. The results of this testing program can be found in detail in Appendix A, and are summarized in [Table 4-4.](#page-144-0)

	<i>Grouted Plastic</i> Post-Tensioning Ducts	<i>Grouted Steel</i> Post-Tensioning Ducts
Muttoni et. al. (2006)	average $η_D=0.63$	average $η_D=0.84$
$\phi_{duct}/b_w = 0.50$	$n = 4$ tests	$n = 4$ tests
Current Study	average $η_D=0.47$	average $η_D=0.73$
$\phi_{duct}/b_w = 0.43$	$n = 8$ tests	$n = 7$ tests

Table 4-4: Summary of Panel Test Data from Muttoni et al. (2006) and Current Study

4.5.1 Service Level Shear Behavior

No differences were observed between grouted plastic and steel post-tensioning ducts under service level loads. Both the localized cracking in the vicinity of the posttensioning duct (V_{LC}) and the full depth cracking (V_{FD}) occurred at approximately the same percent of the ultimate capacity for post-tensioned specimens regardless of their duct material type as shown in [Table 4-5.](#page-145-0)

Test Specimens with Plastic Ducts		Test Specimens with Steel Ducts			
Test Specimen	V_{LC} V_{test}	V_{FD} V_{test}	Test Specimen	V_{LC} V_{test}	V_{FD} V_{test}
$Tx62-I(S)$	0.29	0.54	$Tx62-2(S)$	0.33	0.59
$Tx62-4(N)$	0.34	0.65	$Tx62-2(N)$	0.38	0.64
$Tx62-5(S)$	0.39	0.69	$Tx62-4(S)$	0.44	0.66
$Tx62-6(S)$	0.34	0.75	$Tx62-5(N)$	0.45	0.66
Mean	0.34	0.66	$Tx62-6(N)$	0.29	0.61
			$Tx62-7(S)$	0.35	0.51
			Mean	0.37	0.61

Table 4-5: Service Level Shear Behavior of Post-Tensioned Specimens

4.5.2 Shear Failure Mechanism

All post-tensioned specimens failed due to localized crushing of the web concrete in the direct vicinity of the post-tensioning duct. The duct material had no influence on this failure mechanism, as shown in [Figure 4-23.](#page-146-0)

Figure 4-23: Effect of Post-Tensioning Duct Material on Failure Mechanism

4.5.3 Shear Stress at Failure

As is illustrated by [Figure 4-24,](#page-147-0) the duct material had no effect on the shear stress carried by the girders at their ultimate state. The significance of this observation cannot be over-emphasized; as discussed in Chapter 2, the effective width of a girder web is reduced by 120 percent of the duct diameter for a grouted plastic duct in Eurocode2, compared to only a 50 percent duct diameter reduction for a grouted steel duct. This design provision has its basis in the small-scale panel testing programs, which have been used to calibrate the effective web width equations. As shown in [Figure 4-24,](#page-147-0) the results of the present full-scale testing program did not substantiate these findings and show no difference in the ultimate shear stress carried by the girder specimens containing grouted plastic or steel post-tensioning ducts.

Figure 4-24: Effect of Duct Material on Normalized Shear Stress at Ultimate only showing post-tensioned test specimens with $\mathcal{O}_{\text{duc}}/b_w=0.43$ *to 0.44*

4.6 INFLUENCE OF WEB WIDTH AND DUCT DIAMETER

Although the duct material had no impact on the shear behavior of the test specimens, the web width and the duct diameter did play a role in the shear capacity of the specimens. Although the influence of a girder web width is well understood as it pertains to shear strength, the influence of the duct diameter and the corresponding duct diameter to web width has been less studied. This section addresses this behavior in light of the tests performed during this experimental program.

4.6.1 Service Level Shear Behavior

As can be observed from [Table 4-6,](#page-149-0) localized cracking in the vicinity of the posttensioning duct (V_{LC}) occurred at approximately the same percentage of their ultimate capacity for all post-tensioned girders regardless of their web width or duct diameter-toweb width ratio. However, the test performed on $Tx62-7(S)$ with a duct diameter-to-web width ratio of 0.33 did exhibit "full-depth" shear cracks at the lowest percentage of its ultimate capacity when compared to the other test specimens.

Post-Tensioned Specimens $(b_w = 7$ -in. and $\varnothing_{\text{duct}}/b_w = 0.43$)		Post-Tensioned Specimens $(b_w = 9$ -in. and $\varnothing_{\text{duct}}/b_w = 0.44$)			
Test Specimen	V_{LC} V_{test}	V_{FD} V_{test}	Test Specimen	V_{LC} V_{test}	V_{FD} V_{test}
$Tx62-I(S)$	0.29	0.54	$Tx62-6(S)$	0.34	0.75
$Tx62-2(S)$	0.33	0.59	$Tx62-6(N)$	0.29	0.61
$Tx62-2(N)$	0.38	0.64	Mean	0.32	0.68
$Tx62-4(S)$	0.44	0.66	Post-Tensioned Specimens		
$Tx62-4(N)$	0.34	0.65	$(b_w = 9$ -in. and $\varnothing_{\text{duct}}/b_w = 0.33$)		
$Tx62-5(S)$	0.39	0.67	$Tx62-7(S)$	0.35	0.51
$Tx62-5(N)$	0.45	0.61			
Mean	0.37	0.62			

Table 4-6: Effect of Web Width and Duct Diameter on the Service Level Behavior

4.6.2 Shear Failure Mechanism

The representation of the failure crack shown in [Figure 4-8](#page-126-0) indicates a significant level of crushing throughout the depth of the web for Tx62-7(S) which had a duct diameter-to-web width ratio of 0.33. This figure can be misleading, but the "primary failure cracks," shown in red, are not. The initial failure of the Tx62-7(S) test specimen was caused by localized crushing in the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct. This failure mechanism was similar in nature to all other post-tensioned test specimens. The difference between the failure mechanism observed in Tx62-7(S) and the remaining nine post-tensioned test specimens was the speed at which the residual strength was lost. The image shown in [Figure 4-25](#page-150-0) was taken from a video of the shear failure of Tx62-7(S). [Figure 4-25\(](#page-150-0)A) shows the specimen at the moment that ultimate load was applied and the web concrete crushed in the direct vicinity of the post-tensioning duct while [Figure](#page-150-0)

[4-25\(](#page-150-0)B) shows the same specimen 3 seconds after the initial failure. Therefore, the duct diameter-to-web width ratio is not thought to influence the shear failure mechanism of any of the post-tensioned girders tested, but did have the effect of minimizing the residual strength of the specimen, as discussed in Section [4.3.4.](#page-129-0)

(A) Tx62-7(S) at Shear Failure

(B) Tx62-7(S) Three Seconds Post Shear Failure

Figure 4-25: Effect of Duct Diameter-to-Web Width on Shear Failure Mechanism

4.6.3 Shear Stress at Failure

The duct diameter-to-web width ratio played a significant role in the shear stress carried by the test specimen at its ultimate state, as shown in [Figure 4-26.](#page-151-0) The control specimen and the specimen that used the smallest duct diameter-to-web width ratio both carried a maximum shear stress of 0.20*f'c*. The remaining nine test specimens had approximately the same duct diameter-to-web width ratio ($\mathcal{O}_{duc}/b_w = 0.43$ to 0.44) and consistently carried ultimate shear stresses between 0.16*f'c* and 0.18*f'c*. Based on this information, the variable having the greatest influence on the ultimate shear stress carried by a test specimen was the duct diameter-to-web width ratio. Moreover, this behavior may also indicate that there is a distinct ratio at which the presence of a post-tensioning duct may result in a more significant strength reduction of a member, but more tests are needed to confirm this effect. This point is further discussed in Chapter 5 in light of additional test results from the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders.

Figure 4-26: Normalized Ultimate Shear Stress vs. Duct Diameter-to-Web Width Ratio

4.7 TRANSVERSE REINFORCEMENT RATIO

The amount of transverse reinforcement included within the web has been shown to have a large effect on the shear strength (Nakamura, et al., 2013). This reinforcement provides the ability for the concrete to transfer load across cracks and therefore dramatically improves the shear capacity of a girder. This section examines the effect of varying the transverse reinforcement ratio on the shear performance of the Tx62 specimens in relation to their shear behavior at service level and ultimate.

4.7.1 Service Level Behavior

The transverse reinforcement included in a specimen has little effect on the shear behavior of that specimen until significant cracking has occurred. Therefore, the transverse reinforcement ratio does not have an impact on the service level cracking behavior of the specimens, as can be observed in [Figure 4-27.](#page-152-0)

Figure 4-27: Effect of Transverse Reinforcement on Service Level Shear Cracking

4.7.2 Failure Mechanism

All post-tensioned test specimens failed due to localized crushing of the web concrete in the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct. The transverse reinforcement ratio had no effect on the failure mechanism of the post-tensioned test specimens, as shown in [Figure 4-28](#page-153-0) for two of the specimens containing the highest and lowest levels of transverse reinforcement.

Figure 4-28: Effect of Transverse Reinforcement on the Failure Mechanism (the image of Tx62-5(N) was mirrored to display the same configuration as Tx62-4(S))

4.7.3 Shear Stress at Failure

Transverse reinforcement is only effective in increasing the shear capacity of a specimen until the capacity is controlled by the crushing of the compression field within the web. This crushing failure mechanism can be problematic if it occurs before the transverse reinforcement has fully yielded, which is why all design codes impose an upper limit either on the transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength or a limit on the overall shear stress capacity of a member. This concern is addressed within the AASHTO General procedure by limiting the calculated shear stress capacity of a member to 0.25*f'c*, which can be reached when large amounts of transverse reinforcement are used to provide additional shear capacity.

No girders tested during this experimental program reached this upper limit on the calculated shear stress or reached ultimate shear stresses in excess of 0.25*f'c* at failure. In spite of the shear stresses remaining below the 0.25*f'c* limit, all specimens failed due to localized crushing in the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct.

As can be seen in [Figure 4-29,](#page-155-0) there was only a slight upward trend in the ultimate shear stress carried by the test specimens resulting from large increases in the transverse reinforcement ratio. This is consistent with the localized failure mechanism that was observed during testing in that an increase in transverse reinforcement does not directly increase the compressive strength of the web concrete. The interaction between the strength of the compressive stress field of the web concrete and the transverse reinforcement ratio are discussed in more detail with the benefit of the test results from the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders in Chapter 5.

