



Conditional Assessment of Fire Damaged Structures: From Reconnaissance to Advanced Analysis

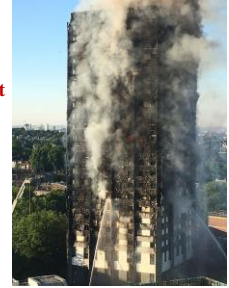
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Outline

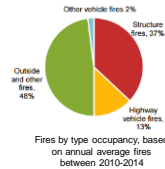
- Background to Fire Problem
- Concrete Structures under Fire
- Need for Evaluating Residual Capacity
- Approach for Fire Damage Assessment
 - Classification of Damage
 - Reconnaissance to Advanced Analysis
- Methodology for Advanced Analysis
 - Application - Case Study
 - Results and Discussion
- Conclusions



Background

Fire – Severe Hazard & Threat

- Fires cause thousands of deaths & billions of \$\$ of damage yearly
- 2017 Data – Fire Losses in USA (NFPA)
 - 1,319,500 fire incidents (1.7% decrease over 2016)
 - 3400 fire deaths (one every 154 min), 14,650 injuries (one every 36 min)
 - \$23 billion direct property losses (includes \$10 billion loss in Northern)
 - Total loss > \$50 billion (Estimate for fire losses in 2017)
 - 33% of fires in Structures - Residential fires being the most significant
- Fire represents most severe condition to a structure, and can occur as:
 - Primary event – natural origin (e.g., lightning, accidental)
 - Secondary event - Post EQ, blast, explosion, impact
- To mitigate fire risk a number of design & maintenance features
 - Fire prevention, suppression, & extinction – Sprinklers
 - Egress strategies – Notification, Exit paths
 - Structural fire safety – Compartmentation, Fire resistance
- Structural Damage/Collapse
 - Only limited number of fires grow in to full size fires
 - Structural collapse is very low; but structural damage is possible
 - Extent of damage hard to assess
- Need post-fire structural assessment
 - Ensure structural safety/stability
 - For re-occupancy of a structure
 - Develop repair strategies
 - Assess extent of fire damage – insurance claims
- Impossible to prevent all fires
- Therefore, there is a need for post-fire damage assessment in structures!



Background

Major Fires in High-rise Structures

- Notre-Dame Cathedral Fire, France (April 15, 2019 6:30 pm)
 - Masonry (walls and arches) with long-wooden truss (roof)
 - Roof collapse, structural damage
- Plasco building, Tehran, Iran (Jan, 2017)
 - Steel building, 17 Story
 - Complete collapse within few hours of fire exposure
- Grenfell Tower, London, UK; June 13, 2017
 - 24-storey, concrete building, 120 apts (600 people)
 - Constructed in 1974 (major renovation in 2016)
 - 1 staircase, No sprinklers, Alarms not activated
 - Short circuit in Faulty fridge??
 - Ignition of exterior cladding - façade??
 - 79 deaths, 86 injuries
- TU Delft, Faculty of Architecture building, NL (2008)
 - RC building, 13 Story
 - Cause: electric short-circuit in coffee vending machine - 5th floor
 - Flashover within 40 minutes of ignition
 - Resulted in partial collapse of the north section
- Windsor Tower, Madrid (2005)
 - 32 story tower; 29 floors above & 3 below ground; NSC
 - 14 16 floors made of concrete; steel perimeter columns above
 - Fire started at 21st floor & spread quickly
 - Downward spread due to falling of burning debris
 - Remained standing after a 26 hour multi-floor fire
- World Trade Center Buildings, New York (2001)
 - Impact followed by fire
 - 9 collapsed, 18 damaged (Mostly due to fire)
 - Significant structural damage; fire protection systems compromised before fire



Background

Grenfell Tower, June 13, 2017

- Fire occurred on June 13 2017 at 12:54 am
 - 79 deaths, 86 injuries
 - Fire burned for 8-9 hours
 - Over 200 firefighters and 40 fire engines
- Building features: 24-storey concrete building
 - Located at North Kensington, London, UK
 - Constructed in 1974 (renovations in 2016)
 - 120 apartments (600 people)
- Fire cause/spread
 - Short circuit - faulty fridge/central gas system
 - Ignition of exterior cladding - Façade?
 - Polyester powder-coated aluminum composite panels - Cheap, aesthetics; combustible
 - Rapid fire spread in 60 min (2-24 story)
- Buildings problems
 - Designed with one emergency stair
 - Lack of proper ventilation system
 - Many fire code violations - worries on fire safety
 - No sprinklers, Alarms were not activated
 - Firefighting equipment not checked for 4 Y
 - Warnings of fire risk - dismissed by owner
- Lessons learned
 - Fire spread/control (compartmentation)
 - Occupants asked to "Stay-where-you-are"
 - Enforcing fire regulations - timely
- Building - demolished



