

# Analytical model for evaluating lateral force capacity of precast concrete-filled steel tube column

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## ABSTRACT

Precast segmental columns have been frequently applied in regions of low seismicity due to rapid construction, high quality, and low downtime. Their lateral force–displacement curves were always calculated using iterative models in former studies, which could be time-consuming and arduous. Whereas, a non-iterative model can greatly improve computational efficiency and is preferred by designers. In this study, a non-iterative simplified analytical model was firstly proposed considering different neutral axis depths of the rocking interface. The neutral axis depth approached a constant value during lateral loading according to the results of the former tests and numerical studies. Then, a quasi-static test and finite element model of a precast segmental concrete-filled steel tube (PS-CFST) column were conducted to verify the proposed analytical model. Based on the finite element model, a nonlinear regression equation was set up to predict the constant neutral axis depth of the PS-CFST column according to the simulation results of 48 cases. Finally, the influence of the initial prestressing force, area of the prestressed tendons and gravity load on the lateral force capacity of the PS-CFST column were investigated. It was concluded that the constant value of neutral axis depth was positively related to axial ratio and diameter-thickness ratio, and negatively related to yield strength of steel tube of PS-CFST columns. The analytical model without iteration proposed in this study was appropriate to predict lateral force capacity of post-tensioned precast segmental columns, and it had a favorable agreement with testing and numerical results. Furthermore, the precast column with the lower gravity load and the higher reinforcement ratio of prestressed tendons would result in the larger post-yield stiffness.

## 1. Introduction

With the merits of rapid construction, high quality, high engineering safety and low environmental impact, precast segmental columns have been mostly applied in regions of low and medium seismicity[1–2], such as Linn Cove Viaduct, Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge, Sunshine Skyway Bridge, Victory Bridge and Wigram Magdala Link Bridge in New Zealand, etc. Huangxulu Overpass Bridge was recently built in Beijing, with the first columns connected by unbonded post-tensioning (PT) tendons in China[3].

The seismic performance of post-tensioned precast columns subjected to quasi-static cyclic loading was fully studied. Mander and Cheng [4] firstly investigated the seismic performance of precast segmental bridge columns. Serious damage was found in the plastic hinge zone of the columns, leading to a decrease in lateral strength. To minimize the

damage to the plastic hinge zone and local stress concentration after the earthquake, high transverse reinforcement ratio[4], steel tubes[5–8], and high-performance materials including fiber reinforced plastic (FRP) [9], ultra-high performance concrete (UHPC)[10] and fiber reinforced concrete (FRC)[11] were adopted to fabricate the bottom or all segments of the precast segmental bridge columns. In addition to serious damage to the bottom segment, poor energy dissipation (ED) capacity was also the reason why precast segmental columns were limited in low seismic zones[12]. To increase the ED capacity of precast columns, continuous bonded mild steel rebars[112–14], shape memory alloys (SMA)[16–18], and high-strength bars[19] across the segments were developed. Besides, various replaceable external ED devices were proposed as an alternative option for ED bars[31021–25], e.g. aluminum bars, steel angle dampers, buckling-restrained plates and UHPC panels.

The research on the seismic performance of precast segmental columns aforementioned was generally conducted by quasi-static cycling

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Nomenclature	
<i>A List of symbols</i>	
$D$	Width of column cross-section
$C_4$	Neutral axis depth at the constant depth stage
$F_{si}$	Initial prestressing force
$P$	Gravity load
$A$	Cross-sectional area of the column
$h$	Height of the column
$I_g$	Moment of inertia of the column
$F_1$	Lateral force at the end of the full depth stage
$\Delta_1$	Displacement at the end of the full depth stage
$\phi_1$	Curvature at the end of the full depth stage
$E$	Elastic modulus
$E_c$	Elastic modulus for concrete
$E_{sc}$	Elastic modulus for concrete-filled steel tube
$A_s$	Cross-sectional area of steel pipe
$A_c$	Cross-sectional area of concrete
$F_2$	Lateral force at the end of the linear reduced depth stage
$I_{g/2}$	Moment of inertia of the column at the end of the linear reduced depth stage
$\Delta_2$	Displacement at the end of the linear reduced depth stage
$\Delta_{2e}$	Elastic displacement at the end of the linear reduced depth stage
$\Delta_{2p}$	Plastic displacement at the end of the linear reduced depth stage
$L_p$	Length of the plastic hinge
$\phi_2$	Curvature at the end of the linear reduced depth stage
$d$	Distance from the centroid of the compression zone to the edge of the section
$F_4$	Lateral force at the constant depth stage
$\Delta_4$	Displacement at the constant depth stage
$N$	Total axial compression ratio
$F_s$	Total prestressing force
$\Delta F_{si}$	Increment of prestressing force
$\theta$	Rotation angle of the column
$\Delta_b$	Lateral displacement of the edge of the column top at the constant depth stage
$\Delta l$	Elongation of prestressed tendons
$\Delta_4$	Lateral displacement of the center of the column top
$E_p$	Elastic modulus of prestressed tendons
$A_p$	Across-section area of prestressed tendons
$l$	Length of prestressed tendons
$k_p$	Equivalent axial stiffness of the prestressed tendons
$\Delta_R$	Displacement caused by rigid body rotation
$\Delta_\theta$	Displacement caused by bending deformations
$\Delta_v$	Displacement caused by shear deformations
$\eta$	Reduction coefficient of the elongation of prestressed tendons
$K_\theta$	Flexural stiffness of the column
$K_V$	Shear stiffness of the column
$\mu_c$	Concrete poisson ratio
$\mu_s$	Steel poisson ratio
$\beta$	Reduction coefficient of neutral axis depth on the elongation of prestressed tendons
$\Delta l'$	Real elongation of prestressed tendons
$\lambda$	Reduction coefficient of the axial deformation of the column
$\Delta h$	Elongation of the column

loading. The dynamic response was also increasingly investigated by researchers with pseudo-dynamic[26] and shake table tests[27–30], even including underwater shake table tests[31]. These studies proved that the precast segmental bridge column was slightly damaged under earthquake motions. Meanwhile, the seismic performance of post-tensioned precast bridges was compared with cast-in-place bridges, the result indicated that the cast-in-place bridges suffered major concrete spalling and fracture of longitudinal and transverse rebars, whereas damage to concrete was only cosmetic and failure was limited to longitudinal rebars for post-tensioned precast bridges[28]. In further investigating the seismic performance of precast segmental columns, a few scholars[1432–35] have studied the response of columns subjected to bidirectional loading through the quasi-static test, shake table test, and numerical evaluation methods. Sometimes, to improve the loading efficiency, several researchers adopted unidirectional oblique lateral loading instead of complicated biaxial loading. They found that the direction of seismic loads had a significant effect on the overall structural performance[1432]. The study of Reza[32] et al indicated that the precast columns loaded along the strong axis had a larger capacity, but a worse ductile response and more serious concrete damage compared with those loaded along the weak axis. Jia et al[14] suggested that nonorthogonal oblique loading should be considered in the design of precast columns, because a larger residual displacement was found when subjected to nonorthogonal oblique loading. Li et al[33] obtained a similar conclusion through numerical simulation. To compare the dynamic response of cast-in-place monolithic and precast segmental columns under bidirectional earthquake motions, Li et al[34] carried out shake table tests. The results indicated that more serious damage was observed in the cast-in-place monolithic column, whereas non-negligible twisting was found in the precast column. The reason was that the friction force between the joints was not enough for countering the torsional moment under the bidirectional earthquake motions.

Therefore, the torsion of joints between segments is noteworthy for the precast segmental columns.

Fiber-section numerical models and finite element models were frequently used to evaluate the seismic performance of precast segment columns under lateral loading. Fiber-section models could accurately simulate the nonlinear response of precast columns under quasi-static and dynamic loading, but could not precisely simulate the deformation behavior of the column and the stress distribution of joints. This problem could be overcome by finite element models. With the improvement of computer calculation efficiency, the main design parameter analysis of precast segmental columns was frequently investigated by numerical simulation, and sometimes by experiments. The main design parameters comprised the area ratio of ED rebars, the initial prestressing level of PT tendons, the vertical gravity loading, the bonding conditions of PT tendons, and the position configuration of PT tendons. Many scholars[1,13,15,36–38] studied the effect of the area ratio of ED rebars on the seismic performance of precast segmental columns and concluded that the ED capacity and residual displacement increased with the area ratio. To maintain self-centering capacity,  $\lambda_{ED}$ , which was the factor of the ED rebar contribution to the expected column strength, was defined by Ou et al[1], and less than 35 % was recommended. A high initial prestressing level of PT tendons resulted in high strength and self-centering capacity, but excessive initial prestress level may lead to a large loss of prestressing and yield prematurely [15243639–40]. Thence, the initial prestressing level of PT should be less than 60 % of yield strength as recommended by Zhang et al[39]. A high vertical gravity loading also brought a high strength, differently, the post-yield stiffness decreased with increasing vertical gravity loading[3941] Li et al, Wang et al[41] and Bu et al[15] numerically and experimentally investigated the effect of the bonding conditions of prestressing tendons on the seismic behavior, they concluded that the columns with unbonded PT tendons had smaller residual displacement

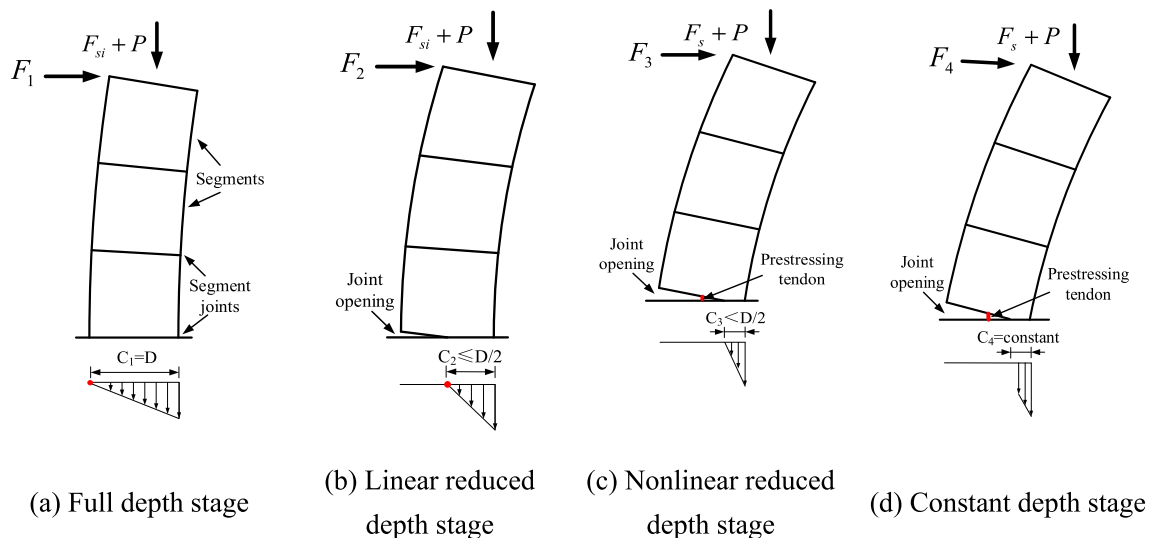


Fig. 1. Response of precast segmental bridge column at key stages.

and better ductility, but lower lateral strength and ED capacity than those with bonded PT tendons. Zhang et al.[43] numerically studied the influence on the hysteretic behavior of PT positions, the lateral capacity and ED capacity for offset configuration of PT tendons increased slightly than the central configuration, whereas the prestressing force increased substantially, which was close to the yield strength when the column was subjected to maximum drift.

