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# UNIT 13 DESIGN OF CIRCULAR SLABS AND SLABS WITH CONCENTRATED LOADS

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## Structure

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## 13.1 INTRODUCTION

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Circular slabs in a structure are provided as per architectural or structural need. They may be floor and / or roof of buildings, water tanks, silos & bunkers etc. Simply supported or fixed edge circular slabs with uniformly distributed loads will only be discussed here.

Rectangular slabs having simple or other types of supports with uniformly distributed loads have been discussed in Unit 12. In this Unit a rectangular slab supported only on two opposite edges or a cantilever slab carrying concentrated loads shall be discussed. Such slabs are provided to support load of storage tanks, machines, shelves, almirahs, vehicles etc. on floors/roofs of buildings or moving loads on bridges and culverts.

### Objectives

After going through this Unit, a student will be able to design the followings :

- Simply supported and fixed edge circular slabs carrying uniformly distributed loads, and
- Rectangular solid slabs supported on two opposite edges or cantilever slabs carrying concentrated loads.

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## 13.2 GENERAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES OF CIRCULAR SLABS

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Bending of a circular slab like a saucer (i.e. bending in all directions) is quite different from bending in one or two distinct orthogonal directions for a rectangular slab under uniformly distributed loads. In other words, the stresses caused in circular slabs are radial and circumferential necessitating reinforcements in these directions. Provision of such reinforcements becomes difficult due to congestion in the central portion of the slab where maximum bending moments in both directions occur. Hence, in practice, reinforcements are provided in two orthogonal directions as those for two way rectangular slabs. Analysis of such slabs are done by Theory of Elasticity assuming Poisson's Ratio as zero. As such analysis are complex and lengthy, formulae for determining bending moments in radial as well as circumferential directions and for evaluation of shear force are given here for design purposes.

### Simply Supported Circular Slabs

A simply supported circular slab carrying a udl of  $w$  per unit area is shown in Figure 13.1(a). The values of moments and shear force per unit width at any radius

$r$  from centre are given as follows (Figure 13.1)

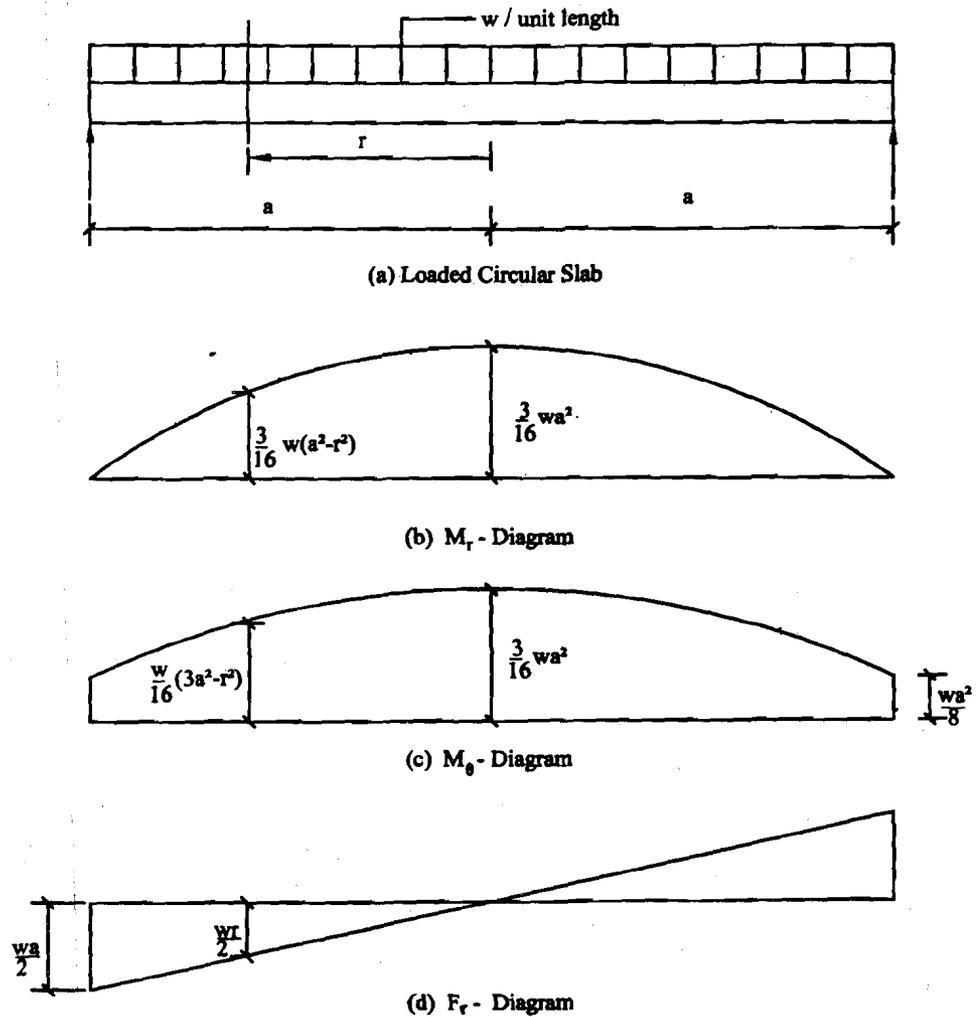


Figure 13.1 : Simply Supported Circular Slab Carrying Udl

Radial B.M. at distance  $r$  from centre per unit width of slab,

$$M_r = \frac{3}{16} w(a^2 - r^2) \quad \dots (13.1)$$

Circumferential B.M. at distance  $r$  from centre per unit width of slab,

$$M_\theta = \frac{w}{16} (3a^2 - r^2) \quad \dots (13.2)$$

Radial S.F. at distance  $r$  from centre per unit width of slab,  $F_r = \frac{wr}{2} \quad \dots (13.3)$

**Example 13.1**

Design a circular roof slab of inside dia. 5.625m, supported on brickwall of 375 for the the following data :

- Roof slab thickness = 180
- Lime concrete thickness = 150
- Live Load on roof = 0.75 kN/m<sup>2</sup>
- Use M 15 concrete and Fe 415 steel.