Figure 4-29: Normalized Ultimate Shear Stress vs. Transverse Reinforcement Ratio

4.8 SUMMARY

In 2004, the Eurocode2 was modified in order to differentiate between the behaviors of girders containing grouted plastic ducts from those containing grouted steel ducts. This differentiation resulted in a significantly larger reduction in the effective web width of girders containing grouted plastic post-tensioning ducts (compared to those containing grouted steel ducts). These changes were a result of a small-scale panel testing program that showed a significant reduction in the crushing capacity for panels containing grouted plastic ducts compared to those containing grouted steel ducts (Muttoni, et al., 2006). Contrary to Eurocode2's suggestions in this regard, the testing program described within this dissertation has shown that grouted plastic ducts do not cause a significant reduction in beam shear strength when compared to those containing grouted steel ducts. Further analysis of the results of this testing program and the inclusion of these results into the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders is included in Chapter 5 of this dissertation.

CHAPTER 5

Database Analysis and Recommendations

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Of the eleven shear tests performed during this experimental program, the ten performed on the post-tensioned Tx62 test specimens were added to the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders (PT Evaluation Database). These ten test specimens makeup 23 percent of the total evaluation database and represent the largest such tests performed on internally post-tensioned girders to-date. Moreover, four of these ten tests represent the only such tests performed on girders that contained grouted plastic posttensioning ducts. The cross-sections of all specimens included in the PT Evaluation Database including those Tx62 test specimens from the current research program are provided in [Figure 5-1.](#page-156-0)

Figure 5-1: Post-Tensioned Evaluation Database Girder Cross-Sections

5.2 SHEAR STRENGTH RATIO

The shear strength ratio (SSR) is defined here as the ratio of the ultimate (tested) shear capacity to the calculated shear capacity (V_{test}/V_n) for the code or specification under consideration. The statistical values that describe a desirable shear strength calculation procedure are as follows:

- The mean of the shear strength ratio should be close to 1.0.
- There should be a minimal number of overly conservative results (defined here as a test specimen with a shear strength ratio greater than 2.0)
- Although a reasonable amount of scatter can be expected it should be kept to a minimum. The amount of scatter can be measured numerically by the standard deviation of the shear strength ratio.
- There should be a minimum of unconservative results (shear strength ratio less than 1.0) when an appropriate shear resistance factor (*ϕ*) is applied as presented in Section [5.3.1](#page-160-0) (Avendaño & Bayrak, 2008).

5.2.1 Use of Standard Deviation in place of the Coefficient of Variation

It is desirable for a dataset of shear strength ratios to have a mean close to 1.0 and a minimal standard deviation. It is noteworthy that many studies, which have evaluated prestressed concrete shear behavior, have relied upon minimizing the coefficient of variation (COV) to ensure the accuracy of shear design procedures. Although the use of the COV can be helpful in some circumstances, it may cause confusion when comparing data sets with a desired mean value of 1.0 and actual mean values that are substantially different from 1.0 (i.e., the datasets of the shear strength ratios). In such cases, the standard deviation is a more appropriate measure of scatter, as it measures scatter with respect to the desired mean of 1.0 as opposed to the possibly much higher mean of the dataset. For example, a dataset of shear strength ratios with a mean above 2.0 may show a significantly smaller COV than another dataset with a mean close to 1.0, but the dataset with a mean value above 2.0 may have a significantly larger standard deviation and therefore more scatter. In the remainder of this dissertation, the standard deviation will be used to quantify the scatter of a dataset in place of the COV.

5.3 ACCURACY OF SHEAR STRENGTH CALCULATION PROCEDURES

Shear strength ratios were calculated using the four shear design procedures outlined in Chapter 2 and the test results from the PT Evaluation Database. The shear strength ratios shown in this section used the appropriate effective web width calculation as they are given in each specific shear design procedure (i.e. ACI 318-11 calculations used gross web widths and AASHTO (2013) calculations used their respective effective web width equations). A full description of both the shear strength calculation procedures and the effective web widths used in these calculations are provided within Chapter 2.

As can be observed from the distribution of the histograms shown in [Figure 5-2,](#page-159-0) the AASHTO (2013) General Shear calculation procedure (hereafter referred to as the AASHTO General procedure) provides the most accurate estimation of the shear strength of all design provisions explored, but it does result in unconservative shear strength ratios (less than 1.0) for six tests (14 percent of the database). The remaining three shear design procedures produced shear strength ratios with significantly larger means and standard deviations as well as a large number of overly-conservative results (defined as having a shear strength ratio greater than 2.0), as shown in [Table 5-1.](#page-160-1) Therefore, although these

shear strength calculation methods are conservative they do not provide an accurate estimate of shear behavior and are not discussed further in this chapter.

Figure 5-2: Histograms of PT Evaluation Database for SSR Calculated with ACI 318-11 & AASHTO (2013)

$n = 44$ tests	AASHTO General	AASHTO Segmental	ACI 318-11 <i>Detailed</i>	ACI 318-11 Simplified
Minimum	0.92	1.09	0.94	1.42
Maximum	2.13	3.23	3.23	3.55
Mean	1.34	1.81	1.86	2.31
Standard Deviation	0.36	0.49	0.57	0.56
COV	0.26	0.27	0.31	0.24
Unconservative Count & Percentage	6 tests 14%	none	2 tests 5%	none
Over-conservative Count & Percentage	1 test 2%	14 tests 32%	12 tests 27%	29 tests 66%

Table 5-1: Shear Strength Ratios of PT Evaluation Database

5.3.1 Probability of an Unconservative Shear Strength Ratio

In addition to the statistical values shown in [Table 5-1,](#page-160-1) the level of conservativeness of a shear design procedure can be described by fitting a probability distribution to a dataset of shear strength ratios. This statistical distribution can then be used to show the probability of occurrence of an unconservative shear strength ratio (i.e. less than 1.0), particularly for relatively small datasets that do not have representative data at the tails of their distribution. A fitted statistical distribution can also be used to identify an appropriate strength resistance factor (ϕ) that would provide the desired level of conservativeness in practice.

The shear strength ratio may be assumed to be the ratio of two random variables. According to the Central Limit Theorem, if two random variables are normally distributed, then their product (or in this case their ratio) is lognormally distributed. In accordance with this theorem, a lognormal distribution is assumed for the datasets of shear strength ratios and is used to analyze the level of conservativeness with respect the calculated capacities of the four shear design procedures described in Chapter 2.

As defined in Section [5.2,](#page-157-0) a desirable shear design procedure should result in approximately zero unconservative test results when an appropriate ϕ is applied. Assuming a lognormal distribution in accordance with the Central Limit Theorem, the likelihood of a shear strength ratio being less than two natural-log standard deviations below the natural-log mean is approximately 2 percent. This level of conservatism (98 percent confidence) with regard to the calculated capacity is taken to be adequate for shear strength design procedures. To ensure this level of confidence, a required shear strength resistance factor (*ϕreq*) can be calculated as shown in [Equation 5-1](#page-161-0) through [Equation 5-3.](#page-161-1) The ϕ_{req} can be compared to the shear strength resistance factor ϕ of a given code or specification. If the actual ϕ is less than the ϕ_{req} calculated by [Equation 5-3](#page-161-1) then the probability of an unconservative shear strength calculation is less than 2 percent.

$$
\hat{\mu}_{ln} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \ln(\text{shear strength ratio}_{i})}{N}
$$
\n
$$
\hat{\sigma}_{ln} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (\ln(\text{shear strength ratio}_{i}) - \mu_{ln})^{2}}{N}}
$$
\nEquation 5-2\nEquation 5-2

$$
\phi_{req} = e^{\mu_{ln} - 2\sigma_{ln}}
$$
 Equation 5-3

where:

 $N =$ The number of tests within the PT Evaluation Database. (44 tests)

 $\hat{\mu}_{ln}$ = The average of the natural log of the shear strength ratio dataset, calculated as shown in [Equation 5-1](#page-161-0)

 $\hat{\sigma}_{ln}$ = The standard deviation of the natural log of the shear strength ratio dataset, calculated as shown in [Equation 5-2.](#page-161-2)

As shown in [Table 5-2,](#page-162-0) the ϕ_{req} value of the ASHTO General procedure is 0.79. This is less than the actual ϕ and therefore indicates an unacceptable level of conservativeness in regards to those criteria outlined in Section [5.2.](#page-157-0) This low ϕ_{req} value indicates that although the AASHTO General is the most accurate shear design procedure discussed in this dissertation it may provide unconservative results in its current form. Therefore, the remainder of this chapter focuses on improvements to the AASHTO General procedure in order to increase the conservativeness of the shear design procedure while maintaining or improving upon the accuracy of the design procedure.

$n = 44$ tests	AASHTO General	AASHTO Segmental	ACI 318-11 Detailed	ACI 318-11 Simplified
Shear Strength	$\phi = 0.9$		$\phi = 0.75$	
Reduction Factor (ϕ)	§5.5.4.2.1 AASHTO (2013)		§9.3.2.3 of ACI 318-11	
$\phi_{req} = e^{\hat{\mu}_{ln} - 2\hat{\sigma}_{ln}}$ $(Equation 5-3)$	0.79	1.03	0.97	1.40
<i>Comments</i>	unconservative given current ϕ factor	conservative given current ϕ factor		

Table 5-2: Required and Actual Shear Strength Resistance Factors

5.4 INVESTIGATION OF BIAS

Although the AASHTO General procedure does produce slightly unconservative shear strength ratios, it is the most accurate of the codes discussed above. In this section, the shear strength ratios calculated using the AASHTO General procedure are plotted against primary experimental variables to identify any biases the shear design procedure may have with respect to the six experimental variables listed below. The study of bias is performed to identify shortcomings in the AASHTO General procedure in estimating the shear strength of post-tensioned girders and to identify possible ways of improving its accuracy.

- (1) Presence of a post-tensioning duct
- (2) Duct material type (steel or plastic)
- (3) Duct diameter-to-web width ratio
- (4) Transverse reinforcement ratio
- (5) Span-to-depth ratio
- (6) Controlling shear failure mechanism

5.4.1 Presence of a Post-Tensioning Duct

Chapter 4 addressed the behavioral differences between the ten post-tensioned test specimens and the one control specimen, which only contained pretensioned reinforcement. This section assesses any bias in the shear strength estimates of the AASHTO General procedure may hNave with respect to the presence of a posttensioning duct. Two prestressed concrete shear evaluation databases are used in this assessment, one limited to pretensioned girders without ducts and the other limited to post-tensioned girders with ducts.

