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# Externally bonded FRP reinforcement for RC structures: post strengthening

Book Composite for Construction, L. C. Bank, Chapter 8



# Reasons for strengthening

- Deterioration due to ageing
- Crashing of vehicles into bridge components
- Degradation such as corrosion of steel reinforcement
- Poor initial design and/or construction
- Lack of maintenance
- Accidental events such as earthquakes
- Increase in service loads
- Change to the structural system
- Large crack widths
- Large deformations

# Advantages of FRP as compared with steel

- Low weight and therefore easier application
- Unlimited availability in FRP sizes
- Very flexible during installation
- High strength (although this strength cannot be exploited in unstressed applications)
- Good fatigue resistance
- Immunity to corrosion

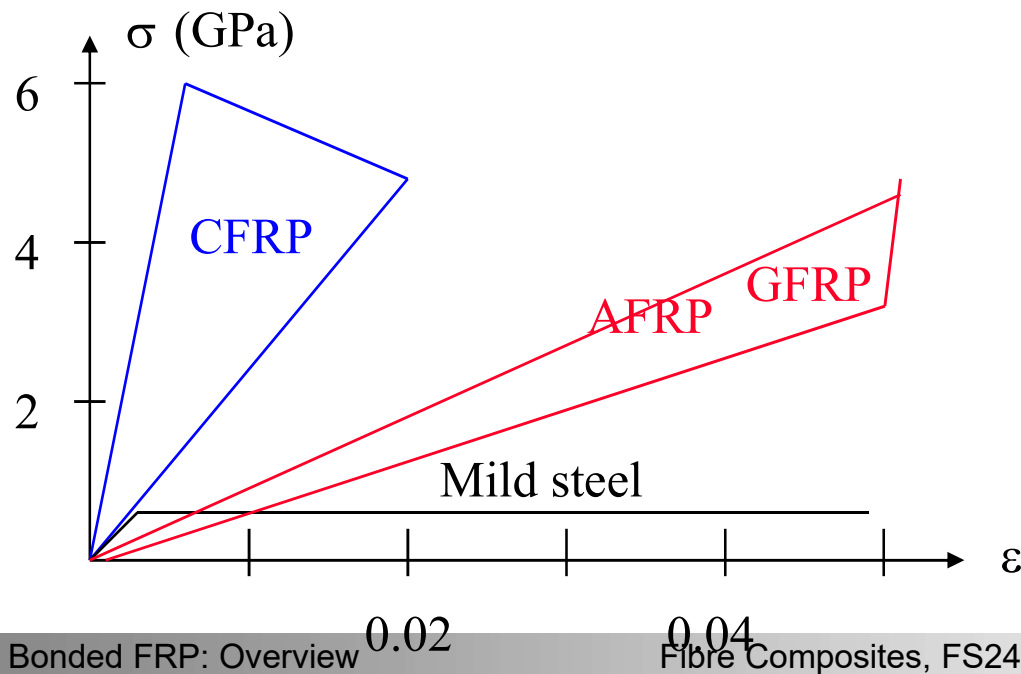
→ Life cycle cost can be competitive to steel

# Disadvantages

- Performance under elevated temperatures
- Effect of UV radiation
- Application of FRP and adhesives need qualified personnel
- Adhesives are dangerous for people and environment
- Material behaviour: linear elastic to failure

## Strengthening materials are available mainly in following forms:

- UD-Strips (thickness appr. 1 mm) made by pultrusion,
- Flexible sheets or fabrics (in one or two directions) and sometimes pre-impregnated with resin.



## FRP Strengthening may replace:

- **Steel plate strengthening,**
- **Concrete cast in-place or shotcrete jackets around existing elements,**
- **Steel jackets.**

# FRP-Strengthening Applications

Type	Application	Fibre Dir.	Schematic
Flexural	Tension and/or side face of beam	Along long. axis of beam	
Shear	Side face of beam (u-wrap)	Perpendicular to long. axis of beam	
Confinement	Around column	Circumferential	



## Typical FRP applications as strengthening material:

- Flexural strengthening of slab (strips, sheets),
- Flexural strengthening of beam (strips, sheets, fabrics),
- Shear strengthening of beam (angles, sheets, fabrics),
- Shear strengthening and confinement of column (sheets, fabrics, shells),
- Wrapping of concrete tank (sheets, fabrics),
- Shear strengthening of beam-column joint (strips, sheets, fabrics).

