

## RESULTS OF BLIND COMPETITION

### Simulation of three-point bending of beams with conventional reinforcement and fibres

#### 1. Introduction

This document presents the results of the blind competition carried out within the scope of the fib Working Group WG 2.4.2 *Modelling of Fibre Reinforced Concrete Structures*. The object of the benchmark was to predict the behaviour of a T cross section steel fibre reinforced concrete beam with conventional longitudinal (R/SFRC) and without conventional shear reinforcement in the shear span where the beam is predicted to fail in shear.

This benchmark and the rules of the competition were announced at the end of the year 2019. Information about the properties of the materials at the age of 7 and 14 days was communicated in the last week of January and first week of February 2020. A total of thirty six participants submitted the results of numerical simulations. The 9th of March experiments were conducted on two twin beams for the appraisal of the predictive performance of the submitted simulation proposals. The experiments were transmitted in real time through a YouTube channel. In the weeks following to that, the experimental results and those of the participants have been analysed.

The following sections present the name of participants, the experimental results, numerical results and performance of the numerical predictions.

#### 2. Name of participants

Table 1 includes a list of the participants and their affiliation, sorted by alphabetical order.

Table 1. List of participants and affiliation, sorted by alphabetical order

Name of the participants	Affiliation(s)
Alejandro Nogales <sup>1</sup> , Nikola Tošić <sup>2</sup> , Albert de la Fuente <sup>2</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Smart Engineering Ltd, UPC Spin-Off, Barcelona, Spain <sup>2</sup> Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain
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Barzin Mobasher <sup>1</sup> , Devansh Deepak Patel <sup>1</sup> , Chidchanok Pleesudjai <sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Material Model ASU Team
Camille A. Issa <sup>1</sup> , Najwa Hani <sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Lebanese American University
Christoph Betschoga <sup>1</sup> , Michael Huß, Yolcu Sever, Nguyen Duc Tung	<sup>1</sup> Institute of Structural Concrete, Graz University of Technology, Graz, Austria
Dong Xiang <sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Tongji University, China
George Markou <sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Engineering, University of Pretoria, Hatfield, South Africa
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Luís M.P. Matos <sup>1</sup> , António V. Gouveia <sup>2</sup>	<sup>1</sup> Department of Civil Engineering, University of Minho <sup>2</sup> Department of Civil Engineering, Polytechnic Institute of Viseu
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Song Jin <sup>1</sup> , Yating Tai <sup>1</sup> , Yun Tian <sup>1</sup> , Chenghuan Lin <sup>1</sup> , Xiyao Zhao <sup>1</sup> , Meng Zhang <sup>1</sup> , Qingqing Wu <sup>1</sup> , Jikai Zhou <sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup> College of Civil and Transportation Engineering, Hohai University
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Zhongyue Tracy Zhang <sup>1</sup> , Frank J. Vecchio <sup>1</sup>	<sup>1</sup> University of Toronto, Canada
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### 3. Experimental results

Two beams were subjected to eccentric bending. Figure 1 displays the experimental results. Unfortunately, the record of strain of the first beam was lost.

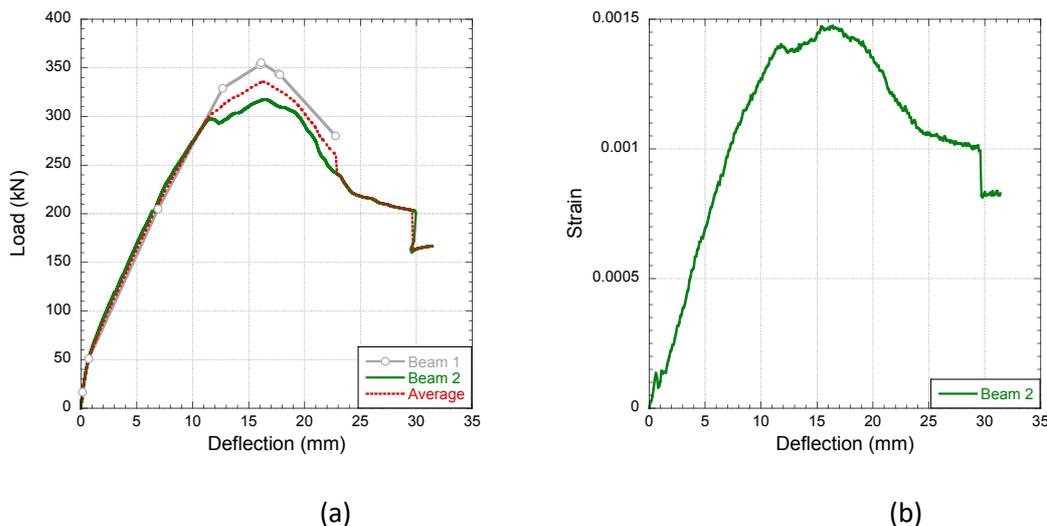


Figure 1. Experimental results and average curves of load versus deflection (a) and strain versus deflection (b)

### 4. Results of the simulations

Figure 2 shows the experimental average, numerical envelope and numerical predictions of all participants for the curves of load versus deflection and strain versus deflection. The results are displayed up to the deflection corresponding to the end of the experiments. Note that the curves of strain of Participants 13 and 34 have been excluded from the graphic, as they are out of the range of results of the remaining participants.

