

Experimental study on the influence of openings on strength and stiffness of RC walls

Part 2: Experiment results

Keyword:

RC shear wall

Opening in walls

Strength reduction

Stiffness reduction

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Part 1 of the study showed the experimental plan and Part 2 (this part) shows and discusses the experimental results.

2. Failure mechanism**2.1 Crack pattern and failure mode**

The diagonal cracks at a shear strain of 0.6%, at which specimens had already reached peak maximum strength, are shown in Figure 1. The direction and cracks pattern for all specimens are diagonal cracks as expected by pure shear loading. It was noticed that number of cracks for specimens with additional reinforcement was greater when compared with specimens without additional reinforcement eg. a comparison between S80 and S80A, or S160 and S160A. Specimen with a large opening (S240) had fewer cracks but with a larger width. The failure mechanism after the final cycle is shown in Figure 2. As for the specimens with opening, the final failure was a sudden abrupt degradation of strength caused by the crushing of concrete along the corner of openings.

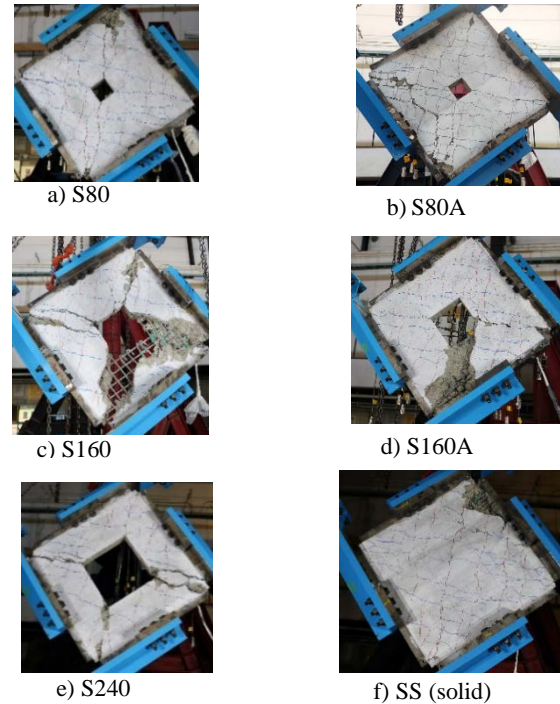
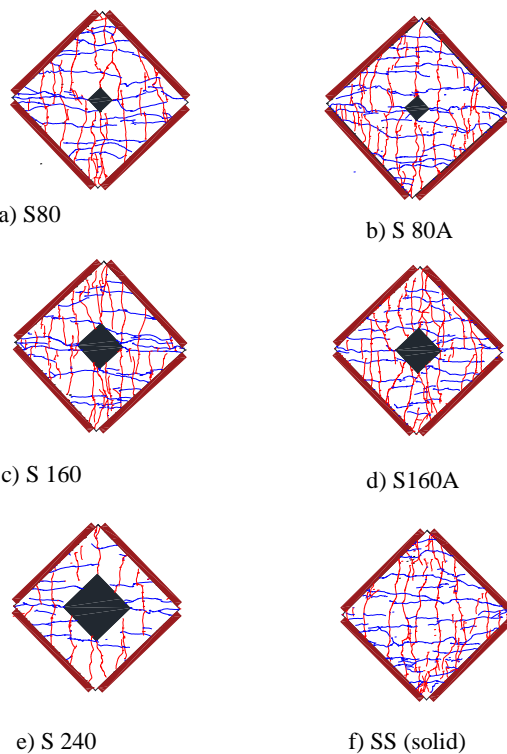


Figure 2. Photos of test specimens at final failure



— Cracks during +ve loading

— Cracks during -ve loading

Figure 1. Crack observed at shear strain of 0.6%

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その2 実験の結果

2.2 Hysteresis curves

The lateral load versus shear strain of all specimens is shown in Figures 3. The first cracks appeared at a shear strain of 0.0125~0.025% accompanied by gradual degradation of stiffness. The first yield of reinforcement observed by strain gauges attached at specimens was in the range of shear strain of 0.08%~0.15% and commonly observed at the edge of the corners of specimens. At shear strain of 0.4%~0.6%, almost all reinforcement yielded.

2.3 Influence of opening size

A comparison of backbone curves of specimens with the variable opening size is shown in Figure 4. A comparison of secant stiffness is shown in Figure 5. There is a gradual decrease in stiffness and strength as the openings get larger. However, the specimen S240 which had opening area ratio larger than 0.4, had a larger degradation of stiffness as well as strength when compared with S80 and S160. A comparison of reduction in strength and stiffness recommended by the AIJ guideline [2] with test results (specimens without additional reinforcement) is shown in Figure 6. AIJ [2] gave a lower bound of strength even for specimens without additional reinforcement, except for specimen S240 with opening area ratio >0.4.