# FRP Materials

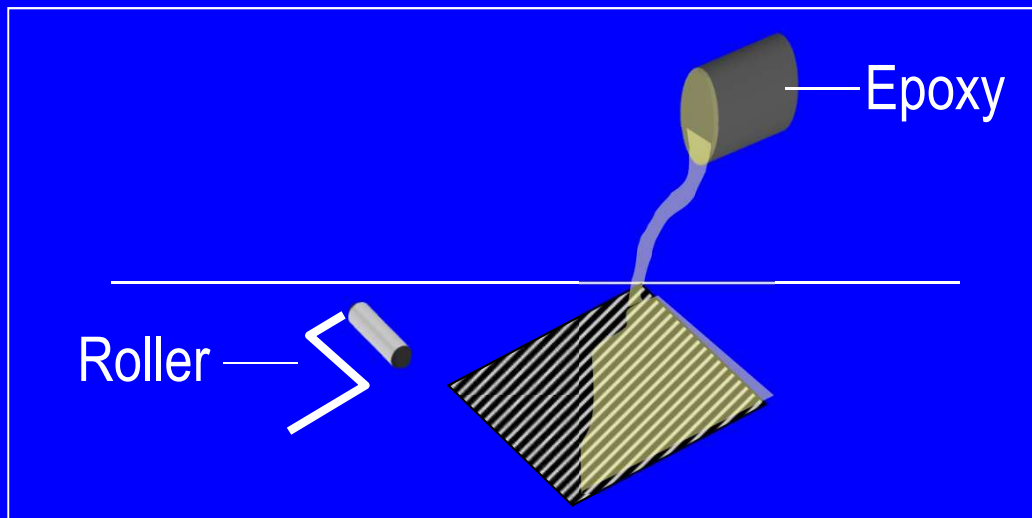
## ① Wet lay-up

## Installation Techniques

Used with flexible sheets

Saturate sheets with epoxy adhesive

Place on concrete surface



Resin acts as adhesive  
AND matrix

# FRP Materials

## Installation Techniques

### ② Pre-cured

Used with rigid, pre-cured strips