**Solution**(i) *Design constants*

For Fe 415 bars,  $\sigma_{st} = 230 \text{ N/mm}^2$ , and for M 15 concrete  $\sigma_{cbc} = 5 \text{ N/mm}^2$

$$k_B = 0.292, j_B = 0.904, R_B = 0.658$$

(ii) *Load*

$$\text{Self wt.} = 0.18 \times 1 \times 25 = 4.5 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$LC = 0.15 \times 1 \times 19 = 2.85 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$LL = 0.750 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

$$\text{Total load} = 8.10 \text{ kN/m}^2$$

(iii) *Design of Section*

$$l_{ef} \gg 5.625 + 0.375 = 6 \text{ m}$$

Radial and circumferential B.M. at centre per meter width of slab:

$$(M_r)_c = (M_\theta)_c = \frac{3}{16} wa^2 = \frac{3}{16} \times 8.1 \times 3^2 = 13.67 \text{ kNm vide Eqs. (13.1)}$$

and (13.2)

Circumferential B.M. at support per meter width of slab

$$(M_\theta)_e = \frac{2}{16} wa^2 = \frac{2}{16} \times 8.1 \times 3^2 = 9.113 \text{ kNm}$$

Radial B.M. at support per meter width of slab,  $(M_r)_e = 0$

Design Bending Moment = 13.67 kNm

$$\therefore d = \sqrt{\frac{13.67 \times 10^6}{0.658 \times 1000}} = 144$$

Keeping total depth  $D = 180$

and using #10 bars and 15 clear cover

$$d = 180 - 15 - 5 = 160 \text{ mm for bottom layer, and}$$

$$d = 160 - 10 = 150 \text{ for upper layer}$$

(iv)  $A_{st}$ 

Radial and circumferential reinforcement required at the centre

$$A_{st} = \frac{13.67 \times 10^6}{230 \times 0.904 \times 150} = 438 \text{ mm}^2$$

Using #10 bars ( $A_s = 78.5 \text{ mm}^2$ )

$$\text{Spacing } s = \frac{1000 \times 78.5}{438} = 179 \text{ mm}^2$$

**Hence provided a mesh of #10 @ 175**

To avoid slipping at the edges, provide extra circumferential reinforcement in the form of rings.

Available depth =  $150 - 10 = 140$  mm

$$(A_{st})_e = \frac{9.113 \times 10^6}{230 \times 0.904 \times 140} = 313 \text{ mm}^2$$

$$\text{Spacing} = s = \frac{1000 \times 78.5}{313} = 250.75$$

$(M_e)_e$  is  $\frac{2}{3}$ rd of maximum moment at the centre. The circumferential

steel is to be provided for a length of  $\frac{2}{3}(68\phi) = \frac{2}{3} \times 68 \times 10 = 453.33$  mm

(i.e. a length required to develop a tensile stress of  $\frac{2}{3} \times 230 = 153.3$  N/mm<sup>2</sup> by bond). Hence provided rings of #10

$$\text{@250 c/c. Total no. of rings} = \frac{453}{250} + 1 \approx 3$$

$$\text{i.e., spacing of rings} = \frac{453}{2} = 226.5 \approx 225 \text{ c/c}$$

**Provided 3 rings of # 10 @ 225 c/c at the edge**

(v) *Check for shear*

Maximum S.F. at the edge is given by

$$V_r = \frac{1}{2} wa = \frac{1}{2} \times 8.100 \times \frac{5.625}{2} = 11.4 \text{ kN/m width}$$

$$\tau_v = \frac{V_r}{bd} = \frac{11.4 \times 10^3}{1000 \times 150} = 0.076 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ (very low)}$$

**Check for Development Length**

$$\frac{1.3M_1}{V} + l_0 \quad \text{Assuming } l_0 = 0$$

$$= \frac{1.3 \times 9.113 \times 10^6}{11.4 \times 10^3} + 0 = 1039.2$$

and,  $L_d = 68 \times 10 = 680 > 1039.2$  O.K.

$$\text{Also } \frac{L_d}{3} = \frac{680}{3} = 226.67 \approx 230 < (375 - 25) = 350$$

The detailing of the reinforcement has been shown in Figure 13.2.