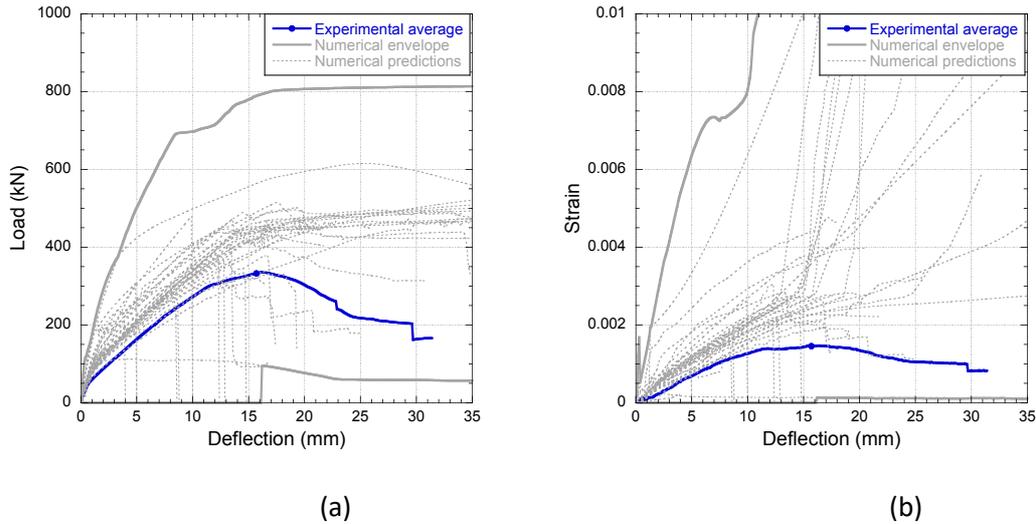


Figure 2. Experimental results, numerical envelope and numerical predictions of all participants of load versus deflection (a) and strain versus deflection (b)

## 5. Predictive performance of the simulations

For each participant, the predictive performance was computed after performing the tests, according to the following:

1. The experimental average was computed from the results of the two beams (see corresponding paragraph).
2. The numerical results of each participant were compared with the experimental average, up to the experimental peak load.
3. The error  $Err_F$  of the numerical prediction was calculated as:

$$Err_F = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{\kappa} \left( \frac{|F_{exp}^{\kappa} - F_{num}^{\kappa}|}{F_{exp}^{\kappa}} \right) \quad (1)$$

where  $\kappa$  corresponds to the records,  $F_{exp}^{\kappa}$  is the experimental value of load for record  $\kappa$ ,  $F_{num}^{\kappa}$  the numerical value, and  $n$  are the number of scan readings. An equivalent equation is used to compute the error of the strain  $Err_{\epsilon}$ .

4. The relative error of the maximum load  $\Delta F/F$  was computed as:

$$\Delta F/F = \frac{|F_{exp}^{max} - F_{num}^{max}|}{F_{exp}^{max}} \quad (2)$$

where  $F_{exp}^{max}$  is the maximum load of the average of experiments and  $F_{num}^{max}$  is the maximum load of the numerical prediction. A similar expression is used to compute the relative error of the strain  $\Delta \epsilon/\epsilon$ , considering the strain corresponding to the maximum load of experiments,  $\epsilon_{F_{exp}^{max}}$ , and strain corresponding to the maximum load of the numerical prediction,  $\epsilon_{F_{num}^{max}}$ , and the relative error of the deflection  $\Delta u/u$ , considering the corresponding  $u_{F_{exp}^{max}}$  and  $u_{F_{num}^{max}}$ .

5. The score of each participant was calculated considering the error of the numerical curves with respect to the average of the experiments and the relative errors of the maximum load, strain and deflection corresponding to the maximum load, according to the following expression:

$$Score = 0.35 \Delta F/F + 0.15 Err_F + 0.25 \Delta \varepsilon/\varepsilon + 0.1 Err_\varepsilon + 0.15 \Delta u/u \quad (3)$$

Table 2 includes the predictive performance of the simulations of the 36 participants. Note that the order of participants is random and does not coincide with that of that of Table 1, for the sake of confidentiality. One of the participants presented results for two models, marked as *a* and *b*.