Apply adhesive to strip backing

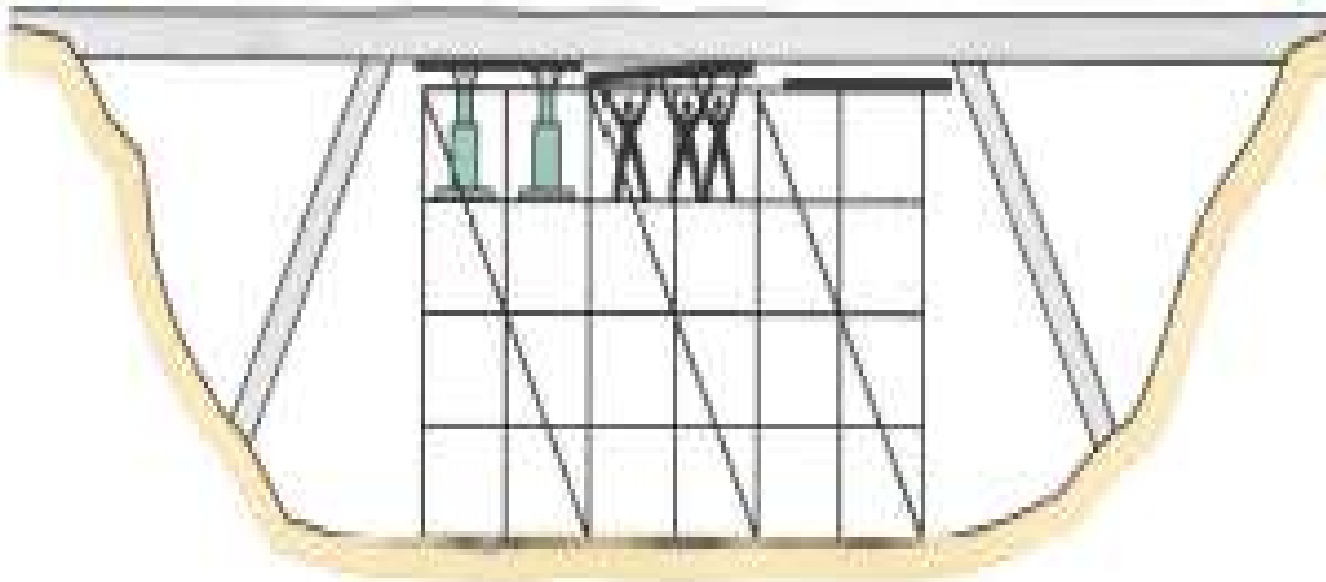
Place on concrete surface

Not as flexible for variable structural shapes



Resin acts as adhesive

# Post Strengthening using Steel Strips

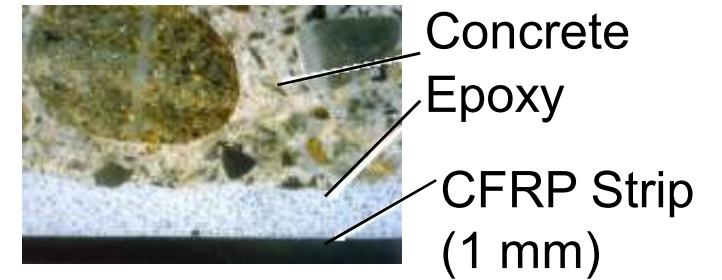
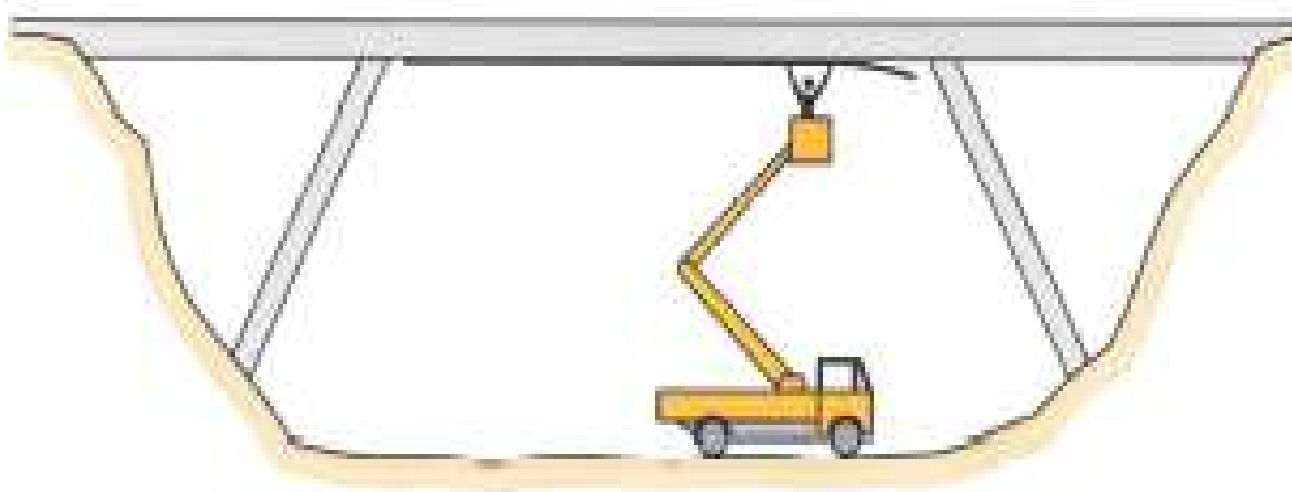