An analytical model was firstly proposed by Hewes[5] to describe the lateral force–displacement curves of unbonded post-tensioned precast columns under horizontal loading. Three key stages were defined according to different neutral axis depths. Chou et al.[6] developed a double-plastic hinge model to estimate the seismic behavior of precast columns with unequal height segments. Bu et al.[42–44] established a single-joint model and a multi-joint rotation model of the precast column with ED bars based on the moment–curvature relationship, and the accuracy of the multi-joint rotation model was better than the single-joint rotation model. Ou et al.[13] introduced the concept of decompression region and proposed a simplified analytical method to investigate the mechanical behavior of precast segment columns with energy dissipation devices under lateral loading. The models proposed above can accurately predict the response of precast columns under lateral load. However, these models were iterative because of the uncertainty of the neutral axis depth, increasing the computational cost. A non-iterative model can greatly improve computational efficiency and thus is preferred by designers. Wang et al.[46] proposed a non-iterative analytical model to predict the response of unbonded post-tensioned precast columns with ED bars. Three stages, namely decompression, the yield of ED bars and large deformation were defined in the analytical model. At decompression stage, the precast segmental column was considered as the equivalent cast-in-place column. Whereas the neutral axis depth was calculated by complicated force balance equations at the other two stages. Thence, a simplified non-iterative analytical model can be developed to efficiently evaluate the force–displacement response of precast segmental bridge columns, especially for precast segmental concrete-filled steel tube (PS-CFST) columns, which enhance the confinement of concrete, avoid the need for rebar cages and formwork, and have less damage and excellent seismic performance under lateral loading.

In this study, a simplified non-iterative analytical model was firstly derived based on the plane-section assumption, moment–curvature relationship and rotation of a rigid body. Four key stages were defined according to different neutral axis depths. It was found from previous experiments that the neutral axis depth approached a constant value

during lateral loading at the last stage. Then, a quasi-static test and finite element model of a PS-CFST column were conducted to verify the proposed analytical model. Based on the validated finite element model, a nonlinear regression equation was set up based on the simulation results of 48 cases to predict the constant neutral axis depth of the PS-CFST at the last stage. Finally, the influences of the area of the prestressed tendons, gravity load and initial prestress on the lateral force capacity of precast segmental bridge columns were investigated.

## 2. Simplified analytical model for precast segmental columns

The behavior of a precast segment column under lateral loading differs substantially from that of a conventional reinforced concrete (RC) column. In the RC column, the location of concentrated inelastic response is generally in the bridge columns in the form of plastic hinges, where concrete crushing and reinforcement yielding work together to dissipate energy under earthquake loading. In the precast column, large structural deformations are not due to plastic deformation within a plastic hinge zone, but to a rigid rotation of the whole column around its base. The response of a precast column is similar to that of a rocking foundation, which lifts off the ground once the moment resistance provided by a vertical load is overcome. In the study, a simplified non-iterative analytical model, which was divided into four key stages, was deduced for predicting the lateral force capacity of a precast segmental column. The response of a precast column subjected to lateral loading at four stages is shown in Fig. 1. According to the changing trend of the neutral axial depth, the stages are named full depth stage, linear reduced depth stage, nonlinear reduced depth stage and constant depth stage. In the figure, and through this study, the prestressing tendon is located at the mid-depth of the cross-section. As shown in Fig. 1(a), the stress in concrete at the edge of the base joint is zero, which represents the end of the full depth stage. The response of the column is similar to that of the equivalent conventional reinforced concrete column. As lateral displacement increases, the opening of the interface between the foundation and column appears and extends to the section depth. Eventually, the opening reaches the mid-depth of the section, as shown in Fig. 1(b). This condition defines as the end of the linear reduced depth stage, which also represents the beginning of significant nonlinearity. Then, as shown in Fig. 1(c), when the neutral axis depth is less than the mid-depth of the section, the prestressing tendons are stretched and the prestressing force increases. This condition defines the nonlinear reduced depth stage. The prestressing force during the earthquake loading remains elastic if the initial stress is carefully selected. If the

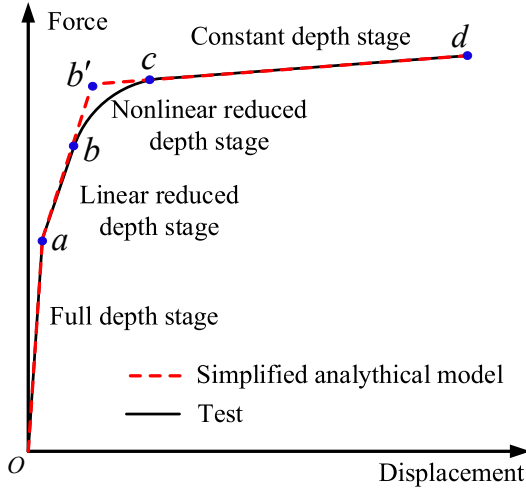


Fig. 2. Force-displacement curve of a precast segmental bridge column.

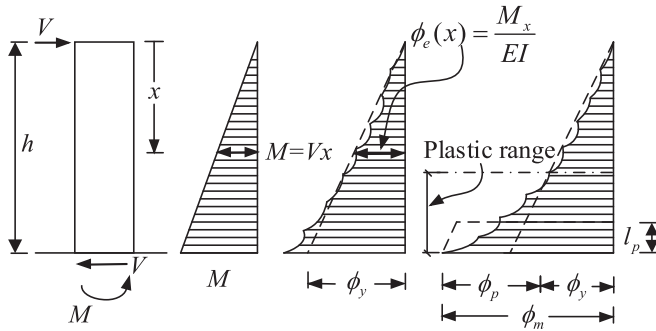


Fig. 3. Simple beam theory.

initial stress is too high, or if the maximum column displacement is larger than expected, the yield of prestressing tendons can occur. It is important to note that the prestressing tendon is the critical component of the precast segment column, its yield greatly affects the seismic performance of the precast segmental bridge column. Hence, the initial stress of the prestressing tendon should be carefully selected. With a further increase in lateral displacement, the neutral axis depth eventually tends to remain virtually unchanged during lateral loading, which is found from references[342]. This condition is defined as the constant depth stage, as shown in Fig. 1(d).

The theoretical lateral force–displacement curve of the precast column is depicted in Fig. 2. The key stages of response described previously are indicated by points  $a, b, c, d$  in the figure. The response of the full depth and linear reduced depth stages is a linear-elastic relationship, whereas that of the nonlinear reduced depth and constant depth stages is non-linear. Complex iterative analysis is required to obtain the neutral axis depth of the nonlinear reduced depth stage due to elongation of prestressed tendons. To avoid iterative calculations, the lateral force–displacement relationships at the nonlinear reduced depth and constant depth stages are obtained based on the below simplification and hypothesis:

### 3. The yielding of prestressing tendons does not occur during the loading process.

2. The lateral force–displacement relationship at the nonlinear reduced depth stage is obtained by extending the lines of the linear reduced depth and constant depth stages. As shown in Fig. 3, both lines  $bb'$  and  $b'c$  represent the response of the column at the nonlinear reduced depth stage.

3. The neutral axis depth at the constant depth stage is assumed to be constant[342].

4. For precast segmental columns without external ED devices, only the bottom joint opening is considered because other joint openings are neglected[151015].

#### 3.1. Full depth stage

As presented above, at the full depth stage, the plane-section assumption and the moment–curvature analysis are adopted to obtain the lateral force–displacement relationship. The condition of the end of the full depth stage, point  $a$ , is that the compressive strain of the concrete at the edge of the column bottom section is zero. Eq. (1) can be calculated as.

$$0.5D \frac{F_1 h}{I_g} = \frac{F_{si} + P}{A} \quad (1)$$

where  $F_{si}$  is the initial prestressing force;  $P$  is the gravity load;  $A$  is the cross-sectional area of the column;  $h$  is the column height;  $I_g$  is the geometrical moment of inertia, for PS-CFST,  $I_g = I_c + I_s$ ,  $I_c$  and  $I_s$  are the inertia moment of section of concrete and steel tube of the PS-CFST, respectively.

The lateral force  $F_1$  at the top of the column at point  $a$  can be expressed as.

$$F_1 = \frac{(F_{si} + P)I_g}{0.5DAh} \quad (2)$$

The displacement  $\Delta_1$  of point  $a$  is calculated using simple beam theory, as shown in Fig. 3:

$$\Delta_1 = \frac{1}{3}\phi_1 h^2 \quad (3)$$

$$\phi_1 = \frac{F_1 h}{EI_g} \quad (4)$$

Where  $\phi_1$  is the curvature of the column bottom at point  $a$ ,  $E$  is the elastic modulus. It should be noted that the formula for calculating the elastic modulus of concrete-filled steel tube is different from that of reinforced concrete. For precast reinforced concrete columns,  $E$  is generally replaced by the elastic modulus of concrete ( $E_c$ ). Whereas, for PS-CFST columns, the confinement effect of steel tube on core concrete, which is highly related to steel ratio  $\alpha_{sc}$ , can't be ignored. According to Technical Code Provision for CFST Structures (GB 50936–2014) in China[51],  $E$  of concrete-filled steel tube can be predicted as.

$$E = \frac{(1 + \delta/n)(1 + \alpha_{sc})}{(1 + \alpha_{sc}/n)(1 + \delta)} \times 1.3k_E f_{sc} \quad (5)$$

$$\delta = \frac{I_s}{I_c} \quad (6)$$

$$n = \frac{E_c}{E_s} \quad (7)$$

$$\alpha_{sc} = \frac{A_s}{A_c} \quad (8)$$

Where  $E_s$  is the elastic modulus of the steel tube.  $A_s$  and  $A_c$  are the cross-sectional area of the steel tube and concrete.  $k_E$  is the conversion factor.  $f_{sc}$  is the compression strength of PS-CFST.  $k_E$  and  $f_{sc}$  can be obtained by Technical Code Provision for CFST Structures (GB 50936–2014)in China[47].