Background

Major Fires in Structures - Bridges

Major fires in bridges over last two decades in the US

- Interstate 85 fire, GA, US (March 31, 2017)
 - Reinforced concrete bridge
 - Fire started by arson (PVC pipes stored under the bridge)
 - Fire lasted for approximately 3 hours
 - Over 350 feet of the span suffered complete collapse 1 hour into fire
 - Damage to adjacent spans
- MacArthur Maze fire California, US (2007)
 - Steel girder bridge
 - Fuel tanker with 8,600 gallon of fuel collided with guard rail
 - Collapse in 17 minutes into fire
- Puyallup bridge fire, WA, US (2002)
 - Pre-stressed concrete girder bridge
 - Caused by railroad tanker carrying 30,000 gallons of Methyl Alcohol
 - Fire lasted for almost two hours
 - Bridge re-opened the next day
- Rapid damage assessment is much more critical



I-85 Bridge collapse, Mar. 30th 2017 Background S

- Fire occurred on Mar. 30th 2017 at 6:30 pm
 - No deaths or injuries
- I-85 (AL to VA) Bridge; Atlanta,
 - Made of prestressed concrete girders, RC piers
 - Built in 1953, reconstructed in 1985
 - Received a "sufficiency rating" of 94.6 on scale of 100 in 2015
 - Serves 243,000 vehicles a day
- Fire caused by burning of large PVC tubes stored under the bridge - Vandalism
- Bridge collapsed (in 30 min)
- Repair cost, \$10 millions
- Time for repair, months.



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I-85 Bridge collapse, Mar. 30th 2017 Background S

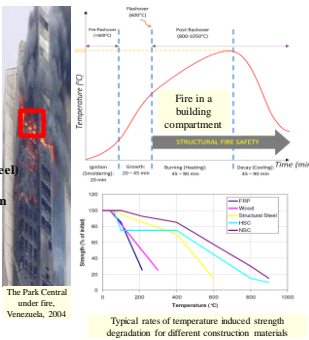
- Both northbound and southbound bridges of I-85 needed to be replaced
 - 100 ft of span (girders + deck) collapsed
 - 3 sections damaged (significant spalling in piers)
- Spalling of concrete lead to firefighters leave the scene
- Spalling – main cause of collapse



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Concrete Structures under Fire Fire Resistance Design S

- Concrete – Most widely used in construction material
- Fire Performance – Major requirement
 - Buildings, Parking garages, Tunnels
- Conventional concrete – Good fire resistance properties
 - High inherent fire resistance
 - Non-combustible
 - Low Thermal Conductivity (< 50 steel)
 - High Specific Heat (< 2 * C_{steel})
 - Slower temp. induced degradation in strength & stiffness
 - High cross-sectional mass
- Concrete structures
 - Designed for 1 to 4 hours
 - Perform well under fire
 - Undergo minimal damage
 - Retain significant residual capacity
 - Hard to assess extent of damage!



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Fire Performance of Concrete Structures Fire Resistance Design S

90 West Street (23 story, RC bldg, 1907) set on fire due to falling debris from collapse of the Twin towers on 9/11

No collapse (retained in 2007) Uncontrolled 'firestorm' for 5 days Prescriptive fire rating 2 hour

In contrast...

7 World Trade Center (47 Story, Steel bldg, 1987) on fire after the collapse of the Twin Towers on 9/11

Collapsed completely in 8 hours Prescriptive fire rating 3 hour

Significant residual capacity can be retained in a structure following a fire event, especially in case of RC construction!