The Evaluation Database - Level II as presented in Nakamura et al. (2013) contains the results of 177 shear tests on pre- and post-tensioned girders and was restricted to include only what Nakamura et al. (2013) called "typical shear failure". 164 of the test specimens included in this evaluation database were performed on pretensioned concrete test specimens, while only thirteen were conducted on posttensioned specimens. To isolate the differences between pre- and post-tensioned girders these thirteen test results were removed from Evaluation Database Level II. The resulting restricted evaluation database is referred to here as the Evaluation Database for Pretensioned Girders and contains 164 test results from test specimens that only contain pretensioned reinforcement. The statistical values of the datasets resulting from the AASHTO General procedure shear strength ratios are provided for both the PT Evaluation Database and the restricted Evaluation Database – Level II in [Figure 5-3](#page-164-0) and [Table 5-3.](#page-165-0)

Figure 5-3: Shear Strength Ratios Calculated with AASHTO General Procedure for Evaluation Databases of Pre- and Post-Tensioned Girders

	Evaluation Database for Pretensioned Girders [†] $n = 164$ tests	Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders $n = 44$ tests
Minimum	0.94	0.92
Maximum	2.22	2.13
Mean	1.47	1.34
Standard Deviation	0.28	0.36
COV	0.19	0.26
Unconservative Count & Percentage	1 test 0.4%	6 tests 14%
Over-conservative Count & Percentage	8 tests 5%	1 test 2%

Table 5-3: Statistical Evaluation of Databases for Pre & Post-Tensioned Girders (Calculated with AASHTO General Procedure)

† The "Evaluation Database for Pretensioned Girders" was developed from the Evaluation Database – Level II of Nakamura et al. (2013) by removing 13 post-tensioned specimens from the database.

The presence of the post-tensioning duct does play a significant role in the accuracy and the level of conservatism of the shear strength estimates of the AASHTO General procedure. The pretensioned database shear strength ratios have less scatter and fewer unconservative values than those of the PT Evaluation Database. The most striking comparison between these two databases is the percentage of unconservative shear strength ratios they produce. The pretensioned database only has one unconservative shear strength ratio making up 0.4 percent of the database while 14 percent of the PT Evaluation Database test results are unconservative. It is clear from this information that the AASHTO General procedure does show a significant bias with regard to duct presence.

5.4.2 Post-Tensioning Duct Material

As was stated in the introduction to this chapter, the four tests conducted on specimens with grouted plastic post-tensioning ducts during the current experimental study are the only such tests presented in the literature to-date. These tests are denoted in [Figure 5-4,](#page-166-0) which plots the shear strength ratios calculated with the AASTHO General procedure with respect to the duct diameter-to-web width ratio. As can be seen in this figure no noticeable bias exists due to the duct material used in post-tensioned girders while the bias present as a result of the duct diameter to web width is discussed in Section [5.4.3.](#page-167-0) This observation is not surprising given that the AASHTO General procedure does not treat plastic ducts differently from other ducts, and tests using plastic ducts indicated little difference in shear strength compared to tests using steel ducts.

Figure 5-4: Effect of Duct Diameter to Web Width on the SSR Denoting Grouted Plastic Duct Specimens

5.4.3 Duct Diameter-to-Web Width Ratio

The effect of the duct diameter-to-web width ratio on the conservativeness of the AASHTO General procedure is shown in [Figure 5-5.](#page-167-1) Although the data exhibit a large amount of scatter, it can be observed that all unconservative test results occur at duct diameter-to-web width ratios greater than the 0.4 limit provided by §5.4.6.2 of AASHTO (2013). Therefore, if the 0.4 limit were enforced and all points above this limit were excluded from the database, there would be no unconservative shear strength ratios calculated by the AASHTO General procedure. This, however, is not the case in practice as many state departments of transportation routinely ignore this limit (Williams, et al., 2013). Therefore it is important to consider those points above the 0.4 duct diameter-toweb width limit as they can be considered the worst case for design.

Figure 5-5: Effect of the Duct Diameter-to-Web Width Ratio on the SSR

5.4.4 Transverse Reinforcement Ratio

[Figure 5-6](#page-168-0) illustrates the effect of the transverse reinforcement ratio on the shear strength ratios calculated by the AASHTO General procedure.

Figure 5-6: Effect of the Transverse Reinforcement Ratio on the SSR

While unconservative shear strength ratios are seen to occur in the figure over a large range of transverse reinforcement ratios, the conservativeness of the AASHTO General procedure as a whole decreases with an increase in the transverse reinforcement ratio. The exception to this behavior can be observed for the six points with the largest transverse reinforcement ratios for which nominal strength was limited by the upper limit of the nominal shear strength $(V_{n(max)})$ imposed by the AASHTO General, shown in [Equation 5-4.](#page-169-0) Without this upper limit, these six tests would have continued the downward trend in conservatism and would have exhibited unconservative failure loads.

$$
V_{n(max)} = 0.25f'_{c}b_{v}d_{v} + V_{p}
$$
 Equation 5-4

where:

 f'_{c} = The compressive strength of concrete (*psi*)

 b_v = The minimum web width inside depth of d_v reduced to account for the posttensioning ducts in accordance with §5.8.2.9 of AASHTO (2013) (*inches*)

 d_v = Effective shear depth measured perpendicular to the neutral axis between the compressive and tensile resultants due to flexure, but not to be taken as less than the greater of 0.9*(transformed steel area's depth) or 0.72*h.*(*inches*)

 V_p = The vertical component of the prestressing force resisting shear. (*lbs.*)

5.4.5 Shear Span-to-Depth Ratio

The effect of the shear span-to-depth ratio on the conservatism of shear strength ratios calculated by the AASHTO General procedure is shown [Figure 5-7.](#page-170-0) As was discussed in Chapter 2, the PT Evaluation Database was limited to a minimum shear span-to-depth ratio of 2.0 to remove tests that exhibit deep beam behavior from being included in a database that is meant to assess sectional shear behavior.

Figure 5-7: Effect of the Shear Span-to-Depth Ratio on the SSR

[Figure 5-7](#page-170-0) indicates that the AASHTO General procedure is not providing a similar level of conservatism across the range of shear span-to-depth ratios found in the database. The observed bias indicates that at low span-to-depth ratios (but still larger than 2.0) specimens may be capable of carrying larger shear forces due to arching action and may not have a purely sectional shear behavior (Nakamura, et al., 2013). The tests included in the PT Evaluation Database exhibit some bias in this regard in that all shear strength ratios with values greater than 1.5 occur in specimens with shear span-to-depth ratios of 3.0 or less. Beyond a shear span-to-depth of 3.0, it appears that the AASHTO General procedure has little bias with respect to shear span-to-depth ratios. Moreover, §5.8.1.1 of AASHTO (2013) allows sectional design procedures to be used for shear span-to-depth ratios as low as 2.0. Therefore, although a bias does exist, it is important to evaluate and consider all test results with shear span-to-depth ratios as low as 2.0.

5.4.6 Controlling Failure Mechanism

The ultimate shear strengths of all post-tensioned Tx62 test specimens were controlled by localized crushing of their webs in the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct. This failure mechanism is not unique to the Tx62 test specimens but is the dominant failure mechanism for 93 percent of beams within the PT Evaluation Database, as shown in [Figure 5-8.](#page-171-0) This failure type includes nine tests on specimens with shear span-to-depth ratios in excess of 4.0. This section discusses the mechanics of this failure type and how it is accounted for in the AASHTO General equations.

Figure 5-8: Shear Failure Mechanism in PT Evaluation Database (n=44 tests)

The AASHTO General procedure is based on the Modified Compression Field Theory (MCFT) developed by Vecchio & Collins (1986). The AASHTO General procedure calculates the nominal shear strength of a member by separate estimates for the "concrete" contribution and "steel" contribution to the nominal shear strength (V_c and V_s) respectively). Within the framework of the MCFT, the V_c contribution to shear strength is an estimation of the "residual tensile stresses" in the cracked concrete (Vecchio & Collins, 1986), while the V_s contribution is an estimation of the ability of the transverse reinforcement (stirrups) to transmit load through the truss model originally developed by Ritter (1899). As can be observed from [Figure 5-9,](#page-172-0) the concrete contribution does not have a direct relationship to the strength of the diagonal compressive strut of the girder (f_2) but instead relies on the shear transmitted across the cracks (v_{ci}) . A more complete explanation of these design equations is given in Section 2.2.1.

Figure 5-9: Vc and Vs Components of Shear Strength in a Girder

While the concrete contribution to shear strength (V_c) does not have a direct relationship to the compressive strength of the diagonal strut, the transverse reinforcement contribution (V_s) does (Kuchma, 2013). For the truss model to maintain equilibrium the diagonal compressive strut must not crush and the transverse reinforcement must not rupture. Failure of either of these load carrying mechanisms results in the shear failure of the girder as a whole, as shown in [Figure 5-9.](#page-172-0) Therefore, the

presence of a post-tensioning duct may affect the resistance in the shear strength contribution of the transverse reinforcement (V_s) and should be accounted for by modifying this term.

5.5 EXPLORED MODIFICATIONS TO THE AASHTO GENERAL PROCEDURE

Four approaches are investigated in this section in an effort to improve the accuracy and conservatism observed in the calculations of the AASHTO General procedure as it specifically applies to post-tensioned shear behavior. These approaches include:

- (1) Providing alternate effective web width reduction factors ("*k*" factors)
- (2) Limiting the maximum allowed duct diameter-to-web width ratio in accordance with Kuchma (2013) (*Detailed in Chapter 2*)
- (3) Modifying the upper limit on the nominal shear strength $(V_{n(max)})$.
- (4) Modifying the transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength (*Vs*). (*Discussed in Section [5.6](#page-181-0)*)

Ultimately, the approach that modifies the *Vs* term in the shear strength calculations (iv) produced the best improvement. The results of this modification are discussed in detail in the subsequent section and are contrasted to the other approaches presented in this section.

5.5.1 Altering the Web Width Reduction Factor "*k***"**

The current AASHTO General procedure accounts for a potential reduction in shear strength due to a post-tensioning duct by reducing the effective web width by some fraction of the duct diameter, as shown in [Equation 5-5.](#page-174-0) Additionally, the duct diameter is restricted to a maximum of forty percent of the gross web width at the location of the

duct. As was discussed within Chapter 2 this last limitation has been largely ignored by many state departments of transportation and therefore was also ignored in the calculations provided in this dissertation (Williams, et al., 2013). [Table 5-4](#page-175-0) illustrates the effects of altering the "*k*" factors in the current procedure.

$$
b_v = b_w - k\phi_{duct}
$$
 Equation 5-5

where:

- b_v = The effective web width of the girder within the depth d_v and reduced to account for the presence of a post-tensioning duct. (*inches*)
- b_w = The gross web width of the girder taken within the shear depth d_v (*inches*)

$$
k =
$$
 The duct diameter correction factor (*unitless*)

 $k =$ varied from 0 to 1 for grouted ducts

 $k = 2$ (k_{ground}) Taken as twice the web width reduction factor for empty ducts in accordance with the current practice in AASHTO (2013).

