Behavior and Design of Cast-in-Place Anchors under Simulated Seismic Loading (NEES-Anchor)

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Unreinforced Single Anchors Subjected to Cyclic Tension, Shear, and Combined Loading

Sufficient data is not available for anchors under cyclic loading. Consequently, ACI 318-11 recommends a capacity reduction \gtrsim factor for tension anchors with concrete $\sum_{n=0.2}^{10.4}$ Load controlled tests (average=0.83) breakout failure. No factor is stipulated for anchors under shear or combined loading.





The observed anchor capacities under cyclic loads were lower than that of anchors subjected to monotonic loads, mostly due to accumulative/progressive damage in concrete.



Concrete around an anchor bolt subjected to cyclic shear crushed, causing the top portion of the anchor shaft unsupported, and bending moment. \rightarrow reduced anchor shear capacity.



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1.0-6-6 Mono

Cyclic loading

Displacement (in.)

— Unreinforced



A database of about 130 tests was assembled for cast-in-place anchors and headed studs subjected to stepwise increasing cyclic loading. Data analysis indicated a seismic reduction factor of 0.80 for anchors with concrete breakout failure. A reduction factor of 0.80 was recommended for steel fracture



Effects of Anchor Reinforcement on Headed Anchors under Cyclic Loading

ACI 318-11 recommends hairpins and surface reinforcement consisting of hooked bars encasing an edge reinforcement for anchors in shear, and hairpins placed close to anchors in tension. Concrete breakout occurs before reinforcement takes effect.

We proposed alternative designs and detailing for anchor reinforcement. The new reinforcement consists of a group of closed stirrups proportioned to resist the code-specified anchor steel capacity.











The expected steel tension fracture was not achieved mainly because the anchor reinforcement did not effectively prevent splitting cracks. Concrete around the anchor head thus lost its confinement and crushed prematurely. \rightarrow Anchor pullout.





Headed anchors in Plastic Hinge Zone of RC Columns

Anchors are currently not allowed in plastic hinge zones in ACI 318-11 if concrete failure modes likely control the behavior; and anchor reinforcement is needed. Extensive concrete damage is expected in these regions.

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This group of tests was to investigate the feasibility of installing headed anchors in plastic hinge zones.

- 3 specimens w/ one anchor in tension
- 3 specimens w/ two anchors in shear





Well-confined core concrete can support headed anchors installed in plastic hinge zones of RC columns

Anchor reinforcement should 1) Confine core

concrete; 2) Restrain concrete splitting and blowout; and 3) Transfer loads from anchor heads; Cover spalling leads to exposed anchor shaft. Estimation of exposed length is key for capacity.



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