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Need for Evaluating Residual Capacity Fire Resistance Design S

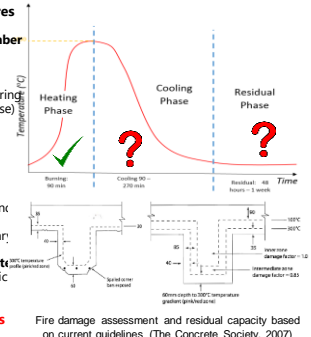
- Most fires do not cause collapse, especially concrete structures. Significant residual capacity exists, which needs to be assessed!
- Post-fire occupancy and safety
 - Extent of residual capacity depends on number of interdependent factors
 - Ensure short term and long term stability of the structure
 - Assess post-fire level of safety
 - To develop repairing or demolishing strategies
 - Repair and retrofitting
 - Repair/strengthening measures
 - Reliable diagnosis can save money in repairs
 - Ensure safe environment for repair
 - Insurance-damage assessment
 - Accurate estimate of economic losses or property damage



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State-of-the-Art: Residual Capacity Knowledge Gaps S

- Residual capacity - Concrete structures
 - Highly variable
 - Quite complex and depends on a number of interdependent factors
 - Pre-fire (room temp.) properties & conditions
 - Structural and thermal conditions during fire exposure (heating & cooling phase)
 - Residual properties of constituent materials
- Current Guidelines and Provisions
 - Assessment, Design & Repair of Fire-damaged Concrete Structures, The Concrete Society, 2007 (UK)
 - Fire Protection Planning Report, Portland Cement Association, 1994 (US)
 - Sectional analysis methods with arbitrary 'reduction' factors
 - Do not account for structural parameters
 - Effect of residual deformations (plastic strains), temp. induced bond degradation not considered
- Lack of Advance Analysis Approaches



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Modeling Residual Response Knowledge Gaps

- RC Building under Fire**
 - Complete building does **not burn simultaneously**
 - Limited compartments (floors)** are subject to fire at any given time
- Modeling complexities**
 - Experience **large thermal gradients** across depth
 - Distinct material properties during heating and cooling
 - Thermal cond., compressive strength, Load Induced Thermal Strain (LITS)** are irrecoverable
 - Temp. induced degradation in tensile and bond strength
 - Residual thermal & shrinkage strain & deformations**
- Uncertainty in post-fire response**
 - Variability in fire exposure scenario
 - Load level; Material models, BC's
- Advance Analysis Approaches**
 - Both temp. history, accumulated material/structural damage, as well as conditions present during fire exposure, influence **residual capacity of fire exposed RC members**

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Fire Damage Assessment Procedure: General Overview Approach for Assessment

- Class A: Cosmetic Damage**
 - No signs of structural damage, no loss in capacity
 - No analysis needed for evaluating residual capacity
 - Visual Observation
- Class B: Technical damage**
 - Cracks in surface coating, superficial damage, very minimal loss in capacity
 - Simplified analysis needed for evaluating residual capacity
 - Visual Observation, NDT/NDE
- Class C: Minor Structural Damage**
 - Limited to surface level, minimal concrete cracking, minimal loss of capacity
 - Simplified analysis needed for evaluating residual capacity
 - Visual Observation, NDT/NDE
- Class D: Moderate Structural Damage**
 - Crack network dissemination allowed, large deformations, moderate loss of capacity
 - Simplified/Advanced analysis needed for evaluating residual capacity
 - Visual Observation, NDT/NDE, Core Testing
- Class E: Severe Structural Damage**
 - Exposed reinforcement, large deformations, significant loss of capacity
 - Advanced analysis needed for evaluating residual capacity
 - Visual Observation, NDT/NDE, Core Testing

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Fire Damage Assessment: Reconnaissance to Advanced Analysis Approach for Assessment

- Conditional assessment**
 - Reconnaissance: (Class A)**
 - Field inspection, observations
 - Non destructive testing (Class B,C)**
 - Rebound number (hardness) measurement, Schmidt hammer test, Ultrasonic pulse velocity

Visual inspection of fire damaged structures

Rebound number measurement using Equiplus hardness tester

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Fire Damage Assessment: Reconnaissance to Advanced Analysis Approach for Assessment

- Semi-destructive testing (Class D, E)**
 - Color analysis on cores
 - Concrete cores, rebar coupons
 - Petrographic analysis
 - Drilling resistance
- Simplified analysis approaches (Class D, E)**
 - Peak cross-sectional temperatures
 - Modified room temperature equations
 - Straightforward to apply
- Advanced analysis approaches (Class D, E)**
 - FE based numerical modeling
 - Realistic material properties of concrete and rebar
 - Account for cooling phase, post-fire residual deflections
 - Require significant computational effort

Color change in siliceous aggregate concrete

Localized evaluation of the damage using drill probes

Fire damage assessment and residual capacity based on current guidelines (The Concrete Society, 2007)