 \mathscr{D}_{duct} = The duct diameter in the girder web. (*inches*)

$n = 44$ tests	$b_v = b_w - k \phi_{duct}$			
"k" factor: grouted duct	θ	0.25	0.50	0.75
"k" factor: empty duct		0.50	1.0	1.5
Minimum	0.88	0.92	0.96	1.01
Maximum	2.09	2.13	2.18	3.09
Mean	1.28	1.34	1.42	1.53
Standard Deviation	0.34	0.36	0.40	0.51
COV	0.27	0.26	0.28	0.33
<i>Unconservative</i> Count & Percentage	11 tests 25%	6 tests 14%	4 tests 9%	none
Over-conservative Count & Percentage	1 test 2%	1 test 2%	5 tests 11%	13 tests 30%

Table 5-4: Statistical Values of the Shear Strength Ratios Calculated by the AASHTO General Procedure illustrating the Effect of Altering the "k" Factor

As summarized by [Table 5-4,](#page-175-0) increasing the "*k*" factor increases both the minimum and mean values of shear strength ratios. However, it also increases the scatter of the data as can be observed by the increase in the standard deviation. The increase in the standard deviation accelerates as the "k" factors are increased, making this approach undesirable.

This increase in the standard deviation of the shear strength ratio calculated with an increased "*k*" factor suggests that the use of web reduction factors may not be accurately representing the actual behavior of the specimens in the database. These findings therefore corroborate the statement in Section [5.4.5](#page-169-1) that reducing the shear strength due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct may be better accounted for by a reduction in the transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength as opposed to reducing the concrete contribution.

5.5.2 Applying a Limit on the Duct Diameter to Web Width Ratio (Kuchma, 2013)

As was discussed in Chapter 2, Kuchma (2013) proposed that the AASHTO General procedure could be used with gross web widths in place of the current effective web widths if a proposed limit on the duct diameter-to-web width ratio (shown in [Equation 2-29\)](#page-50-0) was followed. This limit on the duct diameter-to-web width ratio as a function of the factored shear stress acting on the cross-section is based on a derivation of the maximum diagonal compressive stress that can be developed at the mid-height of a girder. The full derivation is provided in Chapter 2.

$$
\frac{\phi_{duct}}{b_w} \le \frac{1}{k} \left(1.092 - \left(\frac{4.27 v_u}{f'_c} \right) \right)
$$
 Equation 5-6

where:

 $\mathcal{O}_{\text{duct}}$ = The duct diameter present in the girder web. (*inches*) *bw* = The gross web width at the location of the duct. (*inches*) v_u = The factored ultimate shear stress resisted by the girder. (*psi*) $k =$ The web width reduction factor given by Muttoni et al. (2006) $k = 0.40$ for grouted steel ducts $k = 0.80$ for grouted plastic ducts $k = 1.20$ for empty ducts

For the purpose of comparing the shear strength ratio of the PT Evaluation Database to Kuchma's (2013) limit on the duct diameter-to-web width ratio given in [Equation 2-29](#page-50-0) the factored ultimate shear stress (v_u) was taken as the ultimate shear strength (V_{test}) normalized by the gross web width (b_w) and the effective shear depth (d_v). As shown in Chapter 4, there were no discernable differences in the behavior of Tx62 test specimens with grouted plastic or steel ducts. Therefore, the web width reduction factor for the limit proposed in [Equation 2-29](#page-50-0) is taken as 0.40 for grouted ducts regardless of the duct material used. The resulting maximum duct diameter that can be used in the test specimen under consideration is shown in [Equation 5-7.](#page-177-0) The ratio of the maximum duct diameter (calculated with [Equation 5-7\)](#page-177-0) to the actual post-tensioning duct diameter under consideration is plotted against the shear strength ratio calculated with gross web width (b_w) in [Figure 5-10](#page-178-0)

$$
\varnothing_{Max} = \frac{b_w}{k} \left(1.092 - \left(\frac{4.27 V_{test}}{f'_{c} b_w d_v} \right) \right) \ge 0
$$
 Equation 5-7

where:

 $k =$ The web width reduction factor given by Muttoni et al. (2006)

 $k = 0.4$ for *all* grouted ducts

 $k = 1.2$ for all ungrouted or empty ducts.

 V_{test} = The ultimate (tested) shear strength at failure (*lbs.*)

f'c = The concrete compressive strength (*psi*)

- b_w = The gross web width of the girder taken within the shear depth d_v (*inches*)
- d_v = The effective shear depth of the girder taken in accordance with AASHTO (2013) (*inches*)
- \mathcal{D}_{Max} = The maximum duct diameter that can be used in a specimen based on the calculations described within Kuchma (2013). (*inches*)

 $\mathscr{D}_{\text{duct}}$ = The actual duct diameter present in the girder web. (*inches*)

Figure 5-10: Shear Strength Ratio versus allowable duct diameter ratio

As can be observed from [Figure 5-10,](#page-178-0) only three of the eleven unconservative shear strength ratios calculated by the AASHTO General procedure (using gross web widths) have duct diameters larger than that allowed by [Equation 5-7.](#page-177-0) This approach may therefore not be desirable in light of how its estimates compare with the data of the database. Moreover, the approach may not be practical given that the current duct diameter-to-web width limit of 0.4 is largely ignored by departments of transportation across the United States (Williams, et al., 2013).

5.5.3 **Modifying the Limit on Nominal Shear Strength**

Another potential application of the duct diameter-to-web width limit proposed by Kuchma (2013) is to modify [Equation 2-29](#page-50-0) so that it becomes a limit on the maximum shear stress similar to the upper limit that is currently in place in the AASHTO General procedure (shown in [Equation 5-4\)](#page-169-0).

By taking the factored ultimate shear stress (v_u) as equal to the nominal shear stress (v_n) , [Equation 2-29](#page-50-0) can be rewritten as an upper limit on the nominal shear stress, as shown in [Equation 5-8.](#page-179-0) If this maximum nominal shear stress is further rearranged by multiplying it by the gross web width (b_w) and adding the vertical component of the prestressing force, it takes the form of [Equation 5-9,](#page-179-1) which is similar in form to the current limit given by §5.8.3.3 of AASHTO General (and in [Equation 5-4\)](#page-169-0). The nominal shear strength is then calculated by [Equation 5-10](#page-179-2) where the V_c and V_s terms are the concrete and steel contributions as calculated using the gross web width (b_w) and the AASHTO General shear strength equations described within Chapter 2.

The effect of this proposed limit on the shear strength ratio is shown in [Table 5-5.](#page-180-0) The duct diameter factor "*k*" of [Equation 5-10](#page-179-2) was varied to access the effect of this proposed modification.

$$
v_{n_{Max}} \le \frac{f_c'}{4.27} \Big(1.092 - k \frac{\emptyset_{duct}}{b_w} \Big)
$$

\n
$$
V_n \le 0.234 f_c' \mathbf{b}_w d_v \Big(1.092 - k \frac{\emptyset_{duct}}{b_w} \Big) + V_p
$$

\n
$$
V_n = \min \begin{cases} V_c + V_s \\ 0.234 f_c' \mathbf{b}_w d_v \Big(1.092 - k \frac{\emptyset_{duct}}{b_w} \Big) + V_p \end{cases}
$$

\nEquation 5-10
\nEquation 5-10

where:

 V_c = The concrete contribution to shear strength as calculated utilizing the gross web width and the *Vc* calculation of AAHSTO General. (*lbs.*)

$$
V_s
$$
 = The transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength as
calculated utilizing the *Vs* calculation of AAHSTO General. (*lbs.*)

- *f'c* = The concrete compressive strength. (*psi*)
- b_w = The minimum gross web width within a depth of d_v . (*inches*)
- d_v = The effective shear depth taken in accordance with AASHTO General. (*inches*)
- \mathscr{D}_{duct} = The duct diameter present in the girder web. (*inches*)
	- V_p = The vertical component of the prestressing force taken after losses at the location of the critical section (*lbs.*)
	- *k* = The duct diameter correction factor (*unitless*)

 k = varied from 0 to 1.25 for grouted post-tensioning ducts

 $k = 2$ (k_{ground}) Taken as twice the web width reduction factor for empty ducts

Table 5-5: Effect of Modifing Limit on Shear Stress by Funciton of (\emptyset_{duct}/b_w)

$n = 44$ tests	$V_n \leq 0.234 f_c' b_w d_v \left(1.092 - k \frac{\varphi_{duct}}{b_w} \right) + V_p$									
"k" factor: grouted duct	θ	0.75	2.0	1.25						
"k" factor: empty duct		1.5	2.0	2.5						
Minimum	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.986						
Maximum	2.09	2.76	4.23	9.09						
Mean (μ)	1.28	1.41	1.53	1.87						
Standard Deviation (σ)	0.34	0.47	0.68	1.46						
$COV(\sigma/\mu)$	0.27	0.33	0.44	0.78						
Unconservative Count & Percentage	11 tests 25%	11 tests 25%	7 tests 16%	3 tests 7%						
Over-conservative Count & Percentage	1 test 2%	6 tests 14%	7 tests 16%	8 tests 18%						

Although this modification does address the correct behavioral mechanism by reducing the capacity of the girder with respect to the strength of a diagonal compressive strut (by limiting the shear stress), it results in large scatter and a large number of overlyconservative shear strength ratios as can be seen in [Table 5-5.](#page-180-0) This scatter increases with an increasing duct correction factor and therefore this proposed modification is not desirable.

5.6 PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO V_s TERM OF AASHTO GENERAL PROCEDURE

The transverse reinforcement contribution (V_s) to the shear strength capacity (V_n) is limited by the ability of the truss mechanism to carry shear force through both the tensile capacity of the transverse reinforcement and through the compressive capacity of the web of the specimen. This relationship is described in [Figure 5-11.](#page-182-0)

Figure 5-11: Relationship between Diagonal Compressive Strut and Transverse Reinforcement Contributing to Shear Strength

The crushing of the web concrete of a prestressed girder disrupts the internal equilibrium of the girder by preventing the transfer of forces between the diagonal compressive strut and the transverse reinforcement. One way to account for the potential shear strength reduction due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct is to directly reduce the strength of the diagonal compressive strut and the associated force transfer to the transverse reinforcement, as illustrated in [Figure 5-12.](#page-183-0) A strength reduction factor (λ_{duct}) is proposed to directly reduce the transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength (V_s) . The justification for this term is illustrated in [Figure 5-12](#page-183-0) while the form of this strength reduction factor is discussed in more detail in the following section.

