

Impact and multi-impact performance of prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beams using novel H-type end anchor

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Abstract

To address the problem of insufficient ductility of traditional CFRP reinforced concrete beams and to enhance the application of CFRP in engineering structures, the present study develops a novel prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beams using H-type end anchor with ductility controllable device. In this device, the reinforced bars (part of that) are replaced by CFRP which is prestressed as the structural enhancement material. The CFRP sheet is connected with a tensioned screw which is used to realize the function of early warning through a large plastic deformation when the structure is overloaded. Thus, the ductility of the composite structure could be significantly improved by yielding of the screw rod rather than the fracture failure of CFRP sheet. This study investigates the flexural static and impact performance including the failure mechanism, load-displacement curves, energy consumption capability, and impact responses of the large-scaled RC beams strengthened by prestressed CFRP through four-point bending and drop-weight impact. The test results show that the specimens fail in flexural with distributed vertical cracks in the bending region under static and impact test. The screw-bar yielded after impact loads, resulting in a satisfied ductile behavior of such composite beam. The novel device developed in this study provides a new approach to address the design deficiency with insufficient ductility behavior while using CFRP as strengthening material. The prestressing technology can be used to take advantage of the material efficiency of the high strength CFRP, and opens a new way for CFRP application in civil engineering.

Keywords: CFRP; impact performance; post-impact; prestressed structures; FRP-concrete.

32 **1. Introduction**

33 Fiber reinforced polymer (FRP) strengthening improves the bearing capacity, ductility and seismic performance of the concrete structures [1, 2], especially its high corrosion resistance promotes its application in marine infrastructures. Most studies on FRP-reinforced concrete structures particularly focused on the mechanical behavior, failure mechanism, ultimate resistance and seismic performance of FRP strengthened damaged concrete structures or new built structures [3, 4]. There are two major obstacles in the large-scale application of FRP materials in engineering structures : (1) the higher one-time investment of FRP compared to conventional steel reinforcement [5]; (2) FRP is a linear brittle material with high tensile strength and small fracture strain, which leads to various failures such as interface peeling, tensile fracture of FRP material and combined failures. These non-ductile failure modes of FRP material significantly reduce the structural ductility [6, 7]. Therefore, it is of great importance to address the ductility issue of FRP materials in a structural way in new built FRP-concrete composite structures and FRP strengthened structures.

46 The superior mechanical and durable properties of FRP enable to form various types of new composite sections, e.g., FRP confined concrete, FRP-concrete-steel tube composite column. This could be widely used in the repaired bridge RC columns with wrapped FRP, composite pipelines in the water, protective walls, and etc. [8-10]. In these engineering applications, extensive key structural components are exposed to frequent or occasional impact loads, e.g., the vehicle impact, heavy rockfalls, wave impact, hull impact and even explosion [11, 12]. Under these extreme loads in the marine environment, the impact resistance, failure mechanism and the corresponding damage of FRP-reinforced concrete members are far more unclear [13, 14]. As the impact load generates extremely high stress on the structure within a short time, the effect of high strain rate on the mechanical response of concrete and FRP materials as well as the bond behavior of FRP-concrete interface cannot be ignored [15]. The main index to evaluate the impact resistance of the structure lies in the energy dissipation of the structure, while the component ductility serves as an important target of the energy dissipation capacity. Therefore, to improve the ductility and energy dissipation capacity of FRP-concrete composite structures efficiently is an urgent research topic.

61 To overcome the problem of insufficient ductility of traditional FRP repaired RC beams, the present study develops a novel hybrid single-bar fuse structure reinforced by prestressed CFRP with well-controlled ductility manner for RC structures. The novel fuse structure utilizes the prestressed CFRP sheet to replace the reinforced bar (or part of them) as structural reinforcing mate-

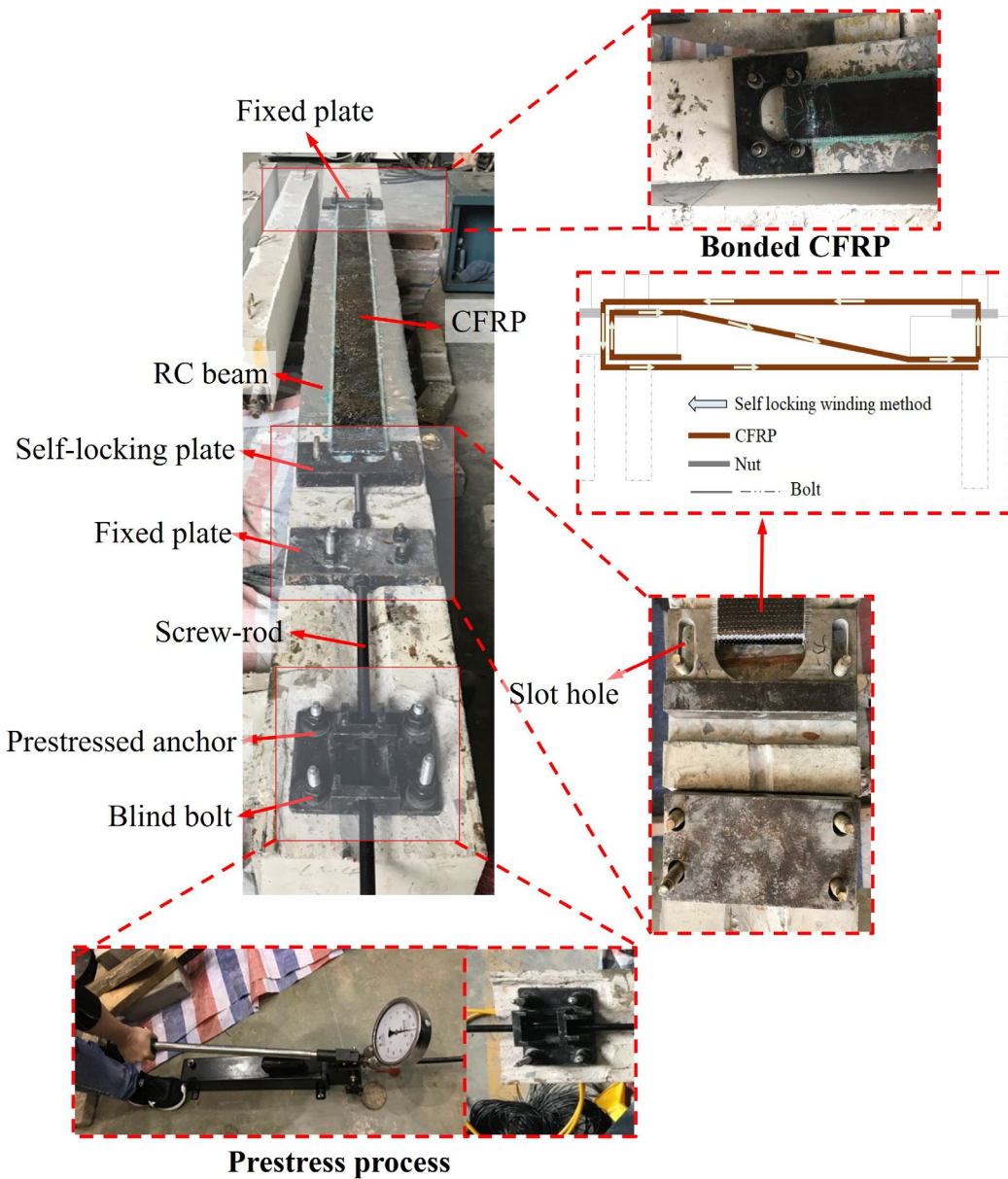
65 rial connected with the tensioning screw rod. A large plastic deformation is formed by yielding
66 of screw rod to trigger the safety warning when the structure is overloaded. Therefore, the ductil-
67 ity of the whole structure has been promoted significantly. This study systematically investigates
68 the load transfer mechanism and composite action between the novel fuse structure for RC
69 beams strengthened by prestressed CFRP, and verify the enhancement efficiency and stability of
70 the structural system subjected to impact loads. The static flexural resistance, flexural impact
71 ductility and energy dissipation capacity, and the damage evolution mechanism of the composite
72 beam through static and multiple impact tests were evaluated respectively. Finally, a multi-
73 objective design procedure of the flexural and impact resistance is presented for the novel hybrid
74 single-bar fuse structures.

75 **2. Experiments**

76 **2.1 Specimens**

77 **2.1.1 Design of novel hybrid fuse structure with prestressed CFRP**

79 The experimental program consists of two types of specimens, including the normal reinforced
80 concrete beam and prestressed CFRP strengthened concrete beam using the novel fuse structure
81 as shown in Fig 1. The hybrid fuse structure is made of the two fixed plates mounted in the
82 concrete, CFRP sheet, self-locking plate and screw-rod. The prestress on CFRP is applied by
83 using the hydraulic jack through the screw-rod and prestress anchor as the reaction substrate.
84 When the designed prestress is achieved, the blot nuts are fastened on the screw-rod at the fixed
85 plate while the redundant screw-rod is cut off and the prestressed anchor is demounted. It is
86 noted that the self-locking plate is mounted by using blind blots with slot holes, thus this plate is
87 moveable while prestressing. The CFRP sheet can be self-locked around this plate, which is
88 automatically fastened while prestressing. The detailed structure and installation procedures of
89 the fuse structure with prestressed CFRP sheet is shown in Figure 1.



90

91

Figure 1 Detailed fuse structure with prestressed CFRP.

92 **2.1.2 Materials**

93 The concrete used in the RC beams is commercial concrete with compressive strength grade of
 94 C25. The mixture ratio of the concrete is shown in Table 1, with the water/cement ratio and sand
 95 ratio of 0.47 and 0.32, respectively. All the reinforced concrete beams required for the test were
 96 cast in one batch with 100×100×100 mm concrete cube samples prepared for concrete strength
 97 evaluation. The measured compressive strength of concrete at testing day was 22.7MPa.

98

Table 1 Mix proportion of concrete

Cement	Water	Sand	Coarse aggregate	W/C ratio	Compressive strength (MPa)
1	0.47	1.59	3.39	0.47	22.7

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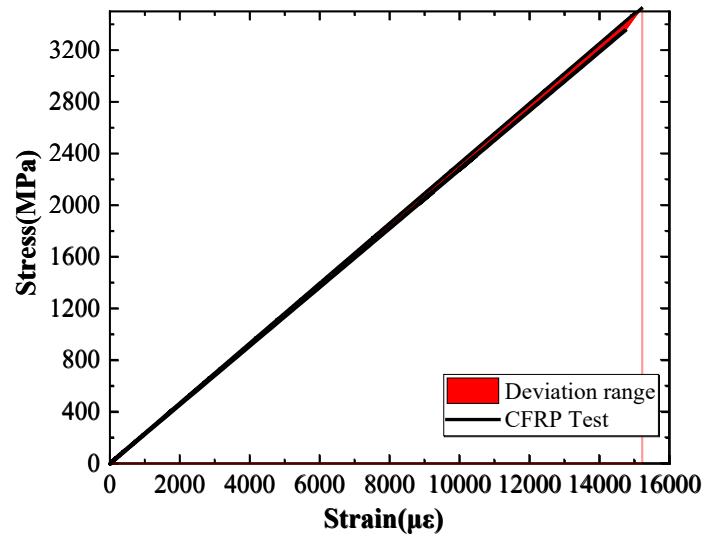
100 The specific material properties of the used CFRP sheet and high-performance epoxy are shown
 101 in Tables 2 and 3. The mechanical proprieties were determined by the tensile test on the CFRP
 102 samples. Figure 2 shows the stress-strain curves of CFRP.

103 Table 2 Mechanical properties of CFRP sheet

FRP	Tensile strength (MPa)	Elastic modulus (GPa)	Elongation (%)	Thickness (mm)
CFRP sheet	3300	230	1.7	0.167

105 Table 3 Martial properties of adhesive

Compressive strength (MPa)	Tensile strength (MPa)	Bending strength (MPa)	Elongation (%)	Tensile modulus (MPa)
79.4	55.6	95.7	2.2	3314.2



107 Figure 2 Stress-strain curve of CFRP

108
 109 In the test, the ductile screw-rods (also called "fuse" in present study) with diameters of 14mm,
 110 16 mm and 18 mm are used to connect the self-locking plate and fixed plate. The prestress is ap-
 111 plied through the screw-rod using the prestressed anchor as reaction substrate. The mechanical
 112 properties of the steel screw-rods are shown in Table 4. The longitudinal reinforcing bars and
 113 stirrups used in RC beams are HRB400 and HRB335 grade ribbed bars. To investigate the influ-
 114 ence of different reinforcement ratio on the flexural behavior of the prestressed CFRP composite
 115 beams, longitudinal rebars with diameter of 16 mm and 22 mm and stirrups with a diameter of 10
 116 mm are selected. The mechanical properties of reinforcement are obtained through standard ten-
 117 sile tests. Table 5 presents the mechanical properties of the reinforcement.

118
 119
 120

Table 4 Mechanical properties of screw-rod and reinforcement

Steel type	ID	Elastic modulus (GPa)	Yield strength (MPa)	Tensile strength (MPa)
Screw rod	SR14	210.0	472.0	612.0
	SR16	210.0	437.5	547.0
	SR18	210.0	572.5	699.5
Reinforcement	D10	198.2	382.2	536.6
	D16	197.8	437.5	580.0
	D22	204.3	441.0	584.1

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123 **2.1.3 Test specimens**

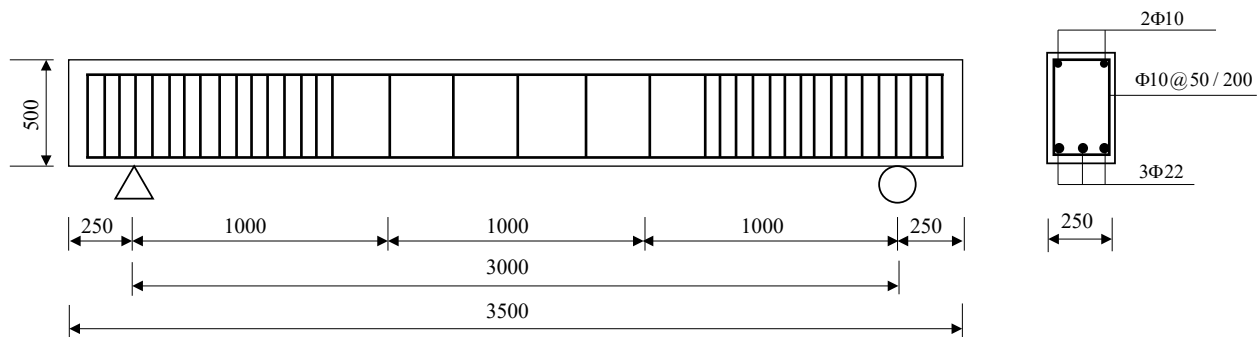
124 The experimental program consists of two types of full-scale RC beam, including the normal RC
 125 beams and prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beam using the novel fuse structure as shown in
 126 Figure 1. All these specimens are made of the same concrete grade C25. The prestress process of
 127 CFRP sheet employs the hydraulic jack. The test program designs four RC beams for static four-
 128 point bending test while three are for drop-weight impact tests. Table 6 shows the design pa-
 129 rameters for the specimens while Figure 3 shows the dimension and detailing of specimens.

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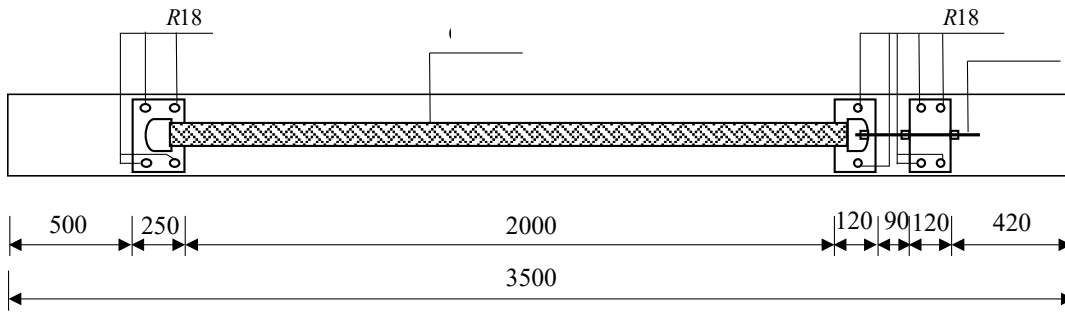
Table 6 Design parameters of the test specimens.