When Eq. (4) is substituted into Eq. (3).

$$\Delta_1 = \frac{F_1 h^3}{3EI_g} \quad (9)$$

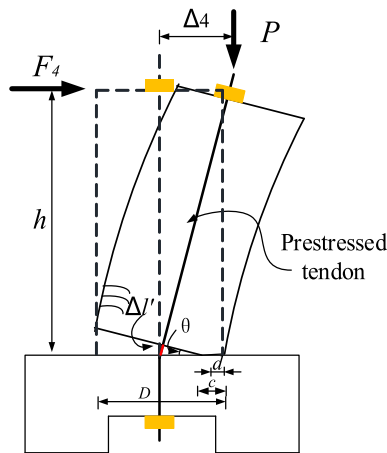


Fig. 4. Behavior of precast column under lateral loading at the constant depth stage.

### 3.2. Linear reduced depth stage

The force  $F_2$  at the end of the linear reduced depth stage, point  $b$ , is given based on the zero stress at the middle of the column bottom interface.

$$\frac{F_2 h - y(F_{si} + P)}{I_{g/2}} y = \frac{2(F_{si} + P)}{A} \quad (10)$$

Where  $y$  is the distance from the centroid of the compression zone to the middle of the bottom interface;  $I_{g/2}$  is the moment of inertia at the end of the linear reduced depth stage. Eq. (10) can be converted to.

$$F_2 = \frac{2(F_{si} + P)I_{g/2} + y(F_{si} + P)}{A y h} \quad (11)$$

The displacement  $\Delta_2$  of point  $b$  contains the elastic displacement  $\Delta_{2e}$  and plastic displacement  $\Delta_{2p}$ .  $\Delta_2$  can be calculated as.

$$\Delta_2 = \Delta_{2e} + \Delta_{2p} \quad (12)$$

The elastic displacement  $\Delta_{2e}$  can be deduced according to the linear lateral force–displacement relationship at the full depth stage (Line  $oa$  in Fig. 3).

$$\Delta_{2e} = \frac{F_2}{F_1} \Delta_1 \quad (13)$$

The plastic displacement can be predicted by Eq. (14)[5].

$$\Delta_{2p} = \left[ \phi_2 - \frac{F_2}{F_1} \phi_1 \right] L_p h \quad (14)$$

where  $L_p$  is the length of the plastic hinge;  $\phi_2$  is the curvature of the bottom section at point  $b$ . The values of  $L_p$  and  $\phi_2$  can be obtained by Eq. (15)[13] and Eq. (16)[5], respectively.

$$L_p = \frac{D}{2} \quad (15)$$

$$\phi_2 = \frac{F_2 h - y(F_{si} + P)}{EI_{g/2}} \quad (16)$$

Substitute Eqs. (9), (13), (14), (15), (16) into Eq.(12), the displacement  $\Delta_2$  at point  $b$  can be converted to.

$$\Delta_2 = \frac{2F_2 h^3 - 3DF_2 h^2}{6EI_g} + \frac{DF_2 h^2 - yDh(F_{si} + P)}{2EI_{g/2}} \quad (17)$$

The linear reduced depth stage ends when the neutral axis depth reaches the mid-depth of the section. At the nonlinear reduced depth stage, line  $bc$  is simplified to lines  $bb'$  and  $b'c$ , where  $bb'$  is the extension

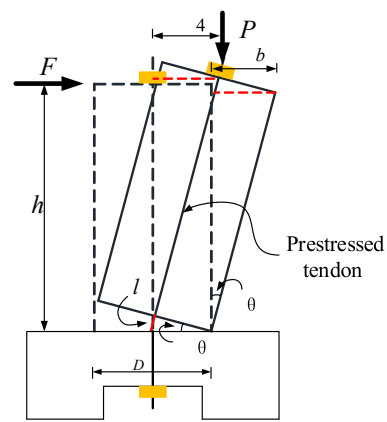


Fig. 5. Rigid body rotation under lateral loading.

of  $ab$ , and  $b'c$  is the extension of  $cd$ . Thus, only the lateral force–displacement relationship of the constant depth stage needs to be calculated for obtaining the response of the column under lateral loading. But the deformation of the column at the constant depth stage is not consistent with the plane-section assumption, and moment–curvature analysis was not adopted to obtain the force–displacement relationship of the constant depth stage. Instead, the analysis is based on the rotation of a rigid body.

### 3.3. Nonlinear reduced depth and constant depth stages

As shown in Fig. 4, based on the moment equilibrium about the center of the compression zone, Eq. (18) is obtained.

$$P \left( \frac{D}{2} - d - \Delta_4 \right) + F_s \left( \frac{D}{2} - d \right) = F_4 h \quad (18)$$

The force  $F_4$  at the constant depth stage can be given as.

$$F_4 = \frac{P(D/2 - d - \Delta_4) + F_s(D/2 - d)}{h} \quad (19)$$

$$C_4 = \frac{1.3\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{7.7}} D \quad (20)$$

Where  $d$  is the distance from the centroid of the compression zone to the edge of the column cross-section (as illustrated in Fig. 4),  $d$  is respectively equal to  $C_4/2$  and  $C_4 - 4C_4/3\pi$  for rectangle and circle section,  $C_4$  is the neutral axis depth at the constant depth stage, which is considered a constant. It can be estimated by Eq.(20) for SC-PSBC[42]. For PS-CFST,  $C_4$  will be obtained by a nonlinear regression analysis based on numerical simulation as described below. Where  $N$  is the axial compression ratio of the precast column.  $F_s$  represents the total prestressing force, which contains the initial prestressing force and the increasing force resulting from the elongation of prestressed tendons, it can be calculated as.

$$F_s = F_{si} + \Delta F_{si} \quad (21)$$

Where  $\Delta F_{si}$  is the increasing prestressing force, which is calculated as shown below.

Serious damage and opening occurred at the bottom segment, whereas that was minor in other segments for SC-PSBC and PS-CFST [151015]. Thus, the damage and opening between other segments were ignored. At the constant depth stage, the increase of prestressing force is easy to calculate when the whole column is considered a rigid body. As shown in Fig. 5, the geometric relationship between the interface rotation angle  $\theta$  and the lateral displacement of the edge of the column top  $\Delta_b$  is shown below.

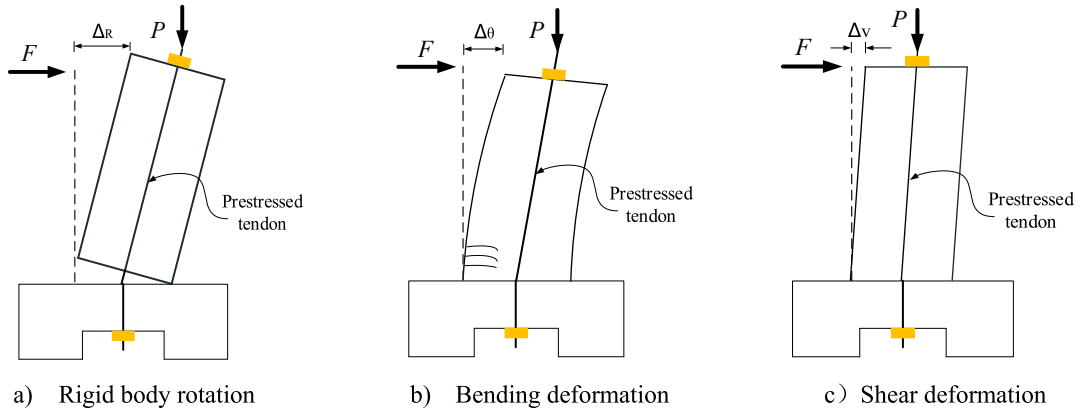


Fig. 6. Deformation of the precast column under lateral loading.

$$\sin\theta = \frac{\Delta_b}{h} \quad (22)$$

The relationship between the lateral displacement of the center ( $\Delta_4$ ) and the edge ( $\Delta_b$ ) of the column top can be expressed by Eq. (23).  $\Delta_4 \approx \Delta_b$  since  $\theta$  is small.

$$\Delta_4 = \Delta_b + 0.5D(1 - \cos\theta) \quad (23)$$

The elongation of prestressed tendons  $\Delta l$  is calculated as.

$$\Delta l = 0.5D\sin\theta \quad (24)$$

When the prestressing tendon is elastic, the relationship between the lateral displacement  $\Delta_4$  of the column top and the increase of prestressing force  $\Delta F_{si}$  is expressed as follows:

$$\Delta F_{si} = \frac{0.5D\sin\theta E_p A}{l} = k_p \Delta_4 \quad (25)$$

$$k_p = \frac{0.5DE_p A_p}{hl} \quad (26)$$

In which,  $E_p$  is the elastic modulus of prestressed tendons;  $A_p$  is the cross-sectional area of prestressed tendons;  $l$  is the length of prestressed tendons;  $k_p$  is the equivalent axial stiffness of prestressed tendons corresponding to the lateral displacement of the column top.

However, the column is not a rigid body. It will undergo deformation during the rotation of the column around its base: (1) the flexural and shear deformation of the column; (2) the axial deformation of the column caused by prestressed tendons; (3) the deformation of the section at the column bottom.

As shown in Fig. 6, the total lateral displacement of the column  $\Delta_4$  comprises the displacement  $\Delta_R$  due to the rigid body rotation, the displacements  $\Delta_i$  and  $\Delta_v$  caused by bending and shear deformations of column segments respectively. Therefore,  $\Delta_4$  can be given as.

$$\Delta_4 = \Delta_\theta + \Delta_v + \Delta_R = \frac{F_4}{K_\theta} + \frac{F_4}{K_V} + \Delta_R \quad (27)$$

As shown in Fig. 6b and 6c, the bending and shear deformations of the column do not lead to the elongation of prestressed tendons. Therefore, it is necessary to define a coefficient  $\eta$  to revise  $\Delta_4$  in Eq. (25):

$$\eta = \frac{\Delta_R}{\Delta_4} \quad (28)$$

Substituting Eq. (27) into Eq. (28) gets:

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{F_4(K_\theta + K_V)}{K_\theta K_V \Delta_4} \quad (29)$$

Where  $K_\theta$  and  $K_V$  are the flexural stiffness and shear stiffness of the column, which can be predicted by Eqs. (30)-(32). Eq. (30) can obtain the flexural stiffness of the SC-PSBC and PS-CFST. Eqs. (31) and (32) can

obtain the shear stiffness of the SC-PSBC and PS-CFST, respectively.

$$K_\theta = \frac{2.1EI_g}{h^3} \quad (30)$$

$$K_V = \frac{E_c A}{2(1 + \mu_c)h} \quad (31)$$

$$K_V = \frac{E_c A_{cc}}{2(1 + \mu_c)h} + \frac{E_s A_{sc}}{2(1 + \mu_s)h} \quad (32)$$

$A_{cc}$  and  $A_{sc}$  are the areas of the compression zone for the concrete and steel tube of PS-CFST;  $\mu_c$  and  $\mu_s$  are the Poisson ratio of the concrete and steel tube, respectively.