Figure 5-12: Accounting for Reduction in Shear Strength as a Result of a Post-Tensioning Duct by Reducing the Transverse Reinforcement Contribution

5.6.1 Shear Strength Reduction Factor (λ_{duct})

§5.4.6.2 of AASHTO (2013) limits the maximum duct diameter to 40 percent of the gross web width at the location of the post-tensioning duct. The effect of this limit on the AASHTO General shear-strength calculations was addressed in Section [5.4.3,](#page-167-0) where it was noted that all tests with unconservative shear strength ratios contained posttensioning ducts with diameters greater than 40 percent of the gross web width. These unconservative results indicate that there may be an increase in the influence of the duct on the shear strength of a girder when large duct diameter-to-web width ratios are used. Moreover, if this limit were fully removed there is the potential that large enough duct diameter-to-web width ratios could result in concrete placement difficulty during construction and could lead to poor consolidation.

It is therefore useful to limit the duct diameter-to-web width ratio. However, the current limit of 0.4 is being violated on a regular basis (Williams, et al., 2013) and therefore a penalty-based approach is proposed here. A quadratic form is chosen for the reduction factor (λ_{duct}) on the V_s term as is given in [Equation 5-11.](#page-184-0) λ_{duct} allows for the removal of the hard limit on the duct diameter-to-web width ratio and in its place relies on an quadratically increasing reduction in strength with increasing duct diameter-to-web width ratio which is multiplied by the duct diameter correction factor (δ) . The nominal shear strength of the specimen can then be calculated by the AASHTO General procedure where the gross web widths are used in place of the effective web widths.

$$
V_n = min \left\{ \beta \sqrt{f_c'} \mathbf{b_w} d_v + \frac{A_s f_y}{s} d_v \lambda_{duct} \cot \theta \right\} + V_p
$$

0.25 $f_c' \mathbf{b_w} d_v$

Equation 5-11

Where:

 $\lambda_{duct} = 1 - \delta$ $\boldsymbol{\varphi}_{duct}$ $\frac{1}{b_w}$ 2 ≥ 0

- V_c = The concrete contribution to shear strength as calculated utilizing the gross web width according to AAHSTO General. (*lbs.*)
- V_s = The transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength calculated according to AAHSTO General. (*lbs.*)
- λ_{duct} = The quadratic reduction factor applied to V_s that accounts for the reduction in the strength of the compressive diagonal due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct. (*unitless)*
	- *f'c* = The concrete compressive strength. (*psi*)
	- b_w = The minimum gross web width within a depth of d_v . (*inches*)
	- d_v = The effective shear depth calculated in accordance with AASHTO General. (*inches*)
- $\mathcal{Q}_{\text{duct}}$ = The outside duct diameter present in the girder web. (*inches*)
	- V_p = The vertical component of the prestressing force taken after losses at the location of the critical section (*lbs.*)
	- *δ* = The duct diameter correction factor (*unitless*)
		- δ = 2.0 for grouted ducts
		- *δ* = not given for ungrouted (empty) ducts (*due to lack of data*)

The λ*duct* proposed for grouted ducts is plotted in relation to the duct diameter to web width ratio in [Figure 5-13.](#page-186-0) It should be noted that little data exist on the effect of ungrouted post-tensioning ducts on the shear strength of post-tensioned girders. For this reason, the duct diameter coefficient for empty ducts is unaddressed in [Equation 5-12](#page-185-0) and

in Chapter 6, but to allow for comparisons of the PT Evaluation Database the duct diameter coefficient (*δ*) for ungrouted ducts is taken as twice that for grouted ducts within this chapter.

Figure 5-13: Quadratic Reduction Factors Applied to V_s *as Functions of* $\mathcal{O}_{\text{duct}}/b_w$

It is important to understand that λ_{duct} the duct diameter coefficient (δ) is not equivalent to the current "*k*" factor, both because the function *λduct* is a quadratic and because *λduct* modifies the transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength alone. Therefore, a *λduct* value of zero reduces the nominal shear strength of a girder to the concrete contribution to shear strength alone (i.e. it does not result in a $V_n = 0$ for a $\lambda_{duct} =$ 0).

[Figure 5-14](#page-187-0) and [Table 5-6](#page-187-1) present the shear strength ratios of the PT Evaluation Database as calculated using the both proposed Modifications to the AASHTO General procedure [\(Equation 5-11\)](#page-184-0) and the AASHTO General procedure in its current form.

Figure 5-14: Shear Strength Ratios of the PT Evaluation Database Calculated by the AASHTO General Procedure & with proposed Modifications shown in [Equation 5-11](#page-184-0)

$n = 44$ tests	AASHTO General (2013)	Proposed Modification
Minimum	0.92	0.97
Maximum	2.13	2.15
Mean	1.34	1.44
Standard Deviation	0.36	0.33
COV	0.26	0.23
Unconservative Count & Percentage	6 tests 14%	1 test 2%
Over-conservative Count & Percentage	1 test 2%	4 tests 9%

Table 5-6: Statistical Values of the Shear Strength Ratio

As can be observed, the proposed modifications to the AASHTO General procedure reduce the standard deviation of the shear strength ratio while increasing the level of conservativeness of the calculations in regards to the calculated shear strength. This proposed modification is the most successful in terms of reducing scatter while increasing the conservativeness of the four modifications to the AASHTO General procedure described within this chapter.

As was outlined in Section [5.2,](#page-157-0) a desirable shear design procedure will produce a minimum of unconservative results when an appropriate shear resistance factor (ϕ) is applied. The *ϕ* factor given by §5.5.4.2.1 of AASHTO (2013) for the shear behavior of normal weight concrete members is 0.9. Therefore, if the modifications proposed in this section are to provide appropriately conservative results they should have a ϕ_{req} (as calculated by [Equation 5-3\)](#page-161-0) of 0.9 or greater to have at a minimum of a 98 percent confidence of providing a conservative shear strength calculation in regards to capacity. The results of [Equation 5-3](#page-161-0) for the current AASHTO General Procedure and those of the proposed modifications to the AASTHO General are given in [Table 5-7,](#page-189-0) which shows a marked improvement in terms of conservatism when the proposed modifications are used.

$n = 44$ tests	AASHTO General (2013)	Proposed Modification					
Shear Strength		$\phi = 0.9$					
<i>Reduction Factor</i> (ϕ)	§5.5.4.2.1 AASHTO (2013)						
$\phi_{req} = e^{\hat{\mu}_{ln} - 2\hat{\sigma}_{ln}}$ $(Equation 5-3)$	0.79	0.90					
<i>Comments</i>	unconservative given current ϕ factor	conservative given current ϕ factor					

Table 5-7: ϕ and ϕreq for AASHTO General and Proposed Modifications

5.6.2 Impact of Proposed Changes to AASHTO General

It is important that the proposed modifications to AASHTO General procedure result in a more accurate estimate of shear strength, smaller error spreads, and less bias with respect to key variables than the current procedures. In this section, changes in the calculated shear strength ratios are explored with respect to the experimental variables first examined in Section [5.4.](#page-162-0)

As shown in [Figure 5-15,](#page-190-0) the proposed modifications to the shear strength calculations have the largest impact on those tests with large transverse reinforcement ratios. This is an expected behavior as the proposed modification directly effects the *Vs* contribution to shear strength, which is a function of the transverse reinforcement ratio.

Figure 5-15: Modified AASHTO General versus Transverse Reinforcement Ratio

Instead of the trend seen in the current AASHTO General of a decreasing shear strength ratio given an increasing transverse reinforcement ratio the shear strength ratio of the proposed modification shows only a slight positive trend with an increasing transverse reinforcement ratio. [Figure 5-15](#page-190-0) therefore indicates that the new shear strength estimates have a significantly lower bias with respect to transverse reinforcement ratio than those obtained using the current procedure.

As shown in [Figure 5-16,](#page-191-0) the proposed modifications also reduce the slope of the negative trend resulting from an increase in the duct diameter-to-web width ratio seen in the current AASHTO General procedure. Although the minimum shear strength ratio calculated with the proposed changes still occurs at a duct diameter-to-web ratio greater than the current 0.4 limit, the proposed quadratic form of *λduct* results in less bias and a reasonably accurate shear strength estimates over the full range of duct-to-web width ratios in the database.

Figure 5-16: Modified AASHTO General versus Duct Diameter-to-Web Width Ratio

The effect of the proposed modifications on the bias resulting from the shear span-to-depth ratio is shown in [Figure 5-17.](#page-192-0) The bias of the proposed modifications are similar to that of the current AASHTO General procedure, but the trend shows a higher shear strength ratio, on average, than the current procedure, resulting in a more conservative design procedure.

Figure 5-17: Modified AASHTO General and Current AASHTO General Procedure Impact on Shear Span-to-Depth Ratio

5.7 SUMMARY

The shear strength design procedures of the AASHTO General provide the most accurate predictions amongst available procedures of the shear capacity of girders with post-tensioning ducts. This procedure may, however, produce unconservative estimates on shear strength for 14 percent of the tests in the PT Evaluation Database. In the PT database, 93 percent of the girders failed by crushing of the web at the level of the duct. The current AASHTO General shear strength calculations account for a potential reduction in shear strength reduction due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct by reducing the concrete contribution (V_c) to the shear strength. This term (V_c) represents the concrete's ability to transmit tensile stresses across inclined cracks. Since the observed failure mode of 93 percent of test specimens in the PT Evaluation Database was the crushing of compression struts, it was proposed to introduce a shear strength reduction factor for the AASHTO General procedure by directly reducing the transverse

reinforcement contribution to shear strength (V_s) which is limited by the ability of the strength of the compression struts in a truss shear-resistance mechanism.

The proposed reduction factor (λ_{duct}) , which accounts for the shear strength reduction due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct, is applied directly to the transverse reinforcement contribution as (*λductVs*). This proposed modification, along with the use of the gross web width (b_w) for all other shear strength calculations, resulted in shear-strength estimates for specimens in the PT database with fewer unconservative estimates, a smaller standard deviation, and less bias with respect to key influential variables than obtained with the current procedure.

CHAPTER 6

Summary and Conclusions

6.1 SUMMARY

Several factors influencing the shear behavior of prestressed concrete girders remain less studied. Among these is the reduction in strength that may occur due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct in the web of a prestressed girder. The high cost of large scale research has resulted in a limited number of tests being performed on fullscale post-tensioned specimens. Instead, the design expression for reducing the shear strength of a post-tensioning girder to account for the presence of a duct is based on small-scale panel compression tests. These panel tests showed conclusively that panels containing grouted plastic ducts failed at significantly lower loads than panels that contained grouted steel ducts (Muttoni, et al., 2006), (Wald, 2012).

In 2004, the Eurocode2 was modified in order to differentiate between the strength reduction behaviors of girders containing grouted plastic ducts from those containing grouted steel ducts. This change resulted in a significantly larger reduction in the effective web width of girders containing grouted plastic post-tensioning ducts (compared to those containing grouted steel ducts). It is important to understand that prior to the completion of the current research no full-scale shear tests had ever been conducted on girders containing grouted plastic ducts.