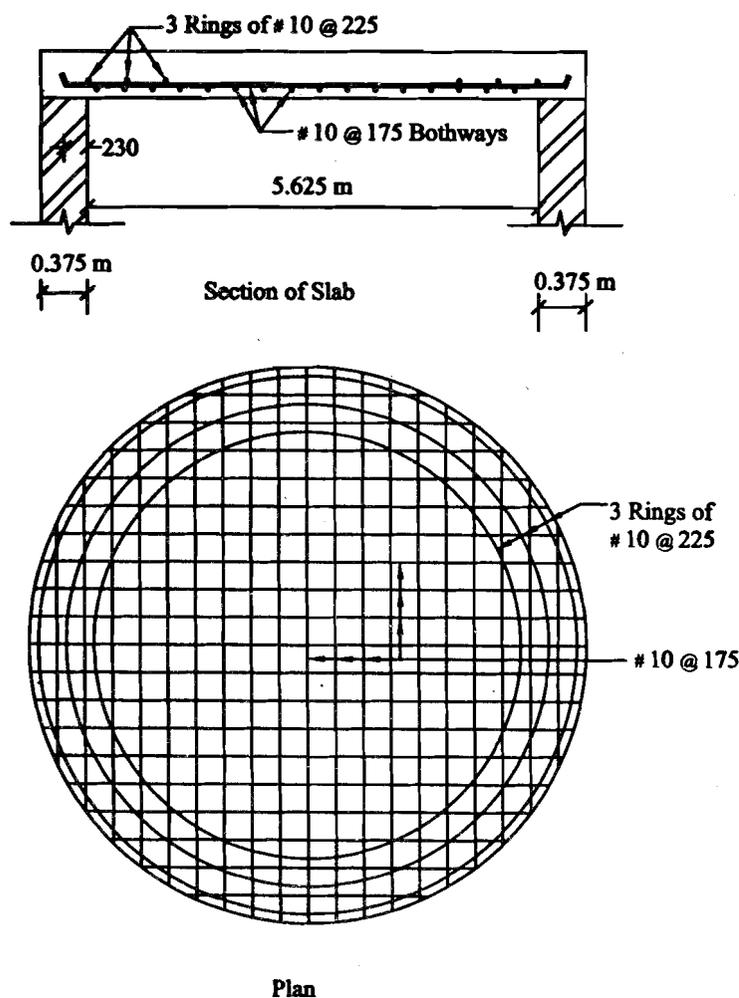


Figure 13.2 : Details of Reinforcement of the Designed Slab

### Fixed Edge Circular Slabs

A fixed edge circular slab carrying udl of  $w$  per unit width is shown in Figure 13.3(a). The values of moments and shear force per unit width of any radius  $r$  from centre are given as follows (Figure 13.3) :

Radial B.M. at distance  $r$  from centre per unit width of slab,

$$M_r = \frac{w}{16}(a^2 - 3r^2) \quad \dots (13.4)$$

Circumferential B.M. at distance  $r$  from centre per unit width of slab,

$$M_\theta = \frac{w}{16}(a^2 - r^2) \quad \dots (13.5)$$

Radial S.F. at distance  $r$  from centre per unit width of slab,  $F_r = \frac{wr}{2} \quad \dots (13.6)$