When the large joint opening emerges, stress concentration occurs at the compression zone of the column under lateral loading. The column does not rotate about its outermost edge, but rather, rotates around the edge of the compression zone. The real elongation of the prestressed tendons caused by the rotation of the entire column is smaller than that caused by the rotation of the rigid body. To obtain the actual elongation of prestressed tendons, coefficient  $\beta$  is defined to consider the influence of the neutral axis depth on the elongation of the prestressed tendons.  $\beta$  can be calculated as follows.

$$\beta = \frac{\Delta l'}{\Delta l} \quad (33)$$

Where  $\Delta l'$  is the actual elongation of prestressed tendons;  $\Delta l$  is the elongation of prestressed tendons when the column rotates about the outermost edge.  $\Delta l'$  and  $\Delta l$  can be calculated based on the geometrical relationship (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6).

$$\Delta l = 0.5D\sin\theta \quad (34)$$

$$\Delta l' = (0.5D - C_4)\sin\theta \quad (35)$$

Substituting Eqs. (34), (35) into Eq. (33) gives.

$$\beta = 1 - \frac{2C_4}{D} \quad (36)$$

$\beta$  is related to the neutral axis depth.  $\beta$  is equal to 1 if the neutral axis depth  $C_4$  is infinitesimally small, the structure is similar to a rigid body.  $\beta$  decreases with the increase of  $C_4$ .

The axial deformation of the column and prestressed tendons will affect each other. The increasing prestressing force causes axial deformation of the column. In turn, the axial deformation of the column will cause shortening of the prestressed tendons.  $\lambda$  is used to revise the axial deformation of the column and is defined by Eq. (37).

$$\lambda = \frac{\Delta l'}{\Delta l' + \Delta h} \quad (37)$$

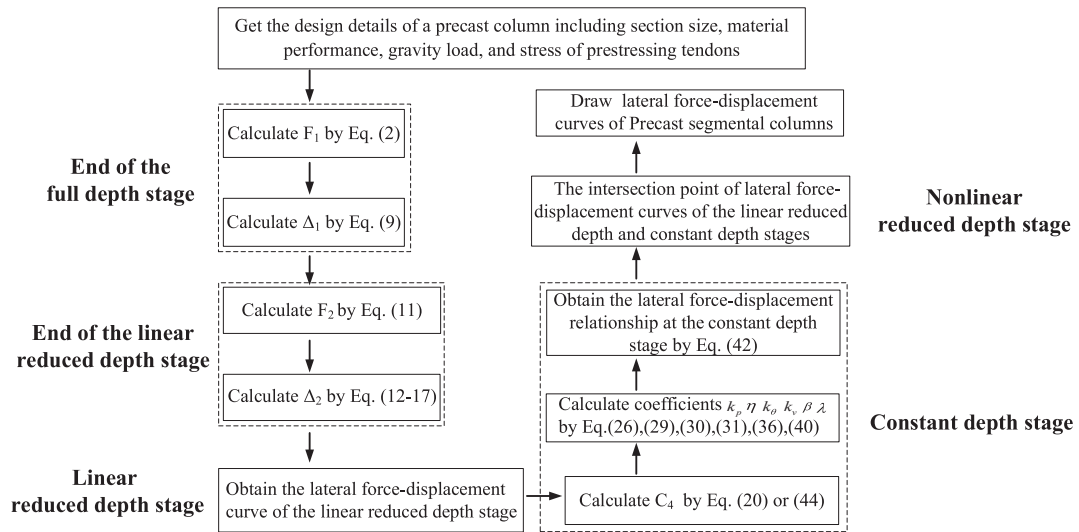


Fig. 7. Calculation flow chart of lateral force-displacement response for precast segmental column.

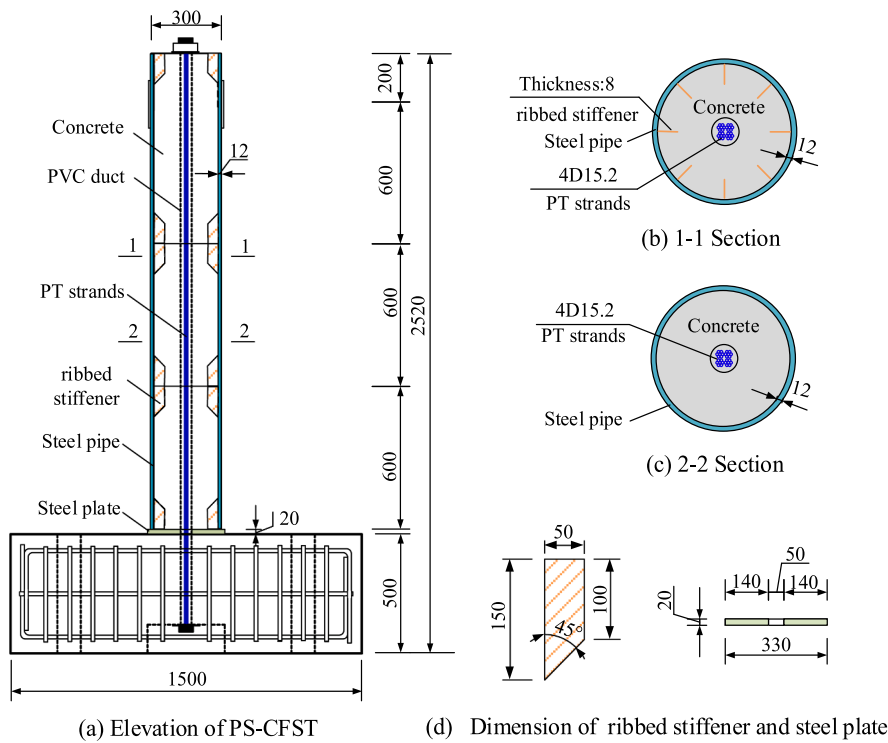


Fig. 8. Configuration and section design of PS-CFST column (Unit: mm).

where  $\Delta h$  is the elongation of the column along with its height.  $\Delta l'$  and  $\Delta h$  can be calculated as.

$$\Delta l' = \frac{F_s l}{E_p A_p} \quad (38)$$

$$\Delta h = \frac{F_s h}{EA} \quad (39)$$

Substituting Eqs. (38), (39) into Eq. (37) gives.

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{A_p E_p h}{AEI}} \quad (40)$$

The elongation of prestressed tendons is closer to the result

calculated based on the rigid body assumption.  $\lambda$  is equal to 1 when the column is a rigid body.

To calculate the actual elongation of prestressed tendons, the  $\Delta_4$  in Eq. (25) is multiplied by  $\eta$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\lambda$ . Then, Eq. (25) is modified to Eq. (41), considering the effects of bending and shear deformations of the column, the deformation of the bottom interface, and the vertical deformation of the column.

$$\Delta F_{si} = k_p \eta \beta \lambda \Delta_4 \quad (41)$$

Substituting Eqs. (29), (36), (41) into Eq. (19), it gives.

$$F_4 = \frac{(P + F_{si}) \frac{D-2d}{2} + \left( \frac{k_p \lambda (D-2C_4)(D-2d)}{2D} - P \right) \Delta_4}{h + \frac{k_p \lambda (K_p + K_v)(D-2C_4)(D-2d)}{2DK_p K_v}} \quad (42)$$

**Table 1**  
Properties of the materials.

Material	Elastic Modulus E (GPa)	Poisson's ratio $\nu$	Yield Strength (MPa)	Ultimate strength (MPa)	Compressive strength $f_c$ (MPa)	Tensile strength $f_t$ (MPa)
Steel tube	200	0.3	320	420	—	—
Strand	190	0.3	1690	1860	—	—
Concrete	32.9	0.2	—	—	32.9	2.64

Finally, the lateral force–displacement relationship at the nonlinear reduced depth stage is obtained by extending the lines of the linear reduced depth and constant depth stages. The calculation flow chart of lateral force–displacement response for precast segmental columns is shown in Fig. 7.

#### 4. Quasi-static test of PS-CFST bridge column

In order to verify the accuracy of the proposed simplified analytical model, a PS-CFST column was designed, then tested under lateral cyclic loading. As shown in Fig. 8, the PS-CFST column contains three assembled concrete-filled steel tubular segments and a footing with the dimensions of  $300 \times 300 \times 600$  mm (length  $\times$  width  $\times$  height) and  $1000 \times 1000 \times 500$  mm, respectively. The thickness of the steel tube was 12 mm. The loading point of the PS-CFST was 1800 mm from the top of the footing. To avoid serious damage to segments during loading, ribbed stiffeners with a thickness of 8 mm were welded to both ends of each steel pipe. Furthermore, a 20 mm thick steel plate was installed between the footing and the bottom segment to prevent the concrete crushing of the footing. Four D15.2 prestressed tendons were located in the center of the section to avoid yielding when the column was subjected to maximum drift[39]. The tendons were anchored at the bottom of the footing and passed through three segments. Before the test, the tendons were post-tensioned by an oil jack to an initial prestressing force  $F_{si}$ . The gravity load  $P$  was applied to simulate the weight of the bridge superstructure. The total axial compression ratio  $N$  of the PS-CFST column was defined as the sum of the axial compression ratio  $N_p$  and  $N_F$  respectively led by gravity load  $P$  and initial prestressing force  $F_{si}$ , is computed by Eq.(43). According to Specification for Seismic Design of Highway Bridges (JTG/T B02-01–2008) in China[54], the total axial compression ratio  $N$  of the bridge column should be less than 0.3 for regular bridge structures. For the PSBC, Hewes[5] suggested that the total axial compression ratio  $N$  should be less than 0.2 to ensure

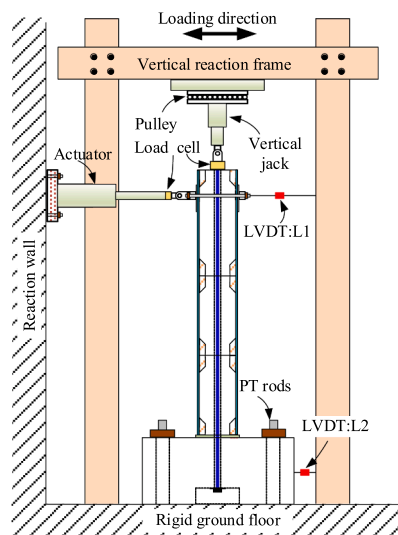
excellent ductility. In the study of Dawood et al, an initial prestress in the range of 40 %–60 % of tendon yield strength was recommended to ensure the elasticity of prestressed tendons under maximum lateral displacement. Based on the specification and suggestions, the gravity load  $P$  and initial prestressing force  $F_{si}$  were set as 500 kN and 400 kN, and the corresponding  $N_p$  and  $N_F$  were 0.09 and 0.07, respectively. Therefore, the total axial compression ratio  $N$  was 0.16.

$$N = N_p + N_F = \frac{P + F_{si}}{f_c A_c + f_y A_s} \quad (43)$$

In which,  $f_c$  is the compressive strength of concrete,  $f_y$  is the yield strength of steel tube,  $A_c$  and  $A_s$  are the cross-sectional area of the concrete and steel tube.