Loading type	Specimen ID	B (mm)	d (mm)	n	f_c (MPa)	ρ (%)	μ (MPa)	Bond
Static	LA-0	-	-	-	C25	1	0	nil
	LA-1	100	18	6	C25	1	800	nil
	LA-2	100	18	6	C25	1	800	Yes
	LA-3	100	16	6	C25	1	1000	nil
Impact	NB-896-2.7	-	-	-	C25	1	-	nil
	PB16-896-2.7	100	16	4/6	C25	1	1000	nil
	PB14-896-2.7	100	14	4/6	C25	1	1000	nil

131 B is the width of CFRP; d is the diameter of screw rod; n is the number of CFRP layer; ρ is the
 132 reinforcement ratio; μ is the prestress level; bond(Yes) represents the CFRP is bonded with con-
 133 crete.



(a) Dimension of RC beams.

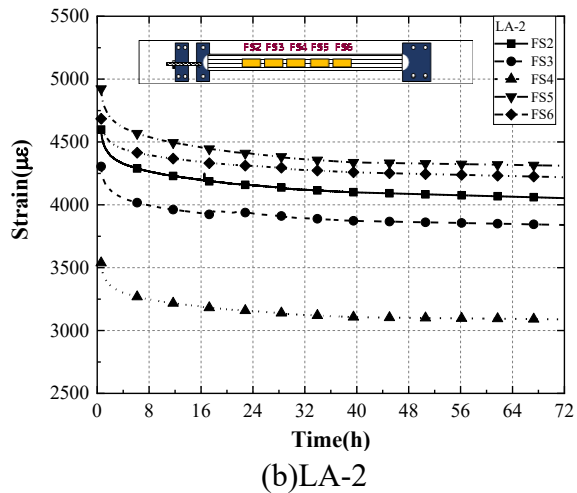
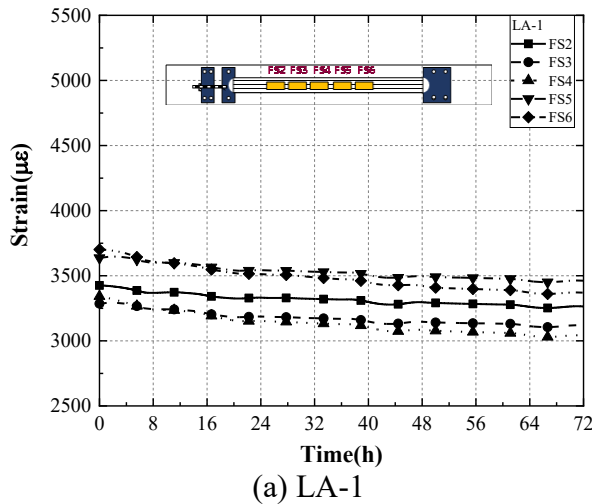


(b) Prestressed CFRP anchorage system.

Figure 3 Dimension and detailing of specimens.

134 **2.1.4 Prestress loss monitoring**

135 The stress loss of prestressed CFRP was monitored for 72 hours to verify the stability of preload-
 136 ing. Specifically, the average stress loss of CFRP were 5.71% for LA-1, 14.30% for LA-2,
 137 7.50% for LA-3, 6.67% for PRB14-896-2.7 and 4.85% for PRB16-896-2.7, respectively. As LA-
 138 2 is prestressed with bonded CFRP sheet, it could be seen from Fig. 4 (b) that the bond leads to a
 139 higher stress loss rate of prestress. In addition, the initial prestress of other specimens was close
 140 to 3500 $\mu\epsilon$ with stress loss rate less than 10%, as shown in Fig. 4 (a), (c), (d) and (e). For impact
 141 specimens PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7, the strain development of screw rods was also
 142 monitoring which was much lower than that of CFRP. Therefore, the application of prestress on
 143 the specimens is stable which indicates the proposed novel H-type end anchor system is adequate.



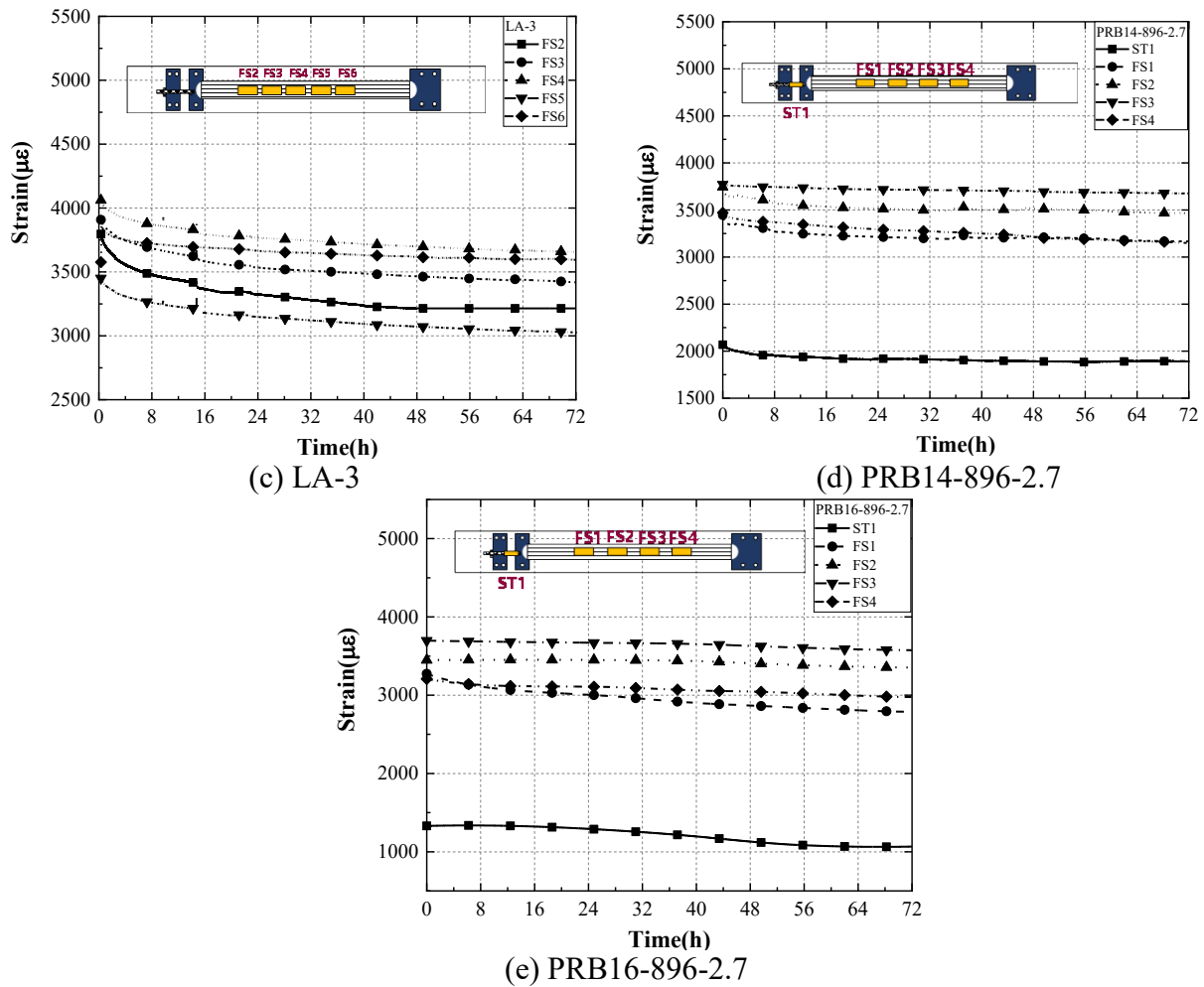


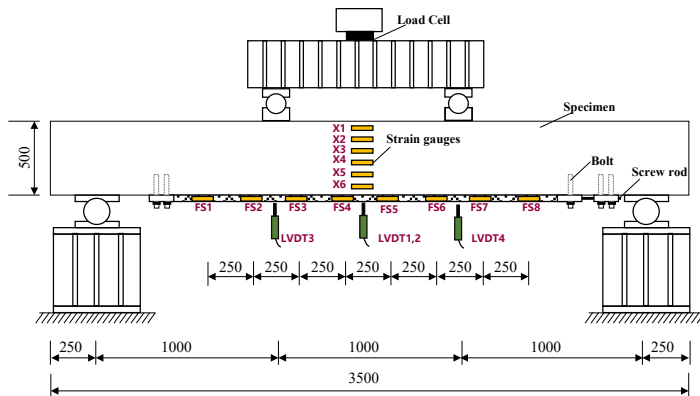
Figure 4 Monitoring of prestress loss of CFRP and screw rods.

144 **2.2 Test setup and Instrumentation**

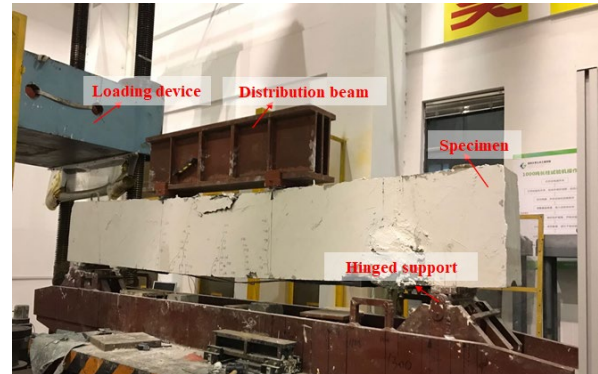
145 Four-point monotonous bending tests under displacement controlled with a loading rate of
 146 0.5mm /min using a 10000 kN hydraulic universal testing machine was carried out. For bending
 147 tests, the test variables include prestress level of CFRP, diameter of screw-rod and bond
 148 condition, while for impact tests the test variables include screw-rod diameter and impact cycles.
 149 The bending region and the shear region of this test were both 1000 mm in length, as shown in
 150 Figure 5a and 5b. The displacement sensors were used to measure the mid-span deflection of the
 151 beam (i.e., LVDT-1 and LVDT-2), the deflection under the loading point (i.e., LVDT-3 and
 152 LVDT-4), respectively. For data collection, the bending test used the Dewsoft dynamic
 153 acquisition with frequency of 1 Hz to collect the data of strain, force and displacement.

154 The impact test setup and instrumentation are shown in Figure 5c and 5d. The maximum weight
 155 of the drop hammer is 1 ton with a maximum lifting height of 5 meters. The hammer was
 156 dropped from the target height to the mid-span of RC beams and multiple impacts were conduct-
 157 ed in the impact tests. Simply supported at both ends were used, and steel tie rods and steel
 158 beams were set at the supports to fasten the specimens to prevent rebounding during impact. The

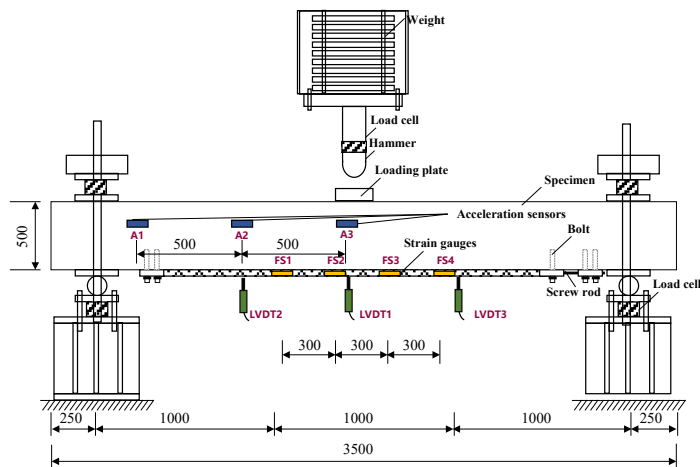
159 history of impact force, strain, displacement and acceleration were recorded by
 160 the high-speed acquisition data log, while the concrete cracking and failure pattern of each spec-
 161 imen were captured by the high-speed camera. The specific location of the strain gauges, LVDTs
 162 and accelerometer are shown in Figure 5c. Table 7 shows the parameters for impact tests.



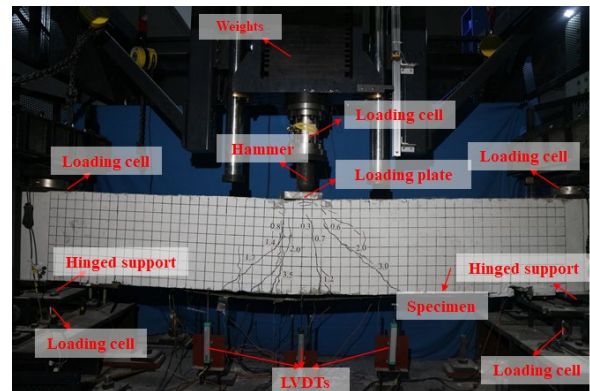
(a) Static four-point bending test setup.



(b) Specimen after bending test.



(c) Drop-weight impact test setup.



(d) Specimen during impact test.

Figure 5 Test setup and instrumentation.

163 Table 7 Parameters for impact tests.

Specimen ID	Mass (kg)	Height (m)	v_1 (m/s)	v_2 (m/s)	v_2 / v_1	E_1 (J)	E_2 (J)	E_2 / E_1
NB-896-2.7(1 st)	896	2.7	7.28	7.06	97.1%	23730	22355	94.2%
PRB16-896-2.7(1 st)	896	2.7	7.28	7.15	98.3%	23730	22928	96.6%
PRB14-896-2.7(1 st)	896	2.7	7.28	7.15	98.3%	23730	22928	96.6%
NB-896-2.7(2 nd)	896	2.7	7.28	7.07	97.1%	23730	22361	94.3%
PRB16-896-2.7(2 nd)	896	2.7	7.28	7.15	98.3%	23730	22928	96.6%
PRB14-896-2.7(2 nd)	896	2.7	7.28	7.15	98.3%	23730	22928	96.6%
NB-896-2.7(3 rd)	896	2.7	7.28	6.98	95.8%	23730	21827	92.0%

164 Note: v_1 is calculated by $v_1 = \sqrt{2gh}$, v_2 is measured by the laser velocimeter in the test; E_1 is calculated by
165 $E_1 = 0.5mv_1^2$ and E_2 is calculated by $E_2 = 0.5mv_2^2$.

166 3. Test Results and Discussions

167 3.1 Static test

168 3.1.1 Cracking pattern and failure modes

169 Under four-point bending, the main failure modes of the specimens include (1) typical flexural
170 failure of RC beam (LA-0), (2) fracture of CFRP associated with concrete crushing in
171 compressive region of RC beam (LA-1 and LA-2), and (3) yielding of screw-rod associated with
172 concrete crushing in compressive region of RC beam (LA-3). Generally, all the designed beams
173 fail in a ductile mode. The typical flexural cracks at the bottom and crushing at the compressive
174 region are observed as shown in Figure 6. Specifically, for LA-1, LA-2 and LA-3, the flexural
175 cracks appeared later than LA-0, it is because the prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beams with
176 screw-rod fuse system exhibits good composite action, leading to higher flexural stiffness. As the
177 external load increases, the flexural cracks develop upward with moving up the neutral axis.
178 CFRP sheet in specimens LA-1 and LA-2 has reached the tensile strength and utilized its
179 material strength, thus resulting in a slightly brittle failure. While the screw-rod in LA-3 yields
180 with relative obvious and adequate warning of impending deformation, which is an ideal failure
181 mode for structural design. Therefore, three more full-scale RC beams are finally designed to
182 investigate the impact performance according to the behavior of LA-3.