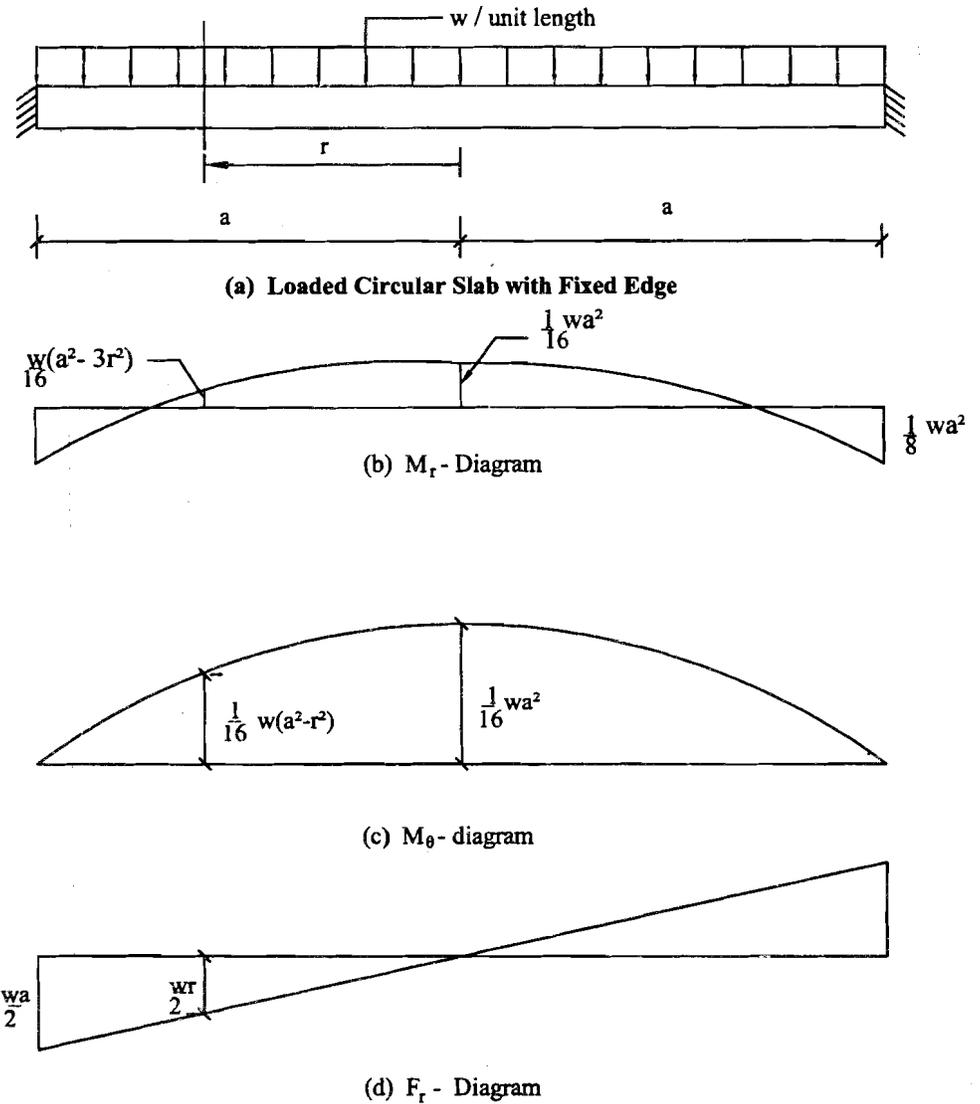


Figure 13.3 : Fixed Edge Circular Slab Carrying Udl

**Example 13.2**

Design a fixed edge roof of 6m inside diameter for the following specifications :

thickness of slab = 150; wt. of roof covering and LL = 3.9 kN/m<sup>2</sup>; concrete of grade M 15 and steel of grade Fe 415

**Solution**

(i) *Design Constants*

$$k_B = 0.292, j_B = 0.904, R_B = 0.658$$

(ii) *Load*

$$DL \text{ of slab} = 0.15 \times 25.00 = 3.75 \text{ kN/m}$$

$$\text{wt. of roof covering and LL} = 3.9 \text{ kN/m}$$

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$$\text{Total } w = 7.65 \text{ kN/m}$$

(iii) *Design of Section*

$$(M_{\theta})_c = (M_r)_c = \frac{1}{16} \times w a^2 = \frac{1}{16} \times 7.65 \times 3^2 = 4.303 \text{ kNm}$$

$$(M_r)_e = \frac{-2}{16} \times w a^2 = \frac{-2}{16} \times 7.65 \times 3^2 = -8.606 \text{ kNm}$$

$$(M_{\theta})_c = 0$$

The radial moment changes sign, the point of inflection being at a

radius  $\frac{a}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{3}} = 1.732\text{m}$  or at a distance of  $3 - 1.732 = 1.268 \text{ m}$  from the edge of the support.

Maximum B.M. = 8.606 kNm

$$\therefore d = \sqrt{\frac{8.606 \times 10^6}{0.658 \times 1000}} = 114.4$$

Taking total thickness = 150 mm and using #10 bars and a clear cover of 15 mm,  $d_1 = 130 \text{ mm}$  for the bottom layer and  $130 - 10 = 120 \text{ mm}$  for the top layer.

(iv)  $A_{st}$

At centre, in mutually perpendicular direction,

$$A_{st} = \frac{4.303 \times 10^6}{230 \times 0.904 \times 120} = 172.5 \text{ mm}^2$$

$$A_{stmin} = \frac{0.12}{100} \times 1000 \times 150 = 1180 \text{ mm}^2$$

Using # 10 bars ( $A_s = 78.5 \text{ mm}^2$ )

$$\text{Spacing} = \frac{1000 \times 78.5}{1180} = 436$$

maximum spacing =  $3d = 3 \times 120 = 360$

or 450

**Provided mesh reinforcement consisting of #10 @360 c/c in two mutually perpendicular directions at as bottom reinforcement.**

Circumferential reinforcement at the edge -

At the edge there is no requirement of circumferential reinforcement since there is no circumferential moment.

Radial negative reinforcement at the edge -

Radial distance from the face of the support upto which reinforcement will be provided will be greater of the followings :

$$(i) \text{ Distance of pt. of inflexion from edge} + d = 1268 + d \\ = 1268 + 130 = 1398$$