The material properties used in the test were obtained based on specific standards and procedures. The results are listed in Table 1. According to the regulation from GB/T228.1–2010[49], tensile tests of steel pipes and prestressed tendons were conducted. The average yield and ultimate strength of the steel pipes were 320 MPa and 420 MPa. The average yield and ultimate strength of the prestressed tendons were 1690 MPa and 1860 MPa. The concrete strength of the PS-CFST column on the day of the experiment was tested based on the standard GB/T50081-2010[48], the tensile strength of concrete was 2.64 MPa, and the averaged  $150 \times 150 \times 150$  mm cubic compressive strength  $f_{cu,k}$  was 41.6 MPa, corresponding compressive strength  $f_c$  was  $0.79 f_{cu,k}$ , 32.9 MPa[50].

The PS-CFST column was tested under a constant axial compression loading and a lateral cyclic quasi-static loading. The test setup of the PS-CFST column is shown in Fig. 9. As shown in Fig. 9(a), the footing was fixed to a rigid ground floor by four PT rods. A vertical hydraulic jack was connected to the top of the column to apply the vertical gravity load of 500 kN. A horizontal actuator was connected to a reaction wall at one end and to the top of the column at the other to apply the lateral cyclic load. The lateral load was applied in a displacement control mode. The



(a) test setup and instrumentations



(b) picture of PS-CFST under test

**Fig. 9.** Testing schematic diagram and picture of PS-CFST column.



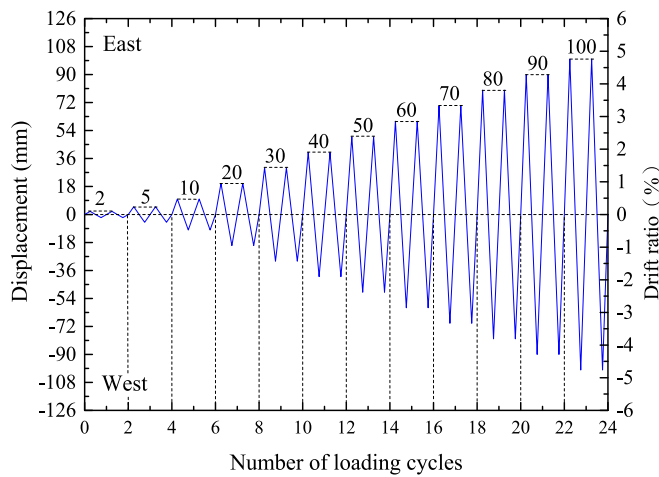


Fig. 10. Loading protocol.

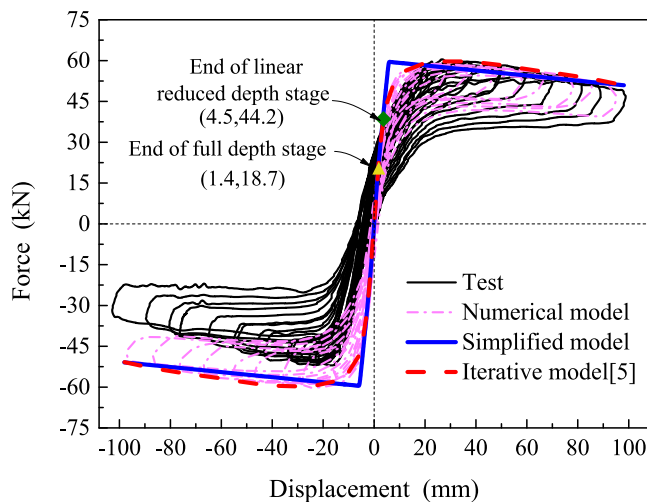


Fig. 11. Comparison of test, numerical, simplified and iterative models results for PS-CFST column.

loading protocol is shown in Fig. 10, twelve loading levels are used for the PS-CFST column, the first three lateral loading levels are 2 mm, 5 mm and 10 mm, then the subsequent loading level is 10 mm larger than the previous level. The test setup of the PS-CFST column is shown in Fig. 9 (b). The test was stopped when the lateral force dropped to 85 % of the peak load of the PS-CFST column.

Linear differential transducers (LVDT) and loading cells were installed at specific locations to monitor respectively the lateral displacements and forces of the PS-CFST column. As shown in Fig. 9(a), one LVDT, L1 is installed horizontally on the top of the column to monitor applied cyclic displacement  $\Delta$ , the other LVDT, L2 is mounted at the center height of the footing to measure the slippage of the footing. The lateral force  $F$  is recorded by a loading cell placed between the horizontal actuator and the column top. The vertical gravity load is monitored by a loading cell installed between the vertical jack and the column top. The hysteretic loops of the PS-CFST column are obtained by plotting the lateral force  $F$  against the lateral displacement  $\Delta$ . As shown in Fig. 11, the hysteretic curve of the PS-CFST column is in flag-shaped behavior, which results in a small residual displacement and excellent re-centering capacity. However, hysteretic loops are asymmetrical during the loading and unloading stages. The reason is that the uneven contact surface between segments led to irreversible slippage between the bottom segment and the steel plate. In addition to verify the

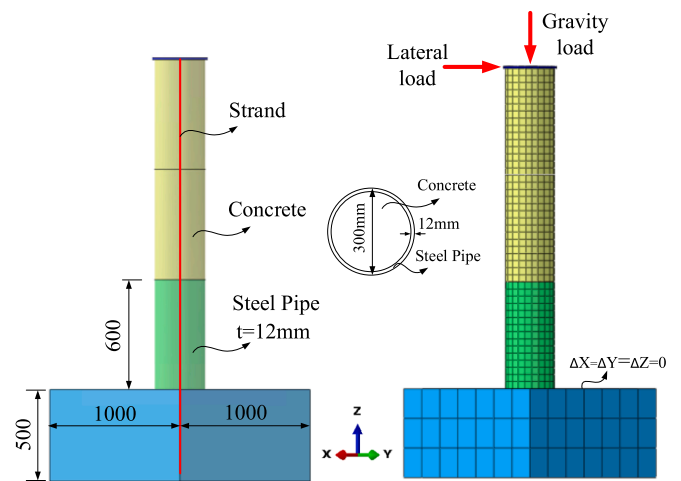


Fig. 12. 3D finite model for the circular concrete-filled steel tube prefabricated column (Unit: mm).

proposed simplified analytical model, the hysteretic curve would also be used to verify the numerical simulation model below.

## 5. Nonlinear regression analysis of neutral axis depth $C_4$

In this section, a 3D solid finite element model was firstly established according to the design details of the PS-CFST column and verified by the test result. Then, based on the verified model, 48 cases were compiled to set up an equation predicting the constant neutral axis depth  $C_4$  of PS-CFST columns at constant depth stage. The 3D finite model of the PS-CFST column is shown in Fig. 12. As seen in the figure, the concrete of the segments and footing was simulated by a three-dimensional 8-node solid reduction integration (C3D8R) element. The steel tube was modeled by a 4-node doubly curved shell reduction integration (S4R) element. The tendon was modeled using a 2-node linear 3-D truss (T3D2) element. Only the tensile behavior of the prestressed tendon was considered, while its bending resistance was not. The mesh sizes of the footing, concrete segments and steel tube were 150 mm, 39 mm and 39 mm, respectively.

As shown in Fig. 13, the compression and tension behavior of concrete were modeled by the concrete damaged plasticity (CDP) model based on China Code GB 50010–2010[50]. The peak compressive strength  $f_c$  was 32.9 MPa, and the corresponding strain was 0.0012. The peak tensile strength  $f_t$  was 2.64 Mpa. The elastic modulus  $E$  for compression and tension was 32.9 GPa. The  $d_c$  and  $d_t$  in Fig. 9 are the damage factors of compression and tension respectively. The values can be calculated based on the China Code GB 50010–2010 in China[50]. In addition, five plasticity parameters must be defined to develop the plastic behavior of concrete in ABAQUS, and the values are shown in Table 2. Because the tendons did not yield during lateral loading, the elastic stress–strain model was used for the prestressed tendons. The elastoplastic stress–strain relationship was adopted for the steel tube.

The contact behavior between steel tube and concrete was modeled by surface-to-surface element. The normal behavior was driven by hard contact, while tangential behavior was defined by tangential friction with a penalty function. The friction coefficient between steel and concrete was between 0.3 and 0.7 in Literature [51], and between 0.57 and 0.7 in Literature [52]. Thus 0.6 was selected as a typical value for the coefficient of friction of the steel-on-concrete contact. Similarly, the surface-to-surface element was adopted to model concrete-on-concrete contact, and different friction coefficient values between segments were used by the previous studies[1333–34], such as 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, etc. The friction coefficient was 0.5 due to the presence of stiffeners in this paper. Two small ends of the prestressed tendons were embedded in the upper end and base of the PS-CFST column to simulate anchorages, no

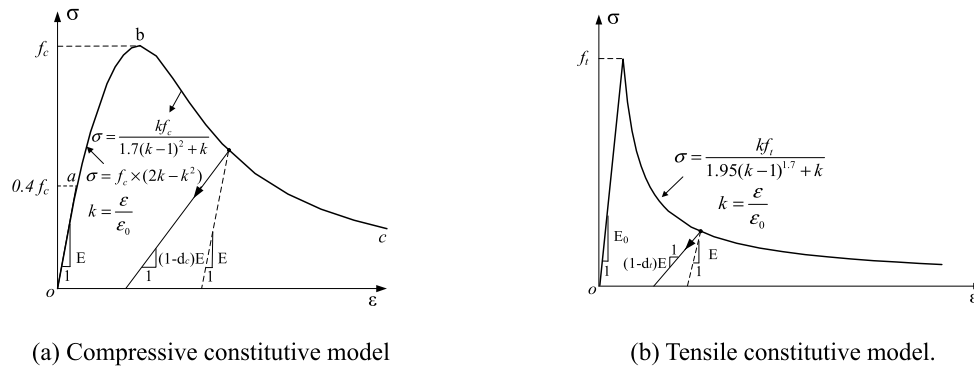


Fig. 13. Stress–strain constitutive models of concrete material.