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Case study: Hotel Aseman Fire, Iran Approach for Assessment

- Building features:**
 - 22-storey
 - Concrete building
- Fire occurred on Aug. 3, 2019**
 - No deaths
 - Significant structural damage to slabs & shear walls
 - Need repair and retrofitting
- Fire cause**
 - Occurred during renovation work

Class B damage to floor slabs

Class C damage in shear wall

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Advanced Analysis Approach for Evaluating Residual Capacity of RC Structures Approach for Assessment

- Three Stage Approach**
 - Stage 1:** Evaluate room temp. capacity
 - Stage 2:** Evaluate response during fire exposure
 - Stage 3:** Evaluate residual capacity after cool down
- Advanced Analysis Approach**
 - Quite complex**
 - FEM based numerical model**
 - Coupled thermal & structural analysis
 - Failure based on both strength limit state
 - Material & geometric nonlinearity
- Accounts for effect of**
 - Realistic fire exposure (cooling phase)
 - Load level & restraint conditions
 - Distinct temp. dependent mat. properties
 - Strain hardening in reinforcement & tension stiffening in concrete at high temp.
 - Bond, spalling, creep etc.
 - Residual deformations
 - Member/system level

Schematic representation of an RC beam in a full scale structure under fire

Different fire exposure scenarios that can be accounted for in the approach

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Approach for Assessment 5

Approach for Modeling Residual Response

Flow chart illustrating the three stages involved in residual capacity evaluation in fire exposed RC members

Kodur V.K.R., Agrawal A. 2016; An approach for evaluating residual capacity of reinforced concrete beams exposed to Structures, 110, 293-306

Approach for Assessment 5

Stage 1: Evaluate Room Temp. Capacity

STAGE 1: Analysis at room temperature

- Apply loads to simulate realistic loading conditions at room temperature
- Room temperature mechanical properties of concrete and steel reinforcement are utilized
- Strength limit state generally governs
- Corresponds to the point at which flexural or shear capacity is exceeded
- Both tension stiffening in concrete and strain hardening in reinforcement are accounted for in analysis

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Approach for Assessment 5

Stage 2: Evaluate Response during Fire Exposure

STAGE 2: Analysis during fire exposure

- Conduct a sequentially coupled thermal stress analysis to evaluate response during fire event
- Thermal conductivity and specific heat of concrete and reinforcing steel
- Modulus of elasticity, yield strength, ultimate strength and strain at ultimate strength are also a function of temperature
- Distinct heating and cooling phase properties
- Strength limit state corresponding to exceedance of flexural or shear capacity
- Deflection increases significantly at high temperature
- Deflection or rate of deflection limit state is to be applied as a reliable performance index

Failure limit states during fire exposure

- Thermal Limit State (ASTM E119)**
 - Limit of unexposed temperature
 - Average of 9 points = 140°C or at any point = 180°C
 - Limit of rebar temperature: 593°C
- Strength Limit State (ASTM E119)**
 - Moment or shear capacity exceeds external loads
- Deflection Limit State (BS 476)**
 - Maximum deflection limit: L/20
 - Rate of deflection limit: L/9000d(mm/min) or L/30

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Approach for Assessment 5

Stage 3: Evaluate Residual Capacity after Cool down

STAGE 3: Analysis after fire exposure

- If the beam survives fire exposure, trace residual response via incremental loading to failure, accounting for residual deformation from Stage 2
- After cooling down of the beam, post fire residual properties of reinforcing steel and concrete are to be utilized
- After cool down, compressive strength of concrete reduces, & properties of reinf. steel recover
- Failure - strength limit state govern

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Approach for Assessment 5

Material Properties for Analysis

Stage 1

- Realistic uniaxial stress-strain relationships for concrete and steel at room temperature are adopted
- Compression hardening and tension stiffening in concrete
- Strain hardening in reinforcing steel

Stage 2

- Temperature dependent thermal and mechanical properties
- Eurocode 2 and 3 provisions

Stage 3

- Residual uniaxial compressive and tensile strength of concrete after assumed to be 10% less than the strength attained at the maximum temperature
- The residual stress-strain relationship for reinforcing steel after exposure to el. temp.