(a) LA-0



(b) LA-1



(c) LA-2



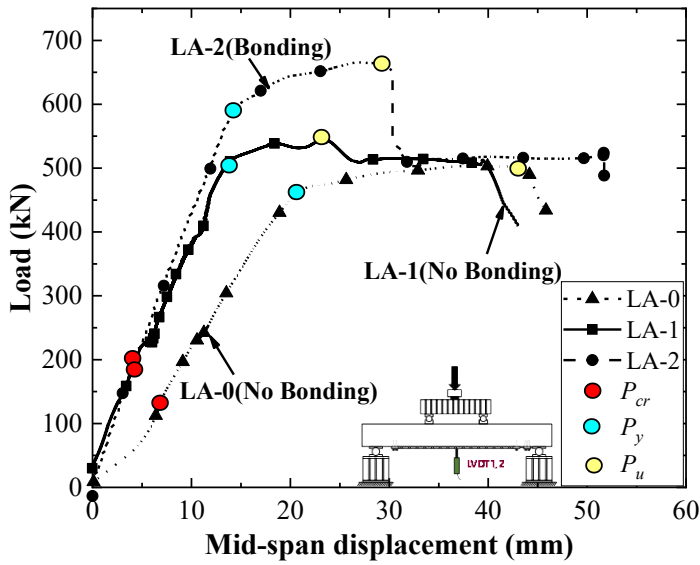
(d) LA-3

Figure 6 Failure modes under static loading

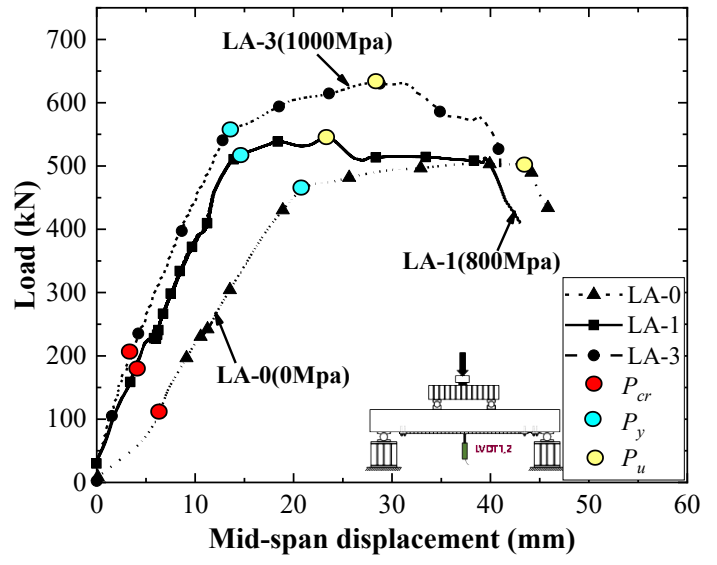
183 **3.1.2 Load-displacement response and ultimate strength**

184 The load-displacement curves of the strengthened RC beams under static loads are presented in
185 Figure 7. Table 7 shows the cracking load (P_{cr}), yield load (P_y) and ultimate load (P_u) and corre-
186 sponding mid-span displacement of each beam. Based on the failure, three characteristic points
187 divide the whole failure process into four stages: (1) the elastic stage before the cracking load, (2)
188 the elastic-plastic stage after the cracking load, (3) the plastic stage from yield load to peak load,
189 and (4) the residual stage after the peak load. The ultimate load resistance of LA-0, LA-1, LA-2
190 and LA-3 are close with a difference within 35%, which are 511kN, 555 kN, 610 kN and 690 kN
191 respectively. Specimens LA-1, LA-2 and LA -3 have higher stiffness compared to LA-0, which
192 indicated that CFRP strengthening improves the total section stiffness rather than flexural re-
193 sistance.

194 Figure 7(a) show that the strengthening with bonded prestressed CFRP has little influence on the
195 flexural stiffness but lead to higher flexural resistance. Figure 7(b) shows that the flexural re-
196 sistance of the specimens increases with the increase of the initial prestress of CFRP sheet, as
197 comparing the load displacement curves of LA-1 and LA-3. Suitable design of "fuse" diameter in
198 this anchorage system leads to improve the yield deformation by about 30%, which greatly im-
199 proves the ductility of the flexural members. According to Table 8, LA-1 and LA-3 exhibit high-
200 er ductility index I_D compared to that of LA-0 and LA-2. LA-2 has 38.5% lower ductility index
201 than LA1, probably because of the bonded CFRP which has significant effect on the unloading
202 behavior.



(a) Effect of CFRP bonding



(b) Effect of CFRP prestressing strength

Figure 7 Load-displacement curves of RC beams.

203

Table 8 Summary of characteristic load and deformation.

Specimen	P_{cr} (kN)	δ_{cr}	P_y (kN)	δ_y	P_u (kN)	δ_u	$I_D = \Delta_{0.85} / \Delta_u$
LA-0	125	-	460	-	511	-	1.06
LA-1	196	1.57	526	1.10	555	1.09	1.74
LA-2	200	1.6	614	1.28	690	1.35	1.07
LA-3	206	1.65	562	1.17	640	1.25	1.56

204

Note: δ_{cr} , δ_y and δ_u are the cracking load factor, yield load factor and ultimate load factor, which equal to the corresponding load ratios of prestressed beam to the reference beam respectively. $\Delta_{0.85}$ and Δ_u are the mid-span displacement corresponding to 85% ultimate flexural resistance during the descending stage and the mid-span displacement at ultimate load P_u , respectively. I_D is the ductility index.

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3.1.3 Strain analysis

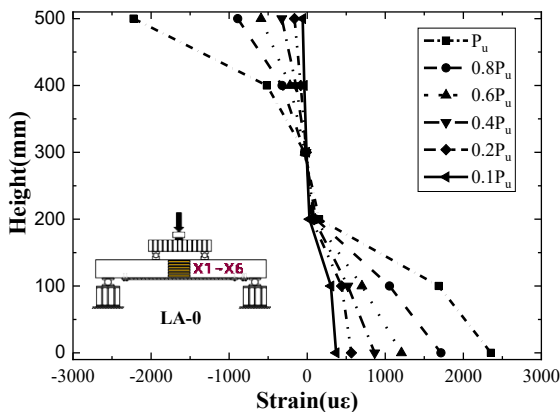
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Figures 8(a-d) shows the development of concrete strain of all RC beams. It can be seen that under different load levels, the strain development of concrete along the section height follows the assumption of plan section remains plan. The neutral axis of specimen with prestressed bonded CFRP has about 10 mm higher than that of the unbonded specimens.

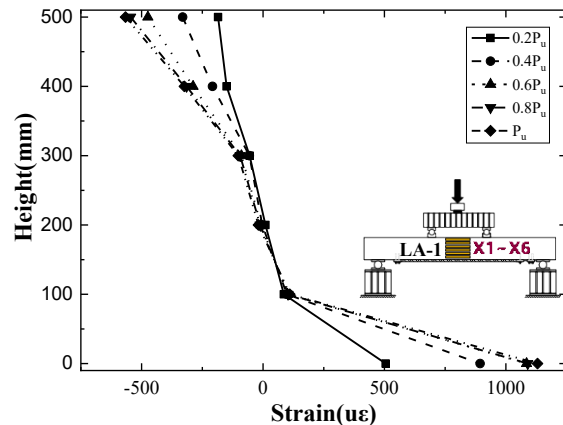
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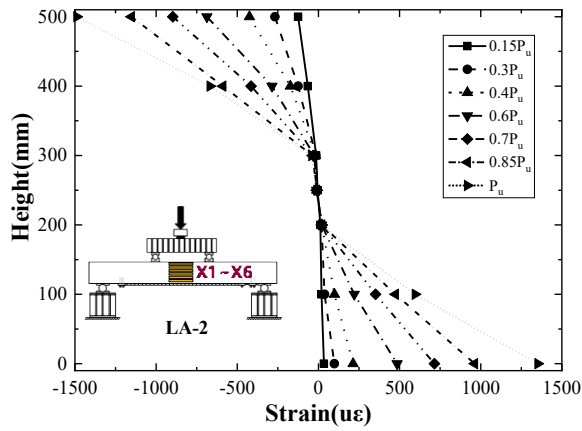
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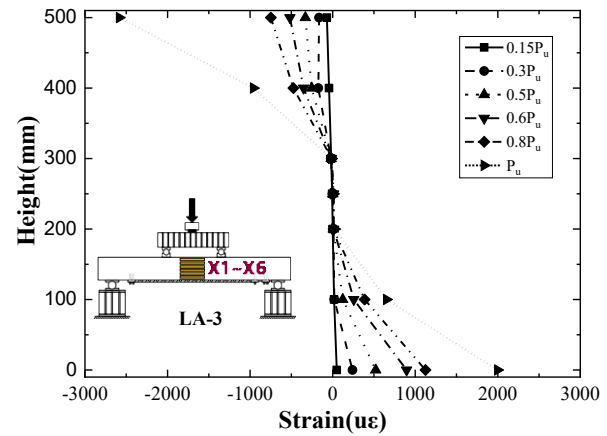
(a) LA-0



(b) LA-1



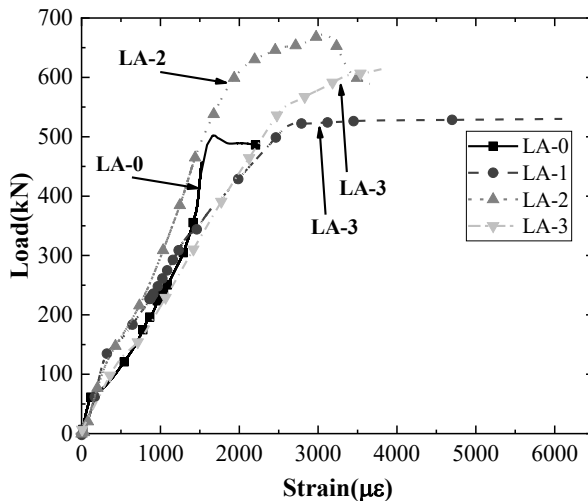
(c) LA-2



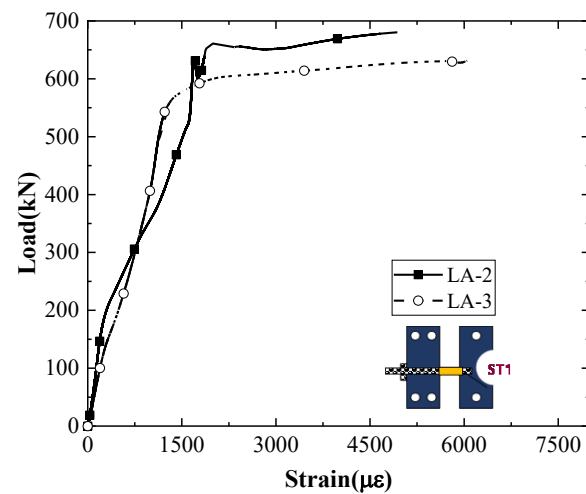
(d) LA-3

Figure 8 Concrete strain development and distribution along mid-span cross-section.

214 Figures 9 show the strain development of longitudinal reinforcement and screw rod. It can be
 215 clearly seen that longitudinal reinforcement and screw rod all yield before approaching the peak
 216 load, which indicates that the specimen has utilized the material strength. Compared with LA-2
 217 and LA-3, LA-2 that strengthened by bonded CFRP with high prestress level can carry a part of
 218 tensile force and LA-3 with smaller screw rod diameter exhibits higher ductility behavior, lead-
 219 ing to higher tensile strain development in LA-3 than that of LA-2. Therefore, the ductility index
 220 of LA-3 improves 45.8% than that of LA-2. This indicates that the ductility and flexural resis-
 221 tance of prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beams can be improved by appropriate design of
 222 screw rod. The proper design of screw rod enables to effectively activate the yielding of screw
 223 rod and achieve the function of overload warning.



(a) Load-strain of longitudinal reinforcement

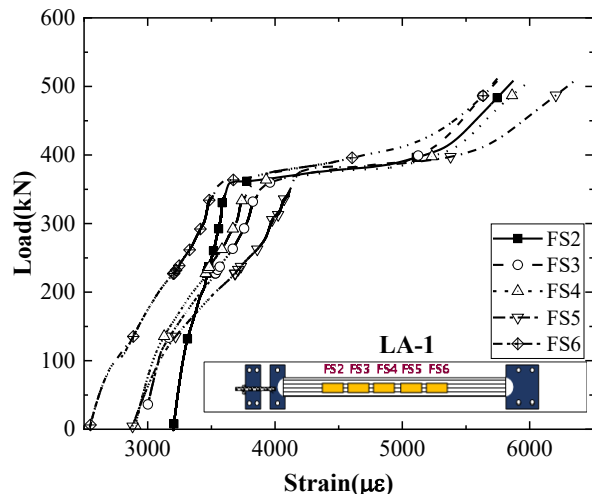


(b) Load-strain of screw rod

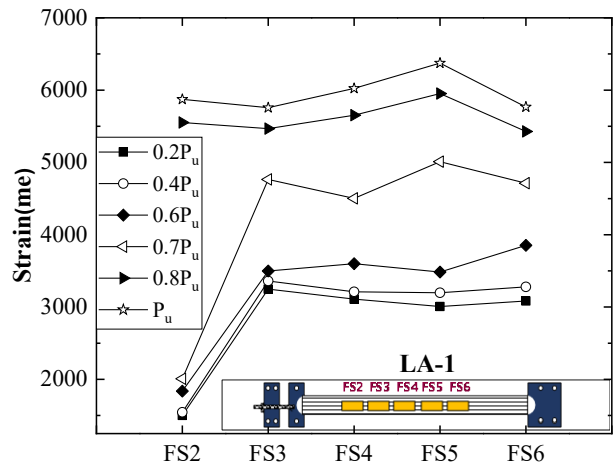
Figure 9 Load-strain of reinforcement and screw rod.

224 Figure 9 shows the strain development of CFRP under static loading. From Figures 10(a), (c) and
 225 (e), the strain of CFRP distributed evenly along the length. Among Figures 10(b), (d) and (f), the

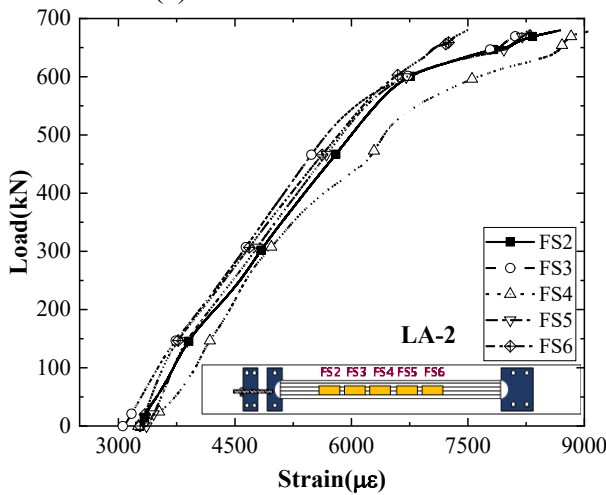
226 strain of CFRP in the mid-span region are higher than that near the beam ends due to the bounda-
 227 ry effect. However, as the load increases, the tensile strain of CFRP in LA-2 and LA-3 increases.
 228 The CFRP sheet starts to fail when the tensile strength approaches to around 6000~8000 $\mu\epsilon$.