- Heavy
- Corrosion

- Requires scaffold
- Requires many joints

# Post Strengthening using CFRP Strips

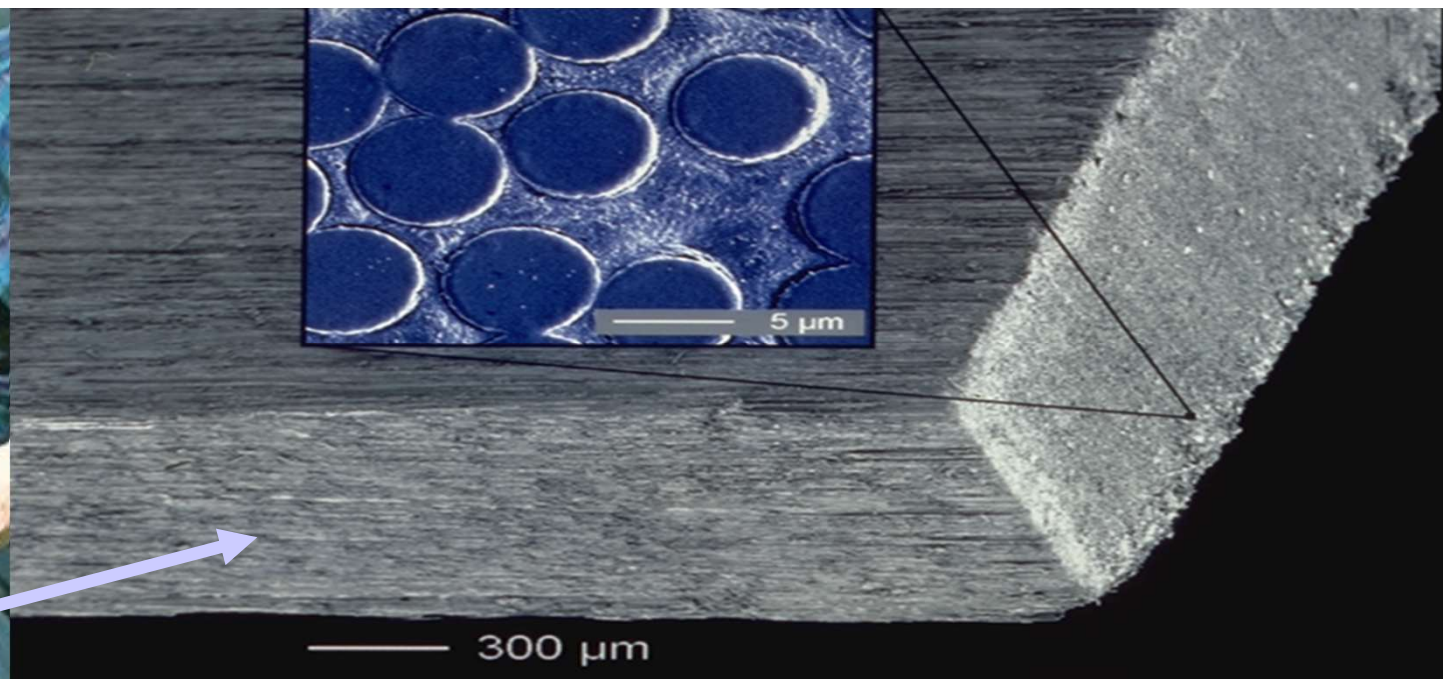
Introduced by Prof. Urs Meier (EMPA Switzerland) in 80's



- Light weight
- Corrosion resistant

- No scaffold
- No joints

**CFRP  
strips**



**CFRP Fibers:  
65....72 vol%**

**Strength:  
2500....3300 MPa**

**E-Modul:  
150...300 GPa**

# CFRP Laminates (UD-Strips) for Post-Strengthening





# Ibach Bridge, Switzerland 1991





# Ibach Beridge, Switzerland 1991



Externally Bonded FRP: Overview



Fibre Composites, FS24

Masoud Motavalli

# Flexural strengthening of RC structures



Strengthening of a concrete deck using CFRP strips on the top and underside of the deck