Seven full-scale Tx62 bulb-tee test specimens were constructed at a precast concrete fabrication plant, and eleven shear tests were performed on these specimens at the Phil M. Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory. The five primary experimental variables of this testing program were evaluated for their impact at service level shear

force, at ultimate state, and were investigated for bias in regard to the General Procedure for shear design (§5.8.2.9 of AASHTO (2013)) using the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders. The five primary experimental variables were:

- (5) Presence of a post-tensioning duct
- (6) Post-tensioning duct material (plastic or steel)
- (7) Specimen web width
- (8) Post-tensioning duct diameter
- (9) Transverse reinforcement ratio

6.2 EXPERIMENTAL OBSERVATIONS

The following sections detail the performance of the Tx62 test specimens in regard to the primary variables listed in the previous section and relate their effect to the specimen behavior at service level, ultimate state, and their influence on the AASHTO General shear design procedure.

6.2.1 Presence of a Post-Tensioning Duct

- **Service Level Behavior (Section 4.4.1):** The presence of a post-tensioning duct within the web of a specimen resulted in localized cracking in the direct vicinity of the duct at service level shear forces (approximately $0.5V_{test}$). This behavior was not observed in the pretensioned control specimen, but service level hairline cracks were observed over the depth of the control specimen at approximately the same percentage of the ultimate shear strength as the localized cracks seen in the pretensioned specimen.
- **Shear Behavior at Ultimate State (Section 4.4.2):** The presence of a posttensioning duct within the web of a Tx62 test specimen resulted in localized

crushing of the web concrete in the direct vicinity of the duct. Although the failure mechanism for the control girder was also crushing of the web concrete, this occurred throughout the full depth of the web (i.e. not localized crushing), and it was consistent with other documented cases of shear-compression failure.

• **Statistical Performance of the AASHTO General procedure (Section 5.4.1):** The presence of a post-tensioning duct within the web of a specimen does play a role in the accuracy and the level of conservatism of the AASHTO General shear design procedure. The evaluation database that specifically addresses the shear behavior of prestressed girders has a shear strength ratio (V_{test}/V_n) with less scatter and is significantly more conservative in regard to the calculated shear capacity than is seen in the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders.

6.2.2 Post-Tensioning Duct Material (Plastic or Steel)

- **Service Level Behavior (Section 4.5.1):** No difference was seen between grouted plastic and grouted steel post-tensioning ducts at service level loads. Both the localized cracking in the vicinity of the post-tensioning duct and the full-depth cracking occurred at approximately the same percentage of the ultimate capacity for all post-tensioned specimens regardless of their duct material type.
- **Shear Behavior at Ultimate State (Section 4.5.2 & 4.5.3):** The testing program described within this dissertation has shown that grouted plastic ducts do not cause a reduction in beam shear strength when compared to those containing grouted steel ducts. Therefore, no distinction between post-tensioning duct material types should be made on the basis of their impact on the shear performance of a post-tensioned girder.

• **Statistical Performance of the AASHTO General procedure (Section 5.4.2):** The post-tensioning duct material did not influence the statistical performance of the AASHTO General procedure in regards to the accuracy or the level of conservativeness in regard to the shear strength ratio (V_{test}/V_n) .

6.2.3 Specimen Web Width and Duct Diameter

The experimental variables of specimen web width and duct diameter were used to vary the duct diameter-to-web width ratio of several test specimens. All duct diameters were taken as the nominal dimensions provided by the manufacturer.

- **Service Level Behavior (Section 4.6.1):** No differences were seen as a result of the duct diameter or web width variables at service level shear forces. The same localized hairline width cracks were seen in the test of Tx62-7(S) which contained a 3-inch duct in a 9-inch web ($\mathcal{O}_{\text{duct}}$ /b_w = 0.33) as were seen with all other girders which had duct diameter-to-web width ratios of 0.43 to 0.44.
- **Shear Behavior at Ultimate State (Section 4.6.2 & 4.6.3):** Duct diameter-toweb width ratios of 0.33 to 0.44 were tested during this experimental program. No differences were seen in the shear failure mechanisms from the tests performed on this range of duct diameter-to-web width ratios. However, variations were seen in the shear stress carried at failure. The specimens with a duct diameter-to-web width ratio of 0.33 had a shear stress of 0.20*f'_c* at failure while all other posttensioned specimens with duct diameter-to-web width ratios of 0.43 to 0.44 had a shear stress of $0.16f'_{c}$ to $0.18f'_{c}$ at failure.
- **Statistical Performance of the AASHTO General procedure (Section 5.4.4):** All unconservative test results, in relation to the shear strength calculations of the

AASHTO General procedure, in its current form, occurred at duct diameter-toweb width ratios greater than the 0.4 limit provided by §5.4.6.2 of AASHTO (2013).

6.2.4 Transverse Reinforcement Ratio

- **Service Level Behavior (Section 4.7.1):** No differences were found among test specimens with varying levels of transverse reinforcement at service level loads.
- **Shear Behavior at Ultimate State (Section 4.7.2 & 4.7.3):** All post-tensioned test specimens failed due to localized crushing of the web concrete in the direct vicinity of the post-tensioning duct. The transverse reinforcement ratio had no effect on the failure mechanism of the post-tensioned test specimens.
- **Statistical Performance of the AASHTO General Procedure (Section 5.4.5):** While unconservative shear strength ratios occur over a large range of transverse reinforcement ratios within the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders, the conservativeness of the current AASHTO General procedure as a whole decreases with an increase in the transverse reinforcement ratio.

6.3 USE OF PANEL TESTING FOR CALIBRATION OF FULL-SCALE SHEAR BEHAVIOR

The use of η_D as calibrated by panel test data is not recommended because it does not take into account the differences between the splitting failure mechanism of a panel with a post-tensioning duct and the crushing failure mechanism of a control panel without a duct (as described in Section 2.3.2.2). Therefore, small-scale uniaxial panel tests cannot be relied upon to calibrate the shear strength reduction that may result from the presence of a post-tensioning duct in the web of a full-scale girder specimen.

6.4 PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE AASHTO GENERAL SHEAR DESIGN PROCEDURE

Although the AASHTO General procedure was the most accurate method investigated for calculating the shear strength of post-tensioned girders, this shear design procedure, in its current form, produces unconservative estimates of shear strengths for 14 percent of the tests in the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders. In this evaluation database, 93 percent of the girders failed by crushing of the web at the level of the post-tensioning duct. The current AASHTO General procedure accounts for a potential reduction in shear strength due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct by reducing the concrete contribution (V_c) to the shear strength. This term (V_c) represents the concrete's ability to transmit tensile stresses across inclined cracks. Since the observed failure mode of the vast majority of the evaluation database was the crushing of compression struts, it is proposed to introduce a shear strength reduction factor into the AASHTO General procedure by directly reducing the transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength (V_s) which is limited by the diagonal compressive field in a truss shear-resistance mechanism.

The proposed reduction factor (λ_{duct}) , which accounts for the shear strength reduction due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct, is applied directly to the transverse reinforcement contribution as $(\lambda_{duct} V_s)$. This proposed modification, along with the use of the gross web width (b_w) for all other shear strength calculations and the removal of the 0.4 limit on the duct diameter-to-web width ratio, results in shear-strength estimates for girders in the PT database with fewer unconservative estimates, a smaller standard deviation, and less bias with respect to key influential variables than obtained by the use of the current procedure. The details of these proposed modifications to the AASHTO General procedure are provided in Section [6.5](#page-200-0) and in-line revisions to the AASHTO (2013) specifications are found in Appendix E.

6.5 CHANGES TO THE AASHTO (2013) GENERAL SHEAR DESIGN PROCEDURE

- On the condition that the recommendations for the quadratically decreasing strength reduction factor (λ_{duct}) are adopted, the provisions of §5.4.6.2 of AASHTO (2013) should be amended to remove the current maximum duct diameter limit of 40 percent of the web width.
- On the condition that the recommendations for the quadratically decreasing strength reduction factor (λ_{duct}) are adopted, the reduction for the effective web width provided in §5.8.2.9 of AASHTO (2013) should be removed.
- On the condition that the recommendations for the quadratically decreasing strength reduction factor (λ_{duct}) are adopted, the gross web width (referred to as b_w) within this dissertation) should be used to calculate the shear strength of a member within the confines of 5.8.2.9 of AASHTO (2013) (referred to as the AASHTO General procedure within this dissertation).
- The transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength should be modified by a quadratically reducing term (*λduct*) to account for the reduction in the shear strength of a girder which contains a post-tensioning duct within its web. The equation governing the term *λduct* and the equations for the nominal shear strength of a member should be calculated as follows (*modifications shown in bold):*

for sections containing at least the minimum amount of shear reinforcement:

$$
\beta = \frac{4.8}{(1 + 750\varepsilon_s)}
$$
 Equation 6-1

for all cases:

$$
\theta = 29 + 3500 \varepsilon_{s}
$$
 Equation 6-2

Equation 6-3

where:

$$
\varepsilon_{s} = \frac{\left(\frac{|M_{u}|}{d_{v}} + 0.5N_{u} + |V_{u} - V_{p}| - A_{ps}f_{po}\right)}{E_{s}A_{s} + E_{p}A_{ps}}
$$

where:

- *ε^s* = Estimated strain at mid-height of cross-section (*in/in*) *θ* = Angle of inclination of the compressive stresses (*degrees*) A_{ps} = Area of prestressing steel on the tension side of member (in^2) A_s = Area of mild steel on the flexural tension side of member (in^2) a_g = Maximum aggregate size in the web concrete (*in*.) $f_{po} = \Delta \varepsilon_p * E_P (psi)$ $\Delta \varepsilon_p$ = Strain differential between prestressing strand and concrete (*in./in.*) E_p = Modulus of elasticity of prestressing strand (*psi*) N_u = Factored axial force in member (taken as positive if tensile) (*lbs.*) M_u = Factored moment in member, but not to be taken as less than $(V_u - V_p)d_v$ (*lb.-in.*) V_u = Factored shear force in member (*lbs.*)
- V_p = Vertical component of the prestressing force resisting shear (*lbs.*)

The nominal shear capacity of a concrete member shall be taken as:

$$
V_n = V_c + V_s + V_p \leq 0.25 f'_c b_w d_v + V_p
$$
 Equation 6-4

Where the concrete contribution to the shear strength of the member shall be taken as:

$$
V_c = \beta \sqrt{f'}_c \, b_w d_v
$$
 Equation 6-5

and the steel contribution to the shear strength of the member shall be taken as:

<u> Øduct</u> $\overline{b_w}$

 \mathbf{z}

 $\lambda_{duct} = 1 - \delta$

$$
V_s = \frac{\lambda_{duct} A_v f_y d_v (\cot \theta + \cot \alpha) \sin \alpha}{s}
$$
 Equation 6-6

where:

 β = Variable relating the concrete's resistance to slip across a crack

= 28-day compressive strength of concrete (*psi*)

$$
b_w =
$$
 The minimum gross web width inside depth of d_v (inches)
(not reduced to account for the post-tensioning ducts)

$$
d_v
$$
 = Effective shear depth measured perpendicular to the neutral axis
between the compressive and tensile resultants due to flexure, but not
to be taken as less than the greater of 0.9*(transformed steel area's
depth) or 0.72*h*.(*inches*)

 A_v = Area of shear reinforcement within a distance *s*. (*in*²)

fy = Yield strength of transverse steel. (*psi*)

θ = Angle of inclination of diagonal compressive stresses. (*degrees*)

 α = Angle of inclination of transverse reinforcement to the longitudinal axis. (*degrees*)

s = Transverse reinforcement longitudinal spacing. (*inches*)

 λ_{duct} = The quadratic reduction factor applied to V_s that accounts for the reduction in the strength of the compressive diagonal due to the presence of a post-tensioning duct. (*unitless)*

- $\mathscr{D}_{\text{duct}}$ = The nominal duct diameter present in the girder web within a depth of *dv*. (*inches*)
	- *δ* = The duct diameter correction factor (*unitless*)

 δ = 2.0 for grouted ducts

δ = not given for ungrouted (empty) ducts (*due to lack of data*)

6.6 FUTURE WORK

The literature contains only three shear tests on girders with ungrouted (empty) post-tensioning ducts. These three tests were performed on girders with large transverse reinforcement ratios, which caused their design shear strengths to be governed by the upper limit of the AASHTO General shear design procedure. Therefore, the recommendation for a duct diameter correction factor (*δ*) addressing ungrouted ducts is withheld from the recommendations provided within this chapter. It is hoped that future testing will provide more insight into the shear behavior of girders containing ungrouted post-tensioning ducts and result in a recommended duct diameter correction factor (*δ*) for ungrouted ducts.

Appendix A

Panel Testing Data

6.7 INTRODUCTION

Due to the high cost associated with full-scale testing, the shear behavior of posttensioned girders has been frequently investigated using small-scale panel tests. Results from these panel tests have been used to calibrate the web width reduction factors currently in use in AASHTO (2013) as well as those within Eurocode2. This appendix provides the relevant information from the panel testing program conducted at the Phil M. Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory (FSEL) prior to the beginning of the fullscale girder testing program. Further information on this study which includes 100 panel tests can be found in Wald (2012), which was the source for the information provided in this appendix.

Figure 0-1: Dimensions of Panel Tests shown in Appendix A

6.8 NOTATION

The following eleven tables summarize the 100 tests performed on panel specimens during this experimental study. The notation used in these tables is as follows:

- b_w = Measured gross panel thickness, analogous to girder web width (*inches*)
- *Øduct* Post-tensioning duct diameter (*inches*)
- f'_c = Compressive strength of concrete at time of testing (ksi)
- f'_g = Compressive strength of grout at time of testing (*ksi*)

Pfailure = Failure load of panel specimen (*kips*)

- ^σ*failure* = Compressive stress on panel specimen at failure (*kips*)
	- η_D = Strength reduction factor calculated as the compressive stress of the panel at failure normalized to the average (where applicable) compressive stress of the control panel(s) within the same panel set (*unitless*)

6.9 PANEL SET ONE: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 5X24 INCHES

1:Data not accepted - instrumentation and test frame error

2:Includes No. 3 bars for primary reinforcement

189

6.10 PANEL SET TWO: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

Special Condition Code:

190

1: Includes #2 bars through-thickness in 'close' position at outer two vertical bars

6.11 PANEL SET THREE: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

Special Condition Code:

--none listed--

6.12 PANEL SET FOUR: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

Special Condition Code:

192

1: Includes five sets of No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'far' position

2: Includes five sets of No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'close' position

3: Exterior of duct waxed to test bond characteristics

6.13 PANEL SET FIVE: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

Special Condition Code:

193

1: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'close' position at outer two vertical bars

6.14 PANEL SET SIX: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

194

Special Condition Code:

1: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'far' position at outer two vertical bars

2: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'far' position at all vertical bars

3: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'midway' position at outer two vertical bars

4: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'midway' position at all vertical bars

5: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'close' position at outer two vertical bars

6: Includes #3 'normal' hairpins in 'close' position at all vertical bars

7: Includes #3 'normal' hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

Panel Test Specimen	Duct Material Type or Control Specimen	Grout Condition	Width (in)	b_w (in)	\varnothing_{duct} (in.)	\varnothing_{duct} b_w	f'_c concrete (ksi)	f'_s grout (ksi)	$P_{\textit{failure}}$ (kips)	$\sigma_{failure}$ (ksi)	η_D	Special Condition Code
Set 7-Panel 1	Control	$\hspace{0.05cm}$ – $\hspace{0.05cm}$	23.94	7.00	0.00	0.00	10.15	$-$	1217	7.26	1.00	
Set 7-Panel 2	Control	--	23.94	7.00	0.00	0.00	10.62	$-$	1219	7.28	1.00	
Set 7-Panel 3	Plastic	grouted	24.13	7.06	3.00	0.42	10.15	4.51	402	2.36	0.32	
Set 7-Panel 4	Plastic	grouted	24.13	7.06	3.00	0.42	10.15	4.51	378	2.22	0.31	$\overline{2}$
Set 7-Panel 5	Plastic	grouted	24.06	7.06	3.00	0.42	10.15	4.51	455	2.68	0.37	3
Set 7-Panel 6	Plastic	grouted	24.06	7.06	3.00	0.42	10.62	4.86	442	2.60	0.36	$\overline{4}$
Set 7-Panel 7	Plastic	grouted	23.94	7.00	3.00	0.43	10.62	4.86	516	3.08	0.42	5
Set 7-Panel 8	Plastic	grouted	24.19	7.06	2.38	0.34	10.62	4.86	529	3.10	0.43	
Set 7-Panel 9	Plastic	grouted	23.94	7.06	3.00	0.42	10.62	4.86	451	2.67	0.37	6

6.15 PANEL SET SEVEN: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

195

Special Condition Code:

1:Includes two ducts spaced vertically apart by one duct diameter center-to-center

2:Includes two ducts spaced vertically apart by two duct diameters center-to-center

3:Includes two ducts spaced vertically apart by three duct diameters center-to-center

4: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins against duct at middle vertical bar

5: Includes No. 3 single-side, inverted hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

6: Exterior of duct sanded to test bond condition

Panel Test Specimen	Duct Material Type or Control Specimen	Grout Condition	Width (in)	b_w (in)	\varnothing_{duct} (in.)	\emptyset_{duct} b_w	f'_c concrete (ksi)	f'_s grout (ksi)	$P_{\textit{failure}}$ (kips)	$\sigma_{failure}$ (ksi)	η_D	Special Condition Code
Set 8-Panel 1	Control	--	23.88	7.13	0.00	0.00	11.16	--	1643	9.66	1.00	
Set 8-Panel 2	Control	--	23.88	7.00	0.00	0.00	11.16	$-$	1654	9.89	1.00	
Set 8-Panel 3	Plastic	grouted	24.31	7.06	3.38	0.48	11.16	5.98	456	2.66	0.28	
Set 8-Panel 4	Plastic	grouted	24.19	7.13	3.38	0.47	11.16	5.98	517	3.00	0.31	
Set 8-Panel 5	Plastic	grouted	23.94	7.06	2.38	0.34	11.16	5.98	821	4.86	0.50	
Set 8-Panel 6	Plastic	empty	24.06	7.06	3.00	0.42	11.16	\mathbf{u}	410	2.41	0.25	$\overline{2}$
Set 8-Panel 7	Plastic	grouted	24.00	7.13	3.00	0.42	11.16	13.62	536	3.13	0.32	
Set 8-Panel 8	Plastic	grouted	24.00	7.13	3.00	0.42	11.16	13.62	743	4.35	0.45	
Set 8-Panel 9	Plastic	grouted	24.00	7.13	3.00	0.42	11.16	13.62	758	4.43	0.46	3

6.16 PANEL SET EIGHT: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

196

Special Condition Code:

1: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

2: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins against duct at all vertical bars

3: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins in 'far' position at outer two vertical bars

Panel Test Specimen	Duct Material Type or Control Specimen	Grout Condition	Width (in)	b_w (in)	\emptyset_{duct} (in.)	\varnothing_{duct} b_w	f'_c concrete (ksi)	f'_g grout (ksi)	P_{failure} (kips)	$\sigma_{failure}$ (ksi)	η_D	Special Condition Code
Set 9-Panel 1	Control	--	24.00	7.13	0.00	0.00	10.19	$\overline{}$	1704	9.97	1.07	
Set 9-Panel 2	Control	--	23.94	7.13	0.00	0.00	10.19	$\overline{}$	1475	8.65	0.93	
Set 9-Panel 3	Plastic	grouted	24.06	7.06	3.00	0.42	10.19	6.25	549	3.23	0.35	
Set 9-Panel 4	Plastic	grouted	24.00	7.13	3.00	0.42	10.19	6.25	668	3.91	0.42	1
Set 9-Panel 5	Plastic	grouted	23.94	7.13	3.00	0.42	10.19	6.25	735	4.31	0.46	2
Set 9-Panel 6	Plastic	grouted	24.06	7.06	3.00	0.42	10.19	6.25	599	3.52	0.38	3
Set 9-Panel 7	Plastic	grouted	24.06	7.13	3.00	0.42	10.19	6.25	705	4.11	0.44	$\overline{4}$
Set 9-Panel 8	Plastic	grouted	24.00	7.13	3.00	0.42	10.19	6.25	825	4.83	0.52	5
Set 9-Panel 9	Plastic	grouted	24.25	7.13	3.00	0.42	10.19	6.25	775	4.49	0.49	6

6.17 PANEL SET NINE: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

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Special Condition Code:

1: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

2: Includes No. 3 inverted hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

3: Includes No. 3 single-side, inverted hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

4: Includes No. 3 'flattened' hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

5: Includes No. 3 Z-bars against duct at outer two vertical bars

6: Includes No. 3 'staples' against duct at outer two vertical bars

6.18 PANEL SET TEN: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS 7X24 INCHES

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Special Condition Code:

1: Includes No. 3 'normal' hairpins against duct at outer two vertical bars

6.19 PANEL SET ELEVEN: NOMINAL DIMENSIONS VARY

2: η^D computed based on estimated control failure load

Appendix B

Test Specimen Drawings

Detailed drawings of the seven test girders constructed during the current study are provided in this appendix. The design of these girders outside of the end-block was guided by the current Tx62 standards which can be downloaded from the website of the Texas Department of Transportation.