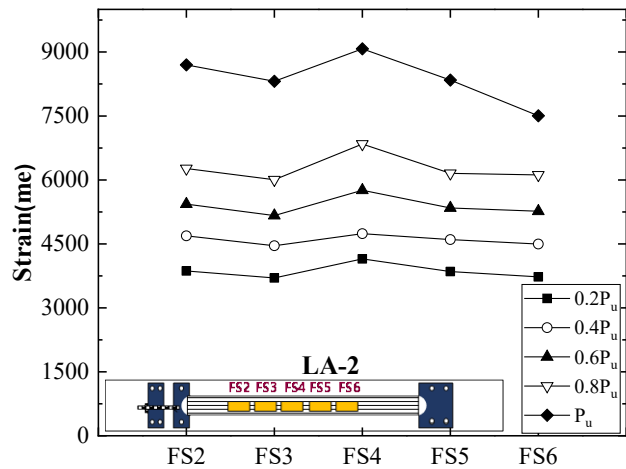
(a) Load-strain of LA-1



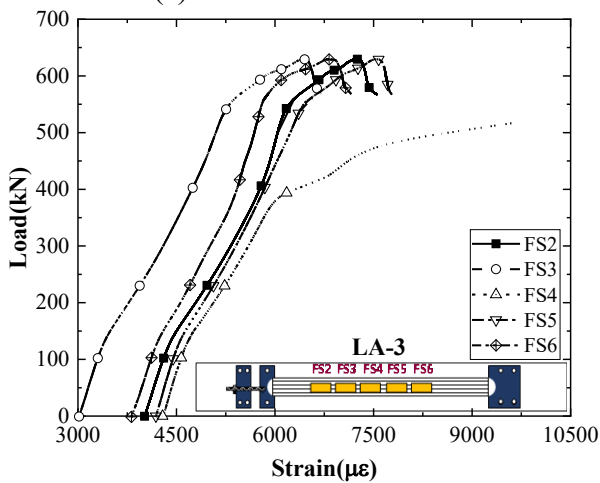
(b) CFRP strain development in LA-1



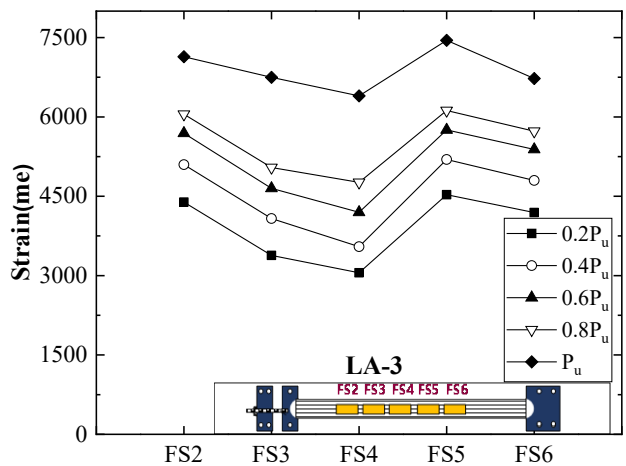
(c) Load-strain of LA-2



(d) CFRP strain development in LA-2



(e) Load-strain of CFRP-LA-3



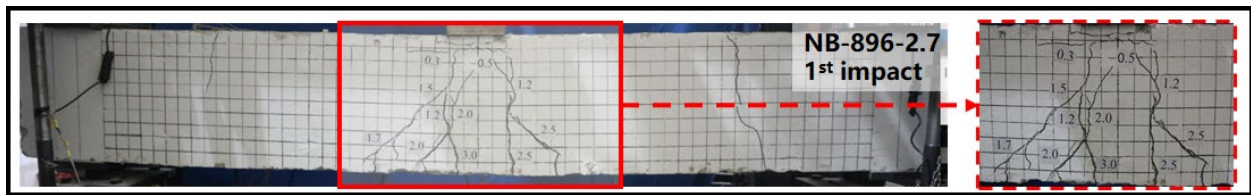
(f) CFRP strain development in LA-3

Figure 10 Load-strain of CFRP in specimens.

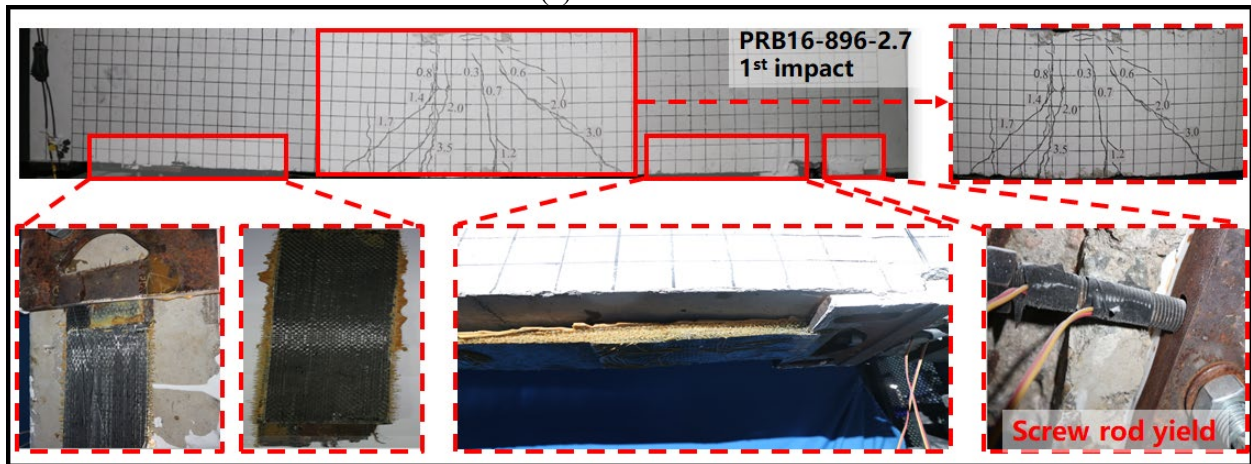
229 **3.2 Impact test**

230 **3.2.1 Failure mechanism**

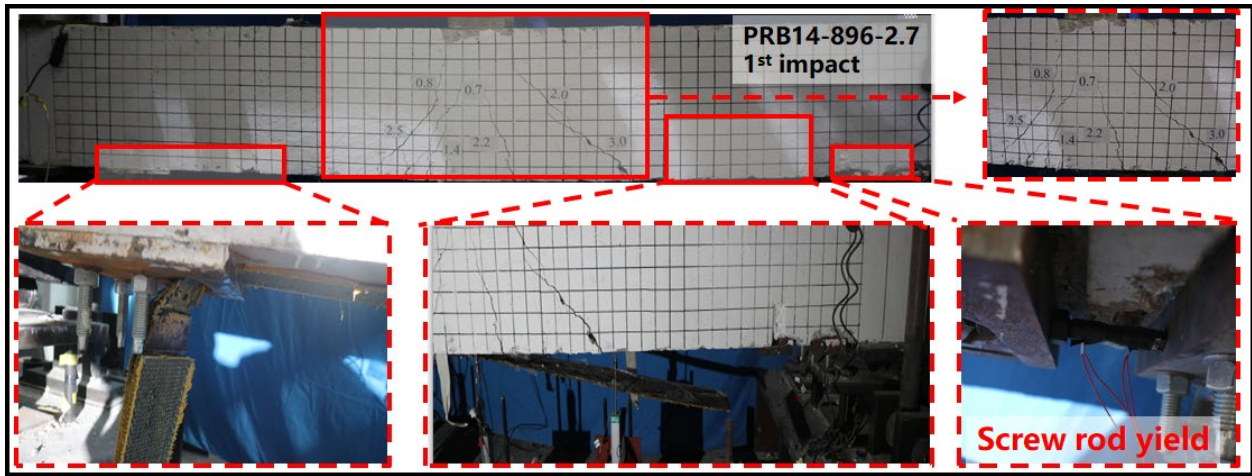
231 Figure 11 shows the failure mode of each specimen after impact. All the specimens failed by
232 flexural mode under first impact associated with local crushing of concrete at the impact region.
233 The crack number and width are highlighted in the figure. Most of the concrete cracks are mainly
234 distributed radially from the impact point to the bottom (around 45°). The crack width is larger at
235 the bottom part of the mis-span than that at the impact point in which crack width is generally
236 less than 1mm, as shown in Figure 11. Under similar impact energy, the impact area of PRB14-
237 896-2.7 exhibits relatively less damage than NB-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7 in which the
238 concrete of the impact area is seriously damaged associated with greater crack depth and more
239 crack paths. The screw rod of PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7 yield under the first impact
240 with the CFRP fracture near the anchorage section. The ductile yielding failure of screw rod
241 plays a certain warning function in the test.



(a) NB-896-2.7



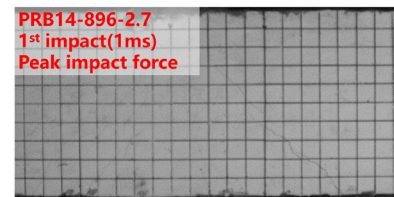
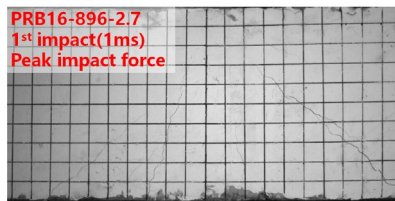
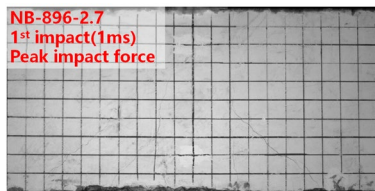
(b) PRB14-896-2.7



(c) PRB14-896-2.7

Figure 11 Failure modes of the beams subjected to first impact

242 Figures 12a-12c show the typical period of crack development recorded by high-speed camera
 243 under impact loading, which respectively include the moment of (1) peak impact force (1ms); (2)
 244 crack initiation; (3) peak displacement (18ms) and (4) hammer rebound point (25ms).
 245 Specifically, as shown in Figure 12a, NB-896-2.7 reaches the peak impact force at 1ms after
 246 impact. Micro-cracks along an inclination angle of 45° developed from the bottom to the top of
 247 the beam. The contact area between the drop hammer and the concrete remains intact. After 3ms,
 248 the vertical crack width at the mid-span increases gradually with the number of propagation path
 249 increases to the top of the beam. When approaching the peak displacement (18ms), the crack has
 250 propagated completely along the path. The hammer rebound occurs as the energy is absorbed
 251 and later released. The concrete crack development process experiences initiation, spreading,
 252 extension, expansion and finally closure. As shown in Figures 12b and 12c, PRB16-896-2.7 and
 253 PRB14-896-2.7 show similar failure modes to NB-896-2.7, but with less flexural crack and
 254 relatively smaller crack opening. From the above discussion, it can be concluded that: (1)
 255 compared with ordinary RC beams, prestressed CFRP RC beams tend to deepen the crack width
 256 and produce fewer cracks in the process of crack development; (2) the cracks appear later in the
 257 prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beams than ordinary RC beams, which is due to the prestress
 258 effect of CFRP on concrete that improves the flexural stiffness of beams.



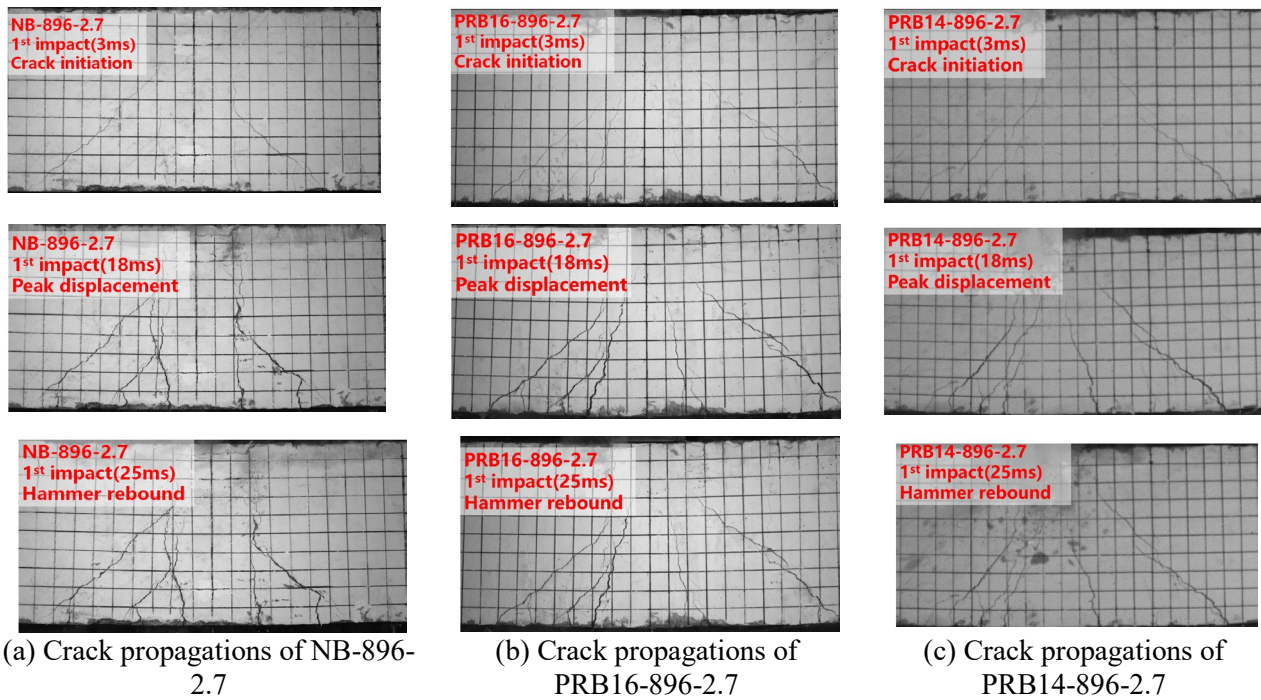


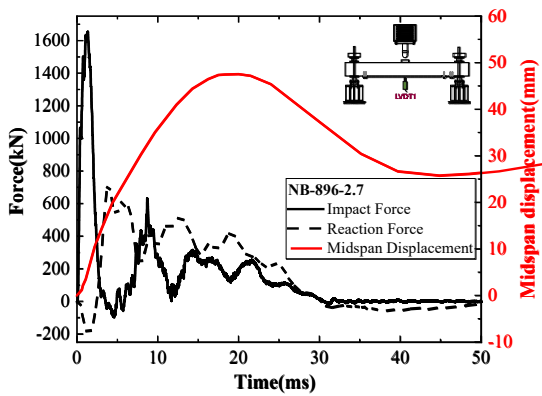
Figure 12 Crack propagations of RC beam subjected to single impact

259 3.2.2 Dynamic response

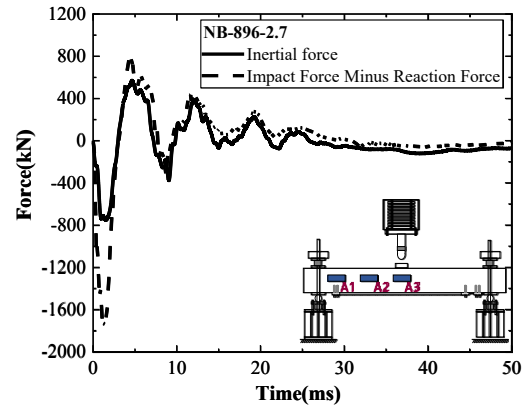
260 Figures 13a-13h show the time-history curves of impact force, reaction force, inertia force and
 261 midspan displacement, in which the reaction force equals to the sum of two support reactions.
 262 The impact force history is mainly composed of four sinusoidal half waves. The first temporary
 263 wave has a short duration with a peak value, but rapidly decays to zero within 3ms. However, the
 264 duration of the subsequent main wave was longer and the peak value decays within a relative
 265 longer time period. Although the strengthening conditions of the three beams are different, the
 266 impact force history is similar. The peak impact force of NB-896-2.7, PRB16-896-2.7 and
 267 PRB14-896-2.7 are 1653.53kN, 1610kN and 1702.14kN respectively, as shown in Figure 13g.
 268 At the early stage of the impact force history, there was an obvious difference between the
 269 impact force and the reaction force, and then the main wave shape of the impact force was
 270 almost the same as the reaction force curve, which indicated that the inertial force played a
 271 significant role in the initial stage of impact, as shown in Figure 13b, 13d and 13f.

272 Figures 13a, 13c and 13e show the midspan displacement history curves of specimens under first
 273 impact. The maximum midspan displacement of NB-896-2.7, PRB16-896-2.7 and PRB14-896-
 274 2.7 are 47.55mm, 47.31mm and 44.45mm, respectively. The maximum midspan displacement of
 275 PRB14-896-2.7 was less than that of NB-896-2.7 after strengthening with prestressed CFRP. The
 276 time period required for PRB14-896-2.7 to reach the peak deflection becomes shorter.

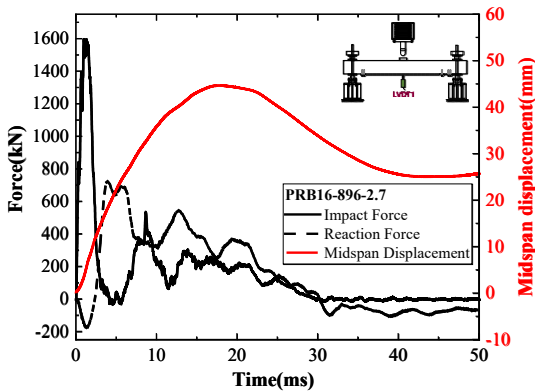
277 As shown in Figures 13a, 13c and 13e, tensile force has been detected in the initial stage of
 278 impact on the reaction force history curves, and then the waveform gradually coincides with the
 279 main wave of the impact force history curve. The tensile force was measured by the pressure
 280 gauge that placed on the top and bottom of the supports. Due to the lag effect of stress wave
 281 transmission at the concrete interface, the reaction force does not react immediately with the
 282 impact force.