# Flexural strengthening using CFRP strips of concrete girders in a Cement manufacturing building in Poland

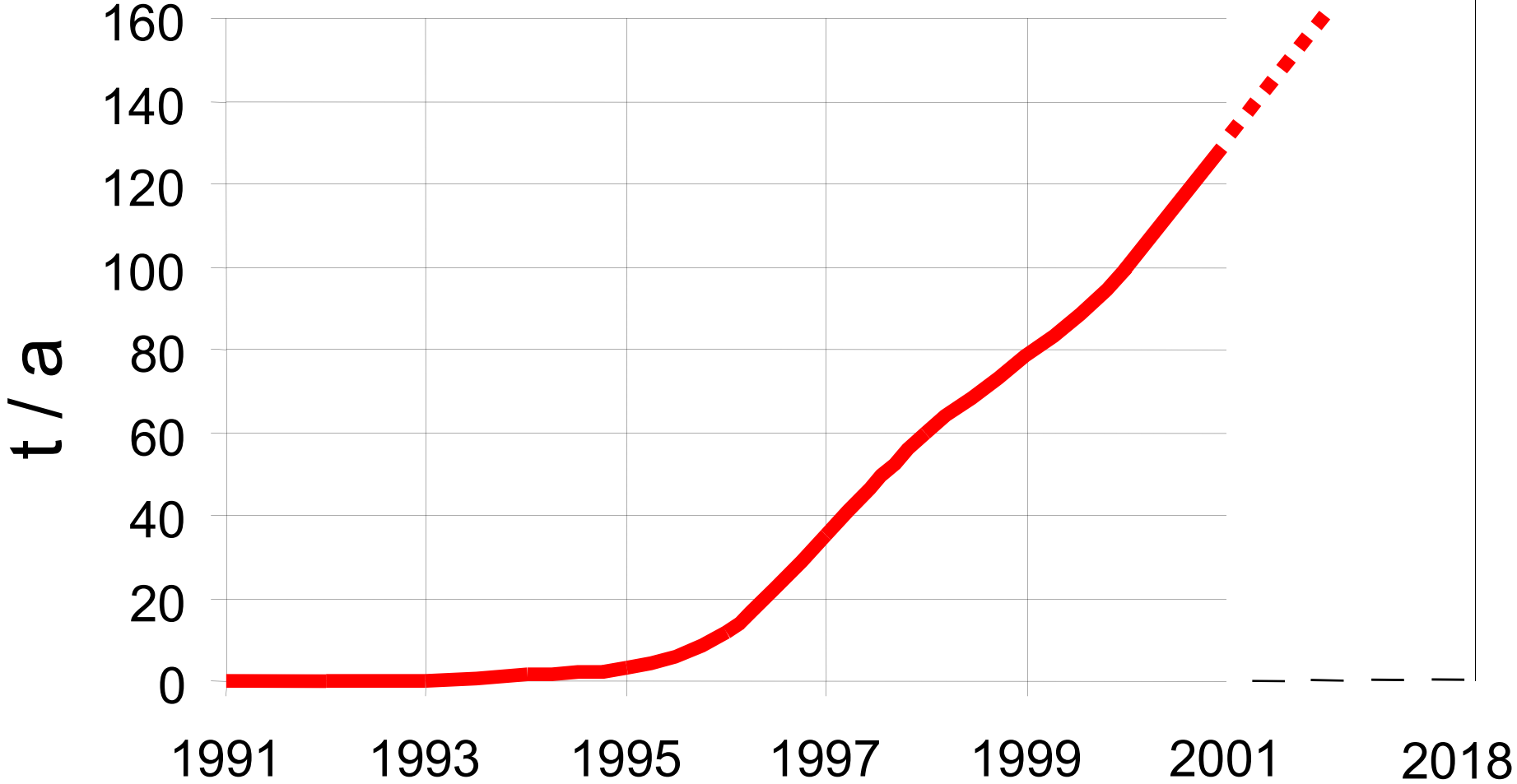




# Daily Job



# CFRP strips provided by Swiss companies





# Shear strengthening of RC structures



Duttweiler bridge ramp, Zurich, Switzerland



Installation of prefabricated CFRP L-shaped plates (shear strengthening) over existing CFRP strips (flexural strengthening)



# Shear Strengthening of Reinforced Concrete Structures Using CFRP-Laminates





# Placing of CFRP fabrics for shear strengthening of DK 81 bridge above railway to Laziska power plant in Poland

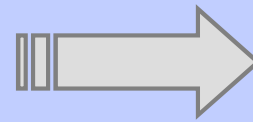


## OBJECTIVES

INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF STRENGTHENING BY APPLYING NEAR SURFACE MOUNTED REINFORCEMENT (NSMR)

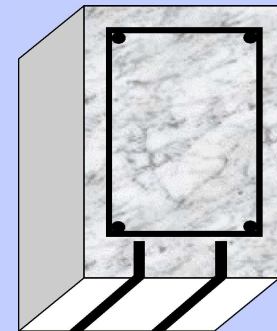
$$\varepsilon_f = 6 \div 7\text{‰}$$

EXTERNAL BONDING



$$\varepsilon_f = ?$$

NSMR CFRP BONDING





# Near Surface Mounting Reinforcement (NSMR)



Flexural strengthening of a concrete deck in the region of negative bending moment using Near Surface Mounting Reinforcement (NSMR) technique by cutting a slot in the concrete deck and placing the CFRP into the slots; industry plant, Stuttgart, Germany

# Seismic retrofitting



Application of CFRP fabrics to concrete columns for seismic retrofitting of Reggio Emilia football stadium, Italy