$$(ii) \text{ Distance of pt. of inflexion from edge} + 12\phi$$

$$= 121268 + 12\phi = 1268 + 12 \times 10 = 1388$$

(iii) Distance of pt. of inflexion from edge +  $\frac{L_{ef}}{16}$

$$= 1268 + \frac{1}{16} (6000) = 1268 + 375 = 1643$$

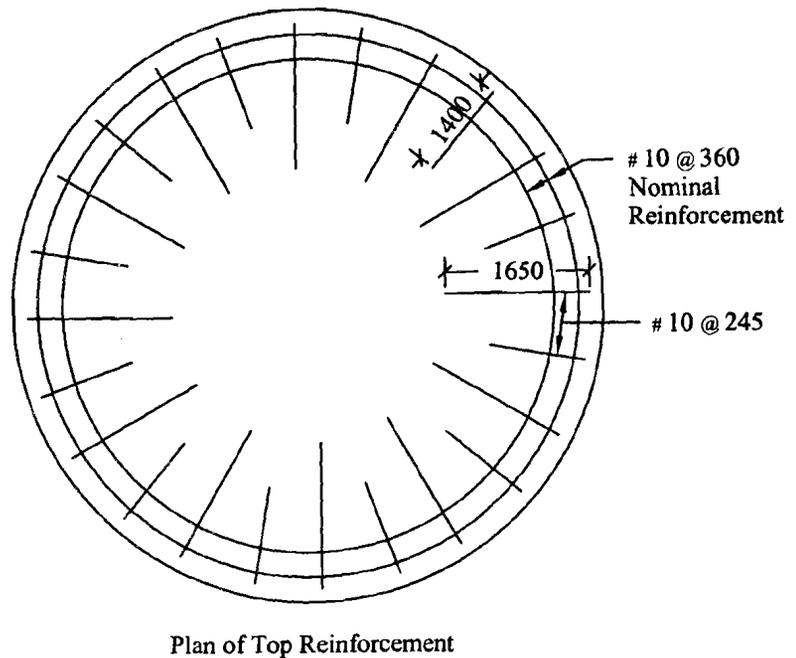
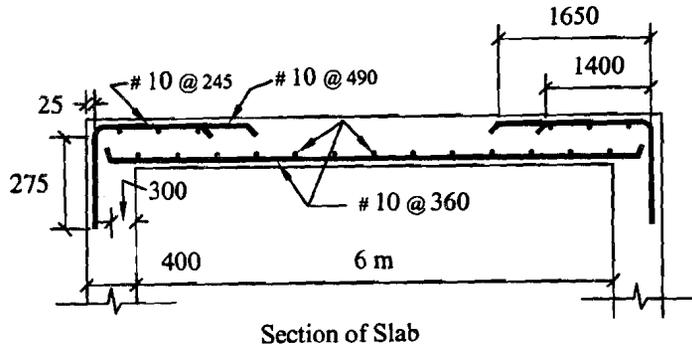
(iv)  $L_d = 68\phi = 68 \times 10 = 680$

Available  $d = 130$

$$A_{st} = \frac{8.606 \times 10^6}{0.904 \times 130 \times 230} = 318.4 \text{ mm}^2$$

$$\text{spacing of \#10 bars} = \frac{1000 \times 78.5}{318.4} = 246.6$$

**Provide  $d$  all bars #10@245 upto 1400 and half the reinforcement upto 1650 from the edge**



**Figure 13.4 : Details of Top Reinforcement of the Designed Slab**

(v) Check for shear

$$F_r = \frac{1}{2}wa = \frac{1}{2} \times 7.65 \times 3 = 11.48 \text{ kN}$$

$$\therefore \tau_v = \frac{11.48 \times 10^3}{1000 \times 130} = 0.09 \text{ N/mm}^2 \text{ (too low)}$$

Distance upto which the negative reinforcement to be extended beyond the curved portion ( $x$ ) is given by the equation,

$$(400 - 25 - 5\phi) + 8\phi + x = 680$$

$$\text{or } x = 275$$

The detailing of reinforcement is shown in Figure 13.4

### SAQ 1

- (i) How bending of circular slab is different from that of a rectangular two way slab.
- (ii) Why reinforcement in a circular slab is provided in *orthogonal* directions rather than in radial and circumferential direction.
- (iii) Design and draw the detailing of reinforcement for a simply supported circular slab of effective span 5m for a total load (including self weight) of 10 kN/m<sup>2</sup>. Use M 15 concrete and Fe 250 steel.
- (iv) Design and draw the detailing of reinforcement for a fixed edge circular slab of effective span 5m for a total load (including self weight) of 12 kN/m<sup>2</sup>. Use M 20 concrete and Fe 415 steel.

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## 13.3 GENERAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES OF SLABS CARRYING CONCENTRATED LOADS

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### 13.3.1 Determination of Bending Moment

A simply supported or a continuous solid slab supported on two opposite edges only as shown in Figure 5 to 8 and loaded with concentrated loads are analysed by Elastic Theory or Johansen's Yield Line Theory or by Strip Method. For design purposes code has proposed simple rules and according to which the load is considered to be spread over an effective width measured parallel to the supported edges as mentioned in the following subsections.

#### Slab Carrying Single Concentrated Load

If a single concentrated load is,  $W$ , placed at  $x$  from the nearer supporting edge (Figure 13. 5), the *effective width*,  $b_{ef}$ , measured parallel to the supporting edge shall be given by the formula

$$b_{ef} = \left\{ kx \left( 1 - \frac{x}{l_{ef}} \right) + a \right\} \leq l' \quad \dots (13.7)$$

where  $k$  = constant having values given in Table 13.1 depending upon ratio of  $l'$  to  $l_{ef}$  and

$a$  = width of contact area of the concentrated load measured parallel to the supported edge.