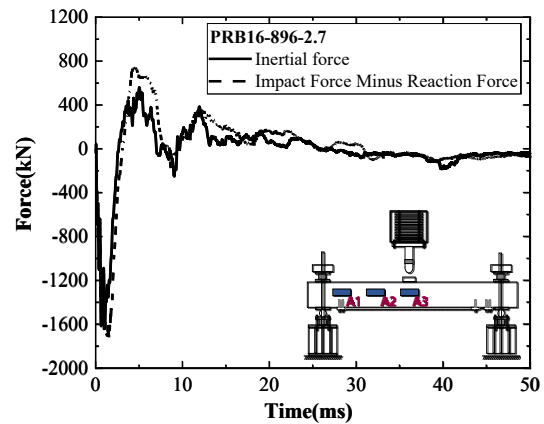
(a) Impact force, reaction force and displacement curve of NB-896-2.7



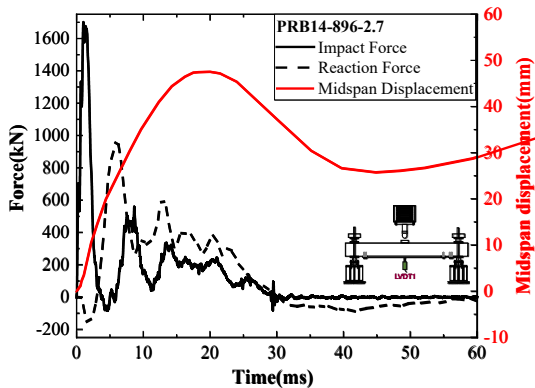
(b) Inertial force curve of NB-896-2.7



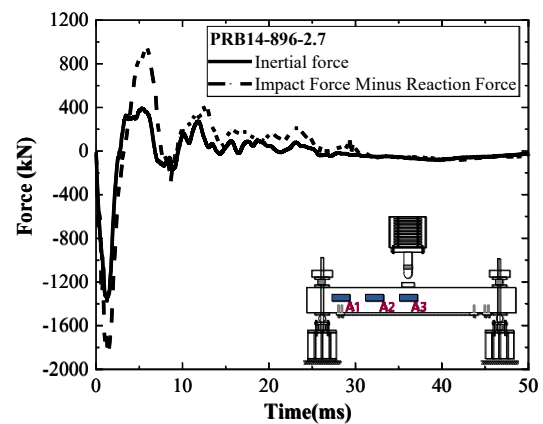
(c) Impact force, reaction force and displacement curve of PRB16-896-2.7



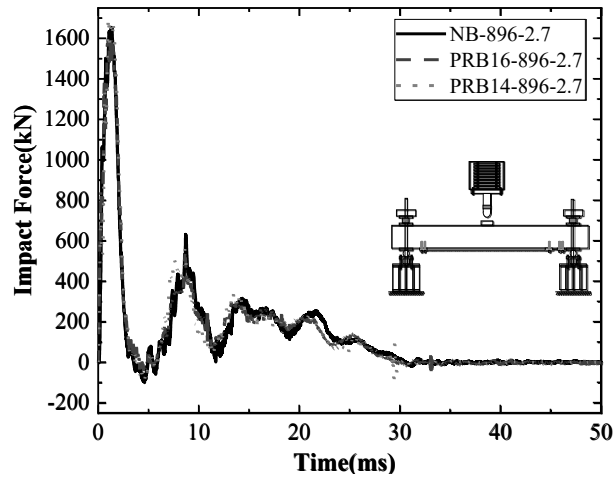
(d) Inertial force curve of PRB16-896-2.7



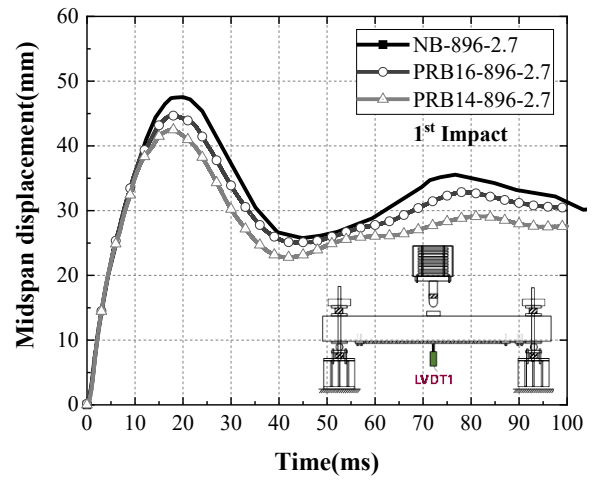
(e) Impact force, reaction force and displacement curve of PRB14-896-2.7



(f) Inertial force curve of PRB14-896-2.7



(g) Comparison of impact force history



(h) Comparison of midspan displacement history

Figure 13 Impact force, reaction force and displacement history

283 According to Newton's second law, the inertial force is equal to the value of mass multiplied by
 284 the acceleration. The inertial force of the test beam can be calculated based on Eq.(1) ,

$$285 \int_0^l \bar{m} \ddot{x}(x,t) dx = \bar{m} L_1 \left[a_1(t) + a_2(t) \times 2 + \frac{3}{4} a_3(t) \right] \quad (1)$$

286 where \bar{m} is the mass of the RC beam per unit length; L_1 is the spacing of accelerometers (0.5m);
 287 $a_i(t)$ is the acceleration history captured by the accelerometer i .

288 Figure 14 shows the distribution of acceleration at point A1, A2 and A3 along the beam length of
 289 the specimens ($t=1$ ms) under first impact. Considering the existence of cantilever part of the test
 290 beam with length of 250mm, the peak value at both ends is selected as A1/2, while the peak val-
 291 ue at the support is set to 0 [16].

292 According to d'Alembert's principle, inertial force is equal to impact force minus reaction force.
 293 The accuracy of the measurement of inertial force in this test can be verified by the principle. As
 294 shown in Figure 13 (c), the inertial force history measured agrees well with the impact force mi-
 295 nus the reaction force obtained in the support, thus verifying the reliability of the impact test.
 296 Figures 14a-14c show the peak acceleration in the mid-span area, in which the mid-span peak
 297 acceleration of the CFRP prestressed beam is 15% lower than that of the RC beam.

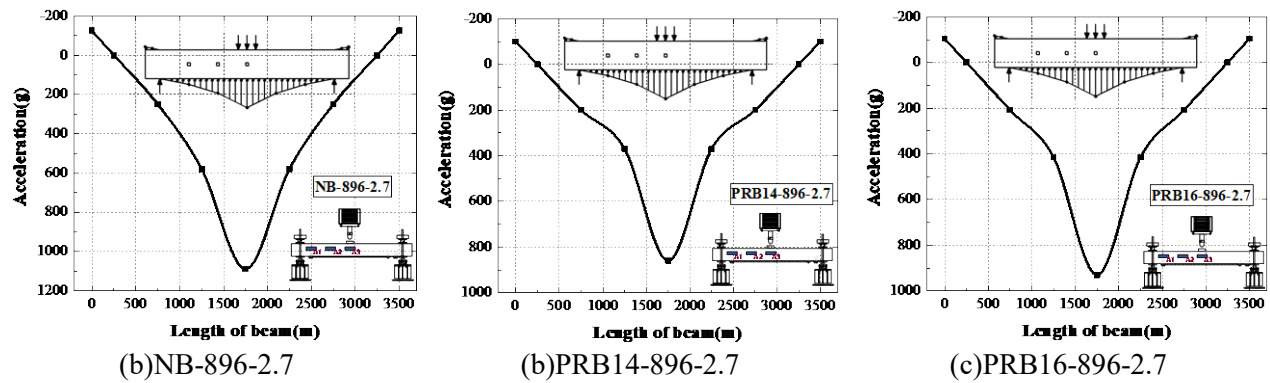


Figure 14 Acceleration distribution along the beam length.

298
299

3.2.3 Strain development of rebar, CFRP and screw rod

300 Figures 15a-15d show the strain histories of the flexural reinforcement, screw rod and CFRP of
 301 each beam. Figure 15a shows that the flexural reinforcement strain of each beam reach yield
 302 strain at 1ms and then fluctuate. Unlike NB-896-2.7, PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7
 303 experience peak strain and then maintain a certain level of residual strain. While for NB-896-2.7,
 304 the strain of flexural reinforcement dramatically drops to zero after peak strain. Figure 15b
 305 shows the strain development history of screw rod. The yield strain of screw rod was activated at
 306 5ms, which indicates that the stress wave propagates longitudinally along the beam. The screw
 307 rod strain of PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7 shown in Figure 15b approaches to around
 308 $3000\mu\epsilon$ which is similar to that of CFRP when CFRP breaks. Figure 15c and 15d show the CFRP
 309 strain of PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7. Specifically, the strains of FS2 and FS3 near the
 310 mid-span were higher than that of FS1 and FS4. The flexural crack of PRB14-896-2.7 extended
 311 from the mid-span near FS3 and FS4, thus the strains of FS3 and FS4 were almost the same.
 312 Correspondingly, FS2 has the highest strain value among the strain gauges, increasing to about
 313 $3500\mu\epsilon$ before CFRP breaks. This indicates that the hybrid system exhibits good composite
 314 action to resist the impact load. Liu and Xiao [17] mentioned that the strain rate obtained by
 315 dividing the peak strain in the initial increasing stage by the corresponding time interval is
 316 regarded as the average strain rate of CFRP. Thus, the average strain rate of PRB14-896-2.7 and
 317 PRB16-896-2.7 is about $2.4s^{-1}$ and $1.7s^{-1}$, respectively. Al-Zubaidy et al.[18] found that when the
 318 strain rate is less than $10s^{-1}$, the dynamic tensile strength and elastic modulus of CFRP increased
 319 by only about 3%. Therefore, the effect of strain rate on the CFRP in PRB14-896-2.7 and
 320 PRB16-896-2.7 may not be significant in the current impact test.

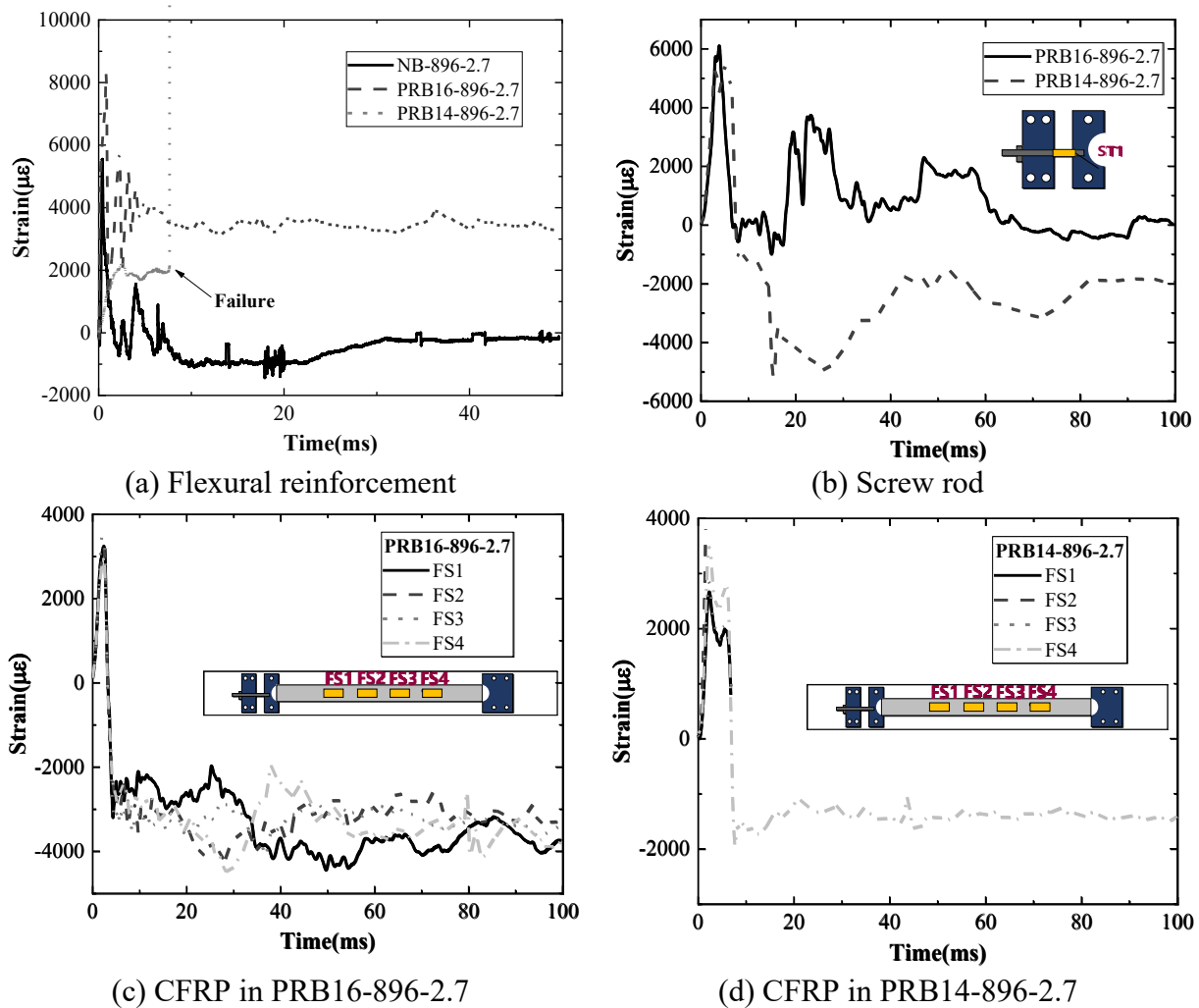


Figure 15 Dynamic strain development of reinforcement, screw rod and CFRP.

321 **3.3 Multi-impact test**

322 **3.3.1 Failure mechanism**

323 NB-896-2.7 has experienced three consecutive impacts with the same energy. At the 1st impact,
 324 the specimen subjected to flexural failure. After the 2nd impact, the number of cracks in the
 325 specimen did not increase significantly, but the crack width enlarged associated with concrete
 326 significantly crushed at the impact area. The mid-span deflection further increased. After the 3th
 327 impact, the concrete at the impact area is fully crushed, and the whole specimen body loses its
 328 carrying capacity and collapses, leading to the exposure of the longitudinal rebar and stirrups in
 329 the bending area, accompanied with pronounced residual deformation, as shown in Figure 16 (a-
 330 b).

331 PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7 experienced two consecutive equal-energy impact. The
 332 second impact caused to produce a diagonal crack with angle of about 45° down from the
 333 loading point. The concrete at the impact area was crushed, but the beam body remained intact,
 334 and the crack width was smaller than that of that in NB-896-2.7. After the first two impacts, the

335 specimens have flexural cracks appeared and thus accumulated a certain level of damage, while
336 the CFRP strengthening has failed.

337 Figure 17 shows crack propagations of PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7 subjected to 2nd
338 impact loading. The number of flexural cracks increased in the mid-span in PRB16-896-2.7 after
339 the second impact. Comparing PRB14-896-2.7 with PRB16-896-2.7, it can be seen that smaller
340 diameter of screw rod (14mm) improves the flexural ductility through steel yielding. The failure
341 pattern shows that the crack number and crack width of PRB14-896-2.7 are much less than that
342 of PRB16-896-2.7 under 2nd impact, as shown in Figure 17a and 17b. This indicates that the
343 reasonable design of screw rod can effectively control the damage level of the specimen and has
344 a positive effect on improving the impact resistance.

