

# INFLUENCE OF FOOTINGS RIGIDITY AND SUBSOIL ON PUNCHING RESISTANCE

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**Abstract:** The presented paper will bring new aspects of punching resistance verification of concrete column footings coming from influence of ground stresses distribution depended on footing rigidity and a type of subsoil. The punching verification of flat footings comes from design criteria which depend on the punching resistance defined from crushing of concrete struts or from shear-bending failure with or without shear reinforcement.

Keywords: footings, punching, shear resistance, rigidity, subsoil

## 1. Introduction

There are two possible ways of structural failure due to punching. The first one is a strut diagonal failure (crushing of concrete) at control perimeter  $u_0$  of a column. The second one is the shear-tension failure of concrete or transverse reinforcement in circumference of the area surrounded by control perimeters  $u_i$ , which are analysed in distances from 0.5*d* until 2.0*d* from face of the column (Fig. 1).



Fig.1: Failure of concrete footing; crushing of concrete and shear-tension failure

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### 2. Verification of punching

The maximum shear force is limited by the compressive capacity of the struts at the column perimeter. Crushing of the struts at column perimeter is controlled by the reduced compressive strength of concrete (1) according to EN 1992-1-1(2004).

$$\nu_{Edmax} = \frac{\beta V_{Ed}}{u_0 d} \le \nu_{Rdmax} = 0.5^* \nu f_{cd} \tag{1}$$

$$\nu = 0,6 \left( 1 - \frac{f_{ck}}{250} \right)$$
(2)

\* 0,5 by precise calculation of  $\beta$  or by  $\beta=1$ ; otherwise 0,4 (Ruiz et al., 2014).

Limits for the punching resistance are derived from concrete shear-tension resistance without shear reinforcement (3) and shear-tension resistance with shear reinforcement (4). The maximum punching shear resistance is based on the  $k_{max}$  factor.

$$\nu_{Rdc} = \frac{0.18}{\gamma_c} k (100\rho_l f_{ck})^{1/3} \frac{2d}{a} \ge 0.035 k^{3/2} f_{ck}^{1/2} \frac{2d}{a}$$
(3)

$$\nu_{Rdcs} = 0.75\nu_{Rdc} + \frac{1.5d}{s_r} \frac{A_{sw}f_{ywd}}{u_1 d} \le k_{max}\nu_{Rdc}$$
(4)

Verification by conditions of reliability needs more precise calculation of a punching shear force designing value  $V_i$  or  $V_{i,max}$ . These values are influenced by ground resistance distribution  $\sigma_i$  or  $\sigma_{I,max}$  (Fig. 1). If we take into account uniform distributed ground stresses  $\sigma_a$  or  $\sigma_{a,max}$ , the  $V_a$  and  $V_{a,max}$  – shear punching force values are less than  $V_i$  or  $V_{i,max}$  – the more realistic shear punching force values and therefore the design of footings is on the **unsafe side** for both failure modes.



Fig.2: Ground stresses for two types of footings and subsoil

Footing	Soil	N (kN)	V <sub>a,max</sub> (kN)	V <sub>i</sub> (kN)	σ <sub>a</sub> (kPa)	V <sub>a</sub> (kN)	V <sub>i</sub> (kN)
rigid	gravel	7000	6670	6767	772	2200	3581
rigid	sand	750	700	711	81	231	303
flexible	gravel	3500	3413	3364	395	3093	2989
flexible	sand	750	700	708	81	634	657

Table 1: Comparison of simplified and more precise calculation of punching shear forces

Distribution of ground stresses under footings was calculated by FEM analysis (see below) and compared with results of (Cajka et al., 2014) and (Labudková et al., 2016) and are shown on Fig. 2.

The goal of presenting analysis was to show that simplification in many cases does not lead to safe verification. These facts were confirmed by FEM analysis with rigid and partially also flexible footings and gravel and soil (Table 1). Max acting punching shear force for rigid footing and gravel soil calculated by average soil stress  $\sigma_z$ =772 kPa was  $V_{a,max}$ =6670 kN. Calculated shear force from presenting analysis was  $V_{1,max}$ =6767 kN. Even bigger differences show punching shear force  $V_a$ =2200 kN versus  $V_i$ =3581 kN (Fig.1). Clearly are these results presented in Table 1.

## 3. FEM analyses in SOFiSTIK

A numerical model was created in FEM (Finite Element Method) based software SOFiSTiK. Both, soil and concrete elements were modelled as 3D brick elements with nonlinear material.

The geometry of the subsoil block has width and length of 17,4m and 8,0m height. Recommendation after (Jendželovský et al., 2014) and (Mistríková et al., 2012). The column footings had 2 types with varieties height. Width and length were 3,0m and height was either 0,3m or 1,0m. On top of the footing was also the column modelled for better transfer of the load to the footing. Width and length was 0,6 m. On Fig. 3 the numerical model, for the 1,0m height of the column footing, can be seen.

Nonlinear material of the concrete used in the analysis was Elasto-plastic material according to LADE with non-associated flow rule. The concrete parameters for the concrete material was set accordingly:  $f_{cd}=20,0$  MPa, E=32,0 MPa,  $f_{ctk;0,05}=2,0$  MPa,  $\varepsilon_{tu}$  (tensile failure strain) =2,0 ‰.

For the subsoil was the Drucker-Prager soil model chosen. Two types should represent soft (sand) and rigid (gravel) foundation subsoil (Table 2). Type of the FEM calculation was non-linear analysis and additionally the effects of the geometrical system modification, e.g. length modification for big deformations. Numerical analysis used line search iteration method with an update of the tangent stiffness, if required.

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Subsoil type:	Sand	Gravel
Nonlinear material	Drucker-Prager	Drucker-Prager
Young's module [MPa]	20,0	200,0
Poisson ratio	0,25	0,40
Self-weight [kN/m <sup>3</sup> ]	19,0	23,0
Friction angle [°]	25,0	40,0
Cohesion [kPa]	2,0	0,0
Dilatancy angle [°]	5,0	20,0



Fig.3: Geometry of the subsoil block

### 4. Conclusions

The presented paper brings new aspects of punching resistance verification of concrete column footings coming from influence of ground stress resistance distribution on punching verification. Results show that the verification of column footings – with the assumption of uniform – average - ground stresses distribution brings design on **the unsafe side** in 3 from 4 cases of footings and soil condition combinations (Table 1). The condition of reliability (1) and (3) could be satisfied only if we take into account the more precise analysis of soil stress distribution.

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