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Appendix C

Tx62 Specimen Shear Strength Calculations

6.20 NOTATION

The following tables summarize the shear strength calculations of the specimens tested during this experimental program. The notation used in these tables is as follows:

- β = Variable relating the concrete's resistance to slip across a crack
- f'_c = Compressive strength of concrete at time of testing (*psi*)
- b_w = Minimum gross web width inside depth of d_v . (*inches*)
- b_v = Minimum web width inside depth of d_v reduced to account for the posttensioning ducts. (*inches*)

$$
\mathcal{O}_{\text{duct}}
$$
 Post-tensioning duct diameter. (inches)

 λ_{duct} = Proposed shear strength reduction factor to account for the reduction in transverse reinforcement contribution to shear strength. (*unitless*)

 d_v = Effective shear depth measured perpendicular to the neutral axis between the compressive and tensile resultants due to flexure, but not to be taken as less than the greater of 0.9*(transformed steel area's depth) or 0.72*h.*(*inches*)

$$
M_u = \text{Factored moment in member, but not to be taken as less than}
$$

$$
(V_u - V_p)d_v
$$
 (*lb.-in.*)

 V_u = Factored shear force in member (*lbs.*)

 V_p = Vertical component of the prestressing force resisting shear (*lbs.*)

 A_{ps} = Area of prestressing steel on the tension side of member (in^2)

$$
f_{po} = \Delta \varepsilon_p * E_P (psi)
$$

 $\Delta \varepsilon_p$ = Strain differential between prestressing strand and concrete (*in./in.*)

 E_p = Modulus of elasticity of prestressing strand (*psi*)

ε^s = Estimated strain at mid-height of cross-section (*in/in*)

 A_v = Area of shear reinforcement within a distance *s*. (*in*²)

$$
f_y
$$
 = Yield strength of transverse steel. (*psi*)

θ = Angle of inclination of diagonal compressive stresses. (*degrees*)

s = Transverse reinforcement longitudinal spacing. (*inches*)

 $K =$ Variable relating to the state of stress in the concrete

 $f_{\textit{pc}}$ = The unfactored compressive stress in the concrete after prestress losses have occurred either at the centroid of the cross-section resisting live loads for at the web-to-flange interface when the centroid lies in the flange. (*psi*)

$$
f_{pe}
$$
 = Compressive stress in concrete due to effective prestress forces only
(after losses) at extreme fiber of section where tensile stress is caused by
externally applied loads (*psi*)

 y_t = Distance from centroidal axis of gross section, neglecting reinforcement, to tension face (*in.*)

 f_d = Stress due to unfactored dead load, at extreme fiber of section where tensile stress is caused by externally applied loads (*psi*)

6.21 SHEAR STRENGTH CALCULATIONS USING THE CURRENT AASHTO (2013) GENERAL PROCEDURE

6.22 SHEAR STRENGTH CALCULATIONS THE USING PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO AASHTO (2013) GENERAL PROCEDURE

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Test Specimen	f'_c [ksi]	b_w $[$ in.]	\varnothing_{duct} $[$ in.]	b_{ν} $[$ in.]	d_v $[$ in.]	f_{pc} [ksi]	K	V_c [kip]	$A_v f_v$ [kip]	\mathcal{S} [in.]	$V_{\rm s}$ [kip]	$Max V_n$ [kip]	V_n [kip]	V_{test} V_n
$Tx62-I(S)$	10.6	7.0	3.0	5.5	57.7	1.62	2.0	130	26.8	6.0	258	391	388	1.77
$Tx62-2(S)$	12.0	7.0	3.0	5.5	57.7	1.72	2.0	139	27.3	6.0	262	416	401	2.03
$Tx62-2(N)$	12.0	7.0	3.0	5.5	57.7	1.72	2.0	139	27.3	6.0	262	416	401	1.87
$Tx62-3(S)$	11.7	7.0	0.0	7.0	63.6	1.20	2.0	192	27.0	6.0	286	577	478	2.06
$Tx62-4(S)$	13.9	7.0	3.0	5.5	57.7	1.78	2.0	150	26.6	4.0	383	448	448	1.85
$Tx62-4(N)$	13.6	7.0	3.0	5.5	57.7	1.78	2.0	148	26.6	4.0	383	443	443	1.88
$Tx62-5(S)$	12.5	7.0	3.0	5.5	57.7	1.79	2.0	141	27.0	18.0	86	424	228	3.09
$Tx62-5(N)$	12.5	7.0	3.0	5.5	57.7	1.79	2.0	141	27.0	18.0	86	424	228	3.23
$Tx62-6(S)$	12.4	9.0	4.0	7.0	57.2	1.76	2.0	178	46.1	6.0	440	533	533	1.74
$Tx62-6(N)$	13.2	9.0	4.0	7.0	57.2	1.76	2.0	184	46.1	6.0	440	551	551	2.00
$Tx62-7(S)$	12.2	9.0	3.0	7.5	57.2	1.74	2.0	189	46.6	6.0	444	568	568	2.05
Mean										2.14				
	Standard Deviation										0.49			

6.23 SHEAR STRENGTH CALCULATIONS USING THE SEGMENTAL PROCEDURE OF AASHTO (2013)

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6.24 SHEAR STRENGTH CALCULATIONS USING THE DETAILED AND SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES OF ACI 318-11

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Appendix D

Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders

6.25 REFERENCES OF THE EVALUATION DATABASE FOR POST-TENSIONED GIRDERS

All references (outside of the experimental program described within this dissertation) are shown in [Table 0-1](#page-259-0) while their full citations are given in the list of references of this dissertation.

No.	Authors	Year	Publication	Number of Tests in Publication	Number of Tests in Eval. Database
1	Chitnuyanondh	1976	Dissertation	13	6
2	Rezai-Jorabi and Regan	1986	The Structural Engineer	13	7
3	Ruiz and Muttoni	2008	ACI Structural Journal	6	6
4	Lee, Cho, and Oh	2010	ACI Structural Journal	11	7
5	Rupf, Ruiz, and Muttoni	2013	Engineering Structures	12	8

Table 0-1: References of the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders

6.26 NOTATION

This appendix provides detailed information of the 34 tests included in the Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders that were not part of the current study. The notation used in this appendix is as follows (adopted from Nakamura (2011):

Specimen I.D. = specimen identification as reported in original reference

- *f'c* = Concrete compressive strength (*ksi*)
- $h =$ Overall specimen height including deck where applicable (*inches*)

$$
b_w = \text{Gross web width of section } (inches)
$$

- *Øduct* = Nominal post-tensioning duct diameter (*inches*)
- a/d = Shear span to depth ratio
- $\rho_v f_v$ = Transverse reinforcement ratio (*ksi*)
- f_{pc}/f_c = Percentage of the effective prestress in concrete at centroidal axis (f_{pc}) to the concrete compressive strength.
- f_{po}/f_{pu} = Percentage of the effective prestress in prestressing steel (*fspoe*) to the rupture strength of prestressing steel

Vtest = Shear force at failure (*ksi*)

Failure Mode = Shear failure mode as reported in original reference

6.27 EVALUATION DATABASE FOR POST-TENSIONED GIRDERS

Table 0-2: Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders Summary of Data (Part 1 of 3)

Specimen I.D.	f'_c (ksi)	\boldsymbol{h} (in.)	b_w (in.)	$\boldsymbol{0}_{duct}$ (in.)	a/d	$\rho_x f_y$ (ksi)	f_{p} \mathcal{F}_{c} (%)	f_{po}/f_{pu} (%)	V_{test} (kip)	Shear failure mode	
Ruiz and Muttoni (2008)											
SH ₁	9.16	52.4	4.92	2.40	4.17	0.530	9.2	30.6	335	web crushing	
SH ₂	8.08	52.4	4.92	2.40	4.17	0.530	12.3	30.6	283	web crushing	
SH3	8.86	52.4	4.92	2.40	4.17	0.530	9.5	30.6	345	web crushing	
SH4a	9.65	52.4	4.92	2.40	3.04	0.530	10.9	30.6	252	web crushing	
SH ₄ b	9.65	52.4	4.92	2.40	2.19	0.530	11.1	30.6	375	web crushing	
SH ₅	6.24	52.4	4.92	2.40	3.38	0.530	12.1	30.6	373	web crushing	
	Lee, Cho, and Oh (2010)										
C40P2S10	6.58	47.2	7.87	2.00	2.50	0.161	8.1	54.1	320	web crushing	
C40P2S13	6.58	47.2	7.87	2.00	2.50	0.286	8.1	54.1	347	web crushing	
C60P1S10	10.65	47.2	7.87	2.00	2.56	0.161	2.3	49.1	304	web crushing	
C60P2S10	10.65	47.2	7.87	2.00	2.50	0.161	5.0	54.1	375	web crushing	
C60P2S13	10.65	47.2	7.87	2.00	2.50	0.286	5.0	54.1	416	web crushing	
C80P2S10	12.31	47.2	7.87	2.00	2.50	0.161	4.3	54.1	350	web crushing	
C80P2S13	12.31	47.2	7.87	2.00	2.50	0.286	4.3	54.1	422	web crushing	

Table 0-3: Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders Summary of Data (Part 2 of 3)

Specimen I.D.	f'_c (ksi)	\boldsymbol{h} (in.)	b_w (in.)	$\boldsymbol{0}_{duct}$ (in.)	a/d	$\rho_{v}f_{v}$ (ksi)	f_{p} $/f'_{c}$ (%)	f_{po}/f_{pu} (%)	V_{test} (kip)	Shear failure mode	
Rupf, Ruiz, and Muttoni (2013)											
SR21	4.47	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.83	0.073	7.8	65.8	90	smeared cracking*	
SR22	4.89	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.83	0.107	7.1	65.3	103	web crushing	
SR23	5.12	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.83	0.053	7.0	67.2	82	smeared cracking*	
SR24	4.54	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.83	0.210	7.6	64.9	130	web crushing	
SR25	4.80	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.85	0.073	14.3	64.9	109	web crushing	
SR27	4.10	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.85	0.157	17.2	66.2	136	web crushing	
SR29	4.32	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.83	0.210	7.9	64.4	132	web crushing	
SR30	4.55	30.7	5.91	1.77	3.85	0.213	7.3	62.5	131	web crushing	
*Reference reported "smeared cracking and flange delamination" as failure mode											

Table 0-4: Evaluation Database for Post-Tensioned Girders Summary of Data (Part 3 of 3)

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