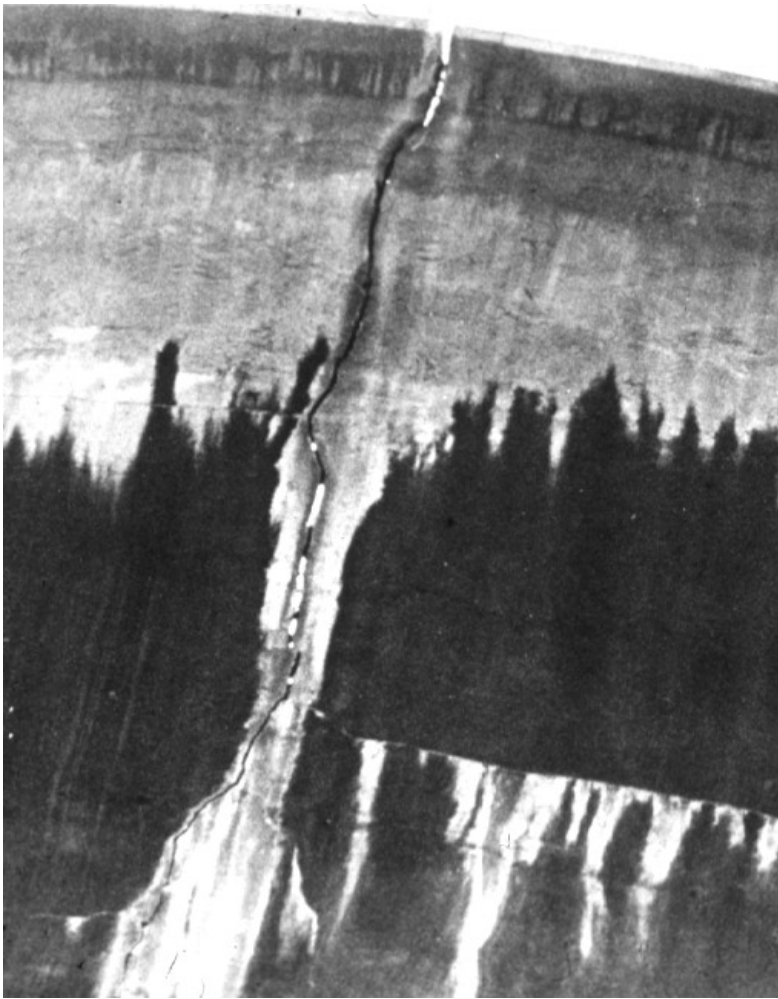


Seismic retrofitting of column-beam joints of Aigaleo football stadium in Athens, Greece, using CFRP fabrics with steel anchorages





# Cooling Towers



Externally Bonded FRP: Overview



Fibre Composites, FS24



Masoud Motavalli



# Swiss Code SIA 166 (2004)

**fib CEP-FIB, Bulletin 90, Externally applied FRP reinforcement for concrete structures, Technical Report, Task group 5.1, May 2019**