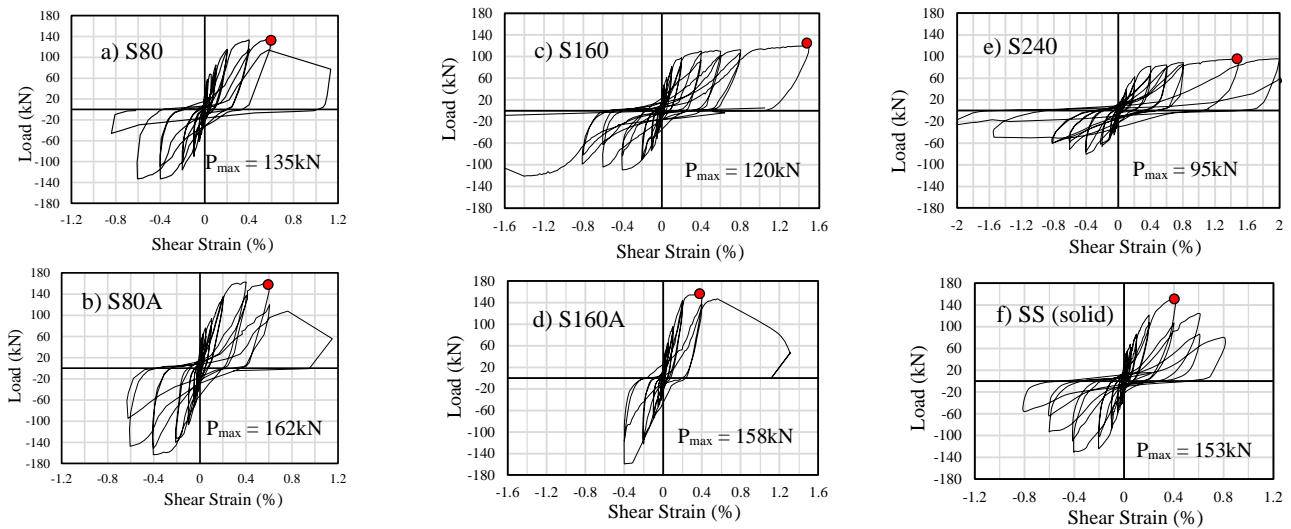


Figure 3. Shear strength versus shear strain for all specimens

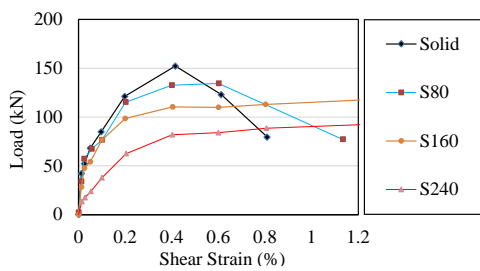


Figure 4. Backbones for specimen without additional reinforcement

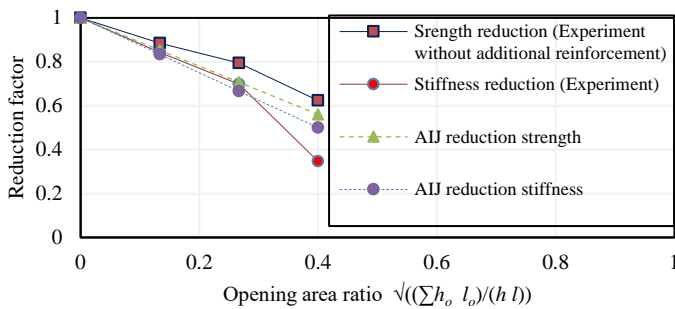


Figure 6. Comparison of the reduction of strength and stiffness of specimens without additional reinforcement

2.4 Influence of additional reinforcement around opening

A comparison of specimens with and without additional reinforcement is shown in Figure 7 and Figure 8. Specimens with additional reinforcement around the opening had strength almost similar to that of the solid specimen as shown in Figure 9.

3. Conclusion

Experimental results of six small-scaled panels with openings tested under pure shear were presented. Two parameters were investigated: the size of the opening and the influence of additional reinforcement around the opening. It was observed that there is a gradual almost linear decrease of stiffness and strength as the openings get larger, except for specimen with large opening S240 which had a opening area ratio larger than 0.4, had a larger abrupt degradation of stiffness as well as strength. Additional reinforcement proved to be effective regarding the influence of opening on strength.

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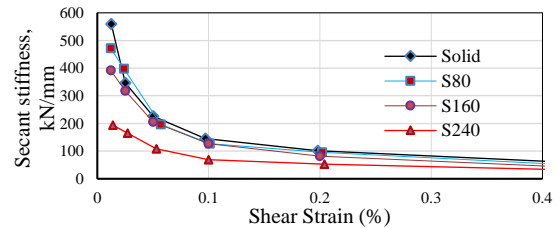


Figure 5. Comparison of secant stiffness

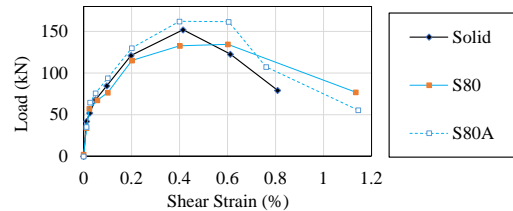


Figure 7. Comparison of backbone curves of SS, S160, and S80A

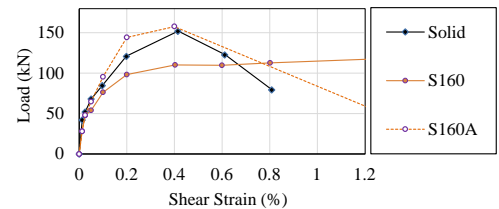


Figure 8. Comparison of backbone curves of SS, S80, and S80A

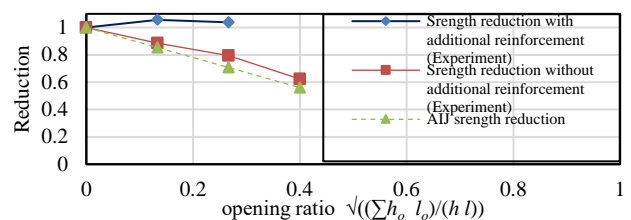


Figure 9. Reduction of strength with additional reinforcement

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