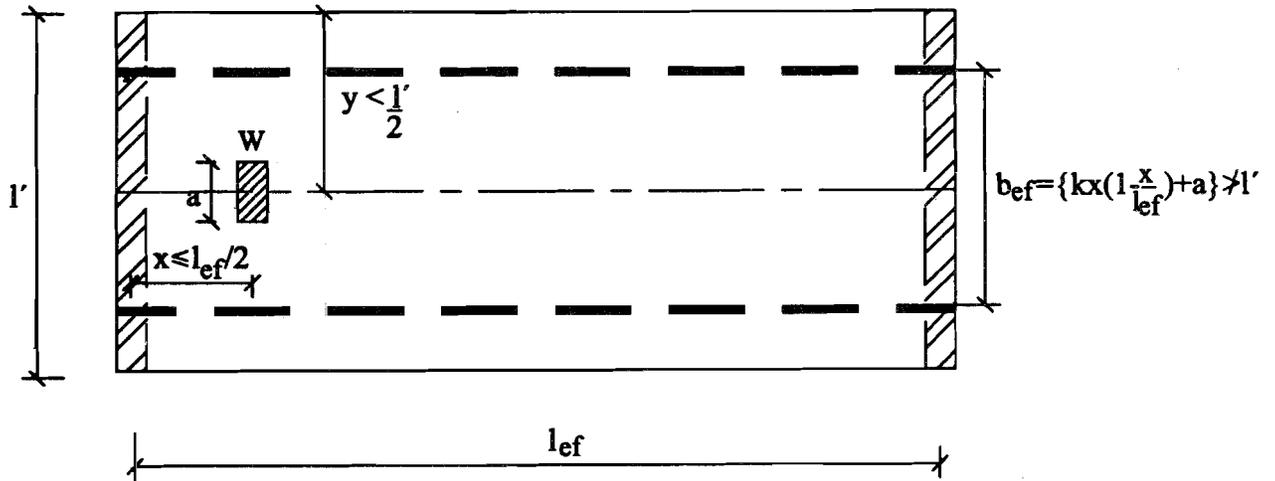


Figure 13.5 : Showing Effective Width for a Concentrated Load  $W$  on a Slab Supported on Two Opposite Edges

Table 13.1 : Values of  $k$  for Simply Supported and Continuous Slab

$l'/l_{ef}$	$k$ for simply supported slabs	$k$ for continuous slabs
0.1	0.4	0.4
0.2	0.8	0.8
0.3	1.16	1.16
0.4	1.48	1.44
0.5	1.72	1.68
0.6	1.96	1.84
0.7	2.12	1.96
0.8	2.24	2.08
0.9	2.36	2.16
1.0 and above	2.48	2.24

In case, the load is near an unsupported edge,  $b_{ef}$  shall not exceed the value given the value given in Eq. (13.7) nor  $\frac{b_{ef}}{2}$  as calculated plus the distance of the load from the nearer unsupported edge. ( i.e.  $\frac{b_{ef}}{2} + y$  )

**Example 13.3**

Calculate maximum bending moment per meter width in a simply supported slab (supported on two opposite faces only) for the following data :

$l' = 2\text{m}$ ;  $l_{ef} = 5\text{m}$ ;  $x = 2\text{m}$ ;  $y = 0.5\text{m}$ ;  $a = 0.3\text{ m}$ ;  $W = 20\text{ kN}$

**Solution**

$$b_{ef} = kx \left( 1 - \frac{x}{l_{ef}} \right)$$

For  $\frac{l'}{l_{ef}} = \frac{2}{5} = 0.4$ ;  $k = 1.48$  vide Table 13.1

$$\therefore b_{ef} = 1.48 \times 2 \left( 1 - \frac{2}{5} \right) = 1.776 \text{ m}$$

As the load is nearer to the unsupported edge

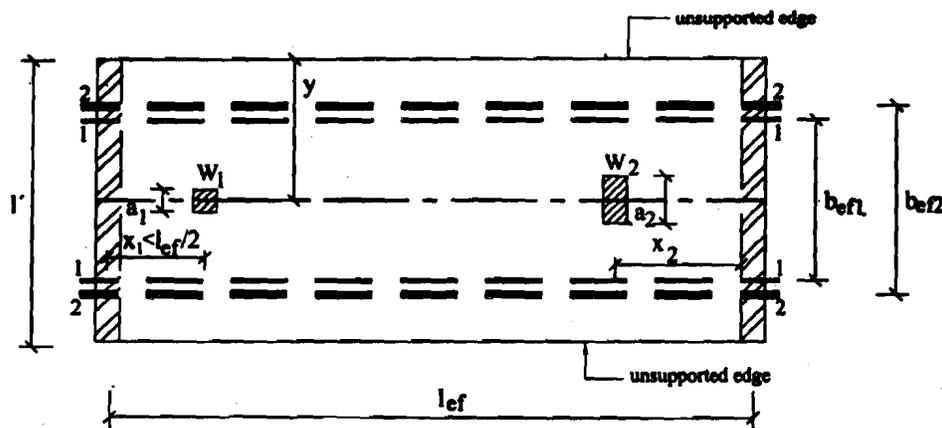
$$b_{ef} = \frac{b_{ef} \text{ calculated above}}{2} + y = \frac{1.776}{2} + 0.5 = 1.388 \text{ m}$$

The load per meter width  $w' = \frac{20}{1.388} = 14.41 \text{ kN/m width}$

$$\therefore M_{\max} = \frac{w'x(l_{ef} - x)}{l_{ef}} = \frac{14.41 \times 2(5 - 2)}{5} = 17.292 \text{ kNm/m width Ans}$$

**Slab Carrying Two or More Concentrated Loads in a Line**

If two or more loads are placed *in one line* (Figure 13.6), the effective widths and thereafter loads per m width for each load are calculated separately and the bending moment at any section for all loads is determined by adding them together (Figure 13.6).