Table 2  
Plastic damage parameters of concrete.

Expansion angle	Flow offset	$\sigma_{bo}/\sigma_{co}$	$K_c$	Viscosity coefficient
30°	0.1	1.16	0.667	0.0005

Note:  $\sigma_{bo}$  is the initial equibiaxial compressive yield stress;  $\sigma_{co}$  is the initial uniaxial compressive yield stress;  $K_c$  is the coefficient to define the shape of the deviatoric cross-section.

Table 3  
Comparison of analytical, numerical and experimental results.

Method	$\Delta_1$ (mm)	$F_1$ (kN)	$\Delta_2$ (mm)	$F_2$ (kN)
Test result	1.45	17.26	5.1	44.03
Analytical model	1.38	18.75	4.53	44.18
FEA model	1.27	17.7	4.5	44.2
Deviation between test and FEA	12.4 %	2.5 %	11.7 %	0.4 %
Deviation between test and analytical model	4.8 %	8.6 %	13.3 %	0.34 %

contact was set between the middle part and the PS-CFST column.

There were three steps in the finite element model. At the initial step, interactions, boundary conditions and prestressing force were created. For the boundary conditions, the bottom of the column was fixed during the whole analysis. The prestressing force was applied by the initial stress. The axial load was applied to the top of the column using a concentrated force in the second step. In the last step, lateral cyclic load, which was consistent with the quasi-static test, was imposed on the side of the column top. The P-Δ effect was considered throughout the whole analysis.

Table 4  
Parametric analysis cases.

Case	Case name	D (mm)	T	P (kN)	$F_{si}$ (kN)	N	Q (MPa)
1	T50N0.16Q235	300	50	500	400	0.16	235
2	T50N0.16Q290	300	50	500	400	0.16	290
3	T50N0.16Q345	300	50	500	400	0.16	345
4	T50N0.16Q390	300	50	500	400	0.16	390
5–8	T33N0.16Q235-T33N0.16Q390	300	33.3	500	400	0.16	235–390
9–12	T25N0.16Q235-T25N0.16Q390	300	25	500	400	0.16	235–390
13–16	T50N0.16Q235-T50N0.16Q390	300	50	400	300	0.132	235–390
17–20	T33N0.132Q235-T33N0.132Q390	300	33.3	400	300	0.132	235–390
21–24	T25N0.132Q235-T25N0.132Q390	300	25	400	300	0.132	235–390
25–28	T50N0.1Q235-T50N0.1Q390	300	50	330	200	0.1	235–390
29–32	T33N0.1Q235-T33N0.1Q390	300	33.3	330	200	0.1	235–390
33–36	T25N0.1Q235-T25N0.1Q390	300	25	330	200	0.1	235–390
37–40	T50N0.068Q235-T50N0.068Q390	300	50	200	200	0.068	235–390
41–44	T33N0.068Q235-T33N0.068Q390	300	33.3	200	200	0.068	235–390
45–48	T25N0.068Q235-T25N0.068Q390	300	25	200	200	0.068	235–390

Note: T50N0.16Q235 means that the diameter-steel thickness ratio is 50, the total axial ratio is 0.16, the yield strength of steel is 235 MPa.

The force–displacement curves obtained from the test and numerical model are shown in Fig. 11. Table 3 shows the displacements and forces at the key points for the test and numerical model. The deviations between the test and numerical model were less than 12.4 %. The modeling technique and input parameters of the numerical model were verified by the test result.

Based on the validated numerical model, a database including 48 cases was compiled to set up an equation predicting the neutral axis depth  $C_4$  of the PS-CFST column at the constant depth stage. As shown in Table 4, the database contained three independent variables, respectively were the diameter-steel thickness ratio  $T$ , the total axial ratio  $N$  and the yield strength of steel tube  $Q$ . Factorial design was employed,

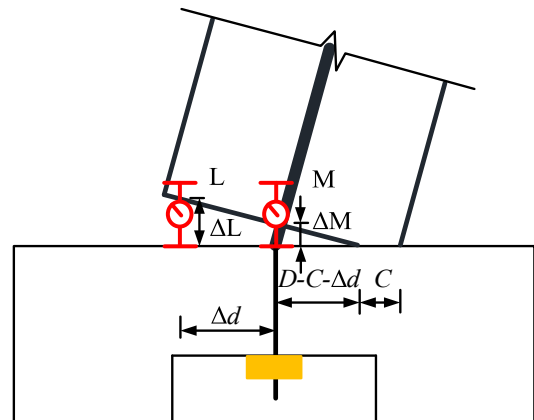


Fig. 14. Calculation of the neutral axis depth.

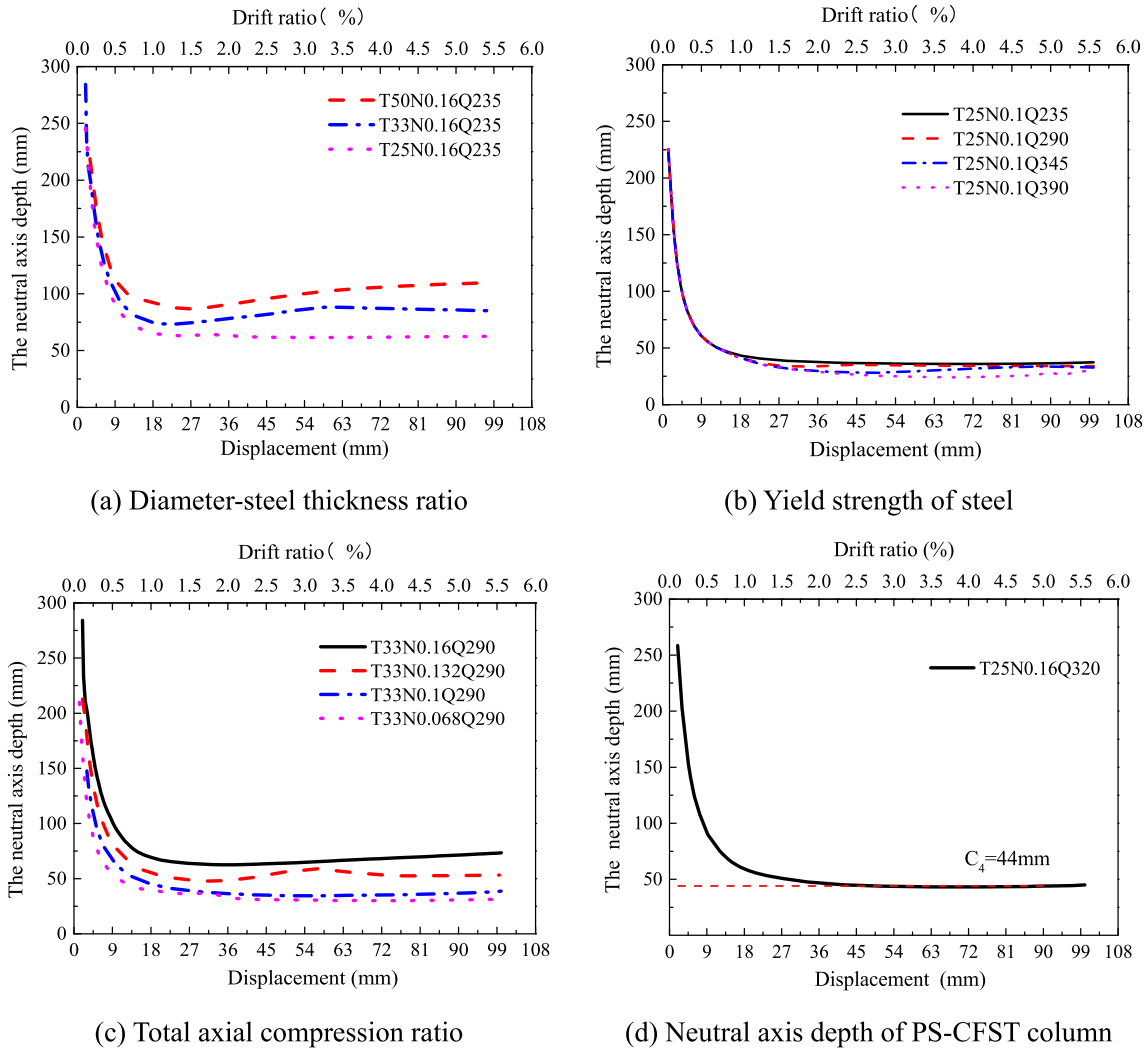


Fig. 15. Effect of different parameters on the neutral axis depth of PS-CFST column.

the diameter-steel thickness ratio  $T$  comprised 50, 33.3, 25, the total axial ratio  $N$  comprised 0.16, 0.132, 0.1, 0.68, the yield strength of steel  $Q$  comprised 235 MPa, 290 MPa, 345 MPa, 390 MPa. It should be noted that pushover analysis was used to obtain the neutral axis depths of 48 cases for high computational efficiency.