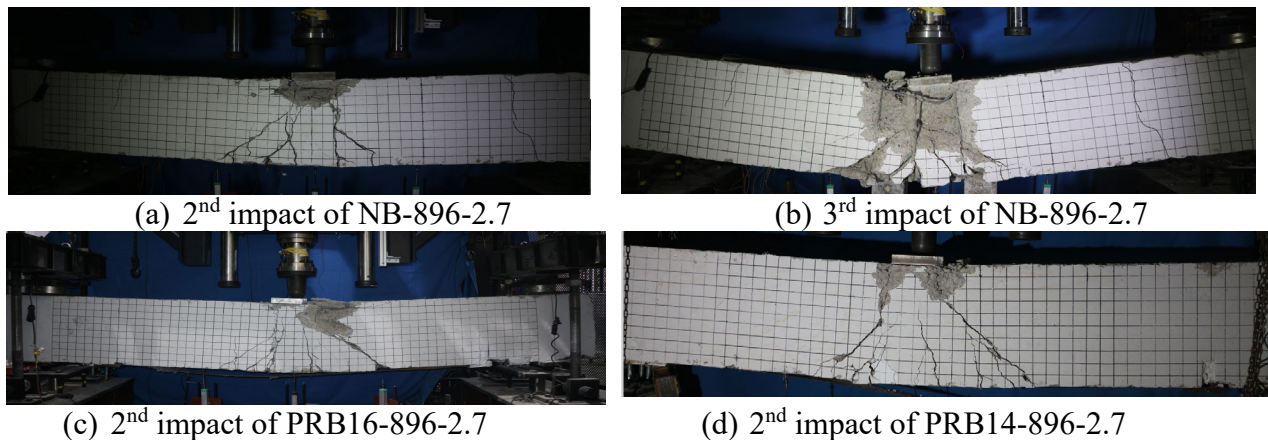
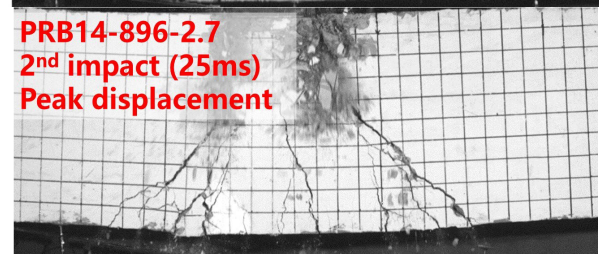
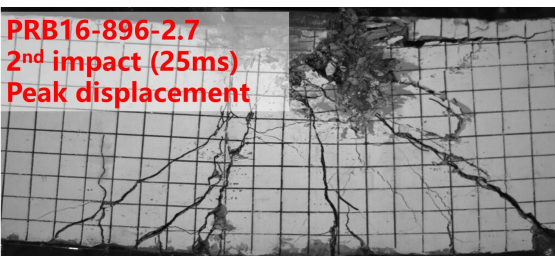
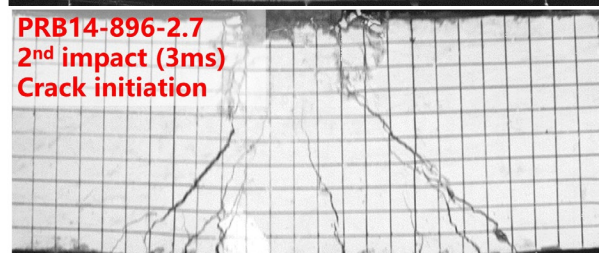
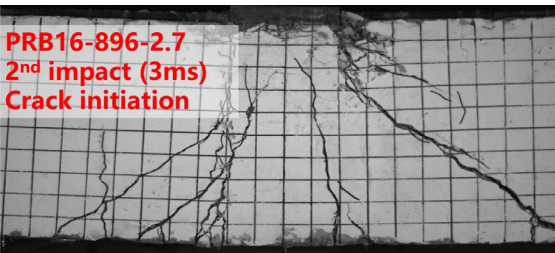
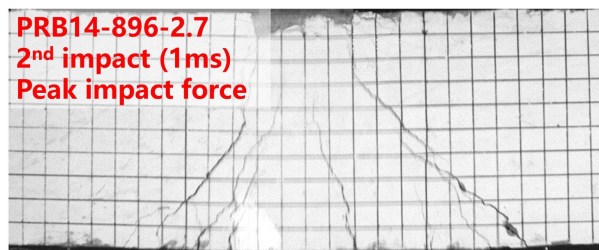
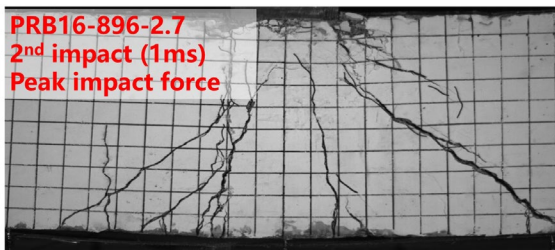
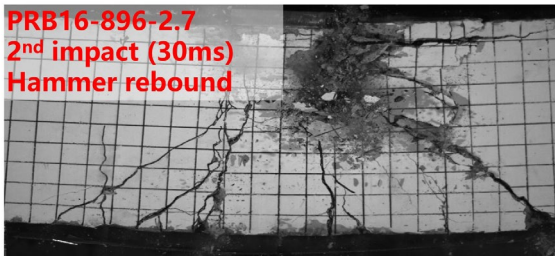
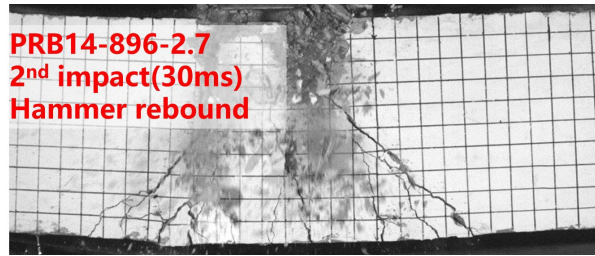


Figure 16 Failure modes under 2nd impact loading.





(a) 2nd impact of PRB16-896-2.7



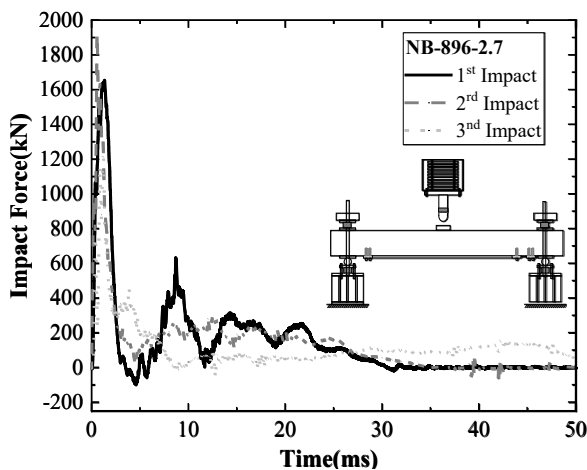
(b) 2nd impact of PRB14-896-2.7

Figure 17 Crack propagations of beams subject to 2nd impact loading.

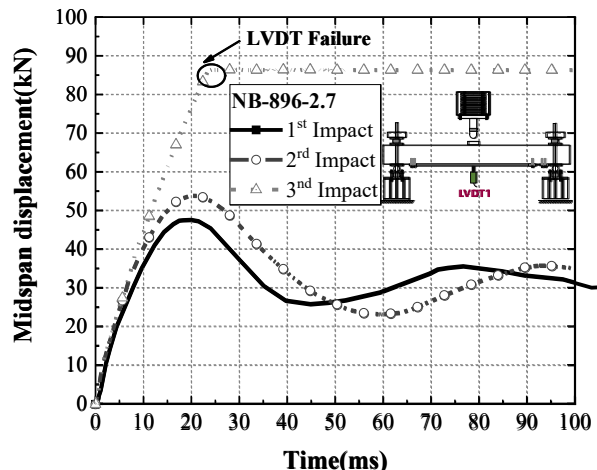
345 **3.3.2 Dynamic response under multi-impact**

346 Figures 18a and 18b show the impact force history and midspan displacement history of the full-
 347 scale specimens under multiple impacts. Taking NB-896-2.7 as an example, for each repeated
 348 impacts with the same energy of 23730J, a triangular-form wave appears at the initial stage of
 349 the impact force history curve. The first peak force decreases with the increase of the impact cy-
 350 cles. This is because the stiffness of the specimen decreases after cracks appear while the dura-
 351 tion of the later dynamic response increases.

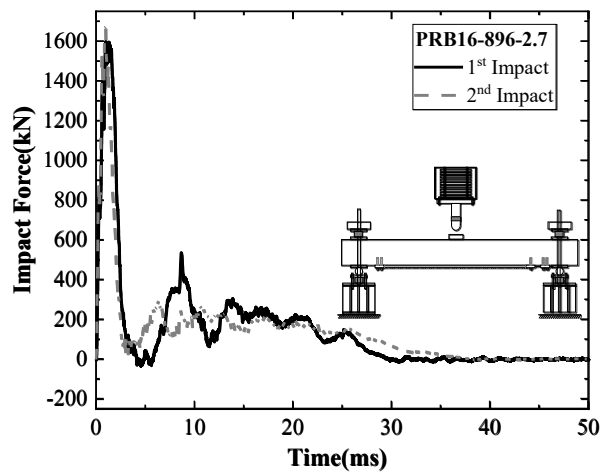
352 The mid-span displacement history curves of PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB16-896-2.7 were similar
 353 under the first two impacts, showing that the peak and residual displacements were relatively
 354 close. The peak displacement of NB-896-2.7, PRB14-896-2.7 and PRB14-896-2.7 increased by
 355 11%, 23% and 24%, respectively, compared to the first impact. Taking PRB14-896-2.7 as an ex-
 356 ample, the prestressed CFRP improves the dynamic flexural stiffness to a certain extent, but the
 357 amplitude of improvement is not as high as that under the static loading (up to 150%). Under the
 358 second impact, the specimen still maintains good integrity. However, under the third impact, the
 359 mid-span displacement of NB-896-2.7 dramatically increased and collapsed, which was because
 360 the specimens have accumulated a certain level damage after the first two impacts, thus weaken-
 361 ing their residual impact performance.



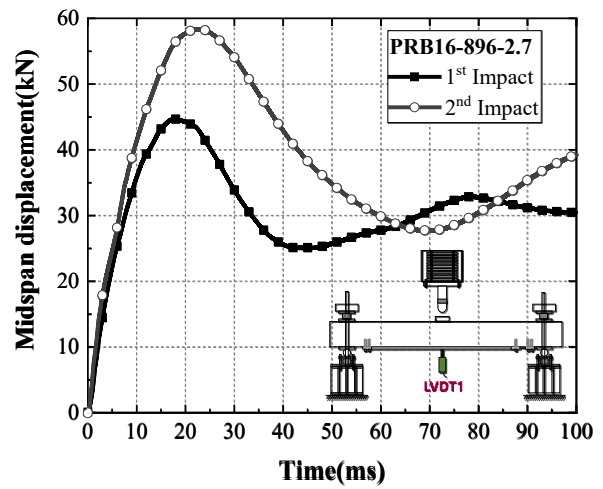
(a) Impact force of NB-896-2.7



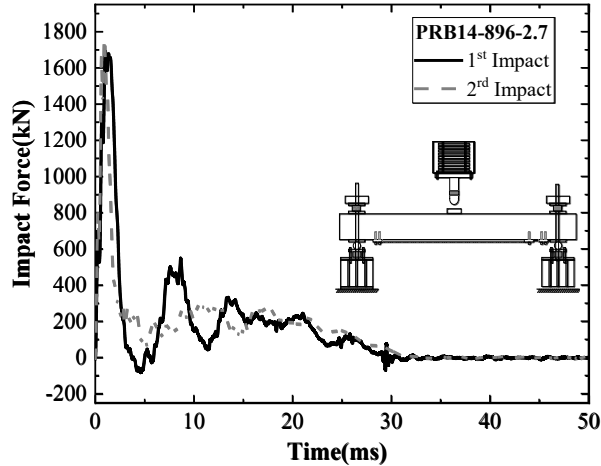
(b) Mid-span displacement of NB-896-2.7



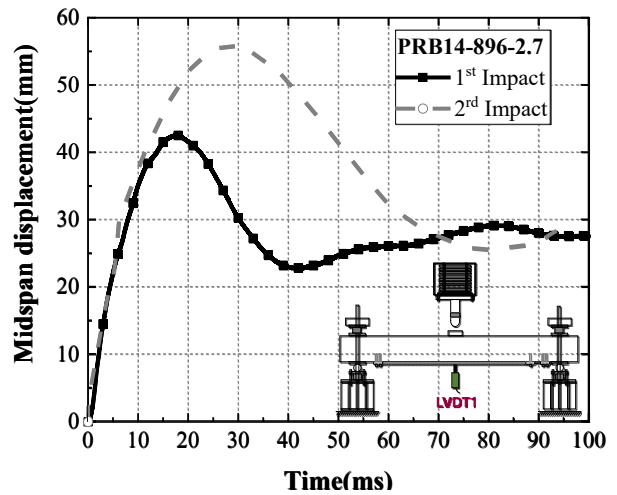
(c) Impact force of PRB16-896-2.7



(d) Mid-span displacement of PRB16-896-2.7



(e) Impact force of PRB14-896-2.7



(f) Mid-span displacement of PRB14-896-2.7

Figure 18 Dynamic responses of RC beams under multi-impact.

362 **4. Numerical Investigation**

363 This section applies LS-DYNA to develop a detailed FE model to simulate multi-impact on the
 364 prestressed CFRP-strengthened RC beam and normal RC beam as well as validating the dynamic
 365 responses. This section also summarizes the simulation methods of multi-impact. Due to
 366 symmetry of geometry condition, 1/4 model was established for NB-896-2.7 while 1/2 model
 367 was for PRB16-896-2.7 and PRB14-896-2.7 to save computing resources. Figure 19 shows the
 368 numerical model of a typical CFRP strengthened RC beam. A three-dimensional eight node
 369 hexahedral solid element SOLID164 was used to model the concrete, hammer, loading plate and
 370 support. The element adopts constant stress element scheme with single point Gauss integration
 371 method which supports material and geometric nonlinearity. BEAM161 was used to model the
 372 longitudinal rebar and stirrups. CFRP was modeled by a 2D four node quadrilateral shell
 373 element, which adopts the Belyschko-Tsay element scheme with single point integration method
 374 along the in-plane thickness direction [19].

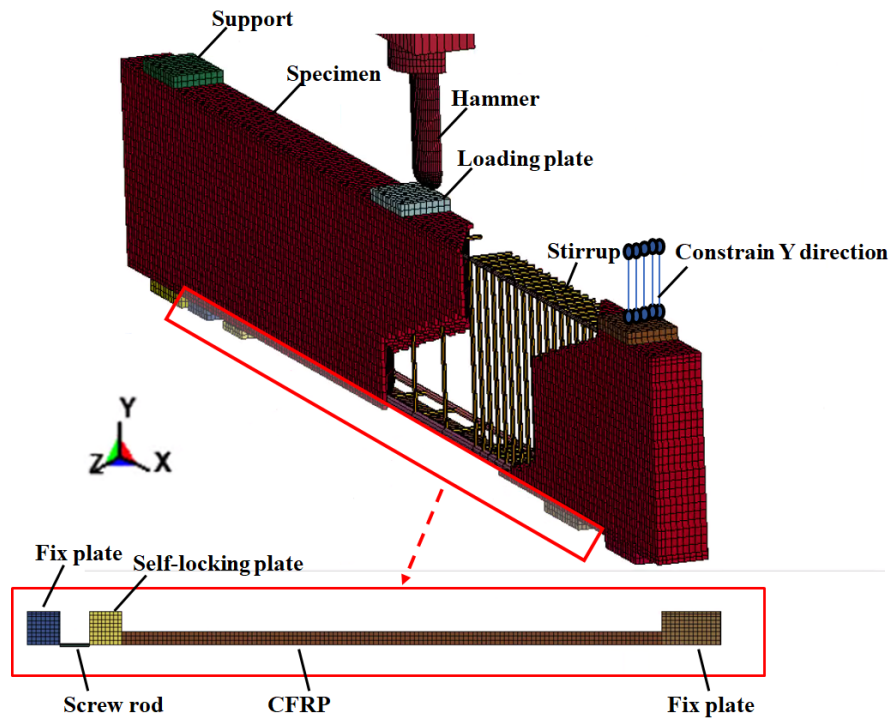


Figure 19 Detailed FE model

375 **4.1 Constitutive model**

376 **4.1.1 Concrete**

377 Continuous Surface Cap Model (CSCM) MAT_159 is used to simulate the dynamic behavior of
 378 concrete under impact load. MAT_159 is able to represent the strain softening of concrete under
 379 low confining pressure and tensile stress. A smooth connection transition is incorporated be-
 380 tween the shear failure surface and hardened cap surface, of which eliminates the numerical sta-
 381 bility and convergence problem caused by discontinuity. Figure 20 shows the constitutive rela-
 382 tion of CSCM concrete models.