**Figure 13.6 : Showing Effective Widths for Concentrated Loads in One Line on a Slab Supported on Two Opposite Edges**

**Example 13.4**

Find the bending moment per meter width at the centre of the span for the following data :

$$l_{ef} = 7.5 \text{ m}; l' = 3 \text{ m}; \quad y = 1.5 \text{ m}$$

$$x_1 = 1.5 \text{ m} \quad x_2 = 2 \text{ m}$$

$$a_1 = 0.3 \text{ m} \quad a_2 = 0.4 \text{ m}$$

$$W_1 = 20 \text{ kN} \quad W_2 = 30 \text{ kN}$$

## Solution

$$\text{For } \frac{l'}{l} = \frac{3}{7.5} = 0.4, k = 1.48$$

$$b_{ef1} = kx_1 \left( 1 - \frac{x_1}{l_{ef}} \right) + a_1 = 1.48 \times 1.5 \left( 1 - \frac{1.5}{7.5} \right) + 0.3 = 2.076 < 3\text{m} (= l')$$

$$\therefore \text{Load per m width } w_1' = \frac{20}{2.076} = 9.634 \text{ kN/m width}$$

$\therefore$  B.M. at centre of span due to  $w_1'$

$$M_1' = R_{R1} \times \frac{l_{ef}}{2} = \frac{9.634 \times 1.5}{7.5} \times \frac{7.5}{2} = 7.226 \text{ kNm/m width}$$

Similarly

$$b_{ef2} = kx_2 \left( 1 - \frac{x_2}{l_{ef}} \right) + a_2$$

$$= 1.48 \times 2 \left( 1 - \frac{2}{7.5} \right) + 0.4 = 2.571\text{m} < 3\text{m} (= l')$$

$$\therefore \text{Load per m width } w_2' = \frac{30}{2.571} = 11.669 \text{ kN}$$

$\therefore$  B.M. at centre of span due to  $w_2'$

$$M_2' = R_{R2} \times \frac{l_{ef}}{2} = \frac{11.669 \times 2}{7.5} \times \frac{7.5}{2} = 11.669 \text{ kNm/m}$$

Hence total B.M. at the centre due to  $w_1'$  &  $w_2'$

$$M_c = M_1' + M_2' = 7.226 + 11.669 = 18.895 \text{ kN/m width Ans}$$

### Slab Carrying Two or More Concentrated Loads *not* in a Line in the Direction of the Span

If two or more loads on a slab are *not* in one line (Figure 13. 7) and the respective effective widths are *not* overlapping, then slab is designed in flexure for each effective width and provided for. But if the effective width of slab for one load overlaps the effective width of slab for an adjacent load, the overlapping portion of the slab shall be designed for the combined effect of the two loads.

#### Example 13.5

If in Example 13.4  $y_1$  i.e. distance of  $W_1$  from unsupported nearer edge is 1.2 m. Calculate the resultant B.M. at the mid span for overlapping portion.

#### Solution

Resultant B.M per meter width at the mid span for overlapping portion will be same as that for Example 13. 4 i.e.  $M_c = 18.895$  Ans

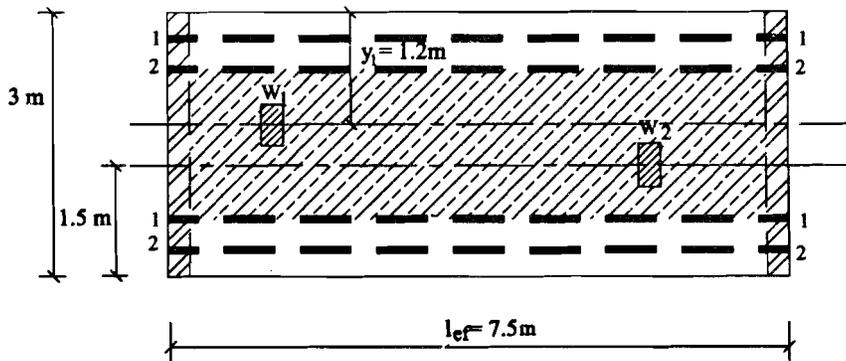


Figure 13.7 : Showing Overlapping of Effective Widths

### Cantilever slab carrying concentrated load

If a single concentrated load is placed at  $a_1$  from the fixed edge (Figure 13. 8) effective width,

$$b_{ef} = (1.2 a_1 + a) \leq \frac{l'}{3} \quad \dots (13.8)$$

where  $a$  = width of contact area of concentrated load measured parallel to the supporting edge.

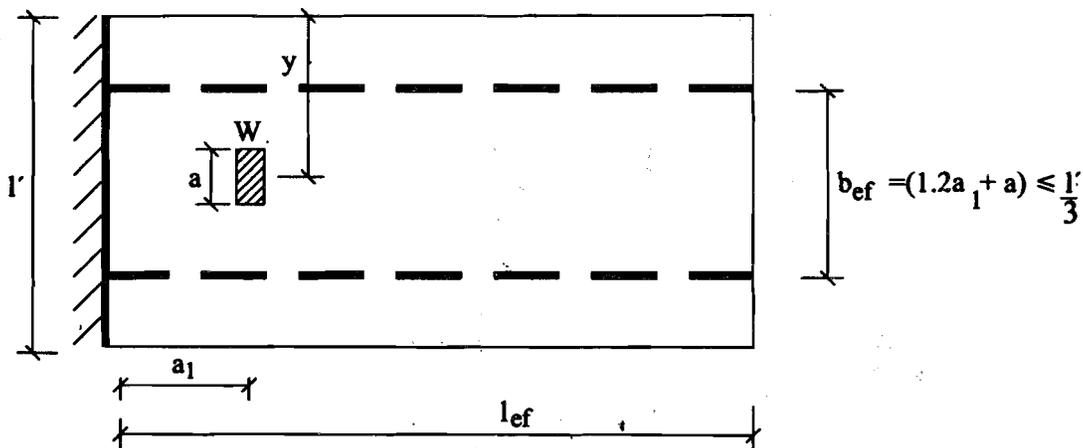


Figure 13.8 : Showing Effective Width for Concentrated Load on a Cantilever Slab

In case, the load is near an unsupported edge,  $b_{ef}$  shall not exceed the value given in Eq. (13.8) nor shall it exceed half the above value plus the distance of the concentrated load from the extreme end ( $y$ ) measured in the direction parallel to the fixed edge.