The neutral axis depths of the 48 models were calculated by Eq. (43). As shown in Fig. 14, the vertical displacements of points L and M ( $\Delta L$ ,  $\Delta M$ ), and the horizontal distance ( $\Delta d$ ) between them were obtained from models to calculate the neutral axis depths. The neutral axis depth-lateral displacement curves of some cases are illustrated in Fig. 15. Minor changes in the neutral axis depth could be observed when the drift ratio was larger than 1.5 %. Thus,  $C_4$  was considered a constant as described above. As shown in Fig. 15d, here, the  $C_4$  is 44 mm for the simulated PS-CFST column.

$$C_4 = D - \Delta d - \frac{\Delta M \Delta d}{\Delta L - \Delta M} \quad (43)$$

Based on the neutral axis depths of 48 cases calculated by Eq.(43), Eq.(44) was obtained by nonlinear regression analysis.

$$C_4/D = 0.09T^{0.78334} N^{0.939} (Q/235)^{-0.90534} \quad (44)$$

The R2 of Eq. (44) was 95%, it indicated that the equation had a 95% fit. Fig. 16 also shows the high accuracy of the predicted equation. The NAD  $C_4$  increases with the increasing  $T$  and  $N$ , whereas decreases with the increasing  $Q$ . The predicted  $C_4$  by Eq. (44) is 45.4 mm for the

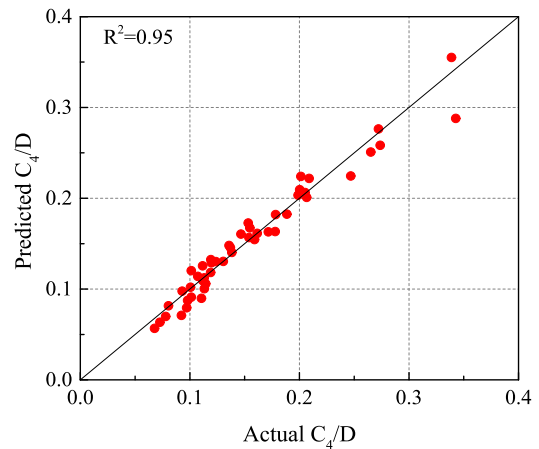


Fig. 16. Differences between the predicted and actual  $C_4/D$ .

simulated PS-CFST column in this research, the deviation is 3% between the predicted and actual value (44 mm). There are two reasons that account for the deviation. One is that a small change of the NAD at the constant depth stage exists, but it is regarded as a constant in the study. The other is that the boundary line between compression and tension is

**Table 5**  
Comparison of test, simplified and iterative models.

Method	Peak strength (kN)			Lateral stiffness (kN/mm)		
	PS-CFST	JH1 [5]	Specimen 1[53]	PS-CFST	JH1 [5]	Specimen 1[53]
Test result	60.4	216.6	200	12.0	13.1	12.1
Simplified model	59.6	217.7	197	13.3	12.5	14.0
Iterative model	59.8	220.7	196.8	13.1	11.9	14.1
Test result/Simplified model	1.01	0.99	1.02	0.90	1.05	0.86
Test result/Iterative model	1.01	0.98	1.02	0.92	1.10	0.86

not straight.

**6. Verification of the simplified analytical model**

The monotonical force–displacement curve of the PS-CFST column, namely the backbone curve, can be obtained by connecting the peak value of each cycling loop. The simplified analytical model of the backbone curve for the PS-CFST column was calculated according to the proposed method. The result is shown in Fig. 11, the lateral force capacity of the PS-CFST column obtained from the proposed simplified analytical model has a favorable agreement with the experimental and numerical results. The experimental, analytical and numerical displacements and forces at the ends of the full depth and linear reduced depth stages are summarized in Table 3, and the max deviation between the analytical model and test is 13.3 %. In addition, the lateral force–displacement curve of the PS-CFST column was calculated based on the iterative model proposed by Hewes[5]. The result is also shown in Fig. 11, the shape of the lateral force–displacement curves of simplified and iterative models are approximately the same. The peak lateral capacity and lateral stiffness of the PS-CFST obtained by test, simplified and iterative models are listed in Table 5. It is found that the peak strength ratio of the simplified model to either the test or iterative model is close to 1. The same result is found in the lateral stiffness ratio. It is indicated that the simplification of the lateral force–displacement curve at the nonlinear reduced depth stage has minor effect on predicting the peak lateral capacity and lateral stiffness of the PS-CFST column.

To prove the generalization of the simplified model, two typical published experimental studies on the seismic performance of the precast segmental columns were selected. One is an SC-PSBC, denoted as “JH1” in the study of Hewes[5], the other is a precast segmental

concrete-filled steel tube column, named “Specimen 1” in the study of Chou and Cheng[53]. The lateral force–displacement curves of the test, simplified and iterative models of “JH1” and “specimen 1” are shown separately in Fig. 17(a) and Fig. 17(b). As seen in the figure, the lateral force–displacement curves of the test, simplified and iterative models are in good agreement. The peak lateral strength and lateral stiffness of “JH1” and “specimen 1” are listed in Table 5, their ratios of the test and simplified model, or iterative model are close to 1. The computation procedure of lateral force–displacement response for “JH1” is shown in Appendix.

**7. Parameter analysis of the simplified analytical model for PS-CFST**

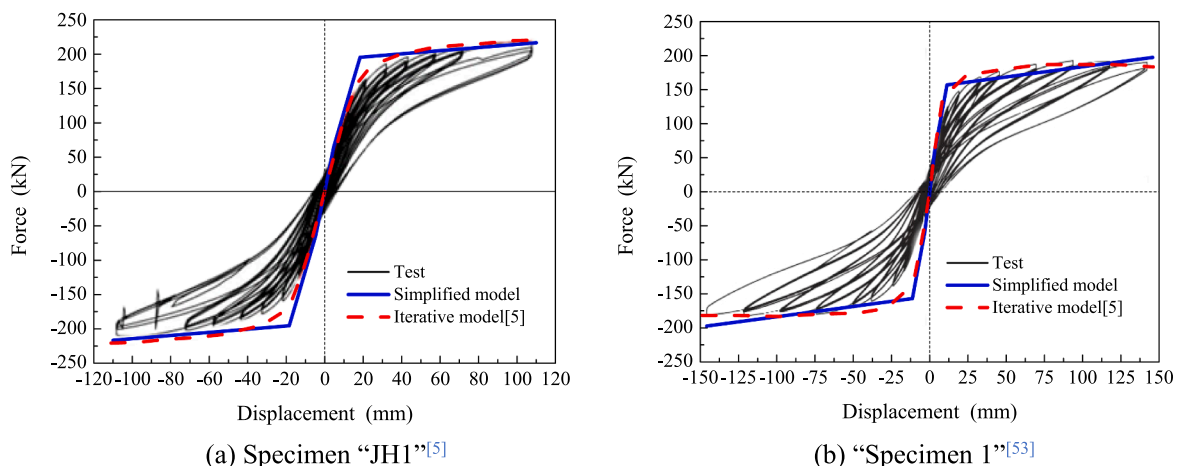
According to Eqs. (26), (40) and (42), when the geometry and material properties of the PS-CFST column are specified, the lateral force capacity of the column is affected by the initial prestressing force, area of the prestressed tendons and gravity load. The influences of these three factors on the lateral force capacity of the PS-CFST column were investigated by the proposed analytical model. 7 cases with different PS-CFST column parameters are listed in Table 6.

Cases 1, 2 and 3 were to investigate the influence of the initial prestressing force, the initial tendon stresses of 20 %, 30 %, 38 % of ultimate strength for each prestressed tendon were used. Case 1 was the reference column, which was the same as the PS-CFST column subjected to the quasi-cyclic loading. The force–displacement curves of the PS-CFST column are illustrated in Fig. 18a. The post-yield stiffness varies from  $-0.057$  to  $-0.082$ . The differences in the post-yield stiffness among the PS-CFST columns with various initial prestressing forces are not significant. The displacements and corresponding forces at the ends of the full depth and linear reduced depth stages are summarized in Table 7. The results indicate that the displacements and corresponding forces at the ends of full depth and linear reduced depth stages increase with the

**Table 6**  
Specimens with different design parameters.

No	Case Name	$F_{si}$ (kN)	$A_p$ (mm <sup>2</sup> )	P (kN)
1	$F_{si}$ -38 % / $A_p$ -0.8 % / P-0.09	400	560 (4D15.2)	500
2	$F_{si}$ -20 %	208	560 (4D15.2)	500
3	$F_{si}$ -30 %	312	560 (4D15.2)	500
4	$A_p$ -0.6 %	400	420 (3D15.2)	500
5	$A_p$ -1 %	400	700 (5D15.2)	500
6	P-0.054	400	560 (4D15.2)	300kN
7	P-0.07	400	560 (4D15.2)	400

Note: The number in front of D15.2 represents the number of prestressed tendons with a diameter of 15.2.



**Fig. 17.** Comparison of the lateral force–displacement curves of test, simplified and iterative models.

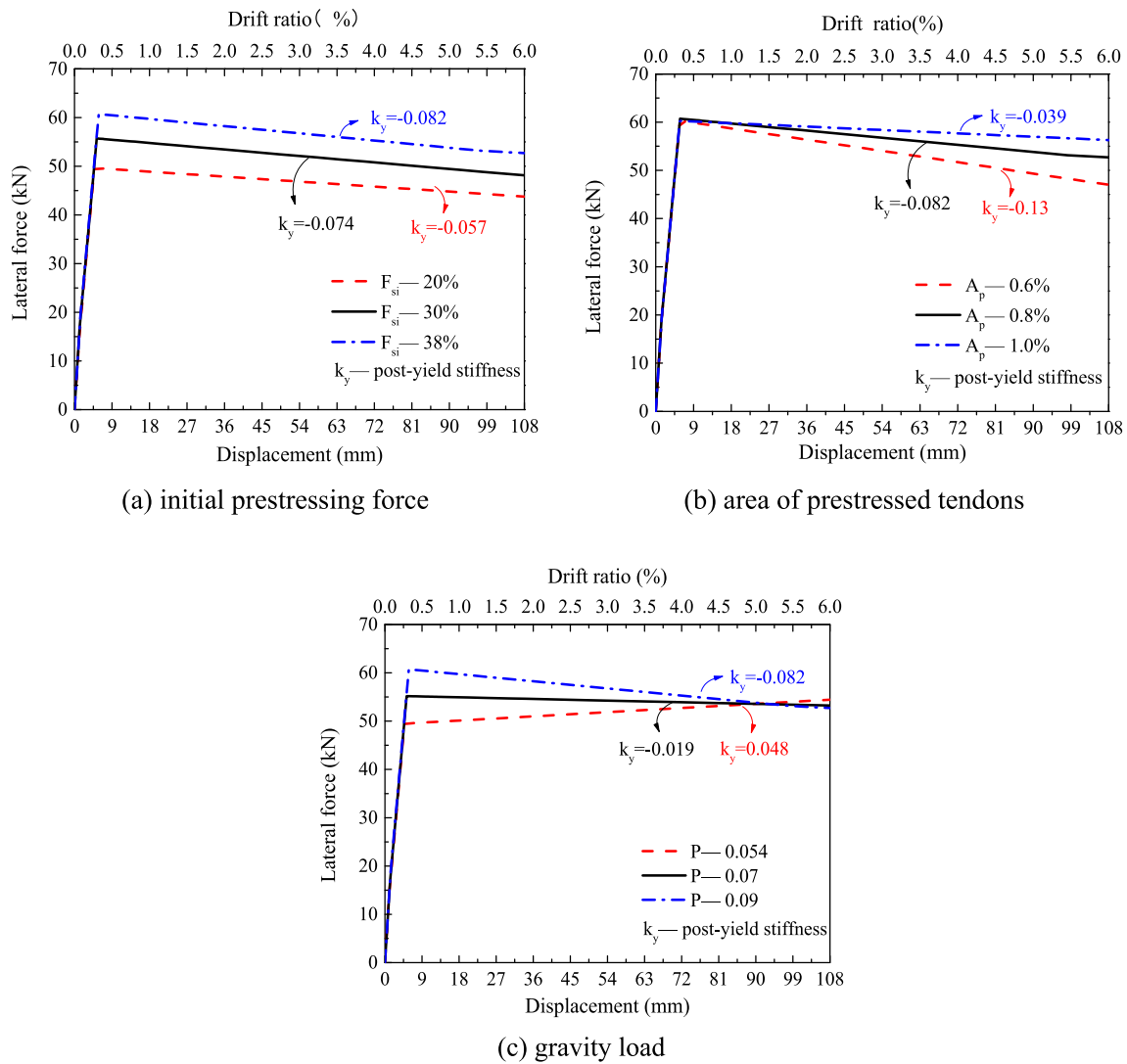


Fig. 18. Influence of various parameters on the lateral force capacity of PS-CFST.