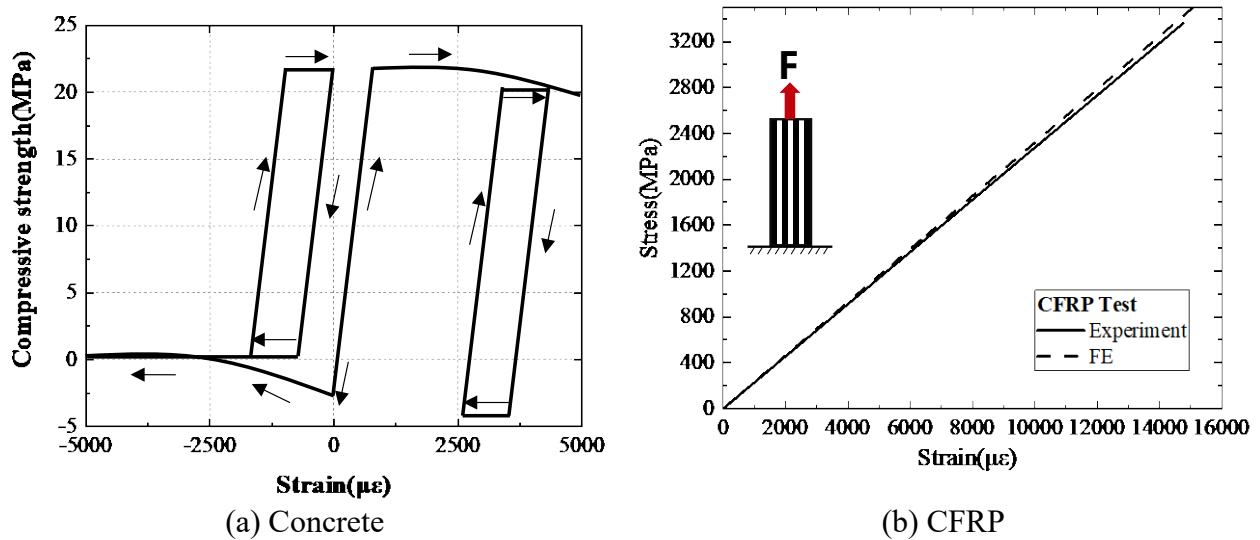


Figure 20 Material models for concrete and CFRP.

383 **4.1.2 CFRP**

384 To accurately predict the behavior of prestressed CFRP, a damaged model
 385 MAT_COMPOSITE_DAMAGE (MAT_22) was selected which was based on the Chang-Chang
 386 failure criteria [20]. Based on the plane stress status, the linear elastic behavior and brittle failure
 387 of composite materials can be characterized by the three failure criteria, as shown in Eqs.(2-4).

388 (1) Crack failure of CFRP adhesive matrix,

389
$$F_{matrix} = \left(\frac{\sigma_2}{S_2} \right)^2 + \bar{\tau} \quad (2)$$

390
 391 If $F_{matrix} > 1$, the adhesive matrix fails by crack. The material parameters E_1 , G_{12} , ν_1 and ν_2 are
 392 equal to zero.

393 (2) Compression failure of CFRP follows Eq.(7),

394
$$F_{comp} = \left(\frac{\sigma_2}{2S_{12}} \right)^2 + \left[\left(\frac{C_2}{2S_{12}} \right)^2 - 1 \right] \frac{\sigma_2}{C_2} + \bar{\tau} \quad (3)$$

395 If $F_{matrix} > 1$, the fiber fails by compression. The material parameters E_2 , ν_1 and ν_2 are equal to ze-
 396 ro.

397 (3) Fracture of CFRP,

398
$$F_{fiber} = \left(\frac{\sigma_1}{S_1} \right)^2 + \bar{\tau} \quad (4)$$

399 If $F_{matrix} > 1$, the fiber fails by fracture. The material parameters E_1 , E_2 , G_{12} , ν_1 and ν_2 are equal to
 400 zero.

401 The failure criteria can be achieved by setting five parameters, which are tensile strength S_1 in
 402 the fiber direction (longitudinal), tensile strength S_2 in the vertical fiber direction (transverse),
 403 shear strength S_{12} , transverse compressive strength C_2 and nonlinear shear stress coefficient α . S_1 ,
 404 S_2 , S_{12} and C_2 are determined from the material test of CFRP, while α is calculated by Eqs. (5-8).

405
$$2\varepsilon_{12} = \frac{1}{G_{12}}\tau_{12} + \alpha\tau_{12}^3 \quad (5)$$

406
$$\varepsilon_1 = \frac{1}{E_1}(\sigma_1 - \nu_1\sigma_2) \quad (6)$$

407
$$\varepsilon_2 = \frac{1}{E_2}(\sigma_2 - \nu_2\sigma_1) \quad (7)$$

408
$$\bar{\tau} = \frac{\frac{\tau_{12}^2}{2G_{12}} + \frac{3}{4}\alpha\tau_{12}^4}{\frac{S_{12}^2}{2G_{12}} + \frac{3}{4}\alpha S_{12}^4} \quad (8)$$

409 in which, ε_1 is longitudinal tensile strain; σ_1 is longitudinal tensile stress; E_1 is longitudinal
 410 tensile modulus; ν_1 is transverse Poisson ratio; ε_2 is transverse tensile strain; σ_2 is transverse

411 tensile stress; E_2 is transverse tensile modulus; ν_2 is longitudinal Poisson ratio; ε_{12} is shear strain;
 412 τ_{12} is shear stress; G_{12} is shear modulus; $\bar{\tau}$ is shear stress to shear strength ratio.
 413 The CFRP used in this test is mainly governed by the fracture failure of the fiber in longitudinal
 414 direction. Therefore, the fiber fracture failure criterion can be characterized by inputting the lon-
 415 gitudinal tensile strength $S_1(X_i)$ into the model. The left parameters can use default value. Ac-
 416 cording to Section 3.2.3, the strain rate of CFRP under drop weight impact is less than $10s^{-1}$.
 417 Within this range, the increasing ratio of tensile strength and elastic modulus of CFRP is within
 418 3%. Therefore, the strain rate effect of CFRP was ignored [18]. Figure 20b shows the material
 419 models of CFRP.

420 4.1.2 Steel Bar and Screw rod

421 A piecewise linear elastoplastic model *MAT_PIECEWISE_LINEAR_PLASTICITY
 422 (MAT_024) is used to model the dynamic behavior of longitudinal rebar, stirrups and screw rod
 423 under impact load. The strain rate effect and hardening effect can both be considered in this
 424 model. The modulus of the hardening part uses 1% of the elastic modulus. The enhancement of
 425 dynamic yield strength and ultimate strength due to strain rate effect was considered using
 426 Cowper-Symonds model, in which the enhancement parameters C and P are set to 40.4 and 5[21],
 427 respectively. Rigid body model *MAT_RIGID (MAT_020) was used for the impact plate, while
 428 elastic material model *MAT_ELASTIC (MAT_01) was used for the drop hammer and support
 429 plates. Table 9 shows the materials properties of each part for the specimens.

430 Table 9 Material parameters in numerical model

Part	Material model	Parameters
Drop hammer	*MAT_ELASTIC	$\rho = 7850\text{kg/m}^3$, $E = 200\text{GPa}$, $\nu = 0.27$
Support plate	*MAT_ELASTIC	$\rho = 7850\text{kg/m}^3$, $E = 200\text{GPa}$, $\nu = 0.27$
Concrete	*MAT_CSCM_CONCRETE	$\rho = 2400\text{kg/m}^3$, $E = 30\text{GPa}$, $\nu = 0.27$ $f_c = 22.7\text{MPa}$, $ERO = 1.6$, $AgS_{\max} = 30\text{mm}$
CFRP	*MAT_COMPOSITE_DAMAGE	$E_a = 230\text{GPa}$, $E_b = E_c = 2.3\text{GPa}$, $X_t = 3300\text{MPa}$, $Y_t = Y_c = 0$, $AOPT = 2$, $\nu_{ab} = \nu_{bc} = \nu_{ca} = 0.1$,
Loading plate	*MAT_RIGID	$\rho = 7850\text{kg/m}^3$, $E = 200\text{GPa}$, $\nu = 0.27$
Longitudinal rebar, stirrups and screw rod	*MAT_PLASTIC_KINEMATIC	$\rho = 7850\text{kg/m}^3$, $E = 210\text{GPa}$, $\nu = 0.27$, $f_y = \text{Table 4}$, $E_t = 2\text{GPa}$, $F_s = 0.45$

431 Note: ρ is mass density; E is Young's modulus; ν is Poisson's ratio; f_y is yield stress; E_t is tan-
 432 gent modulus; F_s is failure strain; f_c is uniaxial compression strength; ERO is eroding strain;
 433 AgS_{\max} is maximum aggregate size; E_a , E_b and E_c are Young's modulus in a -direction, b -direction
 434 and c -direction, respectively; X_t is longitudinal tensile strength; Y_t is transverse tensile strength ;

435 Y_c is transverse compressive strength; AOPT is material axes option; ν_{ab} , ν_{bc} and ν_{ca} are Poisson's
436 ratio in *ab*-plane, *bc*-plane and *ca*-plane, respectively.
437

438 **4.2 Contact**

439 The FE model used the most widely used automatic contact *CONTACT_AUTOMATIC to
440 simulate the relationship between contact pairs. *CONTACT_ERODING_SINGLE_SURFACE
441 was used for interface between drop hammer and loading plate, and that between loading plate
442 and concrete. While *CONTACT_AUTOMATIC_SURFACE_TO_SURFACE is used for inter-
443 face between support plate and concrete. The friction coefficient FS and FD of the contact sur-
444 face are set as 0.2, with penalty function coefficients SFS and SFM set as 1.0.

445 **4.3 Modeling of prestress**

446 LS-DYNA provides several methods for introducing prestressing that have been successfully
447 applied to prestressed strands or steel bars, namely the thermal shortening method [22], the
448 direct-tension method [23], and the "Spotweld" method [24]. To perform transient dynamic
449 analysis, the specimens require to be prestressed stably. Based on the installation procedure of
450 anchor, this study proposed two new prestress modeling skills, which are (1) initial stressing of
451 CFRP element and (2) direct tension of screw rod. The initial stressing method for CFRP
452 elements was applied through *INITIAL_STRESS_SHELL_SET, in which CFRP was modeled
453 as a set of shell units. The direction tension of screw rod was applied directly through
454 *INITIAL_STRESS_BEAM and *CONTROL_DYNAMIC_RELAXATION which fully
455 considered the real prestress procedure.

456 **4.4 Framework of multi-impact simulation**

457 There are extensive simulation work for RC structures under single impact [21,25,26], however
458 the simulation of repeated impact has been rarely reported. This study proposed three methods of
459 repeated impact simulation to analyze the residual performance of RC beams after 2nd or 3rd
460 impact. Figure 21 lists the calculation frameworks of each method that could be referred to
461 multiple impacts simulation.

462 Method I is called Springback Method (Figure 21a). In this method, keyword "SPRINGBACK-
463 LSDYNA" should be used in creating the FE model of the first impact simulation with the
464 "Partset" selected. Then, submit the simulation to obtain the "DYNAIN" file which contains the
465 selected partset's initial stress, strain and boundary condition information of the first impact. For
466 the second impact simulation, it needs to create a new "K" file and import the above "DYNAIN"
467 file and update a new hammer. Then, submit the model for calculation and output the 2nd impact
468 result, and so on for multiple impacts.

469 Method II is Multi-hammer Impact Method (Figure 21b). This method allows to create FE model
470 with multiple hammers in LS-DYNA. The hammers were dropped at a specific time with a
471 specified calculated speed according to Energy Conservation Law, requiring keyword
472 “*LOAD_BODY_X/Y/Z” to generate a gravity curve. The dynamic responses calculated by this
473 method can be continuously output.

474 Method III is Restart Method (Figure 21c). The created FE model should fill in keyword
475 “*DATABASE_BINARY_D3DUMP” save the result after 1st impact. For the second impact, it
476 needs to create a new “K” file and import a new hammer given a new initial velocity. In next
477 step, the model requires to fill in keyword “*STRESS_INITIALIZATION_OPTION” to transmit
478 the initial stress status from “ D3DUMP” file to the target model, which is like “prestressed
479 loading”. For the part to be initialized, the number of nodes, units, arrangement and topological
480 relationship in the input file should be the same as those in the latest input file. Lastly, submit “
481 D3DUMP” file together with the new “K” file for calculation to obtain the second impact result,
482 and so on. In fact, these three methods could store the initial result data after the 1st impact from
483 different ways, following the 2nd impact, therefore similar results can be obtained using these
484 three methods. Based on the modeling experience, Multi-hammer Impact Method (Method II)
485 has the most fast-track modelling technique and reliable results which is recommended in this
486 study.

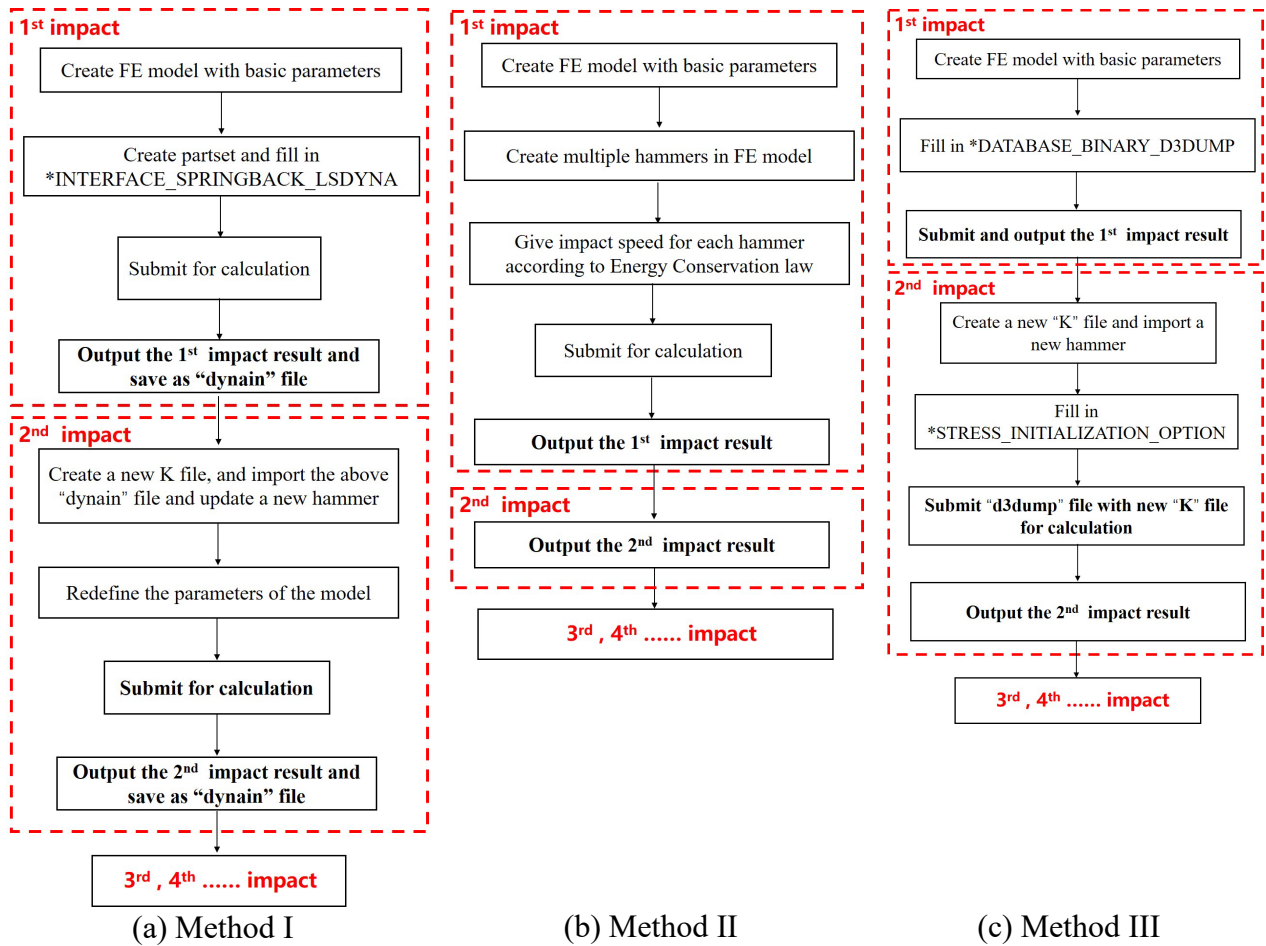


Figure 21 Methods for multi-impact simulation.