Table 2. Predictive performance of the results presented by the participants, shown in random order.

Participant no.	Rel. error of $F_{max}$ $\Delta F/F$ (%)	ERR force-deflection $Err_F$ (%)	Rel. error of strain at $F_{max}$ $\Delta \varepsilon/\varepsilon$ (%)	ERR strain-deflection $Err_\varepsilon$ (%)	Rel. error of deflect. at $F_{max}$ $\Delta u/u$ (%)	Score (%)	Classif.
1	16.12	59.71	22.70	86.05	47.83	36.05	6
2	14.34	62.43	18.60	83.45	49.69	34.83	5
3	18.09	34.06	84.04	77.77	16.15	42.65	10
4	51.88	44.91	2486	60.18	356.5	705.8	32
5	4.417	9.356	201.8	260.9	3.106	79.96	21
6	7.973	89.26	12.45	122.3	69.57	41.96	9
7	41.93	27.09	1824	78.23	136.0	503.0	31
8	32.99	77.10	41.78	54.37	18.63	41.79	8
9	42.55	89.62	86.10	102.7	38.51	65.90	17
10	1.270	6.135	33.56	23.50	4.348	12.76	1
11	83.12	122.0	129.9	59.78	57.76	94.52	24
12a	53.73	35.02	1562	70.48	223.0	455.1	29
12b	34.85	32.26	182.9	80.08	0.000	70.76	19
13	60.80	29.14	1.659e+05	2.020e+04	241.0	4.355e+04	36
14	70.55	23.65	2376	136.3	831.7	760.7	34
15	8.847	53.34	28.99	64.63	23.60	28.35	2
16	13.48	42.25	43.63	57.98	24.84	31.49	3
17	42.22	46.37	92.66	75.46	147.8	74.62	20
18	11.68	21.01	109.7	66.46	23.60	44.86	11
19	42.66	22.38	112.1	29.47	40.37	55.31	14
20	32.98	29.90	226.9	87.49	6.211	82.44	22
21	9.844	27.78	95.48	138.6	18.01	48.04	13
22	28.74	105.5	89.36	90.55	78.88	69.11	18
23	49.19	52.64	93.35	64.81	20.50	58.01	15
24	30.44	14.41	332.8	64.10	24.84	106.2	26
25	66.59	45.88	56.46	59.22	72.05	61.03	16
26	30.34	48.69	49.33	43.07	23.60	38.10	7
27	46.45	38.31	1199	86.52	86.34	343.5	27
28	35.35	31.33	1464	121.5	30.43	399.7	28
29	53.46	58.72	167.1	135.8	9.317	84.27	23
30	41.35	16.64	4040	834.3	167.1	1135	35
31	78.28	30.08	2498	517.3	215.5	740.5	33

32	39.16	24.89	90.62	54.91	10.56	47.17	12
33	13.12	7.442	81.23	54.63	3.106	31.95	4
34	42.87	27.05	1.955e+09	1.622e+08	346.6	5.049e+08	37
35	147.5	168.4	966.5	32.34	983.9	469.3	30
36	98.55	99.73	97.34	104.9	99.38	99.18	25

Figure 3 shows the score of participants. Note that the scores of Participants 13 and 34 have been excluded from the graphic, as they are out of the range of results of the remaining participants.

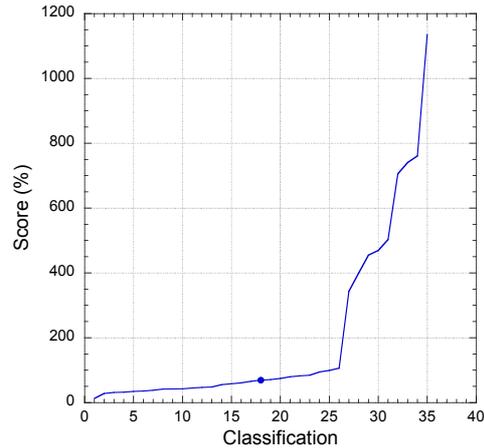
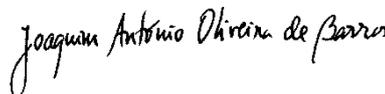


Figure 3. Score of participants

The best score, i.e., the minimum, is 12.76%, which corresponds to Participant 10, Alexander Kagermanov, from the University of Applied Science Rapperswil, Switzerland. Since the organization of this competition did not obtain explicit permission to publicly disclose the classification of now-winner participant by identifying his/her name (or the name of team's members) and corresponding affiliation, those that want to know their classification in the pole should contact directly the organization by email ([beatriz.sanz@upm.es](mailto:beatriz.sanz@upm.es)).

17 April 2020



Joaquim Barros (Convener)



Beatriz Sanz (Deputy convener)