Table 7

Displacements and forces of the PS-CFST columns at the full depth and linear reduced depth stages.

No	Case name	$\Delta_1$ (mm)	$F_1$ (kN)	$\Delta_2$ (mm)	$F_2$ (kN)
1	$F_{si}$ -38 %/ $A_p$ -0.8 %/ $P$ -0.09	1.38	18.75	4.04	44.18
2	$F_{si}$ -20 %	1.08	14.5	3.18	34.75
3	$F_{si}$ -30 %	1.24	16.9	3.65	39.86
4	$A_p$ -0.6 %	1.38	18.75	4.04	44.18
5	$A_p$ -1 %	1.38	18.75	4.04	44.18
6	$P$ -0.054	1.07	14.58	3.15	34.36
7	$P$ -0.07	1.22	16.67	3.6	39.27

increasing initial prestressing force, which also causes an increase in the peak strength of the PS-CFST column. The same result can be found in the literatures [39–40].

The effect of the prestressed tendons area was investigated by cases 1, 4 and 5, the reinforcement ratios of prestressed tendons respectively were 0.6 %, 0.8 %, 1 %. The results are shown in Fig. 18b. It can be seen that the reinforcement ratio of the prestressed tendon has a significant effect on the post-yield stiffness of the PS-CFST column. The PS-CFST column with the higher reinforcement ratio of prestressed tendons has a higher post-yield stiffness. However, as shown in Table 7, the displacements and corresponding forces at the ends of the full depth and

linear reduced depth stages are the same in cases 1, 4 and 5. It implies that the reinforcement ratio of prestressed tendons does not influence the response of the PS-CFST column at the full depth and linear reduced depth stages.

Cases 1, 6 and 7 were used to evaluate the influence of the gravity load on the response of the PS-CFST column, the axial load ratios of 0.054, 0.07, 0.09 resulting from gravity were considered. As shown in Fig. 18c, the axial load ratio affects both the post-yield stiffness and lateral strength of the PS-CFST column, which is different from the initial prestressing force and area of the prestressed tendons. With increasing gravity, the lateral capacity of the PS-CFST column increases, whereas the post-yield stiffness decreases. In addition, the post-yield stiffness of the PS-CFST column is negative when the axial ratio resulting from gravity is more than 0.054. It implies that a high axial ratio of the PS-CFST column leads to a drop in the lateral strength and ductility of the PS-CFST column.

### 8. Conclusions

In order to simplify the calculation of the lateral force capacity of unbonded post-tensioned precast segmental columns, a simplified analytical model without iteration was proposed considering the neutral axial depth, which tends to be a constant value during the loading process. A regression equation to predict the constant value was

developed by 48 numerical simulation cases. The proposed simplified analytical model was verified by the results from the experimental test and verified finite element model. The following conclusions can be derived.

- (1) The proposed simplified analytical model can predict the lateral force–displacement behavior of precast bridge columns accurately without iterative calculations. The calculation process is simple and efficient, predicted results meet the engineering calculation accuracy requirements, and it is more suitable for application in engineering design.
- (2) The predicted equation of the constant value of neutral axis depth of PS-CFST columns was developed by nonlinear regression analysis, which passed the F test (P value less than 0.05), and had a higher  $R^2$  (95 %). The constant value is positively related to axial ratio and diameter-thickness ratio, and negatively related to yield strength of steel tube of PS-CFST column.
- (3) The lateral force capacity of the SC-PSBC and PS-CFST column obtained from the proposed simplified analytical model has a favorable agreement with the test result.
- (4) When the geometry and material properties of PS-CFST columns are specified, the column with the lower gravity load and the higher reinforcement ratio of prestressed tendons would achieve the larger post-yield stiffness. The increase of the gravity load and initial prestressing force would improve the lateral strength of PS-CFST columns.

## Appendix

The design detail of column JH1 could be found in the study of Hewes (Hewes 2002).  $D = 610$  mm,  $A = 292246.657$  mm<sup>2</sup>,  $h = 3660$  mm,  $l = 3356$  mm,  $P = 890$  kN,  $F_{si} = 2230$  kN,  $E = 33$  GPa,  $E_p = 196$  GPa,  $\mu_c = 0.2$ ,  $N = 0.22$ ,  $L_p = 305$  mm.

1  $F_1$  was calculated by Eq. (2):

$$F_1 = \frac{(F_{si} + P)I_g}{0.5DAh} = \frac{(2230 + 890) \times (\pi \times 610^4 / 64)}{0.5 \times 610 \times 292246.66 \times 3660} = 65 \text{ kN}$$

$\Delta_1$  was calculated by Eq. (9):

$$\Delta_1 = \frac{F_1 h^3}{3EI_g} = \frac{65 \times 3660^3}{3 \times 33 \times (\pi \times 610^4 / 64)} = 4.74 \text{ mm}$$

3. The distance from the centroid of the compression zone to the center of the bottom interface  $y: y = \frac{2D}{3\pi} = \frac{2 \times 610}{3\pi} = 129.45$  mm

4. Moment of inertia at the end of the linear reduced depth stage:  $I_{g/2} = \frac{\pi D^4}{128} - \frac{Ay^2}{2} = \frac{\pi \times 610^4}{128} - \frac{292246.66 \times 129.45^2}{2} = 949798391.1$  mm<sup>4</sup>

5.  $F_2$  was calculated by Eq. (11):

$$F_2 = \frac{2(F_{si} + P)I_{g/2}}{Ayh} + \frac{y(F_{si} + P)}{h}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times (2230 + 890) \times 949798391.1}{292246.66 \times 129.45 \times 3660} + \frac{129.45 \times (2230 + 890)}{3660}$$

$$= 153.15 \text{ kN}$$

6.  $\Delta_2$  was calculated by Eq. (17):

$$\Delta_2 = \frac{2F_2 h^3 - 3DF_2 h^2}{6EI_g} + \frac{DF_2 h^2 - yDh(F_{si} + P)}{2EI_{g/2}}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times 153.15 \times 3660^3 - 3 \times 610 \times 153.15 \times 3660^2}{6 \times 33 \times 6796561308} + \frac{610 \times 153.15 \times 3660^2 - 129.45 \times 610 \times 3660 \times (2230 + 890)}{2 \times 33 \times 949798391.1}$$

$$= 13.95 \text{ mm}$$

7. The lateral force  $F_{1-2}$  -displacement  $\Delta_{1-2}$  response at the linear reduced depth stage could be calculated:

$$F_{1-2} = \frac{F_2 - F_1}{\Delta_2 - \Delta_1} \Delta_{1-2} + (F_2 - \frac{F_2 - F_1}{\Delta_2 - \Delta_1} \Delta_2)$$

$$= 9.57 \Delta_{1-2} + 19.7$$

## Uncited references

### CRediT authorship contribution statement

**Kaidi Zhang:** Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing, Software, Formal analysis, Data curation. **Junfeng Jia:** Writing – original draft, Methodology, Investigation, Visualization, Data curation, Funding acquisition. **Ning Li:** Writing – review & editing, Investigation, Validation. **Jianguo Zhao:** . **Yulei Bai:** Investigation, Writing – review & editing.

### Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

### Data availability

Data will be made available on request.

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8.  $C_4$ ,  $k_p$ ,  $K_\theta$ ,  $K_V$  and  $\lambda$  were calculated by Eqs. (20), (26), (30), (31) and (40):

$$C_4 = \frac{1.3\sqrt{N}}{\sqrt{7.7}} D = \frac{1.3 \times \sqrt{0.22}}{\sqrt{7.7}} \times 610 = 133.8 \text{ mm}$$

$$k_p = \frac{0.5DE_pA_p}{hl} = \frac{0.5 \times 610 \times 196 \times 2665}{3660 \times 3356} = 12.97 \text{ kN/mm}$$

$$K_\theta = \frac{2.1EI_g}{h^3} = \frac{2.1 \times 33 \times 67965561308}{3660^3} = 9.61 \text{ kN/mm}$$

$$K_V = \frac{E_cA_c}{2(1+\mu_c)h} = \frac{33 \times 292246.657}{2 \times (1+0.2) \times 3660} = 1097.92 \text{ kN/mm}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{A_pE_p h}{AEI}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{2665 \times 196 \times 3660}{292246.657 \times 33 \times 3356}} = 0.94$$

9 The lateral force–displacement response at the constant depth stage was calculated by Eq. (42):

$$F_4 = \frac{(P + F_{si}) \frac{D-2d}{2} + \left( \frac{k_p \lambda (D-2C_4)(D-2d)}{2D} - P \right) \Delta_4}{h + \frac{k_p \lambda (K_\theta + K_V)(D-2C_4)(D-2d)}{2DK_\theta K_V}}$$

$$= \frac{(890 + 2230) \times \frac{610 - 2 \times 77}{2} + \left( \frac{12.97 \times 0.94 \times (610 - 2 \times 133.8) \times (610 - 2 \times 77)}{2 \times 610} - 890 \right) \Delta_4}{3660 + \frac{12.97 \times 0.94 \times (9.61 + 1097.92) \times (610 - 2 \times 133.8) \times (610 - 2 \times 77)}{2 \times 610 \times 9.61 \times 1097.92}}$$

$$= 0.23\Delta_4 + 19.7$$

10. The lateral force–displacement relationship of the nonlinear reduced depth stage was obtained by extending the lateral force–displacement curves of the linear reduced depth and constant depth stages, and the intersection point of lateral force–displacement curves of the linear reduced depth and constant depth stages was (18.4 mm, 198.5 kN). The lateral force–displacement curves of all stages were drawn, the result of the test and simplified analytical model was shown in Fig. 17, and good agreement between the test and simplified analytical model was found.

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