487

488

4.5 Comparison between FE and Experiment Results

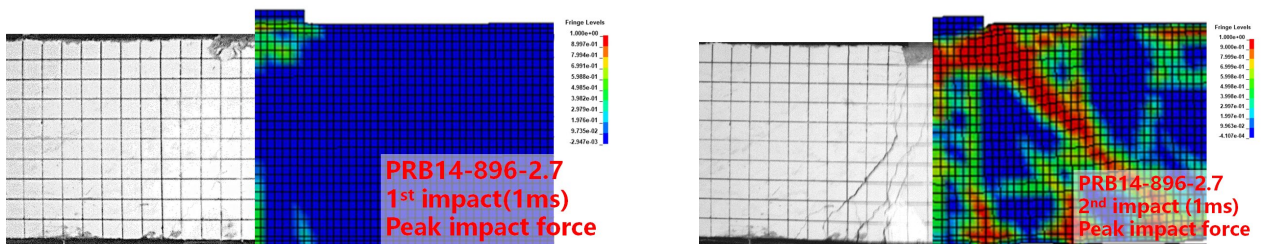
489

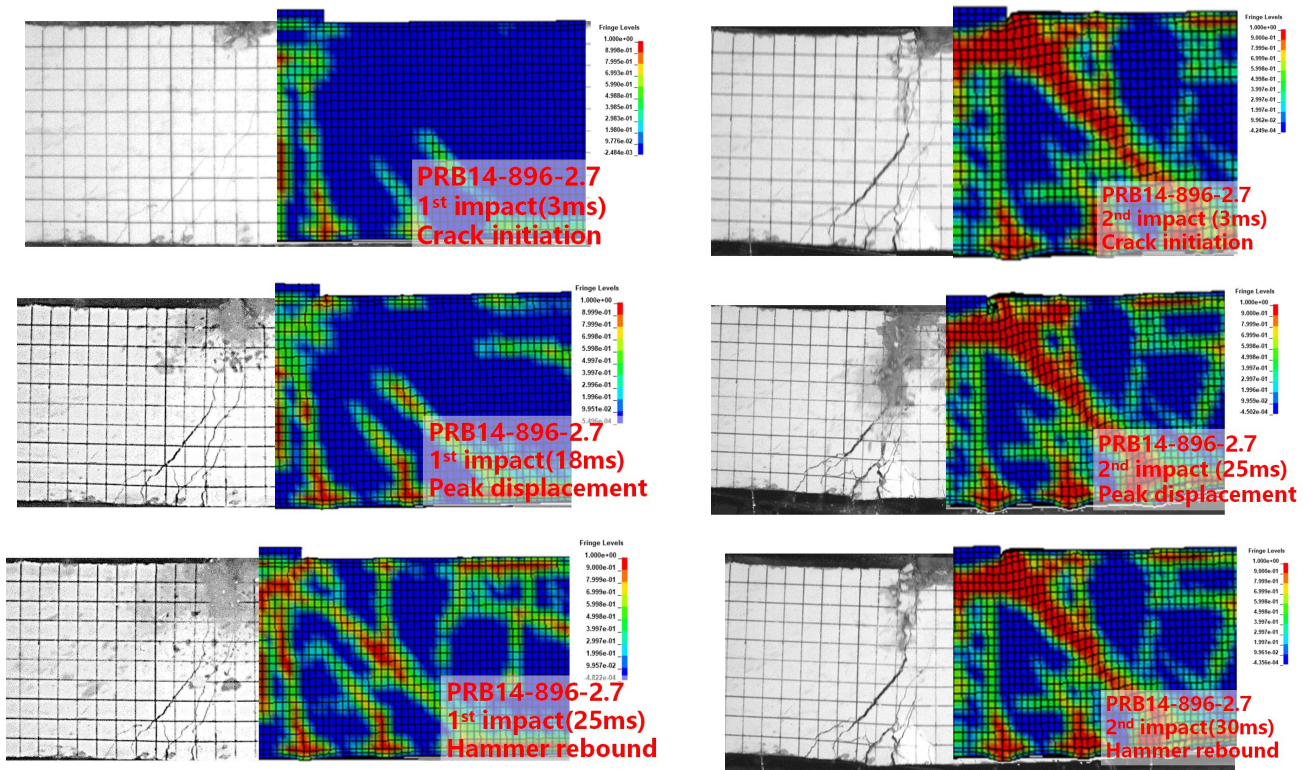
4.5.1 Crack patterns

490

Figure 22 shows the typical plastic strain development processes of PRB14-896-2.7 under first and second impact. The different color represents different damage level of concrete or crack pattern. From the strain comparison between the test and simulation of concrete at different times, the FE model can reasonably capture the crack location and damage level of the concrete in the flexural zone.

494





(a) PRB14-896-2.7 subject to 1st impact

(b) PRB14-896-2.7 subject to 2nd impact

Figure 22 Crack propagation of RC beams under multi-impacts

495 4.5.2 Impact force and mid-span displacement histories

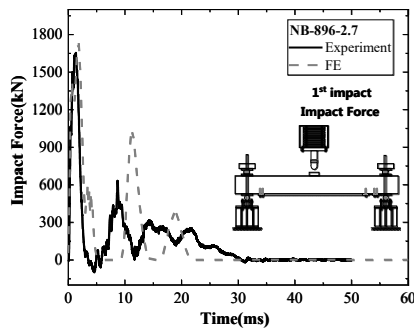
496 Figures 23(a-l) compares the impact force and mid-span displacement history between FE and
 497 test results of the specimen under multiple impacts. Generally, the FE model can predict
 498 reasonably accurate the impact force and mid-span displacement history of each specimen,
 499 which shows that the initial slope, peak point and duration of the curves agree well with the test
 500 results. The decline and fluctuation trend of the curves can be well simulated during the impact.
 501 However, the amplitude of curve fluctuation and the residual displacement have some deviations.
 502 Table 10 lists the peak impact force and mid-span displacement between test and FE results.
 503 Under first impact, the average value of PIF_{FE} / PIF ratio and PMD_{FE} / PMD is 7.2% and 15.3%
 504 while under second impact, the ratios are 7.8% and 7.1% respectively. It should be noted that the
 505 eroding strain of CSCM concrete model in LS-DYNA is set to be 1.6 that is well represented to
 506 reproduce reasonably the dynamic responses of RC beams subjected to multi-impact. However,
 507 the error between test and simulation may be because the existing concrete constitutive model
 508 may not be able to take into account the accumulated damage after repeated impacts. Also, the
 509 contact properties and contact algorithm in FE modeling increase the stiffness of contact surface,
 510 thus leading to shorten the response time [27]. Generally, the multi-impact modelling methods
 511 provided in this study can reasonably capture the dynamic response of specimens, i.e., crack

512 morphology, displacement and impact force history, etc. This will provide an effective reference
 513 to similar multi-impacts on other types of structures.

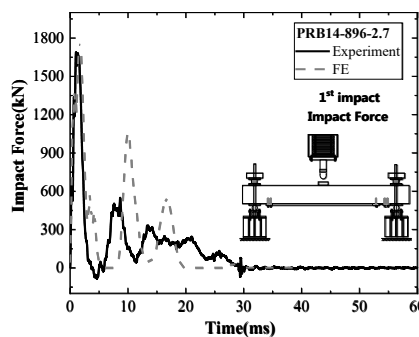
514 Table 10 Comparison of peak impact force and displacement between test and FE results

Specimen ID	PIF (kN)	PIF _{FE} (kN)	PIF _{FE} /PIF	PMD (mm)	PMD _{FE} (mm)	PMD _{FE} /PMD
NB-896-2.7(1 st)	1653.5	1764.3	1.07	47.6	37.5	0.79
PRB16-896-2.7(1 st)	1610.0	1756.5	1.09	44.6	36.7	0.82
PRB14-896-2.7(1 st)	1702.1	1802.5	1.06	42.5	39.5	0.93
Mean.			1.07			0.85
NB-896-2.7(2 nd)	1929.8	1673.1	0.87	53.8	60.9	1.12
PRB16-896-2.7(2 nd)	1706.3	1771.1	1.04	57.9	61.8	1.06
PRB14-896-2.7(2 nd)	1770.3	1883.6	1.06	55.1	57.0	1.03
Mean.			0.99			1.07

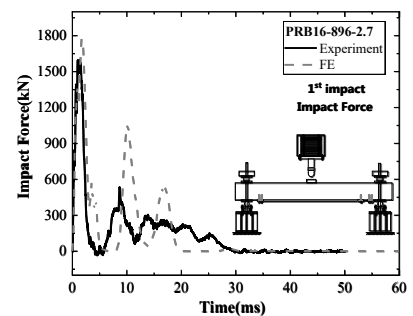
515 NOTE: PIF is Peak Impact Force by test; PIF-FE is Peak Impact Force by FE analysis; PMD is Peak Mid-span
 516 Displacement by test; PMD-FE is Mid-span Displacement by FE analysis.



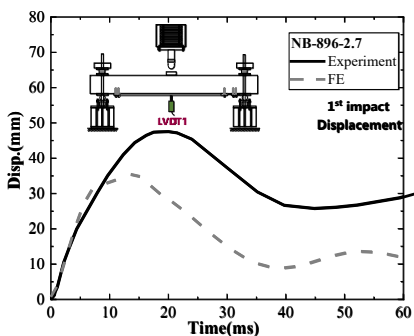
(a) Impact force of NB-896-2.7



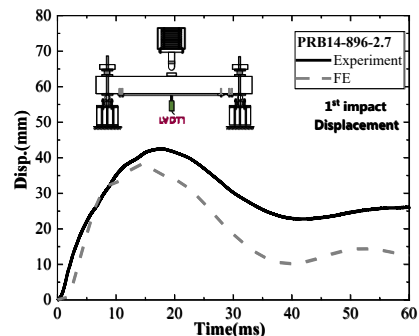
(b) Impact force of PRB14-896-2.7



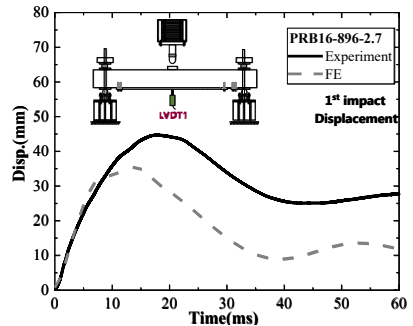
(c) Impact force of PRB16-896-2.7



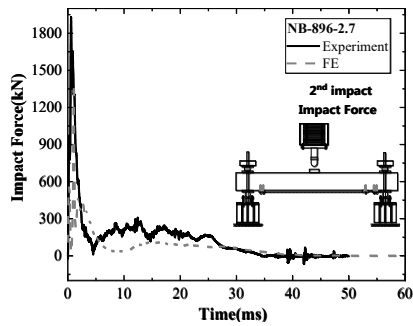
(d) Displacement of NB-896-2.7



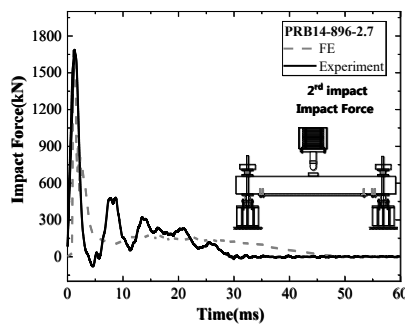
(e) Displacement of PRB14-896-2.7



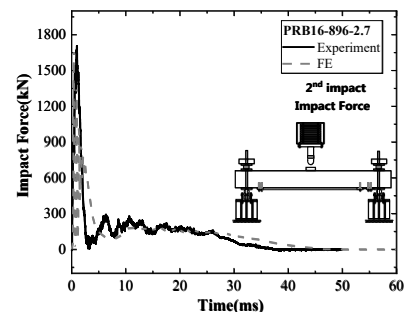
(f) Displacement of PRB16-896-2.7



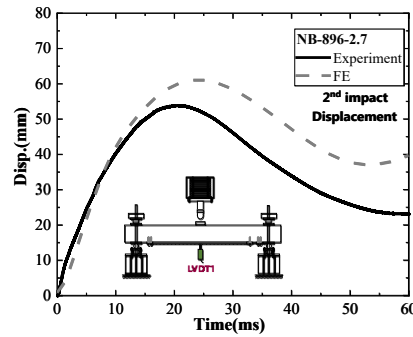
(g) Impact force of NB-896-2.7



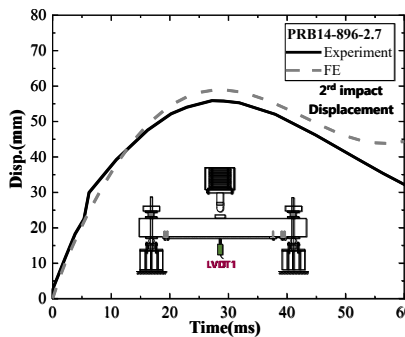
(h) Impact force of PRB14-896-2.7



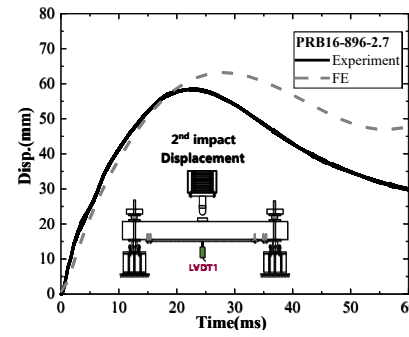
(i) Impact force of PRB16-896-2.7



(j) Displacement of NB-896-2.7



(k) Displacement of PRB14-896-2.7



(l) Displacement of PRB16-896-2.7

Figure 23 Comparison of multi-impact responses between test and FE results

517 5. Conclusions

518 The present study firstly develops a novel prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beams using H-
 519 type end anchor with ductility controllable device to improve the ductility behavior while using
 520 CFRP as strengthening material. This study investigates the static and impact performance of
 521 prestressed CFRP strengthened RC beams experimentally and numerically. A series of static
 522 tests and multi-impact tests have been conducted. Dynamic finite element analysis using LS-
 523 DYNA has been performed to validate against the test results. The following conclusions can be
 524 drawn from this investigation:

525 (1) Based on the design of novel H-type anchor, a pre-tension technique has been developed to
 526 the strengthening system. It is found that the short-term prestress loss is between 5% - 15%. The
 527 higher initial tension prestress, the higher loss of prestress. The bonded prestressed CFRP
 528 reinforcement leads to a higher stress loss rate of prestress, thus it is suggested to adopt the self-
 529 locking prestressed CFRP reinforcement method without bond.

530 (2) Four-point bending tests has been conducted on the prestressed CFRP strengthened beams. It
 531 is found that unbonded RC beam has 25.9% higher flexural resistance compared to the reference
 532 RC beam. The increasing rate of cracking load is higher than the yield and ultimate load. The

533 ductility coefficient of the unbonded RC beam increases up to 62.6% compared to that of the
534 bonded RC beam.

535 (3) All the beams fail in typical flexural mode. It is found that the flexural impact failure of NB
536 series beam is more serious than that of PRB series beam. Specifically, the mid-span peak
537 displacement and peak impact load of NB series beam are 10.6% and 2.9% higher than those of
538 PRB series beam, and the number of flexural cracks in mid-span zone appear more pronounced.
539 The strain analysis of the specimens with different screw diameter shows that the composite
540 action of PRB14-896-2.7 exhibits more effective than that of PRB16-896-2.7.

541 (4) This study proposed two modeling schemes of prestressing CFRP namely initial stress
542 method of shell element and direction tension of screw rod, and summarized a framework of
543 multi-impact simulation including “Spring Back Method”, “Multi-hammer Impact Method” and
544 “Restart Method”. The FE results predicted by these three methods could well simulate the main
545 crack distribution patterns, displacement and impact force history of specimens. Multi-hammer
546 Impact Method provides more fast-track and convenient modelling skills than other methods.
547 The maximum error of peak impact force between FE and test is within 7.8% while the
548 maximum error of peak displacement is within 15.3%, respectively.

549 (5) There is still some deviation between the FE and test results in terms of the displacement and
550 impact force. This may be because of the existing concrete constitutive model may not be able to
551 consider the accumulative damage of concrete after repeated impacts. Therefore, to improve
552 prediction accuracy, the future study needs to develop a dynamic constitutive model of concrete
553 to consider the cumulative damage effect. This is also required for the complicated impact
554 scenarios.

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