ACI 440.2R-02

**Guide for the Design and Construction of Externally Bonded FRP Systems for Strengthening Concrete Structures**

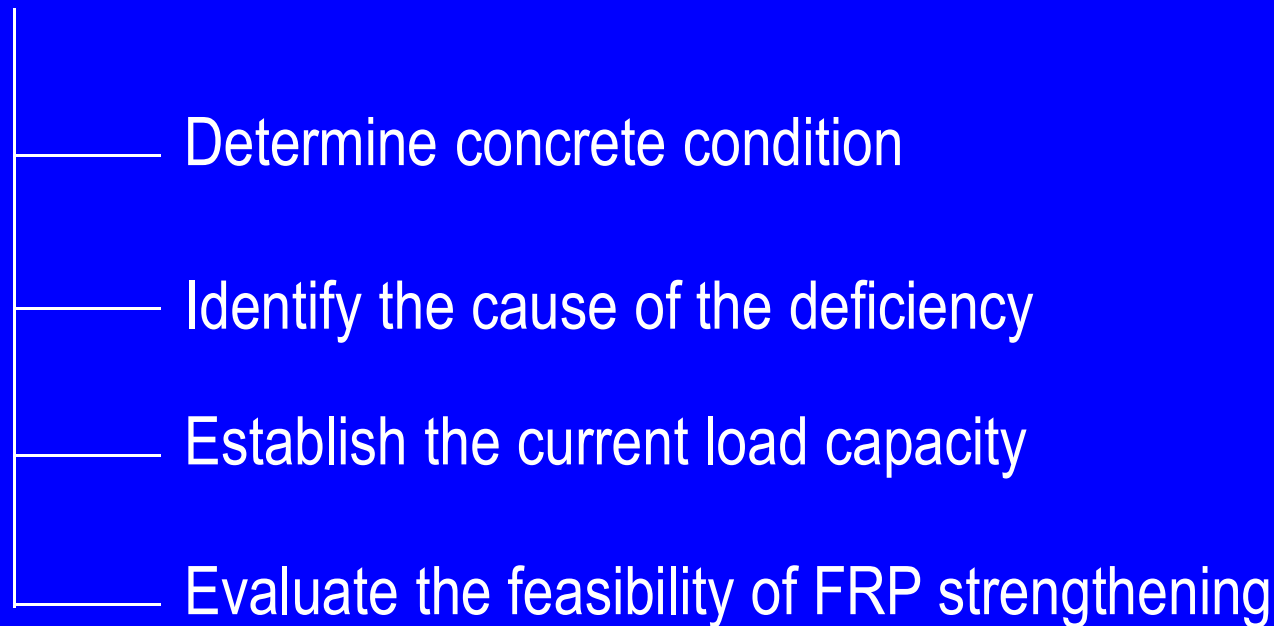
Reported by ACI Committee 440

## Basis of design and safety concept

- **Determination of the state of the (repaired) structure prior to strengthening:**
  - **Field inspection**
  - **Reviewing existing documents**
  - **Structural analysis**
- **Identification of deficiencies and a proper repair concept**
- **Verification of Ultimate Limit State (ULS)**
- **Verification of Serviceability Limit State (SLS)**

# Evaluation of Existing Structures

- Evaluation is important to (e.g. SIA 162/5 “Erhaltung von Betontragwerken”):



# Evaluation of Existing Structures

- Evaluation should include:

— All past modifications

— Actual size of elements


— Actual material properties

— Location, size and cause of cracks, spalling

— Location, extent of corrosion

— Quantity, location of rebar

# Evaluation of Existing Structures

- One of the key aspects of strengthening:  State of concrete substrate
- Concrete must transfer load from the elements to the FRPs through shear in the adhesive
- Surface modification required where surface flaws exist

## Basis of design and safety concept

- **Accidental situation such as loss of FRP due to impact, vandalism or fire: assuming unstrengthened member with materials safety factors equal to 1.0 at ULS,**
- **Special design considerations: impact resistance, fire resistance, cyclic loading, extra bond stresses due to the difference in thermal expansion coeff between FRP and concrete,**

## Basis of design and safety concept

- Design should be such that brittle failure modes, such as shear and torsion are excluded.
- It should be guaranteed that:  
**the internal steel is sufficiently yielding in ULS , so that the strengthened member will fail in a ductile manner, despite the brittle nature of concrete crushing, FRP rupture or bond failure.**

The design strength of the concrete:

$$\alpha \cdot f_{cd} = \frac{\alpha \cdot f_{ck}}{\gamma_c}$$

Where:

$f_{ck}$  : characteristic value of the compressive strength.

$\alpha$  : reduce compressive strength under long term loading (=0.85).

$\gamma_c$  : partial safety factor (=1.5).



For the steel reinforcement, a bilinear stress-strain relationship is considered:

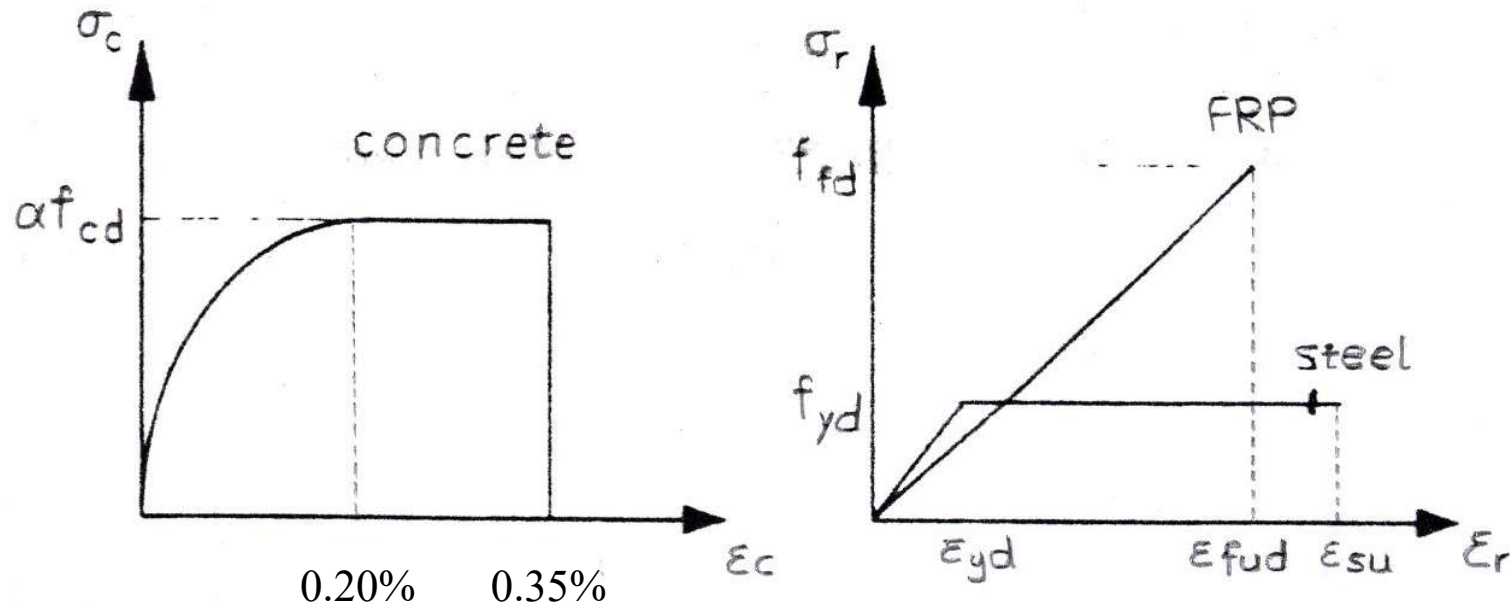
$$f_{yd} = \frac{f_{yk}}{\gamma_s}$$

Where:

$f_{yd}$  : design yield strength.

$f_{yk}$  : characteristic yield strength.

$\gamma_s$  : material safety factor (=1.15).



## Design stress-strain curves of constitutive materials at ULS

# "List of Symbols"

< Externally bonded FRP reinforcement for RC structures >

$\gamma_M$  : material partial safety factor

$\sigma_f$  : FRP stress ;  $\epsilon_f$  : FRP strain, or ( $E_{FRP}$ )

$E_{fk}$  : characteristic value of the recent modulus of FRP  
or ( $E_{FRP}$ )

$$\alpha \cdot f_{cd} = \frac{\alpha \cdot f_{ck}}{\gamma_c}$$

$f_{ck}$  : characteristic value of the compressive strength  
 $\alpha$  : reduction factor for long term loading (= 0.85)  
 $\gamma_c$  : partial safety factor (= 1.5)  
 $f_{cd}$  : design strength of concrete

$$f_{yd} = \frac{f_{yk}}{\gamma_s}$$

$f_{yd}$  : design yield strength of steel  
 $f_{yk}$  : characteristic yield strength  
 $\gamma_s$  : material safety factor (= 1.15)

$$f_{fd} = \frac{f_{fk}}{\gamma_f}$$

$f_{fd}$  : design FRP failure strength  
 $f_{fk}$  : characteristic FRP failure strength  
 $\gamma_f$  : FRP material safety factor (= 1.20 to 1.50)

$\phi_s$  ;  $\phi_c$  ,  $\phi_{FRP}$  : resistance factors for steel, concrete, FRP  
(following Canadian code)

$\gamma_{cb} = 1.5$  : material safety factor for the shear strength of  
the concrete in the case of debonding

$\gamma_a = 1.5$  : material safety factor for the shear strength  
of adhesive in the case of debonding

$\epsilon_{fu,c}$  : FRP strain in the critical section at ultimate,  
or ( $\epsilon_{FRPk}$ )

$\epsilon_0$  : initial strain prior to strengthening

$\epsilon_{su,c}$  : steel strain in the critical section at ultimate