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Case Study

Application of Advanced Analysis Approach

Two identical concrete beams, designated as beams B1 and B2, were analyzed for residual capacity after exposure to fire scenarios with distinct heating & cooling phases using the proposed approach

Summary of test parameters used for case study

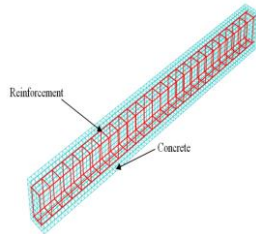
Beam designation	Support Condition	Fire exposure	ACI design capacity (kN-m)	Predicted fire resistance (min)	Predicted residual capacity (kN-m)
B1	Simply supported	SP*	191	No Failure	189
B2	Simply supported	LF**		No Failure	164

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Finite Element Model Case Study S

The three stage approach is implemented using the commercial FEA package ABAQUS

- **Discretization**
- **Concrete** discretized using **8 node linear brick elements** (DC3D8 heat transfer elements or C3D8 stress elements with Reduced Integration)
- **Reinforcement** discretized using **2 node link elements** (DC1D2 heat transfer element or T3D2 truss element)
- **Perfect bond** assumed between reinforcement and concrete and implemented through **tie constraint**

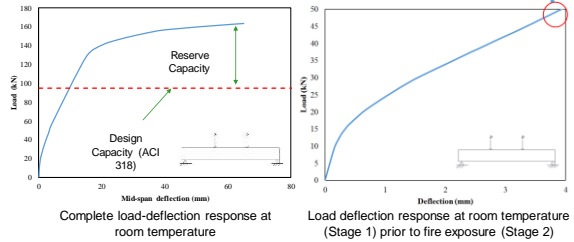


Discretized view of the selected beam for numerical simulation

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Stage 1: Evaluating Room Temp. Capacity Case Study S

Evaluation of room temperature capacity of B1 and B2 having identical dimensions and reinforcement details

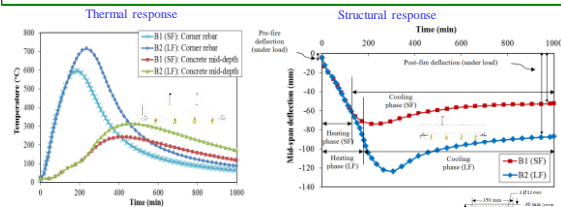


Key Observations

- Predicted capacity by FE model: 145 kN, ACI 318 design equation: 91 kN
- Difference due to tension stiffening in concrete and strain hardening in rebar ignored by ACI 318
- Sufficient 'reserve' capacity leading to enhanced fire resistance (and residual capacity)

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Stage 2: Evaluating Response During Fire Case Study S



Key Observations - Thermal response

- Cross-sectional temperatures in both beams continue to increase even as fire temperatures decay, owing to high thermal inertia of concrete
- Peak rebar temperatures in B1 and B2 are calculated to be 592°C and 715°C at 170 min and 240 min respectively, well after heating phase of fire exposure has ended

Key Observations - Structural response

- Both beams do not fall during fire exposure and mid-span deflections recover once the rebar and concrete temperatures revert back to ambient temperatures
- Noticeable residual deformation is left over in the fire exposed beams and they do not revert back to their pre-fire configuration

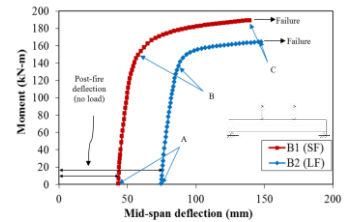
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Stage 3: Residual Response after Cool Down Case Study S

Predicted post-fire response of fire damaged beams B1 and B2

Key Observations

- Significant residual deformation occur in both fire damaged beams, calculated to be 43 mm for beam B1 and 74 mm for beam B2 respectively
- Both fire damaged beams exhibit three key phases in deflection progression i.e., linear response (marked as A-B), onset of yielding in steel reinforcement (marked as B in), and plastic deformation until failure (marked as B-C)
- Peak moment-carrying capacity in fire damaged beams B1 and B2 was calculated to be 189 kN-m and 164 kN-m respectively, greater than design capacity



Predicted residual moment-deflection response for fire damaged beams

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Critical Factors Governing Residual Capacity Parametric Studies S

- **Structural parameters**
 - Load Level
 - Boundary Conditions
 - Sectional Dimensions
- **Fire exposure scenario**
 - Varying heating and cooling phases based on compartment characteristics
- **Load Level**
 - Stress level before and during fire exposure
- **Support Conditions**
 - Level of axial restraint