### Example 13.6

Calculate bending moment per m width of a cantilever slab for the following data :

Conc. Load	$W$	=	20 kN
	$a_1$	=	1.5m
	$a$	=	0.3m and
	$l'$	=	2m
	$y$	=	0.6m

## Solution

$$b_{ef} = 1.2 a_1 + a$$

$$= 1.2 \times 1.5 + 0.3 = 2.1\text{m} > \frac{l'}{3} \left( = \frac{2}{3} = 0.67\text{m} \right)$$

The effective width shall be the least of the followings:

- (i)  $b_{ef} = 2.1\text{m}$
- (ii)  $\frac{l'}{3} = \frac{2}{3} = 0.67\text{m}$ , and
- (iii)  $\frac{b_{ef}}{2} + 0.6 = \frac{2.1}{2} + 0.6 = 1.65\text{m}$

Hence  $b_{ef} = 0.67\text{m}$

$$\therefore \text{load/m width, } w' = \frac{20}{0.67} = 30 \text{ kN/m width}$$

Hence  $M_{\max} = 30 \times 1.5 = 45 \text{ kNm/m width Ans}$

### 13.3.2 Determination of critical section for checking shear

The critical section for checking shear strength and for design is taken at effective depth of slab from the face of the concentrated load as shown in Figure 13.9

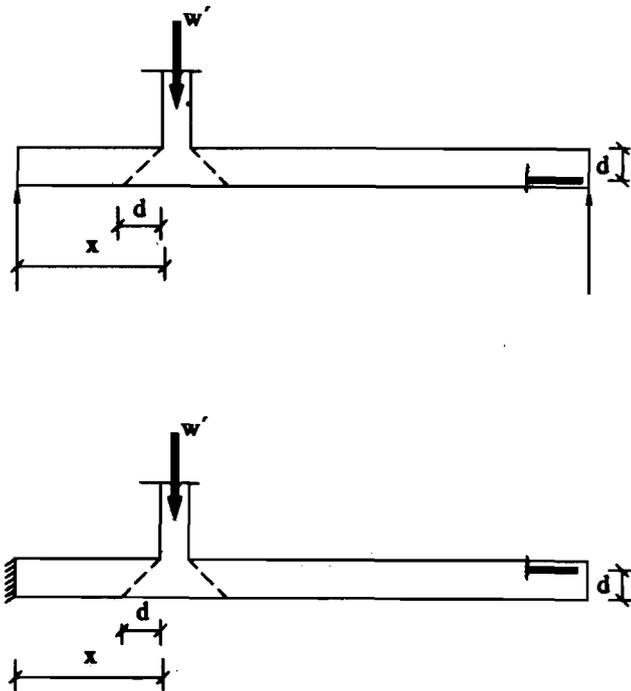


Figure 13.9 : Critical sections for shear

#### SAQ 2

- (i) How bending moments, for concentrated load in a simply supported slab (on two opposite faces only) and in a cantilever slab, are evaluated. Illustrate with drawings.

- (ii) Illustrate with sketches as to how shear force at any section is evaluated.
- (iii) Find the bending moment per meter width at a section 3m from left support of a simply supported slab (supported on two opposite edges only) for the following data:

$$l_{ef} = 8\text{m}; l' = 4\text{m}$$

$$x_1 = 2\text{m}$$

$$x_2 = 2.5\text{m}$$

$$a_1 = 0.4\text{m}$$

$$a_2 = 0.35\text{m}$$

$$W_1 = 15\text{ kN}$$

$$W_2 = 30\text{ kN}$$

$$y_1 = 0.8\text{m}$$

$$y_2 = 1.5\text{m}$$

- (iv) Evaluate bending moment per meter width of a cantilever slab for the following data:  $W = 25\text{ kN}$ ,  $a_1 = 2\text{m}$ ;  $a = 0.4$  and  $l' = 3\text{m}$  and  $y = 1.5\text{m}$

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## 13.4 SUMMARY

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A circular slab bends in all directions hence radial and circumferential bending moments are considered for design. But the provision of reinforcement is *orthogonal* (similar to that of a two way slab) as there would have been congestion at the centre of the slab if they were provided in radial and circumferential directions. Provision of shear force is governed by the same rules as those for two way slabs.

A solid slab, supported on two opposite faces only, or a cantilever slab loaded with concentrated loads is designed by *Equivalent Effective Width Method*. In other words, the concentrated load is assumed to have been spread only on 'effective width' ( $b_{ef}$ ), determined by formulae given by Eqn. 13.7 & 8. The critical section for checking shear force is supposed to be located at effective depth of the slab ( $d$ ) from the face of the concentrated load.

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## 13.6 ANSWERS TO SAQs

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### SAQ 1

- (i) Refer text 13.1
- (ii) Refer text 13.1
- (iii) Refer Example 13.1
- (iv) Refer Example 13.2

### SAQ 2

- (i) Refer Section 13.3.1
- (ii) Refer Section 13.3.2
- (iii) 23.055 kNm/m width in the overlapping portion.
- (iv) 50 kNm/m width