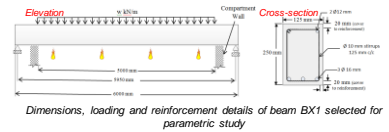


Failure of an RC beam after fire test inside the furnace, showing flexural cracks

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Critical Factors Governing Residual Capacity Parametric Studies S

- **Structural parameters**
 - Load Level
 - Boundary Conditions
 - Sectional Dimensions



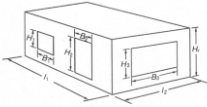
Dimensions, loading and reinforcement details of beam BX1 selected for parametric study

Beam designation	Beam dimensions: mm	Flexural reinforcement		Room temperature capacity: kN		Fire resistance (ACI 216): min
		Top bars	Bottom bars	ACI 318	Model	
BX1	125x250	2 ϕ 12 mm	3 ϕ 16 mm	74.6	89.7	60
BX2	180x300	2 ϕ 12 mm	3 ϕ 20 mm	143	168.8	120
BX3	300x480	2 ϕ 12 mm	3 ϕ 25 mm	351	403.5	120

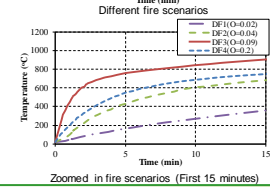
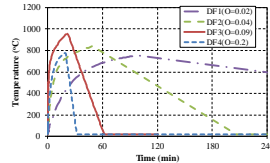
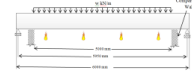
Critical Factors Governing Residual Capacity

Fire exposure scenario

- Effect of four different parametric fire exposure scenarios (DF1, DF2, DF3 and DF4) is studied
- Varying heating and cooling phases based on compartment characteristics



Schematic representation of a typical fire compartment



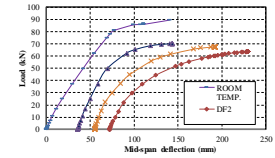
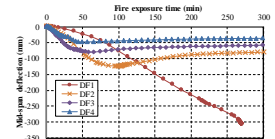
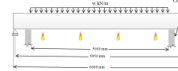
Zoomed in fire scenarios (First 15 minutes)

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Critical Factors Governing Residual Capacity

Fire exposure scenario

- Beam BX1 fails under fire scenario DF1 due to excessive deformations
- Higher rebar temperatures correspond with higher residual deformations
- Higher residual deformations lead to a lower residual capacity in fire exposed RC beams
- Fire exposure scenario has significant influence on residual capacity

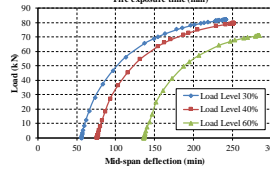
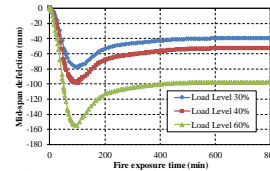
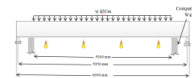


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Critical Factors Governing Residual Capacity

Load Level (During fire)

- Three different load ratios of 30, 40 and 60%
- Larger load ratio leads to greater mid-span deflections during identical fire exposures
- For load ratio 30%, reduction in capacity after fire exposure is 15%
- Post-fire reduction in capacity is about 26% when load ratio is 60%
- Larger level leads to greater residual deformations and lower post-fire residual capacity



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Summary

- RC structures, owing to their low thermal conductivity, high specific heat and slower degradation in concrete strength, experience minimal damage in most fires.
- Irrecoverable residual plastic deformations occur in RC members due to temp. induced damage sustained during fire exposure. These residual deformations are significantly larger than pre-fire (room temp.) deformations and can adversely affect post-fire serviceability of the fire damaged concrete member.
- Structures following fire exposure can be grouped under 5 classes. A range of techniques, ranging from reconnaissance to advance analysis, can be applied for undertaking post-fire damage assessment.
- Advanced analysis for evaluating residual capacity requires 3-stage of analysis; namely at pre-fire ambient conditions, during fire exposure, and following cooling of fire exposed member. The finite element computer software (ABAQUS), can be utilized for evaluating the response of fire exposed RC structures.
- Critical factors that influence post-fire residual capacity of RC members are fire intensity and duration of exposure, load level during fire exposure and the level of axial restraint. Of these, the most critical factors are temp. attained during fire (in rebar), as well as load level during fire exposure
- Following a fire incident, fire damaged concrete members may satisfy design limit state from strength consideration, but need to be retrofitted to provide comparable level of safety (capacity) which existed prior to the fire incident.

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Questions

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